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# Phuket Gazette

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## Mob blocks Kamala roads

By Khunakorn Terdkiatkhachorn

**KAMALA:** Kamala villagers blockaded the Kamala-Patong Road for 20 hours from the evening of March 17 in a protest over police handling of a brutal assault on a Kamala man.

The protest began at Kamala Police Station at around 7 pm, though traffic was not disrupted until around 9 pm, when a blockade was formed at Kamala Intersection.

Protesters quickly set up tents and loudspeakers and used vehicles to seal off the intersection.

At its peak, up to 500 people joined in the protest.

Many people traveling along the road, including large numbers of tourists heading in and out of Patong for St Patrick's Day celebrations, were forced to abandon their vehicles and walk home.

Villagers were angry that Cherng Talay resident Lunglode Suepsin, 20, had been bailed after handing himself in earlier that day.

Mr Lunglode, the nephew of the Cherng Talay Tambon Chief Sommit Suepsin, had been charged with the assault of Somsak "Big" Maisaphrao, 27, the manager of a row of rental houses on Soi Huakhuan in Kamala.

Mr Somsak claimed that



Protesters congregate in the middle of Kamala Intersection on the night of March 17, preventing drivers from passing through.

Mr Lunglode and three other men turned up drunk at the block at around midnight on March 6 and demanded to see one of the residents.

When Mr Somsak told them the resident wasn't there, they started stealing mangoes from the trees around the houses, he said.

He claimed that after he told them to stop, they attacked him. He said they dragged him to the ground by his hair, then hacked him several times with a sharpened car leaf spring.

He sustained wounds to his

hand and arms, requiring 200 stitches at Patong Hospital.

Later on the morning of March 7 he went to Kamala Police Station and reported the crime. But Mr Somsak and his relatives also made their own inquiries about the attackers and identified four men they believed were involved, including Mr Lunglode.

When the police had made no arrests by March 9, Mr Somsak gave them the men's names.

Mr Lunglode handed himself in to Cherng Talay Police

Station at 3 pm on March 17. He was taken to Kamala Police Station, charged with assault and then bailed by his father.

After word spread that Mr Lunglode had been released, the protest began.

The protesters' demands included that all officers connected with the case be transferred from Kamala Police, that the perpetrators of the crime be arrested within one day, that a group of police officers the protesters claimed were breaking the law be transferred and that all protesters be immune from prosecution.

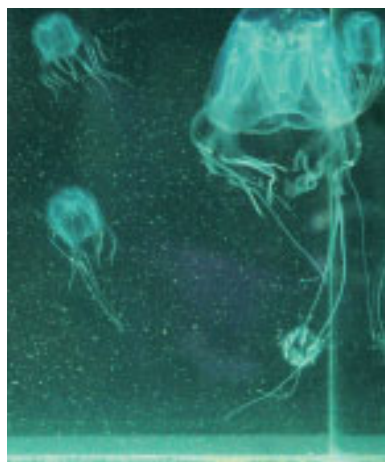
The blockade was formed at Kamala Intersections after police refused to accede to the protesters' demands.

Phuket Vice-Governor Worapoj Ratthasima and other officials came to negotiate with the protest leaders, as well as Mr Somsak, at around 10.30 am on March 18.

By 1 pm, agreement had been reached to put the matter before Phuket Provincial Court, though details of the proceedings cannot be reported.

The protest dispersed at around 5.30 pm. At the time of writing, Mr Lunglode was back in police custody, along with two other suspects.

## New genus of box jellyfish spotted off Phuket



**CAPE PANWA:** A new variation of the venomous box jellyfish [Chironex fleckeri] has been discovered in the waters around Phuket, the Phuket Marine Biological Center (PMBC) reported on March 18.

Dr Somchai Bussarawit, Chief of Museum and Aquarium at the PMBC, said that the new species of jellyfish was discovered at Ao Nambor, the same part of Phuket where almost 40 were collected in July 2008 and a further 18 in October of the

same year.

The PMBC revealed that this new genus of box jellyfish is really small and had shorter tentacles.

Dr Somchai said, "I need to research whether or not this is just a baby or a fully grown jellyfish. If this is indeed fully grown then it will pose a problem as it would be more difficult to see. Most box jellyfish are hard enough to see as it is - this is even smaller."

He was unable to confirm where else in Phuket these new

jellyfish might appear, but revealed that they like brackish water, such as that associated with mangroves.

The PMBC is continuing to search for answers and Dr Somchai confirmed that experts from Australia will travel to Phuket to provide information and instruction about box jellyfish.

Dr Somchai reiterated that the best course of action following a suspected sting was the application of vinegar and that a doctor should be contacted immediately.

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# Billionaires lead Phuket's top 5 "rich and famous" villa list

PHUKET: Thailand's resort island of Phuket is fast becoming a hotspot for the world's rich and famous, who search for tropical island living coupled with great investment.

According to the recently-launched *Phuket Insider* blog, two of *Forbes* magazine's leading billionaires have über-luxury villas in Phuket.

The *Phuket Insider* – The source for all hotel and real estate news – was launched earlier this week by Bill Barnett, the well known property columnist, hospitality consultant and managing director of Phuket-based C9 Hotelworks.

"Our passion is to provide independent and intelligent news

and commentary on the rapidly developing Phuket storyline.

You won't find banner ads, hotel bargains, condos for sale or Google AdWords on the site. It is purely relevant information as it happens without the mass commercialization," Barnett says.

Phuket's "Top 5" are listed as follows:

1. New Zealand's wealthiest brothers, Richard and Christopher Chandler (one brother formerly CEO of the Sovereign Group). *Forbes* reported that the Kiwi siblings have amassed a fortune valued at over US\$2 billion.

2. Canadian Robert Friedland of Ivanhoe Energy and Mines, with *Forbes* reporting a net worth of US\$1.4 billion.

3. Hong Kong's Allan Zeman, who is regarded as "The Father of *Lan Kwai Fong*". While his personal worth remains undisclosed, he is highly ranked amongst Asia's most wealthy and influential businessmen.

4. Finnish Formula One star Kimi Raikkonen. The flying Finn earns a reported US\$44 million per year from Ferrari and endorsements and is ranked by *Forbes* as the fifth highest-paid sports star and the 26th highest-paid celebrity.

5. British Binatone founder Gulu Lalvani is ranked fifth on Phuket's rich and famous list with his globe-trotting celebrity and multi-million dollar personal fortune.

## Random drug tests to continue for three months



Last Saturday night, officials tested nightlife workers on Bangla's infamous Soi Crocodile, but left foreign revelers free to go about their business.

PATONG: Drug testing taking place at popular nightlife entertainment venues in Patong have yet to result in any arrests of foreigners in connection with illegal

drug use.

Kathu Police are focusing mainly on Thai patrons and the bar staff in their mandatory urine testing, which gives on-the-spot

results for three recreational drugs: *ya bah* (methamphetamine), *ya ice* (crystal methamphetamine) and *ya E* (Ecstasy).

Of the 204 people the police have tested up to and including Saturday night, eight turned up positive when their urine samples turned tell-tale purple.

Those testing positive are subsequently given more accurate blood tests to confirm the results and decrease the likelihood of a "false positive" result. First time offenders are required to register with the Phuket Public Health Office and undergo treatment for drug abuse.

Each night in Patong, three testing teams including police and public health officials conduct the surprise raids from 9 pm to 11 pm.

The initiative follows a policy directive issued by Deputy Prime Minister Suthep Thaugsuban to crack down on drug abuse.

The raids are scheduled to continue over a 90-day period that began on March 6.

## Aleenta hosts turtle release ceremony



Resort Managing Director Anchalika Kijkanakorn opens the ceremony by releasing the first turtle on Saturday night.

KHOK KLOY, PHANG NGA: The Aleenta Resort and Spa on March 14 held a turtle release ceremony during which 20 young Olive Ridley turtles raised in captivity were released into the sea at Natai Beach.

The release was held at 10.30 pm, a time when the young turtles were least vulnerable to predators. The activity was organized by the resort's Sea Turtle Foundation, set up by the resort's Managing Director Anchalika Kijkanakorn. The foundation works with the Phang Nga Coastal Fisheries Research and Development Center to treat in-

jured turtles until they can be released into the wild. The turtles are often injured by encounters with fishing equipment. The project is now in its third year.

The resort also held a fundraising event where gift vouchers, donated by numerous other resorts, were auctioned off. The event raised 250,000 baht for the foundation to continue its work. Part of the money raised was used in the process of fitting sea turtles with small global positional satellite (GPS) transmitters, allowing their movements and behaviors to be monitored and studied.

## Teen charged with attempted murder

CHERNG TALAY: Police on Thursday morning held a press conference to announce the arrest of a local youth wanted for shooting a rival gang member in late January.

Cherng Talay Police Inspector for Investigation Tongchai Matitum identified the suspect as 19-year-old Pharuhat Choochit, a resident of Cherng Talay Village 5. According to the press release, the shooting took place as a result of an ongoing dispute between two groups of young men. The first group, of which the suspect is a member, hails from Cherng Talay Village 5 and Village 2. The rival group, to which the victim Wissanu

Prateep Na Talang allegedly belonged, comes from Cherng Talay Village 6 and tambon Thepkasattri Village 4.

The shooting took place at about 7 pm on January 26 during a high-speed motorcycle chase on the Cherng Talay-Ban Don Rd in Ban Pasak, Cherng Talay Village 4. According to a police press release, members of both gangs exchanged gunfire and the victim was hit in the stomach. His current condition was not reported in the press release.

Cherng Talay Police served Mr Pharuhat with the arrest warrant at his home on Tuesday, March 10. He was subsequently charged with attempted murder.

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# New governor names tourist revival as top priority

PHUKET CITY: Monday March 16 marked the first day in office of Phuket's new governor, Wichai Phraisai-ngop.

Mr Wichai was greeted at the Governor's Mansion on Monday morning by numerous officials and well-wishers, some traveling from as far away as Phang Nga and Surat Thani to attend the ceremony.

Transferred to Phuket from his previous posting as governor of Sing Buri province in the Central Plains region, the native of Nakhon Pathom turned 59 last Thursday. Married to Mrs Thaisika, he has two grown-up children from a former marriage. The holder of a bachelor's degree in political and administrative sciences from

Ramkhamhaeng University Faculty of Law, Gov Wichai is no stranger to the South. He served as Phang Nga governor for a year, starting in 2006.

He also has extensive experience in the Interior Ministry's Land Department, having been Land Office Director in Nakhon Pathom in 1997 and Deputy Director of the Land Department nationwide in 2003.

Gov Wichai admitted to being somewhat overwhelmed by the sudden nature of the transfer and said he expects the challenges facing him in Phuket to be very different from those he faced in Phang Nga. Improving the island's tourism-based economy is top of his agenda, but to achieve this will

take a great deal of study and research from the outset, he admitted.

Mr Wichai replaces former Governor Preecha Ruangjan, who, despite serving less than five months in office, gained wide respect for his energetic efforts to learn about and improve Phuket. Both Dr Preecha and Mr Wichai were among 28 senior Interior Ministry officials who received transfer orders last week.

Many political observers think the reshuffle is intended to reduce the influence of former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra in the northern provinces, where he still has strong support. There was speculation in the Thai media that Dr Preecha's departure was prompted by the influence of local Democrat Party heavyweights. Such speculation



Mr Wichai was greeted at the Governor's Mansion on Monday morning by numerous officials and well-wishers, some traveling from as far away as Phang Nga and Surat Thani to attend the ceremony.

seems invalid, however, as the Interior Ministry portfolio is now in the hands of the newly formed Bhumjaithai Party, which is influenced by banned Buri Ram politician Newin Chidchob. Mr Newin is a longtime adversary of the Phuket Democrats, dating back to his role in the Sor-

PorKor-401k land scandal that brought down the first Democrat-led government of Chuan Leekpai in 1995.

Dr Preecha was quoted in the local Thai-language media as saying he didn't think his transfer order was politically motivated.

## Siam Indigo damaged in fire



The restaurant and bar occupies three shophouse units, built about 80 years ago, near the K-bank Phuket main branch in what is now known as Old Phuket Town.

PHUKET CITY: The popular Siam Indigo Exotique Bar and Restaurant on Phang Nga Road was partially damaged in a fire that broke out at about 10:20 am on Sunday March 15.

Taweesak Suwit, an officer with the local Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM-Phuket) office, told the *Gazette* that two Phuket City fire trucks managed to bring the blaze under control.

The restaurant and bar occupies three shophouse units, built about 80 years ago, near the

K-bank Phuket main branch in what is now known as Old Phuket Town. Officials believe the fire started behind the bar counter and spread into the hall.

Phuket City Police Superintendent Wanchai Ekpornpit said that an electrical short circuit was thought to have been the cause of the fire, but that the police were waiting for forensic investigators to complete their report.

The actual damage was probably far less than the 1 million baht reported by some media outlets, he said.

## PAD to hold huge rally in Phuket

PHUKET: The People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD) will stage a large rally at Saphan Hin in Phuket on April 18.

All five core PAD leaders – Sondhi Limthongkul, Chamlong Srimuang, Pipop Thongchai, Somsak Kosaisuk and Somkiat Pongpaiboon – are set to attend.

Mr Sondhi's Asian Satellite Television is organizing the rally, which will start at 4 pm and go on until midnight. Tickets will be priced at 200 baht.

Phuket is a major stronghold for the PAD, though local supporters have reportedly splintered into a 'hardcore' group and another, more moderate faction.

The Phuket rally will be nationally televised as a way of disseminating information about the current political situation in the country to PAD supporters.

According to PAD insiders, the movement is making prepa-



All five core PAD leaders – Sondhi Limthongkul (pictured above), Chamlong Srimuang, Pipop Thongchai, Somsak Kosaisuk and Somkiat Pongpaiboon – are set to attend the rally at Saphan Hin.

rations to form a new political party, which may be named *Thien Hang Tham* (Candles for

Righteousness). The new party is likely to be headed by Mr Chamlong.

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# Family of accused boy speak out on molestation charges

By Dan Waites

A 17-year-old German boy arrested on March 9 on child molestation charges is a victim of abuse, not a perpetrator, his family claim.

That message was echoed by Dr Hanns H Schumacher, German Ambassador to Thailand, when he met Phuket Provincial Police Commander Apirak Hongtong on March 16 to discuss the case.

"My major message to the police... was that this guy, who is still a minor, cannot be considered as a perpetrator, but rather a victim. That's the message and I've got the impression that they were highly aware of that," Dr Schumacher said.

The boy is accused of conspiring with Dax J Young, a 41-year-old British national, to sexually abuse Thai boys as young as nine years old.

The boy's mother and sister are adamant that the boy should be released immediately and allowed to give evidence against Mr Young, who denies the charges against him.

They say the boy told them he had been sexually abused by the older man since shortly after



Phuket Provincial Police Commander Apirak Hongtong at a press conference with the German boy (left) and British national Dax J Young (right).

the family first met him in a Patong coffee shop in early 2005.

"This is unbelievable, what they are doing to an abused child. Why is he not sitting with the same children who got abused?" his sister asked.

Instead, the boy is locked up and awaiting trial in Phuket Juvenile Observation and Protection Center.

Police say he has confessed to the charges against him: namely, that he sexually abused boys as young as nine years old. At least two victims have been identified, though police suggest

there are many more.

Evidence seized from Mr Young's house included images stored on digital cameras, CDs, a laptop and hard drives.

The images showed young boys naked and engaged in sexual acts. The images are also believed to show the German boy committing acts of sexual abuse against them.

But the question of what happened in the years leading up to the arrests is difficult to answer. The *Gazette* has discussed the case at length with the boy's mother and sister.

They said they fled to Thailand following the breakdown of the mother's relationship with the children's father in Cologne.

Describing the man as violent and disturbed, she said he was heavily dependent on drugs and alcohol and threatened to kill her and kidnap her children after the couple split up.

In December 2003, they arrived in Phuket, where they had been many times before and had friends.

But, they said, the children's father found out where they were and followed them to Phuket in July 2004. He wasted little time in restarting his campaign of harassment against the family during a two-month stay, they claimed.

Police told them that unless he committed a crime, there was nothing they could do, the family said.

It seemed a relief, then, when the family met local photographer Dax J Young in the Coffee Lovers cafe near the Royal Paradise Hotel in Patong in early 2005.

Mr Young quickly earned their trust, showing the 14-year-old motorbike enthusiast pictures of CBRs and Harley Davidsons he had taken.

"He told us he could help us and it gave us comfort to just have someone to make us feel a little bit safe. When we had a problem we could call him and he would listen to us," the sister said. "When my father came, we'd call him and he'd come to meet us in the coffee shop or the cafe and sit with us."

With Mr Young's apparent protection, the family felt safer, despite the children's father remaining on the island.

Mr Young began to spend an increasing amount of time with the German youth. "In the afternoons they'd go to the beach or

do something together. So I was quite happy and my mum was quite happy to find someone so he would not only be with women. To find someone who he could learn some different things from," his sister said.

Mr Young taught the boy about photography and computers, and the boy's English improved dramatically. "He saw him [Mr Young] as a friend and a father," his sister said. "I was very pleased about their association because Dax did not drink alcohol or take drugs," his mother said.

But in late 2006, the mother became seriously ill with an acute case of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), a progressive lung disease in which the lungs' airways narrow. She spent four weeks in intensive care in Phuket International Hospital (PIH).

"My brother, when he saw my mom with the respirator, he was just running around crazy. I saw him nearly melt down," his sister said.

"Dax told me, 'Don't worry, I'll take care of you, take care of the children.' Everything was OK, and I thought, 'Ah, it's good that we have Dax to take care and look after the children and see that they eat, that everything is being taken care of when I am in hospital,'" the mother said.

Suffering more acute exacerbations of her condition, the boy's mother spent time in Bangkok Hospital Phuket before returning to PIH at the end of 2007.

Until that time she had been covered by BUPA health insurance. But after her last stay at PIH, she discovered that her insurance would no longer cover her treatments.

The family struggled to pay the bill and the German Honorary Consul Dirk Neumann be-



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came involved in the case. He advised the mother that the best thing for her and her family would be to return to Germany, where social welfare would see that she was cared for.

But she refused to do so and has remained on the island since that time without health insurance and despite the seriousness of her illness, Mr Neumann said.

"She officially said she was afraid to go back because of the father of her children. I told her she shouldn't be afraid because he's sitting in prison for [an unrelated] attempted murder," he added.

Asked by the *Gazette* why she refused to return, the mother cited a number of reasons, including that the cold weather was bad for her condition and that she didn't like the German mentality.

Meanwhile, the boy was spending more and more time with Mr Young. About a year and a half ago, the women noticed a change in his personality.

"He became very closed. He didn't talk to us anymore. Before he walked straight, but he started to walk a little bit lower every day, like something was very heavy on his shoulders. But he would not admit there was anything wrong," the sister said.

She visited Mr Young's house near Wat Suwansiriwong School in Patong on a number of occasions.

She visited the house around one year ago while her mother

was back in hospital and noticed a table football game in the yard outside. There were also young boys outside the house. They seemed to like Mr Young a lot, she said. "I was seeing this and thinking 'what is going on?'" she added.

Not wanting to stay home on her own while her sick mother was in hospital, she asked if she could stay at Mr Young's house and watch TV while he was out. She says she was told very firmly "No".

"I started [to think] something must be in his house that they are scared of me seeing. And I talked to my brother again, I said 'Is something going on? I have a weird feeling here.' He said 'No!' and become very angry and very afraid. He didn't want to talk about this at all," she said.

The boy's mother and sister claim not to have known what was going on right up until the boy's arrest.

Around five weeks before the arrests, the boy told them the police visited Mr Young's house. Not having a warrant at the time, they didn't go inside. His mother asked the boy why. "I don't know, maybe they want to see the work permit or something like that," he reportedly replied.

On the evening of Friday, March 6, Mr Young was arrested. The police also summoned the boy to Kathu Police Station for questioning, but released him later that night.

Finally, after police had reviewed the evidence seized from Mr Young's house, they arrived at the family's Rawai home on the evening of March 9 to arrest the boy – but he was not home.

His mother said she called him and told him they were there to arrest him. She claims it was then that he told her, for the first time, that Mr Young had been abusing him for four years.

"From the beginning, he promised to protect me from my father," she says he told her. "He was afraid to lose his protection, and so he did not deny him. He said 'OK'. And when his father went back to Germany he wanted to finish the relationship. And Dax said 'No no no no. If you want to finish this, I'll go to your mom, and I'll tell her everything, and you know what will happen then. And I'll call your father in Germany, and he will come back.'"

But the family's account differs with that of Dirk Naumann on a number of points.

After the police visited Mr Young's house five weeks before the arrests, Mr Naumann talked to the boy at length.

"He came repeatedly here to my office. I talked to him repeatedly on the telephone, I talked to the mother repeatedly on the telephone, and before he was arrested, I knew all the story. He did not hold back anything, he told me exactly what he had done," he said.

Mr Naumann says he urged

the boy to return to Germany, but he refused. Knowing of his mother's determination not to go back he reportedly said, "I cannot leave my mum alone, my mum is my family."

Mr Naumann also suggests that the mother's children had supported her financially during her time in Phuket – an allegation she categorically denies.

German Ambassador Dr Hanns Schumacher visited the boy in Phuket Juvenile Observation and Protection Center on March 16.

"On a personal basis I was quite surprised when I met him, because knowing about the background that he has and where he comes from, he makes a very good impression," Dr Schumacher said.

The boy told him he had not been in school since the age of 13, he said.

Nevertheless, "he speaks well, he behaves very properly, he has an orderly appearance and I had the impression that if he was given the chance to do something serious... this guy would have no problems at all. He doesn't look like a criminal, and certainly not like a pedophile," Dr Schumacher said.

"He is hardened by his terrible experiences and he takes all the negative knocks in his life without much reaction, because he had so many," Mr Neumann added.

The ambassador was clear

on why the tragedy had happened. "I think that... this whole situation has arisen for two reasons. First, the really irresponsible behavior of the mother, who more or less prepared her stay here in Phuket and continued her stay without having the proper means, thus almost deliberately putting her children in danger to look for the money.

"And the second problem is a general problem, which should serve as a warning, and we want to serve it as a warning to all German nationals who are coming to Thailand to live here... don't come to Thailand permanently if you are not able to pay for your health insurance," he said.

Dr Schumacher and Mr Neumann said they had secured the boy's agreement to return and to persuade his mother to do likewise.

"I am neutral. I am not judging the family and I want to solve the case. That is the major approach and that is why we said 'If you want to go back to Germany, we have the means to support it, in co-operation with the police.' The police responded positively, and now we will work on this basis," Dr Schumacher said.

It remains to be seen if the boy's release can be secured. The family said they were told his next hearing would be in three months' time.

The mother remains seriously ill but insists she does not want to return to Germany.

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# Govt in two minds over alcohol sales during Songkran

The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) on March 11 issued two options for alcohol consumption during the Songkran Festival on April 12 to 14.

Deputy Public Health Minister Manit Nopamornbodi said the ministerial executives had come up with two ideas: ban all sale of alcohol during the entire period; or ban sale at stores but allow restaurants, pubs and hotels with an Excise Department permit to serve alcohol from 6 pm to midnight. The ministry will soon submit a report to the National Committee for Alcohol Consumption Control Policy for a final say, he added.

Disease Control Department Chief Somchai Chakrabhand said the ministry came up with these options after listening to all sides, including anti-alcohol groups, academics, manufacturers and business operators. The

idea was to control the impact of drinking rather than prohibit it altogether, though allowing alcohol to be sold at convenience stores or supermarkets will only encourage drunk driving, he said.

Public Health Minister Witthaya Kaewparadai, who presided over the meeting, said the MoPH wanted to save lives and reduce road accidents, and that it was not siding with manufacturers, traders or the anti-alcohol groups.

Stop Drink Network Coordinator Khamron Chudecha said it was wrong for the MoPH to leave such loopholes in its guidelines, because the ministry's first duty is to protect the public; not favour businesses. The network would call on Deputy PM Sanan Kachorn-prasart, chairman of the National Committee for Alcohol Consumption Control Policy, to clarify the issue, he said.

## Purple notes for the elderly on April 9

Around 2.8 million elderly people, out of a total of four million eligible for the 500 baht monthly government allowance, have registered with authorities before the deadline ended on March 15.

Pending a final count of those who registered during the weekend, there would be another 200,000, making the total reach a possible three million, Social Development and Human Security Minister Issara Somchai said.

The next round of registration will open at a later date that is yet to be decided, he said. The first payment could be made starting on April 9 as planned. The first round of registrations opened on February 26. Only 700,800, around 10% of those

who are eligible, registered daily at the district offices throughout the country. The payment, a decision by the Abhisit government, has drawn flak from critics who say it is a populist policy and requires too large a budget in the current economic climate. Meanwhile, the Fiscal Policy Office under the Finance Ministry is working out a national welfare scheme to benefit all people over 60 years of age who were not employees or civil servants. Under the structure, 100 baht would be collected from each of the beneficiaries not older than 45 years following their consent for a minimum of 15 years. They will receive the amount in a lump sum when they turn 60.



Miss Thailand Universe 2009 candidates pose for photographers. This year, the pageant will be held on March 28 at Sofitel Centara Grand Bangkok in Bangkok, with 44 contestants vying to be the representative for Miss Thailand at the Miss Universe 2009 pageant.

## HNRC urges PM to set up land reform council

Members of the National Human Rights Commission on March 16 urged the prime minister to set up a council to carry out comprehensive land reform to help poor people who have conflicts with the state over land ownership and usage rights.

The human rights commissioners met Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva at the Govern-

ment House to issue the demand.

They called on the prime minister to dissolve all government agencies responsible for handling land, because the agencies caused problems to the poor people. The new land reform council should be the sole agency to carry out land reform and the reform should be a national agenda, they proposed.

## Hot dogs and rabies

Construction sites are the worst hotspots for rabid dogs in the capital, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) Health Office Deputy Chief Wanthanee Wattana said on March 12.

Rabies has claimed the lives of three people in Bangkok this year, compared to just a single death for each of the past two years, she said. One of the victims in Bang Khunthien was a

youth bitten by a puppy at a construction site, she said.

A survey has found that construction sites carry the biggest risk, as workers often raise dogs without having them vaccinated and let them roam freely. The BMA has started providing free rabies vaccinations and sterilization for pet dogs to try and deal with the problem, which is exacerbated by the summer heat.

## Attempted murder by motorcycle

A teenaged street racer has been charged with attempted murder after he crashed his motorcycle into a senior traffic policeman while trying to evade a crackdown in Bangkok late Saturday night, March 14.

Captain Suraphol Daojaeng of Khoke Khram Police Station is undergoing hospital treatment for a broken right kneecap and awaiting results from a brain scan after he was knocked unconscious and bleeding from his head by the 15-year-old suspect, whose name was not released because he is a minor. The operation by more than 70 police around midnight at Kaset Nawamin Road netted 80 youths and 57 motorbikes. A total of 47 suspects, including 27 minors, were booked. The youngest was a 12-year-old boy.



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# 4,000 more troops for Deep South

DEEP SOUTH: The Internal Security Operation Command (Isoc) is being boosted by an additional 4,000 troops in the Deep South, Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva said March 12.

Approval for the new troops, mostly paramilitary Rangers, was made in accordance with a new structure under Thailand's internal security law, he said.

The new troops will join Isoc's forward command.

Isoc is in the process of structural adjustment to make the Cold War era organization more effective under the current security situation, with priority going to the predominantly Muslim region.

Isoc received around 7 billion baht for its budget this year to help contain the violence. The government already has 60,000 troops deployed in the region.

