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## Pollution solution due in 2010

By Khunakorn Terdkiatkhachorn

PHUKET CITY: Phuket City Municipality held a hearing on April 23 to present to the public its plan to build a second waste-to-energy incinerator, scheduled to go on-line in October, 2010.

About 300 government officers and members of the public attended the hearing, held at the Phuket Merlin Hotel.

Phuket Vice-Governor Worapoj Ratthasima chaired the hearing and Phuket City Mayor Somjai Suwansupana outlined the basic details of the project.

In explaining the need for a second incinerator, Mayor Somjai presented figures that showed a continuing rise in the number of tourists traveling to Phuket, with the figure reaching 5.6 million – spending some 110 billion baht – in 2008.

These figures, coupled with an increasing resident population, have resulted in an average annual increase in the volume of garbage generated on the island of 9% in recent years, she said.

By 2019, the figure is expected to reach 1,000 tonnes daily – almost double the figure of 540



How the new waste-to-energy incinerator will look after completion.

tonnes per day in 2008.

The design capacity of the existing incinerator is just 250 tonnes per day.

The current cost of incineration amounts to about 600 baht per tonne, with the local administrative bodies charged 300 baht per tonne of waste delivered and the central government paying an additional 300 baht per tonne.

Every day almost 300 tonnes of excess waste is dumped on 120 rai of Forest Department land that is already full to capacity.

For lack of an alternative, the pile of refuse continues to grow, increasing the threat of a repeat of the June 2007 ecological disaster when heavy rains caused a toxic plume of water to enter surrounding mangroves and waters,

killing millions of farmed fish.

After years of unsuccessful requests to the central government for a budget to fund construction of a second incinerator, the municipality and the Governor's Office signed a contract late last year with PJT Technology Co Ltd to build a second plant at Saphan Hin.

The plant will use "refuse derived fuel" and "mass burn system" technologies, as recommended by researchers at King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi, who will oversee the construction work.

The plant will house two incineration streams each capable of incinerating 300 tonnes of waste daily, thus raising the combined capacity of both plants to 850 tonnes per day, the meeting was told.

To profit from its investment, PJT will initially get 300 baht per tonne it incinerates. Additional income will come from the sale of electricity to the local grid.

Phuket City Municipality will oversee the management of the plant.

## Three Phuket men charged with encroachment

BANGKOK: Three Phuket businessmen presented themselves at the Department of Special Investigation (DSI) in Bangkok on April 28 to face allegations of land encroachment at Koh Yao Yai in Phang Nga.

Pol Lt Col Prawuth Wongsrinil, head of the DSI's Consumer & Environment Protection Unit, identified them as Thawat, Thara and Prasit Tantipiriyakij.

A fourth man, Bumrung Wongchumpist, has also been accused.

Mr Bumrung notified the DSI that he would present himself on May 26, but Lt Col Prawuth said that was unsatisfactory and wants him to report "as soon as possible" to hear the charges.

The DSI informed the three suspects that the agency, a part of the Justice Ministry, has evidence to prove them guilty of encroachment on 13 hillside plots covering about 500 rai in Koh Yao Yai Village 3, Lt Col Prawuth said.

"This is state land that no one has ever had the right to occupy," he said.

The lengthy DSI investigation revealed that Land Department officials in 1978 illegally issued *NorKorSor* 3 title deeds on the land, despite it being part of a national forest reserve.

In 2006, the plots were sold to Bangkok-based developer Naracha, which planned a hotel and villa project on the land with

a marina at Klong Son Beach.

With the help of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), a group of local fishermen managed to scuttle the marina project even after it had been authorized by the Phang Nga Governor and the Marine Transport Department.

The NHRC argued that new regulations put in place after the 2004 tsunami entitled local people to a say in coastal development and that the public hearing had failed to accurately gauge public opinion.

After the protest gained national media attention, Naracha agreed to abandon the marina project, saying it was the villagers' "own loss" since it would have

been available for their use.

However, Naracha continued to clear and pave over hill-sides in preparation for the resort and villa project.

Residents of nearby Ban Yamee then claimed the developers dammed a section of local watercourse for their own use, cutting off the village water.

Following complaints by the villagers, DSI investigators made about 10 visits to the site and interviewed locals, officials and developers.

They determined that the original title deeds were issued illegally and made formal charges against the four men.

– Gazette reporters



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**HOLE PLUGGED:** A team of frogmen sealed a hole in the tank of a sunken fishing vessel off Satun's Koh Lipe on April 24, stopping an oil leak that left some island beaches blackened earlier in the week.

The oil leak was first noticed early on April 18 at Ao Pramong, on the north coast of Koh Lipe. In an all-day operation, ten teams of two divers each managed to survey the wreck of the 70-meter vessel.

After finding the source of the leak, a one-inch diameter hole where a bolt had come undone, they inserted a plug to temporarily stop the leak. Frogmen also collected pure samples of the oil, which was originally thought to be bunker oil but now appears to be motor oil.



**THE LONG MARCH:** Scores of Phuket residents on Monday morning celebrated the 100th anniversary of the building of Thepkasattri Road with an alms giving ceremony for 100 monks.

## Burrowes free after paying Bt500 fine

PHUKET CITY: The Simon Burrowes saga appears to have finally come to a conclusion as the Englishman pleaded guilty to a charge of being impolite to a state official and was fined 500 baht.

Burrowes was due to fly back to the UK on January 31, but became involved in an altercation with Immigration Police officials at Phuket International Airport, who suspected his passport was fake.

Mr Burrowes lost his temper with the immigration officials, whom he had accused of laughing at him.

He was subsequently arrested and spent the next three weeks in Phuket Provincial Prison before his release on bail.

The incident, which caught the attention of the British media, was widely publicized internationally.

Mr Burrowes appeared before Phuket Provincial Court again yesterday and walked away a free man after paying a court-ordered fine of 500 baht (approx US\$14.28).

He had originally intended to plead not guilty but, faced with the prospect of a prison sentence, was persuaded to change his plea.

"If I had pleaded not guilty, this could have gone on for a while and I could have got anything up to three years, so I decided to stop



**Simon Burrowes tells his story while out on bail, having spent three weeks in Phuket Provincial Prison, after verbally abusing an immigration officer at Phuket Airport.**

fighting. I was forced to plead guilty," he explained.

He has been stuck in Thailand since his release from prison, but now that the case is over he is hoping to return to his native England.

"They returned my passport, but the visa has expired so that is now being processed. I don't know how much that is going to cost; hopefully, it won't cost me anything," he said.

Perhaps surprisingly, Mr Burrowes is not desperate to leave Thailand for his home in the UK.

"I'd like to stay here for a bit longer, just to relax for a few days. I also need to raise funds

for my flight home, which might take a while. The flight I missed was non-refundable," he said.

"I doubt I will ever come back. Thailand is not a bad place, but I have had an awful experience here," he said.

According to Phuket Immigration Superintendent Chanutpol Yongbunjerd, Mr Burrowes now faces a 20,000 baht fine for overstaying his visa while he was incarcerated.

"Mr Burrowes can request that Phuket Airport Immigration pay that fine if he is unable or unwilling to do so himself," said Mr Chanutpol.

-James Goyder

## Airport authority lowers landing fees again

MAI KHAO: Airports of Thailand (AOT) is to make a further reduction in landing fees at the six airports under its control, including Phuket International Airport (PIA).

In a bid to help struggling airlines, battered by dire economic conditions and Thailand's continuing political turmoil, fees will now be reduced by 30%. Parking fees will also be waived for aircraft spending less than 24 consecutive hours on the tarmac.

Passenger arrivals at PIA for the January to March period are down 18.7% year-on-year. January to March 2008 saw 865,837 passengers, while this

year the same period saw just 704,124.

The organization had already reduced landing fees by 20% following the yellow-shirt protests that resulted in the shutdown of Suvarnabhumi and Don Mueang Airports late last year.

Demonstrations and violence by red-shirted protesters in Bangkok, as well as the humiliating cancellation of the Asean summit in Pattaya earlier this month, have prompted AOT to act again.

The new fees will come into effect on May 1 and apply until December 31, 2009.

AOT chairman Piyaphan Champasut said the move would

cost AOT 450 million baht, but that "AOT has to put Thailand first."

Meanwhile, Mr Piyaphan announced that AOT would cancel a 500-million-baht contract with Thai Airports Ground Services (Tags) to supply trolleys for use at Suvarnabhumi Airport.

AOT would also fine Tags two billion baht, despite AOT holding a 28.5% share in the firm.

In a seven-year supply and maintenance contract, Tags was to provide over 9,000 trolleys, yet Suvarnabhumi has only around 3,000 trolleys in use now, Mr Piyaphan said.

AOT has attempted to plug the gaps in trolley supply at Suvarnabhumi using trolleys from other airports, including PIA.

PIA Director Wicha Nernlop told the *Gazette*, "We sent around 500 trolleys to Suvarnabhumi Airport, but we still have enough trolleys in stock. Normally Phuket International Airport uses around 500 trolleys per day. In low season we use less than that."

The AOT also approved a plan to upgrade PIA. Upon completion of the project, the airport will be able to accommodate 11.5 million passengers per year.

The expansion will mean PIA will have a capacity of 20 flights per hour, or one every three minutes. Space for the parking of private jets will be expanded, while shopping facilities inside the terminal building will be improved.

-Gazette reporters

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## Boat accident victims' relatives urged to file claims

By Khunakorn Terdkiatkhachorn  
PHUKET CITY: Relatives of several victims of the *Choke Somboon 19* disaster have yet to file insurance claims with underwriter AXA, which is waiting to pay out 200,000 baht for each of the deceased.

The seven victims were covered under a mandatory group insurance policy taken out by Dive Asia, which owned and operated the vessel that sunk in heavy seas on the night of March 8 while returning from a dive trip to the Similan Islands.

Rakchart Hongsaphirom, with AXA's Bangkok office, said the first 200,000-baht claim was paid on April 3 to Mrs Karnda Thepraksa, wife of the boat's cook Sorntat Jampa.

Dive Asia has also received 200,000 baht and is arranging payment to the relatives of Japanese victim Yuba Hirotsuga.

AXA has tried to contact the embassies of the five European victims and will arrange payment once all the necessary paperwork has been completed, he said.

"So far neither the embassies nor the victim's families have contacted AXA about the insurance. We want them to contact us soon because it is our policy to make such payments within



From left: AXA Insurance Phuket branch manager Pinyo Khertguntapong hands a check for Bt18.5 million to Dive Asia management board member Benno Bradon as Suwimol Saelim, director of the Phuket Office of the Insurance Commission, looks on.

one week of an accident. This is in order to maintain our good reputation," he said.

AXA Insurance, underwriters of the ill-fated vessel, paid out a Bt18.5 million insurance claim to Dive Asia on April 28. A ceremonial check was handed over to Dive Asia Director Benno Bradon at the Phuket AXA Insurance branch.

Pinyo Khertguntapong, manager of the AXA Phuket branch, said the company two years ago began offering marine

hull insurance, which covers the loss or damage of a vessel from gale, shipwreck and a variety of other maritime disasters.

Despite the *Choke Somboon 19* tragedy, AXA still sees marine hull insurance as a growth market in Phuket and continues to offer policies, he said.

Due to the high costs, it was mutually agreed between Dive Asia and AXA not to try to salvage the 30-meter vessel, which now rests 70 meters below the surface about 12 nautical miles off Phuket.

## Four new roads planned for Phuket

PHUKET CITY: In a bid to ease traffic congestion, Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop will push four new road projects for the island, making the building of a second Chalermprakiat Road a top priority.

Gov Wichai told a press conference at Phuket Provincial Hall on April 27 that the ever-increasing number of cars on Phuket's roads makes expansion of the island's road network a necessity – particularly the airport route.

Presently, Phuket has only Thepkasattri Road to connect Phuket International Airport to other districts across the island.

With the airport's proposed upgrade allowing it to accommodate 11.5 million passengers a year, Gov Wichai said he was concerned about the impact an increase in arrivals would have on the island's roads.

"I want to finish construction of the second Chalermprakiat main road before the expansion of Phuket International Airport. If we have an airport unloading 11.5 million tourists a year before the expansion of the road is completed, it will spell traffic disaster on Thepkasattri Road," he said.

The second Chalermprakiat Road's proposed route will follow the twin pylons from Phuket International Airport to the bypass road for a distance of around 21 kilometers. It is anticipated that this project will form a main channel which other new tribu-

tary roads will be able to feed into. It is also planned that heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) will be prohibited from using the new road.

The proposed roadway would not require the expropriation of any private sector land as it would be built on state land.

The Phuket Highways Department has requested a budget of three million baht from the governor, which it plans to use to engage a company from the private sector to carry out the necessary research and design work for the new highway. The department estimates that this work

should be able to be completed within a two-month period – considerably quicker than if the task were allocated to government highway officials.

The remaining projects will involve the construction of a new road from Chalong to Patong, connecting the road to Wat Luangpoh Supha in Chalong with 50 Pi Road, off Nanai Road in Patong; a road connecting Sakdidet Road to Saphan Hin; and an overpass at the Darasamuth School junction on the bypass road, near Central Festival Phuket.

## Phuket ready for swine flu epidemic

PHUKET CITY: Despite no cases of "swine flu" being recorded in Thailand as this edition goes to print, public health officials are taking measures to prevent the spread of the virus into Phuket.

Pongsawad Ratanasang, director of the Public Health Office, told the media that he was not overly concerned by the danger posed to the island by this latest disease.

The island had previously been successful in containing the threat of infectious diseases such as SARS and avian flu, both of which were far more deadly than swine flu. It should not be beyond the capability of Phuket to control this disease, he added.

There are also about 1,000 doses of Tamiflu on the island, which is effective at treating the disease, Mr Pongsawad said.

Phuket and Samui are among five Thai airports that have installed high-tech thermoscanners to screen foreign passengers for swine flu.

The devices register an audible sound upon detecting anyone passing the scanner gates with a body temperature above 37 degrees Celsius – normal for healthy humans.

Each unit comprises an infrared thermal camera, a proces-

sor and a monitor to show the results of readings.

Travelers found with flu-like symptoms that could indicate H1N1 infection will be asked to undergo quarantine and treatment at state-run hospitals, Phaijit Warachit, deputy permanent secretary of the Public Health Ministry said.

Meanwhile, the Public Health Ministry proposed a package of swine flu prevention measures to the Cabinet on April 28, Deputy Public Health Minister Manit Nopamornbodi said.

Mr Manit said the ministry proposed to set up a committee chaired by Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva to monitor the problem.

It would be authorized to order a response and issue instructions to relevant agencies in order to implement swine flu prevention measures effectively and in a unified manner.

At the time of going to press, the new virus has killed up to 149 people in Mexico, with more people infected in the United States, Canada and Europe.

The World Health Organization (WHO) had raised its pandemic alert to phase 4, indicating a significantly increased risk of a global outbreak of a serious disease.

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# Why Phuket is still married to the mob

*On the afternoon of April 22, around 500 villagers blockaded Srisoonthorn Road in Baan Bang Tao, preventing any traffic from passing through the busy stretch. The protesters demanded that Cherng Talay Police arrest a man who had accidentally shot and killed a 12-year-old boy in front of several young witnesses. They claimed the authorities had failed to act quickly enough to apprehend the killer. The protesters dispersed the following afternoon, but by April 27 they were back on the streets, accusing the police of tampering with evidence at the crime scene. Was this "mob" action simply a case of villagers joining what appears to be a nationwide trend – or were they justifiably acting out of sheer desperation in the face of perceived police inaction and ineptitude? Tipwarintron Tanaakarachod and Dan Waites report.*

Ekawood Pipatratana was pointing a .38 caliber pistol at Amornthep "Gaga" Panya-sirikul's left temple. "I'm going to shoot you," he reportedly said.

It was around noon on Wednesday, April 22, and the 34-year-old owner of the Dr Com Electronic Center was showing off in front of 12-year-old Gaga and three other boys who were there to play video games. Ekawood pulled the trigger twice. The chambers were empty. But when he pulled it a third time, the gun went off, sending a bullet through Gaga's head.

By the afternoon, Gaga was dead, Ekawood was on the

run, and 500 angry villagers had blockaded a stretch of Srisoonthorn Road in front of the shop, demanding that the police find Gaga's body and arrest Ekawood.

It is perhaps difficult to imagine the shock that must have taken hold of those in the room when the gun went off. With Gaga convulsing and losing blood rapidly, Ekawood reportedly told the boys he would take him to Vachira Phuket Hospital. He put the boy's body in his car, closed up shop and drove off, taking his young son with him.

Gaga never reached the hospital – at least not alive. Ekawood dumped his body in

marshland not far from Phuket Airport. He later told reporters that Gaga had died in the car before he could get to Vachira. He was in shock at the time, he explained.

After dumping the body, Ekawood drove to Bangkok to find his wife, who was attending a course there. This meant he was able to get through Tah Chat Chai checkpoint, the only land route off Phuket. Protesters would later question why police were unable to mobilize in time to prevent his escape.

From statements made by the boys present, it seems reasonable to believe Ekawood's own claim that the shooting was a tragic accident. At a press conference following his arrest, he appeared full of remorse. "I feel very sorry about what happened. I knew the boy very well and I didn't mean to take his life," he said.

He is to be charged with causing death through negligence, for which he could be sentenced to up to 10 years in jail. He will also be charged with attempting to conceal a body and a firearms offense.

Yet this will be of little com-



**THE SHOOTER:** Ekawood Pipatratana faces charges of causing death by negligence, attempting to conceal a body and possessing a firearm without a license.

fort to Gaga's mother, who has lost her only son. "I have lost everything. My future has been ruined by that terrible gunman. I can never forgive him," she told the *Gazette*, struggling to hold back tears.

## The protest

The incident that apparently sparked the protest was not the shooting itself, however. Protesters allege that when one of the young witnesses called to report the crime, police hung up on him.

When the *Gazette* put this accusation to Deputy Superintendent Siriwat Intrayim of Cherng Talay Police, he said that the police had received no such call. He claimed the boy had in fact called 1669, the emergency rescue hotline. He went on to say that operators on such numbers are used to receiving prank calls, which might explain the response.

Voravuth Manesri, one of the protest leaders, questioned how Ekawood was able to get

through Tah Chat Chai checkpoint.

"The police didn't even know where the murderer was; they thought he was still in Phuket, but he was in Bangkok. Why did they tell us that they checked the CCTV and didn't see the car pass through Tah Chat Chai checkpoint? The killer said that he left Phuket through Tah Chat Chai. Does that mean that the police didn't have the CCTV on?" he said. [see First Person, page 23, for an extended interview with Voravuth].

Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop admitted Ekawood shouldn't have been able to get off the island. "There's only one way to drive out of Phuket, and that's through Tah Chat Chai checkpoint. We really need to fix this problem," he said.

Lt Col Siriwat explained that police initially received a report that Gaga had been shot and been taken to Vachira Phuket Hospital. "We went to the hospital, but the boy wasn't there. After that I went to Tah Chat Chai,

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**THE SCENE:** The blockade in Baan Bang Tao on April 22. **INSET:** Amornthep "Gaga" Panya-sirikul, shot in the head earlier that day.



**THE COP:** Deputy Superintendent Siriwat Intrayim of Cherng Talay Police.

and checked the CCTV footage taken from 12pm to 3pm," he said. It was while he was checking the CCTV footage that he received a report that a protest had started outside the Dr Com center, Lt Col Siriwat explained.

"So I had to drive back to the place where the accident happened and try to clear up the problem. But all I got was the question 'why have the police come so late?'"

He claimed that one of the protesters told him that after police found the boy's body, they would re-open the road.

At around 5.30pm, police found Gaga's body and Lt Col Siriwat informed the protesters. "I thought they'd open up the

road then, but the answer wasn't what I thought. They told me 'now I can't control the situation, because there are too many people here now. I can't clear the mess.'

"I knew that was a lie. They didn't do as they promised [and re-open the road], and they even closed the road around Surin in another spot.

"The protesters then demanded police say how many days it would take them to have Ekawood in custody. I couldn't promise anything, because I really didn't know. What I did know is that we would do our best," Lt Col Siriwat said.

Gov Wichai visited the protesters at around 10pm. He is

understood to have told them that if Ekawood was not in custody within three days, he would request a transfer out of Phuket.

According to Lt Col Siriwat, "Most of the people accepted this, only a few drunks weren't okay with it."

As it turned out, around 30 villagers continued to protest overnight. The protest was finally abandoned at 2.30pm on April 23, reportedly after the tiring demonstrators were assured the killer was about to be taken into custody.

Voravuth explained why some protesters were unsatisfied with the governor's assurances. "If you leave your job as governor here but then take up a job as governor somewhere else, does it make any difference? If they told me that if they failed to do their job properly they would quit and never take a similar job again, then I might buy it," he said.

## Not the first time

The protesters claim they took to the streets after police failed to solve even one in a string of five alleged murders in the Bang Tao area. Voravuth's own nephew was recently killed in a hail of machine gun fire, he said.

