



# Phuket Gazette

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## Hundreds rally at Provincial Hall

By Tipwarintron Tanaakarachod and Kamol Pirat

PHUKET CITY: A crowd of several hundred people from impoverished communities in Phuket gathered in the grounds of Phuket Provincial Hall on March 7 to demand swift action be taken by the Phuket governor to improve living conditions in their communities.

The sit-in was organized by the "30 Communities Network", which comprises poor communities in Phuket, including the Pla Katak Pattana community on Koh Sireh, Phra Barami Soi 8 community in the Kalim area of Patong and at least four sea gypsy communities.

Citing long-standing disputes over land ownership, access to utilities, education and employment, the activists claim they have waited for four years for legal and financial assistance from the government since their homes were destroyed by the 2004 tsunami.

Network leader Pat Nunkhao said people in the communities wanted the government to make good on promises made to them by former Governor Niran



A protest leader whips up the crowd outside Provincial Hall on March 7. Kalayanamit in 2007.

Under the 2007 agreement, the province would set up a committee to verify land ownership rights, thus providing a legal framework under which basic utilities could be provided.

"I will hand the 2007 agreement to current Phuket Governor Wichai Praisangnop to follow up. We will wait until we have a chance to meet him. We may be rallying on the field in front of Phuket Provincial Hall two or three nights," he added.

Speaking on behalf of the sea gypsy community at Rassada Pier in Phuket City, Ms Putipron Tipwong said, "We have not come here to protest, but to welcome the new governor and to remind him of promises made by previous governors to help solve some of the problems still faced by our communities since the 2004 tsunami."

Ms Putipron told the Gazette that after the tsunami, many people claimed ownership of land that was previously occupied by

sea gypsies and that the ongoing disputes over land entitlement have meant nothing has been done to improve living conditions for them.

The activists said they wished to ensure that the newly installed governor Wichai Praisangnop, who recently replaced former governor Dr Preecha Ruangjan, was aware of their plight and that he would act quickly to address the issues and work on solutions.

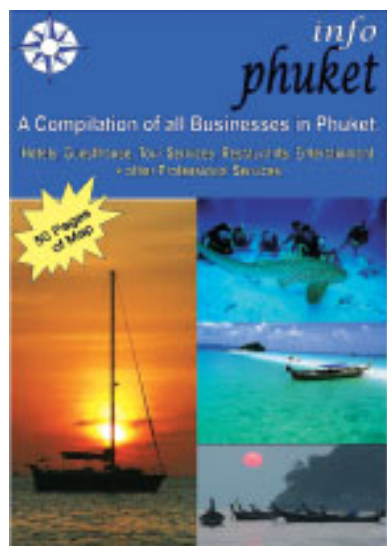
"Governor Wichai Praisangnop is the fourth Phuket governor since the 2004 tsunami. Each of them has promised to help solve the problems we face but they are always transferred before any real progress is made," said Ms Putipron.

Another of the protesters said that many meetings had already been held to try and resolve problems faced by the sea gypsies but that they had seen very little action.

"We are not here to make problems or prolonged protests but we do want to see action taken that will improve the lives of these community members," he said.

## Business directory scam lands Singaporean in jail

By Dan Waites



PHUKET CITY: A Singaporean national was arrested by Phuket City Police on March 30 for allegedly defrauding an American citizen out of Bt25,300 in a bogus business directory scam.

Eric Snyder, 64, said he paid Marcus Tan, 42, the money to purchase advertising for his Jairak Enterprise consultancy firm in info Phuket, described as a "business listing and traveler's guide book".

The guide was to be launched on April 12 with a promotional event at the Jungceylon shopping center in Patong.

But when a Jairak Enterprise staff member called the

telephone number on the invoice on March 24, the line was out of service.

A search for the Business Registration Number on the Department of Business Development website also came up blank, while the name of Mr Tan's company, J Vision Pte, Ltd, was registered as a now-defunct limited company in Chiang Mai.

Mr Snyder filed a complaint with Phuket City Police on March 26.

When Mr Tan came to the Jairak Enterprise office on Soi Taling Chan in Phuket City to collect artwork on March 30, staff informed the police. They arrived

in less than 10 minutes and arrested Mr Tan.

When Duty Officer Pitakpol Sompong of Phuket City Police asked to see Mr Tan's passport, he claimed he did not have it with him.

However, at the police station the passport was found inside Mr Tan's bag. His permit-to-stay expired in 2006, Col Pitakpol said.

Mr Tan also claimed to be unable to speak Thai, yet was later seen speaking the language fluently with Tourist Police, Col Pitakpol said.

The Singaporean, who is on

Continued on page 2



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# Over 1,700 men take part in Phuket conscription draw

By Khunakorn Terdkiatkhachorn

PHUKET CITY: Over 1,700 young men presented themselves to draw lots in the annual military conscription lottery that took place in Phuket from April 1 to 4.

The draws were conducted at the Kathu Witthayalai School in Kathu District on April 1, the Thalang Pranangsang School in Thalang District on April 2 and the Phibul Songkraam School in Muang District on April 3 and 4.

When they reach the age of 21, all Thai men are required to register with the recruitment office in the districts where they reside.

This year 1,793 young men presented themselves to fill Phuket's provincial allotment of 304 soldiers. Another 29 youths voluntarily signed up for military service.

Col Seksaan Konkeaw, Royal Thai Army registrar for Phuket, told the *Gazette* that the current requirements are that the conscripts be at least 160 centimeters tall with a chest measurement of at least 76cm.

Prospective soldiers can be exempt from conscription for a



**SAVED BY THE BALL:** A young man draws a black ball, sparing him from the draft.

wide range of reasons, including testing positive for medical conditions like HIV/Aids and being transgender.

Under the longstanding system, those who qualify must line up to draw balls from a container – not unlike a television game show – with scores of family members and friends looking on and cheering.

Those who draw black lots are exempted, while those who get red are conscripted.

In Phuket, conscripts are

assigned to the Royal Thai Navy Third Area Command in Phuket, the Army base in Phang Nga or the Air Force base in Pattani. They go through about two weeks of basic training before being placed on active duty for two years – one year in the case of those who hold bachelor's degrees.

Those with degrees also have the option of voluntary registration, followed by six months of military service.

None of those who registered expressed any fear of be-

ing assigned to Pattani because they were loyal Thais ready to do what was necessary in the interests of national security, Col Seksaan said.

New recruits get a salary of around 5,000 baht per month, accommodation and three square meals a day. Basic training is not as grueling as it was in years past and is strictly tailored by Ministry of Defense regulations to develop mentally and physically strong servicemen, he said.

Among those present at Phibul Songkraam School to cheer on a friend in his once-in-a-lifetime moment was curvaceous 25-year-old Lersuk "Group" Russameepa-sarn.

A resident of the Bangneaw area in downtown Phuket City, Lersuk is a ladyboy who works at the well-known Simon Cabaret in Patong.

She went through the conscription process last year and was exempt on the grounds that she had already gone through complete gender re-assignment surgery. Most transgenders in Thailand are granted such exemption, regardless of whether they have undergone surgery.

"I don't think I could be a soldier as it would cause too much turmoil in the unit and I wouldn't want to be harassed by other soldiers," she said.

## Rawai sea wall collapses

RAWAI: Rawai Municipality will set up a panel to investigate extensive damage to a seawall that was built in 2004.

Rawai Mayor Aroon Solos said he did not know what caused a section of the wall over 30 meters long to collapse, exposing sharp pieces of rebar and leaving broken lengths of PVC pipe suspended in the air.

The wall was built to stop erosion and protect the beach road and decades-old pine trees along the beachfront.

A private contractor was hired in 2004 to design and construct the 200-meter-long seawall on the road to the municipal offices.

The municipality's public works division has been instructed to inspect the damage and has

cordoned off the area to protect public safety, putting up signs warning of the danger.

"In my initial talks with the public works department, I was assured that everything was built according to plan with the specified materials and that the work was certified by engineers.

"Whatever the case, we'll probably have to invite the contractors and engineers in to review the construction in detail and set up a panel to determine what caused the damage."

"If the panel concludes the damage is the result of poor construction work, the contractor will have to accept responsibility for making repairs, because it is still covered by guarantees under the contract," Mr Aroon said.

## Magazine scam

*Continued from page 1*

remand in Phuket Provincial Prison, denies fraud charges but has confessed to staying in Thailand illegally.

Mr Tan first contacted Jairak Enterprise with an email in January, asking if the company would be interested in featuring in the guide, which would include maps of Phuket and a directory of local businesses.

It was to be printed in seven languages and distributed all over Thailand, as well as Singapore, Malaysia, China, Japan, Australia and countries in Europe, the email said.

Mr Snyder responded and met Mr Tan, paying him Bt5,300 in cash to purchase A4-size ads in each of the four issues of the guide to be published in the first year.

Mr Snyder, who has lived in Thailand since 1975 and speaks fluent Thai, said Mr Tan "seemed like a very nice guy" who gave him no reason to be suspicious.

On March 6, he received an email from Mr Tan claiming that *info Phuket* had been accepted by the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) as the "Official Phuket Tourist Guide".

An additional 3,000 copies were to be printed and sent for distribution to all hospitals, law enforcement departments and the airport, the email stated.

If the company paid an additional 20,000 baht it would receive a certificate signed by the governor of the TAT and would be listed in the "special features" section of the first issue of the guide, it read.

Accepting the offer, Mr Snyder paid Mr Tan 20,000 baht on March 23. The next day he was issued with a receipt that was signed by Mr Tan as well as a "Gary Bernard", identified as a member of J Vision's marketing department.

Mr Tan reportedly told Mr Snyder that Gary Bernard was the guide's financial backer, as well as the person he returned any cash he collected from clients to.

After Mr Snyder discovered that the company's telephone number and registration number were bogus, he contacted the TAT.

Officials there said they had never heard of Marcus Tan, J Visions, or the *info Phuket* guide.

Col Pitakpol said that the case is still under investigation and police are unsure whether Mr Bernard really exists.

Police do not know how many other possible victims of the same scam are out there, he added.

Mr Snyder, meanwhile, said he was unsure whether Mr Tan himself was the main beneficiary or just a "fall guy" for other parties. He added that when the police arrived at the office to make the arrest, Mr Tan seemed remarkably calm, as if he had nothing to hide.

Col Pitakpol told the *Gazette* that any other companies or individuals who paid money to advertise with *info Phuket* should contact the police immediately.



**TIME AND TIDE:** A view of the damaged seawall built just five years ago.

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# Phuket Prem supporters demonstrate

By Khunakorn Terdkiatkhachorn



**Prem Supporters' Association leaders submitted demands to Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop at Phuket Provincial Hall on April 2.**

PHUKET CITY: Hundreds of Prem Supporters' Association members from around the South marched through the streets of Phuket City on April 2 in support of General Prem Tinsulanonda, president of the Privy Council.

Around 300-400 mostly yellow-shirted members of the organization took part in the demonstration, which assembled at Queen Sirikit Park at around 12:30pm.

Some of the protesters came from as far away as Trang, Songkhla and Nakhon Sri Thammarat to show their support for "Pa Prem", who hails from Songkhla.

The demonstration follows former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra's accusation that Gen Prem, together with Gen Surayud Chulanont, was behind the military coup of September 19, 2006.

Mr Thaksin made the accusation in a video-link broadcast to thousands of red-shirted United Front for Democracy against Dictatorship (UDD) protesters at a rally outside Government House in Bangkok on March 27.

He called on Gen Prem, an advisor to His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej, to "stop meddling in politics".

Somchai Yeessun, one of the leaders of the Phuket Prem Supporters' Association, said, "This

will demonstrate our position. We cannot accept the red shirts' attack on the president of the Privy Council. We want the government to stop the red shirts from using a video-link to attack [Gen Prem]."

The protesters marched to Phuket Provincial Hall, where they presented a written statement to Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop.

The statement denounced Mr Thaksin, who was referred to throughout as "convicted criminal Thaksin Shinawatra", claiming that his actions were causing conflict within Thailand.

It called on those with a "just heart" to defend Gen Prem, who it claimed had done much good for Phuket by supporting the tourist industry here.

It also praised the general for his policy of leniency towards communist dissidents in the early 1980s, as well as his handling of the 1982 Thai economic crisis.

The statement ended by calling on the government to use strict measures against Mr Shinawatra and his red-shirted supporters "before the damage to the country became more serious". In the statement, the protesters also pledged to defend Gen Prem "to the last".

Governor Wichai promised to deliver the letter to the prime minister as soon as possible.

## Google Maps now available for Phuket classifieds



PHUKET: Initially introduced as a feature in the *Gazette Guide* – Phuket's "yellow pages" – Google Maps was launched on the morning of March 7 at Phuket's primary classified marketplace, the *Island Trader Online*.

Classified advertisers can now pinpoint precisely where the item, property or business they're advertising is located – a major benefit in a community where postal addresses are often more confounding than enlightening.

The *Island Trader Online*, a product of the *Phuket Gazette* newspaper company, is ranked number one with Google under the search term "Phuket Classifieds" and currently hosts about 4,500 ads, with an average of about 50 new ads posted daily. All ads are focused on Phuket, and those with maps, web links or photographs are published automatically and free of charge in the hard-copy *Gazette*, which hits streets every Friday afternoon.

## ASEAN education conference closes

BANG TAO: After four days of discussions, the 44th SEAMEO Council Conference and 4th ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting at the Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket closed on April 8.

The conference, which began on April 5, aimed to discuss education policy and co-operation on projects throughout South East Asia, a region estimated to contain at least 3 million children and 34.3 million adults without any education.

Education ministers from the 11 SEAMEO member countries of Thailand, Indonesia, Cambodia, Brunei, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Vietnam and Timor-Leste attended, as well as representatives from eight associate members.

The conference saw Thai Deputy Prime Minister Korbaks Sabhavasut re-affirm the government's commitment to providing 15 years of free education to children from poor families.



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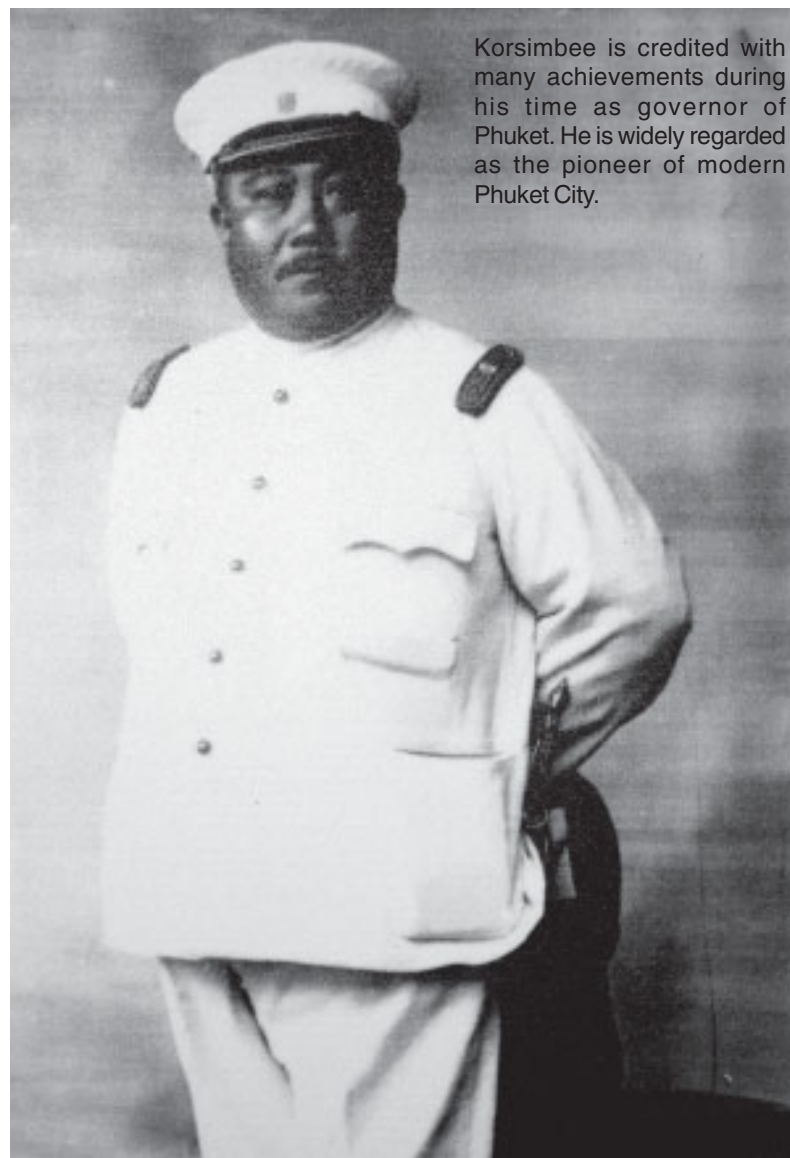




# Korsimbee: the father of modern Phuket City



On April 1 2009, Phuket City celebrated one of the island's great historical figures with a day of festivities at the Korsimbee monument on Rang Hill in Phuket City.



Korsimbee is credited with many achievements during his time as governor of Phuket. He is widely regarded as the pioneer of modern Phuket City.

Perched atop Rang Hill is the imposing statue of one of Phuket's most influential former governors, Phraya Rassadanupradittha Mahisornpakdee – better known to all as Korsimbee Na Ranong, or simply Korsimbee.

On April 1, the people of Phuket celebrated the life of one of the island's great historical figures with a day of festivities at his monument, commencing in the morning with a Buddhist ceremony, followed by musical and dance performances. In the

evening, there was free local cuisine on offer, such as *Tod mun* and *Sa-te*, among others. Guest appearances by Thai classical band Soontaraporn and national artist Suthep Wongkhamhaeng rounded off the day of tribute.

Throughout the day, an exhibition dedicated to the life and work of Korsimbee was on show backstage, offering an insight into the enormous contribution Korsimbee made to the development of Phuket at the beginning

of the 20th century. Korsimbee is credited with many achievements during his time as governor of Phuket. He is widely regarded as a pioneer in the development of Phuket City.

It was he who established a new network of roads leading out from the center of Phuket City, thus laying the foundation for the city's future expansion and progression. To build the new roads, Korsimbee used the dregs left in the stoves used to heat tin.


The key component of this residual matter was a substance called Tantalite, which was also a very expensive component used in the manufacture of missiles at the time. Thus, the roads heading out of Phuket City came to be known as being paved with gold.

The Phuket Provincial Hall that stands today is also testament to Korsimbee's entrepreneurial spirit, for it was he who commissioned the Tungka-compout company to build the elegant structure, offering tin mining licenses in return.

Designed and constructed under the guidance of an Italian architect, the Provincial Hall's European architectural style is unusual. The building was unique at the time of its construction as it was the first building in Thailand to be created using concrete and steel.


Korsimbee was also behind efforts to build the first bank in Phuket. British bank Standard Chartered, however, was reluctant to build on the island, citing fears over security. Korsimbee solved the problem by asking the bank to build a police station opposite the new premises.

This explains why both buildings, which still stand today, feature the same beautiful architectural style. This example demonstrates the the genius of



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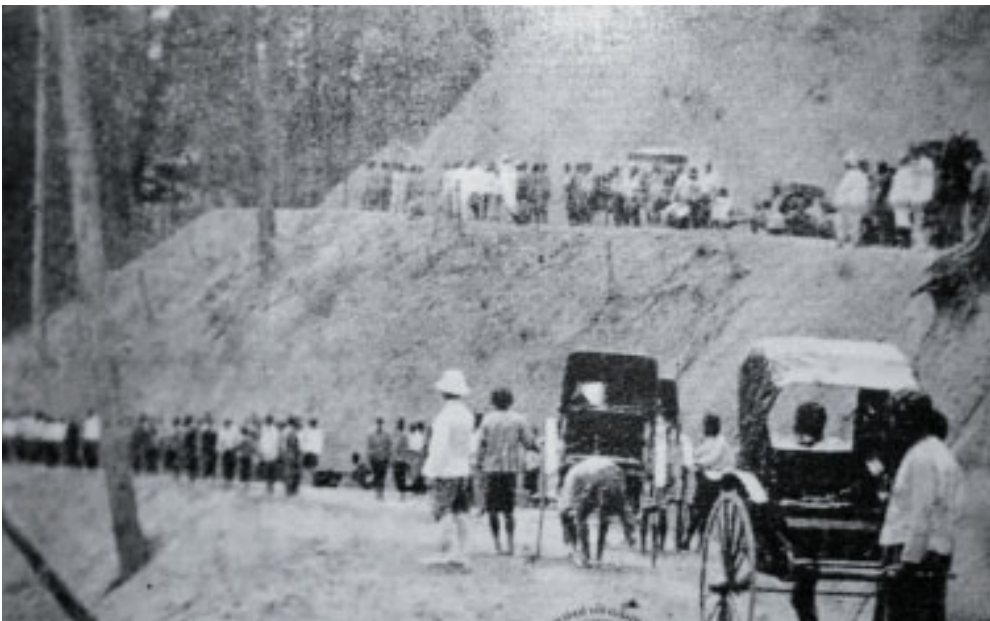




To build new roads in Phuket, Korsimbee used the residual dregs left in the stoves at the tin mines used to heat the ore.



Korsimbee was also behind efforts to build Phuket's first bank, Standard Chartered (right), and Phuket City police station (left).



When Phuket became a city of tin mines, Korsimbee asked the opium farmers to bring in Chinese workers from Ae Ming province in China.



Guest appearances by Thai classical band Soontaraporn and artist Suthep Wongkhamhaeng rounded off the day of tribute on April 1.

Korsimbee in his ability to solve problems with the outcome always being to the benefit of Phuket as a whole.

When Phuket became a city of tin mines, there were not enough workers in Phuket to meet the demand. Korsimbee sought to solve the problem by asking the opium farmers to bring in Chinese workers from Ae Ming province in China and build a disease treatment center on Tapao Island. Every Chinese worker had to undergo a thorough health screening before being allowed to work on the island of Phuket. Korsimbee recruited the most senior Chinese laborers to super-

vised and control the growing ranks of immigrant miners. As the number of Chinese workers grew ever larger, the immigrant workforce wanted to exert more control over their own affairs and duly set up a group with the name of Ung Yee.

This new group considered the governorship of Phuket to be partisan and unfair. As the tide of resentment rose, Korsimbee intervened to resolve the dilemma by requesting that the ruling Thai monarch elevate the senior Chinese workers to the level of "noblemen". In one fell swoop, Korsimbee managed to solve not only the problem of worker short-

age and disease in the tin mines, but also diffused the potentially explosive resentment and alienation felt by the immigrant workforce.