"I have said clearly that if we still need this large budget and

level of human resources, it means our task in the Deep South has not yet succeeded," said Prime Minister Abhisit, who also serves as chief of Isoc. "When we are able to reduce resources and manpower in the region it will mean we are going in the right direction to win the hearts and minds of local people," he said.

More than 3,200 people have been killed in the deep South since early 2004 as authorities struggle to contain the violence.

Prime Minister Abhisit said the government has tried to prevent people younger than 20 from joining the militant movement.

"We have to educate them and use the education to give them opportunities to improve their lives," he said. PM Abhisit said the government would discuss plans, measures and projects for youth education and development within a couple of weeks.



Animals in Songkhla Zoo enjoy ice cubes provided by zoo keepers to help them cope with rising temperature. The only zoo in the south run by the Thai Zoological Park Organization, the park is widely regarded as the best zoo in the south of Thailand. Photo by Santiparb Ramasutr.

## Child caught in crossfire

YALA: A nine-year-old boy was seriously injured after being shot during a gun fight between soldiers and suspected insurgents in Ramen District on the evening of March 13.

Police said that just before 8 pm, gunmen opened fire on an Army base inside Ban Phong Ta School in Tambon Kota Bahru. Soldiers returned fire and a gun battle raged for about five minutes, until the insurgents fled.

Soldiers then noticed 9-year-old student Asaming Wadae lying injured, with bullet wounds to the back and head.

Taken by soldiers to Ramen Hospital, he was later transferred to Yala Central Hospital, where he remains in critical condition.

Police said the attack was likely to have been launched to mark the anniversary of the establishment of Barisan Revolusi Nasional Melayu Patani, one of the many insurgent groups reportedly operating in the area. The

group was established almost 50 years ago, on March 13, 1960.

Police believe Asaming was hit by bullets shot by the insurgents.

A few hours later, at around 2 am the following morning in neighbouring Pattani, suspected insurgents set fire to two schools in Nong Jik District.

Ban Tha Kamcham School in Tambon Tha Kamcham Village 1 and Ban Bang Than School in Tambon Bang Khao Village 3 both sustained considerable damage.

A wooden building housing classrooms for grades prathom one to prathom five at Ban Bang Than School was burned to the ground. The wooden Muslim prayer room at Ban Tha Kamcham School was also destroyed.

At both schools the perpetrators used spray paint to write "drive out the soldiers" on the wall.

Both schools had armed guards, but police say the arsonists broke in through back windows and used gasoline to fuel the flames.

## Woman injured in acid attack

KRABI: A local politician and his mistress are in serious condition in Krabi Hospital after the politician's wife allegedly shot her husband and threw acid in the face of his lover on March 12, in Neua Khlong District.

The victims were identified by police as 37-year-old Somkiat Srisuwan, a member of Huay Yoong Tambon Administration Organization and his mistress, identified as 26-year-old Mrs

Malathira Horbut. Witnesses reported seeing Mr Somkiat and Ms Malathira arrive at Mr Somkiat's house in Tambon Khok Yong at around 11:30 am.

Mr Somkiat lived at the home with his wife Phisamai Srisuk, 28. According to the report, when Mrs Phisamai saw her husband arrive home with another woman - after not having been home for three days - she flew into a jealous rage. First she

grabbed some acid and threw it on the face and body of Mrs Malathira. When Mr Somkiat tried to help Mrs Malathira, Mrs Phisamai allegedly shot him once in the arm and once in the lower abdomen with a .38 calibre pistol.

Witnesses said she appeared to be aiming for her husband's genitals. After the shooting, she then fled the scene and remains at large.

## Video blackmail plan goes awry

TRANG: Police have arrested a schoolgirl for attempting to extort 50,000 baht from a classmate with a faked explicit video clip.

Na Yong Police arrested the girl, a matthayom five student, after the family of the victim called the police, who apprehended the suspect - who cannot be named for legal reasons - at school. They seized her mobile phone and found an edited video clip showing the victim naked. Police said that they also

found a recorded text message she had sent demanding the victim meet her in a public library and hand over 50,000 baht in return for not distributing the clip.

The suspect said that she had seen a film about blackmailing someone with a faked clip.

She wanted to raise money to go for special tutoring in Bangkok and to help out her family, who were struggling to meet mortgage and car finance payments. The girl already has a

record of trying to extort money, police said. In 2005, she was convicted of kidnapping the infant daughter of a Krabi judge and demanding a ransom of three million baht.

She was sentenced to two years imprisonment in Songkhla Juvenile Observation and Protection Center. After her release, she returned to live with her family in Trang. Teachers said the girl is a very bright student with a Grade Point Average of nearly 4.0.

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# A Celebration of Cultural Diversity

## Food, fun and folk music from Lanta archipelago communities go on show at the region's annual Laanta Lanta Festival

By Lesley Cuthbert

The Laanta Lanta Festival is held annually on Koh Lanta Yai during the month of March. The event celebrates the eclectic mix of cultures and traditions that are found across the island. In a world where so many nations are divided by religious and cultural differences, it is inspiring to behold this crucible of cultures, where people reside together in peace and harmony.

The Koh Lanta archipelago is made up of more than fifty small islets, most of which are uninhabited. Koh Lanta Yai is the most popular with tourists and also has the largest population. The island's topography consists mainly of abundant forest land, mountainous terrain, pristine beaches and plentiful marine resources. Koh Lanta's original name was Palau Satak, which means 'long beach island' in Malay. In 1917 it was officially changed to Koh Lanta – thought to have come from the Javanese word for 'fish grill'. Lanta Old Town, located on the south-east coast, is worth a visit at any time of the year. Once a major sea port and the commercial center for the island, it provided a safe harbor for Arabic and Chinese trading vessels, sailing between Phuket, Penang and Singapore.

The town's status changed fifty years ago with the advent of roads and automobiles, which linked the island with the mainland – now tourism and fishing provide the main source of income for the locals. Despite the growing tourist industry, Lanta Old Town retains its quaint charm. Sino-style wooden shop fronts and stilted houses are evidence of a rich history as well as the diverse mix of cultures residing in the area. The Old Town is

home to three main ethnic groups: *Chao Ley* (Sea Gypsies), Thai-Muslim and Thai-Chinese. The *Chao Ley* preceded the Malay (Muslim) immigrants, while the Chinese merchants arrived more than 100 years ago.

The *Chao Ley* have occupied the area for over 500 years, settling along the coast in houses built upon stilts. They are unique in that they speak their own language, have animist beliefs and retain close ties with the sea. Thai-Muslims make up the majority of the population and the Thai-Chinese settlers have assimilated into the local community, working as business owners, agricultural farmers and fishermen. There is no religious tension between these groups and they have managed to coexist in peace and harmony for hundreds of years. The ethnic diversity is reflected in the old Sino-style houses, mosques, Buddhist temples and traditional Thai housing styles, all over the island. The Laanta Lanta Festival is held each year as a celebration of this unique community spirit. This year, locals and visitors congregated to enjoy an array of cultural facets still prevalent on the island today. Festivities commenced on March 7 – lasting three days and nights – featuring music, dance, cultural performances and markets.

Glowing red Chinese lanterns illuminated the streets while the aroma of incense and spice filled the night air. Vendors lined the town's streets, as locals and tourists browsed the waterside stalls and admired the old wooden Chinese shopfronts. Craftsmen and artists from the surrounding area exhibited a variety of goods, including leather, jewelry, *batik* and a miscellany of souvenirs.

The Old Town's melting pot of cultures is well represented in

The first act to take to the main stage was Assalee Mala, a band well known throughout Thailand for its traditional *Rong Ngeng* folk music.



Freshly caught fish and exotic juices served in bamboo beakers tantalized the taste buds of passing shoppers.

the local cuisine. Aromatic flavors, originating from India, Malaysia and China are infused in a variety of dishes, such as Chinese noodles in fish curry (*Kanom Chine*) and Malaysian style chicken with yellow rice and roasted spices (*Khao Mok Gai*). The vibrancy and freshness of the ingredients alone is enough to whet your appetite. Bright yellow juicy corns, freshly caught fish and exotic juices served in bam-

boo beakers tantalized the taste-buds of passing shoppers. The main stage stood illuminated by the water's edge, while smaller cultural displays of music and dance took place close to the Old Town Museum. The first act to take to the main stage was Assalee Mala, a band known throughout Thailand for its traditional Thai *Rong Ngeng* folk music. *Rong Ngeng* is a style of folk music and dance incorporat-

ing Western style dance steps with music played on violins, Arabian drums and Chinese gongs, all accompanied by Malaysian lyrics. *Rong Ngeng* has been popular on Koh Lanta for over a century and is often played at weddings, festivals and by sea gypsies. There have been many recent attempts to keep the music alive, particularly on Koh Lanta and in other Southern areas of Thailand. The band's violinist, known as "Mac", explained, "We enjoy playing all over Thailand but we love playing in Koh Lanta and close to the Malaysian border. The music originates from here so there is always a great atmosphere." Mac also alluded to what makes the Laanta Lanta Festival special. "The amazing mix of culture and traditions makes it an exciting experience. You can try so many different styles of food and hear a variety of music. It is fun for everyone involved. Tourists can learn a lot about the interesting history of this island and take home some great memories," he said.

The festival was an impressive and enjoyable showcase of the cultural diversity of Koh Lanta. Most importantly, it is a positive example to the world, showing how people of different ethnic groups can live together peacefully and respectfully.

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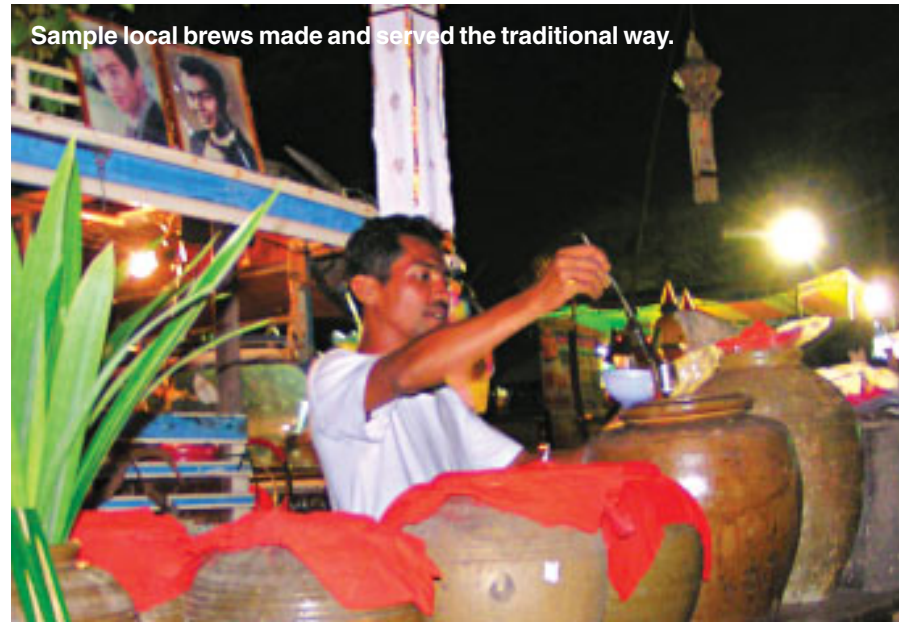
# All the fun of the fair

**T**his weekend, Phuketians can take in all the sights and sounds of the fair at the War Memorial Ground adjacent to the Heroines' Monument on Thepkasattri Road. The fair marks the end of annual celebrations in remembrance of Phuket's heroines, who are revered for their role in defeating the Burmese when they invaded Phuket in 1785.

Fair goers can try their luck on the Wheel of Fortune or go for a lucky dip, while sharp shooters can win cuddly toys on the rifle range or dunk a damsel. And of course, there is a plethora of festive food, from popcorn and sausages on sticks to doughnuts, drinks and even fried insects.



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## CHEAP eats

By Daniel Ogunshakin

In a slight departure from our usual 'Cheap Eats' format, in which we might point you in the direction of one of Phuket's many excellent eateries, this week we offer an introduction – or a reminder, depending on how long you have been hiding out on the island – to some of the tastiest food to be found in Phuket. And what's more, we practically guarantee that you could be enjoying it in less time than it takes for me to finish writing this sentence.

Okay... maybe not quite that quick, but you get my point. Enjoy.

# Street food I desire

Living in Phuket we are blessed with an almost inexhaustible range of mouthwatering options when it comes to choosing where to eat.

From the cheap-and-cheerful noodle soup carts, serving up steaming bowls of goodness, to high-end establishments, such as Tre Restaurant at Banyan Tree or the newly opened Acqua, which offer gourmet wonders – albeit with a price to match.

As delectable as the fare at these up-market restaurants may be – and believe you me, it is divine – some of the very best meals can be found by the side of the road or on street corners, where Thais congregate in large numbers, with a few astute expats dotted in between, to enjoy the simple things in life; good Thai cuisine.

To the newcomer to Thailand, particularly one on a short holiday, these establishments might seem daunting. Often the proprietors speak little or no English and the menus, if present at all, are usually written only in Thai.

Such obstacles are often enough to send all but the toughest diner scrambling for the nearest restaurant advertising a hearty English breakfast.

This, however, needn't be the case. With a few carefully memorized phrases, you can confidently stride into any local restaurant and order any amount of great food that won't strain the purse strings.

In this edition of Cheap Eats, I have selected four simple,

yet well-known dishes that can be found at most local eateries.

### **Phad Thai Gai (Thai-style stir-fried noodles with chicken)**

Combining stir-fried rice noodles with egg, fish sauce, tamarind juice, red chillies, bean sprouts, crushed peanuts and coriander, *Phad Thai* is a popular favorite with many expats and countless backpackers who populate Bangkok's Khao San Road.

This simple-yet-classic dish is thought to have originated in Vietnam, being brought to the ancient Thai capital of Ayuthaya by Vietnamese traders.

It was made popular in the Kingdom by Luang Phibunsongkhram, Thailand's prime minister in the 1930s and 1940s.

The promotion of the dish was partly due to his Thai nationalism campaign and partly in a bid to cut down rice consumption in the Kingdom.

*Phad Thai* can be accompanied by pork, prawns or a combination of seafood, but works particularly well with chicken. The addition of a little fish sauce (*nam pla*) and some dried chilli flakes gives the dish a delicious finish.

### **Kuitiaw Naam Nua (Noodle soup with beef)**

An extremely popular dish, *Kuitiaw Naam* can be found at a variety of places, including street vendors, canteens and food courts.

Originally thought to have come from China – a country with many varieties of noodle



Khao Pad



Phad Thai

soup – the name itself is taken from the Chinese word *Teochew*. Unlike most Thai dishes, *Kuitiaw Naam* is generally eaten with chopsticks – another Chinese influence.

An ode to simplicity, the noodles – often rice noodles – are served in a chicken broth and are often topped with coriander and finely sliced fried onions.

The dish is often finished with meat or fish balls, but with beef is particularly delicious.

As with many Thai dishes, you can add condiments – fish sauce, dried chillies and chillies in vinegar – to taste.

### **Khao Pad Moo (Thai-style fried rice with pork)**

Rice is synonymous with Thailand. It is eaten everywhere and is exported to countless countries around the globe. *Khao Pad*

is a variety of fried rice that is prepared in the style of central Thailand cuisine.

*Khao Pad* differs from Chinese fried rice as, traditionally, it uses Jasmine rice instead of long-grain rice. The rice is stir-fried with a meat, eggs, onions, tomatoes, green onions, coriander and fried garlic. To season, chefs will use soy sauce, sugar, salt and naturally, fish sauce.

Once prepared, the dish is accompanied by sliced cucumber, tomato and lime.

Delicious with any meat, it goes particularly well with pork and never better than when topped with a *Kai Dao* (fried egg), a finishing touch that complements so many Thai dishes. To add extra flavor, take advantage of the condiments at the table.

**Pad See Ew Pla Murg (Fried**

### **broad noodles with soy sauce and squid)**

Another dish that has its origins in China. The “*See Ew*” part refers to the dark soy sauce that the dish is named after (*nam See Ew*) and is also taken from the Chinese word *Teochew*.

A popular street food, as well as being prevalent in many restaurants, the dish is made with light and dark soy sauces, garlic, broad rice noodles (*sen yai*), Chinese Broccoli (*Kai-lan*) and egg. Often served with thinly sliced meat – chicken or pork are popular – it is also delicious with squid (*Pla Murg*), which is readily available in Asia and comes fresh from the sea.

So there we have it; a few simple but delicious choices that, hopefully, you can feel confident enough to order in your local eatery. Tuck in!



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# A fond farewell to a good governor



By Nick Davies

I had the pleasure of meeting Dr Preecha several times in the five months that he held the position of Governor of Phuket. Upon our first meeting in his office at Pro-

vincial Hall, it soon became apparent that Dr Preecha is a no-nonsense man who makes quick, informed decisions. He's also a down-to-earth idealist with a firm grip on reality and a predilection for fairness. He was open about how different his governorship in

Phuket would be to that of his time as Governor of Pichit and that the move to Phuket brought with it many challenges that he'd not faced before.

Dr Preecha didn't just pick up the Phuket gauntlet, he ran with it, and was soon appearing

all over the province as he worked to familiarize himself with the island's geography, communities and industries.

In Pichit, Dr Preecha would deal with issues such as rice production and other matters arable but in Phuket, he suddenly had so many more issues on his plate, such as drug-related crimes, traffic and pollution, utility supply and disasters, and the fact that Phuket is often under the international spotlight with its multitude of foreign visitors and the sometimes bizarre events that surround them.

Unperturbed, Dr Preecha took all these new tasks in his stride – strides that took him all over the island as he made a name for himself as someone who mucks in – unafraid to roll up his sleeves and get his hands dirty.

Although Dr Preecha's tenure in Phuket was brief, he quickly became known as a man who can wear many hats. When preventative measures were taken against the threat of bird flu, Governor Preecha put on a protective suit and got down to the business of disinfecting poultry farms.

Later in the same week, he suited up in scuba diving gear for the first time in his life to observe the progress of the sinking of the Coral Reef Squadron. Wherever he went, Dr Preecha could be seen interacting with locals on all levels, from farmers and community leaders to entrepreneurs, civic groups and government officials. This very quickly gave Dr Preecha a broad perspective on

what makes Phuket tick and he was quick to act in the interests of the island's people and businesses – making decisions with a view to ensuring long-term sustainability of the province.

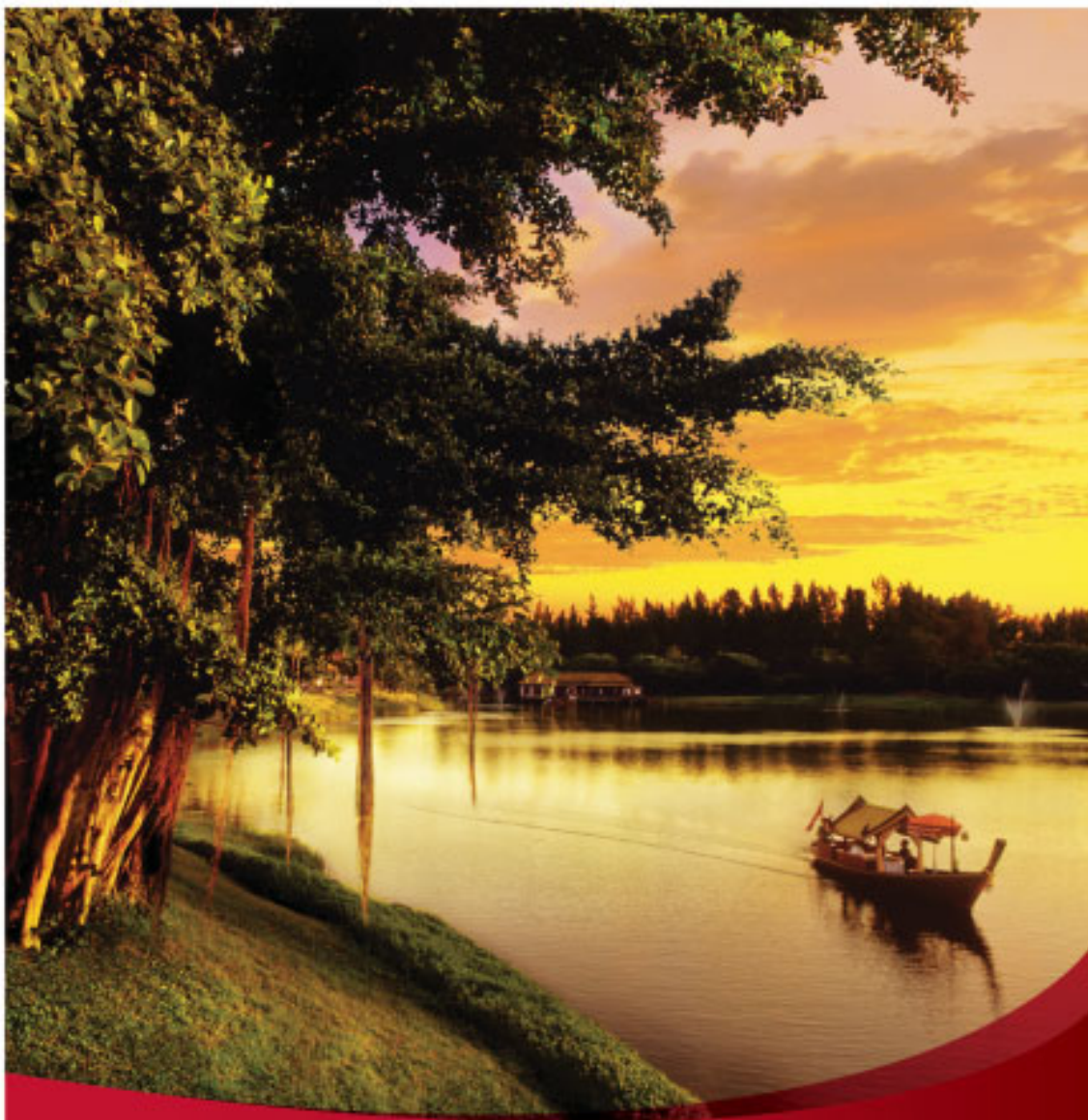
Regardless of the behind-the-scenes political maneuvering that has brought Dr Preecha's Phuket governorship to an abrupt end, there's no question that Dr Preecha is a hard-working man who put his heart and soul into leading the people of Phuket.

He had the best interests of Phuket and her citizens at heart and understands the importance of the island's image in the eyes of the international media, doing whatever he could to improve things for everybody.

Dr Preecha's wife and two children remained in their home province while he was working in Phuket. He thought it better not to uproot his family from their familiar surroundings, especially his maturing children, who have formed long-term friendships at school.

Even during the 2008/2009 New Year celebrations – a time when many people return to their upcountry home for a holiday – Governor Preecha remained at his post in Phuket to be on hand during one of the island's busier periods.

As Dr Preecha moves on to become Governor of Phitsanuloke province, the *Gazette* wishes him all the best and hopes that he will remember his time in Phuket with the same fondness with which Phuketians will remember him.



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EXPAT GALLERY

# Andy Dowden

Andy Dowden's love of sailing started during his school days as an engineering student at the University of Bath in England.

"Like a lot of young students, I headed to the Greek Isles during school breaks and hung out on the beaches. I was immediately impressed with the yachting and decided I wanted to somehow combine my engineering studies with a life on the sea," he says.

After graduation, Andy worked for eight years as a structural engineer on projects with a marine focus. He saved his money and in his free time sailed around the south coast of England and also to the north France. In 1982, he bought a 46 ft custom built sloop, *Buccabu*, and set off to sail around the world. He didn't get too far before disaster struck.

"We worked our way around the Mediterranean, but in the Gulf of Eilat a tug struck us and we sank. We spent the next year rebuilding. Actually, the experience only deepened my commitment to sailing."

By 1984, *Buccabu* had arrived in Phuket.

"I immediately thought I had found the greatest place in the world. I liked the food, the people and the culture. There was very little boat chartering in local waters and I was soon offered

the chance to be the resident boat charter operator for the Pansea Resort, which is now The Chedi."

These were the early days for yachting around Phuket. Together with other local yachties – Bill O'Leary, Jan Jacobs and Vincent Tabuteau – Andy went to work refitting converted rice barges into charter vessels. By 1989, he was General Manager of Phuket Yacht Services, the region's first company offering professional yacht services. The company soon won a contract to manage Sunsail, the international yacht charter franchise.

Andy built some of Phuket's legendary charter boats, including the *Manohra*, the *Maha Bhetra* and the *June Bahtra*.

He was also part of the committee that managed the King's Cup Regatta in the early years by handling the local logistics for Phuket. He is known for his ability to organize race courses, and by 2002 had become Phuket President for the King's Cup.

He then decided to move into new directions within the yachting community.

"I saw the opportunities of launching a professional boat show that would attract the world community. I joined with Grenville Fordham and we created Image Asia. While Grenville focused on the publishing side of the business,

I worked on creating Phuket's first international boat exhibition, PIMEX."

PIMEX was an immediate success due to the many personal contacts that Andy had developed over the years.

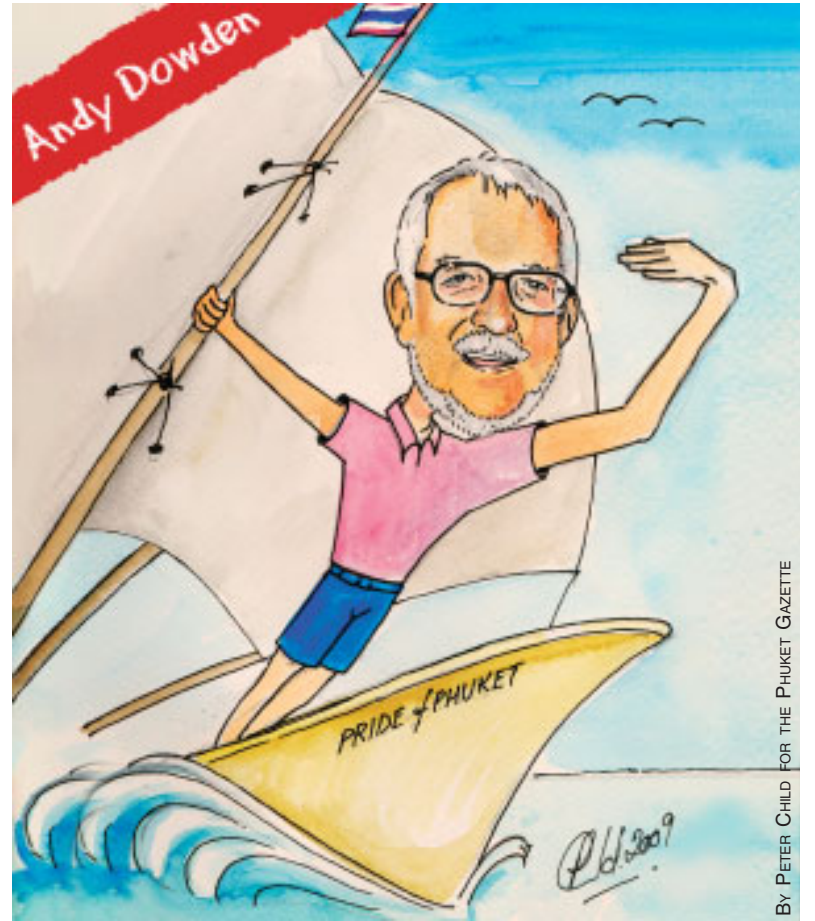
"There was great interest in yachting around Phuket at that time as the [previously prohibitive] boat import duties were reduced to zero. I had worked with others for two years to convince the government to lower the duties, which had been over 200 percent, to allow foreign investors the opportunity to invest in fleets."