"This was the last straw. Do you know how many incidents have happened before this? One happened just beside the police station recently. We talked to the police about it and the superintendent said that if he couldn't catch the murderer he would transfer himself. He did move, but only because they were going to move him anyway. And who takes responsibility? No-one," he said.

But when questioned on this, Lt Col Siriwat was quick to defend Cherng Talay Police's record. "The case of the murder with the M16 machine gun is already in court. The murder that took place near here, we've already caught some of the criminals, but there were many involved. Some we haven't caught yet," he said.

Three days after Ekawood surrendered himself, protesters

## Timeline of events

### Wednesday, April 22

**12 noon:** Ekawood Pipatratana accidentally shoots 12-year-old Amornthep "Gaga" Panya-sirikul in the head with a .38 caliber pistol inside Ekawood's Dr Com Electronic Center in Baan Bang Tao. Three other boys are present in the shop at the time of the shooting. Ekawood puts Gaga in his car, telling the boys he will take the victim to Vachira Phuket Hospital. Protesters later alleged that one of the boys called the police, only to be hung up upon by police who didn't believe his story. Meanwhile, Ekawood flees to Bangkok to find his wife.

**3pm:** After Gaga's parents call Vachira and are told that the boy has not been admitted, an angry crowd including the victim's family gathers outside the Dr Com shop. The protesters blockade a 300-meter stretch of Srisoonthorn Road in front of the shop, demanding Ekawood's immediate arrest.

**5.30pm:** Gaga's body is found by police, dumped in marshland in the Nai Yang area, south of Phuket Airport. By this time about 500 villagers have joined the protest.

**9.30pm:** Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop visits Gaga's home, the protest site and the police station. He assures the boy's family that Ekawood will be in custody within three days. Most of the protesters disband, though around 30 continue the blockade throughout the night.

### Thursday, April 23

**11am:** Gaga's mother, Mrs Somjai Sudjit, takes the boy's remains home after identifying him at the Vachira Phuket Hospital morgue.

**2.30pm:** The protest is finally disbanded following unconfirmed reports that Mr Ekawood was about to turn himself in to the authorities.

### Friday, April 24

**11am:** Fearing he would be met by a lynch mob in Cherng Talay, a remorseful Mr Ekawood hands himself in at Phuket Provincial Police Station. He is accompanied by his wife and Sommit Suepsin, a member of Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (PPAO).

### Monday April 27

**3pm:** On the final day of Gaga's funeral ceremonies, a police officer enters Dr Com along with two other men to collect equipment for customers who had brought equipment to the shop to be fixed. They are spotted by people attending the funeral at Wat Bang Tao, opposite the center.

**4pm:** Gaga's cremation ends. Suspecting that police are tampering with evidence in a crime scene, a crowd begins to gather again outside Dr Com.

**6.30pm:** About 300 people have gathered outside the shop, again blocking Srisoonthorn Road.

**7.00pm:** The police return the equipment removed from Dr Com. Within half an hour the protesters disband.

were back at the site of the shooting. Police had entered Dr Com, apparently to return computers to customers who had sent them to the shop to be fixed. Believing police to be tampering with evidence, the protesters set up another blockade. The protest was abandoned within an hour, but only after the police returned the equipment to the shop.

Regardless of the truth of the matter, there is clearly a perception among many Cherng

Talay residents that police are not doing their jobs properly, a perception that even the arrest of Ekawood failed to change.

Voravuth admitted the protests might not solve the problems, but claimed they would help make the authorities aware of their duties.

"They should work for us, not put themselves above us. We're letting them know we're watching them, and we're showing them the right thing to do. We're not going to be silent anymore," he said.



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## Queer News

### Dim criminal robs police

PHUKET CITY: For a combination of stupidity and lack of ethics, few crimes in Phuket in recent memory can match that of a young man who tried to steal a charity donation box placed on the main counter of the Phuket City Police Station on April 21.

At 12:30pm that day, a police officer noticed that the charity donation box for the Foundation for Rehabilitation & Development of Children and Family had gone missing.

Checking the station's CCTV recording, the officers saw that the thief was a tall, dark-skinned man with long hair.

Superintendent Wanchai Ekporapit ordered his deputy Lt Col Chaiwat Auykham, Crime Suppression Inspector Prawit Sutthireungarun and Inspector for Investigations Wijk Tarom to hunt down the criminal.

Lt Col Wijk has been dubbed "The Magnet" by the local media for his uncanny ability to solve difficult cases.

This particular investigation did not prove much of a challenge, however. At precisely 12:34pm – just four minutes after the crime was first noticed – The Magnet had got his man.

Lt Col Wichak spotted the man from the CCTV tape in the car park of the office of the nearby Phuket Police Co-operative. On seeing the officers, the suspect ran up towards Yaowarat Road. The Magnet and his men gave chase.

The officers caught the suspect when, fatigued, he stopped to rest outside the police dormitories on Yaowarat Rd. He was still clutching the donation box, which was damaged in the incident and has not yet been replaced.

The man, identified as 24-year-old Imron Singkhan from Mai Khao, told police he had been out drinking with friends the night before.

On his way home he was arrested for drunk driving and forced to sleep at the police station.

The following morning, as he was walking out of the station, he saw the unguarded donation box and – his judgement perhaps clouded from the night before – decided to steal it.

He has now been charged with theft as well as driving under the influence.

-Siangtai Daily

### Village chief gunned down

NAKHON SRI THAMMARAT: A village chief was shot dead in his pick-up truck as he was driving home from an ordination ceremony on April 24.

The body of Sakhon Chanbun, Chief of Village 4, tambon Khuan Phang, Ron Phibun District, was found slumped over the steering wheel of his truck. He had been shot multiple times. Police believe there were at least two gunmen.

Mr Sakhon was shot as he was driving home from the ordination of a relative. Police believe that a gambling dispute could have provided the motive for Mr Sakhon's killing as the victim had been playing the dice game hi-lo at the ordination.

-MCOT

### Pub owner arrested for police killing

SONGKHLA: More than 70 police officers swooped on a pub in the border town of Daan Nok, Sadao District on April 22 to arrest the pub's owner for the murder of a police officer who was shot dead earlier in the month.

Traithep "Od" Maekem was eventually found hiding in a bedroom in Member Pub on Soi Thai Janglon.

A search of the building uncovered a fully-loaded 11mm and a .357 calibre pistol and four full magazines of ammunition, police said.

The arrest followed the killing of Sen Sgt Maj Wimonwat Khaokaow, a drug suppression officer with Songkhla Provincial Police, who was shot dead on April 9 while on duty in Daan Nok, which when roughly translated means "outer limits".

The town has undergone tremendous growth over the last decade and is now a popular place for Malays to enjoy Thai-style night life without having to drive all the way to Haad Yai, located some 50 kilometers north.

Songkhla Provincial Police Commander Wirun Iam-Phaichit said that Mr Traithep shot Sen Sgt Maj Wimonwat in Yahoo pub after the officer went to investigate a lead.

Mr Traithep and four other men then dragged Sen Sgt Maj Wimonwat's body out of the pub and shot up the dead officer's car to try and mislead police, Maj Gen Wirun said.

Maj Gen Wirun said that he had personally questioned Mr Traithep for more than an hour, but the suspect said that he would not give a statement until the case went to court.

Police have arrested three other men wanted for their involvement in the killing but are still hunting for one further suspect, identified as 49-year-old Sophon "Tik" Dissara.

Mr Sophon, a former policeman, is believed to be hiding out somewhere in Bangkok.

-Thai Rath

### Manners maketh a monk

CHIANG RAI: In order to improve the manners of novices entering the Thai Sangha, a temple school in the north will launch the country's first "good manners" curriculum for novice monks, next month.

Phra Maha Wudhijaya Vajiramedhi, director of the Vimuttayalaya Institute, said that the course will be introduced at the Novice Demonstration School that he founded in Chiang Rai's Chiang Khong District.

The aim of the project is to educate novices so that they will have more appropriate manners

and it also aims to solve the problem of homosexual practices among novices and monks.

The good manners curriculum comprises 75 Dharma principles focusing on the proper behaviour of monks and novices as taught by the Lord Buddha in Buddhism's 227 precepts.

"When the Lord Buddha was a prince, he was educated by his royal household. As a result, he had really good manners and was admired by Buddhists.

"The school has decided to introduce the curriculum to teach novices because I don't want people to lose their faith in novices and monks due to unbecoming conduct," said Phra Maha Wudhijaya.

"Every novice at the school will be taught the curriculum. We'll evaluate how the curriculum can help inculcate good manners in novices. If it succeeds in improving their manners, I'll expand the it to other novice schools nationwide," he concluded.

-The Nation

### Healthy snack campaign launched



BANGKOK: In a bid to help reduce obesity in Thailand, the Public Health Ministry has convinced six snack producers to cut sugar, fat and sodium content in their products, Public Health Minister Wittaya Kaewparadaion said on April 22.

People nowadays consume more sugar, fat and sodium than is required by the body, resulting in ailments such as diabetes, heart disease, high-blood pressure and obesity, he said.

Mr Wittaya was speaking after signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with six snack food producers who agreed to cut the levels of fat, sodium and sugar in their products by 25% and make them available across the country. Four major food distributors also signed the MoU.

Under the plan, the manufacturers will launch their first batch of healthy products next month and make them available at schools, he added.

Citing a recent survey conducted by the ministry, Mr Wittaya said that child obesity has risen from 4% in 1999 to 13% this year. Most obese children live in urban areas, he said.

Owing to bad eating habits, youngsters could end up facing chronic ailments such as high-blood pressure, coronary heart disease and strokes, he added.

Another study in 2006 found that children spent on average Bt26 a day or Bt9,800 a year on snacks, while parents only spent an average of Bt3,024 a year on school fees.

-The Nation

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**PRISON BREAK:** Above, inmates take part in recreational activities jointly organized by Pattani Central Prison and the Pattani Provincial Tourism and Sports Office on April 21. Photos by Charoon Thongnual



**DOG'S LIFE:** Veterinarians attended to dogs and administered anti-rabies vaccines in Songkhla province, where eight people died of the disease in 2006 alone.

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## Chikungunya outbreak hits Songkhla

SONGKHLA: At least 5,000 people have been infected with the insect-borne Chikungunya virus since the beginning of this year, a senior public health official said on April 29.

Doctor Sanphet Ritthiraksa, a specialist on preventive medicine of the Songkhla Public Health Office, said that 5,036 Chikungunya sufferers had been

detected between January 1 and April 27 this year.

Of those known to be suffering with the Chikungunya virus, some 3,007 patients were located in Sabayoi District, 1,387 patients in Sadao District, 328 patients in Thepha District and 314 patients detected in Nathawee District.

*-The Nation*

## Deep South quieter

DEEP SOUTH: Fourth Army Area Commander Lt Gen Pichet Wisaijorn announced last week that violence in the Deep South had subsided recently and local people are almost living normally.

Local people had resumed

various traditional activities, such as 'making merit' at the shrine of Lim Korniew, hosting regular bul-bul singing contests and competing in the fishing contest in Sai Buri district, he said.

*-The Nation*

## More red-shirt leaders turn themselves in

BANGKOK: Four more red shirt leaders surrendered on April 21 and were subsequently released on bail. The four were named as Suporn Atth-awong, Sirawit Pimklang, Peera Pringklang and Narongsak Manee.

Three Pheu Thai MPs used their positions to guarantee their release. The four, who are charged with violating the emergency decree, are prohibited from leaving the country.

*-The Nation*

## Water subsidy extended

BANGKOK: The Cabinet allocated a budget of Bt3 billion on April 28 to subsidize tap water fees for the poor for six more months, starting from April.

Home users, who use no more than 30 units of water, will be exempt from paying the wa-

ter bills from April to September this year.

In addition, Tambon administrative organizations, that use no more Bt3,000 worth of tap water in the period, will also be exempt from paying water bills.

*-The Nation*

## Students not proud to be Thai

BANGKOK: Only 38% of students surveyed feel proud to be Thai, an extensive new study has shown.

Conducted among 14,400 students, the survey was designed to investigate their feelings of "goodness", "happiness" and "pride" in being Thai.

Vocational and university students were not included in the study.

The findings showed that only 51% of those questioned said that they were happy with their studies, while about 63% described themselves as good people.

"The findings confirm we have embarked on the right track by improving history courses. Such an improvement can help make students more proud of their 'Thainess'," Education Minister Jurin Laksanawisit said on April 23.

It is necessary for students to be proud of being Thai and uphold moral principles, he said.

"We must start by instilling the right attitudes. Children should be compassionate and have a sense of duty regarding public service.

"They should be happy about being Thai and living in Thai society," Mr Jurin said.

The Office of the Education Council will now propose a four-year project to ensure students in basic education feel happy, good and proud to be Thai.

*-The Nation*

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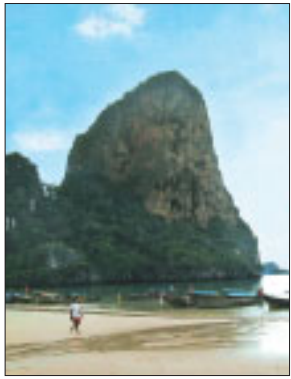
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# Looking at the milestones of Ao Nang



## ACROSS THE BAY

By Gus Reynolds

It's hard to believe I've been writing for the *Gazette* for nearly 10 years. How time goes by when you are having fun! As you can imagine, things have changed a lot here in Krabi in those 10 years, even more so in the eighteen years since I first came to Krabi.

I went back to read some of my old articles from those early years, and had many a laugh. The comical memories of the excitement of the first electric sign being lit in Ao Nang can not be forgotten, for when the resort switched on the electric for their sign with great fanfare, they discovered they had spelled the resort's name wrong!

And how about the fish restaurant on the beachfront that used to cook its orders by the numbers on the menu. If you ordered an entrée near the front of the menu with a low number, say number four, it was cooked before all the higher-numbered entrées. If you ordered number 47, you had to wait until the cook made all the lowered-numbered entrées first. I never ordered an entrée with a number higher than five.

The first ATM in Ao Nang was a major milestone. Hardly any of the villagers had ATM cards, nor had any idea what the machine was for, but they sure loved to push all the buttons. Now there are ATM machines every 15 meters or so. The installation of municipal water in 2001 brought Ao Nang into the big leagues and brought an end to the water-truck mafia. The opening of Centre Point that year was another high, or low, depending on your point of view.

Remember the 800-baht flights from Krabi to Phuket on Air Andaman? What a deal. Within 20 minutes you were in Phuket; as long as you didn't mind a white-knuckle flight on a 12-seater plane. You could fly to Phuket on the early-morning flight, do your shopping and what not, and return on the sunset flight the same day. It was so cheap I would buy an extra seat for all my shopping (cases of Corona beer!).

I reread an article that I wrote in 2000 titled, "If you wouldn't do it at home, don't do it here". I should probably reprint it every year for all the knuckleheads who come here and hand their money over to total strangers for investment deals or for those who come here to make trouble.

Some things haven't changed. The Last Café is still the coolest spot in town – now with the Last Fisherman and its nightly barbeques. La Luna Italian restaurant is still the oldest Italian restaurant in Ao Nang and has been serving good food for over 15 years. The owner, Silvano Silvagni, is always threatening that it is his "last year". He remains a most congenial host who loves to sip his wine.

And the tailors. We complained about them then and we complain about them now. In the year 2000, 28 tailors dominated tiny Ao Nang. Now the number has grown to nearly 50. That really isn't an astronomical increase. It's probably less in percentage terms than the increase in optical shops or longtail boats, but the tailor shop owners have diversified their businesses. Now they are taking over the restaurant industry.

At last count, there were nine Indian restaurants in Ao Nang and some 10 Italian restaurants run by south Asians, compared to the four authentic Italian restaurants actually run by Italians.



THEN: A photograph taken in the 1990s of the police box on Ao Nang beachfront with a single bicycle parked outside.



NOW: A photograph taken in the same spot in 2009 shows how much the area has developed over the past decade.

While we can all witness the explosion in the number of ATMs, optical shops, and longtail boats with a sense of resignation, one question remains. How do all these people get work permits to run the 50 tailor shops and twenty odd restaurants? What's the justification for the 51<sup>st</sup> tailor shop to get a work permit? Even worse, these same people are reported to be selling pirated CDs and fake brand-name watches on the beach front. You'd think the locals wouldn't put up with it. But as we all know, money talks and it looks like Ao Nang sold out long ago.

Talking of money, and the changes in Ao Nang over the years, check out how the land prices have exploded exponentially. Even in the times of recession, they still seem to be stuck at higher levels. Case in point: a small 72 wah (288sqm) lot with 20sqm road frontage on Ao Nang Road, about 800 meters from the beach, is for sale at 21 million baht. That's less than one fifth of a rai. Wow! That makes my three rai (4800sqm) next door look pretty good!

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# Strewth, this food's a ripper!



There's something admittedly atavistic about a ravenous *farang* attacking a plate of cottage pie and something that is certain to set off an alarm bell in the Clarkson chapel list of rude expats.



Located along Srisoonthorn Road, several hundred meters from Cherng Talay on the right-hand side when approached from Heroine's Monument. You can't miss it.

Phuket has a long and distinguished list of expats – witness Bruce Stanley's ongoing "Expat Gallery" series in the *Gazette*. Sadly, not everyone is as positive and as cuddly as Bruce. The BBC's Jeremy Clarkson recently wrote an online article depicting the average expatriate as a loser, a runaway, hopeless at the local lingo; while the male genre was especially noted for its bulbous nose, attributed to quaffing several half-pints of gin before daily Mediterranean and tropical happy hours.

Sorry J.C., but yawn... Maybe a few of the island's live-rich expats fit this stereotype, but many Phuket residents are fluent in Thai – even more so after a few drinks – while quite a few successful teetotal businessmen are absolutely hopeless at the local lingo. There were 42 responses to his polemic bile within 24 hours of it going online – a good few came from Thai-based British expats.

So, what better way to parry the scribbles of an overpaid boor on a dysfunctional, mist-shrouded island than by highlighting a hardworking, successful expat on Phuket. That would be Susan Usher – the island's very own "Lady Pie".

Susan, an Aussie 'can do' lady, is so far removed from J.C.'s ill-informed expat generalizations that it makes you wonder if the man – apart from getting knocked out by a Greek fisherman some years back (many thanks, Stavros, I owe you a beer) – has actually had any physical contact with foreigners abroad; with the exception of sharing on-location hotel bar elbow space with his cameramen, that is.

This Aussie lady never stops working and her products – meat pies, sausages, quiches, sausage rolls and floaters – are so appealing to *farangs* in Thailand that several of the island's "top gear" resorts and shopping

marts feature them, along with many outlets in Bangkok.

So who's her marketing manager? "Me," grins Susan. Who did the research and earned the relevant qualifications in order to meet the stringent food hygiene standards required to open such a place? "Me," gr-ins Susan. And just who trains the staff, arranges deliveries, manages to have a sunny countenance every single day and was the first woman to bake and deliver a

pie on the Moon? You guessed it, Susan although that last part was a bit of whimsical pie in the sky (groan).

Lady Pie's restaurant itself seems a modest setup when compared to the chic, 'to-be-seen-in' restaurants at nearby Tinlay Place. Located along Srisoonthorn Road, several hundred meters from Cherng Talay on the right-hand side when approached from Heroine's Monument (not "The Heroin's Monument", as several guide books have it, but hey, I'm needling...). You can't miss it.

Susan has added a beauty salon to the side meaning that after a few Aussie pies, beans, all-day breakfasts and absolutely delectable sausage rolls, you can get yourself a facial and a true-blue, fair dinkum Aussie mullet. Only joking...

We're famished. Joy selects an Aussie pie, mash, peas and onion gravy while I opt for the daily special – cottage pie with hydroponic salad, baked beans on the side and vegetable cuts. The little guy goes for a sausage roll with French fries, as does his mum. Susan orders an Aussie pie with mushy peas over the top – a "floater" as I believe it's known in the Antipodean dictionary; but certainly not in the British.

There's something admittedly atavistic about a ravenous *farang* attacking a plate of cottage pie and something that is certain to set off an alarm bell in

the Clarkson chapel list of rude expats, but Joy alerts me as I scarf the delicious food down, "You can really put that stuff away, can't you?", she observes. In all seriousness, this reviewer normally eats like a bird and maybe this voracity is testament to Lady Pie's ability to hit the spot when *farang* tastes have had enough local

cuisine.

It's all so decidedly scrumptious and filling that when Susan announces that she has to leave for a Hash House meeting, we thank her through a laconic, fit-to-bust haze – a truly delicious meal in uber-friendly surroundings.

Normal-size pies clock in at 75 baht, a 150 gram sausage roll 70 baht, desserts, 100 baht. Check out

the website for more info (it'll be worth it). Beer is available.

*Lady Pie 120/6 Srisoonthorn Road, Cherng Talay. 07:30-17:30 Mon-Sat; 10:00-17:00 Sundays. Tel: 081-8955690 Email: info@ladypie.com Website: www.ladypie.com*

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# Hot off the press!