During this period, the British controlled Penang and had similar designs on Phuket. They pushed their case by claiming that Thailand could not effectively organize and manage the tin mines for the benefit of the local people, who continued to fall further and further behind. The Thai government's attempts to resolve the crisis foundered due to lack of funds. Korsimbee promptly informed every tin mine in the area that they would henceforth

be subject to a levy, which he would use to improve the roads, build a water distribution canal, pier, health station and hospital.

Although himself unable to write, Korsimbee nevertheless supported the development of education in Phuket by sending teachers to tutor in the temples. He also sent people to study English in Penang, built Satee Phuket School and ordered improvements to countless other educational institutions. When on inspection tours of the schools in the area, if Korsimbee noticed that a pupil had skipped class, he would ask for the name of the child's parents and instruct them

to bring their child to school to study. If the parents failed to comply, punishments would ensue.

As governor of Phuket, Korsimbee considered everyone to be his children. He was unforgiving of those who failed to toe the line, but always held that, like any parent, the punishments meted out were always for the benefit of the wrongdoer.

Such were Korsimbee's achievements during his governorship, he received warm praise from foreigners for his political skill and business acumen – truly one of Phuket's men of great stature.

-Khunakorn Terdkiatkhachorn

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# Suspected hitman and extortionist arrested

PHATTHALUNG: Region 8 Police have arrested a man suspected of being a prolific hitman and a member of a notorious extortion gang.

Wiroj Thonngan, 43, known as Iat-Pa, was arrested as he was getting off a minibus in Phatthalung's Pa Phayom District on April 2.

Police had also hoped to catch Pramot Khongchan, another suspected gang member, after receiving intelligence that the pair would be travelling by minibus from Pa Phayom to Phatthalung Town. However, only Mr Wiroj boarded the bus.

Apart from extortion charges, the pair are suspects in an attempted murder case against an officer from Cha-uat Police Station in Nakhon Sri Thammarat.

A rucksack Mr Wiroj was carrying contained an unlicensed .357 pistol with 12 rounds of ammunition and leaflets demanding a total of 100 million baht in protection money from three hotels: the Lee Gardens and Lee Gardens Plaza in Haad Yai and Songkhla respectively and the Betong Merlin hotel in Yala's Betong District.

The note threatened to bomb and unleash "every form of violence" against the hotels if the owners did not pay up within three days, police said.

Mr Wiroj's arrest was announced by Police Region 8 Commissioner Santhan Chayanont and Nakhon Sri Thammarat Provincial Police Commander Sarawuth Phiranon along with superintendents from police stations in the region.

Mr Wiroj already had arrest warrants out on him for the assassinations of three local politicians in Trang and one in Phatthalung.

Mr Wiroj admitted to a num-

ber of charges of extorting money in Trang and to being a member of Jerm Seng-iat's gang, which is suspected of involvement in extortion and protection rackets across the South.

At the time of his arrest, he was on the way to Haad Yai to deliver the protection letters, he said. He denied the charges of murder and attempted murder, however.

Mr Wiroj said he had returned to the South only a week before his arrest after spending two months laying low in a Muay Thai camp in Samut Sakhon.

Earlier in the week, Pranee Kitong, owner of the Sor Kan Kaset agricultural supplies store in Cha-uat District, told police she had received a letter purportedly from Mr Jerm's gang. In the letter the gang threatened to kidnap Mrs Pranee's 27-year-old daughter if a large sum of money was not paid, she said.

Mr Wiroj denied any knowledge of that letter, but admitted that it could have been the work of other gang members.

Mr Jerm, the 57-year-old alleged gang leader also known as "Jorm Jon Kai Muk" (Bandit Chief Kai Muk), has been issued an arrest warrant from Surat Thani Provincial Court for an extortion case in Tha Chana District. He is also alleged to be behind a protection racket in Ratsada District, Trang. He has spent a total of 27 years in prison and is reportedly suspected of involvement in 32 murders since 1976.

Mr Wiroj said that he believes Mr Jerm is now living with his latest wife in Village 5, Tambon Lan Khoi, Pa Phayom District. He has three close associates working with him and has a cache of weapons including an AK-47 and two M-16 assault rifles, Mr Wiroj said.

Source: Kom Chad Luek, Khao Sod

# Krabi Lottery winners not so lucky

KRABI: A man and his wife were found shot dead in their home in Khao Phanom District April 2 in what police believe was a murder-suicide.

The bodies of 42-year-old Somkiat Naowarat and wife Laddawan Theprinwere, 33, were found by a friend of Mr Somkiat's at 10am. The couple had been married for 16 years.

Mrs Laddawan had been shot twice in the head. Mr Somkiat had a single bullet wound in his head and a .38 pistol was lying at his feet.

Mr Somkiat's friend told police he had come to pick him up to go into Krabi Town to go shopping with the 10,000 baht Mr Somkiat had won playing the underground lottery.

When the friend arrived at the house, Mr Somkiat came out alone and said that Mrs Laddawan would be out in a moment.

When after 10 minutes she had still not appeared, Mr Somkiat went back inside to get her. After a few minutes, the friend heard three gunshots ring out.

When he went in to investigate he found the couple lying dead, he told police.

Police said they believe jealousy could have caused Mr Somkiat to kill his wife. Mrs Laddawan was very attractive and liked to go out and about on her own.

When she refused his offer to go shopping with the lottery money, Mr Somkiat may have become suspicious that she was seeing someone else and lost his temper, police said.

Source: Kom Chad Luek, Khao Sod



A police officer blows into mock breathalyzer after the Highway Police received 190 breathalyzers from Diageo Moet Hennessy (Thailand) and National Electronics and Computer Technology Center (Nectec) for their mission to reduce death tolls. Diageo is the sole distributor of Jonnie Walker and a number of other imported spirits in Thailand.

## Queer News

# Drug craze doubles up

SONGKHLA: A new recreational drug cocktail known as "8 x 100", a direct descendent of the "4 x 100" that came to prominence in 2006, is now sweeping the Deep South, security officials say.

Thanu Neuang-uthai of the Internal Security Operations Command (ISOC) Region 4 said that he had visited many provinces in the region and found that the use of the drug was spreading fast among youths.

Lt Thanu heads the Region 4 Psychology and Communications Team responsible for dealing with drugs and illegal immigrants in the South.

The original "4 x 100" used the indigenous *krathom* leaves (a prohibited stimulant) as one of the major ingredients.

Since security forces have cracked down on the trade in *krathom*, youths have moved on to a complex new formula comprising *longkong* leaves, cola, *ya bah* (methamphetamines), cough medicine, mosquito repellent, fluorescent chemicals from tube lights, tobacco and yoghurt," Lt Thanu explained.

The new mixture, first reported in Songkhla's Chana District, has since spread widely around the South and has now

reached Ranong, Chumphon and Surat Thani.

There are as yet no known reports of the drug being used in Phuket. Many youths believe that the *longkong* leaves used in the mixture act as an aphrodisiac, Lt Thanu said.

The original "four times a hundred" contained *krathom* leaves, cough medicine, mosquito repellent coils and cola. The addition of chemicals from fluorescent lights had previously been reported in some areas.

Kretek cigarettes from Indonesia, that contain a mixture of cloves and tobacco, are also becoming very popular among young people in the South. Many youths reportedly believe these too act as an aphrodisiac.

The report also mentioned a trend for getting high off a mysterious powdered drink in a sachet similar to Ovaltine called "Ovaldi", which comes from a neighbouring country. According to the report, youths in the South burn the powder while still in the plastic sachet until it is completely reduced to ash, and then snort it.

The report did not say what effects the youths hoped to get through this practice.

Source: Kom Chad Luek

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# Ban on drinking alcohol in vehicles may be reviewed

BANGKOK: The Chairman of the National Committee for Alcohol Consumption Control has urged the Public Health Ministry to review a ban on drinking alcohol in vehicles during Songkran, as it might violate people's rights.

Deputy Public Health Minister Manit Nopamornbodi said on April 2 that that Deputy Prime Minister Sanan Kachornprasart's secretary team had urged the ministry to review the drinking ban regulations saying they might also be an abuse of authority beyond the Alcohol Beverage Control Act of 2008.

The ministry will send the recommendations to its legal experts to make the regulation indisputable, before resubmitting it to the Committee, Mr Manit said.

As a result, the regulations banning alcohol drinking in moving vehicles might not be in effect by Songkran because a regulation normally needs at least seven days before implementation, he said.

The ministry would reinforce existing laws and use community members such as village health volunteers to campaign for people to behave responsibly.

"The Public Health Ministry has seen that deaths and injuries from road accidents result from alcohol drinking and tried to tackle the root of problem, but others have disagreed with our move. We'll carry on with our duty and still have a chance [to achieve something by] the New Year holidays," he added.

Alcohol Watch Network co-ordinator Kamron Chudecha said he still hoped PM Abhisit Vejajiva would come through with some solutions.

His network would present Mr Abhisit with facts about Songkran road accident tolls but would not pressure him, he said.

"Whatever the PM decides, it will be so and the government cannot escape responsibility for the consequences," Mr Kamron said.

The drinking ban in vehicles was the meekest regulation and should not affect anyone except those in the alcohol business, he said.

Mr Sanan said his committee had earlier divided into two sides on the issue of imposing an alcohol sales ban this Songkran, but ultimately decided that the impact of such a move on tourism would be too costly.

# One in four motorists report bribe requests from traffic police

BANGKOK: Some 25% of motorists in Bangkok and 11 other provinces have at some time have been asked to pay bribes by traffic police manning road checkpoints, an opinion survey has found.

The survey was carried out among 2,228 people in Bangkok and 11 other provinces from March 26 to April 4 by Abac Poll of Assumption University.

The 11 other provinces are

Ayudhaya, Chanthaburi, Surin, Ubon Ratchathani, Khon Kaen, Udon Thani, Chiang Mai, Sukhothai, Ratchaburi, Nakhon Sri Thammarat, and Songkhla.

The survey found that 25% of respondents said they had been asked by police manning road checkpoints to give them money for traffic offenses instead of paying traffic fines to the state. The rest of the respondents said they have never encountered such incidents.

# Anti-drug campaigner complains about slow progress in police investigation

KHO PHANGAN: A German expatriate based in Koh Phangan, injured in a recent attack for his campaign against drug parties on the resort island on April 3, made a public statement complaining about the delay in the police investigation into the incident.

Flederer Ralf, who is now in a safe condition after being shot three times by two invaders on the night of March 30, said he had feared for his life and was expecting a future attack.

Koh Phangan police chief Jaroon Uchupharb said Mr Ralf did not fully co-operate with police, without explaining why the victim was unco-operative.

The officer said he thought the attackers did not mean to kill Ralf, but possibly wanted merely to threaten him.

"I learned that the attackers knocked on Ralf's house with a baseball bat, but were attacked first by Ralf. So the attackers fired some warning shots. Anyway, police will take action to locate the attackers," said Col Jaroon.

A 17-year resident on Koh Phangan, the German has been campaigning against parties in which drugs and alcohol were openly used, with the exception of the original full moon parties. He said he was disliked by organisers of other parties and this could be a motive behind the attack.

Phanu Woramit, a local Tourism Authority of Thailand official, said there were many parties in recent years in an attempt to draw more foreign tourists to Koh Phangan, in Surat Thani province. He made no comments about the attack on the German.



Customs officials free a total of 1,134 animals to forests in Songkhla's Haad Yai District in March. The animals were confiscated from smugglers during a series of raids. Photo by Thoranit Piroonla-ong.

# Action against underage pole dancing

BANGKOK: The National Children Protection Committee will take action against the parents of underage pole dancers and the organizers of their performances.

On April 2, the Culture Watch Center announced that it had received complaints that a prepubescent girl had been dancing provocatively around a pole at a motor show.

Center director Ladda Tangsupachai believed the girl, who was filmed in video clips, was about 10 years old.

"Arranging for a girl aged under 14 years to be a pole dancer is a legal offence and any company or person who organises a pole dance by underage girls will be punished," committee member Wallop Tangkananurak said.

Ms Ladda added that there

were also reports of underage girls pole dancing at temple fairs.

Article 26 of the Children Protection Act bars anyone from forcing, coercing, encouraging or allowing children to perform obscene displays.

Offenders are punishable by a fine of Bt30,000 and/or a three-month jail term.

Mr Wallop suggested that first time offenders face warnings, but repeat offenders are fined and perhaps jailed, too.

"Companies paying underage girls to pole dance and the girls' parents should be condemned. No such incidences should happen again," Mr Wallop said.

Mr Wallop urged anyone who witnessed the violating of children's rights to contact non-governmental organisations in the field.

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The island's architecture, people, beaches and beasts were the stars in a March 27 photo shoot when about 80 amateur and professional photographers gathered to snap scenes around Phuket for an exhibition titled "One Day in My Beloved Phuket".

More than 100 of the photographs taken that day are on display until April 29 at the Phuket Thai Hua Museum on Krabi Road. The annual project is organized by *Phuket Bulletin* magazine and Foto United.

Giving pointers were SEA Write Awards winner Jiranun Pitrapreecha, internationally acclaimed photographer Boonmee Thanomsooksan and photography lecturer Punyanate Puprasorn.

The photographers split into four mixed-level groups, each comprising amateur and professional lensmen.

Here are some of the photographs taken that day.

# Capturing the island on camera

"One Day in My Beloved Phuket" By Atchaa Khamlo



Sayan Chuen-udomsawat



Teerapap Lohitkul



Akkarin Ussawawarin



Akkarin Ussawawarin



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CHANINTR SPECIAL EVENT



# New class announced for 2009 Samui regatta

KOH SAMUI: The eighth annual Sawadee.com Regatta has announced plans to expand its number of racing classes for the upcoming event.

This year's event, scheduled to be held on Koh Samui from June 1 to 6, appears set to be the largest regatta ever held on the island.

Callum Liang, the man responsible for organizing the regatta, announced that a new class of boat, the 12-foot skiff, will be racing in the run-up to the main event, competing from May 29 to May 31 on a

course located as close as possible to the popular tourist beach of Chaweng to give spectators an opportunity to see the amazing vessels.

The 12-foot skiff is a devel-

opment class that is sailed in New South Wales and Queensland in Australia, as well as in New Zealand. Its exact origin is unknown, but is believed to date back to the small skiffs that were seen in Sydney Harbor in the late 1800s. Today, skiff regattas are contested at state, Australian national and inter-dominion level.

These boats normally have two or three carbon masts with a combination of sails that allow them to race in five- to 35-knot winds. Sailing them requires multiple levels of expertise.

Six skiffs from Sydney, Australia and six more from Auckland, New Zealand will be shipped by container – courtesy of Maersk Line – arriving in

Samui in time for the first race. The two countries have been in fierce competition in this race classification, so a good display is all but guaranteed.

"The new 12-foot skiff is one of the most thrilling and distinct classes in sailing and we are anticipating some great racing. We're also thrilled to announce that the Twelve Foot Skiff Association of Australia has kindly offered to donate one skiff to support the building of a skiff class locally. It's a wonderful gesture that not only supports youth sailing, but which is also in sync with the 'spirit' of sailing on the island," said Callum.

The skiff racing will set the tone for the start of the 2009 Sawadee.com Regatta – one of Asia's leading sailing events and part of the Asian Yachting Grand Prix Championships. A full regatta fleet is expected from Thailand, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Hong Kong, Dubai and beyond.

Event partners of the regatta include Sawadee.com, Centara



Callum Liang, the man responsible for organizing the regatta, announced that the new class of sailboat will be racing from May 29 to May 31. The 12-foot skiff is a development class that is sailed in New South Wales and Queensland in Australia and also in New Zealand.

Grand Beach Resort Samui, Samui Villas and Homes, Dhevatar Properties, Nikki Beach, Tourist

Authority of Thailand and the Wall Street Journal Asia, together with many other local supporters.

## School closure leaves students stranded

KOH SAMUI: 'Open Gates', one of Koh Samui's longest running international schools, catering to mostly foreign students, suddenly closed its doors to its students last month.

The surprise action came just as students from the primary school were leaving for the weekend.

A notice was handed out stating that there would be no school for the remaining three weeks of term.

No official reasons were given as the headmaster and school owner were away on a trip to Europe.

The following week the secondary school also closed, with faculty members stating only that financial difficulties were to

blame for the closure.

Teachers at the school revealed that they had not received pay for the two months prior to the closure and that they were also abandoned and misled by the operators of the school.

Many parents were outraged after hearing the news as many had already paid for a full year of tuition up front.

In 2008 the school had widely advertised the opening of a new purpose-built campus, due to open at the end of that year.

Many of the displaced students have now enrolled in other schools around the island, but the closure has sparked a vigorous debate about the standard of international education on Koh Samui.



## Beauty contestants visit Samui

SURAT THANI: Surat Thani and the TAT played host to this year's Miss Thailand Universe contestants during their time in the province from March 19-25.

The visit came as part of a bid to promote tourism in the area.

The glamorous group was

filmed at several tourist attractions around the region in the hope that it would encourage more people to visit.

During their stay, the ladies made merit at the provincial capital's temple, visited the head monk and met the Surat Thani

Governor Pracha Tayrat.

They also paid a visit to Rat-chaphapha Dam and Khao Sok National Park, before heading to both Koh Samui and Koh Phangan, where the girls took part in local street fairs and participated in a number of activities that included elephant trekking and sightseeing.

The 44 contestants who took part in the popular pageant have been filmed for national television with Koh Samui reportedly contributing at least 500,000 baht towards the promotional event.

The eventual winner of the contest, which was held in Bangkok, was Chutima Chantelle Durongdej, a 23-year-old graduate student in business management from City University in London.

The Koh Samui Tourism Association, Spa Samui Association and Southeastern Hotels Association all provided accommodation to the contestants and their entourage.

Koh Samui Mayor Ramnet Jaikwang has also expressed his hopes that the visit will attract more visitors to Koh Samui for a holiday who might not normally come to the island.

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Polish couple Agnieszka and Jedrek had flown half-way around the world to fulfill their dream of a fairytale tropical wedding on the sun-kissed shores of Phuket.

Disaster struck, however, when they were informed by the Thai authorities that they lacked the necessary paperwork to have a minister join the couple in holy matrimony. The tale of the couple's heartbreak spread around the Nai Thon community,

eventually coming to the attention of Pearl of Nai Thon developers Bob Berwick and Allan Goodes, who heard the story while having drinks at the Coconut Tree bar on Nai Thon Beach.

Moved by the story, Bob and Allan took it upon themselves to give the not-so-happy couple the fairytale ceremony they had been dreaming of. With Allan orchestrating props – a petal-strewn walkway onto the white sandy beach at sunset – and "minister" Bob taking care of the vows that the "newlyweds" would exchange, the ceremony took place, giving Agnieszka and Jedrek a truly memorable day that they will remember for the rest of their lives.

"Minister" Bob Berwick takes care of the vows.



Nai Thon Beach, where the couple held the ceremony.

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The happy couple with Alan Goodes (left) and Bob Berwick (right).





## EXPAT GALLERY

## Grenville Fordham

Grenville Fordham arrived in Phuket late in 1998 to work as editor of *Phuket Magazine*. He planned to divide his time in paradise between his editing job and writing for international magazines – something in which he had already achieved some success.

But Grenville is too focused for the simple life. He went on to found his company, Image Asia, which publishes five titles: *Exclusive Homes*, *Where to Eat*, *Shop Window on Lifestyle*, *Southeast Asia Pilot* and the definitive *Map of Phuket*.

In addition, Grenville collaborates in producing the annual *Pocket Guide Dive Thailand* and its companion *Pocket Guide Golf Thailand*.

Together with Andy Dowden [Expat Gallery, *Gazette*, March 21], Grenville was the founder of the Phuket Boat Show (PIMEX) and Phuket Raceweek.

He is Chairman of Phuket's British Business Association; is on the team developing the new Ao Chalong Yacht Club; and was a founder member of the Marine Alliance of Thailand, which won the abolition of import duty on yachts. He is currently building his first yacht, an Australian design adapted for local conditions, which will be available for both sale and charter later this year.

"I sailed in my first King's Cup Regatta shortly after I moved here and was an instant convert," he says. "For the next four years, I worked on the media side of the regatta organization."

When he left the King's Cup committee, he started his own yacht racing event, the increasingly popular Six Senses Phuket Raceweek, held every July at the Evason Phuket & Six Senses Spa.

"I missed the challenge, so started my own event during low season when the winds are usually better. Now, after five years, we're attracting sailors and yachts from as far away as Australia."

Grenville was not always involved with publishing and yachting. Born in Yorkshire, England, he lived in Kenya and Malta as a boy. He studied French at University before going into the hospitality industry, managing his first hotel when only 20 years old. He went on to obtain a degree in Hotel, Catering and Tourism Management at Surrey University and worked for Intercontinental Hotels and Trusthouse Forte, fitting in a couple of stretches as a chef in Southwestern France.

His professional life has been marked by some surprising turns. He spent eight years traveling the world, from Europe to Latin America to the Middle East to

Asia, marketing construction materials – with a two-year spell in Singapore setting up an Asian distributor infrastructure. "I was bored with hotels and saw an ad that said 'travel' (which I wanted to do) and 'speak Spanish' (which I did), so I applied and – oddly – found myself on a plane for my first business trip, to Dubai."