Andy took over PIMEX in 2006 and moved it to the upscale Royal Phuket Marina (RPM) where it continued to attract international attention. He sold the rights to PIMEX to the INFORMA Yacht Group which operates the prestigious Monaco Yacht Show. Andy is now the Phuket based manager not only for PIMEX but also for other events that occur at the RPM's International Exhibition and Conference Center.

Andy has served as Chairman of the British Business Association for five years. He helped to produce *SAIL Thailand* and *Andaman Sea Pilot*, the definitive guide to local waters, and he is currently Chairman of the Race Committee for Image Asia's increasingly popular Phuket Race Week.

"I have no plans to ever leave Phuket. It's the best hub for sailing in the world."

– 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, ahh, 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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**PARTY WIZARDRY:** The Phuket Merlin Hotel hosted a party for representatives of the media in Phuket on March 5 to celebrate Media Day. Earlier that day, members of the Phuket Reporters Club gave alms to monks, while the party itself started at 6.30pm. Mr Peerapong Ponpramul, President of the Phuket Reporters Club (center), was on hand to enjoy the festivities.



**GRANDE WELCOME FOR VICTORIOUS RANDHAWA:** Jan Kirstein, General Manager of Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket (3rd from left) was delighted to congratulate a triumphant Jyoti Randhawa (3rd from right) and family as they returned to the resort following his sensational win at the 2009 Singha Thailand Open.



**CHOPS AWAY:** Karate kids of all ages and gender took part in the 6th Karate-Do training camp held at Saphan Hin Stadium from March 12 to 15. The camp was jointly organized by The Phuket Sport Association, the Karate-Do Club, the Thailand Karate Federation and the Thai Karate-Do Goju-kai Association.




**ITS A WONDERFUL LIFE:** Award winning director Aditya Assarat (left) and friends arrived in Phuket to catch the premiere of his acclaimed film *Wonderful Town*, which has won five Supannahong Awards and nine international film awards. The film follows the lives of town folk in an area devastated by the 2004 tsunami as they gradually emerge from the ruins. The film's opening was held on Friday, March 13 at SFX Cinema Coliseum, Central Festival Phuket. Photo by Dan Miles.



**NICE DAY FOR A DOUBLE WEDDING:** Two sisters took the plunge together at The CocoPalm Restaurant at the Kata Beach Resort & Spa when they held a joint wedding ceremony with their respective fiances on February 28. The sisters, Madeleine (left) and Therese Leiding (right), tied a double knot with Matthais Skogqvist (left) and Johan Paulsen (right).



**WE'RE JAMMIN':** Revelers reunited at Jammin' pub in Phuket City on Saturday March 14 to get back into the groove on the grand re-opening night of the popular nightclub, which has been renovated after it was gutted by fire some three years ago. Photo by Dan Miles.




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# Saint Patrick's Day celebrations paint Patong green

**Cead mile failte** a hundred thousand welcomes. It is a well known fact that the Irish are always up for the 'craic', as they say, and know better than most how to party. This is never more apparent than on March 17 – St Patrick's Day. All over the world, millions of Irish people gather to celebrate their patron saint's day with a zeal usually reserved for participants in the Rio Carnival and lottery winners. It is not only the Irish that get swept up in the revelry. As the *Gazette* discovered on a trip to Patong, few were immune to the infectious party spirit that quickly spread to all and sundry. *Slainte!*



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Pruerk-Ampai	75	5,950,000	100,000	2,875,000	2,975,000
Pruerk-Amporn	136.4	8,850,000	100,000	4,325,000	4,425,000

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- \* The price and style of the houses may be changed without prior notice

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# SHE hatches Easter egg project

By Julie Maud

British couple Mark and Sharon Biddell, co-founders of SHE (Self Help and Empowerment) are busy trying to supply the people of Phuket with chocolate eggs in time for Easter.

The eggs are handmade and individually decorated by a team of women who came to the foundation for support and the opportunity of earning a decent and fair wage.

Set up by the Biddells in 2002, SHE is a non-profit organization aimed at helping vulnerable women trapped in the sex industry in Patong.

A program was put in place to teach these women new skills so that they could make positive changes in their lives.

Since the foundation began, the women have been making jewelry. The market has been primarily overseas and all proceeds are ploughed back into the foundation.

Most of the women who have been involved in the program are from the rural areas such as Esarn.

Once they have had suffi-

cient time at the center to re-adjust and prepare themselves for the next stage of their lives, many of the women return to their villages.

The foundation gives them the opportunity to set up their own small businesses by providing the women with resources to take back home and make the jewelry from there.

"That way, the women can be at home with their families and kids where they belong," said Mark.

SHE is a long-term project that focuses on helping women gain life skills and good work ethics, leading to financial independence.

For Mark and Sharon, it is also important that the work done by the foundation is progressive.

A recent innovation is the Easter egg project. SHE will be the first organization to manufacture and sell Easter eggs in Phuket.

It doesn't end there – Sharon thought that if they were making eggs, why not make chocolate treats that can be consumed all year round?

From their premises in Kathu, the team is now creating



From their premises in Kathu, the team from SHE is now creating individually handcrafted chocolates.

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individually handcrafted chocolates. Slabs of high quality Dutch chocolate are melted down into moulds with various flavorings and fillings.

They use milk chocolate and white chocolate. Each chocolate is then painstakingly decorated by hand.

As well as making the chocolates, the women are also producing a line of uniquely designed boxes to put them in. There are four different box sizes; the largest holding 16 chocolates and the smallest just one.

Using handmade *saa* paper from Chang Mai, the women can make up to seven of the large boxes in a single day.

The foundation recently opened a shop in Big C to sell the chocolates. Sharon and Mark are hoping that local shops and cafes will also choose to stock their products.

"The outlets can take the goods on consignment.

They don't have to pay anything up-front and will earn commission on anything they sell, so it's a win-win situation," explained Sharon.

Perfection Cafe on Chao Fa East Rd is already stocking the chocolates and Sharon says that this sends out a positive message to the local community.

By selling and promoting these handmade goods they are helping the local economy.

The chocolates are solid, giving them a lifespan of one year and do not need to be refrigerated.

However, they do also make coconut filled ones that Sharon says are a popular favorite.

In the coming weeks, Sharon will be training some of

the women to take their products out and market them to the hotels in and around Phuket.

The boxes can be personalized with the hotel logo, which they could then use as promotional gifts for special customers, or sell in the hotel shop.

"This is a way for hoteliers to show people that they are putting something back into the community, while at the same time, promoting their own hotel.

The boxes are very attractive so customers are likely to hang on to them even after all the chocolates are finished," said Sharon.

An American company called Mission Passport also thinks the boxes are very attractive.

A charity selling lots of different products from cosmetics to silk scarves all across the US, they will be using SHE's boxes as packaging for everything they sell.

"For the time being, they will be placing an order of 200 a month," said Sharon.

"We're really pleased that the women's work will be promoted in America but also that all the money will be going back into the Thai economy," she added.

As a future project, Mark and Sharon would like to see the box-making take off in the Esarn area.

The idea is that this would provide the local women with a decent income and maybe prevent them from coming to Phuket to join the sex industry.

For further information about SHE, the Biddells can be contacted through their website at [www.shethailand.org](http://www.shethailand.org).



# Penetrating the Coral Reef Squadron



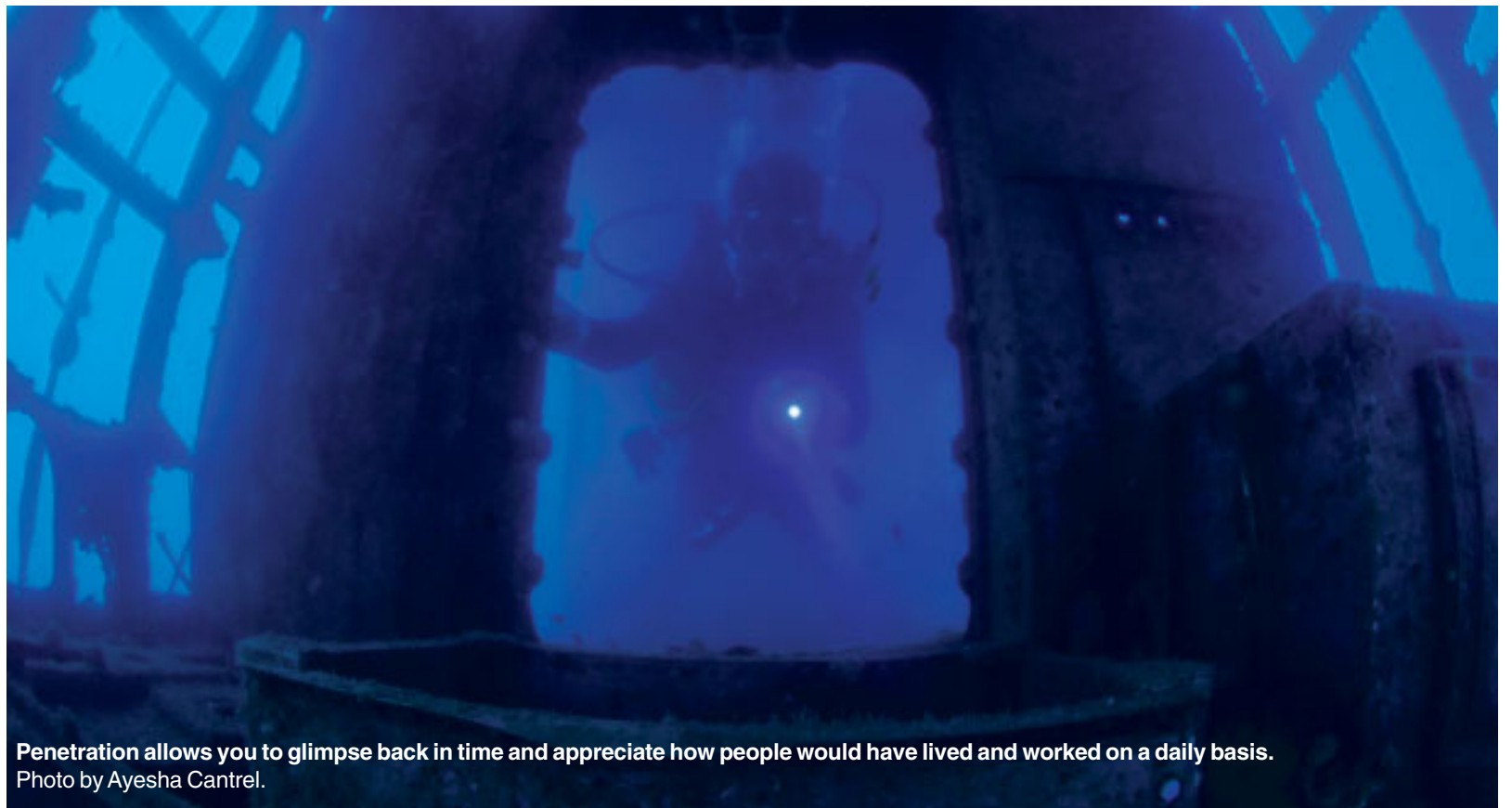
## Beneath THE WAVES

By Dan Ogunshakin

The first two columns have solely focused upon learning to dive: how to go about it and some general concerns. I shall return and cover continued education at a later date, but last week I did something that I hadn't done for a long time: I went diving! In the latter part of 2008, much was made about the creation of an artificial reef in Bang Tao Bay, using sunken planes and helicopters to create a new ecosystem.

It is remarkable how quickly man-made structures become home to a large amount of fish and colors. Indeed many wrecks encountered in relatively shallow waters have been covered with some of the most beautiful corals I have ever seen – anyone who has dived the *SS Yongala* in Australia will know where I'm coming from. Wreck diving is a particular passion of mine and the driving force behind my decision to get my Tec Deep certification.

Ships and planes that sank unintentionally naturally capture the imagination more than purpose-sunk vessels, but the thrill – although slightly diminished when diving the latter – remains constant. The years spent working as a dive professional in and around the Asia-Pacific region have given me access to some stunning wrecks. It is a thrilling – yet at the same time haunting – experience to descend down a



Penetration allows you to glimpse back in time and appreciate how people would have lived and worked on a daily basis.  
Photo by Ayesha Cantrel.

mooring line and suddenly be confronted by the dark silhouette of a once proud ship, looming up from the depths below.

Each and every wreck has a history and its own story to tell; how it came to rest upon the bottom of the sea is just another chapter in its life. Uncovering a ship's past is part of what draws you in. Penetration allows you to glimpse back in time and appreciate how people would have lived and worked on a daily basis.

Despite the excitement felt when diving on a wreck, it can also be a somber affair. Warships in particular remind you that people died on board their vessels, the ships becoming their tombs for eternity. Bearing that in mind, it is important to show one's respect. So with a lack of nitrogen coursing around my veins and arteries, I headed out

with H2O Sportz of Cherng Talay to see what the Coral Reef Squadron had to offer after just a few months. After mooring the boat, kitting up and entering the water, we descended beneath the waves and down the buoy line to the bottom. The visibility was reasonably good, and after just a few meters, the outline of one of the planes became clear. It was evident even from the first few minutes during our descent that an ecosystem was already beginning to form. Molluscs were clinging to the line, and a number of longfin bannerfish darted back and forth.

The wrecks lie at a depth of approximately 22 meters. Visibility can vary from no more than a couple of meters to around a maximum of 10. The currents, although not a major problem, can be fairly strong. The depth of the wrecks makes the site a prime

candidate for diving with nitrox (enriched air – replacing some nitrogen with additional oxygen) allowing a diver to extend their no decompression limits. Because of the depths involved, the limited visibility and the potential for strong currents, the Coral Reef Squadron is suited to more advanced divers. Without the benefit of a guide, combined with worsening visibility, navigating around the site proved to be tricky, although not impossible. A guide is highly recommended.

All of the wrecks have been cut open and allow for plenty of penetration – generally the most enjoyable part of searching any wreck. Swimming inside, sadly all the innards have been gutted, robbing the wrecks of character, but it is possible to squeeze into the limited space of the cockpits and imagine you are sitting where air force pilots once sat. As one

would expect, the planes and helicopters are slowly accumulating silt, but already colorful tube worms and sponges are growing inside and out. Large schools of rabbit fish and Indo-Pacific sergeant majors constantly swim through the shells. Elsewhere, beautiful yet deadly lionfish are marking their territory, while an ever-comical looking starry pufferfish slowly cruises back and forth, eyes bulging, mouth agape.

Given that the squadron only came to rest just a few months ago, a large amount of life has already set up camp within the wrecks. It takes many years for corals to form, so it will take some time before the Coral Reef Squadron becomes a top-class dive site, but a steady accumulation of marine life over the years will make it a popular site to visit for years to come.

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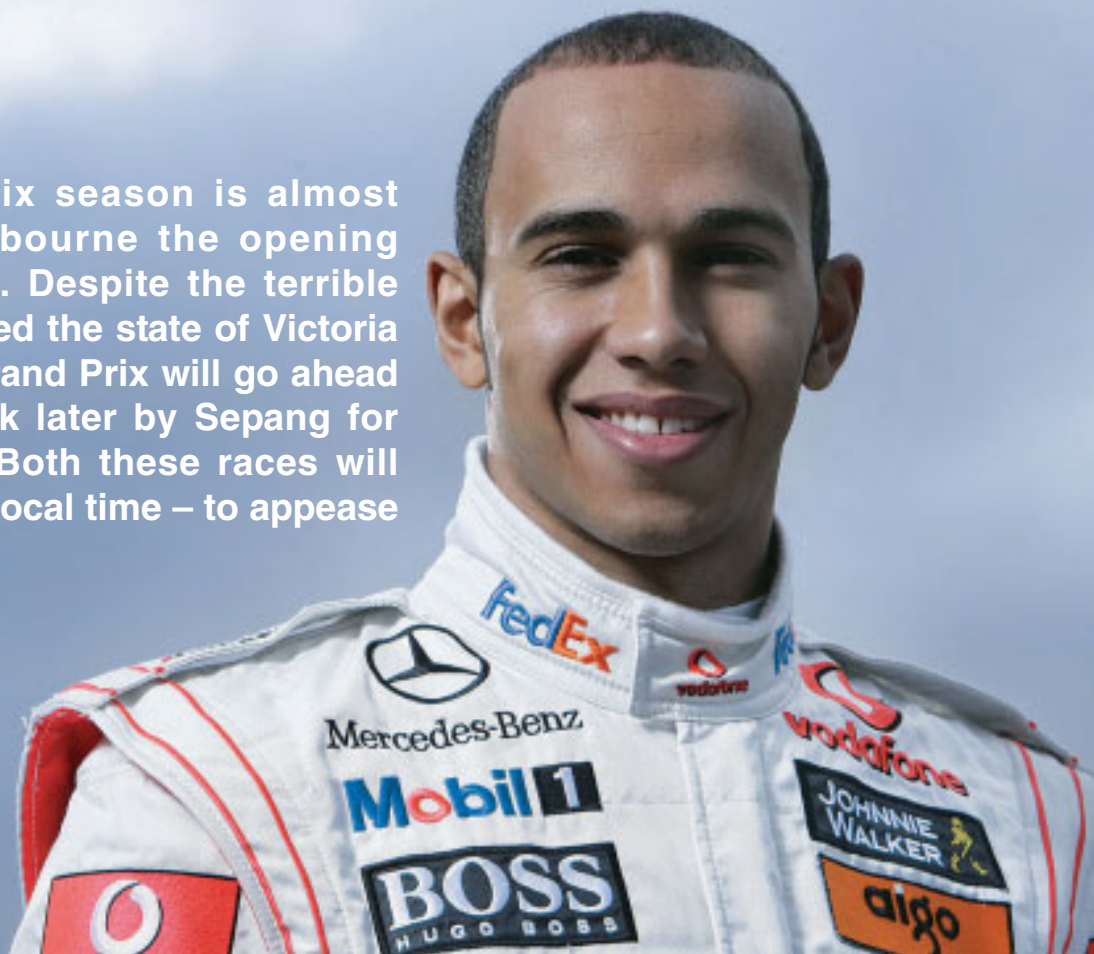
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# Formula One 2009

**T**he 2009 Grand Prix season is almost upon us, with Melbourne the opening round on March 29. Despite the terrible bushfires that afflicted the state of Victoria last month, the Australian Grand Prix will go ahead as planned, followed a week later by Sepang for the Malaysian Grand Prix. Both these races will start later than usual – 5 pm local time – to appease European time zones.



A last minute deal with Honda has seen the team renamed Brawn GP – owned and run by hugely experienced engineer Ross Brawn – with Jenson Button and Rubens Barrichello retained for a further season. [pic2] Last November, Britain's Lewis Hamilton clinched the world drivers' championship with a last-ditch effort in Brazil, which saw him pass Timo Glock's ailing Toyota on the last lap to take the one point needed to snatch the title away from Felipe Massa.

In recent months the teams have been testing; in Portugal, Spain and Bahrain as well as other remote places such as Adria, north of Bologna. But of more significance; the winter has seen a raft of changes in terms of the regulations, while we have also lost the Honda factory team, as well as its satellite operation Super Aguri, which closed its doors last May.

Fortunately, a last minute deal with Honda has seen the team renamed Brawn GP – owned and run by hugely experienced engineer Ross Brawn – with Jenson Button

and Rubens Barrichello retained for a further season. Engines, however, will be supplied by Mercedes-Benz and not Honda.

The latest cars feature restricted aerodynamics compared with last year's monstrosities; they are also permitted to run KERS, or kinetic energy recovery system, which uses braking

energy to create an additional power source. While it is permitted, it is not mandatory and not all teams will run with the system from the beginning of the season.

Last November, Britain's Lewis Hamilton clinched the World Drivers' Championship with a last-ditch effort in Brazil, which saw him pass Timo Glock's

ailing Toyota on the last lap to take the one point needed to snatch the title away from Felipe Massa. As Hamilton now heads into his third season of F1, all eyes will be on him to see whe-

ther he can repeat the triumph – and perhaps, in addition, secure the Constructors' Championship for McLaren. Hamilton will be joined by team mate Heikki Kovalainen again who scored his maiden victory in Hungary last year.

Over at Red Bull, Mark Webber is joined by Sebastian

Vettel, winner of the Italian Grand Prix in 2008, who replaces the now-retired David Coulthard. Also owned by Red Bull billionaire Dietrich Mateschitz is Scuderia Toro Rosso which has retained Frenchman Sebastian Bourdais, and who is joined by 20-year old Swiss driver Sebastien Buemi.

There is no change at Ferrari, with 2007 champion Kimi Räikkönen and 2008 runner-up Felipe Massa behind the wheel, while at Williams, Renault and BMW Sauber, their respective line-ups remain unchanged. Toyota too has kept Jarno Trulli and Timo Glock. Trulli, in particular, believes 2009 will be Toyota's chance to come good.

"I hope we can build on the progress we showed in 2008 and challenge for the team's first win. Formula 1 is a team game, you win and lose together, and Toyota did a very good job last year which allowed me to be competitive and fight at the front. I am full of hope for this season. You need to build strong foundations before you can win.

It is like a house; you cannot start by building the roof. We have established the foundations and I believe we can build a winning team. In 2008 we made a huge improvement and took a big step in the right direction so I hope now this year we can be a top team. I am confident in my own ability, so if I am given a competitive car I know I can deliver the results," he said.

Meanwhile, BMW Sauber is equally confident of greater success in 2009. BMW Motorsport Director Mario Theissen reinforces the point. "We have set ourselves the task of further improving our performance relative to the rest of the field. The one-

two in Canada and eleven podium finishes in 2008 set an exacting standard. In 2009 we are looking to maintain our first-class reliability record while also enhancing our performance levels so that we can be at the front of the pack on a consistent basis.

Ferrari and McLaren possess vast reserves of experience and have been operating at the top level for many years. That's what our highly motivated team are setting out to emulate – through hard work and efficiency, coupled with our calm, analytical approach to the job," he said.

Kimi Räikkönen, after – by his standards – a lackluster 2008 season, with just two wins, will be hoping to put that right this year. "This is my third season with Ferrari and I'm motivated and I want to win, as usual," Kimi said. "Last year didn't go as I wanted, especially during the second half of the season. But we learned a lot. I feel fine at Ferrari, otherwise I wouldn't be here today. I'm convinced that it was the right choice when I came to join the team," he added.

Testing in Bahrain in February, Ferrari experienced some problems with its KERS, but Kimi remains upbeat. "Until today, the car's development went well, although we were mainly concentrating on its behavior and the tires," Kimi said. "We had a problem with the cooling system of the KERS, but these things can happen during the tests. Anyway we drove many laps.

The whole car improved during these tests, but it's still too early to say where we are compared to our competitors. I think we have to wait until Melbourne for that. One of the novelties for this year, compared to last sea-

son is that I have a good feeling on the slick tires. I think the teams all seem very closely matched and this makes me think that the coming season will be particularly close," he added.

So, can Lewis Hamilton repeat his championship year? The man himself believes so. "I feel more relaxed going into the season simply because I've come off a great season. It is like when you go from race to race – when you win one race the next one you have gives you extra confidence. I feel I have reset my goals, and reset my targets back to when I started in Formula One. I want to be world champion," he said.

**BEHIND THE WHEEL**  
By Jeff Heselwood

## FORMULA ONE CALENDAR 2009

March 29 **Australia**  
April 5 **Malaysia**  
April 19 **China**  
April 26 **Bahrain**  
May 10 **Spain**  
May 24 **Monaco**  
June 7 **Turkey**  
June 21 **Britain**  
July 12 **Germany**  
July 26 **Hungary**  
August 23 **Spain**  
(European Grand Prix)  
August 30 **Belgium**  
September 13 **Italy**  
September 27 **Singapore**  
October 4 **Japan**  
October 18 **Brazil**  
November 1 **Abu Dhabi**

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

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

## Upcoming events on the island

**March 21. Wine & Dine with the "Superstars of Germany".** SALA Phuket, in collaboration with Central Wine Cellars, is pleased to present an evening with the "Superstars of Germany" on March 21. 2007 Rieslings from Max Ferd, Richter Estate, Gunderloch and Balthasar Ress will be served with a delectable selection of Chef Jan's favorite German fare. The SALA poolside provides the perfect backdrop for a relaxed evening of culinary delights. Priced at 1,500 baht ++ including free-flow wine and the German-inspired banquet. Stay the night at SALA and enjoy a special residents rate from 8,500 baht +++ including an evening with the "Superstars of Germany" and breakfast for two. Starts from 7pm to 11.30pm at SALA Phuket Resort and Spa. For further information contact E: info@salaphuket.com. T: 076-338888 W: www.salaphuket.com.

**March 22. FREE Computer Clinic - Chalong**

From 10 am 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:0891960940. E: woody@KhunWoody.com. W: www.KhunWoody.com.

**March 22. The Village Beach Brunch**

Enjoy a unique day out at our tropical island resort with an international BBQ plus our unique blend of Thai food from noon to 4pm. There is also lots to do for the kids, including a bouncy castle, face painting and more. All-in price of 1,000 baht for adults, children aged 2-6 at 500 baht, and youngsters aged 7-16 at 750 baht, including one free Ringo ride. Booking is essential. Why not stay in one of our fabulous villas



**Soi Dog Salsa  
March 27**

"Salsa" private beach party begins at 6pm and finishes at 11pm at The Chedi, Surin Beach, Phuket. Dress to impress in party/salsa attire. Tickets are 2,500 baht each and include a fantastic buffet dinner, plus free-flow margaritas, beer, wine and soft drinks. Music will be provided by Wave Entertainment Phuket with the Sayonara Bella band and DJme. Salsa dancers will be entertaining and Gary Holden will perform Master of Ceremony duties for the event. To help raise more funds, there will be a silent auction and raffle with some great prizes up for grabs. See you there.

For more info contact Cristy.

T: 085-4734636.

E:cristy@soidogfoundation.org.

W: www.soidogfoundation.org.

the night before? Enjoy a double en suite room for only 2,000 baht per night. For more information contact Jay. T: 087-8888082. T: 081-3262703. E: jay@thevillage-coconutisland.com. W: www.thevillage-coconutisland.com.

**March 28-29. ESPN STAR Sports Presenters at Laguna Phuket**

Meet ESPN STAR Sports presenters at Laguna Phuket's Charity Golf Tournament & Dinner on Saturday, March 28 and Football Fun Day at British International School on Sunday, March 29.

- Golf team entry from 28,000 baht, inclusive of dinner

- Charity Dinner at Sheraton Grande Laguna 2,500 baht per person, inclusive of wine and beer

- Football Fun Day at British International School

Starts from 8am to 11pm at Laguna Phuket. For further information contact Walaiporn Pattamavichitvong. T: 076-270991. E:

golf@lagunaphuket.com. W: www.lagunaphuket.com/espn.

**March 29. Phuket Yacht Club Dinghy Sailing Regatta & Club BBQ**

This event is an open Regatta. Boats that regularly take part include Trimarans, Hobie 16s, Nacra, 59ER, Tasars, Topaz Omega, Topaz Race, Topaz Uno, Lasers, Byte and Optimists. Come and join in the fun. Bring your own boat or come and crew. Phuket Yacht Club is located in one of the safest and most picturesque bays on the island. The yacht club is open every Sunday and some Saturdays, offering recreational sailing, club racing, supervised boat rentals and free use of kayaks. Membership is also available – only 3,000 baht a year plus a one-time 500-baht joining fee. Starts from 8am to 4.30pm at Ao Yon, Cape Panwa, Phuket. For further information contact Katy Gooch. T: 085-215 9185. E: phuketyachtclub@gmail.com W: www.phuketyachtclub.info.