Take time before or after your massage to relax in a rose petal filled bathtub.

By Tipwarintron Tanaakarachod

**W**hat's to be done? The world is imploding, the country is exploding, the red shirts are re-loading and it looks like the tourists have all gone to Bali. Where's the hope? Where's the joy? Frankly, I have no idea, but what I can tell you is that now is the perfect time to wallow in a bit of self indulgent pampering. And what better way to wallow than by absconding to the surreality of a five-star spa and treating yourself to one of the more luxurious massages available on this paradise island of ours.

Of course, massages come in many guises. There's the slow, sensual massage that will leave you feeling soothed and serene; intoxicated by the the fragrant aroma of the aromatic oils and herbs.

Then there's the traditional "this won't hurt a bit" deep-tis-



A slow, sensual massage will leave you feeling soothed and serene, intoxicated by the the fragrant aroma of the aromatic oils and herbs.

sue Thai massage, which is said to be the perfect tonic for those little kinks in the muscles and knots of stress.

With around 200 spas in Phuket, the choice is dizzying. But there are spas and then there are spas. One of the latter is 'Le Spa' located at Le Meridien Hotel in Patong.

As you would expect from Le Meridien, Le Spa provides a multitude of treatments. Pampered patrons can browse the "menu" or seek a recommendation from one of the staff, all the while sipping a restorative herbal concoction, administered to ease you into a gentle state of relaxation and wellbeing.

On to the treatments, and one that comes recommended is the traditional massage, combined with a hot herb press – designed to relax the body, yet invigorate the senses.

Herbs are nature's antioxidants and the health benefits they bring are many and profound. Herbs have long been used as the



Each massage room is lit by candle light, creating a soothing, tranquil ambiance.

basis of traditional Chinese medicine, with usage dating as far back as the first century CE.

Each of the 10 well-appointed massage rooms is lit by candle light, engendering a soothing and tranquil ambiance. A bath tub affords the chance to unwind in rose petal-strewn waters before or after the massage.

After having the feet gently cleaned by a hot towel, the treatment begins with a full body, deep-tissue massage.

After about 30 minutes, when the hot press has been given the chance to cool sufficiently so not to cause discomfort, the masseuse applies the press to the body for the remainder of the treatment.

The herbs help to relax the muscles, reduce bruising and swelling, and cleanse the skin, while the heat from the press dilates the arteries, increasing blood flow and oxygen circulation around the body – also helping to soothe tense or aching muscles.

While having a professional masseuse administer a relaxing massage and hot herb press is undoubtedly preferential, it is possible to reproduce the same effect at home.

To create a hot herb press

ou will need to lay your hands on the following ingredients: zingiberaceae (ginger), turmeric, lemon grass, sweet flag (calamus), blue gum (eucalyptus), camphor leaves, croton, leech limes, tamarind leaves and crinum lily.

#### Preparation

Cut the herbs up into pieces, beat or grind until soft and then combine the ingredients before placing them in a white cloth. Ensure that the press is neither too big or too small, then tie at the top to hold the herbs in place.

Place the press in a steam pot until the press is hot to the touch. Use the palm of the hand to reduce the heat from the press and dip in massage oil before using on the body.

This ensures that the press is smooth and also stops the skin from burning – always a good idea.

Place the press on the body briefly at first until the body adjusts to the heat. Once accustomed to the temperature, you can apply the press to the skin for longer periods.

#### Benefits

Ginger, turmeric, galangal and lemon grass when heated, stimulate blood flow through the arteries and help to relax the muscles.

The herbs that produce powerful aromas – blue gum, camphor leaves and croton – help to relax the mind and calm the nerves.

The herbs that taste sour – tamarind, acacia and leech lime – help to clean the skin removing any bacterial build up that might cause spots and other dermatological conditions.

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# Skin deep on the cheap

By Tipwarintron Tanaakarachod

If you are looking for a natural, clear and healthy complexion – and who isn't, darling? – you'll be delighted to hear that not only is it achievable but also you don't need to be splashing the cash on all those expensive skin-care creams or lotions in fancy packaging to make it happen.

Of course, genetics play a part, but to make the most out of what mother nature gave you, it all begins with being careful about what you eat. This is because many of the toxins and other nasties that we consume when we eat processed or junk food are expelled from the body through the skin. Certain foods can have a visibly adverse effect on the skin, with spots erupting as a result of grease build up and rashes from allergic reactions.

The first and cheapest step in helping the skin look fresher is to avoid caffeine, alcohol and sweet drinks. Instead, flush your system by drinking lots of plain water.

Next, start brushing your skin about twice a week, before bathing, to get rid of the layers of dead skin (exfoliation). You can find skin brushes at health and beauty stores and super markets. Use a soft brush so you don't rub your skin raw. Bathe, then be sure to use a moisturizing lotion on your skin afterwards.

The skin is also under constant attack from dust, dirt and cigarette smoke and other airborne pollutants, which kill off collagen. Some skin conditions are hereditary but their symptoms can sometimes be lessened by eliminating or adding certain foods from your diet.

## Treatment tips

### Rashes and itchy skin.

Chamomile is the herb of choice when seeking to soothe irritation from rashes and itchy skin. You can purchase chamomile lotions from supermarkets, but if unavailable you can use chamomile tea. Make the tea, leave it to cool, and then spray it over the face. Leave for sometime and then rinse.

### Wrinkles and signs of aging.

The best method to combat wrinkles is to use a handful of almonds, some orange oil – if you can't find orange oil then use the zest of an orange – and grape seeds. Mix everything together, apply to your face and leave for 10 minutes. The nutrients from the orange oil (or skin), grape seeds and almonds will help to protect your skin from wrinkles and will also get rid of the dead skin.

**Pimples.** Squeeze two limes, mix the juice with fresh, clean water then spray the "cocktail" over the face. Leave it on for a short time and then wash your face as usual. Citrus fruits such as limes and lemons contain citric acid – one of five Alpha Hydroxy Acids (AHAs) – that help to clear dead skin and kill bacteria, reducing inflammation on the face. With really bad cases of acne you should consult a dermatologist.

Before trying any of these treatments on your face, test them out first on the back of the hand, just to ensure your skin is not allergic to any of the ingredients. Even though all the tips prescribed here use natural ingredients, everybody's skin is different.

**If you have any problems, comments or suggestions please drop me a line at [Riz@phuketgazette.net](mailto:Riz@phuketgazette.net).**



The natural oils from oranges can be mixed with almonds and grape seeds to counter the signs of aging.



There are a host of exfoliating products available at health and beauty stores and supermarkets. These are from the Body Shop.



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# The last craftsman



80-year-old Pae Mhee personally inspects every piece before it is allowed to leave the forge. Photo by Sakhorn Saengtongsamansin.

Established in 1907 by Tiaw Guy Hong, the “22 Laminated Forge” was situated between Dibuk and Phuket Roads in Phuket City. The “22” in the name refers to the sum of money – a princely 22 baht – that the founders were required to pay when they opened the forge around the turn of the century.

Chinese workers were being brought in from Tau Pho district in Canton, China to work in the tin mines. Tiaw Guy Hong came to Phuket from China, upon hearing that the island had an urgent need for blacksmiths and were prepared to pay far better wages than he could have hoped for back in his homeland.

At that time Phuket’s primary industry was tin mining. To operate, the mines required a substantial amount of steel equipment, much of which had to be manufactured by hand; which accounted for the flourishing smithy industry.

Many of the forges were located in the *Thaew nam* zone,

the center for tin mine equipment manufacture on the island. The forges in the zone were also adept at modifying and repairing all manner of equipment.

The number of forges dramatically decreased, firstly as the era of tin mining came to an end and later due to the emergence of high-tech factories capable of mass production. With their economies of scale, the new factories were able to undercut the prices of the old style forges, which gradually began to die out.

In 1979, 22 Laminated Forge relocated to Thepkasattri road in Thalang district. In order to survive, the forge has had to reinvent itself, targeting its modern day products at the gardening and construction sectors. This strategic adjustment has paid dividends, with orders flooding in. Without any advertising or marketing, the forge now operates flat-out, six days a week, just to meet demand for its range of products. Such is the pressure of the current workload, workers at the forge who were questioned

for this article, had to continue working while they were interviewed.

The forge’s three best-selling products are large knives, crowbars – used extensively in the construction industry – and axes. The work space is packed with an assortment of raw materials, waiting to be fashioned into some item or other for one of the company’s many customers.

Preecha “Pae Mhee” Tirananuwat is the manager of 22 Laminated Forge. A sprightly 80 years old, he is still going strong. Pae Mhee became a blacksmith when he was 20 years old, having learned his trade from his grandfather, Tiaw Guy Hong, whom he would sit and watch, gradually picking up the process.

Of course, in those days, there was no technology to speak of; just the power and the skill of the blacksmith himself. They had to order materials from Penang, which would arrive by sea aboard three-masted Chinese junks. These days, most of the materials used in the forge come from

Bangkok, while some have to be imported from overseas. Pae Mhee told the *Gazette* he thought that the blacksmith tradition in his family would probably come to an end with this the fourth generation.

“I don’t want my two granddaughters to become blacksmiths,” he said. “Both of them are still studying and anyway, I don’t want to give this job to a woman,” he added.

Sixty years ago, there were seven laminated forges in Phuket. Now, the island has only one forge that uses the laminating process. Laminating requires more time and technical expertise than other processes. The forge produces on average 20 products per day, with Pae Mhee still personally checking each piece before it leaves the premises. His two sons both have 20 years’ experience but Pae Mhee insists that they can still learn from their father.

The price of the products depends to a large extent on the market price for steel. Sixty years ago, the cheapest product cost a mere two baht. Today it costs between 200 and 300 baht. The most expensive product sold by the forge is a shaman blade, used in Chinese ceremonies and at the Vegetarian Festival. The forge also makes bulk sales to traders, who come to buy up to 50 products at a time with the intention of selling them on. However, despite all this bustling trade, Pae Mhee insists that the current income still hasn’t made the four

employees of the forge rich.

Rungsun “Tu” Sithichoke is one of the forge’s established customers. The supervisor of a rubber plantation, he has been buying knives from 22 Laminated Forge for over 10 years.


“I buy big knives for my staff. The quality is very good and the knives are very durable,” he told the *Gazette*. “We use them usually until they are lost. Pae Mhee has a very good feel for making knives. He has many styles that are crafted specifically to suit a certain object,” he added.

Pae Mhee summed up his life, listing his four proudest accomplishments.

“Firstly I have to say that I am so proud of my laminated process. Second; I never regret having kept the forge open even after the end of the tin mining period, when I switched to making big knives and axes for gardeners. Third, I am proud of having redesigned the cart wheel that was used for transport vehicles in Patong. The carts at that time had very large wheels, which made it difficult for them to negotiate Patong Hill, where the road was really bad. Having studied the issue, I calculated that the problem could be resolved by making the cart wheel smaller.



“Finally, I am always very happy when a customer comes back to tell me that the product he bought from me is of good quality,” he concluded.

**-Khunakorn Terdkiatkhachorn**



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## EXPAT GALLERY

## Paul Moorhouse

Paul Moorhouse is one of Phuket's most successful property developers. He has five major developments to his credit and has been a major player in making Phuket one of the most desirable international locations for upscale villa projects.

Born in Scarborough, Yorkshire, England, Paul's ambition from early life was to be a rock star. He started singing as a choir boy at age 9, and by 17 had headed to London where he did back-up vocals for commercials and joined his first band, *The Mandrakes*. He learned to play the bass and drums, did session work with the *Gary Glitter Band* and was a room mate with the drummer for *David Bowie's* band.

Though playing with an interesting crowd, Paul soon realized that his chances of making it big in music were remote. But his ambition in life continued to be to make money.

By 1975 he was selling shoes in fashionable Oxford Street in London and had set up his own company, Daisy Roots, which brought London fashion to the more remote, rural regions. At one point, he had seven shops around England.

In 1979, he decided that he wanted to experience corporate life and was hired as Sales Man-

ager for Yorkshire for TNT Transport, a major multinational providing air freight, sea freight and courier services.

"I loved the corporate life. It allowed me to travel and meet really interesting people. I became Sales Manager for the UK in 1981 and by the time I left the company 16 years later, I was the Chief Operating Officer for TNT Worldwide, based in Amsterdam," he says.

From 1983 to 1989, Paul was working out of Singapore as TNT's Director of Sales and Marketing for the Australasia/Asia Pacific region. This was the period when he first discovered Phuket.

"I came to Phuket in the early 1980s and stayed on Patong Beach because it was then a peaceful and stunning place. I have photos of Patong during those years when there was not a single umbrella on the beach."

By 1995, Paul decided to retire from corporate life. He headed to Phuket to spend a couple years enjoying the island's beauty. He met Don Taylor during this time and the two decided to build a housing estate at the entrance to Laguna Phuket that would provide an international standard of luxury and comfort for the high net worth investor.

Paul gave his ideas for a modern tropical home to a local architect and built 17 Lakeshore Villa homes on 21 rai of land. That project quickly sold out and they moved on to build and sell Lakewood Hills, 19 large hilltop villas north of Laguna Phuket with stunning views over the golf course.

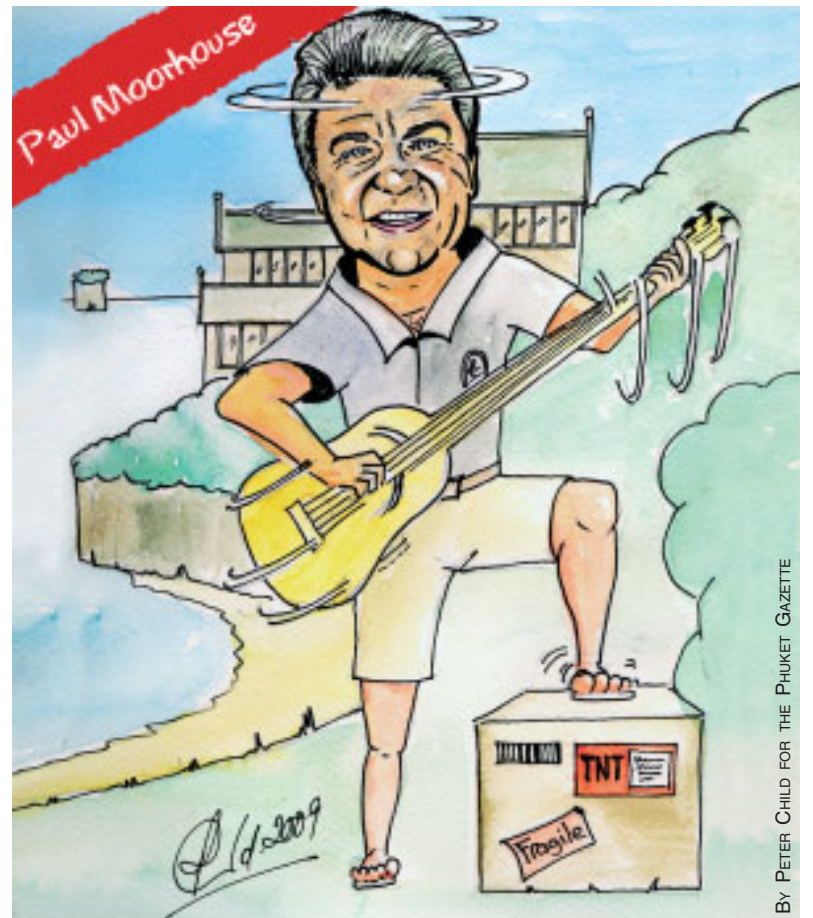
"By 2004, there were more businesses opening in our area. Don and I believed that a commercial shopping center toward the north of Phuket was needed. We decided to build Plaza del Mar with 36 offices, which were quickly rented. Since then, I designed and built Layan Gardens, 40 apartments on 13 rai. And I'm currently developing ten villas at LUNA Phuket."

Paul now lives in Panwa Gardens, with views over Chalong Bay and the islands of Phang-nga Bay. Set on 2.5 rai surrounded by forest, he has designed a space that provides privacy with a variety of separate buildings, all connected by elegant landscaped tropical gardens, ponds, pathways and waterfalls.

"I'm not planning on more major developments but would rather focus on developing individual properties to bring out their full potential."

Meanwhile, I can keep very busy playing golf, spending time on my Princess motor vessel, or riding around on my Harley Davidson," he says with a smile.

- 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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**KINGS OF SPIN:** The UK's DJ Octo and Stereo Lab's resident DJ Joe dazzled the "Bling it on" party-goers with their eclectic sets at the Surin Beach club/bar on Saturday April 25.



**GIRLS NIGHT OUT:** Members of the newly formed networking group Farang Girls Phuket met at the All Seasons Hotel in Nai Harn on the evening of Saturday May 2 for a "Chicky outing". Pictured is the group's founder Berthe Mandaat (2nd left) along with (from left to right) Amanda, Caroline, DJ Caro, Lies, Gemma, Marieke, Meike and Jenni.



**SUMMER FUN:** The Phuket Branch of the Software Industry Promotion Agency (SIPA) hosted the ICT-SIPA Summer Camp 2009 on behalf of the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology from April 1-3. The aim of the camp was to teach kids from southern Thailand about computer graphics, animation and multimedia.



**DINNER IS SERVED:** Bangkok Beer and Beverage Phuket led by Mr Bart Duykers (center), sponsored the SKAL International Phuket Dinner, which included wines from Villa Sandi (Italy) and Anakena (Chile). The event was held at Marriott Courtyard in Kamala on April 16. Pictured from left to right: Mr Theera Kanjana, GM Marriott Courtyard Surin Beach; Mr Nick Anthony, MD Indigo Real Estate; Mr Bart Duykers; Mr Alastair Carthew, AC Public Relations and Mr Dominique Ronge, Executive Assistant Manager The Chedi Hotel Phuket.



**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY:** Billy Chima (center) and friends celebrate the sixth anniversary of his Khana Sutra Indian Restaurant in Phuket Town.



**IT'S ONLY RICK N' ROLL:** Buffalo Strange from Florida, USA played at the grand opening of the Rick N' Roll Music Cafe in Kata, on April 18. Owned by former Las Vegas entertainer Ricky Zen, the new venue plans to regularly host artists from all over the world, as well as from Thailand.



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## BEHIND THE WHEEL

By Jeff Heselwood

# The original “hot-hatch” returns, better than ever



The sixth GTi, even sharper and more confident than all its predecessors.

The Golf GTi was arguably the world's first ‘hot-hatch’. Launched in 1975, it brought affordable – and stylish – performance to a generation of auto enthusiasts. In 2004, the fifth Golf GTi brought back this legend more powerfully than ever before. Between the debut of the first generation and the production run-out of the fifth generation, more than 1.7 million car buyers made the GTi a world bestseller.

Now this is being followed up by the sixth GTi, even sharper and more confident than all its predecessors.

A GTi whose chassis systems – with standard electronic transverse differential lock – re-defines behavior in curves and traction. A 240 km/h fast GTi that is more fun to drive with its powerful 207 bhp (155 kW) turbo engine. The original Golf GTi boasted only 110 bhp, but at the time seemed to be every car lover's dream. Significantly, over the years, the torque output has doubled – from 140 to 280 Nm. The benchmark 0-100 km/h time

is a respectable 6.9 seconds – not out-of-this-world quick, but more than adequate. Bear in mind, though, the original took over nine seconds for the same sprint.

Like the previous model, an optional 6-speed dual clutch transmission (DSG) will be offered with the new GTi as an alternative to the 6-speed manual transmission. The DSG was pioneered and developed in Weissach by Porsche and offers significant advantages, particularly in the area of smooth gear shifts, but also offers better fuel economy. Porsche's incredibly successful 956 and 962C Group C race cars

benefited from this form of transmission.

A dual-clutch effectively offers the function of two gearboxes in one. Think how a conventional gear shift occurs: the driver reduces power, presses the clutch, which disconnects the engine from the gearbox, then selects a new gear before releasing the clutch pedal. It is obvious therefore, that a conventional transmission means that there is not a continuous flow of power from the engine, but torque is activated in an interrupted sequence according to the gear shifts.

The dual-clutch transmis-

sion uses, by definition, two clutches but has no clutch pedal. Sophisticated electronics and hydraulics control the clutches, with one clutch controlling the odd-numbered gears – first, third, fifth – and the second the even-numbered ratios – second, fourth and sixth. Using this unique system means gears can be changed with no interruption to the power flow from the engine.

For the first time, the distance control system adaptive cruise control (ACC) will be offered on the Golf GTi starting late summer 2009. When ACC is activated, the system automatically

brakes and accelerates the GTi within a speed window from 30 to 210 km/h. Above all, when cruising at a constant speed on the freeway, ACC offers a significant plus in comfort and safety. Distance control is implemented with a laser sensor in the rear-view mirror that continually scans the distance to the vehicle in front and its speed using five laser beams.

Another high-end piece of technology on the new Golf GTi is the optional Park Assist park steering assistant. The second generation of the system is used here. It enables nearly automatic back-up parking, parallel to the roadway.