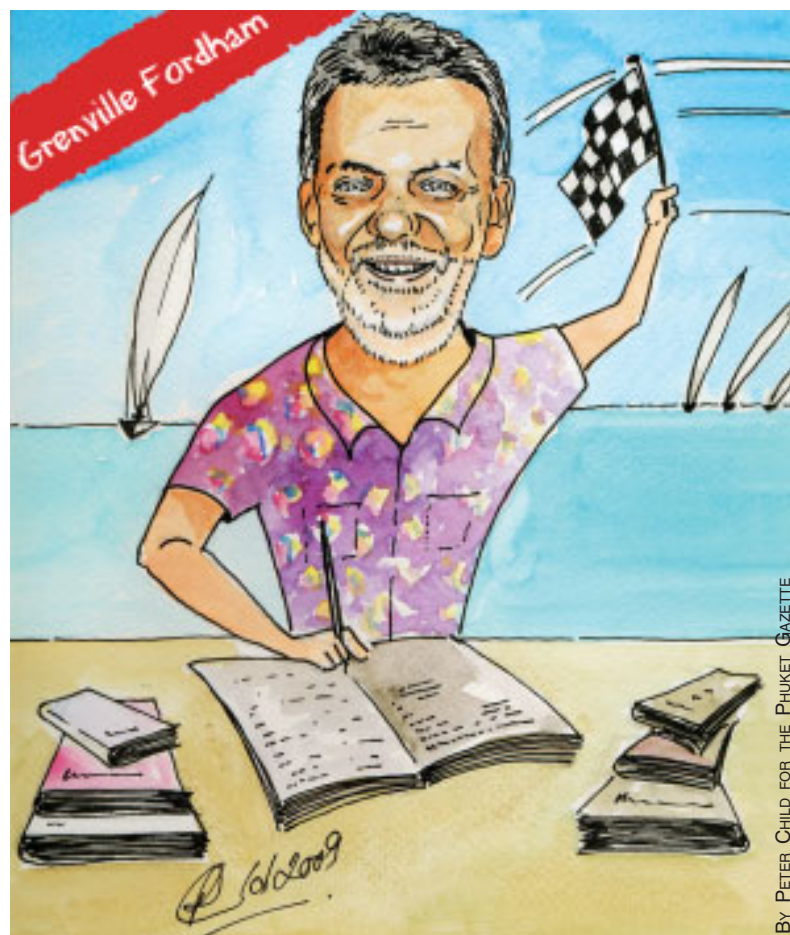
In 1986, he left his position as Director of International Sales and Marketing to start his own business, renovating and converting period houses in and around London. His home and business base was the house in Surrey where HG Wells wrote his classic, *War of the Worlds*.

"Perhaps that's what sparked my interest in writing," he says. "By 1993, I decided to go for it and, armed with a diploma in journalism, I tossed a coin between Mexico and Thailand. Thailand won and I headed for Bangkok in May 1995."

In Bangkok he worked as a staff writer at the now defunct *Thailand Times*; as Thailand Correspondent for *CargoNews Asia* and *TravelNews Asia*; and as the editor of *Living in Thailand* magazine. Then, tired of Bangkok's traffic and pollution, he moved to Phuket for a quieter life.

Now this busy entrepreneur is working on three new media products. "In this awful economic climate, I believe the only course is to expand, to be ready for the opportunities that will come when the economy recovers," he says.

– Bruce Stanley



BY PETER CHILD FOR THE PHUKET GAZETTE

## ABOUT EXPAT GALLERY

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

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**DANCE WITH THE DEVIL:** Staff at Stereo Lab near Surin Beach pose for a photo during an "Angels and Devils" themed party at the popular nightclub on March 28.



**COMMUNITY RELATIONS:** Franz Sticher from Switzerland (2nd from right) recently enjoyed a dinner at Bang Tao Beach with members of the Phuket Community Foundation (PCF), through which he is funding six Thai students through medical school in memory of his daughter Jennifer, who died in the 2004 tsunami. Also pictured, from right to left: PCF board member-elect Cindy Ratcliffe; Isares Buena, one of the sponsored students; Franz's daughter Vanessa Amann-Sticher; PCF President Pranee Sakulpipatana; Isares' mother Kannika; Pen Forbes.



**COLLEGE FUND:** Mr Barry Cager (back, right), founder of the CoCo de Mer fund, is seen here with some of the 41 students – all victims of the 2004 tsunami – who are receiving funding through university from the CoCo de Mer fund. The photo was taken at Mr Cager's Phuket home, where the students recently attended a dinner as part of an annual reunion.



**TURTLE POWER:** Miss Thailand 2008, Panpapa "Boom" Youngtrakul (2nd left), was special guest at a sea turtle release ceremony held at the beach in front of the Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket on April 3. Also taking part were (from left) Managing Director of Laguna Phuket Michael Ayling; Commander of the Third Naval Area Command Vice Admiral Narong Thet-Wisarn; PMBC Senior Researcher Dr Kongkiat Kittiwattanawong and Laguna Phuket General Managers.



**CHERRY LIPS:** Swedish cosmetics company Frudelicious hosted a "fruit" themed party at White Box in Kalim Bay on April 3 to celebrate the launch of its Spring collection. Prizes were awarded for the hottest guy and girl at the party.



**ATTENTION ON DECK:** US Embassy Chief of Naval Security Force Protection Detachment Douglas H Robinson (center) and Special Assistant Siriya Udchachon (right) visited the *Phuket Gazette* offices last weekend to present souvenirs from the aircraft carrier *USS Boxer*, which anchored off Phuket recently. They were greeted by the *Phuket Gazette*'s Managing Editor Nick Davies (left). The detachment was also in Phuket to co-ordinate future US Navy community relations projects.



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## **Important News**

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# Awaken the body and mind

## The Downward-facing Dog

Stepping onto a "sticky mat" often brings a sigh of relief. It's time to exhale deeply, relax, get centered and be present. It's time to connect with one's self.

**W**hen you begin yoga exercises, you might find that your thoughts are preoccupied with all that you've done or have yet to do, and your body is not as supple as you had anticipated. Fortunately, yoga allows for transition time. Most practices begin with an opening phase of gentle yet thorough movements to awaken the body, stoke the breath and cultivate the attention.

Good starting poses facilitate circulation and lead you into your sequences with ease. They address the major joints and large muscle groups, gently awakening the arms, shoulders, legs and hips.

The previous article introduced the Sun Salutation but because it is a complex series of moves, we are going to go through each of the Sun Salutation poses in detail. The first pose is the "Downward-facing Dog" (*Adho Mukha Svanasana*). *Adho Mukha* means "downward-facing" and *Svana* means "dog". This pose warms the body from the tips of the fingers to the toes.

As you segue into your practice be mild and deliberate. Take all the time you need to warm up your muscles, acknowledge your present state of mind, and remember the deep reasons why you are practicing yoga.

Downward facing Dog is the salt of Hatha Yoga and sprinkled intermittently throughout the class from beginning to end. Just as pinches of salt enliven a dish, so Downward Dog enlivens your body, making you feel more vibrant and alive.

In flow classes, Downward Dog is a lot like home base – you do it over and over again to neutralize your spine, bringing it back into its natural alignment. It's also an inversion that prepares beginners for the feeling of going upside down. A pose with so many benefits is worth learning in detail. Even if you've done more "Down Dogs" than you can remember, these preparatory versions will help you rediscover it, refine it, and feel it in all its glory.

When you first try Downward Dog, you may feel tight in areas you never knew existed. Your lower back might "round" and your elbow may bend and bow. But with daily practice, you will grow to love the sensation of unfurling your body into the pose – feeling long and lithe, like a dog stretching after a good nap.



### Technique

Lie flat on the floor, face down, on the stomach. The feet should be hip-distance apart.

Rest the palms by the sides of the chest, the fingers straight and pointing in the direction of the head.

Exhale and raise the trunk from the floor. Straighten the arms, move the head inward towards the feet and place the crown of the head on the floor, keeping the elbows straight and extending the back.

Keep the legs stiff without bending at the knees and press the heels down. The heels and soles of the feet should rest completely on the floor, while the feet should be parallel to each other, toes pointing straight ahead.

Stay in the pose for about a minute while breathing deeply. Then as you exhale, lift the head off the floor, stretch the trunk forward, gently lower the body to the floor and relax.

### Benefits

Develops suppleness and strength in the arms and shoulders.

Elongates the spine.

Creates greater flexibility in the hamstrings and calves.

Helps calm the nervous system.

A longer stay in this pose removes fatigue and brings back lost energy.

A convenient alternative for those who are afraid to do head stands (*sirsasana*). As the trunk is lowered in this pose, it is fully stretched and healthy blood is brought to this region without any strain on the heart.

**Sports Benefits:** The pose is especially good for runners who get tired after a hard race. Sprinters will develop speed and lightness in the legs.

**Health Benefits:** Combats arthritis of shoulder joints.

### Contradictions

Do not perform the Downward Dog if you are suffering from a hamstring injury, wrist problems or spinal disc injury.

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# Street art enters the mainstream



Despite adopting differing styles – d.e.a.'s (left) is 'character' based while TG's (right) is 'wildstyle' – the pair have successfully worked together on many occasions and their collaborative nature shows through on a number of projects including the graffiti exhibition at the Asian Hip-Hop festival and the K-Swiss Presents K-Spray International Art Stencil Tour.

The street cred of two local artists went up a notch last month with the launch of an exhibition of their "street" art at Galleria 346 on Phuket Road in Phuket City on March 30.

The two award-winning Bangkok-based artists, Kitja Yamunsabedin (d.e.a.) and Torlab Intraensorn (TG), studied in Bangkok. d.e.a. graduated from Silpakorn University with a major in Decorative Arts, while TG studied Interior Design at Rangsit University.

Although formally educated,

their resumes are distinctly different from those of more conventionally formed artists.

Over the course of their careers as graffiti artists, the pair have won numerous contests in Thailand including the Eminem T-shirt Contest in 2001, the Image of Graffiti Contest in 2004, the Singha Soda Battle of the Year Thailand 2005 and the Redbull X-Park Graffiti Contest in 2003.

Each of them has adopted uniquely individual styles but the pair have successfully worked together on numerous occasions. d.e.a.'s style is described as 'char-

acter' based while TG's is referred to as 'wildstyle'.

The list of their joint collaboration is long and reveals an art scene that many may be quite unaware of. Their projects include: Live graffiti at the art center, Chulalongkorn University; a graffiti exhibition at Impact Arena for the Asian Hip-Hop festival 2008; Exhibition 2006; All Star of Darkness - Street Art volume 1 Graffiti Exhibition; K-Swiss Presents K-Spray International Artist Stencil Tour and Graffiti for Bangkok Fashion City Extravaganza, to name but a few.

While it is clear that a specific culture pervades the minds and behavior of street artists in Thailand and around the globe, it is remarkable to see the variety of activities both d.e.a. and TG have sampled in the urban milieu.

Music, lifestyle, business and creativity are rolled into one and have manifested ostensibly in the mainstream.

Such work may have been viewed as undesirable, destructive and profane a few decades ago, but that has obviously all changed and artists like d.e.a. and TG have gained acceptance into

mainstream art circles.

That acceptance is a case of history repeating itself and is similar to the elevation in status of street works by urban artists Banksy and Blek Le Rat, who enjoy almost mythical status.


In this optic, the works shown here require little explanation. They are without pretension, but with certain ambition. It is in this spirit that people are encouraged to view their art.

The 'street' exhibition will be on display at the Galleria 346 until June 8.

-Tipwarintron Tanaakarachod


Actual view from site

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# Seafood to seduce the senses

## Guest chef

By Tipwarintron  
Tanaakarachod

In a career that has spanned almost two decades, Chef Ameer Ibrahim Al-Ali has spent much of that time crafting gourmet delights in kitchens across the globe.

His culinary wanderlust has introduced him to an array of disparate cultures and cooking styles in such places as the Maldives, Jordan, Malaysia and Egypt, before finally settling in Thailand.

For the past year, Chef Ameer has been employed as executive chef at the Mövenpick Resort and Spa at Karon Beach. One of Chef Ameer's primary responsibilities is to see to it that the resort's menus are constantly evolving.

To this end, Chef Ameer changes the menus about once every four months to ensure that the customers and also the staff 'don't get bored of eating and serving the same food'.

His menus, he says, tend to reflect the seasons, but are also influenced by what is in plentiful supply at the markets at the time.

However, regardless of the time of year, one constant remains – fresh, natural ingredients.

"I don't like to use frozen products," he admits.

For Ammer, the key to being a successful chef has much to do with how the food is presented.

"The golden rule in cooking

regards the presentation. We say, 'first you taste with the eyes, then with the nose and then finally with the mouth,'" he said.

"Even if you are the best chef in the world, but present the food badly, it will not be appetizing," he added.

The passion Chef Ameer feels for his subject is evidenced within moments of meeting him.

"Different styles of food may require different techniques, but the only thing that every dish needs is passion. I love to cook and it is the one thing that truly inspires me," he said.

While his goal is always to surpass the expectations of every customer, Chef Ameer admits that it is not possible to please everybody and that there may occasionally be bumps along the road. But this is not enough to dampen

his youthful enthusiasm.

"I am like a fish, and the sea is cooking. If you take the fish out of the sea, it dies. The same would happen to me if you took me away from my kitchen," he said.

For the *Gazette's* visit Chef

*"I am like a fish, and the sea is cooking. If you take the fish out of the sea, it dies. The same would happen to me if you took me away from my kitchen."*



Ameer Ibrahim Al-Ali: "The golden rule in cooking regards the presentation. We say, first you taste with the eyes, then with the nose and then finally with the mouth."

Ameer prepared a "seafood trio" of sea bass, scallops and tiger prawns accompanied by mashed potatoes, green peas and mango salsa.

Chef Ameer was also kind enough to pass on the recipe so that you, dear reader, can join in the fun. *Bon appetit!*



Chef Ameer Ibrahim Al-Ali at work in his kitchen at the Mövenpick Resort.

## Sea food trio with mashed potatoes green peas and mango salsa

### Ingredients

80g sea bass fillet	Mango Salsa
40g American scallops	50g mango
120g tiger prawns cleaned and peeled	10g onions,
50g green peas	15g coriander,
100g potatoes	20g tomatoes,
10g butter	Whole lemon to marinate and garnish
20g milk	70ml olive oil
20g cream	Salt and pepper to taste

### Method

#### Sea food

Marinate the sea bass, scallops and tiger prawns with olive oil and lemon juice. Season with salt and pepper and then set to one side allowing it to rest for some time. When ready, cook the sea food under a grill or sear it in a hot pan.

#### Mashed potatoes

Peel the potatoes. Cut them into three or four big pieces. Place them into a pot and cover them with cold water. Add some salt, bring them to the boil and then let them simmer for about 15 minutes, until soft. Drain the potatoes, return them to your pot and put them back on your stove over a low heat. This will make all the excess water evaporate. Be careful not to burn them.

Add more salt and pepper if required and add warm milk, cream and butter to your potatoes. Take a wire masher and mash until they have a smooth consistency.

#### Mango salsa

Dice all ingredients and mix them together in a bowl with 5ml olive oil and season with salt and pepper.

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

## Upcoming events on the island

**April 11. Happy Easter FREE Cool Jazz on a Hot Night**

Enjoy a Happy Easter at RPM Royal Phuket Marina, where we present, free of charge, "Cool Jazz on a Hot Night" by the Jeff Donald International Jazz Band. This event will be held for one night only. We are looking forward to having you join us! From 7pm to 12am at the Town Square, Royal Phuket Marina. For further information contact Esra Unlu. T: 081-2703326. E: esrau@royalphuketmarina.com. W: www.royalphuketmarina.com

**April 12. FREE Computer Clinic – Laguna**

Is your computer driving you NUTS? Can't get a decent Internet connection? Worried about the latest viruses? Wondering what to do about your pirate software? 3G phones? High Def TV? Hey, you aren't alone. Join For Dummies author and Windows gadfly Woody Leonhard in our ongoing FREE Sunday morning computer clinics, which rotate among the three Sandwich Shoppe locations on the island. Bring your questions, bring your computer, bring your worry beads and don't forget your sense of humor. Let's see if we can figure out the answer to your problems. From 10am to 12pm at Sandwich Shoppe Laguna. For further information contact Woody Leonhard. T: 076-290468. E: woody@KhunWoody.com. W: www.KhunWoody.com

**April 12. Celebrate Easter with the Best Brunch in Phuket**

Indulge in a sumptuous Easter celebration at Puccini, Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket. Enjoy a time of bonding with family and friends whilst experiencing a seafood and barbecue culinary expedition with free flowing wines, cocktails and live music. Children will enjoy the Easter Bunny when he visits to give away chocolate eggs and treats. The Easter Brunch will be served from 12 noon to 3.30pm and is priced at 1,490 baht ++ for adults and 745 baht ++ for children (aged 4 to 12 years). For reservations or more information contact FB Reservation. T: 076-324101. E: fbreservation@sheratonphuket.com. W: www.luxurycollection.com/phuket

**Songkran Turtle Release**

From 8am to 5pm on April 13, the Mai Khao Sea Turtle Conservation Fund and the Mai Khao Marine Turtle Foundation will jointly release 30 green sea turtles at Mai Khao Turtle Museum (*Kong tun anurak tao*). The turtles were nurtured by the Phuket Marine Biological Center. Participants are invited to make donations of 300 baht on the day. Proceeds will go to the Mai Khao Sea Turtle Conservation Fund.

08:00-12:00 Buddhist ceremony  
12:00-13:00 Lunch  
13:00-14:00 Turtle Release  
14:00-15:00 Water ceremony  
15:00-17:00 Local traditional games and bicycle rally

For information and reservations contact Khun Khemwalai (Aim). T: 086-689 2230. E: info@maikhaoturtlefoundation.com. www.maikhaoturtlefoundation.com

**April 12. Dinner with Bob**

You are cordially invited to a fundraising dinner hosted by the Phuket Cricket Union to raise funds for our Junior Cricket program. We have the honor of having the world-class after-dinner speaker Bob "the Cat" Bevan coming to the island and he has agreed to talk on Sunday, April 12 at The Green Man from 7pm onwards.

The evening is priced at 2,300 baht per person, which includes dinner. It promises to be a great night and something different, while at the same time helping junior cricket on the island to flourish. From 6pm to 10pm at The Green Man Pub & Restaurant in Rawai. For further information contact Mark Whetton. T: 086-1208346. E: scarfy@loxinfo.co.th. W: www.phuketcricket.com

**April 12. Easter Feast with surprises at Mövenpick Phuket**

For Easter, El Gaucho is preparing a sumptuous four-course dinner with desserts specially created for this important day. Experience our unique yet traditional Easter specialties, with a choice of roast lamb or fish, and of course Easter eggs and chocolate goodies. Join us at El Gaucho at Mövenpick Resort & Spa, Karon Beach, for this special occasion on Sunday, April 12 from 7pm to 11pm. 1,000 baht ++ per person. For further information

contact Mr. Patrick De Staercke. T: 076-396139. E: patrick.destaercke@moeven-pick.com. W: www.moevenpick-phuket.com

**April 13-15. Songkran Festival**  
Songkran (Thai New Year), also known as the Water Festival. Held during the driest months in Thailand, Songkran is celebrated by Thais throughout the country by pouring – traditionally only a little, but these days a lot – of water on other people to wish them good luck for the New Year.

**April 17. Exhibition at SALA Phuket**

Join us for an evening of tastes and textures as we present fine art from one of Thailand's most renowned artists accompanied by inspired culinary delights. The talented Nitaya Ueareeworakul hails from Udon Thani in Thailand's Northeast. Her work focuses on the female mind, body and soul.

In her series, "Flowering Body", Nitaya uses collage on canvas to combine fabrics tinted by soil and color to illustrate her perception of life as a mother and wife.

Nitaya has been active in several group exhibitions throughout Australasia and Europe. From 7pm to 8pm at SALA Phuket Resort and Spa.

For further information contact Mr. Tibor Baan T: 076-338888 E: fbphuket@salaphuket.com W: www.salaphuket.com

**April 19. FREE Computer Clinic – Chalong**

From 10am to noon, at Sandwich Shoppe Chalong. For further information contact Woody Leonhard. T: 076-290468. E: woody@KhunWoody.com. W: www.KhunWoody.com

**April 23. Boathouse evening with TV/film producer Ed Vaughan**

As guest speaker in the first of a new season of popular literary evenings, Ed Vaughan will talk about the art and science of writing, marketing and selling a feature film screenplay in today's market. His presentation includes: differences between screenwriting and the writing of novels and short stories; the importance of structure and character development; reasons for the success of specific motion pictures; how to get scripts read by the right people and so on. He will, of course, answer questions. From 7pm to 9pm at Mom Tri's

Boathouse. For further information contact Lisa Sol. T: 076-330015. E: pr@boathousephuket.com. W: www.boathousephuket.com

**April 26. FREE Computer Clinic – Chalong**

From 10am to noon, at Sandwich Shoppe Chalong. For further information contact Woody Leonhard. T: 076-290468. E: woody@KhunWoody.com. W: www.KhunWoody.com

**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. Fourteen 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. Forty newcomer pool companies are seeking dealers in Thailand! From 9am to 9pm at Miracle Grand Convention Center in Bangkok. For further information contact Khun Amornrat. T: 082-5627494. E: poolasia@waterdoctor.co.th. W: www.poolasia.com.

**May 1. National Labor Day – Public Holiday**

Public holiday for all commercial workers, but government offices will remain open.

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# The attractions of PPBs for Expats



## MONEY TALKS

By Richard Watson

**T**he most popular financial instrument for long-term expats, excluding bank accounts, is a Personal Portfolio Bond (PPB).

However, at a rough estimate, 50% of those who hold them are actually unaware of the flexibility of these "bonds".

They are simply known throughout the industry as PPBs and have great advantages.

First of all, they are safe. Issuers to date are insurance companies and members of the Association of International Life Offices (AILO).

The members, with the odd exception, have their headquarters in the Isle of Man (IOM) and are subsidiaries of larger groups.

The IOM is the world's longest continuous democracy, totaling 1,030 years. The IOM government has an excellent website which also details its compensation scheme of up to 90% of unlimited amounts.

In 1984, the IOM had its first true test when the Isle of Man Savings Bank went bankrupt to the tune of 38 million pounds.

Since then, the IOM government has paid extremely close attention to the balance sheets of financial companies, including banks, building societies, insurance companies, fund management groups and so on.

It has also levied an annual fee on all these companies since 1984 to give their compensation fund some depth.

The IOM has a triple "A" credit rating with Standard &

Poors and has associate member status of the European Union. Therefore, PPBs have a strong legal and financial background and an enormous amount of flexibility.

They give investors the opportunity to buy assets. They can be one of many thousands of investment funds such as mutual funds, unit trusts and Exchange Traded Funds. They buy funds, shares or bonds at the same price as insurance companies, which, in the case of funds, means minimal cost.

PPBs always have a base currency. The choice is usually between sterling, US dollars or euros. Reporting of values is therefore done in the base currency. Many PPBs, however, have holdings in secondary currencies, including Australian dollars, Swedish krona, Japanese yen and HK dollars, to name but a few.

All holdings outside the base currency are valued in both the base currency of the PPB and the secondary currency.

There are no limits set on the number of currencies that can be held. That is entirely up to the client. This gives the client an enormous range of choices – both of fund management group and of investment sector.

I realize that people are hesitant to "invest" money at the moment. However, PPBs are so much more than simple investment vehicles and it will take both this week and next week's articles to begin to cover them in any detail.

Insurance companies work like a filter, they all have investment committees that look at all additions to the list.

Fund management groups have to supply copious documentation.

This is in direct contrast to Bernard Madoff who did not have any offshore PPB business.