**March 29. FREE Mac and PC Clinic – Laguna**

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

**April 2-5. Phuket Oilfield Classic Golf Tournament 2009**

A golfing event for oil and gas executives and supporting companies – held for the first time in Phuket – to raise funds for Phuket Sunshine Village. Play takes place

from 9am to 2pm at Club Andaman Beach Resort. For further information, please contact Mark Cameron. T: 081-7882843. E: mark@phuketoilfieldclassic.com. W: www.phuketoilfieldclassic.com.

**April 6. Chakri Memorial Day** Chakri Day commemorates the origins of the Chakri dynasty, founded by Rama I, who established Bangkok as the nation's capital. HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej is the ninth monarch of the Chakri dynasty.

**April 13-15. Songkran Water Festival**

Songkran (Thai New Year), also known as the Water Festival, is celebrated with gusto on Phuket. Expect to get wet!

**Apr 30 – May 1. Symposium: Swimming Pool Management & Design**

First ever independent information event conducted for swimming pool owners and all professionals involved in pool design, construction, supply and maintenance in Thailand. 14 European and local experts will speak on:

- Why damage to pools occurs, and how to prevent it.
- For owners: how to cut down running costs.
- For designers: how to help owners save costs and add more value to the pool set-up.
- How to provide the "luxury of privacy".

This is what owners want! Pool suppliers and engineering companies will promote ways to utilize state-of-the-art technologies. 40 newcomer pool companies are seeking dealers in Thailand! From 9am to 9pm at Bangkok, Miracle Grand Convention Center. For info contact Khun Amo-rnrat. T: 082-562 7494. E: poolasia@waterdoctor.co.th. W: www.poolasia.com.

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# Enter the dragon



**T**he speech given by Wen Jiabao, China's Premier, at China's annual National People's Congress in early March was widely believed to include details of a second massive stimulus package to be introduced by the Chinese government. Premier Wen acknowledged that China was facing its most serious crisis in decades, but there was absolutely no reference to a second stimulus. The first stimulus package is huge, around US\$ 600 billion. Rather, the point was made that China would achieve a growth in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of 8% in 2009 and was on track to reach this figure.

**A** growth rate of this magnitude is far in excess of any other economy in the world. It is not being viewed around the world with envy; it is something of an oasis in a world-wide desert. Even the rumor that the Chinese Premier was to announce a second stimulus package was enough to rally global stockmarkets desperate for some good news.

The Chinese economy is going to have to become more reliant on domestic demand quickly as exports come under significant pressure. China, when compared with the US and a number of other countries, has some great advantages. When the government tells the banks to maintain a high level of lending, they are able to comply, not only because of potential re-

percussions, but from the simple fact that they are solvent.

Generally speaking, China has no exposure to the 'toxic banking products' so prevalent in many – mainly Western – banks. Some Sovereign Wealth Funds in the Middle East and Asia wish they had never heard of these Western banks.

China's population knows that if they have health or retirement problems they have, for all practical purposes, to be self-financing. The government is going to contribute very little. The Chinese, on average (in China), save an estimated 30% of their income. This is an enormous percentage. To offer a comparison, the US savings rate, in recent years, has been negative. Only the current recession, with all its factors, has raised the savings rate into posi-

tive territory. Thousands of companies in China have gone out of business, especially exporters in Southern China. The Chinese government's optimistic view is at odds with many Chinese business people who are far more pessimistic. They often cite falling domestic demand, which shows little sign of an immediate improvement. It is no easy task to turn an economy in which exports have been so prevalent into one where the domestic economy is the driving force; even more so when dealing with a population of 1.3 billion people.

However, China still lacks infrastructure and this is one area to which vast sums of money are headed. With US\$ 1.9 trillion in foreign exchange reserves, China has the world's largest and a currency that is not convertible, allowing the Chinese Government to fix the exchange rate.

It is indicative of the times that the new US Secretary of State's visit included China on her first tour abroad. It is also noteworthy that no mention was made to China about human rights – America has no wish to antagonize their largest investor in US Government Securities.

The Chinese stockmarkets in Shanghai and Shenzhen had a

terrible 2008, losing over 60% of their index value. There has since been something of a recovery but it is too early to predict if the market has truly reached the bottom. Many investors in Chinese stockmarkets lost all their savings and many more suffered huge losses. It is fair to say that many Chinese will never want to hear the term 'stockmarket' again.

The reality is, that if the government and the private sector can attain 8% GDP growth this year, a stockmarket rally cannot be too far away. This 8% figure stated by the Chinese government is of great importance. Many global economists believe this is the minimum rate of economic growth required in China to maintain a steady path of employment. Any less, and the opinion is widely held that unemployment will rise.

The Chinese government seems to quietly agree with this assessment and another commonly held theory amongst analysts is that rising unemployment will lead to civil unrest, something that must always be of concern in a dictatorship. China's neighbors are also keeping their fingers crossed that the "800-pound gorilla" maintains its economic and social poise. Japan, still the world's second largest economy,

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)

is ever more reliant on China as a market for investment, exports and reasonably cheap manufacturing. South Korea, the only Asian economy to have something of a domestic credit bubble, is also increasingly reliant on China to hopefully cover some of the loss in exports to other markets.

China, however, has now entered a period of deflation. Currently standing at -1.6% year-on-year as of February 2009, it is a stark comparison to February 2008 when inflation was in evidence at 8.7%. While this certainly gives China the ability to further reduce interest rates, it makes that 8% growth target more elusive.

Even with China keeping its economy out of recession, this is not sufficient to have any significant effect on the global picture. The Chinese economy is only about one third the size of the US. It is likely that, when we emerge from this global downturn, Asia will enjoy an even more important role on the world stage.

One interesting statistic: domestic Chinese auto sales in February 2009 jumped by an impressive 20%. Usually, this is a very reliable indicator in any economy.



## MONEY TALKS

By Richard Watson

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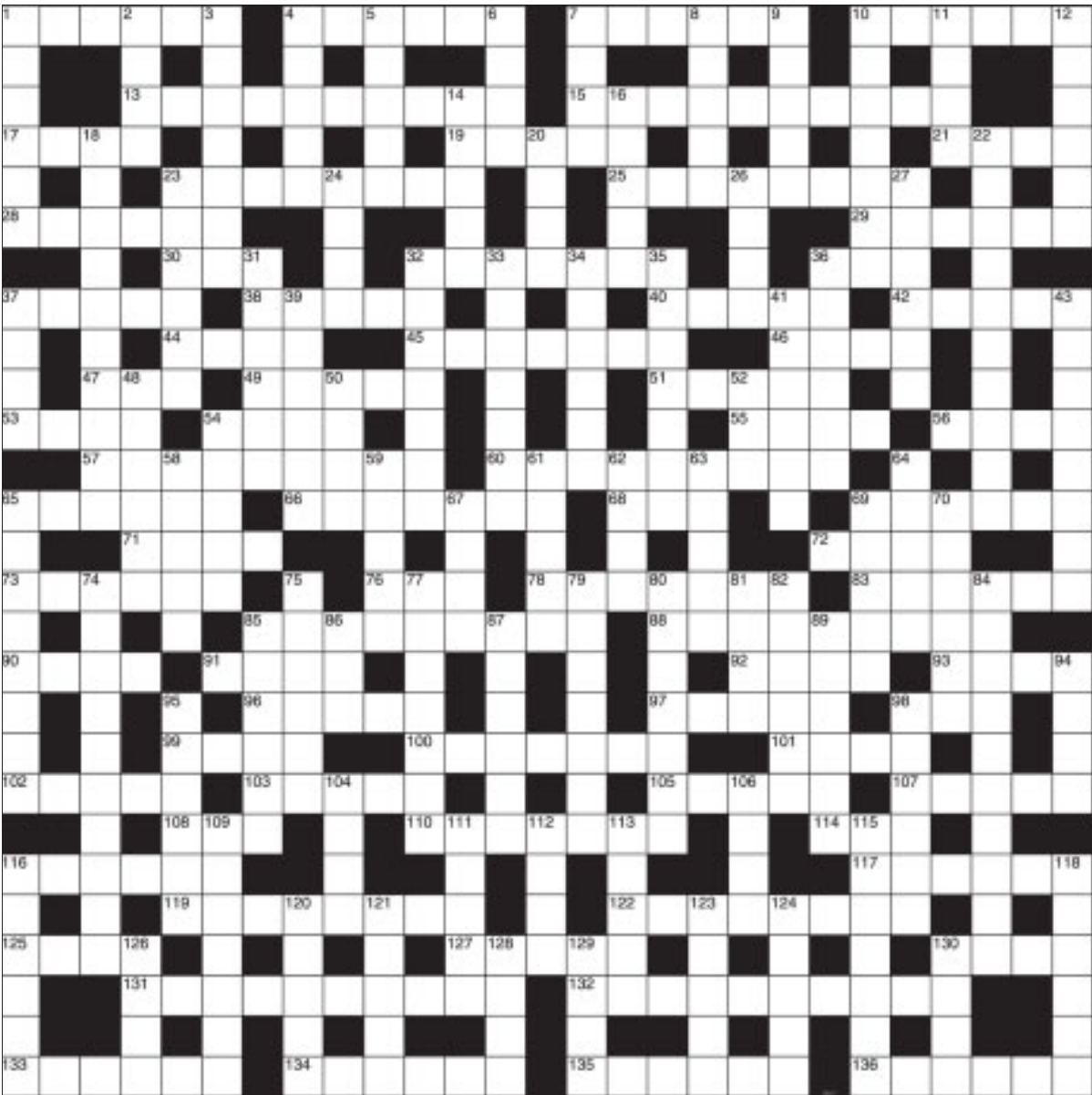




# Hidden Words

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

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



# The BIG Crossword

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- Across

1. Launch forward

4. Rota

7. Charmingly old-fashioned

10. Hotter

13. Type of melon

15. Chilled beverage (4,6)

17. Champagne style

19. Glide on ice

21. Hover menacingly

23. In the mind

25. Cunningly

28. Fills with joy

29. Restaurant patrons

30. Pig home

32. Leg-iron

36. Audio discs (1,2)

37. Bog

38. Atlantic or Pacific

40. Florida resort

42. Entitlement

44. Famous volcano

45. Late

46. Get Smart's... Hathaway

47. Mum &...

49. Exclude

51. Fanatical

53. Autograph

54. 100 centavos

55. Dedictory verses

56. Cocaine source

57. Stamina

60. Ninth month

65. Make amends,... oneself

66. Down-to-earth philosophy

68. America (1,1,1)

69. Practised

71. Christmas
- Down

72. Demonstration

73. Visual cassettes

76. Do battle (with)

78. Having more foliage

83. Made insensitive

85. Former times (5,4)

88. Official records keeper

90. Be gloomy

91. Early Peruvian

92. Departs

93. Scruff (of neck)

96. Actors Jane or Henry...

97.... not, want not!

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

99. Israel's Tel...

100. Moscow language

101. Rim

102. Duck's mate

103. Carried out again

105. Escape

107. Exaggeratedly masculine

108. Nautical shelter

110. Kelp

114. Female rabbit

116. Chiefly

117. Lazing

119. Making fizzy

122. Openly

125. Leonardo da Vinci's... Lisa

127. Dutch centre of govt, The...

130.... & evens

131. Burglars

132. Fluffiness

133. Playground toy

134. Bengal big cats

135. Rarely

136. Curled
62. Brass instrument

63. Scientist,... Curie

64. Thighbone

65. Remodelled

67. Frozen,... over

69. Air ducts

70. From Italy's capital

74. Group of delegates

75. Niche

77. Entrails

79. Male title

80. Looked worried

81. Omelette ingredients

82. Rampaged

84. Creative thought

85. Ablaze (2,4)

86. Judo level

87. Northern US state

89. Rated (in tennis)

94. European currency

95. Spanish rice dish

98. Cure

104. Dimple

106. Russia's... Mountains

109. Hair arch over eye

111. Number of spider's legs

112. Plane part

113. Banish from school

115. Petroleum pit (3,4)

116. Impersonates

118. Slashed

120. Warn

121. Biscuit topping

123. Raise at stud

124. Local saying

126. Sadly

128. Inquires

129. Alien spacecraft (1,1,2)

130. Knuckle of veal stew,... bucco

Solution on next page

## su|do|ku

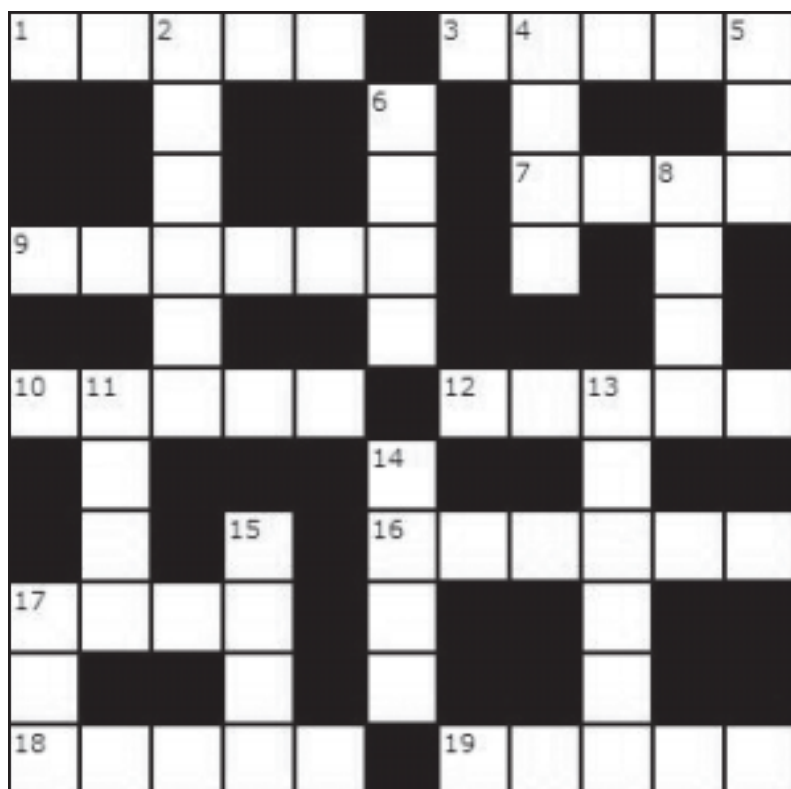
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Solution, tips and computer program at [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)

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

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





## Quick Crossword

### Across

1. Rock band
3. Goal
7. Monster
9. On time
10. Possibly
12. In Egypt
16. Candy
17. Not shallow
18. Weight
19. In the roof

### Down

2. Cartoon dog
4. Heat food
5. For seeing
6. Promise
8. Behind
11. Measurement
13. Child
14. US state
15. Grand
17. Double-act

Solution below

## Get your brain in gear with the MONSTER QUIZ

1. Who was the first person to circumnavigate Australia?
2. What is the old Latin name given by the Romans to the northernmost reaches of Britain?
3. What is divided into 114 surahs?
4. Russian sailors mutinied aboard which battleship in June 1905?
5. In which European city is the cemetery located that is most visited by tourists?
6. Post boxes in the UK are red. What color are they in France?
7. Whose treasure did Ben Gunn dig up on Skeleton Island?
8. Whose shooting in 1980 was seen by 27 million people?
9. To which horde, or mob, did Kid Curry belong?
10. Who was Edmund Dantes?
11. In baseball, what is the distance between each of the bases?
12. With the Codename "Eagle" who played the part of Steven Hiller in the film *Independence Day*?
13. What was founded in Turkey in 1877 as the equivalent to something founded in Geneva in 1863?
14. The Nuffield Radio Astronomy Laboratory is better known by what name?
15. How many bars are there in the jail window on a Monopoly board?
16. What do fictional character Homer Simpson and the late Rock 'n Roll star Elvis Presley have in common?
17. Which band released the song, *This is not a Love Song* in 1983?
18. What would a doctor use an Otoscope for?
19. Which German ship was sunk just three days after she had sunk the *HMS Hood*?
20. Which food item has gills, spores, a crown and a stalk?

Answers below



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# Puzzle Solutions

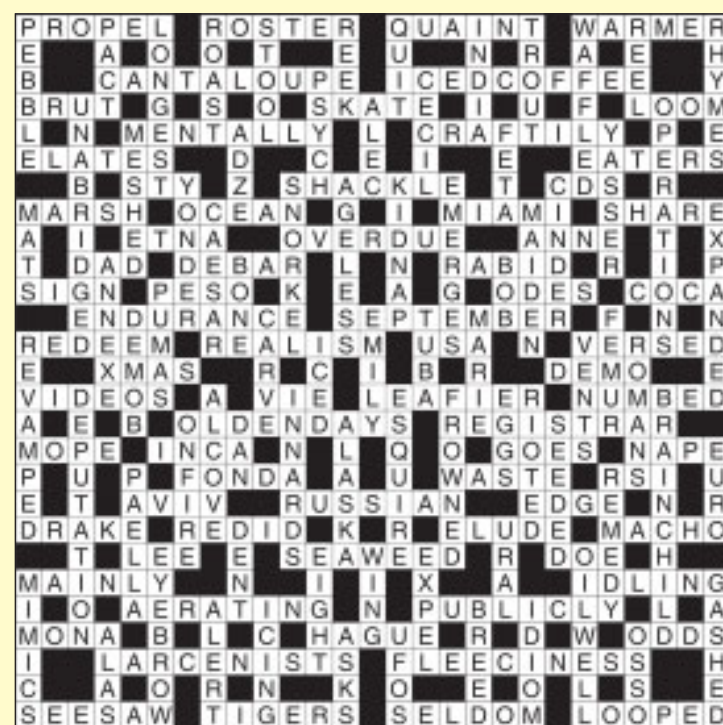
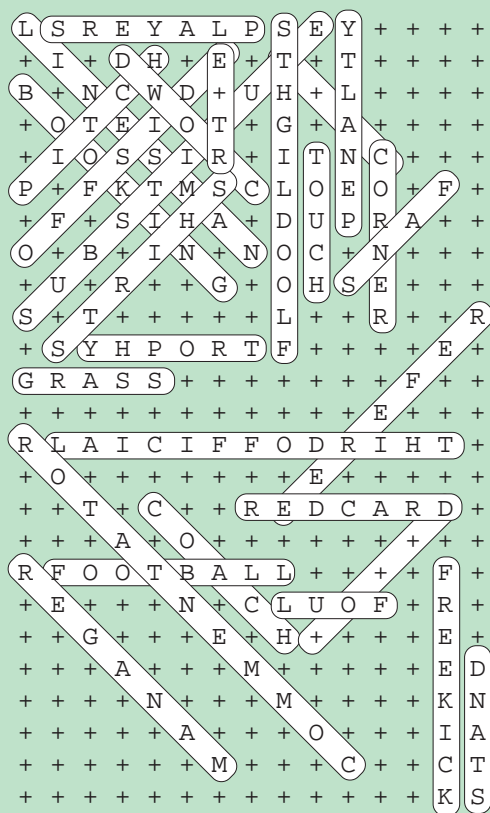
### Solution to this week's Quick Crossword



### Monster Quiz Answers

1. Mathew Flinders; 2. Caledonia; 3. The Koran (Surah = chapter); 4. Potemkin; 5. Paris; 6. Yellow; 7. Captain Flint; 8. JR Ewing; 9. Hole In the Wall Gang; 10. The Count of Monte Cristo; 11. 30 yards; 12. Will Smith; 13. Red Crescent; 14. Jodrell Bank; 15. Three; 16. Both have a daughter named Lisa Marie; 17. Public Image Ltd; 18. Examining Ears; 19. *Bismarck*; 20. Mushrooms.

### Hidden Words SOLUTION



### Solution to this week's BIG Crossword

### Solution to this week's Sudoku puzzle

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



# The Man Booker Fraud



## Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt

**T**he Man Booker Prize is the most prestigious award in the literary world, dwarfing the American National Book Award. Just to be shortlisted for the Man Booker is a great honor.

Aravind Adiga's *The White Tiger* (Atlantic Books, London, 2008, 321pp) won the award in 2008, and how this clunky, mean-spirited midget of a book accomplished that, I'll never know. Maybe the judges were attracted by the lefty politics – which smacks of Soviet-style socialist realism – in its divide of suffering poor and greedy rich.

Adiga is blunt in his dichotomy. The poor live in 'The

Darkness', the rich, 'The Light'. Balram Halwai is so poor he doesn't have a name.

He's just called "Munna" or "Boy" from birth. In his school the teacher doesn't teach. He sits at his desk, drunk and asleep, or chewing and spitting betel nut. Balram's father is a rickshaw puller who dies in the hospital because the doctors don't come to work. The leading politician is the 'Great Socialist', who lambastes the rich.

Balram tells his tale in a long letter to Wen Jiabao, the Premier of China, who has come to India on a state visit. The subject is the nature of Indian capitalism. Balram has risen to become a successful entrepreneur in the outsourcing capital of Bangalore.

He was born in a dirt-poor village called Laxmangarh, which is owned by four greedy landlords nicknamed the Buffalo, the Stock, the Wild Boar, and the Raven. Balwan's first job is in a tea shop in the coal mining town of Dhanbad.

"Go to a tea shop anywhere along the Ganga, sir, and look at the men working in that tea shop

– men, I say, but better to call them human spiders that go crawling in between and under the tables with rags in their hands,

crushed humans in crushed uniforms, sluggish, unshaven, in their thirties or forties or fifties but still 'boys'. But that is your fate if you do your job well – with honesty, dedication, and sincerity, the way Gandhi would have done it, no doubt," Adiga wrote. "I did my job with near total dishonesty, lack of dedication, and insincerity – and so the tea shop was a profoundly enriching experience."

His big break comes when he lands a job as a driver to the rich, American-educated son of the Stork, Ashok and his wife Pinky Madam. He drives the sec-

ond, ordinary car. The first, the luxury sedan, is driven by his mean-spirited boss, Ram Persad, who pretends to be a pious Hindu.

When Balram discovers his true identity as a Muslim, he blackmails him into fleeing in disgrace. A few days later, new chief driver Balram conveys his master and mistress to their new home in New Delhi, Buckingham Towers two. He has truly entered into 'The Light'. His jobs include cooking, cleaning, and washing the two poodles, Cuddles and Puddles, and the feet of the visiting Stork.

"You'll have to come here and see it for yourself to believe it. Every day millions wake up at dawn – stand in dirty, crowded buses – get off at their masters' posh houses – and then clean the

floors, wash the dishes, weed the garden, feed their children, press their feet – all for a pittance. I will never envy the rich of America or England, Mr Jiabao: they have no servants there. They cannot even begin to understand what a good life is," wrote Adiga.

Through theft, murder and bribery, Balram claws his way to the top. All the people he encounters – rich and poor – are cruel, callous, nasty, belligerent and pigish.

There isn't a single attractive character and hardly any humor. Balram does crank out some aphorisms.

"The dreams of the rich, and the dreams of the poor – they never overlap, do they? See, the poor dream all their lives of getting rich. And what do the rich dream of? Losing weight and looking like the poor," the author wrote.

You wonder at the end why Aravind is so angry and bitter? Was it his own poor childhood in India? No, he was born in India but grew up in Australia. He just hits the right notes for lefty judges.



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.

## When less is definitely not more

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.

language.

As you're obviously aware, 'fewer' is for things we can count, so it's the right word to use with most plurals – for instance, 'items' and 'interruptions'. 'Less' is for things that come in amounts, not numbers – for instance, 'stuff' and 'trouble'.

Until you wrote, I thought we were making progress with this distinction.

In a supermarket I go to, the sign on the express lane now reads "10 items or fewer". Evidently we've made, ahem, less progress in fewer situations than I dared hope.

**Q:** Can you comment on the overuse of the word 'amazing'? It seems I cannot tune in to a TV or radio show without hearing this word. No one ever clarifies or describes what is 'amazing'. I instantly change the channel at the first use of this word, and sometimes that is 15 seconds into the show.

**Barbara replies:** 'Amazing', 'awesome', 'stunning', 'incredible', 'unbelievable', 'fabulous', 'unique' – these are all words that have been subject to inflation over time.

To be literally amazed is a powerful experience – as it is to

be awed, stunned or unable to believe one's senses, to feel as if something belongs in a fable or to come across something that's the only one of its kind.

It's only natural that people will sometimes overstate their case. For instance, anyone who doesn't know that most women would rather be told they look 'amazing' than told they look 'nice' hasn't been paying attention. There's no harm in such hyperbole until someone actually is amazed by something and wants to say so. Then the accurate word falls short.

The solution to the problem is, as you suggest, to describe what elicited amazement – to

"show, rather than tell", as writing teachers put it. Amazing someone the same way you were amazed is a much more direct way of communicating than just announcing what your response was. I'd love to give you an example. Unfortunately though, truly amazing things don't come along very often.

**Q:** Which is correct: 'The couple were expecting their first child' or 'The couple was expecting their first child' or 'The couple was expecting its first child'?

Elinor Lyon  
Georgetown, Ohio

**Barbara replies:** 'The couple

was expecting their first child' or 'The couple was expecting its first child'? 'Couple' can be either singular or plural, but a given use of the word shouldn't try to be both – it ought to be one or the other.

'Its first child' sounds creepy, so let's go with 'their first child'.

Because 'their' refers to 'couple' and is plural, the verb should be plural too: 'The couple were expecting their first child'.

**Q:** Have we passed the point where we can object to the use of 'less' instead of 'fewer'? There's an annoying television commercial for a bladder-control product that promises 'less interruptions'. Every time I hear it, the hairs rise on the back of my neck. It's only one of many examples where 'less' is used when 'fewer' is correct.

Ann Calderwood  
Hampden, Maine

**Barbara replies:** Frankly, the very idea of bladder-control products raises the hairs on the back of my neck! But the grammar of that ad doesn't help.

Granted, it is tricky of 'more' to have two different opposites: 'fewer' and 'less'. This is one of those little niceties, however, that shows that a person knows her or his way around the

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## This island needs special administrative status

The transfer of former Governor Preecha Ruangjan to Phitsanuloke came as little surprise to political observers, who expected a civil service reshuffle after the Democrat Party managed to form a coalition government.

More surprising is the revelation that Dr Preecha actually requested the transfer, ostensibly so he could govern a province where his background in agriculture would be put to better use than in a province like Phuket, with its tourism-dominated economy.

News of Dr Preecha's transfer request is perhaps a bit heart-breaking, given that his open and energetic style made him somewhat of a media darling during his short stay here – less than five months.

On his departure he received kind words from a number of local leaders, including Phuket City Mayor Somjai Suwansupana, Phuket Provincial Administration Organization President Paiboon Upatising and former Phuket Chamber of Commerce President Eam Thavornwongwongse, who questioned why the local Democrat Party leaders hadn't lobbied to keep the popular governor in Phuket.

Of course, governors are appointed by the Interior Ministry, which is now controlled by the Bhumjaithai Party of Newin Chidchob loyalists. Given the history between Mr Newin and the Phuket Democrats, the chance that they could have had any influence in the matter is slim indeed.

Dr Preecha is not the first high-level civil servant to want out of Phuket. In December 2006, Provincial Chief Administrative Officer Nivit Aroonrat was granted a transfer to Samut Sakhon. A Phuket native, Mr Nivit admitted he had applied for the transfer because he was very tired of the hard work the job in Phuket entails.