As an option, Volkswagen is offering the Golf GTi with completely redesigned bi-xenon headlights, including dynamic curve lighting. The headlights swivel through a steering radius of up to 13 degrees to the outside and seven degrees to the inside. Other options include 6-disc CD auto-changer, power seats, leather upholstery and a tire pressure indicator. The GTi, however, is pretty comprehensively equipped as a standard vehicle.

The German market launch of the sixth GTi took place at the end of March, while sales started across Europe just after Easter. North America and Asia will follow in late summer.

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



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Pruerk-Ampai	75	5,950,000	100,000	2,875,000	2,975,000
Pruerk-Amporn	136.4	9,100,000	100,000	4,450,000	4,550,000

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# Corporate Gurus and Their Ways

**R**ecent years in India have seen the rise of a species of holy men called corporate gurus. These are Hindu monks who advise big businessmen.

In ancient times, Hindu sages refused to teach any but the most dedicated spiritual aspirants, whom they usually subjected to severe and prolonged tests. Nowadays any businessman can buy a corporate guru's teaching in a minute. All it takes is money.

Hinduism has an explanation for this. We're in the Kali Yuga, folks – the Iron Age, when things start off bad and get progressively worse. If you don't believe this, just look around.

One of the most prominent corporate gurus is a sage who we shall call Swami S. He has

written a book called *Wordless Wisdom*. Its back cover features a photo of the author, gorgeously arrayed in saffron satin, in the company of the famous movie star and spiritual luminary Amitabh Bachchan.

Back-cover reviews gush praise for the swami. "He is the latest guru on the corporate scene," burbles *Business World*. "His program on stress and creativity are [sic] being lapped up by executives from top-notch companies." The Times of India conducted "a poll on who talks the talk best". Swamiji tops the list on all counts.

Eager to plumb the wisdom of this great man, I riffled through the chapter titles: *Greed, the Inner Ulcer*; *Fault-Finding, the Inner Ulcer* (I thought it was greed – how many inner ulcers do we have?); *Life Is Unpredictable* (no! Really?); *Egoism Is Obesity of the Head* (what, not an inner ulcer?); *Jealousy Is the Ulcer of the Mind* (presumably an inner one).

Aside from his fondness for

ulcers, Swami S. edifies us with gems of wisdom like these: "To be oneself is enlightenment. One should be oneself." Well, yeah. Who else would one be? "I share with you that a word is only a pointer pointing out the pointed that is other than the pointer." Ummmm, yes, I suppose that's true.

"Don't fall in love with words but see the essence of the words. The wordless wisdom would then flow through these words. The word love is not love. But still, the word love indicates love."

No kidding, he actually writes stuff like this and gets away with it. *Wordless Wisdom* goes on for 221 wordy pages, and that's not counting the appendices.

Now, there's a problem here, because traditional gurus were serious guys whose purpose was to guide their disciples to lofty states of spirituality. Contemporary businessmen don't care about lofty states of anything but their profit margin.

So a conversation between a businessman and a corporate

guru might go like this:

**Businessman:** Guruji, I want to stomp my competitors into the ground, rip out their lungs and liver, pickle their internal organs, and keep them as trophies on the mantelpiece of my megayacht, the *Money III*. How can I accomplish this in a morally responsible and spiritually viable way?

**Corporate Guru:** You must do it with compassion, my son. The act is nothing. The attitude is everything. If you crush your competitors in a spirit of love and compassion, no harmful karma will accrue to you. As you gently excise their lungs and livers and listen to their screams, just keep repeating the mantra, "I really love you guys".

**Businessman:** Oh, good. Now, I've heard that too much money can ruin a man. How can I avoid that and still remain disgustingly rich?

**Corporate Guru:** It's easy, my son. Regard money with detachment. Money cannot harm the man who does not cling to it. Mindfully make money, mindfully

hoard it, mindfully spend it. Here you need another mantra: "Easy come, easy go". And speaking of money, where's my fee?

**Businessman:** Too much money will corrupt you, Guruji. Why don't I just keep it in trust for you?

**Corporate Guru:** Ah, but with regard to money I am absolutely detached. It cannot harm me. If you obsessively cling to money that is rightfully mine, you will have a great fall. Your competitors will rip out your lungs and liver and eat them, pickled and garnished with truffles – on the poop decks of their megayachts.

**Businessman:** Okay, okay. Mind you, I want a tax write-off on this.

**Corporate Guru:** Of course, my son. And be sure to buy my new book, *Wily Wisdom: Shrewd Advice for the Kali Yuga*.

*S. Tsow can be flamed at s.tsow@ymail.com, except when he's eavesdropping on the goings-on in the Cheney-Rumsfeld Nutcracker Suite.*

## Horoscopes



Isla Star

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): May should prove to be a calming time for Taureans. Those who have recently experienced a relationship breakup will start to find comfort in other areas of their lives. The stars suggest that travel will be made possible by a good friend's invitation and a trip could raise the possibility of relocation for some. If your birthday falls during this week, expect your creative talents to bring success in the year ahead.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): It's too tempting to be lazy for many of those born under the sign of Gemini and this could cause the atmosphere at home to become heated this weekend. You are advised to see the situation from your partner's perspective and endeavor to meet them halfway. If you're single and would like to enjoy some romance, Aries is waiting to be asked. The number six can bring some good fortune next Thursday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 23): Confusion is forecast to cloud

Cancerians' minds this week. In the world of work, it would be wise to delay signing agreements until the middle of the month. The romantic area of your life should also not be taken too seriously until then. Those who have started to feel pressured in a previously casual relationship may need some distance this weekend. Wear the color sea green to encourage smoother flow of thoughts.

**LEO** (July 24-August 22): The month of May sparkles with promise of improved finances. This week, some kind of unexpected bonus is forecast to brighten your mood and your luck with investments stays strong until the end of the month. Single Leos will be the center of attention this weekend, but it's an elusive earth sign who is set to catch your eye. Wear the color silver to encourage better balance of moods.

**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23): Virgoans who are still regretting missed opportunities at the start of the year should receive an

interesting offer this week. The chance to get ahead in business is about to be presented, but this will involve dropping some other activities. Support from family members may not be as forthcoming as you expect – this is a good time to address your tendency to take others' agreement for granted.

**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23): Hard work is highlighted for many Librans during the first part of May. Until the middle of the month, there will be little free time for socializing, but financial rewards should compensate. Where business is concerned, Scorpio has the right ideas to make a project successful. Working with Capricorn will not allow you enough free rein. Avoid frustration caused by mislaid documents midweek by rearranging your filing system this weekend.

**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22): Scorpions who cannot decide whether to seek help regarding a personal problem could have the matter taken out of their hands

this week. A close air sign friend has noticed your preoccupation recently and is about to offer advice. Your pride should not stand in the way of listening to this person's pearls of wisdom. The stars predict that your financial situation is set to improve slowly during May.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): Coincidences are highlighted this week for those born under the sign of Sagittarius. One of these should occur on Sunday and will probably involve being in the same place at the same time as a business contact. Although you are burning to see a pet project get off the ground, it would be wise to approach this person cautiously. Wearing the color coral pink can help to curb impatience.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20): Those Capricorns who took the time to sort through the flotsam and jetsam of their lives last month will enjoy a calm passage in May. The stars also suggest that your search for a

more fulfilling social life will be satisfied. Other earth signs will share your enjoyment of simple pleasures and a water sign could provide romantic fun this weekend. The number nine can be lucky on Thursday.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19): Dreaming up new business schemes is an Aquarian talent and this week someone born under a fire sign wants to come on board. It would be prudent to make financial agreements before heading too far out to sea with this person. On the romantic front, there are signs that Pisces has started to see you in a different light. Those already in a relationship are advised to include their partner more when making plans.

**PISCES** (February 20-March 20): Work becomes more pleasurable when you realize that a new colleague shares your sense of humor. However, it would not be a good idea to turn this relationship into something more than a working one. Your luck regarding money is forecast to improve slowly, but saving should be a priority. Those who would like to enhance their appearance are advised to consult a well-groomed Gemini friend for tips.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): Moving house could cause more than the usual amount of stress for Arians who were too quick to trust a passing acquaintance last month. The stars suggest that minor financial loss would be preferable to digging yourself into a hole that is too deep to climb out of. Where love is concerned, first impressions are forecast to be lasting ones this weekend. The number five can bring good luck next Wednesday.

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

## Upcoming events on the island



## Phuket Academy of Dance

June 20

The Phuket Academy of Dance proudly presents the 2009 "Song and Dance Extravaganza". This is a show not to be missed! From 5pm to 8pm at the Mövenpick Hotel, Karon. For further information contact Linda Cumming. T: 081-893 7749. E: [lecumming@gmail.com](mailto:lecumming@gmail.com). W: [www.phuketdance.com](http://www.phuketdance.com).

**May 3. FREE Computer Clinic – Patong**

From 10am to noon, at Sandwich Shoppe Patong. 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. For further information contact Woody Leonhard. T: 076-290468. E: [woody@KhunWoody.com](mailto:woody@KhunWoody.com). W: [www.KhunWoody.com](http://www.KhunWoody.com).

**May 5. Coronation Day - Public Holiday**

Coronation Day commemorates the ascension to the throne of HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej on May 5, 1950.

**May 5. Cinco de Mayo Mexican Celebration at Don's Cafe**

Celebration of Cinco de Mayo, a great Mexican Holiday. Mexican Food Buffet (180 baht), free margarita, prizes for best ladies' and men's Tex-Mex dress. Raffle for free wine and other items. Dancing to Mariachi Mexican Music. From 6:30pm to 10pm at Don's Cafe, Don's Mall, Sai Yuan Rd, Rawai. For further information contact Don Battles. T: 081-8946401. E: [don@donsfoods.com](mailto:don@donsfoods.com). W: [www.donsfoods.com](http://www.donsfoods.com).

**May 8. Visakha Bucha Day - Public Holiday**

Visakha Bucha Day is observed on the day of the full moon during the 6th lunar month, which usually falls in either May or early June. It is a day to commemorate three important incidents: the birth, the enlightenment and the passing of the Buddha. Miraculously, these events fell in the same month and on the same date in the Buddhist era.

**May 11. Royal Ploughing Ceremony Day – Public Holiday**

The annual Royal Ploughing Ceremony usually takes place in May every year at Sanam Luang, near the Grand Pal-

ace in Bangkok. The ceremony has been performed since ancient times and is designed to give an auspicious beginning to the new planting season, amid hopes and wishes for an abundant harvest.

**May 17. 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](mailto:woody@KhunWoody.com). W: [www.KhunWoody.com](http://www.KhunWoody.com).

**May 19 – May 25. Third Annual Boathouse Writing Competition**

The Boathouse Short Fiction competition consists of two parts. Part one is open to all adults and part two is open to young student writers aged 15 to 18. Both parts require original stories not previously published, containing three key words: boathouse, oasis and regatta. Stories can be on any subject but must have a Thai theme or subject matter relating to Thailand. The stories should be between 1,500 words and 2,000 words for adults and 800 to 1,200 words for students. For further information contact Lisa Sol. T: 076-330015. E: [pr@boathousephuket.com](mailto:pr@boathousephuket.com). W: [www.boathousephuket.com](http://www.boathousephuket.com).

**May 19. Punchline Comedy & Rotary Club Charity Special**

This May the Punchline Comedy Club is teaming up with the Rotary Club of Patong to put on a night of hilarious stand-up comedy while raising much-needed funds for the Rotary's charities. The Punchline Comedy Club has pledged money from every ticket sold, so not only will you be laughing at some of the best stand-up comedy this earth can provide, you'll also be giving to much needed Phuket causes. Full details and ticket outlets at our website. This show is sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette*. From 8pm to 11pm at Holiday Inn Resort Phuket, Patong Beach. For further information contact Khun Boom. T: 083-646 4671. E: [info@phuketcomedy.com](mailto:info@phuketcomedy.com). W: [www.phuketcomedy.com](http://www.phuketcomedy.com).

**May 24. Mini-Marathon & Fun Run 2009**

Our 5th Annual Mini-Marathon & Fun Run, raising funds in support of the Phuket Marine Biological Center's Marine Stranded Animal Rescue Project, will take place on May 24. The event comprises a mini-marathon race of 10.5k (entry cost: 200 baht); a fun run of 3.5k (150 baht); and a family "Love Turtles" walk of 2.5k (300 baht). Registration takes place on Friday, May 22 from 10am to 5pm at the Phuket Tourism & Sports Office (Surakul Stadium) and on Saturday, May 23 from 10am to 5pm at Turtle Village, Mai Khao. The mini marathon takes place from 5am to 9:30am at Pru Jeh San Lake, Mai Khao. For further information contact Khun Khemwalai "Aim". T: 086-689 2230. E: [info@maikhaoturtlefoundation.com](mailto:info@maikhaoturtlefoundation.com). W: [www.maikhaoturtlefoundation.com](http://www.maikhaoturtlefoundation.com).

**May 24. 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](mailto:woody@KhunWoody.com). W: [www.KhunWoody.com](http://www.KhunWoody.com).

**May 27. Mom Tri's Boathouse Regatta's Storytelling Evening**

Mom Tri's Boathouse Regatta presents an evening of exquisite food and enticing stories for adults by Phuket's only professional storyteller, Denise Bertrand ([www.denisebertrand.com](http://www.denisebertrand.com)). Ms Bertrand, an innovative Corporate Trainer with 22 years experience as a trainer and consultant in the 'Art' of Communication in Business and Education, will entertain guests with tales in between courses. Enjoy a four-course gourmet dinner plus coffee and tea interspersed with stories that will please your palate for 1,200 baht net. From 7pm to 10:30pm at Royal Phuket Marina. For further information contact Lisa Sol. T: 076-330015. E: [pr@boathousephuket.com](mailto:pr@boathousephuket.com). W: [www.boathousephuket.com](http://www.boathousephuket.com).

**May 29 - Jun 29. The Second "Absolutely Aesthetics" Art Exhibition**

The second "Absolutely Aesthetics" will feature mixed techniques on board and vinyl tiles by talented young Thai artist, Kritsana Chaikitwattana. This series presents the contrasting beauty between classic and failed sculpture and poses the question, "What is the true value behind them?" Kritsana has participated in several exhibitions in Thailand, as well as in Korea (2003), Spain (2005), and Taiwan (2006). His exhibition at D Gallery runs from May 29 through to June 30. Hours: Tue-Sat: 11am to 7pm; Sundays: noon to 6pm. At D Gallery, Royal Phuket Marina, Phuket. For further information contact D Gallery. T: 076-360867. E: [info@dgallery.co.th](mailto:info@dgallery.co.th). W: [www.dgallery.co.th](http://www.dgallery.co.th).

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# The future's bleak, Darling



## MONEY TALKS

By Richard Watson

Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer, Alistair Darling, tried desperately to spread the blame for the financial crisis and recession as widely as possible. In his pre-budget speech to parliament in late April, he predicted that the UK economy was going to contract by 3.5% in 2009. He also predicted that the economy would start to recover near the end of this year, and growth was predicted in 2010.

This is all in sharp contrast to his predictions in late 2008, when he saw growth of 0.75% for 2009. He also conceded that the economy was facing the worst conditions since before the Second World War. That takes us back at least as far as 1939. The UK economy is going to start growing in late 2009? Why would Alistair Darling be so optimistic? Is it just possible that as an election is due to be held by summer 2010 the government is putting "spin" on the figures and outlook?

Unfortunately for Mr Darling, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) chose the same day to release its latest predictions. The UK economy, in its estimation, will shrink by 4.1% this year, the worst performance in decades. The IMF does not even see any growth in the UK in 2010. These latest estimates from the IMF are more dismal than data from its last report. This is a cause for concern for the glo-

bal economy. The IMF now predicts that the global economy will contract by 1.3% in 2009; previously the forecast was for anemic growth of 0.5%. The latest figures reveal that, if correct, the global economy will be at its weakest since 1945.

The outlook for Germany has been downgraded to a contraction of 5.6% for 2009, an extremely unpleasant result. In the UK, unemployment has now reached 5.6% and rising; many analysts believe that it will reach 10%.

Rising unemployment means lower tax receipts by government, which is also facing reduced revenue from many other sources. The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) speculated on April 22 that the budget deficit could reach 15% of GDP. Later the same day they felt that 11 - 12% of GDP is a possible outcome.

The BBC also mentioned that when the budget deficit reached 9% in 1976 the UK actually had to apply for funding from the IMF. I remember it well; the government of the day blamed it all on the "Gnomes of Zurich", a disparaging term for Swiss bankers. Nobody ever explained then or later how exactly Swiss bankers were supposed to have achieved this result or why they would want to. There is an old political maxim: "to have peace at home, have a war

abroad". Nowadays, the wars can be waged in political rhetoric. Regarding Swiss banks: Union Bank of Switzerland (UBS), the largest, announced that gold could

surge to US\$2,500 an ounce within the next five years. UBS gave several reasons, including that the current economic environment gives central banks "low margin of error". Central banks around the world are attempting to stimulate economies through massive fiscal stimulus packages. But the prospects are likely that



TOUGH JOB: Britain's chancellor of the exchequer, Alistair Darling.

they will either undershoot or overshoot. Undershooting will result in deflation. Overshooting will cause inflation. In the second half of April, gold is in the US\$880s. If UBS is right, investors in gold are going to have a very pleasant experience.

There is also another factor supporting the case for investment in gold - there is an increasingly widespread lack of faith in paper currencies.

The former-chief economist of the IMF was interviewed by the BBC. He believes it is highly likely that central banks in general have not boosted their economies sufficiently, and economic growth, if possible, is some distance away.

It is so important that people realize the severity of the current situation. The IMF predicts that global trade will shrink by 11% this year. The IMF had one reasonable piece of news: Chinese growth should reach 6.5% this year and will accelerate in 2010. This might not be the 8% target of the Chinese government, but it is not too far short.

Reports from Japan and other regional economies refer to increased demand from China. So far in 2009, China has become the world's biggest market for motor vehicles; the US is second.

China has made it clear that it does not have an endless appetite for US dollars; diversification into gold is already taking place.

Bloomberg announced in late April that exchange-traded funds (ETFs) had bought 469 tons of gold in the first three months of 2009. One group of futures fund managers, Superfund, introduced a new concept: gold as the actual currency of the fund. The fund trades in a very large number of areas, such as energy, interest rates, precious metals, commodities, stock indices and currencies.

One important factor with futures funds is their ability to invest either "long" or "short" in any area of interest. Superfund uses emotionless trading; performance is the best measure of all. Their Superfund Gold A (SPC) was formed in October 2005 and it made a profit of 17.53% by year end. In 2006, +32.92%; in 2007, +19.28%; in 2008, +32.29%; and in 2009 to end March, +1.69%.

Another important point that Superfund makes in its investment briefings is that futures funds can reduce a whole portfolio's volatility and increase profits. Certainly, investors in this fund have had a very profitable journey. The newer version of this fund also has identical management techniques but removes the front-end charge.

Superfund has offices in many of the world's major cities and was established in the mid-1990s in Austria.