The regulators – namely the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in America and the Financial Services Authority in the

UK – may have been fooled by Bernard Madoff but it did not work offshore.

Quite how the US and the UK are going to detect these frauds poses a large question, especially when the SEC noted that Madoff's accounting firm consisted of three people.

Today, Insurance company investment committees have almost come to expect that fund managers will be using one of the "big four" accounting firms as a norm."

This is one of the areas where the "bush telegraph" is very effective. If one management group tried to give better terms with an insurance company than the rest, it is doubtful if this would remain a secret for more than a day.

Many of the inhabitants of tax havens seem to be related. The result is an excellent deal for the client – many fund management groups simply do not charge any entry fees.

Other frequent advantages are that people can go into funds that would otherwise be closed to them due to large minimum investment amounts.

Readers may wonder why fund management groups are so willing to reduce or remove front-end charges for insurance companies. The answer is simple. Insurance companies have enormous buying power.

Fund management groups are continually trying to establish even closer links to insurance companies, because the insurance companies often represent the largest buyers of a fund manager's products.

Since the 9/11 World Trade Center attacks, many more aspects of the investment world have become more strictly regulated.

There has been great enthusiasm for implementing regulations against money laundering, especially for investments. This has caused many fund management groups to avoid dealing with individual investors because each



The Isle of Man has a triple "A" credit rating with Standard & Poors and associate member status of the European Union. The image above is of a statue of motorcycle legend Joey Dunlop, a 26-time winner of another Isle of Man success story, the annual TT (Tourist Trophy) races.

new client has to be cleared by a compliance department.

The advantage of a PPB is that once cleared through compliance, clients can access a large choice of investments, without any more red tape.

The insurance companies all have "in house" compliance departments that are often referred to as "business resistance units" by line staff.

Nevertheless, it means that standards are tight and the system works well.

In reality, it is overkill. If regulators had shown as much enthusiasm for regulating mortgage lending, private equity and other areas, we could have avoided the current economic turmoil.

Income payments are simply an option. If you require an income then it is only a matter of selecting the amount and frequency.

Lump sum withdrawals may also be made. Depending on the insurance company, between 75% and 90% can be withdrawn, without any penalty.

The insurance companies keep all live data on every PPB; each one is an individual, and no two PPBs are the same.

When PPBs were introduced about twenty years ago, the complexity of their administration left some companies baffled. However, they are an essential product for all offshore life assurers.

This led to the poaching of specialist staff until lessons were learned. I will not mention names, but one insurer who could never solve the administration of PPBs' problems – even after fifteen years of trying – solved it with the major buyout of a rival.

Richard G. Watson runs Global Portfolios Co Ltd, a Phuket-based personal financial-planning service, and has over 25 years of experience in this field. He can be reached at: 076-381997 or 081-081 4611. Or email [imm@loxinfo.co.th](mailto:imm@loxinfo.co.th). Web: [www.global-portfolios.com](http://www.global-portfolios.com).

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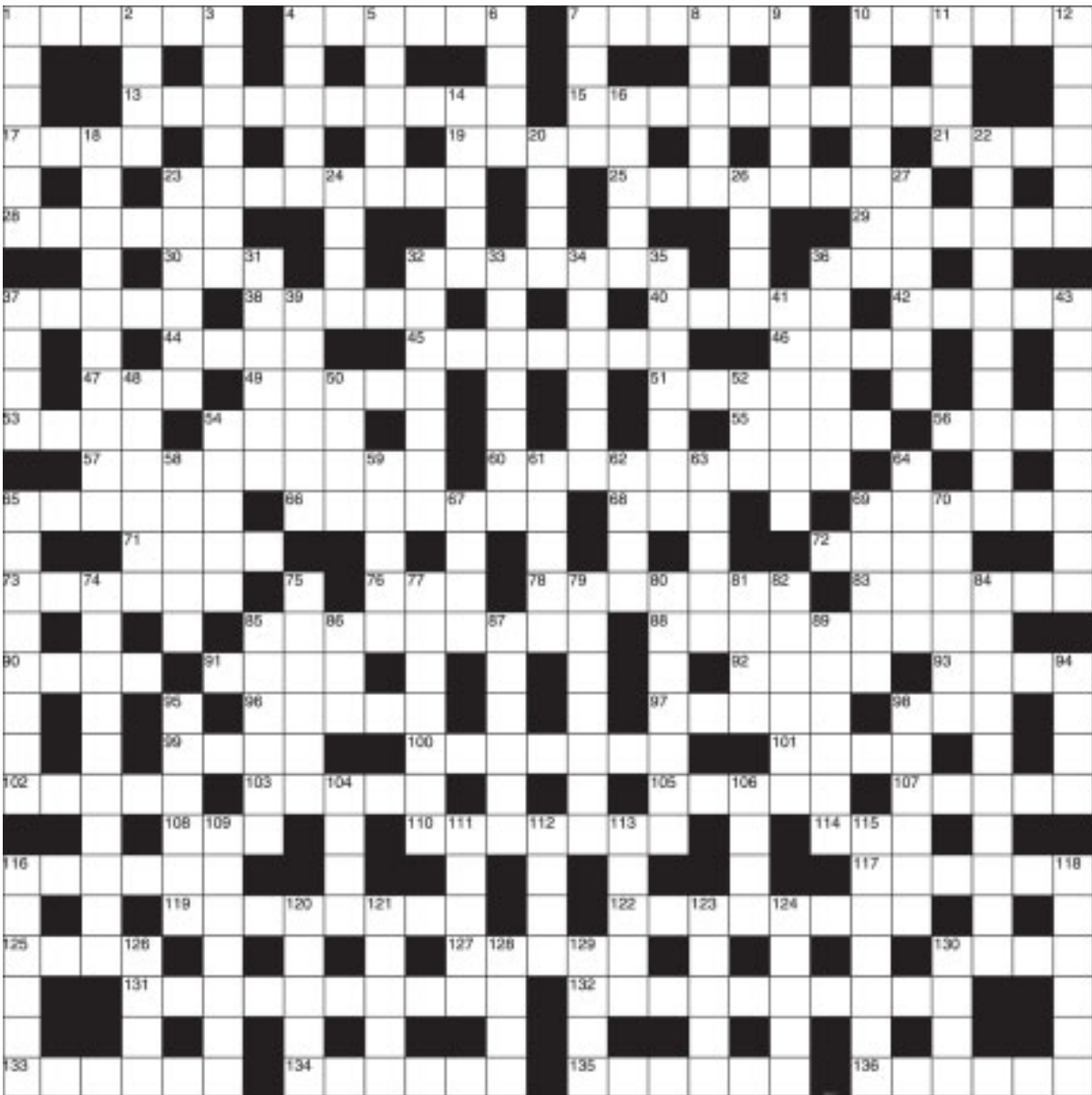
PUZZLES

Spot the Difference



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





The BIG Crossword

© Lovatts Publications Pty Ltd

Across

1. Red salad fruit

4. Separate (from)

7. Disinclined

10. Hired movies

13. Defiant

15. Parliament member

17. Replica

19. Twitch

21. Enclosed area

23. Sit astride

25. Ate

28. Movable

29. Largest desert

30. Fuss

32. Fruitless

36. 'Tis

37. Loud

38. Carpentry fasteners

40. Lunches or dinners

42. Store secretly

44. Candidates' assessment

45. Dissimilar

46. Alternatively, or...

47. Belonging to that woman

49. Harness-racing horse

51. Holiday entitlement

53. Christmas carol, The First...

54. Confusing network

55. Tennis ace,... Sampras

56. Slow down!

57. Letter of recommendation

60. Saviours

65. Capital of Oman

66. Aspiring actress

68. I am, they...

69. Prejudiced

Down

71. Drew

72. Metal join

73. Cooks in oven

76. Weep

78. Made certain

83. Within reach (2,4)

85. Group of musicians

88. Gave food to

90. Flits (about)

91. Early Peruvian

92. Make impassioned speech

93. In proportion, pro...

96. Vietnam capital

97. House tops

98. Oomph

99. Honey wine

100. Broad knife

101. Singer,... Turner

102. Late Princess of Wales

103. Audacity

105. From Lausanne or Zurich

107. Cat cry

108. Blood colour

110. Gossips

114. Martial art,... kwon do

116. Writes in block letters

117. Flood channel

119. Clamber

122. Famous "enigmatic" portrait (4,4)

125. Artist, Vincent Van...

127. Make fun of

130. Snooty person

131. High-born (5-5)

132. Temperance

133. Harangue

134. Margin of safety

135. Swiss lake

136. Marten furs

59. Apprehend

61. Anaesthetic

62. Hearing organs

63. Paris underground

64. Grime

65. Plant

67. Produces (egg)

69. Beauty And The...

70. Stick (to)

74. Renouncing throne

75. Covered shopway

77. Systematic routine

79. Innocence

80. Strip

81. European currency unit

82. Preliminary outlines

84. Adjustment

85. Available (2,4)

86. Tin container

87. Male feline

89. Assert

94. Affirm

95. Stings

98. Actress,... Anderson

104. Rove

106. US Midwest state

109. Runaway

111. Wrongly assists

112. Tinned fish

113.... and Juliet

115. Attacks

116. Little pig

118. Live coals

120. 4th month

121. Midriff swelling

123. Sister's girl

124. Jungle vine

126. Hawaiian dance

128. Glimpse

129. Self-satisfied

130. Social insult

Solution on next page

su | do | ku

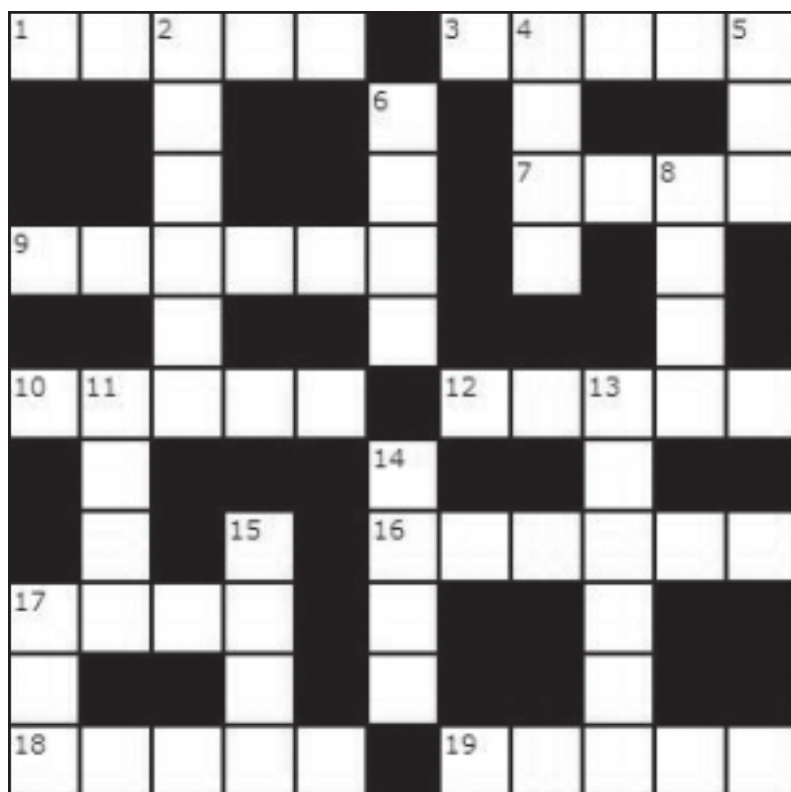
© Puzzles by Pappocom

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

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

The principle of Sudoku is very simple: each row, each column and each "box" of nine squares within the puzzle must contain all the numbers from 1 to 9 with, naturally, no repetitions. Guess if you will, but each Sudoku puzzle can be solved using logic alone. Beware: this puzzle has only one solution, which is on the next page.





## Quick Crossword

### Across

1. Songs
3. Tasty
7. Cards
9. Spreadable
10. Untrue
12. Hold
16. Type of guitar
17. Lighten
18. Group
19. Rob

### Down

2. Can die
4. US state
5. Affirmative
6. Rigid
8. Garden
11. Water
13. Crazy
14. For breakfast
15. Champion
17. Illness

*Solution below*

## Get your brain in gear with the

# MONSTER QUIZ

1. When did the Flying Doctor service begin in Australia?
2. Which ship was sunk after delivering components to make the Little Boy bomb?
3. Which invasion of England in 1588 resulted in nearly 70 enemy losses?
4. Which word is a fish-flavored food-stuff where every other letter is an A?
5. What is Mexico's national dish of beef and beans called?
6. What type of sausage took its name from a German City?
7. In 2005, who set a world record for sailing solo around the world?
8. What was the name of the computer that beat Gary Kasparov at chess in 1997?
9. Who is better known as 'Topolino' in Italy?
10. Which is the largest non-Christian religion in Scotland?
11. What are the Australian indigenous people called?
12. Who elects the Pope?
13. By what nickname was ornithologist Robert Stroud better known?
14. What was the last Portuguese colony to gain independence?
15. The Sargasso Sea is in which ocean?
16. Where is the most heavily guarded border in the world?
17. What nickname did Dickens give John Dawkins?
18. Who plays General Melchett in "Blackadder"?
19. Whose new album is called It's Blitz!?
20. What nationality is Ryan Giggs?

*Answers below*



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# Puzzle Solutions

### Solution to this week's Quick crossword



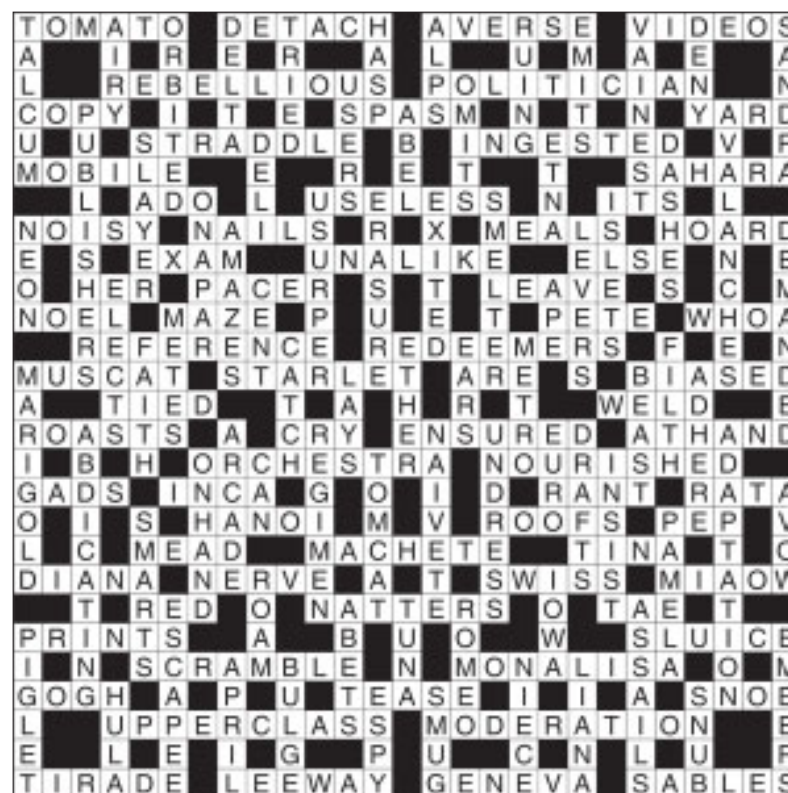
## Monster Quiz Answers

1. 1928 +/- 5 years;
2. USS Indianapolis;
3. Spanish Armada; 4. Taramasalata; 5. Chili con Carne; 6. Frankfurt; 7. Ellen McArthur; 8. Deep Blue; 9. Mickey Mouse; 10. Islam; 11. Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders; 12. College of Cardinals; 13. The Birdman of Alcatraz; 14. Macau; 15. Atlantic Ocean; 16. Between North & South Korea; 17. Artful Dodger; 18. Steven Fry; 19. Yeah Yeah Yeahs; 20. Welsh.

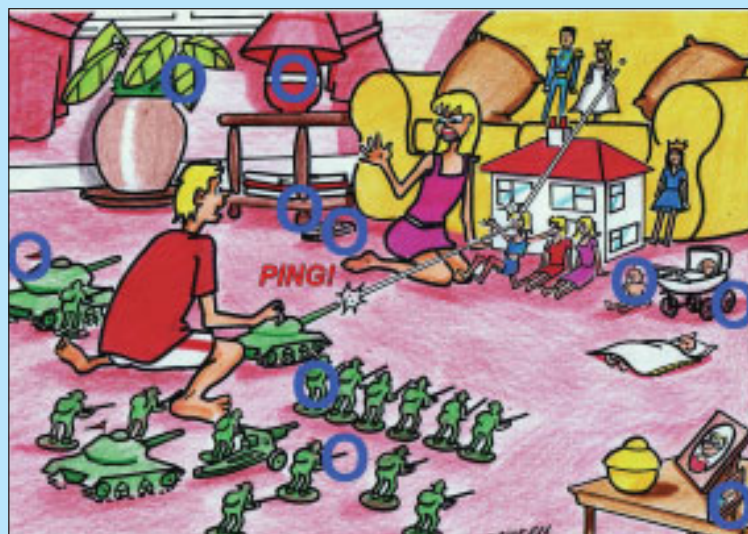
### Solution to this week's Sudoku puzzle

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

### Solution to this week's BIG Crossword



### Solution to this week's Cartoon Puzzle





# Tan-Kim-Jeng Challenges Governor

## in a fight for the right to run Phuket's tin mines

### LOOKING BACK

By Anand Singh

The last *Looking Back* column mentioned Phraya Wichit Songkram's mansion that was recently unearthed by archaeologists in Ban Tha Rua. During the late 19th century, Phraya Wichit Songkram moved out of his house in Phuket Town and built his residence.

The house was a large complex surrounded by brick wall and gunned fortifications. It therefore served not just as residence for the governor, but also as a stronghold to protect his family, the provincial treasures and tin reserves in the event of a violent uprising, similar to the one that forced him from Phuket Town originally.

At some point in history, this uniquely built residence was abandoned and left to deteriorate and over the years the ruins eventually disappeared under the mud and vegetation.

In his written accounts, HRH Prince Damrong Rajanubhab explained that towards the end of the 19th century, the governor of Phuket was deeply indebted to the royal treasury. To explain how the family had accumulated such a large amount of debt, it helps to understand how state enterprises were run in Siam at the time.

Phuket's most lucrative industry was undoubtedly tin mining and it was a significant source of revenue for the central government. Although the tin mines in Phuket were state property, the governor of Phuket or any rich Siamese lord could bid for a concession to operate the mines.

The right to manage the tin industry in the province went to the bidder who promised to pay the highest annual rent to the royal treasury.

During the period when Phraya Wichit Songkram was governor, his family held the rights to operate the tin mines in Phuket. They were responsible for the profitable management of the mines and the tin trade.

Although state-owned, the mines' operations became a family business of the governor. The rent they promised to send was an obligation they had to fulfill. Therefore, it was essential to assure that the mines ran profitably. Any surplus profits after the rent was paid became the governor's private wealth.

Prince Damrong wrote that for many years, Phraya Wichit Songkram had been in charge of the mines operations in Phuket. During the early reign of King Chulalongkorn, Tan-Kim-Jeng, a Siamese lord of Chinese descent, went to Bangkok and appealed to the Ministry of Defense – the



Somdej-Chaophraya Si-Suriyawongse was one of the most influential statesmen in Siam during the 19th Century.

arm of government that was in charge of the towns in the south-west of Siam.

Tan-Kim-Jeng, also the Siamese consul to the British colony of Singapore, handed a petition to the ministry in which he claimed that the Siamese government had grossly underestimated the revenue potential of the mining industry in Phuket.

He went on to say that as a result of this, Phraya Wichit Songkram, the governor of Phuket, was accumulating substantial amounts of private wealth because he had promised the government far less rent than the mines in Phuket were capable of delivering each year.

Tan-Kim-Jeng then asked the government to cease letting Phraya Wichit manage the mines and grant him the concessions instead.

In return for letting him operate the tin mines, Tan-Kim-Jeng promised to pay at least 320,000 baht per year to the royal treasury. Prior to Tan-Kim-Jeng's

petition, Phraya Wichit managed to pay only 17,000 baht in rent each year. The amount promised by Tan-Kim-Jeng seemed surreal in comparison.

The Siamese government, however, was not ready to jump on the deal immediately, mainly because they did not trust Tan-Kim-Jeng. Although he held the title of 'Phraya' and was a Siamese noble, it is said that he had little loyalty for the Siamese crown. His allegiance was with the British.

Thus the Siamese ruling elite were worried that if they were to let him manage the island's tin mines, it might prove an invitation for the British to intervene further in the island's affairs. Not accepting Tan-Kim-Jeng's bid was also problematic. It would be hard for the government to come up with an acceptable reason for rejecting the substantially larger bid that Tan-Kim-Jeng had promised in favor of keeping Phraya Wichit Songkram in charge.

At this point in time, King

Chulalongkorn had not yet come of age. Siam's administration was the responsibility of Somdej-Chaophraya Si-Suriyawongse, the King's regent.

Chaophraya Si-Suriyawongse was one of the most influential figures in Siam at that period. His noble title 'Somdej-Chaophraya' was the highest

noble rank that can be bestowed upon a commoner in the kingdom. Chaophraya Si-Suriyawongse also headed the Ministry of Defense.

When he received Tan-Kim-Jeng's petition, he asked Phraya Wichit Songkram for his help on the matter. He convinced Phraya Wichit Songkram to increase his bid to the treasury and outbid Tan-Kim-Jeng's offer so that the governor could legitimately keep his concession.

Phraya Wichit Songkram found himself in a dilemma. Si-Suriyawongse was regent to the King and therefore temporary ruler of the kingdom. When he personally pleaded for Phraya Wichit Songkram's help it was difficult for him to refuse. But if the governor was to outbid Tan-Kim-Jeng's offer, his annual mining rent paid to the treasury would increase almost twenty fold. This would put enormous strains on the family's private finances, as well as the on mining industry on the island.

Phraya Wichit Songkram agreed to take up Si-Suriyawongse's advice and the following year, he increased his bid to pay 336,000 baht in rent. In return he was allowed to keep his tin mining concessions. With the drastic increase in rent, the governor's family was to inherit a heavy financial burden.

When Phraya Wichit Songkram died in 1878, his successor Phraya Lamduan was installed as governor of the island. Under Phraya Lamduan, Phuket's mining industry suffered from bad management and adverse economic conditions. In the next *Looking Back* column find out how Phraya Lamduan lost his wealth and inheritance, including Phraya Wichit Songkram's house at Ban Tha Rua.