It has also been reported in recent years that up to 10% of the island's police force had applied for transfers off the island. Taken collectively, these facts indicate that while Phuket maintains its allure to a wide range of foreigners, it really can be a hardship posting for high-ranking civil servants and law enforcement officials.

The *Gazette* wishes the best of luck to Dr Preecha as well as his replacement Wichai Phraisa-ngop, who will reach the mandatory retirement age for civil servants in just under a year – about the length of time it takes to come up to speed for such a post.

All of the facts mentioned here further underscore the need to establish Phuket as a special administrative zone like Bangkok and Pattaya, where the people have the right to elect their own governor – someone intimately familiar with the island and its many problems. This has been talked about for years, but is certainly no closer to becoming a reality with Newin and Friends in charge of the MoI.

– *The Editor*

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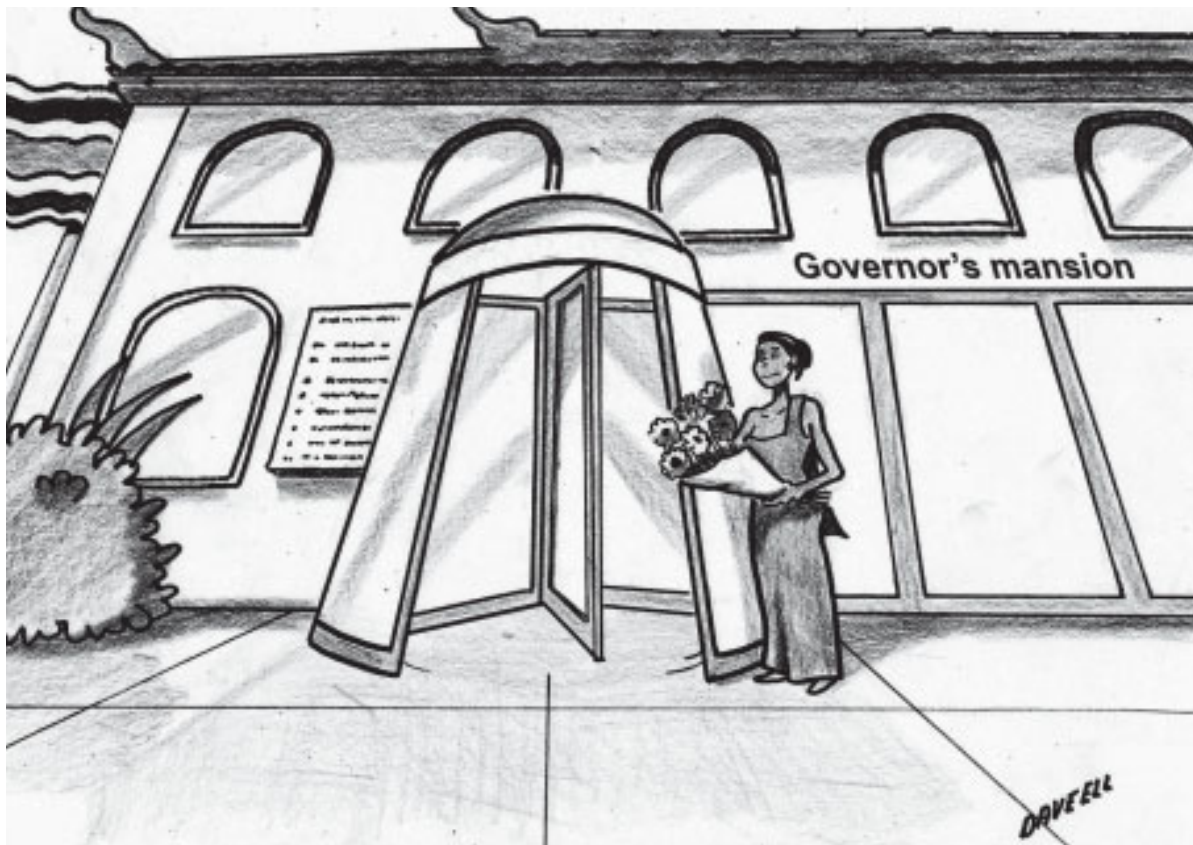
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## Letters

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

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

### Phuket preschools

It was with some dismay that I read your recent "Issues & Answers" regarding international preschool and nurseries. The answer implies that there are only four schools that have valid licenses. The four schools that are mentioned all run primary and secondary schools for children presumably from age six to 18 and beyond. As a small adjunct of their primary business, they also run a preschool for children aged six and below – children that are not old enough to fit into their regular school. As fully fledged schools, they have to be licensed by the Phuket Educational Service.

Preschools and nurseries in Phuket are instead licensed by the Phuket Provincial Government Authority's Department of Social Development and Welfare. These schools certainly do not measure up to the total quality of education available to, say, a 15-year-old, but none of us pretends that this is the case. A preschool, by definition, tries to prepare a six-year-old or younger to function in a primary school, thus gaining an advantage over their peers when they actually enter a primary school environment.

Not only are we at Buds fully licensed, but our building, playground and safety standards were recently re-inspected by four inspectors. Our staff and director have both undergone background checks and they have also received training and certificates in preschool and nursery childcare from Phuket Business Caring (sic) School. These certificates are a prerequisite in getting and keeping a license. We also carry liability insurance. I have attached a copy of both our

license and our director's childcare certificate.

Our preschool and nursery have taught in English for over 10 years. Because of our relatively small size we feel we do a much better job in preparing our young students for their later school experience compared to our larger competitors, who in some cases have hundreds of much older students and of course focus on their core business.

Archara Asana  
& John McCoy  
Directors, Buds Nursery & Preschool

### 4th season in Patong

This is my fourth season visiting Patong from Canada. Patong is a wonderful and fast growing part of the island. Congratulations, therefore, to the municipality for getting the unfortunate odor from the sewers under control. I must say I am not aware of it at all any more. I also see some landscaping improvements have been made along the beach road which are very welcome considering the beautiful flowers that will grow here and the tropical atmosphere they will create.

Traffic is still difficult but the third street passing behind Jungceylon will, I assume, be finished soon and make a big difference and I'm still hoping for the charming river passing through the resort to the bay to be restored and made part of the attraction.

I do feel it would be good to go back to a basic bike taxi rate for rides within the town. I have been quoted 50 baht on occasion, which is very good, but I have also been quoted 100-, 200-, and even 1,000 baht for the same distance.

This causes hard feelings among tourists who are being taken advantage of before they become familiar with the currency. The same happens with *tuk-tuk*'s. I have seen a couple of angry fights break out regarding the cost.

Bartering is part of the fun of buying, but with most of the same items available at Jungceylon with price tags, tourists are getting wise. Tourists must be patient with vendors and vendors must be patient with tourists. I would hate to see the charm of the regular Thai people change the way it did during the tourism development in Mexico.

There was great friendship there for years but it later became very aggressive and hostile. I hope this never develops in Thailand. I hope tourists never spoil the good nature of the Thai people.

The growth and improvements are evident and appreciated by all.

Tim Devlin,  
Toronto, Canada

### Commercial facades

As a Phuket lover who every year spends a few months on the island, I look sadly at the increasing amount of concrete that is covering more and more land.

So I noted with pleasure the new buildings in the traditional Sino-Portuguese style that have appeared in various places.

How disappointing then to see them completely covered by huge commercial posters.

I wonder what is the point of building a nice traditional façade if later this is completely hidden by a large commercial billboard.

Federico Parodi  
Italy and Rawai

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).



# Better safe than sorry



## FIRST PERSON

Elliot Klein is the founder and Director of Operations for the Maximum Security Division of Saen Yim Co Ltd. Following the murder of a nanny and baby in Phuket in 2007, Elliot set up the company with the intention of educating homeowners, developers, builders, property managers and hoteliers that what they have come to believe to be acceptable residential protection is, in reality, nothing more than a first step and quite incapable of stopping anyone with bad intentions and a minimal knowledge of criminal techniques. Elliot contends that the majority of residential break-ins and the resultant violence can be prevented by using proper and appropriate security measures. His avowed mission is to help Phuket achieve the reputation as 'Asia's safest vacation/investment destination'. Here he shares his thoughts on what needs to be done to reach that goal.

There have been ten murders and attempted murders in Phuket in the past two months. Maximum Security was started as a direct result of the murder of a nanny and baby in their home two years ago. Since then, we have tried strenuously to educate residents, developers and hotel management to understand the need for real security.

Like everywhere else, all of these community members here need a kick in the butt as far improving security goes. The blasé attitude of most of the population is a danger to individuals and potentially catastrophic to the economy – on which it can have a seriously negative effect.

There are over thirty specific elements critical to a security program for any home, development or high-rise building. Most of the facilities we have visited on 'Ride-Along' Security Inspections have less than five in place.

Having an alarm system on your windows and doors is a good start in a total security program. By itself, it merely serves to warn you that someone just entered your house, and will be where you are in about 30 seconds. If he or they have weapons, what do you plan on doing to protect you and your family?

Without a safe place that cannot be easily broken into, you are at great risk. Yet many people spend more on their swimming pool and LCD TV than on their security.

When you buy a car you want brakes, windshield wipers, seat belts and headlights. You want ABS, airbags, electronic stability and coded entry system. These eight elements working together make you safe on the road. So why would you have only a wall, door locks and an alarm system to protect you where you spend the majority of your life?

Villa developments, apartment complexes, high rise buildings and hotel resorts also need a broad spectrum of deterrent, preventative and protective elements to keep their residents safe. Having security guards trained only to lift a bar across the driveway and how to use a walkie talkie or whistle does not qualify as the '24-hour security' advertised. Likewise, installing CCTV cameras around the property without having personnel trained to respond efficiently and effectively is the same as having no cameras at all.

New home buyers in the UK, EU and the US all continue to list good security as their number one priority for their prospective properties, yet the level of security offered to these same buyers in Phuket is negligible.

Ultra high-end properties in Phuket are prime targets for illegal activities, particularly those catering to celebrity buyers. The extensive advertising they do describing their elegance and luxury also announces to the criminals that this is where the money is. These places need to implement the most intense security measures to protect their residents, yet they continue to provide only the absolute minimum of available techniques and equipment.

Often, security staff, which is the keystone element of any multi-unit security program, are woefully under trained in the essential procedures of screening at entry points, monitoring CCTV activity, patrolling and observation, threat assessment and situation control.

What good is it having security staff if, when an incident occurs, they do not have sufficient training or ability to know how to react?

Our goal is to ensure that all of us have a safe and prosperous community for years to come. This is only possible if people best positioned to change the overall level of community security stop living in cloud cuckoo land; pretending that they and their residents/guests will

never be victims of crime. Wouldn't it be a spectacular marketing tool if Phuket were universally lauded for being the 'safest vacation destination in Asia'?

The idea for both private properties and multi-unit properties is to make the outermost perimeter as formidable as possible so that the criminal thinking about breaking in can plainly see that it will be very difficult. In most cases he will move on and look for an easier target.

Should he decide to attempt a break-in, there needs to be a series of protective layers between the perimeter and the house itself. These can be natural or electronic or a combination of the two. Before anyone gets to the house itself, the resident should know where they are, how many there are and what they are doing, so they can get their family to safety.

The horror of the terrorist attacks at two Mumbai hotels has reminded all of us of the pressing need to provide adequate protection for guests at facilities which cater to high-end clientele, both residents and tourists. These leading hotels in India had what is considered acceptable security in the hospitality industry, yet over 170 people were slaughtered.

While no one could ever guarantee that the attacks in

Mumbai could have been prevented, we can confidently state that the number of victims would have been dramatically diminished had the correct equipment, arrangements, procedures and security personnel training been in place.

The terrorists in Mumbai were easily able to gain entry to hotels, not only to the ground floor, but to every other floor. There is no excuse for this. The worst case scenario should have been that they were able to shoot their way in and then promptly stopped. With more secure entry points, even that could have been made considerably more difficult.

As Sun-Tzu wrote in *The Art of War*, "Do not depend on the enemy not attacking, but depend on your position that cannot be attacked."

No victim has ever woken up in the morning and thought, "Today is the day someone will break into my house and kill me".

One should never expect to talk their way out of a violent situation or to placate the criminals with whatever is on hand. Anyone who is crazed enough to break into your house is far beyond reasoning, and you are at their mercy.

As is taught in *Buddha Dharma*, "death is certain, the time of death is not".

## Issues & ANSWERS

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

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213971, or submit your issue  
at [www.phuketgazette.net](http://www.phuketgazette.net)

## Interviewing an imprisoned foreign national

I am a foreign journalist and I would like to interview a woman from my country who is currently being held in Phuket Provincial Prison on a very serious criminal charge.

Can you tell me whether such an interview is possible?

If so, what are the procedural requirements for arranging it?

Intrepid reporter,  
Singapore

Aticha Kiewsen, Director of the Department of Corrections in Bangkok, replies:

You first have to send a letter of request to the director of the Department of Corrections by ordinary mail.

The letter must contain the name of the media organization you represent along with contact details including the street address, telephone number, fax number and the name of the person requesting the interview.

The letter should not specify a date for the meeting, but must include the reason why you would like to interview the incarcerated.

If approved by the director of the Corrections Department,

the incarcerated will be asked if she agrees to be interviewed. If the prisoner accepts, the department will inform you when you can interview her.

For more information contact the Department of Corrections in Nonthaburi. Tel: 02-967222. Or visit their website at [www.correct.go.th](http://www.correct.go.th)

## Treating a Jellyfish sting

Having previously read about jellyfish in Phuket I have a few concerns about swimming when I travel to the island for my holiday later this year.

In the event of being

stung by a jellyfish, what can I do to treat the sting?

Mike Kilroy,  
London, UK

The Phuket Provincial Public Health Office replies:

Firstly, as a precaution, call for help. Secondly, restrain yourself and others from rubbing the affected area.

Douse the sting site liberally with vinegar, carefully remove any remaining tentacles and apply a vinegar-soaked pad to the stung area.

Finally apply cold packs to the sting site if local pain and wheals are present and then rest under observation.



## Horoscopes

Isla Star

# Romance blossoms in the coming year for birthday Arians



**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): A monetary discrepancy could escape your attention this weekend. Arians have much on their minds during the final week of March and should endeavor to focus on the present. Dwelling in the past and projecting too much into the future will hold up the positive progress that you need. For those celebrating a birthday this week, the focus lies strongly on more fulfilling romantic relationships in the year ahead.

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): Energy that Taureans have put into developing a more positive outlook on life since the start of this year is due to pay off. This week, your ability to see the sunny side of a situation that dismays others will help to influence a good outcome. Those who are single will be flattered by Pisces' flirtation this weekend. If you are already in a relationship, expect your partner to remember a forgotten promise.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): Dreams come true for many of those born under the sign of Gemini this week. If this relates to romance, commitments are indicated. Family reunions are also highlighted, but a fire sign's presence could cause sparks to fly. Tuesday is the most auspicious day for business discussions – you will find exactly the right approach to ensure that agreements can be easily made. Your lucky number until the end of the month is six.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 23): In your romantic world, someone's patience is wearing thin. Those born under the sign of Cancer who are blissfully unaware of the irritation they have been causing will be faced with the truth this weekend. Work is forecast to bring more satisfaction when a successful project is reason for celebration. Delay decisions to embark on any new ventures until next month. The number seven

can bring some good fortune next Thursday.

**LEO** (July 24-August 22): Your talents for waiting patiently in the shadows should guarantee good results by the end of this month. The first part of April is not so well-starred for work matters, so it would be advisable to make commitments before then. Those Leos who are still looking for a soul mate are predicted to meet a compatible Libran this weekend. Wear the color jungle green to enhance your natural charisma.

**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23): Many Virgoans will discover this week that still waters can run even deeper than they suspected. A romantic interest that you thought was not worth pursuing is about to be ignited again. Listening to another earth sign's advice is recommended. Those already in a relationship could be accused of being stuck in the mud when a partner's radical decision causes problems. Wear a piece of sapphire to enhance your intuition.

**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23): Librans should see improvement in their financial situations as the month of March draws to a close. Those who have experienced money losses since the start of the year will find a way to compensate. Hard work is indicated to bring more satisfaction than you expect, especially when a new colleague proves to be someone you can see eye to eye with. Your lucky number this week is eight.

**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22): Concentration is elusive for many of those born under the sign of Scorpio. The stars indicate that you could be easily tempted by others' pie in the sky plans. Romance comes out of the blue when a friend introduces you to an interesting Capricorn – this person could be the steadying influence you need. Wednesday is

the best day for tackling a tricky bureaucratic issue. Wear the color burgundy to encourage stronger focus.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): Sagittarians should not rely on second hand information this week as someone born under an air sign would like to give you false facts. As long as you allow a new romantic partner to maintain their personal space, the coast is clear for a healthy relationship to develop. Tuesday is the best day for laying an ongoing financial issue to rest. The number two can bring some good luck this weekend.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20): Your monetary outlook is improving steadily. By the end of March many Capricorns will have something to show for their ability to keep noses to the grindstone. Moonlighting becomes a possibility for those who have some free time when Aries makes an offer late next week. An invitation from family overseas is forecast to arrive within the coming days. Wear the color mellow yellow to encourage a calmer outlook.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19): Although finances mostly remain under positive astral influences, overspending could be a temptation when on a shopping trip this weekend. Aquarians are advised to invite friends for a get together at home, rather than going out to paint the town red. Those who are single and seeking will be delighted to meet a mysterious earth sign by the end of this month. Your lucky number this week is eight.

**PISCES** (February 20-March 20): An offer to travel overseas with friends comes at the right time for many Pisceans. If you've been looking for the right opportunity to get away during the coming weeks, there are signs that this will present itself. Those who can't afford to take enough time off for a proper vacation would still benefit from a long weekend trip. Asking a fire sign friend along would provide the excitement you need.

# Signs of India

On my recent visit to India, I was reminded of the richness and eloquence of Indian English. Take for example the lead sentence in an obituary I read in an Indian newspaper:

"A sublime, saintly, spiritual architect with global radiance performed a terrestrial exit the other day while in profound sleep, leaving for humanity an immortal message of divine liberation."

Lesser writers would have drained the lyricism out of this encomium and reduced it to a lifeless factoid: "Maharishi Mahesh Yogi is dead."

But it is in the signs posted throughout the land that Indian English really shines. What visitor can forget the stern admonition that used to be posted in major railway stations? "Ticketless travel is a social evil." Or the signs warning against speeding on mountain roads: "If you are married, divorce speed." "Better to be last on earth than first in heaven."

"If you want to donate blood, don't do it on the road, do it in the blood bank." And even the plaintive, "What is the hurry?"

Indian signs have not lost any of their piquant charm. During my visit I noted the following:

1 Advertisements for the Crocodile Bank and the Swindly Pest and Termite Control.

2 On the back of a tuk-tuk: "Love for sale – only for you!"

3 Outside an office: "Full fledged money changer." One wonders what a half-fledged money changer would be like.

4 On many walls: "Commit no nuisance." This is much more elegant than "Don't pee against the wall."

5 On many roads: "Accident prone zone." Here the thinking mind is compelled to inquire: If the zone is prone to accidents, why don't the authorities do something about it, instead of just posting a sign?

6 On a billboard, a quotation from a major Hindu religious teacher:

"They alone live who live for others." Once again the thinking mind is compelled to inquire: What are the others supposed to live for?

7 On a billboard, a picture of a smiling gentleman holding up a tube of salve labeled "PEN-ORUB."

Judging from the name, I assume you're supposed to rub the salve on the appropriate part of your anatomy. I'm not even going to guess what part that might be.

8 In Kolkata metro stations: "Serve & Volley." This ex-

hortation, which seems to relate to tennis, baffles me. Is it some kind of mystical mantra? The name of a law firm? An incitement to revolution? If anybody knows, please enlighten me.

9 Also in Kolkata metro stations: "While travelling in the Metro railway, you shall not carry:

1 Any offensive article, viz. skin, hides, dead poultry.

2 Dangerous items, viz. Explosives.

3 Dead body."

This last item puzzled me.

For poor people, the metro would seem to be an ideal vehicle for carrying dead bodies to the cremation ground. It's efficient, economical, and democratic. The sight of an occasional corpse as a

fellow passenger would serve as a sobering reminder to more lively passengers of their own mortality.

1 In one Kolkata metro station: "Bengali translation of the poem 'Eloisa to Abelard'," followed by the Bengali translation. It occurred to me that metro stations throughout the world could do immense good by following Kolkata's lead and posting medieval and classical poetry for the literary enrichment of the masses. It would be far more edifying than the coarse graffiti that defile the metro stations of some cities I could name.

2 Sign on the wall of a Hindu temple: "Non-Hindus are not allowed to enter the sin cleansing pool."

Huh? Aren't non-Hindus in need of sin-cleansing? Or are they so sinful that their sins will clog the pool and destroy its sin-cleansing capability? A sin-cleansing pool that can't absorb the sins of a few non-Hindus can't be much of a sin-cleansing pool, in my opinion.

3 One temple used to have signs prohibiting smoking, photography, littering, picnicking, plucking fruits and flowers, playing radios and tape recorders, noisy shouting or rowdy and unseemly behavior, singing and dancing, playing of bands, holding discourses and meetings, and bringing in floats, vehicles, and processions.

New signs have since been posted prohibiting bicycles and plastic bags and urging visitors to switch off their mobile phones. By the time you've read all the signs, you've forgotten what you came to the temple for.

*S. Tsow can be flamed at s.tsow@gmail.com, except when he's trying to find a sin-cleansing pool that will accept him.*



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By S. TSOW

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# A new era of aviation



We are now just over a year into a new generation of aircraft. The A380 is one that will take air travel to yet another level.

Visitors to Phuket arriving on a Thai Airways International Boeing 747 on February 9 this year were part of aviation history.

On that day 40 years earlier, the very first Boeing 747-100 "Jumbo" took to the skies, signaling the beginning of a new era in air travel.

The aircraft, two-and-a-half times larger than any airliner around at the time, completed an 85-minute flight, from Paine airfield near Seattle, USA, where Boeing's main plant was – and still is – located.

Planning for the aircraft had begun as far back as 1963, when Boeing decided they needed a new generation of aircraft for the 1970s.

The 747-100 represented a miracle of modern technology that forever changed air travel. Now acknowledged as the world's most recognizable aircraft, the 747 arguably ranks as one of the top five commercial airliners ever produced, along with the BAC-Aerospatiale Concorde, the supersonic Anglo-French thoroughbred, that stopped service for financial reasons in 2003; the McDonnell Douglas DC-3, which revolutionized travel in the 1930s as a reliable, rugged and economic aircraft; the Airbus 380 (more on that in a moment) and the Boeing 707, which was the first aircraft produced in a new classical configuration that set the standard for years to come.

Were those same Phuket visitors to look ahead to the changes in the aviation industry expected over the coming 40 years, what would they see?

A great deal, actually.

First, to set the scene. In the last 20 years air travel has grown by an average of 4.8% each year, despite two major world recessions, acts of terrorism, the 1997 Asian financial crisis, the SARS outbreak in 2003 and two Gulf wars.

It is predicted that the average rate of growth over the next 20 years will be 5% per year in passenger travel and 5.8% in cargo. While these predictions will need to be revised in light of the current world recession, it is clear that air travel remains very robust, despite all that mother nature and mankind can throw at it. Looking ahead, how will the airline industry manage to sustain such growth? The answer lies in new technology.

We are now just over a year into a new generation of aircraft, one that will take air travel to yet another level as we experience new technological advances inside the cabin that will change the flying experience forever – though for some people, not necessarily for the better.

First, there is the new generation aircraft. The Airbus A380 has now been in service with Singapore Airlines – its first customer – for more than a year. Qantas and Emirates have since joined the party, employing the A380 across a variety of routes, and further airlines are set to follow.

One of these is Thai Airways International, which is due to take delivery of six A380s from 2010 onwards.

The A380 is the equivalent of the B747 insofar as it represents a new generation of large, twin-aisle, double-decker aircraft.

The B747, remarkably, is still in use by many airlines around the world. The 1,400th Jumbo was delivered in February, 2008. The A380, however, with a capacity of anything up to 600 seats depending on the configuration, is quieter and has a full double

deck, compared with the B747's limited upper deck.

The other significant member of this new generation aircraft is the Boeing 787 "Dreamliner." Already two years behind schedule for entry into commercial service, the B787 is made of light, composite metal and is reputed to be 20% more fuel efficient.

The 210-330 seat B787 is currently expected to enter service in 2010.

Japan and China are also due to introduce their own smaller regional jets. The Japanese Mitsubishi Regional Jet (MRJ-70 and MRJ-90) seats between 70 and 96 passengers, depending on the model, and will also be constructed using composite materials.

The Chinese-manufactured ARJ21 regional jet (70-80

seats) is scheduled for its maiden commercial flight this year. A number of Chinese airlines have already placed orders for the new plane.

The launch of the ARJ21 heralds a new era for Chinese aviation.

And what about the passengers? On-board mobile phone and internet technology is not just around the corner, it is already upon us.

AirAsia, which services Phuket through its subsidiary Thai AirAsia, will become the first Asian carrier to introduce the on-board mobile phone service.

China's Shenzhen Airlines, Kingfisher Airlines of India and Airblue from Pakistan are also due to receive the new on-board mobile phone technology later

this year.

Adoption of internet and email access on aircraft is also gathering pace, with over 50% of airlines surveyed in 2008 planning to embrace both technologies over the next two- to three years. It's a similar story for text messaging, GPRS [Blackberry], laptop messaging and mobile phone calls.

We have clearly come a long way since that historic B747 flight back in 1969 and the future potential for innovation and technological advancement in aviation appear endless. The sky's the limit, you might say.

*Lewis Gibson is a former aviation employee and newspaper and television journalist. He is a freelance writer and consultant living on Phuket.*

## Talking Planes



by Lewis Gibson



# Salsa

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Dress Code

Party/Salsa








# Laguna to host ESPN Star Sports golf charity event



Guest speaker at the event will be former England International and current football pundit Steve McMahon.

With Jyoti Randhawa's winning putt at the 2009 Singha Thailand Open still fresh in the memory, the Laguna Phuket Golf Club is set to take center stage once more with the

arrival of a number of ESPN Star Sport's best known football presenters and pundits.

The sports network's collection of household names including former Liverpool and England midfielder Steve

McMahon, Football Focus' John Dykes and Nokia Football Crazy's presenters Andy Penders and Jamie Yeoh will be tackling Laguna's greens and fairways as part of a charity tournament, taking place on March 28, in aid of Special Olympics competitors in Southern Thailand.

The golf tournament is part of a two-day fundraising event that will also include a dinner and charity auction with ESPN Star Sport's finest also held on the 28th. A football fun day and BBQ will be held the following day at the British International School.

The day of golf presents locals with the opportunity to play golf with a member of Asia's number one sport's broadcasters and help raise money for a worthy cause.

The dinner on the evening of the 28th will be held at Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket. Tickets are priced at 2,500 baht, including wine and beer.

Last year's event raised 750,000 baht for the Baan Klongsai School in Phang Nga province. For more information Tel: 076 270 991-2 (Pro Shop) or visit [www.lagunaphuket.com/espn](http://www.lagunaphuket.com/espn)

-Dan Ogunshakin

# Junior cricket League for Phuket

In an initiative to develop cricket in Phuket, The Phuket Cricket Union, together with like-minded volunteers, have launched the Sawasdee Junior League, which, it is hoped, will give local kids the opportunity to get involved in cricket and help drive the development of the game at the grassroots level on the island.

Six school teams from Cherg Talay, Kathu, the BIS, Thai Hua, Sapam and Kajonkiet are taking part in the league, playing an eight-a-side softball version of the sport in games that last one hour. Each side bats once, with each pair of batsmen awarded 50 runs before they start. Each pair of batsmen face two overs, during which they attempt to score as many runs as possible. For every wicket they lose, runs are subtracted from their total.