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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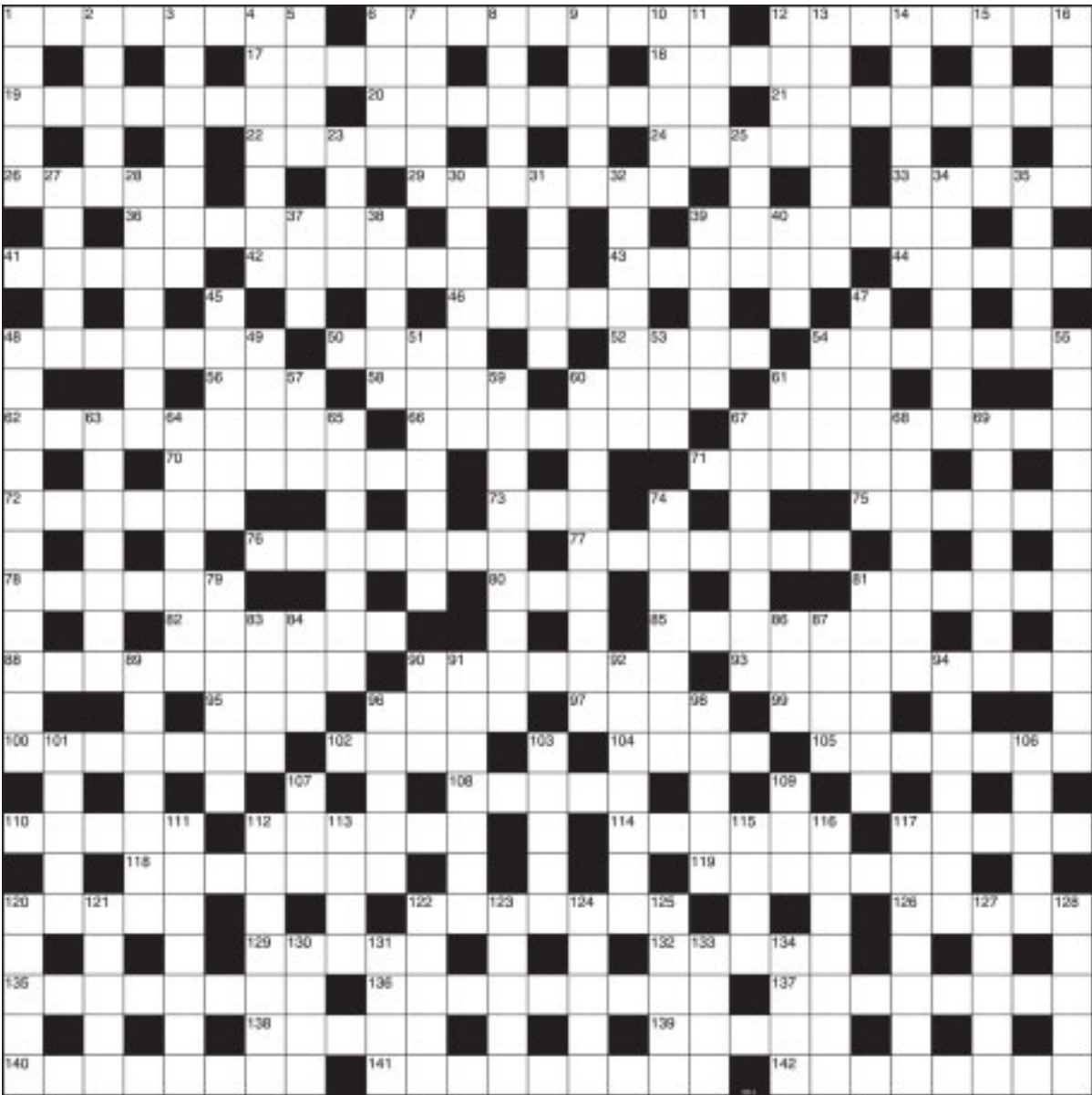




# Hidden Words

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

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



# The BIG Crossword

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- Across
1. Maritime (charts)

6. Most indecent

12. Overlooks (offence)

17. Explorer,... Polo

18. Dear Sir or...

19. Brief communica-tions

20. Unfaithful marriage partner

21. Free gift

22. Nursery versea

24. Valuable possession

26. Overthrow, coup...

29. One who interferes

33. Female equines

36. Poster

39. Wealthy

41. Shower

42. Away from home, far...

43. Moped

44. Indian prince

46. Additional

48. Chinese fruits

50. Italy's pre-Euro cur-rency

52. Garden shack

54. More tender

56. Fifth month

58. Folk wisdom

60. Russian emperor

61. ...Zedong

62. Deformed

66. Guaranteed

67. Breathing

70. Alternatively

71. Swigged

72. Stockings

73. Burgle

75. Inkling

76. Music-roll piano

77. Tipped over

78. Trembled

80. Convent dweller

81. In flight

82. Mad dog disease

85. Latin American per-cussion instruments

88. Intense dislikes

90. Sewing spikes

93. Declaration

95. Grandma

96. Combine

97. Gulf War missile

99. Ostrich-like bird

100. Villages

102. Be an omen of

104. Iridescent gem

105. Advance

108. Stoneworker

110. Heavy horned ani-mal

112. Frock top

114. First batsman

117. Contented cat sounds

118. Lake, Sea of...

119. Evolve

120. Frolic

122. Building levels

126. Malta & Capri

129. Army clergyman

132. Creator

135. Postponement

136. Poorly recompensed

137. Ordinary

138. Horse straps

139. Actor, Jerry...

140. Corrupts

141. Roman XVII

142. Wednesday,..., Fri-day

2. Distressed

3. Unsuitably

4. The A of USA

5. Beat with whip

6. Swindle

7. Computer/phone link

8. Paved

9. Perfect

10. ... campaign

11. Surfaces (road)

12. Zoo enclosure

13. Left out

14. Impractical person

15. More modern

16. Eyelid inflammations

23. Cosmonaut,... Gagarin

25. Shortly

27. Hollow

28. Native American tribesmen

30. Makes beloved

31. Outstanding bills

32. As a group (2,5)

34. Plug converter

35. Escape

37. Towards stern

38. Demon

39. Grass-cutter

40. Fishing mesh

45. 24-hour car race

47. Resume (case)

48. Citrus drink (5,6)

49. Drains

51. Rude driver (4,3)

53. Owned

54. Pant

55. Grew back

57. Even so

59. Separated

60. Appeal boards

61. Actor Gibson

63. Retrieve (wreck)

64. Impedes

65. Contradicts

67. Steering blades

68. Worship

69. Impersonate

74. Joins forces (5,2)

79. Petite

81. Ripen

83. Constrictor snakes

84. Tavern

86. Had a meal

87. Pitch tent

89. Court judgments

90. Simpsons' neighbour, ...Flanders

91. Heating bar

92. Cheap fare,... class

94. Experimental mod-els (4-3)

96. Film

98. Stupefied

101. Hate

103. Michaelmas daisy

106. Eagle's nest

107. Tyrant,... Pot

109. Engine turn

111. Acorn bearer (3,4)

112. Unimportant role

113. Act

115. Narrow guitar part

116. Rejuvenate

117. Actor, Sidney...

120. Discontented (3,2)

121. Deduce

122. ESP, sixth...

123. Too fat

124. Overseas citizen

125. Grin

127. Mixed (with poison)

128. Shabby

130. Beers

131. Cricket scores

133. Yemen port

134. Radiate
- Down
1. Drifter

Solution on next page

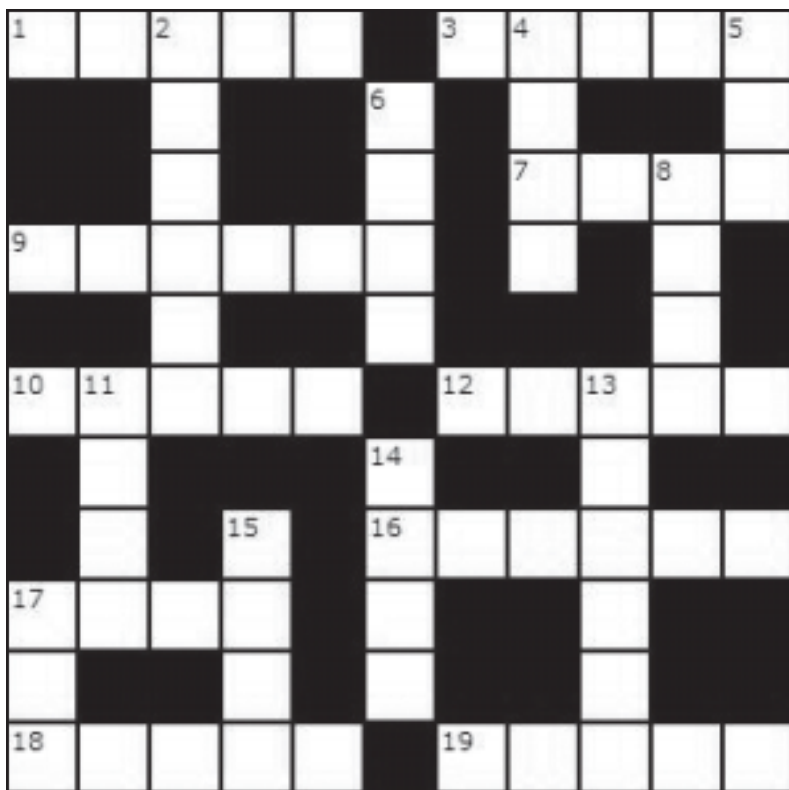
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Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

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

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





## Quick Crossword

### Across

1. Happy
3. Color
7. Dork
9. Kicked
10. Unhappy
12. Number
16. Agile
17. Slide
18. Award
19. Father Xmas

### Down

2. Fruits
4. Ground
5. Child
6. Impolite
8. Girl's name
11. Meat
13. Monster
14. Joint
15. Innovation
17. Total

Solution below

## Get your brain in gear with the MONSTER QUIZ

1. What are the names of the Ninja Turtles?
2. Who won an Oscar at the age of 10 playing a con artist?
3. Which actor starred in *Little Big Man*?
4. Where did Darwin succeed Dickens?
5. How many countries border Norway?
6. How is *The International Magazine for Events* better known?
7. Which James Dickey novel tells the story of four men on a canoe trip down a Georgia river?
8. Which band provided the soundtrack for *Flash Gordon*?
9. Which mountain overlooks Rio de Janeiro?
10. From which region does Claret come from?
11. Who in tennis was known as the Rockhampton Rocket?
12. Where is circuit de Nevers, host of the French Grand Prix?
13. In what language was the *Communist Manifesto* written?
14. In which country did Ernesto "Che" Guevara die?
15. Name the four estates?
16. How many letters of the alphabet are used as Roman Numerals?
17. What would you most likely do in a Makudonarudo in Japan?
18. Which cocktail would you find in a toolbox?
19. Hydrogen sulphide distinctively smells of what?
20. What is the more common name of Sildenafil Citrate?

Answers below



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# Puzzle Solutions

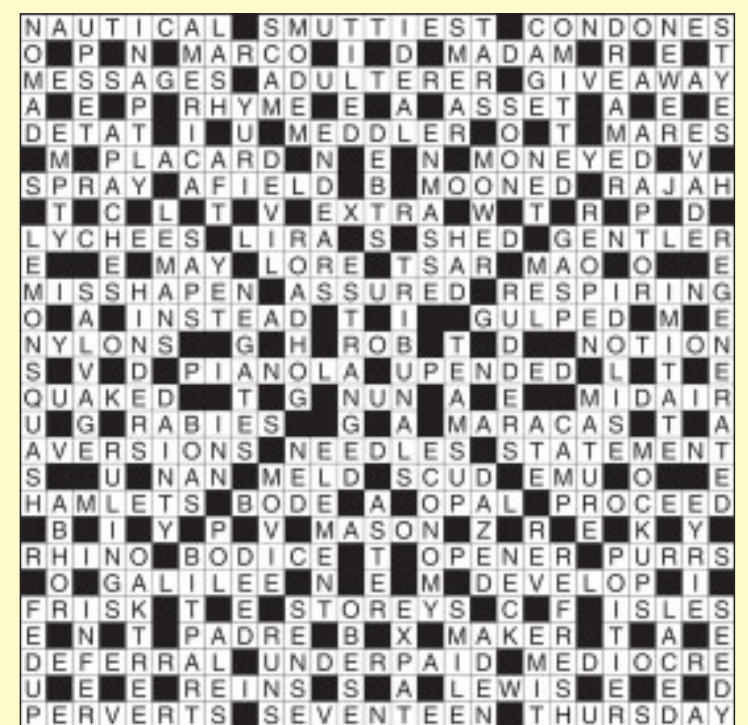
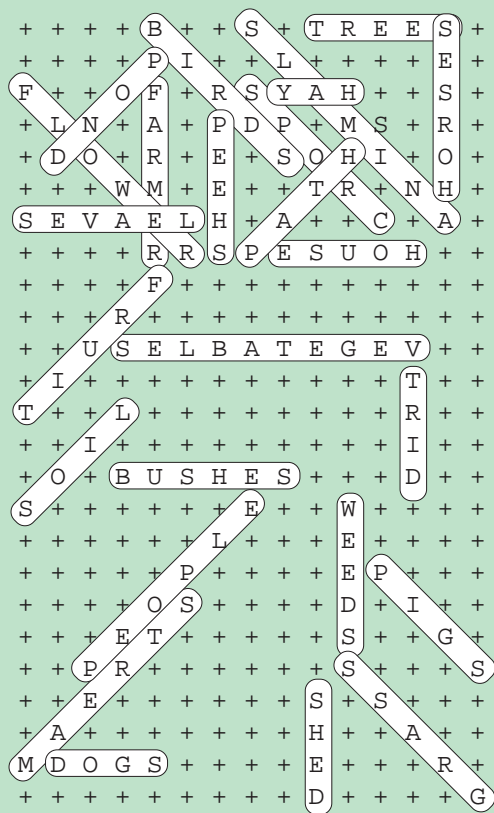
### Solution to this week's Quick Crossword



### Monster Quiz Answers

1. Raphael, Michelangelo, Donatello, Leonardo;
2. Tatum O'Neal;
3. Dustin Hoffman;
4. On the back of a British 10 pound note;
5. 3, Finland, Sweden, Russia;
6. TIME;
7. Deliverance;
8. Queen;
9. Sugar Loaf Mountain;
10. Bordeaux;
11. Rod Laver;
12. Magny Cours;
13. German;
14. Bolivia;
15. Politics, administration, judiciary, journalism;
16. 7;
17. Eat fast-food (McDonalds);
18. Screwdriver;
19. Rotten eggs;
20. Viagra.

### Hidden Words SOLUTION



### Solution to this week's BIG Crossword

### Solution to this week's Sudoku puzzle

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



# Idealists turned dictators



## Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt

The stories of Fidel Castro and Che Guevara have been told many times before. An epic two-part movie about the latter has been recently released and follows a previous film called *The Motorcycle Diaries* about the young Guevara's radicalizing travels through South America. Now comes Simon Reid-Henry's *Fidel & Che* (Sceptre, London, 2009, 467pp). Subtitled "A Revolutionary Friendship", this is a well-researched though woodenly written dual biography of the two revolutionaries.

Both grew up well-to-do, Castro in eastern Cuba, Guevara in Buenos Aires. Castro became a lawyer, Guevara a doctor. Castro was a charismatic stem-winding orator with a steady following.

Guevara was a loner, a dreamer, fond of poetry and philosophy. He got involved in communist politics in Guatemala before meeting Fidel and Raul Castro in Mexico City. They had just been released from prison for their attempted takeover of a military barracks in Santiago, Cuba, and were plotting their return. Guevara threw his lot in with them. Half of the book is about the young, idealistic, romantic phase of the Cuban revolution, the other about the years afterward, as Cuba slid into Stalinist dictatorship.

The story of the three-year fight in the jungled mountains to overthrow the dictator Batista is a rousing one:

"The first rebel columns moved into Havana. People clambered up street lamps, or stood atop their Plymouths and Chevrolets, to see them. They were jubilant scenes. Pistols fired off victory reports among the crowds that thronged the streets, cheering wildly, if just a little bit nervously as well.

"As they sat on the cusp of a new phase in their lives, one whose dimensions they could not yet begin to fathom, Fidel Castro in Santiago and Che Guevara in Havana had little time to reflect on the fact that the war was over. But it had forged a bond between

them that was as deeply ingrained as the dirt on their clothes and the adrenaline in their veins."

The heroic guerrilla fighters who had endured hunger and constant fear, facing the armed might of the American-equipped army, now had a whole country to run. Castro was 32, Guevara 30.

Early in his career as a guerrilla commander, Guevara had to shoot an informant. Now he had to shoot a great many more while the prisons bulged with dissidents and the press was muzzled. Castro began giving his legendary eight-hour speeches. Guevara toured the world as the face of the Cuban revolution and led the country into the embrace of the Soviet Union. Castro was at first more circumspect, but on the eve of the Bay of Pigs invasion, which he personally repulsed, threw himself into the Cold War.

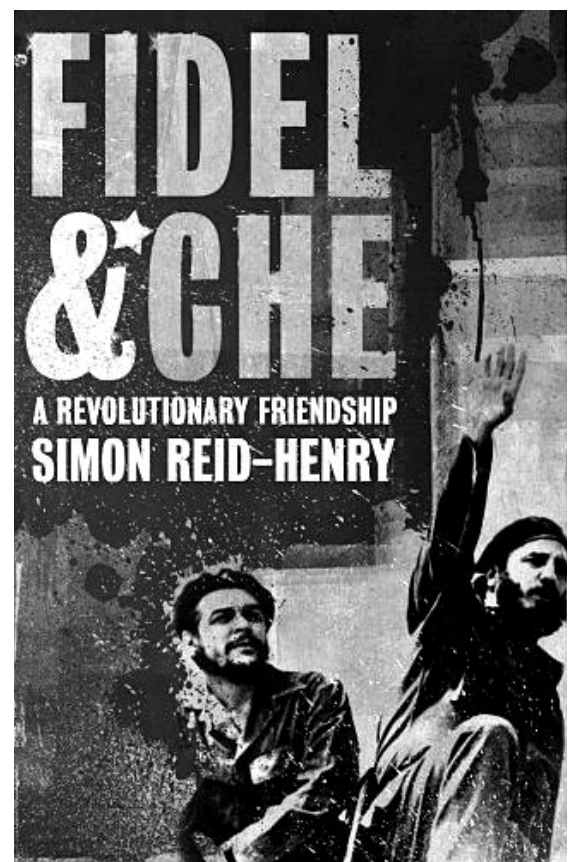
Still, as this book reveals, he kept open a back channel means of communication with the White House through a female television journalist, Lisa Howard, who charmed and was charmed by Castro. This secret line of communication was severed with the assassination of John F. Kennedy. Lyndon Johnson wanted nothing to do with Castro.

Guevara and Castro

gradually grew apart as Guevara embarked on a course of worldwide revolution, first in Africa and then in Bolivia.

The end was sad, the martyr half-dead of exhaustion and hunger. Castro lives on, having driven millions into exile and begging the rest.

"But, in fact, Guevara lives on because of how he became Che in relation to Fidel Castro and because it is ultimately in their relationship with others that individuals must be judged," Reid-Henry writes. "It was Aristotle who said that friendship could be based on one of three things: utility, pleasure or goodness. But it was only the latter, Aristotle said, that was lasting. Fidel and Che were not the greatest of friends in any conventional sense of the term, but their friendship was based



upon a distinctly modern version of this latter notion of goodness: goodness understood as the common good, what is perhaps better known as solidarity."

This book is afflicted with a good many boring pages, especially towards the end, but the story carries the reader on relentlessly. It is one of the great

## A tour of Google Translate's Thai language

A screenshot showing Google Translate in action. The user has searched for the word "Phuket" in English and selected Thai as the target language. Google has searched for the word "Phuket" in Thai script, ภาษาไทย, and returned every Thai website containing the term. The results can be seen in the bottom half of the screen. The sites in the left column are Google Translate's translated versions of the original sites, which are listed on the right. The first result is the website for Phuket Provincial Hall.

Google Translate, a machine translation tool from everyone's favorite search engine company, has recently added support for the Thai language, plus six more. This brings the total up to 41 languages, with the capability to translate between any two of them. You can either

cut-and-paste text or feed it a URL to have it translate entire pages.

The accuracy of machine translation improves the more data Google has, usually in the form of bilingual corpora. So expect the results to be a huge grab bag for now, but also expect them to get better over time.

Notice that after you paste text to be translated, there's a link on the bottom right of the results page inviting you to "Suggest a better translation". This is great, because it harvests human knowledge to augment the machine translation.

The simple phrase ผมชื่อสมชาย returned "I named Somchai", so I

suggested "My name is Somchai" instead. Piece of cake. Then I tried อภิสิต เวจจายิวิ (knowing it would likely translate it literally). It returned "Prerogative physician Charles existence". So I suggested "Abhisit Vejjajiva".

I've never really explored all the features of Google Translate, since I don't really know any of the languages it has hitherto supported. Exploring it now with Thai, though, they have another really cool feature: Translated Search. It's your basic cross-language information retrieval. You search in your native language, specify the target language, and it returns pages in that language about the thing you searched.

For example, if you want to find Thai websites about Thai history (for, say, the images), search "Thai history", with Thai as the target language. It returns pages like the Thai Wikipedia entry on Thai history, with the first few lines in both languages. You can then click through to see the whole page translated, or view it in the original language. Quite handy.

Unfortunately, these new tools suffer from the same problem that Thai searching in regular Google does: tone marker blindness. Type ชา "tea"

into Google Translate and you get "slow" (which is actually spelled ช้า), type คิ่น "squirm" and it returns "soil" (actually ดิน), พิมพ์ "silk" returns "burn" (actually โหม), and so forth. It's a problem.

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



**The Phuket Gazette**

- Since 1994 -

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## Mob rules again in Phuket

Just days after Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva's government finally managed to restore order to Bangkok, mob militancy was back on the streets of Thailand. This time, it was closer to home. Protesters blockaded Srisoonthorn Road in Baan Bang Tao for almost 24 hours, causing disruption for both residents of the island and the tourists so crucial to its economy.

Such protests are all too familiar to island residents. In mid-March, a similar blockade took place in Kamala. Villagers there, angry that a man charged with a brutal assault was granted police bail, took to the streets and blockaded the Kamala-Patong Road for 20 hours.

At the beginning of February, the Laguna Phuket resort complex was blockaded by disgruntled staff for three days.

And in early January protesters blockaded the entrance to Sirinath Marine National Park in Sakoo for three days, trapping some tourists' cars inside the park for the duration.

Any consideration of such protests can hardly ignore the yellow and red elephants in the room. Late last August, yellow-shirted members of the People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD) forced a complete shutdown of Phuket International Airport.

Prime Minister Abhisit owes his position in large part to this kind of militancy, following the shutdown of Suvarnabhumi and Don Mueang Airports and the occupation of Government House by the PAD protesters last year.