*Anand Singh is an avid Phuket historian. He lived on Phuket from the age of 3 to 21. He is fluent in Thai and is currently completing his degree in economics at the University of Birmingham. Anand may be contacted at as.pkt@hotmail.com*



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- Since 1994 -

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## Indigenous land issues require Governor's urgent attention

There are very few places where the contrast between the "haves" and the "have nots" is more stark than right here in Phuket, which continues to lure some of the world's richest and poorest migrants.

At the top-end, luxury villas and vacation homes for the rich continue to spring up in exclusive gated communities all over the island. Most of these are built virtually by hand by poorly paid migrant laborers from other parts of Thailand or economic refugees from neighboring states, especially Burma. More recently, attempts by the stateless Rohingya boat people to enter the country have added a depressing new dimension to the social inequality facing Phuket and the region.

In addition to the migrant workers, the island is home to a huge population of Thais living in poor communities, most little more than slums lacking basic utilities like electricity or water supply that most of us take for granted until there is a blackout or pressure drop.

Many of these communities started out as squatters' camps on state land at the advent of the tourism boom. Time and the failure to evict them at the outset have resulted in the development of established communities, with families now in their third generation, all living under the same roof.

Even after decades on the island, many people in these communities are still listed on house registration forms in other provinces. The provincial office, particularly under former Governor Niran Kalayanamit, went to great pains to get more of these people registered as Phuket residents. These efforts met with little success, because without some form of official land use document it is impossible to issue a new house registration form or apply for power or water supply.

The recent establishment of national and provincial panels dedicated to settling land rights disputes involving sea gypsies is a step in the right direction, but the protest by members of the "30 Communities Network" (see page 1) demonstrates just how little faith there is among the poor that real change will be accomplished.

The clock is ticking for new Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop, who will retire in less than a year, to make some real progress on these issues. Fortunately, Mr Wichai has vast experience in land issues as a former deputy director of the Land Department nationwide.

Given this fact, we hope he can focus his efforts more on solving land rights issues than on pushing through megaprojects that Phuket doesn't really need. Progress in this area would be a great accomplishment indeed.

- The Editor

**The Phuket Gazette**

In association with **The Nation** Multimedia Group PCL

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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.

### A noisy holiday

As I have done many times before, I chose to holiday in Nai Harn in search of peace, tranquility and beautiful beaches. Unfortunately, despite the assurance that "there are no entertainment areas in Rawai", I found many noisy beer bars with squawking girls and loud music close to my holiday home in Saiyuan Road. The noise continued to thump loudly until after 2am, making it impossible for nearby residents to sleep.

If that were not enough, the Icon Pub - in spite of the law - pumps music out full blast until 5am most mornings. Whatever happened to the promising concept of zoning? Can we expect more of the same in this previously quiet area? Or must we choose another destination where we can spend our money in peace? Many thanks and best regards.

Michele Catti  
Genoa, Italy

### Pro salaengs

After reading the article regarding the tour bus accident with the *salaeng*, I felt that stress has been put on creating a negative image of the *salaeng* (motorbike sidecar). I think the world has already come to an understanding regarding energy problems, and saving energy is one of the most important duties for we "children of the world".

The *salaeng* is a very efficient way of saving energy, especially on an island like Phuket.

Instead of stressing it as "illegal", I think it's the duty of the media to help convince the government to create a safety specifi-

cation for such vehicles. And getting the motorcycle producers to come up with a better and safe version of the *salaeng*. I believe it can be done because Harley Davidson, for example, already has a sidecar version, which is legal under the American legal system.

I ask for media support to save the world by doing something simple to start with. And this is that start. Thank you.

Patrick  
Phuket

### Salaeng safety

I read your story online regarding Mr Maitree who died in a nasty accident [*Gazette online* March 29: Man run over by bus in Thalang]. After looking at the picture I noticed that the *salaeng* he hit only has one rear light. To me, that's extremely dangerous.

From a distance in the dark, it looks like a normal motorbike. As you get closer you then realize that it is a much wider vehicle. If you are not careful when trying to pass or if you fail to notice that it is indeed a *salaeng*, there is a good chance that you will end up like Mr Maitree, and crash into it from behind. If you are unlucky - as indeed he was - you can die.

Please get the message out that all *salaeng* drivers should equip their vehicles with two rear lights on the either side of the back of their *salaeng*. Some of them have them already, but many don't which I believe is extremely dangerous.

A. Gerrard  
Phuket

### Similans next?

I read online with interest

about the fishing trawlers being seized [*Phuketgazette.net* March 22] and I would like to congratulate the authorities. It's a start, but maybe the Similans could be next?

Trawling at night, kilometers of nets (within the 3,000m range), long-line fishing and all of this clearly visible for the navy and park rangers (it must be the case, because if I can see it, so can they).

They still manage to collect park fees however... As long as you don't require a receipt.

Thanks & good luck.

Matt Drury  
Phuket

### Jellyfish stings

Contrary to what Dr. Somchai said in the article (*Phuket Gazette* issue March 21), the latest scientific studies say that the best treatment for jellyfish type stings is the application of bearable hot water. I have seen this in several articles on this subject and I am sure further investigation and research would confirm this.

Peter Hay  
Phuket

### Charitable 7-Eleven

Every time I go into a 7-Eleven, I always exit with a pocketful of change. Why doesn't 7-Eleven introduce charity collection boxes at the till, similar to those at McDonalds. I'm sure that they could collect a fortune and benefit some of Phuket's worthy charities. I know that I would certainly be happy to give away my loose change.

Dave Moorhouse  
Cherng Talay

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.



# FIRST PERSON

# Barking up the right tree



John Dalley came to Phuket about six years ago with the expressed intention of enjoying his early retirement by indulging his passions for diving and golf. Keen, however, to put something back into the community that he and his wife had adopted as their new home, John looked around for some worthy but not overly time-consuming cause to support – perhaps a day or two a week would suffice. Six years on and John – now the vice president of Soi Dog Foundation – still hasn't got around to swinging a golf club. A recent Soi Dog Foundation 'Salsa' fundraiser at the Chedi resort raised Bt370,000, which will go towards the foundation's sterilization and treatment program, as well as a new shelter in Mai Khao. Following the event, John talked to the *Gazette* about his ongoing work with the foundation.

Shortly after arriving in Phuket, I was having a drink in my local bar with friends when one of them mentioned a Dutch lady (Margot Park) who had also just arrived on the island and was looking for a few able-bodied people to help her carry dogs up from Laem Sing beach to have them sterilized.

Intrigued, I volunteered to help and met a lady driving a beaten up old truck covered with pictures of dogs.

My first thought was that this was another crazy animal lover trying to fight a forest fire with a teacup of water.

On speaking with her, I discovered how wrong I was.

A little crazy maybe, but here was the first person I had met who completely understood Phuket's stray dog problem, where it was heading, and how it had to be tackled.

Alison Montgomery, the Australian vet who had run the Atigaro project – which had operated sterilization clinics on the island – had also met her, and had come to the same conclusion, giving Margot all the operating tables, vehicles and other equipment necessary to run a field clinic – albeit a basic one – when she left Phuket.

Although Margot was to leave the island a couple of years

later, physically and mentally exhausted, it was from these humble beginnings that Soi Dog Foundation on Phuket began.

Have we had any effect? Was it worth my wife losing her legs rescuing a dog from a flooded water buffalo field? I think I can speak for both of us when I say yes. Of course there is still a problem here, but nothing like what it would have been had we done nothing at all.

The effect of sterilizing nearly 23,000 animals, and vaccinating and treating countless others has been huge.

The fact is that with the rapid development of Phuket and increased human population, the number of dogs on the island should have increased by a similar amount. In reality, censuses show that the number has decreased significantly in the past six years, and generally the condition of the dogs that remain is vastly improved.

If people think that tourists aren't affected by seeing half-starved hairless dogs on the streets and beaches they should read my emails.

I am, however, worried about the future. Like all charities we can only do as much as the money we raise allows us to do. Soi Dog Foundation has traditionally raised nearly all of its funds

from overseas. The current high value of the Thai baht against many Western currencies has obviously affected us. Moreover, as people's disposable income is eroded, spare cash to donate to charities is also affected.

Individuals and businesses in Phuket are also affected and it becomes harder to raise funds locally. We are also seeing an increase in abandoned dogs as owners leave the island through lack of work, adding to the strain and expense at the shelter.

We currently employ 12 full-time staff and have three new veterinarians joining us next month.

The salaries of our staff and our other overheads – particularly drugs and food – mean we currently spend 500,000 baht per month. As well as raising this, we need to find a further 12 million baht to purchase the land where our shelter is situated. We currently lease it.

In the West, charities like Soi Dog Foundation do not have to worry about food or drug bills, as these commodities are nearly always provided by manufacturers, who write off the donations against tax and see benefits from using their support for publicity purposes.

In Thailand this just does not happen and we have to pay the



ONE OF THE LUCKY ONES: This ex-soi dog was recently photographed at the Soi Dog Foundation 'Salsa' fundraiser at The Chedi.

full market price for these items. One pet food manufacturer even said it would be bad publicity for them to have their product associated with street dogs!

Another concern is that previously, all our time was spent on Phuket. Now as we receive sponsorship from businesses like The Sarojin and Le Meridien hotels in Khao Lak and further afield on Koh Lanta, and elsewhere in Krabi and Phang Nga provinces, nearly half our time is spent sterilizing animals there.

This, of course, means fewer dogs sterilized on Phuket.

It seems to me that it would be a fairly simple matter for developers to ban dogs from the work camps set up to build their developments.

Only last week we sterilized nearly 50 dogs from just three such camps near Laguna. Once the development is completed the majority of these dogs, many born on the site, are simply left behind, and of course come into conflict with the very developments that brought them there in the first place.

In extreme cases, such as previously dog-free islands off the east coast, where I would have thought it would be extremely easy to ban dogs, it has led to an ecological nightmare.

Similarly, removing well be-

haved, sterilized dogs from beaches, hotels and even the streets is asking for trouble. Dogs are territorial and will protect their territory from other dogs. Remove them and the problem will inevitably be far worse, as one hotel I know found out recently when they removed their two peaceful long-term resident dogs, only to find that within three months they had 10 replacements!

Simply removing unwanted animals and dumping them in the pound or elsewhere is nothing more than fire fighting, and not something we will ever be associated with.

If a dog is aggressive then that is another matter, but Thai dogs compared with their counterparts in other countries in Asia are generally not aggressive to humans, unless trained to be by their owners.

So the future, so far as Phuket and its stray dogs are concerned, is somewhat in the balance as far as I can see. This is such a shame because if the government agencies, charities and businesses could work together on the problem, then with very little in the way of extra resources the problem could very easily be resolved. This would certainly be good for Phuket tourism, good for residents and good for the dogs and cats.

## Issues & ANSWERS

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

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## Not registering a foreign marriage when returning to live in Thailand

Is it legal for a Thai citizen to marry a non-Thai while out of the Kingdom and on returning to Thailand to continue to live in the country without officially registering her marriage? If this is illegal, what would be the fine or punishment for such an offense?

Bjarne Petersen  
Mukdahan

**Mr Surin Puangpakdee, Managing Director of NSP & Laws legal firm on Koh Samui replies:**

It is perfectly legal for a Thai citizen to get married to a non-Thai national abroad and upon returning to the Kingdom to con-

tinue living in Thailand without officially registering her marriage.

However, should any problems arise she would not be covered by any marital laws that apply within Thailand. Instead she would be subject to the laws of the country where the marriage was registered.

For more information contact Mr Surin at NSP & Laws firm Co Ltd, 142/52 Moo 4 Maret, Koh Samui, Surat Thani, 84310. T: 077-458204, 077-458256. F: 077-458476. E: [Samui@nsplaws.com](mailto:Samui@nsplaws.com). W: [www.nsplaws.com](http://www.nsplaws.com)





## Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt

**P**aul Theroux is at it again. *Ghost Train to the Eastern Star* (Hamish Hamilton, London, 2008, 485pp) is his tenth travel book, subtitled “On the tracks of The Great Railway Bazaar”.

At the age of 65, 33 years after taking the great railway journey across Europe and Asia that gave him fame and fortune, Theroux decided to retrace his youthful footsteps.

In 1973, having lived in East Africa and Singapore, Theroux was the author of a handful of competent novels, but still living hand to mouth in London with his wife and sons.

He then took off on the railway journey that would launch his career. Now he wanted to see how the people and places had changed.

For one thing, he was not

traveling the luxury route. The Paris-Istanbul Orient Express he had taken in 1973 closed down four years later, only to be re-launched at \$9,000 per one-way ticket.

He eschews this choice because, “Luxury is the enemy of observation, a costly indulgence that induces such a good feeling that you notice nothing. Luxury spoils and infantilizes you and prevents you from knowing the world. That is its purpose, the reason why luxury cruises and great hotels are full of fatheads.”

So he roughs it across eastern Europe to Turkey and the various impoverished “Stans”, through India, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, China, Japan and Russia, and back to Britain.

There are countries he loves – Turkey and Thailand – that have prospered over the years and countries he despises that have also prospered. Don’t get him started on Singapore and Lee Kwan Yew.

“Singaporeans’ personalities reflect that of the only leader most of them have ever known,

and as a result are notably abrasive, thin-skinned, unsmiling, rude, puritanical, bossy, selfish and uninspired. Because they can’t criticize the government, they criticize each other or pick on foreigners.”

Burma and Sri Lanka have not changed at all, both for political reasons. Theroux remarks upon the universal kindness of the Burmese, despite their brutal rulers.

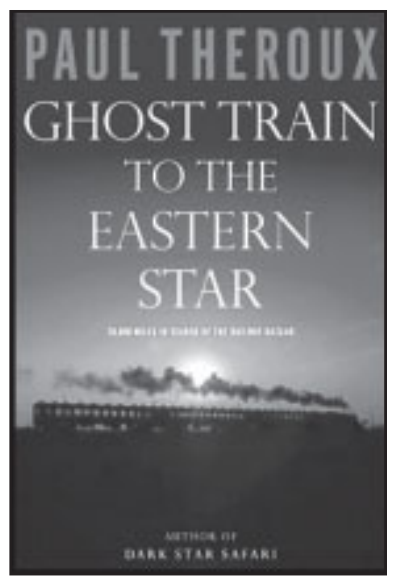
He has the satisfaction of running into a hotel family near Mandalay who were made famous by his first travel book and is given a rousing welcome.

In Sri Lanka, the Tamil Tigers still reign supreme in the north of the island. “The Tigers were tenacious and disinclined to bargain; when their leader, Velupillai Prabhakaran, was described as ‘ruthless and elusive’, I took this to mean stupid and stubborn, the sort of qualities that fuel a village fanatic’s monomania. He was a grade-school dropout with a fifth grade education, famously unreasonable, impervious to logic, unmoved by sending children to their deaths.”

On India, he is of two

minds. The old city of Bombay has become a completely new city called Mumbai: “The frenzied careerists of Mumbai seldom stopped talking about how the place was booming, as though having rid it of its old name, Bombay, they had founded a new city. Their obtuse pride was odd in a country infatuated with its past, obsessed with its own complexity, where nostalgia was a ruling passion. But the Indian craving to belong to the wider world is more than a billion strong – and not just to belong, but to have the world’s good opinion of them to impress with their history, their moralizing and disquisitionary nature, their unembarrassed pleasure in speechifying, their love of the orotund and the sententious, and the enduring quaintness of their customs.”

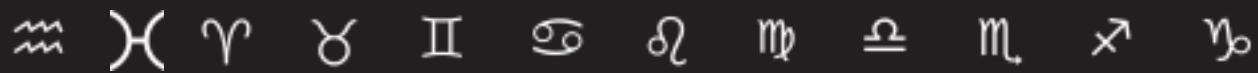
In Thailand he has several epiphanies. At dawn on the train to Nong Khai, he opens the window at a small station “where there were handsome families, a smiling monk wrapped in his ochre robe, and pretty girls in T-shirts and white shorts – on this entire trip, Thailand offered me



my first glimpse of women’s bare legs. The stations were swept and tidy, no litter, everyone in clean clothes, children playing... The cleanliness seemed to represent a kind of optimism and self-esteem, and all this order was framed by green fields and polyphonic birdsong.”

One big difference now is that Theroux is in electronic touch with his second wife. In 1973, his first wife, starved for word from him, had started an affair.

## Horoscopes



Isla Star

## Family means more in the year ahead for birthday Arians

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): A short holiday period forces Arians to take a break from work and you will realize that it’s time to plan a longer getaway. This weekend, a Sagittarian friend comes up with a suggestion for a cost-cutting holiday next month. It would not be wise to allow a recent romance to affect your plans. Those who are celebrating a birthday during the week ahead will enjoy closer family relationships in the coming year.

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): Taureans who are ready to go with the flow will encounter interesting people along the way. Another earth sign is forecast to make a lasting impression and a reunion next month is highlighted. Your ability to spot a bargain comes in handy this weekend, but shopping for luxury items is inadvisable during the second half of April. Thursday is the best day to make contact with someone you fell out with last month.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): Geminis who don’t know whether to pursue a business opportunity will be enlightened this weekend when a Scorpio colleague has some inside information. During the second half of April, money matters are well-starred. A loan that you had written off is repaid out of the blue and property investments are forecast to pay off more than you had anticipated. Catching up with old friends adds sparkle to your holiday celebrations.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 23): Cancerians who need to let off some steam are advised to ask another water sign friend to join them. The stars suggest that your enthusiasm to get back to work after the holiday period won’t be shared by everyone. Late next week, delays are forecast to frustrate in the world of business. Where love is concerned, your head should rule your heart until the end of this month.

**LEO** (July 24-August 22): Cancellation from Libra could put a last-minute dampener on your plans for a good time this week, but Leos will soon find another friend who’s ready to party. Those whose partner has been distracted lately should find out the reason around the middle of this month. If you’re single, an alluring air sign catches your eye this weekend. The number three can bring some good luck on Wednesday.

**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23): Life is a steep learning curve for those born under the sign of Virgo this week. A fire sign you trusted at the start of April is forecast to show that they have a tricky side. Your desire to stay dry at home while others are out tossing water around is compromised when friends put pressure on. Money matters are better starred during the second half of this month.

**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23): Certain Librans could be accused of being a wet blanket this week. If your idea of fun doesn’t include getting drowned, find a like-minded friend to spend some relaxing time at home with. Those hoping to find romance may learn something to their advantage when Sagittarius spills the beans. The stars suggest that job searching will yield more lucrative results during the last week of April. Wearing the color primrose yellow encourages patience.

**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22): Scorpios shouldn’t be in a hurry to blame someone else for mistakes this week. It appears that miscommunication lies at the bottom of an ongoing financial problem and checking your facts is advisable. Romance is also subject to crossed wires until the end of April – those wishing to put a relationship on a more even keel should wait a while. The number six can bring good fortune next Tuesday.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): A series of false starts is forecast to bring frustration for many of those born under the sign of Sagittarius this week. It would be better to avoid working with water signs as they will be unable to make firm commitments. Your love life benefits from clearing the air around an issue that has clouded happiness recently. Towards the end of the week, you learn how to make your money work more efficiently.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20): Some small improvements in your circumstances will put Capricorns in a more buoyant mood during the remainder of April. Many will realize that taking a firmer stand in the world of business brings better results than allowing others to have the final word. Cupid is poised to shoot an arrow on behalf of those who are single. If you’re in a committed relationship, your partner proves that they can still spring a surprise.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19): Love colors the atmosphere for Aquarians for the remainder of April. Commitments are highlighted, even for some who have not seen them coming. Although work is probably the last thing on your mind, there are indications that a door of opportunity is about to be opened. Travel is subject to delays during the middle of next week, so allow extra time. Wear the color charcoal to encourage a more down to earth attitude.

**PISCES** (February 20-March 20): Pisceans feeling green around the gills this week are advised to opt out of water related activities. Some quality time at home should revitalize you enough to cope with responsibilities that are forecast to arrive in the last week of April. A tricky business agreement that you thought was set in stone turns out to be more flexible. Romance should be kept light-hearted until you know what you really want.

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# Flying against the wind of recession

## Talking Planes



**T**hai Airways International's decision to move its domestic flight operations from Don Muang back to Suvarnabhumi Airport on March 29 was good news for Phuket tourism.

With the move, significantly more international transit passengers will enjoy smoother connections with flights to Phuket.

The splitting of domestic flights between Suvarnabhumi and Don Muang two years ago proved to be a costly decision for THAI as it caused problems for transit passengers coming through Don Muang who then had to cross busy and congested Bangkok to catch international flights.

Despite Suvarnabhumi Airport's larger terminal making the walk from the gate to immigration much farther than at Don Muang, Suvarnabhumi is better equipped to handle transit passengers to Phuket from international flights – certainly a lot better than taking a 40-minute bus or taxi ride across Bangkok.

Even though the global airline industry and passenger markets are in the grip of a worldwide recession, international traffic to Thailand – particularly Phuket – continues to be strong, so this is a particularly important decision.

That strength is mainly due to Phuket maintaining a high ranking as a tourist destination, which has kept tourists coming to the island despite high oil prices pushing air fares up and the temporary closure of three of the country's airports last year, including Phuket International Airport (PIA).

Last year, the number of international passengers arriving in Phuket actually increased by 10% to about 2.5 million people, while the number of international flights increased by 1.7%.

PIA had originally projected



The splitting of domestic flights between Suvarnabhumi and Don Muang two years ago proved to be a costly decision for THAI.

that six million passengers (including domestic) would have passed through the airport by December last year. However, just 5.7 million passengers were recorded in 2008 (about the same as in 2007). This was not considered a significant drop compared with the predictions and the number actually underlines Phuket's continuing strength as a desirable destination.

A disturbing figure for PIA, though, was a big drop in the number of flights in and out of the airport; down from 40,799 in 2007 to 37,991 in 2008. This is a result of airlines pulling Phuket off their route structure for financial reasons and it also reflects the grounding for several months of low-cost carriers One-Two-Go and Nok Air.

In this regard the upcoming low season schedule projects some good and not-so-good prospects for Phuket.

Thai AirAsia has signaled that it wants to fly more international flights into Phuket, including the tempting possibility of a direct flight from Hong Kong.

At present, Dragonair, the Cathay Pacific-owned carrier, retains a strong grip on this lucrative route, which services the many Hong Kong Chinese and expatriate travelers who have property investments in Phuket. In addition to Dragonair's direct flights, six other airlines service Phuket via Hong Kong.