For the bowling side, each player is allowed to bowl one over and the fielding side rotates positions, so everybody fields in each designated position. On Saturday March 14, Baan Sapam travelled to the BIS, where, on winning the toss, they elected to field.

The Sapam school has benefited from daily training from

coach Khun Jiraporn, which has seen them rise to the top of the table, making them clear favorites for the encounter. BIS started brightly with some solid batting and brisk running between the wickets.

Their encouraging start was arrested by some tight bowling from three of the Baan Sapam bowlers, who also claimed valuable wickets, helping to limit the BIS total. After their allotted eight overs, BIS had amassed a total of 232. Despite their relative inexperience, BIS started brightly, only to come unstuck later by some wayward bowling, which included a number of wides costly at two runs a piece.

This errant display of bowling, compounded by some prodigious hitting, was enough to see Baan Sapam emerge comfortable winners with an impressive tally of 271 runs.

All the children involved exhibited tremendous enthusiasm for the game and BIS is looking forward to hosting many more matches at their picturesque grounds. For details about cricket on the island, call Tookta on T: 086-274 9877 or Nifty on T: 089-586 3512 or Mark at E: [scarfy@loxinfo.co.th](mailto:scarfy@loxinfo.co.th)



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# Sainamyen A pips BIS in rugby classic

Under the watchful eye of coaches from the British International School (BIS) and Phuket Vagabonds, a children's rugby session culminated with a match that was fit to grace the hallowed turf of Twickenham or the *Stade de France*.

The sport of rugby is slowly but surely taking hold in the Kingdom, with the Phuket Vagabonds rugby club leading the way in introducing the game to young people of Phuket. As part of this ongoing initiative, the club organized a coaching course earlier in the year for children drawn from all over the south of Thailand. Last Saturday provided an opportunity for local school children to hone the rugby skills they had learned.

A team from the event hosts BIS was joined by two sides from the Borankwai school in Songkhla and two teams from the Sai Nam Yen school in Patong. After the initial coaching sessions, the four teams were tasked with putting some of their newly acquired skills to the test in a competitive environment. The early encoun-

ters were largely scrappy affairs and not easy on the eye, with players reluctant to go to ground and release the ball.

A physically superior BIS side was able to bulldoze its way to the final against opponents who were, by and large, overwhelmed by the size and power of their more experienced opponents. Of the Thai teams, The Sai Nam Yen A side were the pick of the crop, but in all the games, it was apparent that the players were still struggling to get to grips with the basics of rugby. Given what had gone before, it came as something of a surprise to witness the free-flowing end-to-end rugby that graced the final, in which BIS squared off against Sai Nam Yen A. BIS took an early lead, but Sai Nam Yen, who despite their smaller stature never shirked a tackle, soon leveled the score. Both teams played to their strengths, with BIS attempting to overpower the Sai Nam Yen defence with powerful, direct runs, and Sai Nam Yen moving the ball quickly, looking to exploit gaps in the BIS back line.

BIS, who after scoring a

second try to make it two scores to one, kept Sai Nam Yen at bay with some dogged defending. However, with the halftime whistle fast approaching, Sai Nam Yen finally breached the BIS defence with some quick and assured handling to level the match. BIS began the second half emphatically, scoring directly from the kick off, benefiting from Sai Nam Yen's team failure to gather the ball, allowing BIS to go over in the corner. BIS kept possession for long periods and looked to have done enough to win the match but Sai Nam Yen had other ideas. In the last minute of normal time, the Patong school hit BIS on the counter attack to square the game once again.

No provision had previously been made for extra time. However, with the sides locked at three scores apiece and a trophy on the line, the occasion clearly demanded a winner. Following a brief consultation, an executive decision was reached, whereby the teams would play on, with the first team to score being declared the winner.

While the day had originally



In a closely contested final, it was the Sai Nam Yen school 'A' team who finally broke the deadlock, sparking joyous celebrations.

been conceived as a fun coaching session, it was by now abundantly clear that neither team had any intention of yielding to the other. Extra time began with BIS seizing the early initiative, looking the more likely of the two teams to take the lead for the fourth and final time.

However, it was Sai Nam Yen who finally broke the deadlock, sparking joyous celebrations, leaving the BIS team dejected and deflated. For Pat Cotter of the Phuket Vagabonds, to see such a competitive and keenly contested

game of rugby was a rich reward for all the time and effort he and others had put into promoting the sport here.

"It was a great game. Both teams should be proud of having been involved in such a fantastic game, and for it to be won like that was a fitting tribute to the whole occasion," he said.

It is hoped that more local schools will get involved with rugby, eventually enabling the formation of a regular league.

-James Goyder

# Season opening regatta marked by yacht somersault



Savage 28-knot winds caused Firefly *SEA Properties* to "pitchpole", in which the bow of the boat burys itself in the wave ahead while the wave behind lifts the stern up and over, causing the boat to flip over at high speed.

The opening race of the season at Ao Chalong Yacht Club (ACYC) was marred by extreme weather conditions that saw just six of the 14 boats complete the race and caused one Firefly class yacht to dramatically capsize.

It was ACYC's first race event since its move to new premises earlier this year and the club must have been delighted to see such a strong turnout. There were three Fireflys participating – being granted a class of its own due to their increased numbers – and 11 boats contesting the other three classes – Multihull, Racing and Cruising.

On the day, it was the Fireflys that provided the real drama. *Moto Inzi* narrowly avoided capsizing, following a freak gust of wind and moments

later, fellow Firefly *SEA Properties* succeeded where *Moto Inzi* had luckily failed, pitchpoling after savage 28-knot gusts of wind.

Pitchpoling is probably the most dangerous way a boat can capsize. It involves the bow burying itself in the wave ahead while the wave behind lifts the stern up and over, causing the boat to flip over at high speed. Two of the crew of four were thrown clear of the boat, while the others were left trapped under the trampoline that joins the twin hulls of the catamaran. One of them, David Hutcheson, later recalled, "A gust came round from Koh Lon, caught us, and the momentum just carried us right over. There were four of us on board and the two at the back were thrown clear but two of us were trapped underneath the trampoline. We were a foot underwater but we were able to swim out." Fortunately, no one was seriously injured and in a show of sailing camaraderie, all the nearby boats retired from their respective races to render assistance to the stricken vessel. David said, "What was fantastic was the way the other boats

stopped to help and the support they provided. In particular Bow, the captain of *Seraphin*, who actually swam over to help."

Despite the best efforts of everybody involved, *SEA Properties* remained inverted and had to be towed back to shore. It is now back on dry land – facing the right way up – albeit minus a mast. Plans are already afoot to retrieve the mast and everyone involved is optimistic that *SEA Properties* will be back on the water in time to participate in the Top of the Gulf Regatta, to be

held in Pattaya in April.

Of the few boats that finished, Nick Band on *Emerald Blue* won the Racing Class and Richard Simpson on *Dingo* was victorious in the Multihull Class. However, the race will be remembered for *SEA Properties'* spectacular somersault. It is a trick the crew will be hoping not to repeat any time soon. "I suppose you could call it a stunt, but it definitely wasn't deliberate and it's not something we want to be doing again," insisted David.

-James Goyder



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# Wonderwall

When my wife and I moved into the house we live in now, my wife was happy to have a backyard with enough room for a garden, as she enjoys cooking with fresh peppers and herbs. However, a problem soon became apparent. The patio concrete was adjacent to a dirt section.

When it rained, dirt was washed out onto the concrete. I thought that a small retaining wall would preserve the dirt during the rainy season and would also enable me to deepen the garden with a layer of good topsoil. Photo 1 shows only a section, but this little wall is about five meters long, having stood strong now for several years and still doing an exemplary job of keeping the dirt where it belongs.

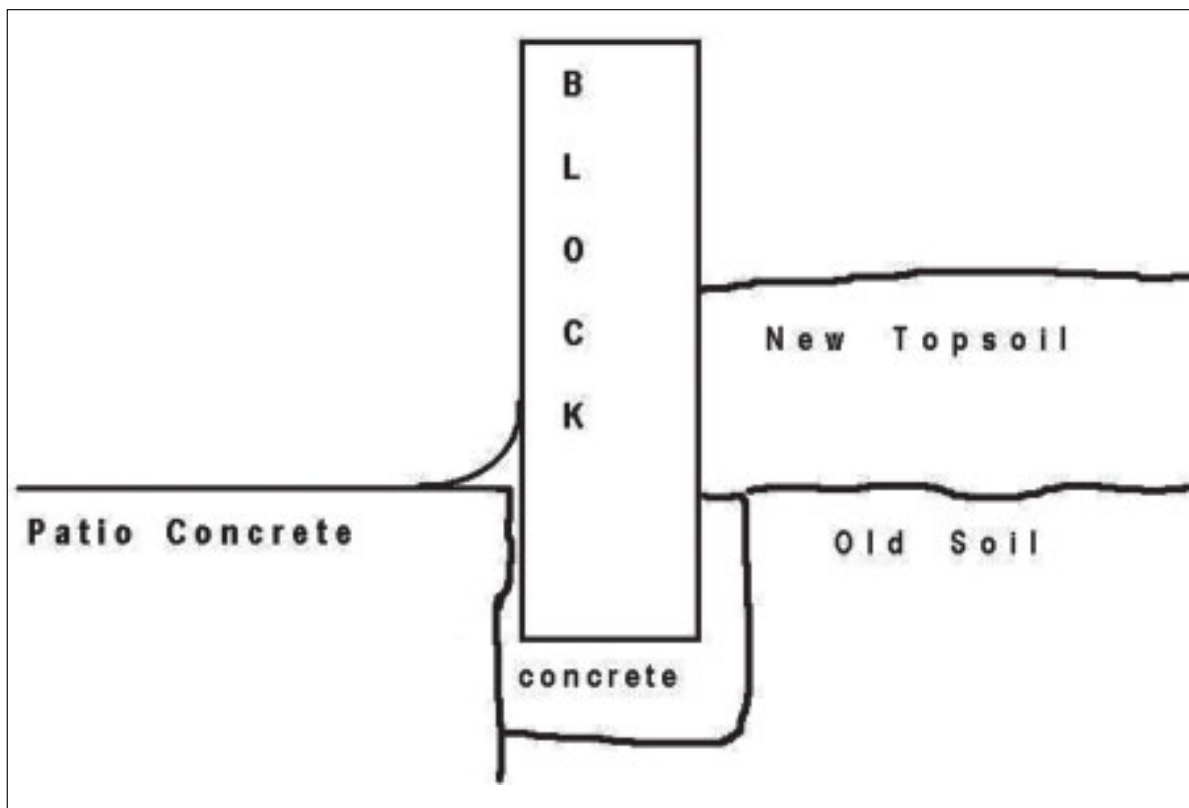
Just plopping some concrete mix onto the edge of the patio and lining up the bricks would have created a wall, albeit one that would have lasted about one season. To endure, the blocks would have to be securely anchored below the surface, with their faces butting against the edge of the patio concrete (see diagram). The sand, cement and blocks came from a local contractor supply outlet. I used the type of blocks with two lips at each end. For your concrete, mix one part cement and two parts sand together. Add a little water at a time, mixing it in until the concrete is just thick enough that a trowel full takes a moment to drop off the edge when tilted. Mix small batches; just enough for a few



Photo 1



Photo 2



blocks at a time. The soil around my house is fill dirt – which contains a high clay content – so I knew it would compact well.

I pounded a shallow slit-trench using a sledgehammer and a two-foot piece of 4"x 4" lumber, holding the lumber upright like a giant nail and pounding on the top until it had compacted the soil down into a square hole. I then lifted it out, moved it along and repeated until I had a long trench about five inches deep and four

inches wide all along the patio's edge. I used a small block of wood on the trench's floor, akin to a movable dam, so that I could pour about two inches of concrete covering about one meter of the trench at a time and not have it flow away when I positioned the blocks. I also applied concrete, like glue, to each block's face

where it would contact the patio's edge. Each block was installed, worked slightly back and forth to settle it into the concrete and tapped into the final position with another piece of lumber. Concrete was poured down each vertical tube-like space where the blocks' lips met, then tamped down with a piece of bamboo. This would really help hold the blocks together.

After all the blocks were installed, I used a smaller batch of just cement (no sand mixed in) as 'caulking', filling in the small gaps between blocks, and formed a sloping surface from the patio to each block (photo 2).

This makes it easier to sweep clean, as dirt accumulates in corners and holds moisture, eventually rotting the concrete. This wall is in my backyard, and no one sees it except my wife and I, so I didn't worry about finishing it too finely.

## Important Tips

1. For jobs like this, where you're assembling blocks by hand, always mix your concrete in small batches, (about a half-bucketful at a time) or it will harden before you use it all.

2. When joining blocks to already hardened concrete, the surfaces must be clean and wet. Dirt blocks the newly-poured concrete from the actual surface; water helps the lime in the cement to chemically adhere to the block or concrete.

I used a plastic garden watering can to wet each block before using it. I also cleaned the dirty edge of the patio by trickling water over it into the trench, using an old sponge to swab it, then trickling more water over it. I let the trench drain overnight, as too much water in the bottom would dilute the concrete when poured in. The watering can also enabled me to wet the edge of the patio as I moved along, without re-flooding the trench.

3. The lime in cement can irritate your skin badly. Wear rubber gloves when working with concrete. If not, wash your hands thoroughly as soon as you finish, then steal some of your wife's hand lotion, and lather it in. That's it! Have a beer! See you next time!

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## Construction update

## Phuket City

# Sanctuary on Kata's hillside

By Khunakorn Terdkiatkhachorn

Located on Phuket's west coast, on the hillside of Kata Beach, construction of Hermitage Hill is scheduled to begin in May of this year and is expected to be completed by May 2010.

The development, comprising 12 boutique villas, is being built on eight rai, surrounded by lush jungle, overlooking Kata Beach. Once complete, the 12 units will be available to purchase on either a freehold or leasehold agreement.

The Hermitage Hill project is being developed by the Hermitage Hills Co Ltd, a subsidiary of the Srivit Group.

Hermitage Hills have called on the services of an acclaimed architect team that has produced a design that incorporates a contemporary Thai style. Each custom-built villa will be environmentally friendly, created to capture the benefits of the site's greenery.

Prices of the elegant units start at 72 million baht. The Hermitage Hill development, including units and facilities, will be

managed and operated by Hermitage Hills Co Ltd, who will provide maintenance services for each property, as well as taking care of the upkeep of communal amenities.

The Hermitage Hill development will feature just a single type of unit; a luxury pool villa, that will offer views of the surrounding hills, the Andaman Sea, waterfalls and the project's sculpted gardens.

The villa floor space covers an area starting from 500 square meters up to a maximum of 870 square meters.

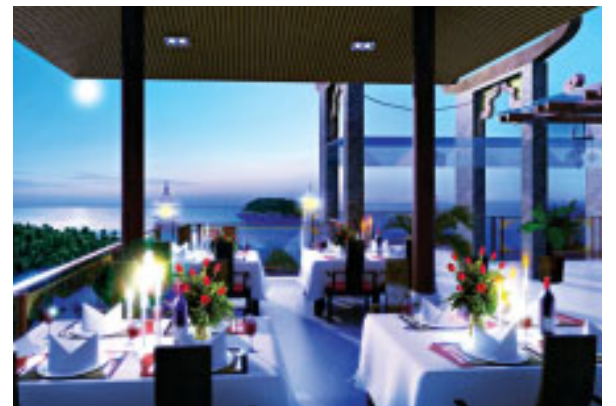
Each villa will be accompanied by a 120 to 300 square meter landscaped garden, complete with its own private pool ranging in size from 40 to 70 square meters, while others also include a Jacuzzi.

The villas come with either four or five bedrooms as well as five or six bathrooms, with built-in teakwood furnishings.

Marble, granite and teakwood are used as flooring materials. The villas will be fully air-conditioned and the kitchen and bathrooms will be fitted with state-of-the-art appliances.



An artist's impression of one of 12 villas and the Hermitage Hill clubhouse's restaurant.



In addition, Hermitage Hill will boast a myriad of facilities, including a concierge service, health spa and fitness facility, lobby lounge and sunset bar, in-

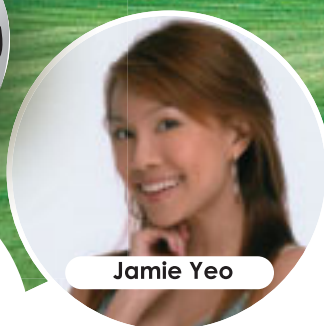
ternational restaurant and coffee shop, all located at the Hermitage Hill Clubhouse.

Villa owners will also be able to avail themselves of a

housekeeping and laundry service, utility and property maintenance management, a private parking lot and 24-hour on-site security with CCTV monitoring.

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# Ants in your pants

## Nature & Nurture



By Patrick Campbell

I was watching a technicolor sunset golden light and ochrous cloud above the dark silhouette of the Nakkerd hills. Momentarily, I was distracted by a winged shape, which flitted past within touching distance.

Clearly a bat, most likely a pipistrelle. They often congregate overhead in the gathering dusk. Strange though, for despite the old wives' tales of bats entangled in long hair, they normally shun human contact like the plague. Then the creature flew erratically by for a second time, and the penny dropped: this was no bat, but a moth, a gigantic atlas moth. You know, the kind that often ends up as the centerpiece in those glass-fronted, display cases of creepy-crawlies. The sunset was forgotten.

I knew a bit about atlas moths [*attacus atlas*]. Weeks before, I had been visiting a friend whose front garden boasted a mature sandol [*sandoricum*] tree. The sandol is grown in Thailand for its refreshing fruits, which are often made into a kind of jam "Go and have a look at that tree," he said. "You will see something interesting." So I went to see. The sandol tree was playing host to a colony of atlas moths in various stages of metamorphosis. Some adults conjoined together had, my friend assured me, been mating for days, others were resting with wings outspread. There were silken cocoons hanging from the foliage, even a few grayish caterpillars.

The atlas moth is an impressive and beautiful creature with chestnut-colored wings, ten inches or more across – probably



The atlas moth is an impressive and beautiful creature with chestnut-colored wings, ten inches or more across probably the largest span of any insect.

the largest span of any insect. Named, some surmise, after the distinctive, map-like patterning of its wings, I prefer to think it is a title that refers to its size.

But unlike Atlas, who supported the heavens on his shoulders, the atlas moth is a delicate creature with wings seemingly too massive for its relatively small body. Its only form of defence resides in those bold markings which may help to deter would-be predators. Moreover, it has rudimentary mouth parts, and so does not feed during its brief sojourn in the sun. The cocoons can be used to make silk, but they are not farmed commercially: in south-east Asia, that role is reserved for the silkworm. At least the atlas moth should be safe in its Nai Harn haven...

Not all insects in Phuket are as decorative and as harmless. Take ants. Thailand is home to literally thousands of species. Some are tiny enough to infiltrate the tightest of food containers; others are large enough to inflict a nasty sting or bite. The termite – *bploo uk* in Thai, and not strictly speaking an ant at all – is the most notorious.

We have all heard apocryphal stories of 'farangs' return-

ing home after a long absence, only to discover that their prized dining table and chairs have collapsed in a pile of sawdust. I guess humans get their own back somehow, since termites are the second most eaten insect in the world with, so I am informed, a peanutty taste when fried.

While Thailand has no leafcutter ants – their habitats are in America – the kingdom has several tree-dwelling species that possess equally advanced patterns of behaviour. Last week I was watering a garden border. Next to the enclosing wall was an overhang of branches from the jungle beyond, a dense thicket of creeper-clad trees.

Suddenly my nostrils were assailed by a pungent stench, an acidic reek that revived memories of the school chemistry lab. Looking up, I realised I had disturbed several colonies of weaver ants. These insects [*oecophylla*] are so called because the adult ants encourage the larvae to spin threads from their bodies and use these silken strands to weave leaves together. The result is a nest the size of a football.

It all sounds harmless enough. But now the red troops were massing, moving menac-



Weaver ant larvae are considered a great delicacy, especially in Northern Thailand a kind of insect caviar.

ingly along the branches, preparing to repel invaders. The odor of formic acid was stronger than ever. Not a fan of ants in any shape or form, I made the mistake of slashing at the nest with a long-handled machete. Within seconds, ants were dropping like rain from the sky and biting me everywhere – and I mean everywhere! Weaver ants do not sting: instead they dig their mandibles into exposed flesh, lock them in place and squirt formic acid into

the bite. Very painful.

A culinary footnote. Weaver ant larvae are considered a great delicacy, especially in Northern Thailand – a kind of insect caviar. Go to any open-air market in Phuket and you will see appetizing heaps of these grubs, ready to be transformed into an Isaan salad known as *yum khai mod daeng*. [see photo] No wonder the little critters are expensive. Not for me though – fried or *al dente*. Not at any price.



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# Buyers benefit from changes to condo laws

By Philip M. Jacobson J.D.,

**T**his past year has seen major revisions to the laws governing condominiums in Thailand – with important ramifications for prospective purchasers. The highly anticipated Condominium Act, B.E. 2522 – effective since July, 2008 – has been a boon for buyers of condominiums, providing consumer protections hitherto unseen in the Kingdom.

Gone are the days when an unscrupulous condominium developer could lure prospective buyers with the wanton dissemination of misleading sales brochures and pictures.

Under the new laws, all promotional and advertising material used by a developer as part of its sales practice shall be deemed to be part of the signed sales contract, and the representations made in such paraphernalia must not misrepresent the premises being sold. Should the developer fail to deliver as advertised, he may now be liable for damages in a court of law.

Condominium sales contracts have now been standardized in a buyer-friendly format. This has brought an end to the practice of some developers incorporating unfairly onerous terms and conditions into their sales contracts. In the past, buyers ran the risk of being duped by unprincipled developers into entering into purchase agreements that compromised their interests. Under the new laws, standardized sales and purchase contracts contain many buyer-



New laws relating to the sale and purchase of condominiums provide improved protection for those inclined to sign on the dotted line.

friendly provisions that provide a significant measure of consumer protection. Now, any provision made in a condominium sales agreement that is not in compliance with the new standardized requirements and which places the buyer at a disadvantage, shall be considered null and void.

Among the principal consumer protections provided in the

new standardized contract are provisions relating to termination of contract by the seller, due to a breach of contract by the buyer. In the past, it has been the practice of some developers to include unconscionable termination and forfeiture provisions in the event that a buyer defaulted on his contractual payment obligations. Typically, these provisions allowed for the termination of the contract if the buyer missed a payment for any reason. This would result in the forfeiture of all payments made by the buyer to the developer up to that date.

Such draconian forfeiture provisions, which are tantamount to confiscation clauses, are no longer permitted under the new law. Under the new standardized contracts, a buyer's liability may not exceed 10% of the contract purchase price. Additionally, the law threatens civil and criminal penalties against developers who fall foul of the new laws.

Other notable changes to the law include a provision that accords the purchaser of a condominium the right to assign his contract to a third party without penalty. The new law will also

require the developer and buyer to split the registration cost of the condominium unit.

New laws relating to the sale and purchase of condominiums provide improved protection for those inclined to sign on the dotted line.

*Philip M. Jacobson J.D., Consultant of the Phuket based law firm International Law Office Patong Beach Co., Ltd., who can be contacted by email (philip@ilo-phuket.com) or phone (+66-(0) 76-222 191-5).*



# Property Gazette

## Properties For Sale

### CHERNG TALAY COZY HOUSE



78sq wah, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished, full lounge set, 37 inch LCD TV, air-con. Full set dining area, beautiful Western kitchen with oven and washing machine. Gutter system with water saving tank, high pressure. Nice landscaped garden, outdoor seating, electric gate, private parking. Price only 4.9 million baht. Tel: 081-823 4627.

### LAND FOR SALE: PATONG BEACH

Plot of 590 sqm in the hills at the north end of Patong Beach. Good water supply, access road, underground utility, very natural and quiet location, part of a small development consisting of 3 houses with a common swimming pool. Can include house design and construction. Contact Andy. Tel: 081-891 3466. Fax: 076-296160. Email: antc@phuket.ksc.co.th

### 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 087-895 3099 Thai.

### MISSION HILLS GOLF

3 bedroom pool villa close to new int'l school, airport and Nai Yang Beach. Luxury finish and located in quiet area. 9.5 million baht. Email: info@phuketbedandbreakfast.com

### 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

### HOUSE IN ANUPHAS FOR SALE



60sq.wah, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen. 3.7 million baht. For more details, please call 081-691 2526.

### 120 SQM DUPLEX

Residence Manguiers, Nana Rd, Patong. Fully furnished. Price: 45 million baht. Call or mail for details. Tel: 076-296312, 087-270 0224. Fax: 076-296312. Email: bialaspatrick@yahoo.com

### LUXURY NAI YANG HOUSE

4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. 3 mins to airport, 5 mins to Nai Yang Beach, constant sea breeze. Very cheap, houses like this usually 19 million baht. Great opportunity, price only 7 million baht. Tel: 086-076 0141.

### FREEHOLD PATONG

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

### HOUSE & FURNITURE FOR SALE

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

### 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.

### HOUSE IN RAWAI

Best villas 1x600sqm and 1x220sqm. New in quality development near beach. Great investment, 1 million baht down 5 years finance, no interest, best deal ever. Must see, free pick up. Tel: 085-783 1890.

### CAN'T SELL?

Prime land plots Nai Harn Beach. Exchange/part exchange condo, resort, villa. Tel: 086-684 5368. Email: bisop5@yahoo.co.uk

### RAWAI LAND

Half rai in quiet location. Concrete road, electricity, chanote, pond view. Ready to build on. Tel: 089-589 0085, 081-091 1097. Email: micsta75@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.

### POOLSIDE APARTMENT

One-bedroom and two-bedroom poolside apartments for sale. Modern open plan design, underground parking, natural and quiet location in the hills at the north end of Patong Beach. This is a small project consisting of only 3 units and a swimming pool. Now under construction. Contact Andy. Tel: 081-891 3466. Fax: 076-296160. Email: antc@phuket.ksc.co.th

### 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.

### LAND IN BANG JO

4 rai, nice flat land. Very good location suitable for luxury condominium or business development. Price 4.5 million baht per rai. For more information, please call 082-413 8677.

### DOUBLE VILLA IN KATA



Panoramic sea views - 5 minutes from Phuket bridge. Ideal for resort project. 15 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-396 3784. Email: oligi10@hotmail.com

### PHANG NHA LAND

21 rai of beachfront land, 10 minutes from Phuket bridge. Ideal for resort project. 15 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-396 3784. Email: oligi10@hotmail.com

### COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

for sale. Each building has 3 floors. On big road at Kamala Beach, near Krungsri Bank. Price 20 million baht. Tel: 083-180 2143. Email: pookie.lovely@gmail.com

### 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.

### ON THE BEACH

2 bedroom apartment in north Patong. Foreign freehold, top floor, swimming pools. 9.7 million baht. Tel: 086-2765 117 Email for photos. Email: jihshand@gmail.com

### PERFECT LAND

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

### COZY HOUSE SALE, CHANOTE



100sq wah, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, dining room, western kitchen, fully furnished with western facilities. 2 living rooms, one large with built in furniture and nice carp fish pond. 4 air-conditions, garden with teak, alarm, automatic gate, Land and Houses. Price 9.5 million baht. Tel: 089-474 1404. Email: lyaraya@yahoo.com

### CHALONG HOUSE

for sale. 4 bedrooms, air-condition, big garden. Must see. Price 4.5 million ono. Tel: 081-747 5293.