Despite the clear illegality of these actions and the inestimable damage they caused, the PAD leaders have not been held accountable, at least by the courts. This makes it hard to avoid the conclusion that in Thailand, people power – or mob rule – does work.

This message was clearly not lost on Thaksin Shinawatra's red-shirted supporters, who earlier this month wreaked havoc in Bangkok and Pattaya.

In Phuket, street protests are typically directed at local police. One protester, Voravuth Maneesri, believes "people power" is the only weapon he has to force the authorities to listen to him. [See First Person, page 23]. There is, after all, no real equivalent of the UK's Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) in Thailand.

It would perhaps be naïve to call for the immediate establishment of an effective police complaints body in the image of the IPCC, but without such effective mechanisms in place there appears to be no end in sight to street protests, which in a well-functioning society are a matter of absolute last resort – not a knee-jerk reaction.

With no sign of protest action going away, nationally or locally, Thailand's international reputation, and consequently its prosperity, will continue to suffer.

– The Editor

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## Letters

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

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

### There's no such thing as "gun play"

What a sad incident. Your reporter has written "gun play gone wrong", but there is no such thing as gun play. Real guns are not for playing, never, ever. The more adults that understand this the better.

Incidents like this can be avoided if adults act with responsibility, but even to write "gun play" can give a wrong impression. I am sure your reporter did not mean it in that way.

I wish a good summer season for Phuket people.

Ralf Lofstrom  
Helsinki, Finland

### What a tragedy

The story of young Gaga [*Gazette online* Thursday April 23] is a tragedy. I have a son just a bit younger than he was. The story has reduced me to tears and my heartfelt feelings go out to the family and friends of this poor young boy cut down by some stupid firearms "joke" just as he was beginning life.

The police need to take more pro-active action and prevent guns in the first place. And to ignore cries for help is a real disgrace. I visit Phuket a lot, which is why I get your newsletters and I have always found the police to be helpful and polite to tourists. Why can't they help the wonderful Thai people in the same way?

Anthony Beale  
Jakarta, Indonesia

### Rain checked

Regarding "Tourism businesses urged to join Phuket re-

branding launch" [*Gazette Online*, Mon, April 27], I'm sad about this sudden change in the weather.

As a long term foreign resident here, I've always loved the rainy season. I think a petition should be started to bring it back.

Member 'Geoff'  
ThaiVisa/Gazette Phuket Forum  
[www.thaivisa.com/forum]

### Top 10? Not likely

Jane from Patong's "Phuket in Top Ten" [*Gazette*, February 21] hit the nail on the head. Phuket in the top ten? No way.

My family and I have made our last visit to Phuket until a decent public bus system connecting the beaches is established or the extortion applied by local tuk-tuk and taxi drivers is prohibited. It's a disgrace, and spoiling an otherwise wonderful place.

Jim Moor  
Canada

### Kathu Road

Late last year there was a letter sent to you by a concerned resident of Kathu. It was written with regard to the deteriorating road surface between the British International School and the village of Kathu, specifically behind the Loch Palm Golf Course.

As I recall there was a follow up by the *Gazette* with the Mayor of Kathu who promised to have the road resurfaced by December of 2008.

The road is once again in such a state of disrepair that I have written the following letter to the governor in the hope of receiving a more definitive answer as to when the road really will be fixed.

"Dear Governor Wichai:

I am a resident of Phuket and own a home at Baan Suan Loch Palm, Kathu. The reason for this letter is to ask you to please investigate the condition of the road between the British International School and the village of Kathu.

Late last year a letter was sent to the *Phuket Gazette* by a concerned resident of this area wondering why this road had been neglected for so long. The *Gazette* investigated and the Mayor of Kathu told the reporter that the road would be resurfaced by December 2008.

To date, there has been little done and I am extremely worried that there will be a serious accident or worse, a fatality due to the condition of the road.

Drivers are swerving all over the road to avoid the pot-holes. I am sure you will agree that this is very dangerous. I have lived here for several years and I travel all over the island. I take my daughter to the new international school in Thalang everyday and have noticed that some of the roads – which in my humble opinion did not require attention – have been resurfaced.

I believe the road in question is in much greater need of repair.

I would appreciate it if you could look into this matter for me and the many residents of Kathu who share the same concerns. We are all very worried for the safety of all who travel on this road and also the undue wear and tear on all our vehicles.

Very truly yours,  
James Nelson  
Kathu"

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



# All I have is people power



## FIRST PERSON

Voravuth Maneesri, 51, is one of the leaders of the protesters who recently blockaded Srisoonthorn Road in Baan Bang Tao in protest at the police's handling of the killing of schoolboy Amornthep "Gaga" Panya-sirikul. For a detailed look at the events and issues surrounding the tragedy, see "Inside Story" on pages 4 and 5. Here, Phuket native Voravuth explains to the *Gazette's* Tipwarintron Tanaakarachod what provoked the protest, why it was necessary to blockade the road and what results he hopes to see.

**M**ob protests aren't in fashion, though some people might think so because they're happening all over Thailand now. If you lived in my area and knew what's happening here and why we're doing this then you might have a different view of us. We're doing this because we're unhappy with the authorities. They don't take people's problems seriously. And unless their asses are on fire, they don't move. So the people have to put pressure on them to make them move.

If we hadn't blockaded the road, do you think they'd have found the boy's body as quickly as they did? The police didn't even know where the murderer was. Why did they tell us that they checked the CCTV and didn't see the car pass through Tah Chat Chai checkpoint? The killer said that he left Phuket through Tah Chat Chai. Does that mean that the police didn't have the CCTV on? How can we believe them?

From my point of view this isn't just about one boy dying.

This kind of story keeps happening and the police never catch anyone. Then they come and tell me that if they can't do their job then the chief will leave. What's that all about? Do I buy it? No. One hundred chiefs can leave. I don't care, because the superintendent will become superintendent elsewhere, and then what? If you leave your job as governor here but then take up a job as governor somewhere else, does it make any difference? If they told me that if they failed to do their job properly they would quit and never take a similar job again, then I might buy it.

We're not simply copying the red and yellow shirts. I'd been thinking of doing this for a long time, but we were patient until this incident. This was the last straw. Do you know how many incidents have happened before this? One happened just beside the police station recently. We talked to the police about it and the superintendent said that if he couldn't catch the murderer he would transfer himself. He did move, but only because they were going to move him anyway.

And who takes responsibility? No-one. My nephew was murdered in a different case to the one I just referred to. And there was another murder near my house.

I can't say that our protests will solve our problems, but the authorities will be aware of what their responsibilities are. They should work for us. We're letting them know we're watching them. We're not going to be silent anymore. Why should you need people pressuring you? You're not a chisel that needs to be pushed to make it work. Catching people who aren't wearing helmets or seat belts isn't the only job the police have.

Mob protests aren't a good thing. Phuket survives on tourism and protests like this don't help. Thailand doesn't look good in the eyes of foreigners right now. But if you think about it, you'll all get benefits from this too. If you come to Thailand and something happens to you, who will you ask for help if you can't rely on the authorities? If they do their duty quickly and properly, you'll benefit from what we've done.

I'm aware of the consequences of the protests and I'm sorry about making people suffer. I tell everyone to be polite and explain to people who have to use the road why we are here.

That day many Thais and foreigners weren't happy, but I asked them, if something serious happened to you and the authorities ignored you, who would you turn to? So I asked them to bear with us. The sky is always blue after the rain.

Sometimes when people get together to accomplish something their aims can diverge and they can become hard to control. That's why I make sure there's no alcohol in my protest. A big group of young men isn't easy to control and that can cause more problems.

After our protest, the police and the authorities did their duty, so we had no right to continue the blockade. We're not social evil-doers. We made our point and things have moved forward. They got the murderer. There's no point making innocent people suffer for no reason.

We're not putting mob rule

over the law. I just want to see the right thing done and I don't have any better way to pressurize the authorities and the police to make them work – all I have is people power. And the only way we have to exercise it is to close the road. If you say, "why don't you close the police station instead?", I'd say we could do that but all we'd get from it would be a lot of pointless standing around, while the police just sit in the air conditioning drinking coffee. They'll keep telling us they'll come and talk to us in two hours' time. We won't get anything from doing that, but if we close the road we'll inconvenience a lot of people and the message will get through – then we'll get recognition.

We are really sorry. We didn't want to cause more trouble for Thailand. But if we don't force the police to act, what can we do? The police just hope that people will eventually forget, so they can get away with it. And I just want to say to the people out there and to the tourists, if you were in our shoes, what would you do when this happened to your family?

## Issues & ANSWERS

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

Write to:

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Phuket 83000. Fax 076-  
213971, or submit your issue  
at [www.phuketgazette.net](http://www.phuketgazette.net)

## Concert Noise

Here's a subject I'd like to see you write about and see what could be done. I am a long-time resident of Patong on Nanai Road. Once again – and this usually happens about three times a year – a concert is set up right across from Jungceylon in the empty lot.

I am employed here and get up early in the morning to work. However, it is impossible to sleep during these 10-day concerts that blast out their music all hours of the night in a residential area. The sound waves echo all over the place.

Now, let me say that I like good music and have no objection to good music but it is ridiculous that concerts should be allowed to happen in residential areas. I have made several complaints to the Municipality office

but of course they do nothing. Let the concerts stay at the beach or in the town where all the noise is. Why must this happen? Please address this issue.

Scott  
Patong

**Mrs Meena Panun, Official of the Public Health Department replies:**

When we received your complaint, we addressed the problem by talking with the organizers of the concert you mentioned above. They promised to stop at 12.00am. Furthermore, they also agreed that during the concert they would turn the loudspeakers toward Jungceylon. Concerts are allowed to be held in this area. The organizer officially rented the land from the owner and also applied to the Public Health Department for permission prior to staging the event.

Therefore, the Public Health

Department cannot prevent them from doing so but what we can do is to try and resolve the situation for both parties.

For more information call 076-344 106 or 076-345 331.

## Legal age for driving license

Is there an official age for a person to legally obtain a motorcycle/car license in Thailand? There does not seem to be any police control of what appears to be unlicensed young people riding motorcycles. Furthermore, if you are involved in an accident with a motorcycle/vehicle ridden or driven by an unlicensed person, how do you claim for any damages to either personnel or to your vehicle?

Ted Woodward  
Phuket

**Mr Charote Klinmanee, Chief of Registration Department, Phuket Land Transport replies:**

You must be 18 years old to drive a car in Thailand and you must be 15 years old to ride a motorcycle. Some of the young people you refer to will not have a motorcycle license. If you are involved in an accident with someone who is riding without a license, then they will be deemed guilty of unlicensed driving and will have to pay a fine.

You can claim for any damages through their insurance, although if they are unlicensed it is unlikely they will have any. If this is the case, then they will have to pay you themselves.

For more information contact: Phuket Land Transport, 42/1 Rattanakosin 200 Pi Road, T. Talad Nua, A. Muang Phuket 83000. T: 076-214929.



# Sea Dragons suffer second home defeat

Phuket FC's poor home form continued as they crashed to a second consecutive defeat, this time losing 4-3 to high-flying Nakhon Sri Thammarat.

In only their third match, Phuket are showing signs that they can hold their own in the division and will be disappointed not to have come away with at least a point from an entertaining match.

Phuket FC made the brighter start and should have taken the lead when the rebound from a shot fell in the path of a Phuket player. With the goal at his mercy, the forward fluffed his lines allowing the Nakhon Sri Thammarat keeper to recover and make the save. Energized by their let-off, Nakhon promptly charged up the opposite end of the pitch and netted the opening goal against the run of play.

The Sea Dragons, as the small army of passionate Phuket supporters call them, were undeterred and grabbed a deserved equalizer through Tossaborn, who smashed the ball home after creating space following a brilliant first touch.

Fresh from a victory away

to Krabi and flush with renewed confidence, Phuket now had the wind in their sails and took the lead shortly before halftime after a Phuket player was brought down in the box. Airak made no mistake with the resulting penalty, confidently firing low to the keeper's right.

With their side in the ascendancy, the modest crowd of home supporters in attendance must have felt that the Sea Dragons were on course for their first ever win at the Surakul Stadium. Unfortunately, all their good work was undone by a basic goalkeeping error. Early in the second half a seemingly harmless shot from a free-kick was spilled by the Phuket keeper, providing Nakhon Sri Thammarat with the simplest of tap-ins to level the scores.

This proved to be the turning point in the game as Phuket promptly capitulated and Nakhon Sri Thammarat added a third and then a fourth to take a commanding 4-2 lead.

As the game headed into injury time, Airak converted from the penalty spot for a second time, following a hand-ball giving the home side a glimmer of hope.

With the seconds ticking away Phuket piled on the pressure, but it was too little too late as the visitors' defence held firm to secure a third consecutive victory.

The dejected Phuket players were left to ponder on what might have been after a game that they had controlled for long periods. Despite their despondency, there were encouraging signs for the home support as their charges were more than a match for one of the better sides in the division.

The first two games at the Surakul Stadium have produced 12 goals, which equates to one goal scored every 15 minutes. Phuket FC are already providing entertainment for their growing fan base, and with tickets priced at only 50 baht the matches are definitely providing value for money. All that is lacking is a victory and that is a situation the Sea Dragons will be looking to address in their next home fixture against Yala on May 10.

If you are interested in joining the Phuket FC Supporters club, email Dan at [phuketfcsupportersclub@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:phuketfcsupportersclub@hotmail.co.uk) or join the Phuket FC Supporters Club group on Facebook.

**-James Goyder**

There were encouraging signs for the home support as Phuket were more than a match for one of the better sides in the division.



# First foreign side competes in Thai cup



Despite the poor results, simply participating in this competition represented a victory for Alberto.

Farang football in Phuket took a big step forward when an all-foreign team was allowed to compete in the Thai cup for the first time in its history. The team, led by former AC Milan player Alberto Mancuso, played in the over 50s section of the cup along with teams representing provinces from across Thailand.

The games were all held at the Surakul Stadium, with the winners progressing to the next round.

It was always going to be a big ask for a team consisting entirely of Phuket-based expats, competing against sides that had the Thai senior footballing talent of an entire province to choose from, and so it proved.

In its opening fixture, Alberto's side was narrowly beaten 1-0 by Narathiwat and then suffered defeat against Trang by six goals to three in

their second outing. Their final encounter against Pattani ended in a 2-0 victory for the visitors meaning that Alberto's side were eliminated from the tournament.

Football may be a young man's sport but the standard was still surprisingly high and the farang team found itself consistently outclassed. Despite the poor results, simply participating in this competition represented a victory for Alberto.

"This is the first time that farangs have been allowed to play in this tournament. Before this we were not allowed. Now that we are recognized by the Thai FA we should be able to play in all the Thai cup competitions – the over 40s, the open and the over 50s – so this was a big victory for us. I was happy with how we played, but the main thing was that the Thai FA allowed us to enter," he said.

**-James Goyder**



Above and left: action from the Thai cup

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Budding sailors Ja, Ann, Lek, Tik and Ton from Sunshine Village get suited up, ready to take to the waves. The Phuket Yacht Club is sponsoring underprivileged children, currently kids from the Phuket Sunshine Village. Five new students from the foundation will be invited to join a sailing course, starting on May 8, 2009.

## Lady cricketer boasts impressive figures

Cricket fans witnessed a major landmark in Phuket last Sunday as Jiraporn "Took" Rodkaew became the first ever woman to play competitive cricket on the island. Jiraporn was representing Patong CC in an Island Furniture League match against the Village Cricket Team.

Took teaches cricket at Sapam High School and she demonstrated that she is more than capable of mixing it with the men when she took a wicket with her very first delivery. She finished with superb figures of 4-10 from three overs as the Village Cricket Team capitulated and were bowled out for just 35.

Sensing victory was all but assured Patong captain Martin Foster chose to reverse the batting order, a decision which almost backfired spectacularly. Took was unable to repeat her bowling heroics with the bat and was caught at slip without troubling the scorer. Patong made hard work of it, losing another four wickets before finally reaching their target.

However the match will always be remembered as the one



Jiraporn "Took" Rodkaew

in which a Thai lady, making her debut, almost single-handedly demolished the Village Cricket Team's batting line up.

-James Goyder

## Marathon runners given a mountain to climb

By James Goyder

The Phuket Mountain Marathon returns on May 3rd with runners being asked to tackle a grueling 42.1 kilometer course up hills so steep, some motorbikes struggle to climb them.

The marathon starts at Nai Harn beach at 3.30am on Sunday morning. From there, runners head to Sai Yuan village, along to the three-beach view point and over to Kata and Karon Beaches. The competitors will then head over to Karon circle, Big Fan (Turbo generator), Yanui Beach, the Promthep Cape, Rawai Beach and then finally down hill for the final three kilometers back to Nai Harn.

Merely completing such a challenging route is an achievement in itself, but organizers are also giving away prize money totaling 187,500 baht. The first man to complete the marathon will take home 15,000 baht, while the first woman over the line will receive 10,000 baht. The top 15 men and top 10 women will also receive cash prizes.

For those not quite up to the challenge of a full marathon, there is also a half marathon consisting of a mere 21.1k run beginning at 5am, a 10.55k mini-marathon starting at 6am, a 5k Fun Run starting at 6.10am and a 5k family run starting at 6.20am.

Refreshment stations will be



Above: images from the Phuket Mountain Marathon 2008.

set up every two kilometers and sponging stations will be erected at 7.5km and 22.5km for the main marathon event. Medical facilities

will be available at designated locations along the route.

Around 500 runners are expected to compete in the races.



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## Going Green

By Dr Salvatore Consentino

**A**s discussed in the previous column, I will, in the weeks ahead, focus on some of the most cost-effective environmentally-friendly technologies available.

GeoExchange (Geothermal) heating and cooling systems are the most energy-efficient, environmentally clean, and cost-effective environment conditioning systems available according to the Environmental Protection Agency.

GeoExchange – also known as Ground Source Heat Pump (GSHP) – represents a revolutionary technology for heating and cooling buildings using the ground as a source of energy. This is the “next generation” energy solution.

Compared with solar photovoltaic panels, which are 14% efficient or wind turbines at 48%, GeoExchange can approach or exceed 400% efficiency.

Why? It requires less energy when moving heat from one place to another and is more efficient than a combustion furnace converting one kind of energy into another.

In heating mode, an efficient GeoExchange system will move at least three units of solar energy from the ground for each unit of electricity used by the heat pump and its accessories.

In Thailand, GeoExchange would be used for its cooling capacity in air conditioning and in the production of sanitary water.

Our vision is to provide information, creating public awareness, offering everyone the possibility of using it at home, in schools, and in public buildings, including hotels.

The result would be developed areas without noisy compressors. Imagine for a moment living in your Phuket home without all the noisy machinery and yet still having a cool and com-

# A gift from nature



fortable environment.

GeoExchange technology would eliminate the horrible mess on top of hotels, normally a jungle of spoiled pipes and rusty compressors. Proud owners and tourist operators could show visitors that they are doing something for the environment and save money too.

Switching to renewable energy, however, can be an awkward process, requiring considerable cultural belief and substantial financial resources. Most people – managers, decision makers, politicians – grudgingly accept the fact that the climate is changing. Traditional energy sources are being progressively extinguished as the price of oil becomes more and more unpredictable.

The question must be asked, why has Thailand not embraced this technology when the rest of the world is welcoming it with open arms?

Nearly all conventional residential and light commercial buildings use refrigerant type air conditioning systems for cooling the interior space. These units all have the familiar outdoor condenser units. Variations include packaged heating/cooling units and air source heat pumps. All use outside air to cool the refrigerant, while expelling heat into the surrounding air.

The manufacturers of that outside equipment are quick to post impressive EER and SEER numbers (efficiency indicators) on their “high efficiency” models, but a closer examination shows that these lofty numbers do not correlate well under realistic installation conditions. The outside condenser is working under stress because the external temperature is changing during the day and night. The higher the outside temperature, the poorer the performance and subsequently, the more electricity used.

External temperature, dirt and debris and the aggressiveness of salt from the sea combine to drastically reduce efficiency.

The performance of an appropriately designed GeoExchange system is independent of changes in outside air temperature and humidity. The temperature of the earth where the GeoExchange occurs remains relatively unchanged throughout the year meaning that GSHP’s efficiency for both heating and cooling seasons is fixed.

From a building design perspective, GeoExchange systems allow greater architectural flexibility. Rooftops do not need to be flat to support massive cooling towers and all hardware is located indoors to protect it from the weather and vandalism.

Installation costs have come down substantially in recent years. They are expected to continue to fall as more builders and contractors offer GeoExchange

systems. The industry is developing innovative ways to install the systems faster and more efficiently.

GeoExchange systems are a sound investment. The amount they can potentially save the home owner in energy costs every month is more than enough to offset their high installation costs. Furthermore, the energy efficiency of the system adds value to the home. It is estimated that a home’s value increases by \$10 to \$25 for every \$1 reduction in utility bills.

This aspect is relevant in a place like Phuket where the property business is one of the most important on the island.