THAI will withdraw from the Bangkok-Phuket-Taipei route

this summer, but has nevertheless managed to expand its overall international regional schedule by increasing flight frequency between Bangkok and the following cities: Lahore in India; Kunming, Chengdu, Shanghai, Beijing and Guangzhou in China; Fukuoka and Osaka in Japan; Seoul in South Korea and Taipei in Taiwan.

All of this increased traffic through Suvarnabhumi, plus the

4,500 or so passengers per day inherited from the previous Don Muang operation, will place considerable strain on the Bangkok airport and increase the urgency to expand its 45-million-passengers-per-year capacity to the original plan of 100 million per year.

Further encouragement comes from a survey conducted by the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) and Visa who set

out to determine travel preferences in 2009 and beyond. Of the 5,554 people surveyed, 36% did not expect to make any changes to their travel plans in the near future, while 64% were reviewing their plans in light of the economic uncertainty.

Among those reviewing their plans, 57% said they would look for cheaper alternatives, while 38% said they would travel within their own country.

A breakdown of nationalities within the survey reveals some interesting results. It shows that passengers from Australia, Britain, Singapore, India, France and the USA are less likely to let economic conditions affect their plans, while those from Chinese Taipei, Korea, Japan, Hong Kong and China are more likely to change.

While the first of these two groups may comprise the much-coveted high spenders, the reality is that the majority of visitors to destinations like Phuket are in the second group.

Visitor arrival numbers and nationalities will be under intense scrutiny over the next year to see if a trend emerges to signify that Phuket is back on track.



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# Inaugural Oilfield Classic raises Bt750,000

The Loch Palm and Red Mountain golf courses in Kathu welcomed 76 golfers over the weekend of April 3 and 4 to contest the inaugural Phuket Oilfield Golf Classic. The event was born out of the interest of 18 avid golfers – most of whom are involved in the oil business in one way or another – who came to Phuket to play golf last year and enjoyed it so much they decided to set up an annual event for their oilfield colleagues.

This year's event was contested on the Loch Palm course on the Friday, with Saturday's action taking place on the demanding Red Mountain course. At the end of it all, Catriona Kang emerged victorious in the ladies singles section, with Angkana Poprasit and Janpen Arno Magee finishing second and third respectively. The mens singles section was won by Scott Puzey, with David Sandlin in second

and John Macintyre completing the podium positions. Puzey, who hails from Houston, Texas, told the *Gazette* – the sole media sponsors for the event, “I thought I was in with a shot of winning because I’ve won a few tournaments like this. I used to play golf quite competitively when I was younger, but I work in the oil industry now for a company called Weatherford and I’ve got no plans to pack in my day job.”

As it turned out, however, the golfing activities served merely as a warm-up for the quite extraordinary auction that was to follow later on Saturday night at the Club Andaman Resort in Patong.

With all proceeds going to the Phuket Sunshine Village childrens’ home, a staggering amount of money was raised during the course of the evening. There was a variety of memorabilia on offer, including a boxing glove signed by Muhammed Ali and a gui-

tar signed by the Rolling Stones, but it was a signed photo of Manchester United duo Wayne Rooney and Cristiano Ronaldo that surpassed all expectations. A furious bidding war emerged, which saw the value of the item soar from its starting price of 50,000 baht to a mind-boggling 500,000 baht. A total of 1.4 million baht was raised on the night, of which over 750,000 baht will find its way to the Phuket Sunshine Village – an astonishing amount, particularly given the current economic climate.

Organizer Mark Cameron said afterwards, “I’m delighted. Never in my wildest dreams did I think we would raise that much money. The items all have to be paid for and 20% of it is taken by Helping Hands, but I can guarantee at least Bt750,000 will go to the Sunshine Village. Next year we are hoping to have twice as many people and to raise even more money,” he added.

-James Goyder



Organizer Mark Cameron said afterwards, “I’m delighted. Never in my wildest dreams did I think we’d raise that much money”.



A mind-boggling total of 1.4 million baht was raised by the charity auction, of which over 750,000 baht will find its way to the Phuket Sunshine Village.

## Putting Phuket on the mat



After five years in the sport, Chone received his black belt and became an instructor. He has been teaching in Phuket for the past five years.

Phuket born and bred, Chone Changkol is a highly successful judo practitioner and coach. Having previously represented Thailand, he also guided three of his Phuket-based students to medal-winning performances at last year’s national champion-

ships. Chone, who currently teaches judo to adults and children in Nai Harn, only got into the sport by chance.

“I started to learn judo because of a woman! I remember at the time there were a lot of murders and violent crimes and I was concerned it could happen

to me or my girlfriend. I wanted to be able to protect her and thought that if something happened and I couldn’t do anything about it, it would haunt me forever.

“I used to do Muay Thai when I was younger, but my parents didn’t like me doing it. My dad was a Muay Thai fighter, but because he loved me he didn’t want to see me get hurt. At my university they taught only Muay Thai and judo; so I took up judo,” he said.

Ironically, it was Chones’ newfound enthusiasm for the sport that would ultimately cost him his relationship with the person he had taken it up to protect.

“I split up with my girlfriend a while after starting judo because I spent so much time practising, I had no time left for her,” he revealed.

A year after taking up the sport Chone was persuaded to try out for the Thai national team. Two years later, he was selected to represent his country. He was all set to compete for Thailand at the South East Asian Games when tragedy struck.

“I was training with a big partner, about 180lbs, when my foot got stuck and the weight of his entire body came down on my knee. It broke my leg and I lost my place in the team,” Chone recalls.

After five years, Chone re-

ceived his black belt and became an instructor.

He has been teaching in Phuket for the past five years, first at Easy Fitness and now at the Nai Harn Boxing Club.

“Judo is a great sport for kids to learn because, while with boxing and Muay Thai you rely a lot on your weight and reach, in judo it is all about technique; it’s pure technique,” he explains.

Last year under Chones’ tutelage, his students – two girls



Action from a three-day Pencak Silat tournament at Jungceylon. Originating in Indonesia, Pencak Silat is a performing art as well as a martial art in which participants try to impress a panel of judges with an elaborate series of moves.

and a boy – brought home two silver medals and a bronze medal from the national youth championships. The girls, both Thai, have since left Phuket for university but the boy, Oscar Larsson, from Sweden, still trains with Chone.

Chone took up the sport with the noblest of intentions; so has he ever had to use his judo skills to defend either himself or a female companion?

“Judo does teach you to defend yourself, but I have never been in a situation where I have had to do so.

“Actually, under Thai law, if you learn a martial art and then you fight with a normal person, the punishment is higher, but since I learned judo no one has ever tried to fight with me.”

Chone teaches judo four times a week at the Nai Harn Boxing Club. For more information visit: [www.phuket-boxing.com](http://www.phuket-boxing.com)

-James Goyder

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## Phuket property market exhibits strong fundamentals

The fourth quarter of 2008 marked a turning point for Phuket's property market in terms of price appreciation and take-up, according to the latest issue of CB Richard Ellis' (CBRE) *Phuket Property Report*.

With the forward momentum of the past five years having ground to a halt due to the global recession, the market has witnessed a significant drop in transactions and project launches, while project cancellations have increased considerably.

"In many ways, the Phuket property market is a foreign-driven market located on a Thai island," commented David Simister, Chairman of CBRE Thailand. "The bulk of visitors, hotels guests and property buyers are all foreigners," he added.

However, despite a sharp decline in the numbers of bookings, tourist arrivals and traditional buyers of Phuket property, CBRE does not expect the Phuket market to follow Spain or Florida into a headlong crash, as there are fundamental strengths to Phuket which differentiate it from other global resort markets, he added.

Among these fundamental differences is the fact that most completed projects in Phuket have sold almost all of their units, leaving only limited supply.

The latest issue of the *Phuket Property Report* – a quarterly analysis of the island's property sector – shows that, of a total of almost 3,000 villa units in completed projects, 89% have been sold. Figures for the condominium sector are similar, with 92% of just over 2,000 units in completed projects sold.

The report also notes that the expected growth in supply will be tempered by the recent spate of project delays and cancellations, which should prove to be positive for the island province in the long run.



David Simister, Chairman of CBRE Thailand.

Commenting on the extent of the slowdown, Nabeel Husain, Manager of Research at CBRE, says, "Our earlier estimates called for as many as 1,700 condominium units to be completed in 2009, but we believe a number of projects will be delayed due to slower take-up rates. Similarly, in the villa market we have identified over 10 projects with more than 450 units that went on hold or were delayed during the fourth quarter of 2008 alone. It also appears that around a quarter of all upscale hotel rooms under development are now on hold as well."

CBRE notes that the first quarter of 2009 has already offered some encouraging signs for Phuket, such as the island's buoyant tourist numbers – among the highest of any Asian resort, and also the lack of bank-financed mortgages that have played a significant role in the demise of other markets.

"In the long-term, we remain bullish on this market, since we believe that buyers of luxury and high-end properties tend to make choices based on lifestyle and not primarily on pricing. That being said, it is unlikely that demand for these high-end properties will recover before the global economy improves," concluded Simister.

Source: CB Richard Ellis (Thailand) Co Ltd.

## Novotel resorts cut costs with green initiatives



Green Globe initiatives at Novotel Phuket Resort in Patong have generated substantial savings for the resort. Solar panels help reduce the resort's power consumption by almost 10%.

In efforts to reduce the impact on the environment from daily operations, Novotel Phuket Resort in Patong and the Novotel Beach Resort Panwa recently joined the Green Globe environmental benchmark certification program. Since then, the resorts have recorded substantial drops in power and water consumption as well as carbon emissions.

Key initiatives towards energy and water conservation under the program include pledges by the resort and staff to implement better recycling and waste management programs in conjunction with their business partners and suppliers.

General Manager of Novotel Phuket Resort Herve Duprat explained that joining the Green Globe certification program was part of an ongoing commitment to tailor operations to meet responsibilities – and customers' expectations – towards the environment.

"It is becoming vital that we take responsibility for our environmental actions and work towards creating a sustainable future, not just for ourselves, but for future generations and to support our local community," he said.

"Joining the certification program has also improved environmental awareness among staff members and our guests. Many of the energy reduction measures cost nothing and can be as simple as turning off lights and air conditioning when not needed or adjusting the air conditioning temperature setting by a few degrees. We hold regular in-house workshops for staff and encourage guests to do their part with notices in the rooms," he added.

"At both resorts, staff and guests have commenced participation in an environmental certification program not only because our customers now expect concrete actions in favor of the environment, but also, and more importantly, because we are committed to protecting our environment," he added.

Before signing up for Green Globe certification, Novotel Phuket Resort had already seen a 9% saving in power costs after installing two sets of solar panels in 2001, reducing power consumption by about 300,000 kilowatts per year.

The 48 solar panels are located on the roofs of the resort's buildings. Combined, they produce 24kwh of power, and supply hot water for the guest rooms. They also power a 12,000-watt and a 36,000-watt heater. Each solar panel provides 0.5kwh of power.

Asked why the resorts chose Green Globe over other environmental benchmark certification, Mr Duprat said that they had elected to go with Green Globe because of their stringent qualification criteria and transparent annual assessment program.

"Green Globe representatives make annual visits to the resorts to assess progress and set new targets to further reduce emissions and energy consumption in order for us to continue to qualify for certification. With this knowledge, we can be confident that we really are making a difference and are committed to finding more and more long-term solutions for reducing the impact of our operations on the environment," he concluded.



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## Through the keyhole

## Patong

# Living on the hill

## A look inside the Sea Pearl Villas

The recently completed Sea Pearl Villas development on Patong Hill is a resort-like neighborhood of two-story homes designed and positioned to make the most of their 39-rai vantage point overlooking Patong Bay.

The high-ceiling villas are spacious inside and out and fill with natural light in the day.

Fronted with glass, every room opens onto a broad, shaded balcony so the view can be enjoyed day or night and from inside or out – even while soaking in the bath.

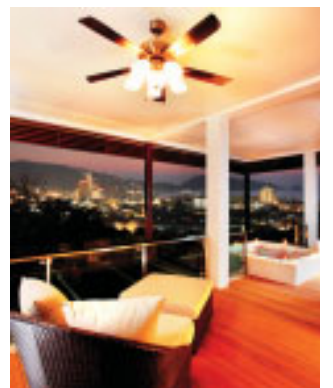
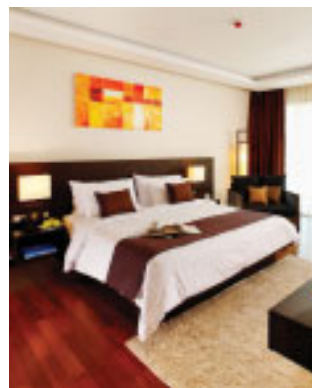
Each villa rests on a flat, 148-square-meter plot and is designed and furnished to combine traditional Eastern and modern Western styles. The combination of glass and brushed steel gives the buildings a contemporary look and feel but the handmade dark-wood furniture inside, gives the rooms a traditional Thai appeal, too.

Each villa has two large bedrooms, each with an en-suite bathroom that is lined with white marble and fronted with glass to offer a view across the bay.

The 16-sqm outside living area is the main appeal of the villas. The large balconies leave plenty of space to dine *al fresco* and there's still enough room to add a Jacuzzi to each of the bedroom's balconies.

Communal facilities in the grounds include eight swimming pools, squash courts, a sports center, gymnasiums, restaurants and a juice bar.

For the next three months, the villas are for sale at off-the-plan prices, ranging from 15.7- to 17.5-million baht. The developers are also offering a full kitchen appliance package to buyers during this time.



For more information contact Phuket Branch Manager Jirawat Kateseang (Tel: 076-523524-5, 083-7705552) or Jason Barr. E-mail: sales1@seapearlvillasphuket.com. www.harrison.co.th/phuket.



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Note: The above details including all pictures are indicative information only. The final details are subject to change(s) made by the developer without giving prior notice to the customer.



# Forbidden Fruit

I was intending to write about kitchen gardens at a future date, but the recent brouhaha about natural pesticides has quickened the intention.

Why? Well, all the 13 shrubs and herbs blacklisted by the government have not only been in daily use as pesticides for generations – if not longer – without any discernible side-effects, but a number of them are staples of Thai cuisine and indeed, of Asian herbalist medicine. One can scarcely imagine eating a Thai curry anywhere in the world without chili, a sour soup dish such as *tom yam* without lemongrass or galangal, a host of fish

dishes without ginger and Muslim fried chicken without turmeric-tinted yellow rice. Yet all these plants were declared “hazardous substances type one” without – so far as one can see – a shred of evidence to support the claim. It begs the question, if these herbs and spices have been in use as ingredients in Thai cooking for so long without posing any harm, how come these natural insecticides and fungicides – which are, incidentally all biodegradable – have suddenly and mysteriously become “hazardous”?

The answer, of course, almost certainly resides in the upper echelons of power or even beyond Thailand. It is a reflection of the clout of multinational companies that are lobbying politicians in order to make a fast buck from their own chemical pesticides. Are you old enough to remember DDT and Dieldrin? These organochlorines did untold damage, affecting the food chain from insects to eagles, rendering generations of owls and ospreys sterile. To this day, they are affecting natural ecosystems in the marine environment. Enough said. And anyway, the government now appears to be having a rethink. Good.

From the macro to the micro...back to the humble

kitchen garden. In Thailand one is spoiled for choice when it comes to selecting edible plants to grow. If you can be bothered to count the number of different fruits and vegetables in any open-air market in Phuket, you will find at least 40 different varieties. The fruits come mainly from trees, so I had to be selective. Nonetheless, I

opted for a mango – surely one of the world’s most succulent fruits – and a feature of most Thai gardens, and a pomegranate. The pomegranate had died back – I suspect cockchafer larvae – but has now started shooting again. I also put in a jackfruit – such an unusual tree – though I doubt I

will see the massive fruits in my lifetime, a guava, a rose-apple, a longan, a sandorica, a couple of avocados from seed, and of course, a kaffir lime and Thai lemon. The latter died, a victim of the gray mould that can affect so many plants here, but has now been replaced.

Two robust and disease-free growers that have already fruited are a banana and a papaya – the latter a great asset to any tropical garden with its pleasant foliage and its propensity to crop endlessly. This fecund tree has produced at least 20 fruit weighing two kilos or more each – all within the space of one year (see photo).

Thai cuisine is based on both strong and subtle flavors, so spices and herbs were bound to be central to anyone’s thinking. That brings me back to so-called “hazardous” plants. Sorry, Khun Abhisit, the ubiquitous chili was the first to be planted. I grew so many in my previous garden that the neighbors made daily sorties to pick them. Indispensable and attractive to boot, with its glossy

red and green seed pods, the chili hails from Mexico; one wonders how Thais coped before the chili arrived on these shores. Moreover, its spicy ingredient, capsaicin, is beneficial in cases of heart conditions and high blood pressure.

I also planted the fleshy rhizomes of ginger, another “hazardous” root which is not only used extensively in cooking soups and fish dishes, but also makes a spicy, refreshing hot drink frequently sold in local markets, and its relative, galangal (blue ginger or galanga). Both are key ingredients in many herbalist remedies and cures, especially as “carminatives”. An odd word that, as Aldous Huxley complained in his novel *Chrome Yellow*, does not hint at its real meaning, which is – sorry folks – to act as a flatulence dispersal agent.

Citronella or lemongrass (see photo), another on the “wanted” list, was next to arrive. Its bushy growth habit, similar to that of pampas grass, gives a bit of variety to the kitchen garden. More importantly, it is one of the signature flavors in Thai soups.

A pepper plant went in, next to the acacia tree so it could indulge its inclination to climb. Onions and garlic were not planted. Not that I don’t love them, it is just that members of the allium family are so cheap and so readily available everywhere.

Regarded by Italians as the “queen of herbs”, the basis for pesto sauce and a frequent ingredient in pizzas, basil is used widely in Thailand and grows here like a weed. It is used a great deal as a flavoring agent – witness Thai chicken basil. Other additions to the kitchen garden were more exclusively Asian in character – and so less familiar. About three of the arrivals, I have to confess my ignorance. They are shrubs – or more properly small trees – whose leaves are used in this household in the following ways. One, a fast growing tree (*yot sa om*) with



Lemongrass (center), Kaffir lime leaves (back), galangal (right)



Red chilis



Guava fruit

fern-like fronds, is both eaten raw as an accompaniment to cooked food and included in omelettes; the second, a small tree (*lep krus*) with dense crinkly leaves is added to soups; the third shrub (*pak waan*) is a taller specimen with

dark green leaves that taste a bit like spinach when boiled.

So I have a small problem. I do not know their English or Latin names since they all came from other Thai gardens. But they taste good... Can anyone help?

## Nature & Nurture



By Patrick Campbell



Papaya tree



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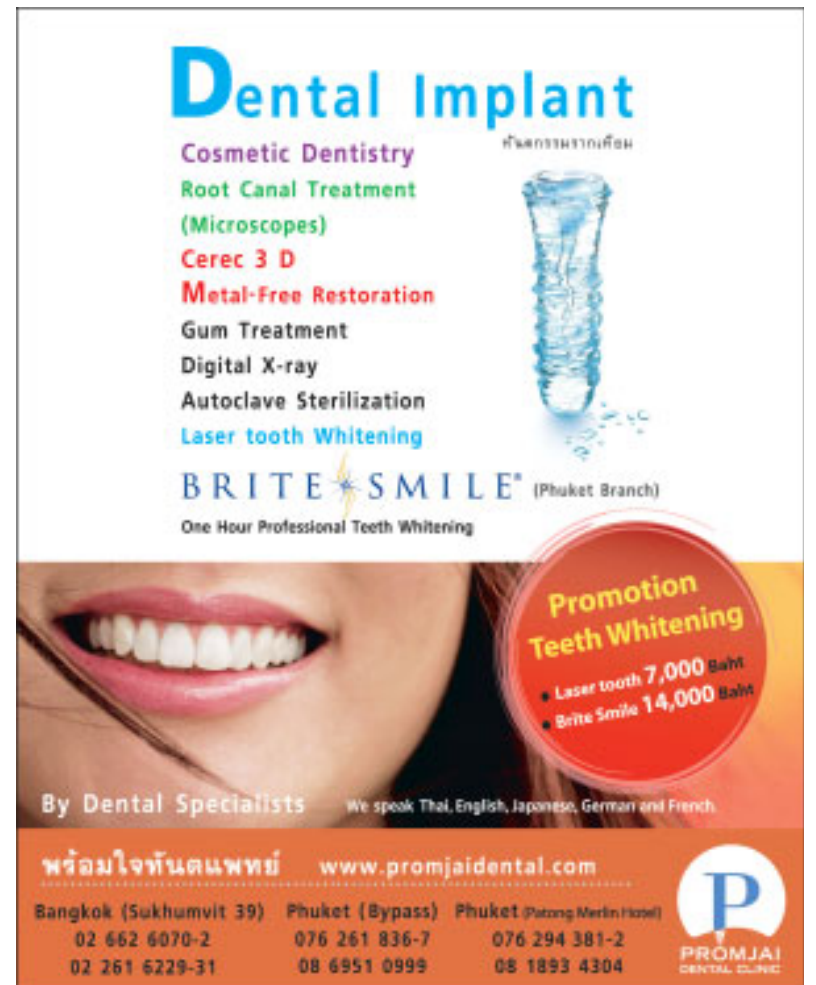
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# Co-operation is the key

The peak high season for tourism has passed and after the Songkran and Easter holidays end it's going, going...gone.

Talk to any hotelier about the outlook post-April and you will get a faraway look, a glazing over of the eyes – not unlike those of a poached salmon on one of those five-star brunch buffets.

After a few minutes of introspective soul searching, along with coughs and splutters like a car warming up on a winter's morning, the words most commonly heard are, "It's pretty grim" or, "We are looking at a lot of empty beds over the next six months."

So what indeed is to be done about the calamity as we enter the perils and pitfalls of "no season"?

Phuket's situation is hardly unique among tourist destinations, all are suffering from the global recession. Virtually every market in the world is scrambling for what crumbs are left in tourism and travel dollars for the remainder of 2009.

Since I started writing Property Watch some two-and-a-half years ago, the need for a destination marketing initiative has been voiced more times than I can even recall – and it has never been more relevant.

Let's do the math. Phuket

has over 40,000 registered tourism establishment rooms for sale. Taking six months of a theoretical "no season", this equates to 7.2 million available room-nights. To achieve an average 50% occupancy over the same period, 3.6 million room-nights would be needed.

Taking a more pragmatic approach, let's assume that of the total of 40,000 rooms, 10,000 are found in international standard hotels, record and branded products.