### SURIN BEACH

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

### 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.

### LAND FOR SALE PATONG BEACH

Hill side land at the north end of Patong Beach. 1,440 sqm with existing 3-bedroom house. Own water supply, electricity, and access road. Perfect for development. Very natural and quiet location, only 2 mins to beach and town. Contact Andy. Tel: 081-891 3466. Fax: 076-296160. Email: antc@phuket.ksc.co.th

### 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

### 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

### 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.

### KAMALA BEACH LAND

with mountain view. 4 plots on private estate near beach. Price 1.9 to 6 million baht. Tel: 082-421 9169.

### 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

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# Property Gazette

## 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

## RARE OPPORTUNITY

to purchase 2.5 rai in central Patong. 50 meters of this square piece of land is attached to the main road of the one way system on the second road. Very close to Bangla Road and Jungceylon shopping center. Can build up to six floors with sea view. Price for the plot is 250 million baht – no offers. Call Kay 081-737 0552. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

## VILLA URGENT SALE

4 beds, 6 baths, private pool (4x12) with jacuzzi, security system, solar hot water, sala and landscape garden on a 1,606sqm land. More than 400sqm of living area. Special price at 18 million baht. Email: nisaya19@yahoo.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.

## SALE OR RENT VILLA



Below market price (THB). Normally the villa can lease 300,000 to 350,000 monthly. But sacrificed due to poor global economy. It is the most expensive and most beautiful villa next to Loch Palm Golf Club. We would like to lease minimum 3 years with following conditions. First year annualy 1.5m excluding management, utilities, any extra costs garden, swimming pool inc. 2nd year 2m and last 3rd year 2.5m. Must pay in advance each year. No other deposit required. Or sale 45m. Tel: 086-885 6885. For details, please email me your interests at queenmarines@hotmail.com

## 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

## NEW HOUSE FOR SALE

2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Stage 1, Suriyaporn Place, Chalong. Price 2.2 million baht. Contact Vince. Tel: 081-082 7143.

## BANGTAO, PRIVATE POOL VILLA

3 bedrooms, fully furnished. Ready for investment! Tel: 076-289614, 081-970 0742. Email: sales@twovillas.com

## SERVICE OFFICES

for sale with long lease. Total 400sqm, fully furnished, ready to move in. Best sea views in Patong, 500m from beach. Tel: 076-293061, 087-075 9206. Email: david@freedomleisuregroup.com

## NEW HOUSE FOR SALE/RENT



In Srisuchart Grandville 3, not far from Tesco Lotus. 3 bedrooms 2 bathrooms, 1 car park and little garden. Very nice house contact to come see at 087-2770978 or koyangle99@hotmail.com

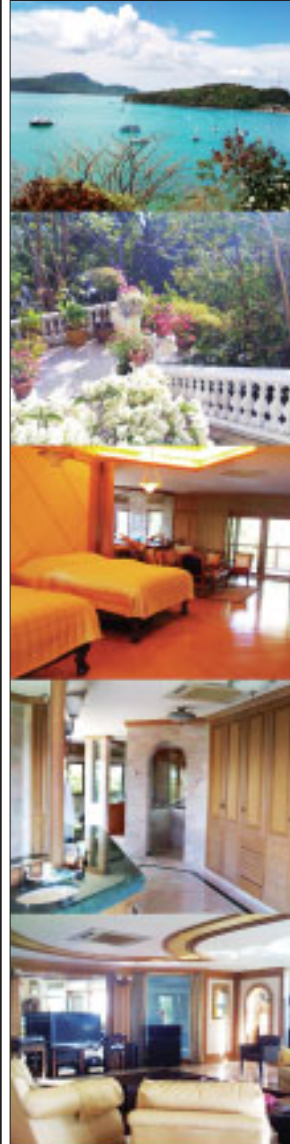
## BEACH LAND KOH YAO YAI

8 rai beach land, 80m long beach, public road & water at the back. White sand, no rocks, beautiful view. Includes shop house on land. Beautiful! Tel: 081-649 3557. Email: info@phuketlifestyle.com

## PERFECT LAND FOR SALE

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

## 50% OFF FOR SALE OR LONG LEASE



Several years ago, 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, where they sold a similar home for US\$12 million. The house has several bedrooms with antique furniture from Europe, marble and teakwood floors. One of the best in Phuket. 2,500sqm house with 1,800sqm 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 13m, 2nd year 17m 3rd year 20m 4th year 13m and 5th year 25m. Or sale for US\$10 million. Tel: 086-885 6885. Email: queenmarines@hotmail.com

## LAND IN CHALONG

for sale. Many plots in Chalong, 2 rai, 5.5 million baht. Rawai, 2 at 400sqm. Price 2.2 million baht. Contact Nong. Tel: 083-390 4167.

## NEW BUILDING FOR SALE



in busy area, Soi Sai Nam Yen, Patong Beach.

- \* 4-storey
  - \* 8 apartments on floors 2, 3 and 4
  - \* Chanote title
  - \* Electricity, water
  - \* 2 minutes to the beach
- Asking price: 52 million baht.  
Tel: 087-270 9093, 081-868 7676.

## EXCEPTIONALLY SPECIAL

210sqm apartment in Aspasia, Kata. One of the best - this one is a MUST SEE! Amazing sea views, direct access from the apartment to the beach. Five-star development. Two bedrooms, two bathrooms. This apartment has just too many fantastic features to describe! The owners are devastated to have to sell. Original price 21 million baht, now the asking price is a steal at 15.9 million baht. No offers. Only serious enquiries, no time wasters. Call Kay 081-737 0552. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

## NEW CONDO GOOD VIEW FROM 1.5 M

43sqm, 1 bed, 1 bath, big pool, 24h security. 1.5 million baht. 60sqm, 2 bed, 1 bath, sea view. 2.8 million baht. Call Kuno +66(0)81 968 5963. Email: kuno@bayproject.com For further details, please see our website at www.bayproject.com

## SALE OR RENT STUDIO

New freehold in Patong, 46sqm. Fully furnished, pool. Price 2.9 million baht. Tel: 089-728 4005. Email: thamad17@yahoo.com

## LAND AT PA KHLOK

1 rai, 18sq wah, Nor Sor 3 Kor, Tha-Rue - Pa Khlok - Muang Mai Road. Near Mission Hill. Price 3.5 million baht. Tel: 089-472 9118.

## PARICHART VILLAGE, CHALONG



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

## 2 PLOTS OF LAND

50 rai, Natai Beach. Beautiful beach front property. 146 rai at Koh Yao Yai. Beautiful beach front property. Sale by owner, freehold. Email: kt@bccnmi.com

## 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: hkthomesale18@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at www.jikkycar.com

## KATA BEACH

2 apartments, 140sqm, fully decorated, Jacuzzi. Normal price 9.5 million, now 4.4 million for this month only. Owner going home. Tel: 085-783 1890.

## 2 BEDROOM VILLA

for sale. Fully furnished. Patong, seaview. Tel: 086-270 6454. Email: uraiinma@hotmail.com

## BANG TAO HOUSE

for sale or rent. 2 bedrooms, big living room, kitchen, satellite TV, car park. Tel: 085-674 6786. See website at www.phukethome.ws

## 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

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# Property Gazette

## VILLA + LAND



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

## UNFINISHED HOUSE WITH POOL

on almost half a rai. Owner's run out of cash to finish building. Magnificent sea views over Kata. Original asking price, 17 million baht, now dropped to 12.8 million baht ono. Urgent sale. Call Kay 081-737 0552. Only serious buyers with cash to spend. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

## TOWN HOUSE IN PHUKET TOWN

140sqm, 2 floors. Very good location, 5 mins Big C and Central. Ready in October 2009. Resale 600,000 baht. Tel: 080-071 9098.

## ELEGANT VILLA

Shady hillside. Big pool and lush garden. Top quality. Freehold, Secure, Nice! 25% off. Tel: 076-388236, 089-727 5407. Email: cosmocampbell@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at: www.villa-sale-phuket.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

## BOAT LAGOON, REDUCED BY 2M

3 storey waterfront town house. 3 double en suite bedrooms, 4th shower room, 45 sqm lounge. Terraces, Western kitchen, balcony, parking, Jacuzzi and sala. To view photos, see our website at the address below and check ID 973148. Price: 9 million baht. Call 087-278 9908 or 087-278 9802. Fax: 076-273685. Email: ftwth@phuket.ksc.co.th www.homeexchange.com/show.php?id=97314

## LARGE DETACHED

3 bedroom house in Nai Harn. Original price 4.5 million baht, reduced for urgent sale to the ridiculous low price of 3.3 million baht. Call Kay 081-737 0662. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

## BEAUTIFUL THAI HOUSE



Direct from owner, no agency fee. Teak wood floors, walls, stairs, etc. Upstairs living area, bedroom, shower/WC. Downstairs kitchen, WC, bar area. Easy to extend 2/3 bedroom. New building plot 10 x 7m. Great investment, peaceful location, Kathu, 5 mins to Patong. Farang Leasehold of 30 years + 30 years. Priced to sell, 4.9 million baht. Contact Peter. Tel: 086-268 8701. Email: f430spiderf1@hotmail.com

## LAND NEAR BANG TAO BEACH

1.5 rai, Chanote title, 100 meters to Bang tao Beach. Asking price 20 million baht. Tel: 081-737 1687. Email: raisamail@gmail.com For further details, please see our website at http://railand.ru/phuketproperty/property\_detail\_112.asp

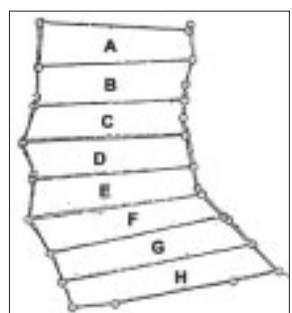
## URGENT SALE

of very nice and comfortable freehold apartment in The Sands on Nai Harn Beach. One minute walk to the beach and yacht club. This is a large two bedroom ground floor apartment with a small but nice garden. It comes fully furnished, ready to walk into with nothing to buy. Original selling price 8.6 million baht, now 6.4 million baht for urgent sale. Call Kay 081-737 0552. Only serious buyers with cash to spend please. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

## KATHU LAND

1,900sqm, lake view. Price 5 million baht. Tel: 086-270 6454. Email: urainma@hotmail.com

## VERY NICE SEAVIEW LAND



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

## 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.

## CHALONG FAMILY HOME

Near TOT. 180sqm, 2 bedrooms, no furniture. 2 years old. 2.4 million baht. Tel: 087-272 0303.

## NAI HARN LAND

Sale of 2 plots. 320sqm each. Chanote, seaviews. Price 1.95 million baht. Tel: 085-782 7551.

## SPECIAL POOL VILLA/BUSINESS

in Patong. Luxurious three bedroom with spectacular sea views. 12% rental return is easily achieved as the area and the property are very popular. This is a must see villa. Original price 29 million baht, reduced to 20 million baht for urgent sale. No offers below. Call Kay 081-737 0662. Only serious buyers with cash to spend. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

## HOUSE IN ANUPHUS GOLF VILLE

Private estate, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms with pool. Maid's room. Price 8.5 million baht. Tel: 081-273 3975, 081-854 0061.

## PATONG, HASIP PEE ROAD

2 storey, 2 bedrooms, office and shop. 180sqm. Near hospital. 5.5 million baht. Tel: 087-272 0303.

## 12.5 RAI

in rural Nai Harn, connected to busy direct access route. This land has a licence to build 49% freehold. It has a river running through it, and connects to an elephant park. The original price was 8 million baht per rai. Now price to sell at 5.5 million baht per rai. NO OFFERS BELOW. Final price. Call Kay 081-737 0662. Only serious buyers with cash to spend. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

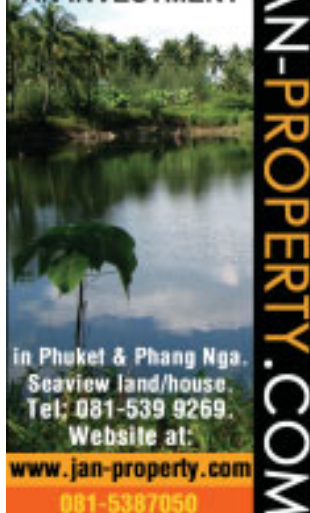
## LAND, 161SQ WAH

for sale. Baan Maneekram. Call for more information. Tel: 086-905 1406 (Eng) or email: lowprofile@mail.com

## PANORAMIC SEAVIEW

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

## LOOKING FOR AN INVESTMENT



In Phuket & Phang Nga. Seaview land/house. Tel: 081-539 9269. Website at: www.jan-property.com 081-5387050

## VERY SPECIAL

Unfinished hotel building on a large piece of land for sale. If you are considering buying a hotel, this is defiantly worth a look. It's huge, rural, many features and attached on private land to a world-renowned golf course. It has spectacular views over the course and is attached to a beautiful lake. The golf course is keen to work with any new owner, so golf can be a big part of this venture. All structural surveys have been done. The hotel was originally priced at 160 million baht, but a fast cash offer of 100 million baht would be accepted. The hotel would require a further 400MB to finish, then you'll have something very special. Call Kay 0817370552. Only serious buyers with cash to spend, no offers! Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

## QUICK SALE

Thai-style home. Only 5.1 million baht. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Near to Laguna. Tel: 087-8938590.

## PHUKET COUNTRY CLUB



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

## RAWAI TOWN HOME

100m from beach, 3 bedrooms, furnished, 230sqm. Communal pool. 2.8 million baht. Tel: 087-272 0303.

## CHALONG THREE BEDROOMED

salt water pool villa for sale. Very nice villa on half rai in rural, quiet area of Chalong. Original price 7.5 million baht, now priced at 5.5 million baht for urgent sale. Call Kay 081-737 0552. Only serious buyers with cash to spend. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

## HOUSE, KATHU

for sale. Fully furnished to a high standard. Ready to move in. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, maid's room, pool room, swimming pool. Location at Anuphus Golf Ville, Kathu. Price 8.9 million baht. Tel: 081-273 3975, 081-854 0061.

## CHALONG: NICE 2 BED HOUSE



Spacious, furnished 2 bedroom (both w/ aircon) 2 bath end townhouse. Great location near Chalong Circle. Must see. 2 million baht o.n.o. Tel: 076-398233, 089-746 5688. Email: ken.devitt@btopenworld.com

## NAIHARN CONDO

1.65 million baht, 40sqm, quiet 5-unit complex, built to European standards. Swimming pool, panoramic mountain view, 5 minutes from the beach, wireless internet. Tel: 086-596 9601.

## CHALONG BUNGALOW

3 bedrooms, fully furnished. Many extras and amenities. Price 3.5 million baht. Tel: 086-4759242, 081-8942073 (Thai).

## VILLA URGENT SALE

4 beds, 6 baths, private pool (4x12) with jacuzzi, security system, solar hot water, sala and landscape garden on a 1,606sqm land. More than 400sqm of living area. Special price at 18 million baht. Email: nisaya19@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.

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

### CHALONG NEW HOME

2 bedroom townhome with telephone line, cable TV and aircon. Tel: 089-652 1473. Email: anandaestates@yahoo.com

### NEAR LAGUNA, FURNISHED

2 bed / 3 bed + 4-star clubhouse + ADSL + UBC. 20,000 baht per month (negotiable). Call or mail for further details. Tel: 076-304592, 084-061 3559. Email: saranyu2001@yahoo.com

### KATA HILL HOUSE

Fullyfurnished, 2 storey, sea view balcony. 1 bedroom, bath, living room, kitchen, aircon, ADSL and cable TV. Long term: 16,000 baht per month. Short term: 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-606 2827. Email: nij017@hotmail.com

### LARGE NEW PATONG CONDOS

Available from April 1st onward. Satellite TV, pool bar, gym, etc. Call or mail for more details. Tel: 081-137 1001. Email: solitude001@aol.com

### PHUKET SHORT-TERM (MAY-AUG)

Nice house for rent in Phuket from mid-May to mid-August. All facilities and utilities! Can also rent car and motorbike if required. Price: 19,000 baht per month. For more details, Tel: 076-245864, 085-585 1133. Email: karl@imagevux.com see link below: <http://www.imagevux.com/dev/appt/eng.php>

### LONG TERM PATONG

2 bedroom house, air-condition, serviced, neat and clean. Off-road car parking, small garden. Quiet, central location. Price 24,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-900 8445.

### CENTRAL PATONG

2 bed / 2 bath apartment. Very clean and spacious (90 sq meters). Great value. Great location. Just 2 km from the beach and Jungceylon etc. Large communal pool. Free satellite TV. Free (WiFi) ADSL. Call or mail for more info. More photos available. Tel: 076-512259, 085-071 7134. Fax 076-512259. Or sent to email: robinsonkevin@mac.com

### KAMALA HOUSE FOR RENT

Satellite TV + CableTV + ADSL internet. Private, secure. For short term rent at 30,000 baht per month. Long - term: 25,000 baht per month. For further details Tel: 087-883 6625, 089-867 5122. or sent to email: sales@eldsat.com please see our website at: [www.phuket-thailand.info](http://www.phuket-thailand.info)

### PATONG TOWER SEA VIEW

High-class condo, 1 bedroom. Long - term rent, price: 45,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-757 1362. Please sent to email: peteroconnor1980@hotmail.com

### HOUSE FOR RENT

Rawai, Nai-Harn and Chalong: 2 beds, shared pool in quiet estate Call Nico. For further details Tel: 085-795 5383. please see our website at <http://www.warmwaterland.com>

### RAWAI HOUSE

Fully furnished, pool. Long or short - term rent. See website at [www.ferienthailand.com](http://www.ferienthailand.com)

### HOUSE IN RAWAI

3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished, ADSL, pool. Tel: 081-606 7410.

### CHALONG BUNGALOW



3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, modern kitchen, ADSL, landscape garden, common pool, car port. Quiet, secure area. Price 16,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-537 1515, 089-922 2800. Email: meen443\_40@hotmail.com

### 2 STYLISH POOL VILLAS

Layan, Koktanode. For long-term through the owner: Furnished 3- & 4-bedroom villas. From 62,000 baht per month ++. No agents. For further details Tel: 076-305813, 087-386 3388. Email: shanya.arman@gmail.com Please see our website at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/22419624@N08/sets/>

### THAI VILLA AND POOL

In Nai Harn, 1 km to beach. very quiet location, stunning view, 2 bedrooms, ensuite 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

### OVERLOOKING SURIN BEACH

Apartment for rent, fully furnished. Long - term: 22,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-889 1717.

### 3 BEDROOM HOUSE

At Land & House Park near Chalong. Residential area, clubhouse with pool, gym, and restaurant. Security, fully furnished, 34" TV, fridge, Western kitchen. 30,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-244580, 081-846 9981. Email: ursaeabi@gmx.net

### PATONG TOWER CONDO

1 bed, nice condo on beach road. For further details Tel: 084-847 3304., please see our website at <http://www.selectphuket.com>

### HOUSE NEAR BIS

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, furnished. Price 17,000 baht per month. Contact more details. Tel: 087-888 4770, 081-536 5657.

### KARON CLIFF SEA VIEW

Sea view bungalow with beach access. Or email: [info@karoncliff.com](mailto:info@karoncliff.com) Tel: 087-256 5089.

### 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

### 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.

### SUPER LUXURY - POOL

New villa for lease. ADSL, Jacuzzi, bar/games room. Near Laguna. Price 35,000 per month. Tel: 089-594 4067.

### LUXURY VILLA - POOL

near Laguna, ADSL, cable TV, Jacuzzi room, poolside bar. For lease 20,000 baht per month. Contact more details. Tel: 089-594 4067.

### KATA LUXURY APARTMENTS

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

### LUXURY IN PATONG



beautiful houses and apartment, stunning hillside location. 1 or 2 double bedrooms with ensuite bathrooms. Huge lounge, European kitchen, pool, gardens, secure parking, large balconies with 180 degrees seaview. Air-condition, UBC TV, internet. [www.luxuryhousesphuket.com](http://www.luxuryhousesphuket.com)

### KAMALA BEACH HOUSE

for rent, 2 bedroom. Price 20,000 baht monthly or for sale 3.9 million baht. Tel: 086-277 3381.

### 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.

### RAWAI CONDO

for rent. Fully furnished, ADSL, pool. Price 16,500 baht per month. Please contact more details. Tel: 081-606 7410.

### LUXURY PENTHOUSE

at Patong Beach. 3 double bedrooms and maid's room. Tel: 089-972 3861. See website at [www.kiwibrian.com](http://www.kiwibrian.com)

### LAGUNA 30 YEARS RENTAL

1 bedroom bungalow, garden, fully furnished for long term lease (30 years). 4.5 million baht. Tel: 081-088 0398, 087-893 4636. Email: [info@phuketbedandbreakfast.com](mailto:info@phuketbedandbreakfast.com)

### 30 RAI IN TOWN

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

### 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](mailto:wawa.phuket@gmail.com)

### RAWAI BEACH POOL VILLA



1, 2, 3 or 4 bedrooms, bathroom, aircon, ADSL, cable TV. 9,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

### HOUSE PHANASON, KATHU



Sale or rent. Single house, 2 bedrooms, furnished. Ready to stay. Tel: 089-662 8733.



Add your rental listing on [WWW.RENTALS-PHUKET.COM](http://WWW.RENTALS-PHUKET.COM)

### SHOWROOM / OFFICE

120 sqm, fullyfurnished, in Manik (only 3km from the monument on the way to Laguna). 30,000 baht per month. Contact K. Moo on the mobile number or 089-870 2796, or email. Tel: 076-272635, 081-343 0363. Fax: 076-273659. Email: [thapa\\_ni\\_k@hotmail.com](mailto:thapa_ni_k@hotmail.com)

### PROPERTY OWNERS

Tel: 076-288654, 081-396 3941. Or sent to email: [maydayphuket@gmail.com](mailto: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)

### KATA MOUNTAIN VIEW HOUSE

Fullyfurnished, 1 bedroom home with bathroom, kitchen, aircon, terrace and ADSL. 9,000 baht per month. Contact more details. Tel: 081-606 2827. Email: [nij017@hotmail.com](mailto:nij017@hotmail.com)

### KATA MOUNTAIN VIEW HOUSE

Fullyfurnished, 1 bedroom home with bathroom, kitchen, aircon, terrace and ADSL. 9,000 baht per month. Contact more details. Tel: 081-606 2827. Email: [nij017@hotmail.com](mailto:nij017@hotmail.com)

### PENTHOUSE STUDIO

overlooking Patong Beach. Long or short term let. Tel: 089-972 3861. See top tool bar to the right at [www.kiwibrian.com](http://www.kiwibrian.com)

### SHOWROOM / OFFICE

120 sqm, fullyfurnished, in Manik (only 3km from the monument on the way to Laguna). 30,000 baht per month. Contact K. Moo on the mobile number or 089-870 2796, or email. Tel: 076-272635, 081-343 0363. Fax: 076-273659. Email: [thapa\\_ni\\_k@hotmail.com](mailto:thapa_ni_k@hotmail.com)

### STUDIO, SURIN

Gym, pool, wireless internet. 5 mins to beach. Price 10,000 baht. Contact John. Tel: 084-847 8736.

### BANG TAO HOUSE

2 bedrooms, big living room, kitchen, satellite TV, car park. Tel: 085-674 6786.

### CHALONG CIRCLE

Town home, 2 bedrooms. Telephone, cable TV, air-condition. Tel: 089-652 1473. Email: [ananda\\_estates@yahoo.com](mailto:ananda_estates@yahoo.com)

### HOUSE IN CHALONG

for rent, near Palai Beach. 3 bedrooms, air-condition, ADSL Tel: 089-728 8311.

### CASTLE FOR RENT, RAWAI

600sqm, 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, new top-end luxury decor, flatscreen TV, very big pool, tropical gardens fully serviced, beautiful estate. Limousine, butler house. Rent 88,000 baht per month. Tel: 085-783 1890.

### LUXURY APARTMENT, KAMALA



120sqm, 2 bedrooms, living room, fully furnished marble-fitted kitchen. 4 air-conditions, cable TV and many options. Terrace, Jacuzzi, 2 pools, landscaped garden. Short or long term rent. 39,500-49,500 baht per month. Tel: 087-888 4769, 082-166 1680 (Thai).

### HOUSE, SPLASH POOL



3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, dishwasher, washing machine, hot/cold water. Cable, internet, 100sqm. Price 14,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-569 3768. Email: [sjon48@hotmail.com](mailto:sjon48@hotmail.com)

### HOUSES FROM WELLTA

Renting or buying a house on my island? Maybe I can help you. My name is Wellta. Call 081-968 0309. Email: [info@houseinphuket.com](mailto:info@houseinphuket.com) [www.houseinphuket.com](http://www.houseinphuket.com)

### 2 BED HOUSE KATHU

Modern, furnished, a/c in 2 rooms, kitchen, hot water. 6 months: 40,000 baht. One year: 70,000 baht. Tel: 042-245045, 080-751 2813. Email: [ampm\\_net@hotmail.com](mailto:ampm_net@hotmail.com)

### RESTFUL HOUSE

2 bedrooms, 2 toilets and shower. TV, 2 carports. 8km from town. Price 12,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-471 4810.



# Property Gazette

## Property Wanted

### LOOKING FOR A DREAM HOME

BUYING: We are looking for a great villa or big apartment in Phuket, but NOT in the southern part. Must be freehold and in a good location. We believe it is a good time to buy and expect a bargain. Modern style preferred. Will pay cash. More info and pictures? Please send by email. Email: stj@stenture.no

### CONDO BUY

Foreign freehold. 1 or 2 bedrooms, seaview. In Patong, Kata or Karon. Tel: 076-486624, 086-281 9311. Email: rick.muller@gmail.com

### 12 MONTH LEASE

6-12 month lease wanted on a secure house with garden and pool in Nai Ham, Rawai, Kata, or Kathu. Must be dog-friendly and have internet connection. Can pay up to 40,000 baht per month. Please send to email: robinldonovan@gmail.com

### LAND WANTED

I want to buy +/- half a rai. Should be in a good neighborhood located anywhere from from Kathu to Nai ham. Make me a low price offer. Email: nong.kudeepan@gmail.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

### 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

## Property Services

### PROPERTY CARE SERVICE

Cleaning, gardening and pool maintenance. We are experienced in the field and are willing to take care of your house for an affordable monthly fee. Price example: For a 3-bed villa with garden and pool, our charge is 5,000 baht per month. Please contact us to discuss our service. The company is Swedish managed. For contact in Swedish or English: 083-394 8337 (Mattias). For contact in Thai, Swedish or English: 080-141-4577 (Viyada). Email: mattias@phuket-dirtider.com

### HOME INSPECTOR



When you need to find a home inspector. Team Engineer Home Inspection, the professional leader in residential home inspections. Tel: 081-958 2386. Email: hktinspect@gmail.com Please visit our website: www.phuketpdcgroup.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. Tel: 087-100 6111. Email: luckypam@gmail.com

## Accommodation Available

**KATABEACHDREAM.COM**  
poolside rooms and apartments from 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-091 8908.