A *Gazette* “Property Watch” article in December 2008 said, “A year ago, most CRE directors believed that improving energy efficiency and reducing carbonemissions would cost money, at least in the short run”.

After reading the entire article and the result of the included survey, the impression given was that most developers are convinced that by merely acquiring more green land they will increase the sustainability of their property and develop closer ties to the environment.

We believe this is due to a lack of information about renewable sources of energy. The improved technology can be applied both in new and refurbished buildings.

We will continue to look at this issue, some other practical technical information and the way to achieve government support and finance in a future column.

For info on the technical aspects of GeoExchange visit [www.geoex-change.org](http://www.geoex-change.org).

*Dr Eng Salvatore Consentino is President of Edicon Co. He can be contacted by email: [sconsentino@gmail.com](mailto:sconsentino@gmail.com)*

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## Decor

By Tipwarintron Tanaakarachod

# Aladdin's Cave



As Phuket's home owners and interior designers search for innovative ways to decorate interiors, many are turning away from the classic oriental look that has proved so popular in the past and have begun to scour other regions and cultures in the quest for inspiration.

The Kingdom of Morocco is well known for its fusion of vivid sensuality and deep spirituality, having been influenced by a rich blend of cultures – Berber, Arab, French and Spanish – throughout its colorful history.

Moroccan-style furniture is currently making a big splash in the contemporary interior de-

sign world. Customers and designers are making the trip to North Africa to visit the bustling markets and bazaars, full of ornate, intricately-carved furniture. There, they hope to take advantage of the skilled craftsmanship on offer at comparatively low prices.

Inmind at the Homepro store in Chalong specializes in

Moroccan-style furniture, stocking a wide range of items that would lend a distinctly Arabian feel to any home. The company was formed about six years ago but has only recently set up shop here in Phuket.

The furniture on display is almost entirely crafted from wood, often decorated with sophisticated patterns created by intricately de-

tailed hand carving. The store boasts some striking pieces with variety enough to furnish a single room or an entire house.

In addition to the furniture items, Inmind stocks a variety of accessories, such as brightly colored rugs and throws that serve as an aesthetic counterpoint to the sombre tones of the wood furniture.



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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.



# The early bird sometimes catches the worm

## A look at the advantages of buying a home off-plan

Despite the global economic crisis and continuing uncertainty about political stability in Thailand, numerous property developments have been recently launched. The majority of the developers offer units 'off-plan', for sale at an early stage in the project development, even before the first brick has been laid.

Some may not be familiar with the term 'off-plan'. Generally speaking, buying off-plan means buying units which exist only on the drawing board and where construction of the project may not even have started.

Off-plan sales are offered by developers because they often need to sell their product quickly, so they price units extremely low in order to achieve fast and valuable finance, enabling them to proceed with the construction of their development.

Purchasing an off-plan unit may have considerable advantages compared with investing in an already complete project. 'Early bird' buyers can often benefit from significantly lower prices

— something that makes an off-plan purchase extremely interesting from an investment point of view — as such units may rise in value during the construction, even prior to their completion.

Smart payment plans, typically a minor deposit payment, followed by a 30% first instalment and a high final payment upon title transfer, allow buyers to effectively secure a high-value asset for a relatively low initial capital outlay.

Furthermore, a purchase in the early stages of a project ensures that buyers can choose the best located units in order to satisfy their individual requirements and those of future buyers with regard to a re-sale.

Buying off-plan also offers the chance to 'flip' a unit prior to title transfer by way of assignment of the buyer's rights under his sale and purchase agreement, which allows investors to save transfer fees and taxes occurring from title transfer.

In brief, off-plan investment can create a win-win situation for the buyer and seller. Buyers can obtain a low price for a quality



Buying a home 'off-plan', before construction begins, can mean low prices and more choice of location for the buyer. Image: Oxygen Condominium in Bangtao by the Two Villas Group.

product with a high resale value and sellers are able to secure fast project finance.

However, in order to ensure the security of your investment, comprehensive due diligence should be carried out to minimize risks and to protect you from a worst-case scenario: total loss of

your invested funds. Such due diligence should always be conducted by a reliable and reputed law firm, whose subsequent appointment of additional experts, such as surveyors, might be recommendable, depending on individual requirements.

Due diligence is also important, particularly when buying a property off-plan, as a number of extremely important points, such as secured access, lawful title to the project's land as well as a correctly formulated application for any required construction permits or licenses may not have been accomplished, completed or sufficiently verified by a developer.

Additionally, the financial stability of a developer offering an off-plan sale should always be of concern. In this respect, the utmost attention should be paid to the reliability and track record of a developer.

A professional real estate agent representing only reputable

developers, ideally having the financial backing of big investors, can be the first benchmark to separate the wheat from the chaff.

To summarize, an off-plan purchase can result in an interesting and promising investment. In all instances, however, extensive market research, awareness of potential risk, comprehensive due diligence, as well as consideration of generally accepted risk management is of paramount importance in securing the right product, which is not only a bargain but which also satisfies your personal criteria for a safe investment.

This article is written by Michael Greth, Consultant of the Phuket based law firm International Law Office Patong Beach Co., Ltd.  
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# Start makin' sense

## Building your own incense stand

The item described and pictured here is a simple stand I built for my wife on which she burns incense on Buddhist holidays – it would also be perfect for a flowerpot. When I build larger, heavier shelves, I always use diagonal cross bracing which is important for strength and rigidity. However, I “cheated” here, doing without – at first glance – the diagonals for three reasons.

The first is that the item is built to hold a very light-weight item – a single clay saucer containing about two inches of sand that safely holds the burning incense sticks. All the joints were nevertheless “glued-n’-screwed” for rigidity, as glued joints cannot move.

The second is that the lower cross braces are wide (tall) enough to be attached with two screws set vertically about an inch apart, providing the same effect as a diagonal brace. Parallel movement of the legs cannot occur when secured by braces with two anchoring points

perpendicular to the direction of movement.

The third reason is that the legs are not parallel, being slightly wider at the base than the top. This was done because firstly a ‘tapered’ design is more attractive, and secondly because legs joined like this are more stable. The different sized cross braces keep the legs from parallel-tilting since the distance between the anchoring points would change. If the legs were parallel and the braces the same size, this would not be the case. I’ll discuss diagonal cross bracing – the only practical use for high-school geometry I’ve ever found – much further in a future column.

This stand was built from odd pieces I had in my workroom, so there is a slight difference in some of their dimensions. We had moved into this house just a few days before that year’s Song-kran holiday – also my wife’s birthday! I wanted to finish it in time for her to use that day, so I just used what I had. The legs are 31" high; the ‘wide’ side’s bottom braces

are 13" long, the upper braces 12" long; the ‘narrow’ side’s bottom braces are 12" and the upper ones 11". The pieces that make up the “platform” are 11" x 2 3/4". Sharp-eyed readers will notice that the upper brace on one side is below the top platform, while the other side is flush. This is because the stand was made from recycled wood, and two of the pieces had small nails broken off in their edges. To compensate, I lowered the brace to keep the screws from hitting the nails.

Tip: it is very helpful to use two drills. I keep the drill bit in one and the (usually Phillips) magnetized screwdriver bit in the other. This eliminates constant bit changing. It also makes it easy to start and run screws into pre-drilled holes with one hand while holding the work with the other.

To assemble this stand, lay the leg pieces for one of the sides face (flat) down on the floor and position the cross braces. Be sure to pencil mark the braces’ positions. Hold the braces in position and drill your holes. Place a piece of scrap plywood underneath to save your bit from contacting the floor. Apply some glue, then reposition the pieces and run the screws in, stopping when the heads just barely contact the wood. Where pieces were joined flat-side to flat-side, I used #14 x 3/4" pan-head screws, and later ground off any protruding tips. Build the other side the same way.

Now take the “narrow side” cross braces, and drill screw holes near their edges. Then, lift one “side” onto its side, position the cross brace and drill through the brace’s hole into the edge of the leg while the side assembly is secure against the floor. Repeat with the other side. Be careful drilling into the edge, as you must drill perfectly straight. Where pieces were joined flat-side to edge, I used #14 x 1" screws.

Next, apply some glue and attach both narrow side braces to one side’s leg as you hold it against the floor. Then, position



The finished article: perfect for incense burners, trophies, urns, busts or flowerpots.

the other side beneath the ends of the cross braces, and attach. This is where pre-drilled holes come in handy. Again, stop your drill when the screw heads just barely contact the wood.

Turn the assembly around and attach the other narrow side’s braces the same way. Now, place the stand upright and flex the corners until all the legs’ tips touch the floor evenly. Then grip each joint securely as you finish tightening the screws by hand, trying not to move it as you seat the screws.

Measure across the width of your top “platform”, and cut the pieces to fit with a little overhang. Then center one piece at a time on the top, and looking down on it, pencil mark where the holes should be. Lay each piece on the scrap of plywood, and drill. Then, reposition on the platform, and drill through the holes into the cross braces. Remove them, apply some glue, reposition them and run the screws in. Weatherproof it with varnish or polyurethane.

That’s it! Have a beer! See you next time.





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# Property Gazette

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### 390,000 BAHT SALE OR LEASE

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### DOUBLE VILLA IN KATA



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### 6 RAI, CHERNG TALAY, VIEWS

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### HOUSE IN KAMALA

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### MAI KHAO OCEAN MTN VIEW

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### 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.

### NEW TOWN HOUSE

in Phuket town. 2nd floor, 140sqm. Very good location 5 min from central and Big C. Price 2.9 million baht. Tel: 080-071 9098.

### COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

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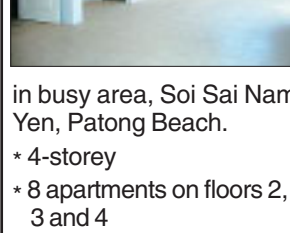
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### NEW HOUSE FOR SALE/RENT



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# Property Gazette

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

### PERFECT LAND FOR SALE

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

### ON THE BEACH

2 bedroom apartment in north Patong. Foreign freehold, top floor, swimming pools. 9.7 million baht. Tel: 086-276 5 117 Email for photos. Email: jihshand@gmail.com

### 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

### NICE PLOT

near Layan Hills Estate and pool villas project. Chanote title and road access on 4 sides of the plot. 4.5 million baht. Tel: 081-538 7050.

### QUICK SALE

Thai-style home. Only 5.1 million baht. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Near to Laguna. Tel: 087-893 8590.

### KOH YAO YAI

Cheap land, good investment. 2.8 rai, Chanote title, water, electricity. Price: 900,000 baht. Tel: 081-892 8208.

### LAND AT PA KHLOK

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

### 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. Or sale for US\$12 million. Email: info@queenmarines.com

### LARGE DETACHED

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

### PHUKET COUNTRY CLUB



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

### STUNNING HOUSE

Modern tropical style, brand new, fully furnished, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 living rooms. 350sqm of living area with outdoor jacuzzi. 14.5 million baht o.n.o. Tel: 083-201 4621, 081-537 5544. Email: whispertheway@yahoo.co.uk For photos and details: www.tropicalhomephuket.com

### KATA BEACH

2 apartments, 130sqm. Both only 4.4 million baht. Owner leaving Thailand. Tel: 085-783 1890.

### HOUSE IN BAANMON, PATONG

Lovely house on 38wah in excellent quiet location with patio. 2 bedrooms with a/c, separate large bathroom, modern open kitchen and spacious living area. 3.5 million baht. Contact owner: +66 (0)86-952 1201. Email: marcus@legalthai.com

### 2 STOREY VILLA, LAYAN BEACH

Hardwood floors, 3 bathrooms. Wet bar, small plunge pool with waterfall. Private tropical garden. 6.7 million baht. Call for more info. Tel: 086-267 0157. Email: bannuaton@yahoo.com

### PARICHART VILLAGE, CHALONG



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

### 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.

### 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.

### PATONG CONDOMINIUM

Fully furnished, very good condition, laundry and cooking facilities. Mountain views, aircon, pool, security, clean, relaxing, 300 meter to beach. Foreign freehold: 1.4 million baht neg. Contact Grant. Tel: 084-309 0024.

### OCEAN VIEW, KATA 5 MB

Price includes furniture. One year old. 90 square meters. Or 30,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-041 8821. Email: maurick1@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at: http://oceanviewkata.shutterstock.com

### SEA VIEW KATA LAND

for sale. 8 plots available. Starting price 3.8 million baht. Email: kaiteedin@hotmail.com

### URGENT SALE 15% DISCOUNT

Sale nice 2 storey detached house on 504 sqm by owner with a title deed. Transfer immediately. 5 bedrooms & 5 bathrooms, ready to move in. Close to Phuket Town and Rawai Beach. Get the best selling price - lower than the bank assessment. Tel: 081-891 5296. Email: hkthomesale18@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at www.jikkycar.com

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# Property Gazette

## HOUSE IN ANUPHAS FOR SALE



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

## NEW RAWAI MODERN POOL VILLA

Luxury 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath with landscape and private gate. Just completed construction. Modern kitchen and appliances. 1km from Rawai Beach. Beautiful mountain view. Located on a private road, quiet. 476 sqm of land and over 300 sqm of living area. A 'must see', one of a kind. Tel: 081-979 9806. Email: alohang@gmail.com for more information.

## FREEHOLD, PATONG 28SQM

studio, fully renovated and furnished, brand new. Price 1.95 million baht. Tel: 089-971 5664.

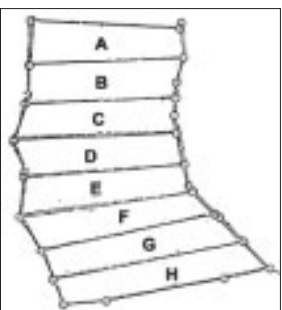
## BANG TAO APARTMENTS FOR SALE

2 luxury apartments for sale. Both 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom, with 2 pools and gym. One is a penthouse (3 years old) with private roof garden the other is a ground floor with private garden (brand new). Both less than 200m to Bang tao beach. Tel: 084-630 2416. Please email for further details. Email: jonhassall@aol.com

## NAIHARN STUDIO CONDO 1.65 MB

Studio condo, 40sqm, quiet 5-unit complex, built to European standards. Swimming pool, balcony with panoramic mountain view, 5 minutes from the beach, wireless internet. Tel: 086-596 9601. Email: fordasia777@gmail.com

## VERY NICE SEAVIEW LAND



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

## 5 BR VILLA BY BIS



Beautiful luxury practical family living in 5 ensuite bedroom villa with 13x5 m pool and 12 pax Jacuzzi. Home cinema, office and highest quality materials all throughout. 406 sqm indoor, 426 sqm built outdoor. 1,170 sqm gated lush plot. 5 min from British International School and Boat Lagoon. Secure community. Very beneficial offer due to the current situation - 21.5 million baht. Tel: 076-615213, 086-816 5972. Email: henrik@swelandltd.com www.swelandltd.com

## PANORAMIC SEA VIEW



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

**ROYAL PHUKET MARINA**  
Priced to sell, 2 bedroom condo, no agents. 13 million baht. Email: tiptop@linuxmail.org

**POOL VILLA, NAI HARN**  
3 bedrooms, Thai sala on roof top. Price 9 MB. Tel: 076-289900, 081-970 0742. Fax: 076-613114. Email: eve@twovillas.com

**BEAUTIFUL SEAVIEW**  
90sq wah at Ao Por, overlooking Por bay and Jumeriah private island. Price 4.5 million baht. Tel: 086-204 7573.

**CHALONG HOUSE**  
for sale. 4 bedrooms, aircon, big garden. Must see. Price 4.5 million ono. Tel: 081-747 5293.

## NEW RAWAI MODERN POOL VILLA

Luxury 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath with landscape and private gate. Just completed construction. Modern kitchen and appliances. 1km from Rawai beach. Beautiful mountain view. Located on a private road, and quiet. 476sqm of land and over 300sqm of living area. A 'must see', one of a kind. Asking 13.9 million baht but all offers welcome including possible financing. Tel: 081-979 9806. Email: alohang@gmail.com for more information.

## HOUSE MUST SELL!



3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Nice house in Chuanchuen Lagoon close to British School, marinas, shops, malls. Fully furnished, UBC, internet. 5.3 million baht. All offers considered. Tel: 084-991 1492 (Thai), 086-743 0033 (Eng).

## TOP VILLAS IN RAWAI

Best villas, 1x500 sqm and 1x220 sqm. Located in quality development near beach. Finance available, no interest. Must see, free pick-up. Tel: 085-783 1890.

## DIAMOND CONDOMINIUM

Condominiums from 5.9 million or rent from 35,000 per month. Tel: 080-699 4415. Email: ant\_p\_clark@yahoo.co.uk Please see our website at <http://diamondcondominiums.blogspot.com/>

## KATA APARTMENTS

2 apartments for 3 million baht. Value in quick sale. Tel: 085-783 1890.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## SINGLE LAND PLOTS FOR SALE

Chalong. On the Big Buddha road. Fully serviced. From 4M baht per plot. Tel: 087-265 0118. Email: ant\_p\_clark@yahoo.co.uk Please see our website at <http://phikunvillas.blogspot.com/>

## COCONUT ISLAND LAND



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

## 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

## HILL HOUSE AT KATA

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

## BEAUTIFUL 2 STOREY HOUSE

for sale. Sai Yuan, Rawai, Phuket. Sea view from 2nd floor and roof terrace. 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, custom woodwork, swimming pool, fully furnished. Good investment. Two 80sq wah lots, both with concrete fences, house and pool on one, next lot cleared. Build and return your investment. 10 million baht. Tel: 080-999 8784.

## KATA SEA VIEW, REDUCED PRICE



4 rai prime land. 30-50m above sea level, electricity, water. Now 9.7 million baht per rai. And extra 1-6 rai possible. Tel: 081-273 5047.

## 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 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.

## HOUSE AT PA KLOK



for sale. 67sqw. 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, furnished, phone, internet, UBC. 2.5 million baht. Tel: 081-719 2903.

## BARGAIN 2 BED HOUSE, KOH KAEW



59.6sqw. corner unit. New. 2 bathrooms. Quick sale, hence very low price - 400,000 baht less than project! Viewing available now. Tel: 089-216 7220. Email: julianburgess@myway.com More info and pics available at: [www.julianburgess.co.uk/chao-fagardens/](http://www.julianburgess.co.uk/chao-fagardens/)

## 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 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.

## 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

## GOLF VILLAS 6.9 - 8.9 MTB

Loch Palm. Tel: 081-537 9684. [www.vistaphuket.com](http://www.vistaphuket.com)

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

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# Property Gazette

## Properties For Rent

### PALAI GREEN FOR RENT

Aircon, bedrooms, hot shower, fully furnished, free cable TV, ADSL internet. Near Chalong. 12,000 baht per month. Please contact Nee. Tel: 081-892 4311.

### HOUSE FOR RENT- 15,000 BAHT

Fully furnished, satellite TV, ADSL, washing machine. Tel: 076-200241, 084-053 6302. Email: kwanarune@hotmail.com

### HOUSE WITH POOL

for rent. Saiyuan, furnished, 320sqm, quiet. Price 25,000 baht per month. Contact Khun Toom. Tel: 081-569 3768.

### NAI HARN BUNGALOWS

Long - term rent. Fully furnished, aircon, cable TV, maid. Only 9,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-691 3029. Or send email: kris\_silanachai@yahoo.com

### CHALONG NEW HOME

Good value 2 bedroom town home with telephone, cable TV and aircon. Tel: 089-652 1473. Please send email to: anandaesates@yahoo.com

### HOUSE FOR RENT OR SALE

Fully furnished, 3 bedrooms, aircondition with small garden in Soi Parlai, Chalong area. Price 5.5 million baht or rent 22,000 baht a month. For more details please call Ae 086-031 4880, 089-608 9698.

### BEAUTIFULLY FURNISHED

3 bedroom, 3 bathroom townhouse overlooking golf and lakes at Loch Palm, near BIS. House beside 8th green. Pool and garden, fully equipped - UBC, ADSL, BBQ, phones, etc. Modern kitchen, bar, lounge, separate laundry room. Plasma screen TV, Sonos music system, guardhouse in front. Own houseboy-driver. Serious tenant please. Available now for min 6 months or long-term. 75,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-895 5022. kingsleygray@hotmail.com

### PATONG STUDIO 28SQM

Aircon, hot water, kitchen, fridge, TV, DVD. Price 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-971 5664.

### NAI HARN VILLA

2 bed room, 2 bath room, furnished, aircon, ADSL, big garden. 10,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-288047, 081-894 1660. Email: cottrell@tttmaxnet.com

### THAI VILLA AND POOL

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

### RAWAI HOUSE

for rent. Long- and short-term, fully furnished, pool. Website: www.ferienthailand.com

### BIG HOUSE/LAND WITH POOL

3 bedroom, lovely quiet area, 4 min to beach, 2 min to Tesco Lotus. YOU WILL LOVE IT. <http://come.to/mickej>

### CHALONG HOUSE

for rent. 2 bedroom house, brand new. 24 - hour security. 2 minutes from circle. Furnished, aircon, cable. 12,000 baht per month. Tel: 080-026 7576.