This means that with 50% occupancy, 900,000 room-nights are needed in this upper end of the market. But many hoteliers are saying realistic low season occupancy forecasts are well below 50%.

Many are imagining a scenario where half that figure is achieved across the board. Remember that these estimates reflect broad averages – some individual resorts will perform better, others worse.

The gap between 25% and 50% overall occupancy in the upper-end sector represents a current market "risk" of 450,000 room nights. What are we doing to fill these rooms? Looking back at previous columns, it is understood that the Tourism Authority of Thailand has a national agenda for tourism promotion. With Phuket lumped into Southern Thailand, there is no direct focus



## PROPERTY WATCH

By Bill Barnett

Bill Barnett is Managing Director of C9 Hotelworks (c9hotelworks.com), a Phuket-based hotel and property consulting firm. His BLOG (thephuketinsider.com) is The Source for all Hotel and Real Estate News within Greater Phuket.



A string of new hotels including Patong's Courtyard by Marriott have entered the supply steam at the same time as demand is shrinking. Empty rooms need heads on beds: are we entering a "no season"?

on this market.

Local and national bodies with an interest in tourism promotion include the Thai Hotel Association, which despite having a Southern Chapter is still a national forum. Other groups with important roles and big interests in Phuket include the Phuket Tourist Association, Kata-Karon Hotel Business Association, the Association of Thai Travel Agents and many others.

Unfortunately, Phuket continues to have a revolving door at the Governor's Mansion and tourism development issues – while undoubtedly important – form just part of the present agenda. Currently, people in red shirts – just like their yellow shirted adversaries last year – cause a continual distraction that takes government focus away from our island's needs.

Airport fees paid at Phuket go to Airports of Thailand, which is also a national organization. The Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (PPAO) in the past focused on creating projects, including the controversial Phuket Gateway. The PPAO has funded its tourism development projects through collection of the controversial 1% "room tax" from a good number of hotels in Phuket.

Considering all of the forces involved, it is safe to say that the Phuket tourism industry for the

most part is on autopilot. The private sector is being left to its own devices to sort out and manage the issues affecting it.

So we know the problems, but how can we address them?

French hotel management chain Accor, with brands such as Novotel, Mercure, Pullman and IBIS, earlier this year created a 1,000,000-room "Super Sale" event on its global online booking system, selling rooms from April to July. These rooms, available on the internet for only a few days, were offered on a solely prepaid and non-transferable basis.

One Accor hotel in Hong Kong that my group works closely with was able to gain over 6,000 room-nights alone – almost 20% of its occupancy – with the promotion. Best of all, the revenue was prepaid, so cash flow was there to support important things like staff salaries and operations. That room rates were so deeply discounted made the offer compelling. No owner enjoys discounting a product, but in the end we must recognize that Asia is entering a critical period – and you can't take profit percentage projections to the bank – you gotta show up with money.

While there are many ideas for image campaigns or promotions, what Phuket really needs is a tactical, co-ordinated and truly grand scale sale of hotel rooms. Despite so many

international brands being run by hotel management firms and many hotels having marketing alliances with marketing groups such as Leading, Preferred, World or Small Luxury, these companies have their own agenda in addressing all their markets and clients.

This island needs an over-arching solution, one that rises above all existing networks and strategies and has access to international distribution, making offers no one can refuse.

Look at who has this and it is mainly companies such as Phuket.com, HotelTravel.com, Expedia and AsiaRooms who already have a set up to take bookings and have the international distribution to do so.

Going into "no season" there are certain markets that can still deliver: Korea and Japan, Australia and New Zealand, the Middle East as well as major regional metropolises, most notably Hong Kong and Singapore. Regional low cost carriers like AirAsia and Singapore-based Tiger Airways also play a key role by linking up with online hotel distribution.

What we need now is not rhetoric, but to get key organizations like Laguna, Marriott, the Thai Hotel Association and even groups like SKAL to take the lead in setting up and co-ordinating with these internet players to get this thing going.

At the end of the day 450,000 rooms means many businesses will stay open instead of folding, jobs are retained and not lost, and education continues for the sons and daughters of hotel staff.

Because of the extent that the tourism industry drives Phuket's economy, virtually no-one on the island will remain unaffected.

Looking at "no season", it is safe to say the house is already on fire. Action needs to be taken and new ideas put forward to create short-term tactics for survival. As is so often the case, it is always the first step that is the hardest...

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# Property Gazette

## Properties For Sale

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### ALAMANDA LAGUNA APARTMENT

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### BEACH LAND FOR SALE

Beach property for sale from private owner. Email: info@siamxpress.nl www.thai beachfront4sale.com

### INEXPENSIVE LOTS

Chanote title lots, 700,000 to 1,200,000 baht. Near Mission Hills Golf Course. Tel: 086-942 1930.

### 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.

### AO POR LAND FOR SALE



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

### TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE OR RENT



In the project "The Indy" at the entrance to BIS. Townhouse is at the corner and adjacent to the project's public garden. 2 floors, 6.5 meters wide, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished. Land: 33sq wah. For rent: 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-472 9118.

### 6 RAI, CHERNG TALAY, VIEWS

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### LAND IN RAWAI

Between Chalong and Rawai. 2,788 sqm with Chanote title. For further details, mail or call for more details. Tel: 089-885 4517. Email: ruedi.kaufmann@gmx.ch

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### PERFECT LAND

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### BEAUTIFUL SEAVIEW

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## PEACEFUL SEAVIEW

1/2 rai, Chanote. Seaview, near waterfall, Mission golf, airport, pier of Ao Por. Road and electricity. 4.5 million baht. Very private and peaceful. Tel: 089-081 4913. Email: thureewan@gmail.com

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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 087-277 0978 or koyangle99@hotmail.com

## NEW HOME AND LAND

for sale in Rawai. 197sqm, 2 storeys, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Many extras. 39/35 Soi Mali. Quick sale price 6.9 million baht. Tel: 081-270 6310.

## 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 sell 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 3m, 2nd year 17m 3rd year 20m 4th year 23m and 5th year 28m. Orsale for US\$12 million. Tel: 086-885 6885. Email: queenmarines@hotmail.com

## BUSINESS BUILDING, NICE LOCATION



Affordable 2 block, 5 storey. Office building for lease. Located in the heart of Phuket town in a charming neighborhood of office businesses, close to the bus station and high street traffic. Convenient access and parking. Flexible floor plan and lots of storage. Recently renovated and ready for any service-based business. Tel: 081-895 3043. Email: hunt17@hotmail.com

## ANDAMAN BEACH SUITE

Feel luxury and comfort in the pearl of Andaman. Andaman Beach suite condominium, located in Patong Beach, is one of the most exquisite locations in Phuket. Sale condominium at the 17 floors (all of 17 floors). Size 667.96sqm. 2 seaview deluxe units (3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 1 living room). 6 mini suite deluxe units (1 bedroom). Contact us kt@bccnmi.com, littlereef\_01@hotmail.com Website: www.patongcondorent.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

## TOWN HOUSE, BOAT LAGOON

for sale. Opposite Boat Lagoon, 2 storey, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. 24sq wah. Price: 1.8 million baht. Tel: 081-979 3369.

## NEW STUDIO CONDO

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

## CONDO FOR SALE/RENT



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

## HOUSE IN RAWAI

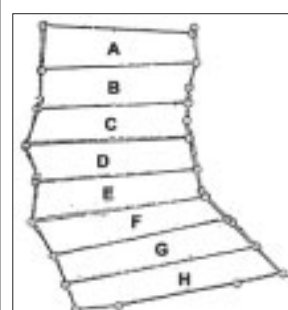
Best villas 1x600sqm and 1x220sqm. New in quality development near beach. Great investment, 1 million baht down 5 years finance, no interest, best deal ever. Must see, free pick up. Tel: 085-783 1890.

## 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.

## 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.

## DOWN FROM 3.5 TO 2.4 MTB

Kata Beach house. Please contact for more information. Tel: 084-840 5834. Email: harrykerylidis@yahoo.com.au

## 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

## BEAUTIFUL LAND

for sale in Ao Nang. Close to beach with Chanote. 4.5 rai for 22 million baht (minimum purchase: 2 rai). Also available: 22 rai for 70 million baht (minimum purchase: 5 rai). Tel: 084-762 5293.

## HOUSE IN KAMALA

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

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# Property Gazette

## SUPERB OPPORTUNITY



for sale now. Rawai – ideal for investors or promoters. 2 rai near the sea, full ownership in an area with strong development. Flat ground with easy access. Sea view possibility from the 3rd floor. Plans and condominium project available. An ideal business for an investor or developer – a condominium or a group of high-end villas will find their place. Contact: 084-445 2831. Email: contact@phuketfinder.com www.phuketfinder.com

## ROCK GARDEN VILLAS

4 bedroom, 3 bathroom, living room, American kitchen, car park and garden. Tel: 081-090 8637, 081-396 5752.

## PHIKUN VILLAS

and single land plots for sale on Big Buddha road in Chalong. Tel: 087-265 0118. Email: ant\_p\_clark@yahoo.co.uk Please see our website at http://phikunvillas.blogspot.com/

## HOUSE IN RAWAI

Best villas 1x600sqm and 1x220sqm. New 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.

## DOUBLE VILLA IN KATA



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

## HOUSE IN KAMALA

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

## HOUSE IN LAND & HOUSES

for sale. Chaipruek house, 3 bedrooms, aircon, furniture, 60 sq wah. Tel: 084-627 7001.

## 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.

## 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

## 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.

## COMPACT POOL VILLAS NAI HARN

2 bed with living, kitchen, garden, built-in furn, A/C. Price 7.15 MB. Tel: 076-289900, 081-970 0743. Email: natcha@twovillas.com

## 6000SQM OF LAND

for sale. Center of Switzerland, 10m to river "Aare". 85km from Zurich Airport, 42km to Bern, highway no.1. For more details. Please email me your interests at pressefoto@bluemail.ch

## 3 BED POOL VILLA BOAT LAGOON



15.9 million baht. 600sqm. Compound of 6 & gym. Tel: 084-783 9054. Email: oggyowen@yahoo.com

## LAND AT PA KHLOK

flat, 13 rai and 8-metre access road. Tel: 081-979 0122 (Riam), 089-866 2816 (Lian).

## POOL VILLA, NAI HARN

3 bedrooms, Thai sala on rooftop. Price 9 MB. Tel: 076-289900, 081-970 0742. Fax: 076-613114. Email: eve@twovillas.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.

## 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, 087-015 9206. Email: david@freedomleisuregroup.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.

## NEW HOUSE IN NAI HARN-RAWAI



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

## LEELAVADEE POOL VILLA

MODERN THAI HOUSE WITH 25 SQM SWIMMING POOL, TERRACE, TROPICAL GARDEN, CARPORT, HOME SECURITY, 3 BEDROOMS, WESTERN AND THAI KITCHEN, LIVING AND DINING ROOMS AND 4 BATHROOMS WITHIN AIR-CONDITIONED SURROUNDINGS. THE HOUSE IS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE THROUGH CHANOTE TITLE DEEDS AND FREEHOLD TERMS. PRICE 10.5 MTB



MANEE KRAM, KWANG RD.

TEL: 082-420 0249

EMAIL: A.TU2.CORAZON@GMAIL.COM

## NEW CONDO



for sale. At Royal Place Project, opposite Tesco Lotus. 42sqm at corner, swimming pool view, fully furnished, ready to move. Price 2.8 million baht. Tel: 081-691 2526.

## LAND AT SAI YUAN



168sq wah, Chanote, flat land. Contact Nicky. Tel: 089-730 9666. Email: nicky\_ph@hotmail.com

## CHALONG BUNGALOW

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

## HOUSE IN PATONG

Newly refurbished townhouse in the heart of Patong, located on a sought-after small and secure estate within walking distance of the Shopping Centre, beach, and Patong nightlife. Three bedrooms with large main bedroom, two bathrooms, Western and Thai kitchens, utility room/study, and spacious living and dining areas. Sale includes aircon, satellite TV, telephone, and access to communal swimming pool, sauna and gym. Great as a home or as a rental investment. Asking price: 6.4 million baht. Contact Phil. Tel: 087-267 9280. Email: philsk@ihug.co.nz

## 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.

## KARON VILLA, URGENT SALE

Forced sale: 3 bedroom pool / spa villa located at Karon Noi village, Karon Beach. Quiet location. Reduced price, from 13 million baht to 10.75 million baht. Available to selected buyer on 40% deposit with balance over 9 months. Or 9.6 million baht for walk-in, walk-out. Tel: 084-327 9642. Email: greggordon2006@yahoo.com.au

## 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.

## PANORAMIC SEA VIEW



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

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!

TO: The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd, 367/2 Yaowarat Road, Amphur Muang, Phuket 83000, Thailand.

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To ensure clarity, please attach photo. Do not Fax!



# Property Gazette

## Properties For Rent

### 2 BEDROOM APARTMENT PATONG

Luxury apartment, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Pool, True visions, aircon, ADSL. Quiet location. 18,000 baht. Please contact more details. Tel: 086-279 0837.

### LOVELY THAI HOUSE



for rent in Nai Ham. 2 bedrooms, living and dining room, open kitchen, furnished. TV, UBC, ADSL, washing machine, nice garden with large pool, carpark. 4 house compound on 1 Rai. Includes gardener and pool cleaning. For rent until 15 November 2009 for only 19,000 baht. Tel: 089-972 5378.

### THAI VILLA AND POOL

in Nai Ham. Long-term 35,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-270 5126. Or please sent to email: mervyn.crocker@yahoo.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

### LUXURY KAMALA VILLAS



3 bedrooms, fully furnished. Full service includes daily cleaning and washing. 5mins to Kamala Beach. One year contract. Price 50,000 baht per month. Tel: 084-8436837. Email: suchada\_villas@hotmail.com

### KATHU GOLF VIEW VILLA

350sqm. 4 bedroom, 5 bathrooms, big pool, 4km to BIS. Over looking Loch Palm golf course. Quiet, on top of private hill. Furnished, WiFi, True TV. Long term: 65,000 baht a month. Contact Khun Noi. Tel: 087-269 8492.

### 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

### 30 RAI IN TOWN

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

### NICE AND COZY HOUSE FOR RENT



Furnished and excellent location, 5 mins from Rawai and Nai Ham 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.

### HOUSE NEAR BIS

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

### KAMALA BEACH RENTAL

Very nice house/apartments. Fully furnished, 2 to 4 bedrooms, view. 15,000 to 20,000 per month. details. Tel: 082-421 9169.

### RAWAI HOUSE

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

### 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.

### NAI YANG BEACH HOUSE



3 bedrooms, fully furnished, UBC, internet. Tel: 089-652 1751. Email: lpie tankam@yahoo.co.th

### SEAVIEW APARTMENT

in Patong Tower for rent or sale. 65sqm. Long-term rent 35,000 baht per month. Sale: 10 million baht. Contact Davide. Tel: 080-692 6114. Email: orsolino@hotmail.it

### TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT OR SALE



In the project "The Indy" at the entrance to BIS. Townhouse is at the corner and adjacent to the project's public garden. 2 floors, 6.5 meters wide, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished. Land: 33sq wah. For rent: 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-472 9118.

### APARTMENT IN KARON

50m from beach and shops. Includes ADSL, aircon and cleaning. 18,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-271 8254. Or send email: ninapartments@hotmail.com

### NAI HARN VILLA

2 bedrooms, 2 baths, furnished, aircon, ADSL, big garden. 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-288047, 081-894 1660. Email: cottrell@ttmaxnet.com

### BUNGALOW RAWAI

1 bedroom, aircon, cable TV, ADSL, washing machine, kitchen, quiet location. 8,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-279 0837. Email: bricothailand@hotmail.com

### NEW HOUSE ON YAOVARAT RD

Good area in Phuket City. Ideal for house or office. 120sq wah, 2 floors, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, hot water, aircon, kitchen, living room, phone line, 2 car parking spaces. 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-797 3138 (Thai), 083-551 8855 (Eng).

### FOR RENT IN SECURE ESTATE

2 bedrooms, fully furnished. Daily, weekly or monthly. Please contact for rate. Tel: 076-238948. or fax: 076-273466. Email: pen@phuketpropertytrip.com

### RENT 2 BEDROOM CONDO

10,000 baht fully furnished, euro kitchen & bathroom, 3 aircon, ADSL. Tel: 076-245871, 086-2634678. Fax: 076-245871. Email: roy@kool-mix.com

### LUXURY PENTHOUSE FOR RENT

3 bedroom, fully furnished penthouse available for long-term rent. Roof garden/Jacuzzi, excellent facilities. 2 minutes to beach and many restaurants. 150,000 baht per month plus utilities. Tel: 076-271773, 089-020 9410. Please contact more details email: dk@phuketvalueproperties.com

### HOUSE FOR RENT

3 bedroom, 2 toilet, living room, kitchen, garden, car park, ADSL. 13,000 bht/month. Tel: 084-051 1955, 080-521 9888. Email: sornin\_s@yahoo.com

### BOAT LAGOON 3 BED POOL VILLA



59,000 baht per month long-term. Modern furnished on compound near BIS. WiFi, 4 Cable TVs, gym. Tel: 084-783 9054. Email: oggyowen@yahoo.com

### CHALONG NEW HOME

2 bedroom home with telephone, cable TV and aircon. Tel: 089-652 1473. Email: ananda estates@yahoo.com

### PATONG TOWER CONDO

1 bed nice condo on beach road. Tel: 084-847 3304. For further details. [www.selectphuket.com](http://www.selectphuket.com)

### KAMALA BEACH

very nice house and apartment for rent. 2 to 4 bedrooms, furnished. Price 15,000 to 20,000 baht. Tel: 082-421 9169.

### 2 BEDROOM HOUSE

with aircon for rent. Living room, fully furnished, Chalong. May 15 - Sep 15, 2009. Also for 2 months. 12,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-787 4690.

### GREAT POOL VILLA, RAWAI

Newly built, great decor, salt water pool, sauna, Jacuzzi, steam shower. Near beach, free transport, fully serviced, top security. Price 49,000 baht per month. Tel: 085-783 1890.

### PRIME PATONG SHOP

for lease. 15 meters from the beach, 5 mins from Bangla. Can be used for snack bar, retail, etc. Tel: 083-646 9906. Email: tsabest@gmail.com

## FOR RENT OR SALE

### Boat Lagoon Marina

2 or 3 bed, fully furnished, UBC

3 months	6 months	12 months	Type
40,000	30,000	28,500	2 bedroom
50,000	45,000	40,000	3 bedroom

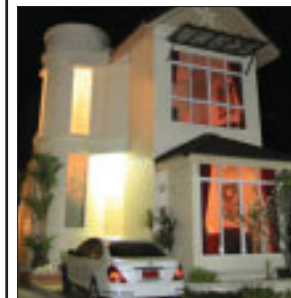
### Misson Heights Complex

5 min. from mission hill golf course, 10 min. from airport, 3 or 4 bed house all with private pools, UBC, fully furnished and complete maintenance

3 months	6 months	12 months	Type
60,000	50,000	45,000	house 332 sqm. 3 bed. 4 bath
90,000	82,500	75,000	house 454 sqm. 4 bed. 4 bath

Please contact Sophit 081-3444473  
For further information

### SEAVIEW VILLAS



Furnished or unfurnished. Club house, gym, swimming pool, 24-hour security, CCTV. Cable TV, WiFi available. Price start 20,000 baht. Tel: 081-968 9550, 087-893 3635.

### 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's house. Rent 88,000 baht per month. Tel: 085-783 1890.

### QUIET GUESTHOUSE

near Carrefour. Pool, fitness, sauna. Kaseansarp 56/75. Contact more details. Tel: 081-084 3415.

### HOUSE FOR RENT

Kathu 10 mins to Patong, 1.5 floors, 2 bedroom with aircon, 2 bathroom, 1 living room, fully furnished. Please contact more details. Tel: 089-6459527.

### 3 BED HOUSE IN PHUKET TOWN

Close to BigC, Tesco-Lotus, 3 bedrooms, 2 toilets, kitchen, furniture, cable TV, ADSL. 22,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-288542, 086-683 7162. Email: somthawin\_pw@hotmail.com

### GUEST HOUSE 800,000 BAHT



Rawai beach. 4 bedrooms, pool, 5 year lease left. 20,000 baht monthly rent. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

### RAWAI BEACH 12 YEAR RENTAL



92sqm apartment. Furnished, ADSL, long lease. 1.2 million baht. Tel: 086-940 8914. Or send email: rawai1@yahoo.com



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# Island Job Mart



'The Bell' is an exciting new property development comprising 17 luxury pool villas. 'The Bell' is also opening its Luxury Private Pool Villa Resort, which will be fully serviced and managed like a 5-star resort.

## Director of Sales

The Bell Pool Villa Resort is now looking for a Director of Sales with the following experience:

- Direct knowledge of overseas market and direct contact with them
- Knowledge of the pool villa resort market
- Minimum 5 years experience as Director of Sales

The Bell is looking for people with the right attitude!!

The Bell,  
41/31 Moo 5, Baan Hua Khuan,  
Soi Bell, Kamala, Kathu, Phuket 83120

Tel: + 66 (0) 76-279914-5 Fax: + 66 (0) 76-279412  
E-mail: info@TheBellphuket.com  
Web: www.TheBellPhuket.com



## HEXACON PROPERTY STAFF WANTED

We are looking for professional staff for our new real estate office, located at Chalong Circle, Chalong.

We are looking for English and Thai speaking staff with experience from the real estate business.

We need good sales people, as well as an experienced accountant.

We prefer people having a working permit.

Our strategy is to represent a selected group of the best projects on Phuket.

This could be condominium and villa projects with the best locations.

Our strengths are that we work internationally, have a substantial knowledge about Phuket and that our staff speaks several languages such as Thai, Russian, English, German, Danish and Swedish.

Please send your application by email to: klaus.bernhardt6@gmail.com

We need the following staff;

- 1 Accountant / Secretary
- 2-3 Sales people with good experience, Thai / Russian / English
- 1 Sales person for our booth in JungCeylon

### HEXACON PROPERTY Co., Ltd.

1 Moo Chaofa West Road, Chalong Sub-district, Muang Phuket District, Phuket Province

Contact: Mr. Klaus Bernhardt +66 87 88 55 765

www.hexacon-realestate.dk



## 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
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- 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

## TRISARA

Phuket's most exclusive resort, spa and residential villa development is searching for a number of exceptional people to join our team in permanent positions.

Trisara's facilities and services have set new standards and if you have the personality, skills and experience to be part of a world-class team, our Human Resources Director looks forward to hearing from you.