### APARTMENT & ROOM IN PATONG

Apartment for long term rent. 8,000-20,000 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

### KARON CLIFF SEA VIEW

Sea view bungalow with beach access. Tel: 087-256 5089. Email: info@karoncliff.com For further details, please see our website at http://karoncliff.com

### 4 BEDRM VILLA W/ LARGE POOL

for rent in a safe and quiet location in Chalong. Weekly or monthly terms. Please contact for more info. Tel: 076-378361, 081-676 4849. Fax: 081-772 2300. Email: william.amonoo@gmail.com

### BEACH FRONT BANG TAO

Rare. Duplex apt with direct beach access. Two bedrooms, two baths, two balconies. Seaview. Furnished, covered car space. 50,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-338758, 085-473 7130. Fax: 2865 3966. Or send email: cmcgee@netvigator.com

### SURIN / BANG TAO APT

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

### APARTMENT IN PATONG

House also available in Benjamas Housing Complex. Tel: 076-344922, 081-719 7092. Email: info@bluewaterphuket.com Website: www.bluewaterphuket.com

### KATA BEACH

Southern Fried Rice. "A diamond in the crown of Phuket" (TripAdvisor). 8 beautiful rooms, 3-minute walk to beach, free Internet Wi-Fi. Tel: 081-894 8446. Email: sfrkata@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at http://www.southernfriedrice.com

### NAI HARN BEACH BUNGALOWS

for rent. 1 studio room fully furnished, fridge, cable TV. Air-condition, hot water. Balcony, garden, maid. Price 300 baht per day. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-691 3029. Email: silanachai@yahoo.com

### HOLIDAY FLAT LONG-TERM

Nice big apartment and bungalows for long-term rent. Tel: 076-333242, 089-651 7818. Fax: 076-333243. Email: horstkaron@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at http://capt-horst.com

### APARTMENTS POOL & VIEW

1 or 2 bedroom apartment, sea view penthouse, swimming pool, car park. Quiet and safe. Hillside location, cable TV, free WiFi, fully serviced. Best rates. Long- or short-term. Please contact us for details. Tel: 076-296621, 081-691 6147. Fax 076-344689. Email: info@baansuanvilla.de

### 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

### GUEST ROOMS AVAILABLE

Nang Noi's - double room, affordable accommodation. Call or mail for details. Tel: 089-732 5769. Email: ketsuda@btinternet.com

## Accommodation Wanted

### OZ GENTLEMAN ON HOLIDAY

52-year-old Australian male will be in Phuket on holiday April/ May for 1 month and needs modern, single, furnished accommodation, preferably with sea view. Must be clean and quiet. Will pay up to 30,000 to 40,000 baht. Tel: +61-8-9821 8884, +61-8-41731 1618. Email: kenwright@westnet.com.au

### YEARLY RENTAL

Apartment or house (2 bedrooms, living room, kitchen) in Kata/Karon area for a year wanted. Own high speed internet access is indispensable. Price may not exceed 15,000 baht per month. Email: mb@is-internetservice.com

### 3-BEDROOM VILLA

German couple + Labrador are looking for an unfurnished house with 3 bedroom from July onwards. Private pool + big garden + storage space are needed. Preferred locations are Nai Ham, Rawai, Chalong. We need a 2-year contract at a maximum rental of 67,000 baht per month. Will be in Phuket April 4 to 16 to view. Email: jhor2000@yahoo.de

### LONG TERM RENTAL

Looking for a modern, stylish, 2-bedroom fully furnished house or condo with a pool. Must be located in Laguna area, Surin, or Koh Kaew. Email: Gordonray@mac.com

### LONG TERM CONDO OR HOUSE

Patong, Kamala, Kathu, Karon or Kata. 2 bedrooms, 2 toilets. Needed from 1 April. Price range: 10,000 - 15,000 baht per month. If it has a pool, 15,000 - 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-932 5175. Or send to email: wojidkrowbengt@hotmail.com

## Building Products & Services

### 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

### SKILLED EUROPEAN WELDER

MIG and TIG. Work with All grades of Stainless Steel, Aluminium, and Steel. 3D-CAD drawings in Solidworks. All sizes of jobs are of interest. Tel: 084-676 4261. Or send email: tophuketwelder@hotmail.com

## Household Items

### LATEX PILLOWS AND MATTRESSES

for sale. Variety of sizes, all as new. Prefer to sell all together but will accept reasonable offers. Email: agm@rollytasker.com

### EXCLUSIVE FURNITURE SALE

2 beds with mattresses, price: 30,000 baht each. Italian designed leather sofa, price: 25,000 baht. Granite sofa table, price: 7,500 baht. Dining table set, price: 13,000 baht. LCD Samsung 46 inch, DVD, surround system, TV bench, price: 60,000 baht. Tel: 083-523 1188.

### HOUSE CLEARANCE

Samsung TV, DVD, Sony computer amp/speakers, toaster, kettle, quality king-size mattress. All nearly new. Make an offer! Tel: 087-054-0355. Or send email: des\_dunstan@hotmail.com

### TEAK ROOM DIVIDERS, BAR CABINET

- Two 6-panel, solid carved teak screens. Beautiful! 210cm wide by 174cm high. 35,000 baht each.

- Solid golden teak. Two folding leaves open into 1.6m long bar. The unit is on casters, has 2 doors and includes a bottle rack, drawers, etc. 40,000 baht. Tel: 089-724 7448. Email: lacerne@hotmail.com

## Household Services

design furniture maker  
**WOODWORK**  
by  
zhu  
bespoke fitted furniture  
call > 089 668 3639  
zhu@junkseilon.com  
association + zhu naumann interior design  
www.zhunaumann.com

### LOCK-UP STORAGE

Household goods etc, 500sqm building, 24 hour security. Please contact for more info. Tel: 081-082 5707.

### PHUKET HOME MAINTENANCE

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

**Live in Chalong?**  
**Place your GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS at K L Mart**

**Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it with Khun Laddawan (076-280403)**

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# Island Job Mart

## RJM CONSULTING GROUP Co., Ltd.

Dalaaburi Development 65/21 Thepkasatri Rd, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83200.

RJM is a leading M&E Design and Engineering company with offices throughout the region. We are looking an intelligent, dynamic and highly motivated Thai national to join our expanding operations in Phuket.

### M&E PROCUREMENT OFFICER

#### JOB DESCRIPTION:

- Responsible for managing the day-to-day procurement for our projects.
- Request quotation from supplies and negotiate for best offer.
- Execute all steps in procurement process and logistics procedures for items.
- Compare quotes, prepare bid analysis and propose for approval
- Issue PO, monitor delivery, check invoice and send to Finance for payment
- Coordinate and resolve with field offices on logistics issues.
- Organize the related report such as, PR tracking report, weekly report, finance relating reports, and consolidate field reports.
- Participate in professional training activities as needed and/or requested
- To work with our team to provide detailed pricing of projects.
- Ensure procurements are executed and completed efficiently to schedules.
- To work closely with clients to build and maintain relationships.

#### REQUIRED:

- Bachelor's degree in related field and/ or related training course
- Minimum 4 years work experience in procurement and logistics
- Minimum 3 years relevant work experience with NGOs
- Ability of planning, organizing, as well as problem solving
- Able to work under pressure, details oriented and administration tasks
- Strong computer skills such as MS office
- Good communication in both Thai and English
- Good communication of English written and oral
- Knowledge of import and export in Thailand an advantage.
- Self motivated and keen to learn.

**We will offer an excellent salary to the most qualified applicant!!!**

Interested candidates may submit their CV with covering letter thru the above address or email to: [cps@online.com.kh](mailto:cps@online.com.kh) or [construction@cpscambodia.com](mailto:construction@cpscambodia.com)

## Cape Panwa Hotel & SPA Phuket, Thailand



The Cape Panwa Hotel and Spa embodies tropical luxury in one of the world's most desirable destinations. Tucked away in a quiet corner of south-east Phuket, the hotel is renowned for its excellent service, stylish rooms and exclusive beach.

**We are inviting applicants for the following positions:**

### Front Office Manager Front Office Supervisor

The candidates should possess the following qualifications:

- At least 2 years' experience in similar position
- Good command of English

Please send your resumé with a recent photo or apply in person to Personnel Department,  
27 Moo 8, Sakdidej Road, Phuket 83000  
Tel: 076-391123 Fax: 076-391177  
E-mail: [gm@capepanwa.com](mailto:gm@capepanwa.com) [www.capepanwa.com](http://www.capepanwa.com)  
Only short listed candidates will be contacted



We are now accepting application and resumé for the following positions.

### Chef Restaurant Manager

#### Qualifications;

- Thai / Foreigner are welcome
- Experienced 5 years plus
- Based in Phuket
- Good command of English
- Good management skills
- Salary is negotiable

Please send resumé to Wine Connection (Chalong branch)  
19/54-57 Moo 8 Chaofa Rd., T.Chalong, A.Muang, Phuket  
Tel: 076-262411-12 Fax: 076-262414.  
Email: [hmrgr@wineconnection.co.th](mailto:hmrgr@wineconnection.co.th)

### COOK, STAFF NEEDED

Chalong restaurant needs a cook and all new staff.  
Call Jeff. Tel: 081-476 0380.

### RECEPTIONIST & MARKETING

Staff wanted at Phuket Spa, Chalong. Urgent! Tel: 076-282704, 085-567 8929. Fax: 076-282703. Or send email: [natali1800@hotmail.com](mailto:natali1800@hotmail.com)

### DREAM SALES OPPORTUNITY!\$

Earn US\$1,000 a week living in paradise! Holiday Ownership Company seeks new and experienced reps. Please contact for more information. Tel: 083-396 1918. Or send to email: [info@stoneymonday.com](mailto:info@stoneymonday.com)

### PART-TIME BOOKKEEPER

required for small business in Karon. Must be able to input data to software program and produce annual P&L and balance sheet. Tel: 084-842 0340.

### SECRETARY WANTED

Travel agency looking for Thai female secretary to do book keeping, VAT paperwork, license renewal etc. English not necessary but helpful. Tel: 076-330967, 081-970 6503. Fax: 076-330990. Email: [dive@siamdivers.com](mailto:dive@siamdivers.com)

### 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)



### Career Opportunity

VS Asia Co., Ltd. was established in Phuket 10 years ago. We are a professional printing technology and post-production company for customer, in Europe and Asia, that co-operate with a business partner company with headquarter in Europe.

We are expanding our production department and looking for active colleagues to work as a "Text-Editor". Interested candidate must be a fast learner, self-motivated, creative, keen to learn new thing & have IT skills and also a team player.

### Text & Content Editor

#### Job Description:

- Knowledge of German language
- Text and content checking/correcting
- Combination of text and figure in double page
- Work with text editor software: QuarkXpress, Indesign or illustrator
- Art or imagination of design
- Cooperate with retouch and other department

#### Qualifications:

- Male/Female, Thai or German Nationality
- Good German Language skill in writing + reading
- Any Vocational, Diploma or higher education related field of study
- Good knowledge of Computer (Windows or Macintosh) and Internet
- Experiences of text editor would be advantaged
- High responsibility and punctuality
- Able to work in team or independently, and as a shift working

#### Salary & Welfare:

- Salary, Bonus, Social Security Insurance, Tax, Food, etc.

Interested applicants should submit your resume stating qualifications, previous work experience and position applied for along with a recent photograph to:

**VS Asia Co., Ltd. (Human Resource Department)**  
42 Moo 3, Palai 2, Chaofa Rd, Chalong, Muang, Phuket 83130  
Tel. (00)66-76-380600  
Fax. (00)66-76-380605  
Email: [as@vsdma.com](mailto:as@vsdma.com)



### Anantara Phuket Resort & Spa, Mai Khao Beach



If you enjoy being the best, delivering the highest of standards and are a technical expert in your area then you may want to come and be part of the Anantara Story... We are looking for the following professionals to join us.

#### Villa Operations

- Villa Manager
- Telephone Operator (Female) x 3
- Villa Host x 4
- Gift Shop Supervisor
- Gift Shop Attendant
- Yacht Hostess

#### Food & Beverage

- Restaurant Manager
- F&B Hostess

#### Housekeeping

- Villa Administrator

We enjoy a 5 day work week (average 45 hours per week) and free transport to and from Phuket Town.

As part of our recruitment process you will be assessed on your level of English – this is a key skill for all of our team.

Please 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!**

Looking for a job?  
Looking for a better candidate?  
Find more Recruitment Classifieds at [www.PhuketGazette.Net/](http://www.PhuketGazette.Net/)



# Island Job Mart

## Project Coordinator

### Job Description

- Coordinating with donors and clients, both local & overseas

### Qualifications

- Male / Female
- 25 - 30 years old
- Bachelor's Degree in any field.
- At least 3 years experience
- Very good English skills
- Computer skills, knowledge of websites an advantage.

### Contact address

Life Home Project Foundation, PO box no. 105, Talad yai, Phuket 83000. Tel: 076-614060 or 089-729 3410. Email : joojee88@yahoo.com

## AYARA HILLTOPS

The all-suite, 5-star boutique resort & spa, located on Surin Hill, overlooking Surin Beach and the Andaman Sea, is currently inviting energetic applicants for the following available positions:

### ■ HUMAN RESOURCES

Human Resources Manager  
Human Resources Coordinator

### ■ FOOD & BEVERAGE

Restaurant Manager  
Food & Beverage Service Attendant

### ■ FRONT OFFICE

Resort Host

### ■ HOUSEKEEPING

Room Attendant

Attractive salary, fringe benefits and career opportunities are offered to the successful candidates.

Please send your resume with a recent photo or apply in person by March 31, 2009 to:

### Human Resources Department

125 Moo 3, Surin Beach, Srisoonthorn Road, Chermg Talay, Thalung, Phuket 83110 Thailand  
Tel: (076) 271 271 Fax: (076) 271 270  
Email: hr@ayarahilltops.com  
www.ayarahilltops.com

## ONLINE JOB APPLICATION

HOTEL - ACCOUNTING - SALES - IT - WEB DESIGN - F&B  
www.KARON-PHUKET-HOTELS.com /JOB.htm



### International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

A major humanitarian organisation seeks to appoint a Short term replacement for  
**PROJECT - ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT**  
Based in Phuket, Finnish Red Cross office

### Specific duties and responsibilities

- Assist with correspondence, document translations and meetings when needed
- Assist in collecting bookkeeping materials, preparing vouchers and translating receipts
- Book flights and arrange transport, visas and accommodation for delegates, staff and visitors as required
- Assist in looking after delegates' accommodation and residence related needs.
- Assist delegates in preparing necessary procurement documents and keeping the records and procurement files
- Assist in managing the funds and financial assets of the office
- Perform other work related duties and responsibilities as may be assigned by the supervisor.

### Requirements

- Degree or Diploma in a relevant field
- At least 2 years of experience in an administrative function
- Excellent command of both written and spoken Thai and English
- Strong computer skills (MS WORD and EXCEL)
- Red Cross experience and/or NGO experience is preferable
- Ability to work from the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009 till 15<sup>th</sup> October 2009

Candidates are requested to send a covering letter and Curriculum Vitae in MS WORD format to: th02@finrc.fi. **Closing date: 31 March 2009.** Interview will be held after Songkran.

## Great financial opportunity in Phuket for the right person!

Seeking a "real" salesperson on a freelance basis for marketing company. High income guaranteed for Thai or Foreign national, with superior sales skills, self-confident, open minded and hard-working. High standard of English required.

Please forward your CV and a photo to:  
[enquiry@thai-infocenter.com](mailto:enquiry@thai-infocenter.com)  
for an interview.

## 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

## International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

(American Red Cross)  
have the following vacancies:

1. Administration and Operations Coordinator
2. Executive Assistant.

For details please visit [www.thaingo.org](http://www.thaingo.org)

### SEEKING FEMALE ASSISTANT

English a must, able to drive. Duties to include: phone calls, completing errands and local tasks, and other matters as they arise. Salary: 10,000 baht per month. Replies must include photo. Tel: 080-695-6661. Email: contico@telkom.net

### BAR MANAGER

Soi Gonzo, to take care of evening duties, expert etc. English speaking. Interested? Call Khun Simon. for more additional details. Tel: 085-7965767, 081-580-6707.

### STAFF NEEDED

to sell discount Books to tourists around Patong. Work when you want. Average earnings 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 083-392 2032.

### RECEPTIONIST

Night time work. Looking for English speaking male. Tel: 087-627 9312.

### ENGLISH SPEAKING LADY SEEK

wanted 3 or 4 evenings / wk must be quite young, friendly & kind. Contact John. Tel: 083-102 8922. Email: gregmackay67@hotmail.com

### SALES/MARKETING DIRECTOR

looking for similar position with upmarket resort and villa project. 20 years experience, dynamic achiever. Contact Tony. Tel: 089-471-1503.

### 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)

### LOOKING FOR ENGLISH TEACHER

for Italian lady. Please contact Anna for more details. Tel: 081-432 6587.

## ISLAND CURTAINS & JUST SOFAS

Manufactures of custom made curtains/blinds & sofas require a **VERSATILE SECRETARY**. The Position has been filled. Thanks to all, who have applied.

### Require JUNIOR ACCOUNTANT

- ▶ Command of English and computer skills
- ▶ Recent graduate encouraged to apply
- ▶ Attractive salary to right person

Apply with resumé to [islandcurtains@yahoo.com](mailto:islandcurtains@yahoo.com)

## Employment Wanted

### PROFESSIONAL SINGER

seeking work with a live band or a hotel. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-2887528. Email: lyntumer70@yahoo.com

### NANNY TO WORK ABROAD

Thai lady, 34 years old do house work. 10 years now in Australia. Prefer go Europe, Canada, USA or Phuket. Available from March. Email: [cindy\\_siam@hotmail.com](mailto:cindy_siam@hotmail.com)

### CHILDRENSITTER 23

Nice girl, German + English speaking. Full or part time Patong. Please contact for more details. Tel: 083-639 9137.

### EXPERIENCED TEACHER

New kindergarten looking for Thai teachers. English necessary. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-385795, 085-470 4800. Email: [jgearyreilly@hotmail.com](mailto:jgearyreilly@hotmail.com)

### INTERNATIONAL TRADE EXPERT

18 yrs successful track record in International Trade, Import/Export, Strategic Global Sourcing and Supply Chain Management. MBA from top US Institute. Fluent Chinese and English, conversational Thai. Targeting employment with a strong company in Phuket. U.S. Citizen. Tel: 087-898 4516, 089-813 4456. Email: [chilly.han@gmail.com](mailto:chilly.han@gmail.com)

### 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](mailto:jan.faroe@gmail.com)

**RUSSIAN AND ENGLISH** speaking lady seeks position in Phuket, age 27. Experience in marketing/advertising, tourism and hotel business. Contact Irina. Tel: 080-601 7792. Email: [4milonga@gmail.com](mailto:4milonga@gmail.com)

### BOAT YARD MANAGER

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

### ADVERTISING COMPANY

seeks Thai national female for office assistant position. Requirements: excellent knowledge of spoken and written English, advanced computer skills. Please contact for further details. Tel: 084-844 1469. Email: [thai\\_rusmedia@gmail.com](mailto:thai_rusmedia@gmail.com)

### TEACHERS WANTED IN PHUKET

Satree Phuket School is seeking full time native English speakers to teach English, arts, health, mathematics, young guide and hoteling to 11-18 year old students. To begin in May. Salary begins at 30,000 baht. 4 weeks paid holiday, government health plan. Minimum requirements: Bachelor's Degree or above, plus TEFL or CELTA certificate, or equivalent. Be prepared to present all original certificates at interview. Tel: 084-666 3557. Please email CV with covering letter to [ep@satreephuket.ac.th](mailto:ep@satreephuket.ac.th) or [toptip4736@yahoo.com](mailto:toptip4736@yahoo.com)

### CIVIL ENGINEER NEEDED

Must have good English communication skills and a Bachelor's degree. 3-5 years experience in related field. Please contact for further details. Tel: 087-716 2700. Or send email: [thairusmedia@gmail.com](mailto:thairusmedia@gmail.com)



# Tout, Trader & Trumpet

## Articles For Sale

### BRAND NEW HAIER EQUIPMENT

Air-condition, two 9000BTU, price 11,000 baht each and one 12000BTU, price 15,000 baht. 3 Haier minibars, price 3,500 baht each. 5 Sharp electric water heaters, 3500w, price 2,500 baht each. Electrolux espresso machine, price 7,000 baht. 6 wooden doors, price 2,000 baht each. Tel: 085-336 0231.

### NEW THAILAND CLASSIFIEDS

New Thailand Classifieds site. FREE ads online. Advertise your articles free. Tel: 087-279 6826. Email: sales@elds.com For further details, please see our website at <http://www.thailandclassifieds.net>

### WASHING MACHINE

Electrolux EWF 579 cold fill. Paid 14,000 baht; will accept 6,000 baht. Tel: 089-867 1428. Email: david@liddell.com

### MOVING SALE

Honda Airblade, price 42,000 baht ono. 37 inch Sony Bravia, price 22,000 baht. Hot plate, fryer, mattress. Tel: 089-730 7390.

### WOODWORK MACHINES

All machinery to make kitchens. Tel: 084-847 3304. See website at [www.selectphuket/thai.com](http://www.selectphuket/thai.com)

### EXCLUSIVE FURNITURE SALE

2 beds with mattresses, price: 30,000 baht each. Italian designed leather sofa, price: 25,000 baht. Granite sofa table, price: 7,500 baht. Dining table set, price: 13,000 baht. LCD Samsung 46 inch, DVD, surround system, TV bench, price: 60,000 baht. Tel: 083-523 1188.

### ITALIAN KITCHEN SALE

Original Italian kitchen wood nuts. For photos contact K. Pat. Tel: 089-5309124.

### MACHINE BICYCLE

New 250 CC sale 10,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-294 5441.

### 6 RATTAN CHAIRS

with plate glass table top, price 9,000 baht. Epson 925 printer, price 3,000 baht. BBQ with gas bottle, price 12,000 baht. Fagor washing machine, good condition, price 4,000 baht. Patong area. Tel: 089-972 2861.

### OUT OF BUSINESS SALE!

2ea 9,000 BTU/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@thaijobseeker.com

### SAMSUNG SYSTEM

Home cinema, entertainment 5.1 sound, Blue Ray DVD, Subwoofer, HDML, USB, 5x surround speaker. Price negotiable. Tel: 082-274 9860.

### 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

### CHILDREN'S BED

like new. 3,800 baht. Before 7,000 baht at Super Cheap. Airport area. Tel: 085-795 9160.

### SONY PLAY STATION 3

games. 12 titles. Excellent condition, great price. Please contact for more information. Tel: 087-279 6700.

### NEW RESTAURANT FRIDGE

Must see. Quick sale price 10,000 baht. Tel: 081-8081804. Email: ttpitstop1@hotmail.com

### AQUA SCOOTER

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

### WINE COOLER SANDEN BRAND

As new. 45 bottle capacity, black. Quick sale 13,000 baht. Tel: 082-280 7576. Email: closejon@yahoo.com.au

### ELECTROLUX WASHING MACHINE

2007. EWF 579, 5.5kg, cold-fill. Paid 14,000 baht. Price 6,000 baht. Tel: 089-867 1428. Email: david@liddell.com

### MOVING SALE

Display cabinet glass front, 4 sides, buffet cabinet, hanging mirror with light, dinning room table with 6 chairs glass top. Cost 300,000 baht. Make offer need make room, call 087-276 0529 all in anthice crean.

### 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. Please contact for more information. Tel: 087-881 7600.

### GYM FOR SALE

Equipment only, new cover, new chromium, new paint. Tel: 086-120 3660. Email: chilli garden@hotmail.com

### 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.

### 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: jenchansa@gmail.com

### GYM KATA

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

### 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

### 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

### 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

### SUUNTO DIVER'S COMPUTER

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

### 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

### BOOKS

70 plus books for sale, job lot or separately. Need to clear - cheap! Mobile: 085-7866752. Email: ntovey@loxinfo.co.th

### GAS BBQ W/5 BURNERS

Heavy duty, 2nd hand gas BBQ in good condition. 40,000 baht new; want 15,000 baht ono. Tel: 081-271 0496. Email: rlusted@hotmail.com

### BABY/TODDLER STUFF

Imported quality Quinny Speedi SX, three-wheel baby/toddler stroller with Maxi-Cosi car seat (fits together). 10,000 baht. Good quality traditional dark wood crib with pads and mattress. 7,500 baht. Or everything for 15,000 baht. Tel: 076-282-795, 081-787 9454. Fax: 076-246180. Email: andersp@loxinfo.co.th

### 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

### 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  
Contact. Email: bretonne\_ expat@yahoo.com Website: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/33827300@N05>

### TRAILER FOR INFLATABLE BOAT

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

### CARPETS FROM TURKEY



Wool and cotton, many sizes. If seriously interested we will visit your home. Price 500-1500 Euros. Tel: 086-593 6979, 083-969 3987.

## Bulletins

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**

For Phuket info (English) call 081-5554031, 081-8812895 or email: [phuketaa@yahoo.com](mailto:phuketaa@yahoo.com)

English Speaking Meetings

Mission Hospital - Phuket City  
Wed and Sun 7 PM

Bangkok Hospital - Phuket City  
Fri 7 PM

Patong Hospital - Patong  
Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun at 7 PM

Chalong Health Clinic - near Chalong Circle  
Tues 1 PM

Surin Beach - Surin  
Thurs 9:30 AM (Nov-Apr only)

Krabi Hospital - Krabi  
Wed 1 PM

(additional Krabi meetings on request by contacting 064-4463103)

Scandinavian Speaking Meetings

Wat Karan School - Karan  
Tue 7 PM and (Sat Nov-April only 7 PM)

Tel: 086-9440480 Gwe, 082-2755998 Mor

For info on other Thailand AA meetings inquire @30-23118300 (for Thai language press 3)  
[www.aathailand.org](http://www.aathailand.org) or email: [info@aathailand.org](mailto:info@aathailand.org)

## Agents for Classified Advertising

### PHUKET

<b>Julapan Stationery</b> Chao Fa East Rd (next to Siam Commercial Bank)	Tel: 076-282254
<b>Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppe</b> Fisherman's Way Business Center, Chao Fa East Rd	Tel: 076-282403
<b>K.L. Mart</b> Patak Rd, Chalong	Tel: 076-280400/3 Fax: 076-280403
<b>Earth Language School</b> Phang Nga Rd, Phuket City	Tel: 076-232398/9 Fax: 076-232398
<b>Sin &amp; Lee</b> Thalang Rd, Phuket City	Tel: 076-258369 Fax: 076-211230
<b>Taurus Travel</b> Aroonsom Plaza Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, Patong	Tel: 076-344521/2 Fax: 076-344523
<b>41 Minimart</b> Srisoonthorn Rd, Cherng Talay	Tel/Fax: 076-324312
<b>Deli Supermarket</b> Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, Patong	Tel: 076-342275 Fax: 076-344314

**Live in Patong?**  
**Place your GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS at**  
**Taurus Travel**

**Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it with Khun Kai (076-344321-2)**

**GAZETTE CLASSADS - they work because they're PAID!**  
Hundreds of new ads in print every week, all published simultaneously - and FREE - in the Gazette Online!

**The Gazette is always on top in Google!**



# Tout, Trader & Trumpet

## BUDDHIST MEDITATION

5 daily meditation sessions, daily Dhamma talks, retreats and yoga offered. Kamala. Donation only. Contact Sarah. Tel: 085-478 6502. Website at [www.meditate-Thailand.com](http://www.meditate-Thailand.com)

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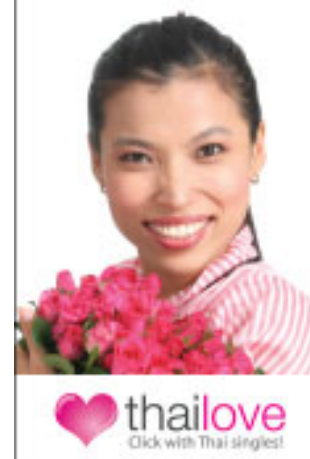
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