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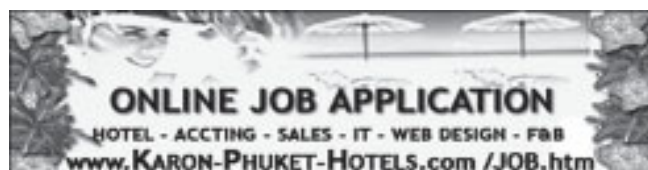
- Resort Manager/Executive Assistant Manager
- Food & Beverage Manager
- Assistant Villa Estate Manager

### Human Resources Department

60/1 Moo 6, Srisoonthorn Road, Thalang District, Phuket

Tel. 076 310 354 Fax. 076 310 299

E-mail address hr@trisara.com



## Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following positions:

### I. SUB EDITOR

- ▶ Fluent in English
- ▶ Able to work to strict deadlines
- ▶ A team player
- ▶ Naturally curious about the world, especially Phuket and what affects its residents
- ▶ Some page layout skills, experience with PageMaker or InDesign preferred

### II. REPORTER

The successful candidate will possess initiative, an outgoing personality and plenty of experience about the world and how it works. Also essential are the ability to communicate in English, both spoken and written, and transport. Good salary for the right candidate.

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV and writing sample by email to editor@phuketgazette.net

### The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

367/2-3 Yaowarat Rd, T. Taladyai, A. Muang, Phuket 83000

Tel: 076-236555 Fax: 076-213971

Email: editor@phuketgazette.net

### RECEPTIONIST & MARKETING

Staff wanted at Phuket Spa, Chalong. Urgent! Please tel: 076-282704, 085-567 8929. Fax: 076-282703. Email: natali1800@hotmail.com

### NANNY REQUIRED

for our 8-month-old boy while we are at work. Tel: 081-970 1479.

### 2 LADY MODELS REQUIRED

A new clothing line which is based in Phuket is seeking two Thai girls for a full day's modeling work. The models have to be able to speak English. Please email for an application form. Good daily rate and food provided for the photo shoot. Tel: 076-239724, 087-888 8082. Or send to email: jay@thevillage-coconutisland.com

### SALES & MARKETING GRAD NEEDED

to market the Phuket Fish Boat Co in Thailand and worldwide. 6,000 baht base salary and 5% revenue commission. Tel: 076-282542, 081-833-4795. Send resume to martin@phuketfishboat.com For further details, please see our website at http://phuketfishboat.com

### SECRETARY WANTED

Smart English-speaking Thai required. Must have construction / hotel knowledge. Tel: 081-137 1001. Or send email to: solitude001@aol.com

### PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHER

I am looking for a retired or qualified primary school teacher to home-school my 7 year old. Tel: 084-006 8736. Email: leondisley@yahoo.com

### ASSISTANT NEEDED

Assistant needed for charity. Fluent written and spoken English, good organizational skills, able to work flexible hours and travel, drivers license and own car required. Email C.V and covering letter to: david@happyheartsfund.org

### ASSISTANT: 20,000 BT/ MONTH

Our business is link building. Websites are ordered and before we can process, data needs to be prepared and organized. That's your job. Thai nationals only. Monday to Friday: from 8:00 - 12:00 noon, and 13:00-17:30. Nice work environment. Tel: 076-388960, 085-4737812. Fax: 076-388960. Email: michiel@online-internet-marketing-services.com For further details, please see our website at http://www.manual-submissions.com/directory/how-to-do.php

### PRESCHOOL TEACHER NEEDED

We are looking for a qualified female preschool teacher. Experience is a must. Native speakers only. Please contact for more information. Tel: 084-006 8736. Email: info@smiley-kidz.com

### WORK CS @ HOLYCLOTHING!

Customer Service Agents needed for Expanding Internet fashion retailer. Are you CS experienced, Thai, hard working, computer savvy and fluent in English? Salary of 15,000 to 25,000 baht. Tel: 085-789 9249. Email: work@holyclothing.com For full details http://www.holyclothing.com/workcs.html

Looking for a job?  
Looking for a better candidate?  
Find more Recruitment Classifieds at [www.PhuketGazette.Net/](http://www.PhuketGazette.Net/)!



# Island Job Mart

## ASSISTANT MANAGER

Requirements: experience of working in real estate or construction field, knowledge of written and spoken English. Tel: 084-190 9491. Email: office@tr-d.ru

## URGENTLY NEEDED!

Nice villa at Surin beach. Looking for chef and assistant chef who has experience and good attitude to work as a team. Please submit your CV to laemsingh@135degrees.com

## SALES EXECUTIVE

Salary + commission + bonus. Tel: 089-235 0969. Email: jobs@lfr-asia.com Please visit <http://www.lfr-asia.com/jobs.html> for more details.

## 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.

## 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

## BAR MANAGER

Soi Gonzo, to take care of evening duties, expert etc. English speaking. Interested? Call Khun Simon. Tel: 085-796 5767, 081-580 6707.

## STAFF RECRUITMENT

Avantika Boutique Hotel, a small boutique beach front luxury hotel with 31 rooms, at the South-end of Patong Beach, is looking for suitable candidates (Thai national only) for the following positions: Reservations - Reception - Housekeeping - Engineers. Please send a recent photo, resume, expected salary to: Human Resource Department. Avantika Boutique Hotel 4/1 Thaveewong Rd, Patong, Kathu, Phuket 83150. Tel: 076-292801-7 ext. 602, 603, Fax: 076-292 809. Email: admin@avantika-phuket.com Website: [www.avantika-phuket.com](http://www.avantika-phuket.com)

## "SALES OPPORTUNITY"

COMPUTER SOFTWARE. ENGLISH-SPEAKING THAI. COMPUTER AND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT ESSENTIAL. OWN TRANSPORT. EXPENSES PAID. PLUS EXCELLENT COMMISSION. PLEASE SEND RESUME TO: Email: [thailandmls@gmail.com](mailto:thailandmls@gmail.com)

## ACCOUNTANT / BOOKKEEPER FT

Must have experience, speak English, use quickbooks. Start ASAP. Tel: 085-787 6321. Email: [tgutherie@gmail.com](mailto:tgutherie@gmail.com)

## PROMOTION STAFF

St James Properties is expanding and needs new staff to work at Jungceylon and Kata office. English-speaking Thai national. Good salary plus commission. Contact Felix. Tel: 086-855 3044. Email: [esa@stuames-properties.com](mailto:esa@stuames-properties.com)

## THAI TEACHER INT'L NURSERY

Must speak fluent English. 1-4 pm, Mon-Fri. Tel: 081-979 3839. Email CV and salary expectations to [lisaaston04@aol.com](mailto:lisaaston04@aol.com).

## LAND SALES EXECUTIVE

Siam Real Estate urgently require a Thai experienced real estate sales person to take listings and sell land. Must have own car and be able to speak and write good English. Excellent prospects, low basic and high commission. Tel: 076-288908. Send CV to [jobs@siamrealestate.com](mailto:jobs@siamrealestate.com)

## WEB DEVELOPER WANTED

Growing company seeks experienced full-time English-speaking farang web developer for implementing new sites and features, and updating and maintaining existing sites. WordPress, CMS/CMF, and other general web design skills required. Graphical design and SEO skills desired. Salary negotiable. Tel: 087-885 8622. Email: [info@teflphuket.com](mailto:info@teflphuket.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)

## DREAM SALES OPPORTUNITY!\$

Earn US\$1,000 a week living in paradise! Holiday Ownership Company seeks new and experienced reps. Tel: 083-396 1918. Email: [info@stoneymonday.com](mailto:info@stoneymonday.com)

## 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)

## Phuket Legal & Property Assistance Co Ltd

(in association with : CN International Law office, Bangkok)

## Quality. Accuracy. Speed

We have more than 20 years in-depth experience in legal and property to serve the need of clients.

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- Corporate/Commercial Affairs
- Property Transactions

Email: [info@phuketipa.com](mailto:info@phuketipa.com) / [www.phuketipa.com](http://www.phuketipa.com)

## 101 Cafe 101 in Jungceylon Patong

## Position: Restaurant Hostess

Salary: baht 12,000 to 15,000 baht per month

Greet guests, escort them to tables or encourage them to eat in our restaurant. Assign work tasks and coordinate activities of dining room personnel to ensure prompt and courteous service to patrons. Inspect dining room serving stations for neatness and cleanliness.

Requirements: 22 to 30 years old, attractive looking, should speak fluent english and courteous behavior. Minimum 3 years experience in the service industry such as hotel, restaurant or airline company.

Please send your resume with picture to [jean@cafe101.co.th](mailto:jean@cafe101.co.th) and visit our web at [www.cafe101.co.th](http://www.cafe101.co.th)

## International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

(American Red Cross)  
have the following vacancies:

## Health Program Officer Migrants.

For details please visit [www.thaingo.org](http://www.thaingo.org)

## wine connection

We are now accepting applications and resumé for a new up coming restaurant.

## Executive 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 (Phuket)  
19/54-57 Moo.8 Chaofa Rd., T.Chalong, A.Muang, Phuket  
Tel: 076-282411-12 Fax: 076-282414.  
Email: [hrrmgr@wineconnection.co.th](mailto:hrrmgr@wineconnection.co.th)

## 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.

## ADVERTISING COMPANY

seeks Thai national female for office assistant position. Requirements: excellent knowledge of spoken and written English, advanced computer skills. Tel: 084-844 1469. Email: [thairusmedia@gmail.com](mailto:thairusmedia@gmail.com)

## SEEKING STAFF

We are now seeking staff for Office Administration. Must have good office experience with excellent written and spoken English. Microsoft Office skills are also needed. Please send CV to Irish Times Pub at Jungceylon, Patong. Tel: 076-366085. Email: [irishtimesphuket@gmail.com](mailto:irishtimesphuket@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](http://www.yacht-haven-phuket.com)

## SKIPPER WANTED

I am searching for a captain to transfer a 50 foot motor yacht in the middle of May from Phuket to Manado (Indonesia). Tel: 089-472 7137. Email: [info@proline-real-estate.com](mailto:info@proline-real-estate.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)

## 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)

## Employment Wanted

## 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)

## PROFESSIONAL SINGER

seeking work with a live band or a hotel. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-2887528. Or send to email: [lynturner70@yahoo.com](mailto:lynturner70@yahoo.com)

## AUSTRIAN CHEF/ COOK

is looking for a new job. Have lived in Thailand for 1 year. Tel: 080-650 2326.

## 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)

## CHILDRENSITTER 23

Nice girl, German + English speaking. Full or part time Patong. Tel: 083-639 9137.

## 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. Please contact for further details. Tel: 087-898 4516, 089-813 4456. Email: [chilly.han@gmail.com](mailto:chilly.han@gmail.com)

## RUSSIAN AND ENGLISH

speaking lady seeks position in Phuket, age 27. Experience in marketing/advertising, tourism and hotel business. Tel: 080-601 7792. Email: [4milonga@gmail.com](mailto:4milonga@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)



# Tout, Trader & Trumpet

## Articles For Sale

### LANDSCAPE ART FURNITURE

Solid Teak and Redwood Table and Chair Sets. Gorgeous, easy to maintain, will last forever. Export service available. Tel: 089-813 4456, 086-478 0385. Fax: 076-282436. Email: chilly.han@gmail.com

### MODERN FURNITURE FOR SALE

Outdoor and indoor furniture in stainless steel with wood, synthetic, laminate and acrylic. Modern design and high quality material. Please visit our showroom in Plaza Draceana, opposite the new Home Pro center near Chalongs Circle. Tel: 089-843 1803, Fax: 076-602290. Email: Seasongroup@live.com

### WOODWORK MACHINES

All machinery to make kitchens. Tel: 084-847 3304. See website at [www.selectphuket.net](http://www.selectphuket.net)

### KITCHEN BENCHES

MODERN KIT 8 Piece. Corner 3, Center Breakfast, 2 chairs, 3 drawers + 2 doors. Excellent condition. 16 months old. 45,000 baht o.n.o. Please contact me for photos and more details. Tel: 086-947 7233. Email: marknsue@loxinfo.co.th

### ITALIAN KITCHEN SALE

Original Italian kitchen wood nuts. For photos contact K. Pat. Tel: 089-5309124.

### 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.

### MINI PUMP, READY TO USE

Mini pump for sale. Easy business. Ready to use. Guaranteed for one year. Comes with insurance and license. Tel: 076-293082. Email: michelleproust@yahoo.com.sg

### KITCHEN BENCHES

Modern kit. 6 pieces. Corner 3 + centre breakfast + 3 drawers and 2 doors. Excellent condition, 16 months old. 45,000 baht o.n.o. Contact for photos and details. Tel: 086-947 7233. Email: marknsue@loxinfo.co.th

### EXPAT LEAVING SALE

Full house of cane furniture, fridges, bed suite, BBQ, stove, wash/dryer, curtains, dining, tools. Much more. Contact 086-947 7233. Email: marknsue@loxinfo.co.th

### GYM EQUIPMENT

for sale. Good condition. Tel: 086-120 3660. Email: chilligarden@hotmail.com

### NEW JACUZZI FOR SALE

New Jacuzzi in good condition. Price: 60,000 baht. Ready for sale. Call K. Canonica 087-2702021. Email: mayday1978@hotmail.com

### AQUARIUM 500 LITER

Very nice, very cheap! Tel: 081-080 8831 or for a photo send email to jstuder@loxinfo.co.th

### 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.

### OUT OF BUSINESS SALE!

2ea 9,000 BTU/A/Cs. Swim pool pump filter, 22 boxes of stone decor, black granite, cushions, glow sticks, ice bins, glass sinks, urinals. Security cameras, fire ext, Yamaha 18ch mixer, lighted signs, and more! Tel: 083-590 7871. Email: info@thaijobseeker.com

### NEW RESTAURANT FRIDGE

Must see. Quick sale price 10,000 baht. Tel: 081-8081804. Email: ttpitstop1@hotmail.com

### STUDY DESK / WALL UNIT

Centre piece study / desk wall unit. L: 2.43m, H: 2.30m, W: 6.20m. Solid wood, demountable. 45,000 baht ono. Contact for photo and details. Tel: 086-947 7233. Email: marknsue@loxinfo.co.th

### WASHING MACHINE

Electrolux EWF 579 cold fill. Paid 14,000 baht; will accept 6,000 baht. Tel: 089-867 1428. Email: david@liddell.com

### 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

### 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.

### 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

### GYM FOR SALE

Equipment only, new cover, new chromium, new paint. Tel: 086-120 3660. Email: chilligarden@hotmail.com

### MACHINE BICYCLE

New 250 CC sale 10,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-294 5441.

### SONY PLAY STATION 3

games. 12 titles. Excellent condition, great price. Please contact for more information. Tel: 087-279 6700.

### SAMSUNG SYSTEM

Home cinema, entertainment 5.1 sound, Blue Ray DVD, Subwoofer, HDML, USB, 5x surround speaker. Price negotiable. Tel: 082-274 9860.

### 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.

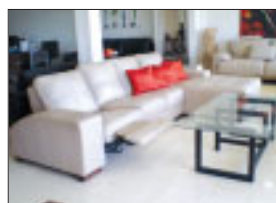
### CITIZEN DIVER'S WATCH

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

### 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

### LOW CAST LEATHER



sofa for sale. Sale at low price: 28,000 baht from 65,000 baht. Sofa by ultra lounge. Tel: 081-577 3009. Email: sofaultra lounge@hotmail.com

### 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.

### CHILDREN'S BED

like new. 3,800 baht. Before 7,000 baht at Super Cheap. Airport area. Tel: 085-795 9160.

### WINE COOLER SANDEN BRAND

As new. 45 bottle capacity, black. Quick sale 13,000 baht. Tel: 082-280 7576. Email: closejon@yahoo.com.au

### 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.

### 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

### INDIAN ANTIQUE CABINET



Size: 3 meters long. Please call or mail for further details. Tel: 089-533 7114. Email: claudiahas selbacher@yahoo.com

## Bar & Restaurant Equipment

### QUICK SALE - BEST PRICE

All you need to set up restaurant. Furniture, bar & equipment for sale. Everything in excellent condition. Tel: 081-083 0024. Email: janya\_fino@yahoo.com

### RESTAURANT MOVING SALE

High quality articles for sale at low price. Kitchen appl, furniture, aircon. Will send list of photos and prices on request. Tel: 085-336 0231. Email: zszusau@hotmail.com

## Bulletins

### ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

For Phuket info (English) call 081-664331, 081-6812856 or email: [phuketaa@yahoo.com](mailto:phuketaa@yahoo.com)  
 English Speaking Meetings  
 Mission Hospital - Phuket City  
 Wed and Sun 7 PM  
 Woman's meeting Tues 7 PM  
 Bangkok Hospital - Phuket City  
 Fri 7 PM  
 Patong Hospital - Patong  
 Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun at 7 PM  
 Chalongs Health Clinic (near Chalongs Circle)  
 Tues and Sat 1 PM  
 Sunrise Beach - Benin  
 Thurs 9:30 AM (Nov-Apr only)  
 Krabi Hospital - Krabi  
 Wed 1 PM  
 (additional Krabi meetings on request by contacting 084-4631033)  
 Scandinavian Speaking Meetings  
 Wat Karon School - Karon  
 Tue 7 PM and (Sat Nov-April only 7 PM)  
 Tel: 086-9440480 Sive, 082-2708988 Nor  
 For info on other Thailand AA meetings require  
 @02-23118300 (for Thai language press 3)  
[www.aathailand.org](http://www.aathailand.org) or email: [info@aathailand.org](mailto:info@aathailand.org)

### BUDDHIST MEDITATION

5 meditation sessions daily, daily Dhamma talks, retreats and yoga offered. Kamala. Donation only. Please contact Sarah. Tel: 085-4786502. Website at [www.Meditate-Thailand.com](http://www.Meditate-Thailand.com)

## Agents for Classified Advertising

### PHUKET

#### Julapan Stationery

Chao Fa East Rd (next to Siam Commercial Bank)

Tel: 076-282254

#### Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppe

Fisherman's Way Business Center, Chao Fa East Rd

Tel: 076-282403

#### K.L. Mart

Patak Rd, Chalongs

Tel: 076-280400/3

Fax: 076-280403

#### Earth Language School

Phang Nga Rd, Phuket City

Tel: 076-232398/9

Fax: 076-232398

#### Sin & Lee

Thalang Rd, Phuket City

Tel: 076-258369

Fax: 076-211230

#### Taurus Travel

Aroonsom Plaza Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, Patong

Tel: 076-344521/2

Fax: 076-344523

#### 41 Minimart

Srisoonthorn Rd, Cherng Talay

Tel/Fax: 076-324312

#### Deli Supermarket

Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, Patong

Tel: 076-342275

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**Live in Patong?**  
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**Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it with Khun Kai (076-344321-2)**

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**The Gazette is always on top in Google!**



# Tout, Trader & Trumpet

## SPONSOR

a needy child. The Phuket International Women's Club is a volunteer organization raising funds for educational scholarships. We rely on the goodwill of donors and sponsors – small and large. If you would like to put something back into the community in which you live, contact us to find out more about giving a prize or being a sponsor. Contact Carol (Tel: 087-417 8860) or Sue (Tel: 087-277 6948). Or Email: info@phuketiwcc.com

## Business Opportunities

### LOOKING FOR PARTNER

Small hotel and company in Nanai Road. 24 rooms, fully furnished. Fantastic view of Patong, private, Sat TV. Tel: 089-589 4745.

**MASSAGE SHOP/BAR**  
for sale, Nanai Rd. Ready to start. Price 250,000 baht. Tel: 081-574 5881.

**BEAUTY SALON AND MASSAGE**  
for sale in Nai Harn. Very nice, furnished and decorated. European standard. 60% rent paid till March 2010. Price 300,000 baht. Tel: 081-693 9288.

### GAME FISHING BUSINESS

Complete with boat, company and 2 work permits. Call or mail for further info. Tel: 086-124 7528. Email: sailfish263@yahoo.com Details at http://www.phuket-fishing.com

### INVESTOR WANTED!!!

For setting up a Global Financial Market Branch in Thailand/Phuket/Bangkok. We are looking for investors with min. capital entry of US\$100,000 to be involved in day trading, stock market and brokerage services. The existing main company has been a licensed business for more than 15 years and is at present on the world stock market. We guarantee profits of 200% and more in 6-8 months time! Tel: 082-283 4118. For more information contact: investor@grandsley.com For further details, please see our website at http://www.grandsley.com

### BUSINESS HOUSE FOR SALE

chanote title. 1 shop, 154sqm. House 8 bedrooms, bathrooms, terrace 35sqm. 1 apartment, 56sqm, terrace 56sqm. Good location near Laguna Hotel Cherng Talay. Price 19 million baht. Tel: 081-091 5919.

### FACTORY FROZEN STORAGE

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

### 2 BED APARTMENT PATONG

Luxury apartment, 2 bathrooms, ADSL, True visions, large pool, aircon. Great deal, long or short term rental. Tel: 086-279 0837.

### GUESTHOUSE FOR SALE

15 rooms, Chanote title. 2 bedrooms apartment. Sale by owner. Tel: 086-270 6454. Email: uraiinma@hotmail.com

### GUESTHOUSE KAMALA

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# laguna

PROPERTY RESALE

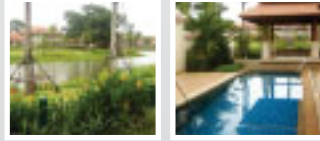
Properties for sale within Laguna Phuket

## 1 Laguna Townhome II THB 22 M



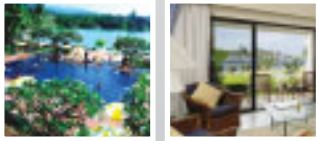
- 2-storey 3 beds Townhome
- maid quarter
- 25 sqm private pool
- on golf course

## 2 Laguna Village Townhome I THB 20 M



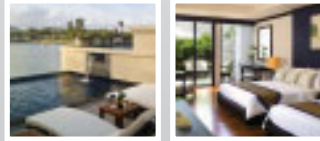
- 2-storey Townhome
- 3 beds 2 baths
- 25 sqm private pool
- lagoon view

## 3 Allamanda 2-Bedroom Suite THB 8.5 M



- 2 beds 2 baths
- rental pool
- golf and pool view

## 4 Dusit Thani Pool Villa THB 39 M



- 3-storey Townhome
- 2 beds • rooftop pool
- guaranteed rental return

## 5 Laguna Village Residence II THB 38 M



- 2-storey detached house
- 4 beds 3 baths
- fully furnished
- lagoon view

For more information on these and other properties, please call:

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