### PATONG TOWER 1BED, ALL NEW

All new, modern one-bedroom apartment for rent long - term only at 20,000 baht per month. Tel: +01-347-596 3338. Email: deherder@hotmail.com

### SURIN BEACH APARTMENTS

Modern 1 & 2 bed apartments. Short and long - term rents from 30,000 baht per month. Tel: 085-888 2022. Or send email: stewartlees@gmail.com <http://www.PhuketWest.com>

### HOUSE IN RAWAI

for rent. Fully furnished, private pool, ADSL, 3 bathrooms, 3 bedrooms. Tel: 081-606 7410.

### PATONG CENTRE

Long- or short-term, 2 bedrooms. House Benjamas estate, secure & quiet. 22,000 baht for 1-3 month. 19,000 baht for 3+ month. Tel: 087-900 8445.

### HOUSE NEAR SUAN LUANG



1.5km from Central Festival near Suan Luang public park. 65 sq wah, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1 bathtub, aircon, European kitchen, garden. Contact Mongkol. Tel: 084-062 8040.

### PATONG LARGE 2 BR APT SEA VIEW

Spacious 2- bedroom, 2 bathroom condo with views of Patong Beach and only a 6 minute walk to the beach. Balconies off every room, wireless internet, kitchenette, secure parking, pool, gym, tennis and many more facilities. Tel: +852-2-813 6093. +852-6100 4034. Fax +852-2-813 6083. Email: casajope@yahoo.com Please check our website for more details <http://www.phuket-patong-condo.com/>

### LUXURY MANSION RAWAI

Over 500 sqm. 4 bedrooms, complete top-end furniture, large private pool, big tropical garden. Tel: 085-783 1890.

### APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Apartments and houses for rent from 15,000 baht. Tel: 086-285 3355.

### B.L. APARTMENT FOR RENT

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

### 3 BED LUXURY POOL VILLA



59,000 baht per month. Located in compound by Boat Lagoon and near British International School. Free Cable TV, WIFI, Gym, and Garden/Pool costs. Beautifully furnished. Would consider sale at around 15 million baht. Tel: 084-783 9054. Or email: oggyowen@yahoo.com

### OVERLOOKING SURIN BEACH

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

### NICE AND COZY HOUSE FOR RENT



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

### PATAK VILLA, SOI 8

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

### NEW HOUSE ON YAOWARAT 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).

### 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

### 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.

### 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

### KAMALA BEACHFRONT VILLAS



Fully furnished to a high standard. Western kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge and dining areas. Large balcony overlooking swimming pool and landscaped garden. Stunning sea views, only meters from the beach. Privately gated, parking and storage. UBC and ADSL. Includes daily cleaning and washing, pool & gardening service. Daily rental 8,000 baht, monthly rental 55,000 baht. Contact Khun Suchada. Tel: 084-843 6837. Email: suchada\_villas@hotmail.com

### KAMALA BEACH RENTAL

Very nice house/apartments. Fully furnished, 2 to 4 bedrooms, view. 13,000 to 18,000 per month. details. Tel: 082-421 9169 .

### HOUSE & POOL

for rent. Rawai 2-3 bedrooms, furnished from 30,000 baht only!! Tel: 089-728 6242. Email: purimas\_re@yahoo.com

### LUXURY VILLAS

for rent. Loch Palm, Kathu. Fully furnished with pool. Contact more details. Tel: 081-797 6266.

## 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

### KAMALA BEACH RENTAL

Very nice house/apartments. Fully furnished, 2 to 4 bedrooms, view. 13,000 to 18,000 per month. details. Tel: 082-421 9169 .

### 2 STOREY BUILDING, 500SQM

newly furnished, aircon, parking. Price 45,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-897 0501. Email: russ.export@gmail.com

### ONE BEDROOM CONDO

New condo in Patong with swimming pool for rent 25,000 baht per month. Contact Peter. Tel: 084-852 0338.

### VILLA SAUNLAUNG

for rent. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, aircon. Fully furnished, ADSL. Tel: 081-086 7398. Email: motu726@gmail.com

### PATONG SERVICED APTS

Quality serviced apartments in Patong. Maid, gym, large pool, mountain views. 100-sq-meter 2-bedroom units. 25,000 baht a month. Contact more details. Tel: 087-077 8454. Email: solitude001@aol.com

### QUIET GUESTHOUSE

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

### KATA HOUSE

Available for straight-up rent or rent-to-buy. Two bedrooms, cable TV, aircon. 9,500 baht per month to rent, or for sale on terms. Call or mail for further info. Tel: 080-589 2046. Email: svein@byggguiden.no

### HOUSE IN PATONG

2 storey house for rent. Kasaemsarp Village, 3 bedrooms, fully furnished, garage. Price 25,000 per month. Please call Maria for more information. Tel: 076-381303, 084-845 0003. Fax 076-381303. Or email: maria@bayproject.com

### STUDIO CONDO

Large studio in Patong for rent 20,000 baht per month. Contact Peter. Tel: 084-852 0338.

### PATONG TOWER CONDO

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

### NEW SINGLE HOUSE

for rent and sale. 3 million baht. Yoo Charoen Village, 3km from Laguna Phuket. 2 telephone lines, ADSL, 3 bedrooms, aircon, 2 bathrooms, warm water. 14,000-18,000 baht. Please contact more details. Tel: 087-417 2757 (Eng), 087-417 2756 (Thai).

### NAI HARN LUXURY POOL VILLA

3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, aircon, 2-car garage, ADSL, UBC, very secure, 2 mins to beach. Tel: 081-090 8776. Please send details to email : availrawai@yahoo.com.au

### PATONG 2 BED APARTMENT

Fully furnished, quiet and discreet. Close to Bangla Rd, beach, shops, bars etc. 18,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-078 7743.

### 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

### 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

### VILLAS IN BANG JO

For rent near Laguna. 2 and 3 bedrooms, fully furnished, pool. Long- or short- term. Price 50,000 or 65,000 baht per month. Contact more details. Tel: 081-897 6984, 089-6995136 (Thai).



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# Boats & Marine

## TEAK RICE BARGE

Hull restoration completed and now ready for client refit. 16.6 metres long and 5 metres wide. Asking price 1.5M baht. Visit our website for further information and photos. Please, no time wasters. Tel: 081-747 3425. Email: jo-inlondon@hotmail.co.uk For further details, please see our website at <http://web.me.com/eisasia>

## LOOKING FOR A MOTOR YACHT

60-70 ft. Owners: please send offer details. Tel: 084-199 3353. Email: kaewkram\_5@hotmail.com

## DOUBLE 'SIT-ON' CANOE

Feel Free double 'sit-on' canoe with paddles. Hardly used. 20,000 baht. Call or mail for further details. Tel: 089-000 0200. Email: tonygbr@hotmail.com

## BEAT PRICE!



Would you like to charter a speed boat? We want you to ask for it. We have 27ft, 35ft, and 45ft. All are available. Please contact more details at email: [info@queenmarines.com](mailto:info@queenmarines.com)

## 30FT MOTOR YACHT

Beautiful Sea Ray Sundancer. Fully loaded. 300 hours. 2.3 million baht. Immediately available. Tel: 076-317538, 085-111 1455. Please sent to email: [uwed@avia-star.com](mailto:uwed@avia-star.com)

## COBALT 262



Brand new 26ft Cobalt for sale lying Royal Phuket Marina, Thai registered, Cobalt are extreme quality, inspection a must! USD\$ 132,000 neg. Tel: 076-273378, 084-442 5460. Please sent email to [phuket@starshipyachts.com](mailto:phuket@starshipyachts.com)

## MAXUM 2,300 - DAYCRUISER

23 foot cabin boat, 260 hp. Perfect day and overnight boat! Sleeps 3 in cabin. Top condition! Only 1,500,000 baht! Tel: 089-932 5175. Or email: [wojdkowbengt@hotmail.com](mailto:wojdkowbengt@hotmail.com)

## 1997 BAYLINER 28 CABIN BOAT

28 feet. 300 hp V8 with only 300 hours. Sleeps 4. Perfect for fishing and sleeping overnight. Only 1,500,000 baht! Tel: 089-932 5175. Email: [wojdkowbengt@hotmail.com](mailto:wojdkowbengt@hotmail.com)

## OUTBOARD WANTED

Yamaha 2 hp outboard wanted. Please contact by email or at the mobile number above. Tel: 081-894 1530. Or sent email: [andrew@leemarine.net](mailto:andrew@leemarine.net)

## DOUBLE KAYAK

Feel-free kayak. 18,000 baht. Call or mail for details. Tel: 089-000 0200. Email: [tonygbr@hotmail.com](mailto:tonygbr@hotmail.com)

## ZODIAC 40HP

Includes all equipment, trailer, steering, console, anchor, vest etc. Contact more details. Tel: 087-265 6089.

## DAY DIVE BOAT

for sale or rent. Nissan 450hp, 25kw, 21m. Generator: Bauer compressor or cert 45 pax. Pay over 3 years. Price 3.5 million baht. Contact more details. Email: [colona@loxinfo.co.th](mailto:colona@loxinfo.co.th)

## 32FT CATAMARAN

4 double cabins, 32sqm sail area, 9 HP Honda. 490,000 baht. Tel: 087-461 8089.

## BENETEAU CYCLADES 393

Enjoy sailing from Phuket and learn a little. 3 cabins, 2 toilets. Layout excellently maintained and loaded with extras. Thai registered and under maintenance contract with advance bookings. Tel: 076-348117, 081-8916953. Fax: 076-348118. Email: [rob@sailing-thailand.com](mailto:rob@sailing-thailand.com)

## HOBIE CAT 14

with launching trolley & spares, good condition. Price 65,000 baht. Phuket town. Please Contact more details. Tel: 076-224596.

## TROLLING MOTOR

Brand new in "Motorguide" Mercury model, 46FB, 12 volts, 5-speed. Dealer price 500USD. Task only 400USD. Tel: 083-633 1054.

## SHARKCAT 23

Refurbished 2007/8. Twin Yamaha 200hp with low hours. Cabin with dbl berth & toilet. Versatile: cruising, fishing, water skiing. Thai registered. Price: 985,000 baht. Tel: 076-348117, 081-891 9653. Fax: 076-348118. Or sent to email: [rob@sailing-thailand.com](mailto:rob@sailing-thailand.com)

## PLATU 25

A proven race winner. Complete inventory update in late 2006 and has sailed one regatta since. In excellent condition and is dry-stored under cover. 550,000 baht ono. Tel: 076-348117, 081-891 9653. Fax: 076-348118. Email: [rob@sailing-thailand.com](mailto:rob@sailing-thailand.com)

## BOAT FOR SALE

3.40m rigid single hull, engines Tohatsu 25cc, cover for inflatable boat, one seat removable. Price: 175,700 baht. Call Mr Dydi at 087-161 6984.

## SPORT FISHING BOAT

6 metre custom built centre console mariner 115hp, very low hours usage, great boat for share with friends, 550,000 baht ono. Tel: 084-849 2804.

## 7 AND 9 METERS SUPER RIBS

Four new 2009 ribs - 7m and 9m. The boats include single and twin mounted 225 hp Mercs enabling speeds of 60 knots, new galvanized dual axle trailers, all options, CE, COC, GPS, triple tanks, big sunbrella. All new with full warranties. Come try Tel: 083-646 7282, 083-636 9327. Email: [par.emanuel@xwipers.com](mailto:par.emanuel@xwipers.com)

## SPEED BOAT FOR SALE URGENT

33ft wooden hull, 2x200 hp, Yamaha 2007, 23+2 pax. Price 800,000 baht. Tel: 086-192-2174.

## WELLCRAFT SCARAB 31

2 x 250 hp Mercs, 390 hours, fully serviced. Speeds to 60 knots, bow cabin, portable toilet, GPS, VHF, Sunbrella, all new interior, red and white. Come and see! Offers invited around 1.8 million baht. Tel: 083-646 7282, 083-636 9327. Or sent to email [par.emanuel@xwipers.com](mailto:par.emanuel@xwipers.com)

## MAXUM 2000 SR - BOWRIDER

Eddie Bauer Edition. Year 1994. Rarely used. Only 300 hours. Very good condition. 895,000 baht. Tel: 02-661 7676, 081-628 4798. Email: [uwed@avia-star.com](mailto:uwed@avia-star.com)

## 36 FOOT JENNEAU SAILING

yacht. Originally bought from Sunsail, fully overhauled. Low price. Now at Boat Lagoon dock E7. Tel: 087-626 5396. [www.thailandboating.com](http://www.thailandboating.com)

## JET BOAT FOR SALE

5 meter, 120HP jet engine, seats 5 includes bimini, trailer, cassette radio, etc. 150,000 baht Tel: 089-591 8463, 089-591 8728, 087-263 4560. Or send email: [mwd687@yahoo.com](mailto:mwd687@yahoo.com)

## DINGHY FOR SALE

12ft rib inflatable. In good condition. 15,000 baht ono. Tel: 081-866 8716.

## HOBIE 16

Very good condition. Price 150,000 baht. Tel: 089-470 8926. Email: [eanfievat@voila.fr](mailto:eanfievat@voila.fr)

## FISHING BOAT

43ft Thai fishing boat. Hino Diesel engine, Borg Warnertrans (new), outriggers and more. For quick sale, a bargain at 300,000 baht. Pic available on request. Tel: 076-388478, 083-520 7308. Email: [gerrybfoster@hotmail.com](mailto:gerrybfoster@hotmail.com)

## LONG TAIL FIBER GLASS

Komboda diesel, 1 engine 3 years old. Not used much. Price 45,000 baht. Contact more details. Tel: 085-798 6929.

## 2 PROPELLERS

Suitable for sailboat, bronze, 1.5" to 1.25" bore. Port & SB Price 8,000 baht each, ono. Tel: 087-2759618. Or send email to: [sea.scape@hol.gr](mailto:sea.scape@hol.gr)

## YACHT-ROD SAILING CATAMARAN

Fun Performance Cruiser. Tel: 089-587 1862. Email: [mmcgrath2@hotmail.com](mailto:mmcgrath2@hotmail.com) See website for more details at: <http://www.typhoonsails.com/stiletto.html>

## SAILING DINGHY 5M50

Motor mercury 60 ch. 1 year 6 months old. Price 500,000 baht. Tel: 087-266 7209. Contact more details at email: [serge.mages@laposte.net](mailto:serge.mages@laposte.net)

## FISHING BOAT FOR SALE



29ft, 2x225hp, Sv2u. Price 2,000,000 baht. Contact Khun Da. Tel: 086-223 1716, 089-942 1177. Email: [damart\\_import\\_export@yahoo.com](mailto:damart_import_export@yahoo.com)

## STABLE DAY BOAT

Launched 2003, Bear Cat, 9.5 m with twin Mariner 200hp engines. Ideal dive or day trip boat. Out of water for one year. Boat is on hardstand at the Boat Lagoon for your inspection. Excellent condition. Asking 1.3mil baht. Tel: 081-536 2069. Email: [pat@destinationair.com](mailto:pat@destinationair.com)

**NEW 21 METER WOOD** wood boat year 2008, 21.4 meter. Beam 5.6 meter. Engine Nissan 450 HP. Cruising 11 knots, 40 pax. Dining area. 2,500 liters diesels 2,000 liters water.

**Price 2.2 million baht.**  
**Tel: 080-549 8205.**

## YAMAHA 8HP OUTBOARD MOTOR

8hp 2 stroke outboard motor. Comes with all accessories, only 30 hours use, just been fully serviced. 35,000 baht. Tel: 084-520 4978. Or send email: [dannypilling@hotmail.com](mailto:dannypilling@hotmail.com)

## SEADOO WAVERUNNER

with trailer. Low hours, excellent condition. 120,000 baht. Call or mail for details. Tel: 087-041 8821. Or send email to: [maurick1@yahoo.com](mailto:maurick1@yahoo.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, Chalong

Tel: 076-280400/3

Fax: 076-280403

#### Earth Language School

Phang Nga Rd, Phuket City

Tel: 076-232398/9

Fax: 076-232398

#### Sin & Lee

Thalang Rd, Phuket City

Tel: 076-258369

Fax: 076-211230

#### Taurus Travel

Aroonsom Plaza Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, Patong

Tel: 076-344521/2

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

Fax: 076-344314

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Place your **GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS** at **41 Minimart**



Simply write out your ad, pay for it and leave it with Khun Kung (076-324312).

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Hundreds of new ads in print every week, all published simultaneously - and **FREE** - in the **Gazette Online!**

The Gazette Online is always on top in Google!



# Island Job Mart

**MALAIWANA**

**Villa Manager and Personal Secretary 1 position**

**Qualifications:**

- Female
- Bachelor's degree in related field
- Good command of English
- Good management skills as well as problem solving
- High responsibility and punctuality
- Able to work in team or independently
- Strong computer skills such as MS Office

Please submit your resume, application letter including expected salary, details of references and a recent photograph to:

Khun Jiraltha Thepkongkham  
MALAIWANA CO., LTD.  
28/10 Moo 4, T. Sakoo, A. Thalang, Phuket 83110 Thailand  
Tel: 076-316224, 076-316223 Fax: 076-316226  
Email: taf@malaiwana.com, www.malaiwana.com

**RICHMOND GROUP**  
THE FINEST PROPERTIES IN THE FINEST LOCATIONS

Richmond Group are currently offering opportunities in these positions:

**REAL ESTATE**  
**Sales Administrator Required**

Experience necessary, excellent written and spoken english  
Computer skills in Office, Excell, Powerpoint, Windows  
5 1/2 day week 8.30 to 5.30- Excellent salary

Cherng Talay Office. Please forward CV to hr@richmondth.com

**British International School, Phuket**

**Teacher Assistant**

- Female, Thai National
- Bachelor degree in related field
- Teaching qualifications and experience of child care / teaching preferable
- Good command of spoken and written English
- Strong interpersonal and organizational skills
- Loves to take care with children

Please send a short letter of application, Curriculum Vitae, recent photograph and e-mail/fax and telephone contacts of referees to: British International School, Phuket 83200

59 Moo 2, Thepkasatri Road, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83200  
Tel: 076-238711-20 # 2103  
Fax: 076-238711-20 # 1130  
E-mail: patcharakorn@bcis.ac.th or sirirats@bcis.ac.th

## WINE CONNECTION

Positions available:

- Executive Chef
- Restaurant Manager
- F&B Manager

Tel: 076-282411-2.

Email: hrmgr@wineconnection.co.th

## GALLERY SALES POSITIONS

Cameron Hansen Gallery in Patong, Kata and Koh Samui is now recruiting sales staff. All applicants must be able to communicate in English. A degree is not necessary, but a pleasant smile and personality is. Training is provided along with a salary and commissions. Tel: 089-731 6814. Email: cameronjhansen@yahoo.co.uk Further details available at: <http://www.cameronhansen.net>

## BOAT BOY OR GIRL WANTED

Thai national only. Experience on boats. Full time. Please contact for more information. Tel: 086-271 9995.

## HANDYMAN WANTED

Thai national only, full time, flexible, experienced. Tel: 086-271-9995.

## TEACHERS NEEDED

Primary school teachers (fulltime). Sports, music, art teachers (part time). Only native English speakers with education degree and experience will be accepted. Email: headstartpkt@gmail.com

## MAID WANTED

Thai national only. Full time. Please contact for more information. Tel: 086-271 9995.

**WEST SANDS PHUKET**  
Phuket's Premier Resort, Waterpark and Spa Destination

Please submit your CV, expected salary and recent photo to: hr@west-sands.com

HR Department,  
West Sands Phuket  
65 M.4, T. Mai Khao,  
A. Thalang,  
Phuket 83110  
Tel: +66 (0)76 372 000  
Fax: +66 (0)76 372 017  
[www.west-sands.com](http://www.west-sands.com)

We offer a great package, negotiable salaries and a five-day working week in a great working atmosphere.

Join an enthusiastic team on one of the largest and most exciting projects ever in Phuket!

If you have experience in the positions below, and are motivated and eager to be part of a great team, you could be the professional we are looking for.

- **Financial Controller**
  - Bachelor's Degree in Accounting or related field
  - A minimum of 5 years experience in a similar capacity
  - In-depth knowledge and experience in hotel finance
  - Ability to translate financial figures for decision making
  - Resort and real estate accounting background is an advantage
  - Personal Accounting License is an advantage
- **Human Resources Manager**
  - Bachelor's Degree or Master's Degree in Human Resources or related field
  - At least 6-8 years experience in hotel/HR functions with at least 2-3 years in HR managerial level in 4-5 star properties
  - Excellent knowledge of Thai labour law, social welfare, payroll and budget planning and HR operational programs

Other necessary qualifications:

- Fluent in written and spoken English
- Highly organized and able to work under pressure
- Strong leadership, organizational, negotiation and communication skills

**VS ASIA CO., LTD.**

**Career Opportunity**

VS Asia Co., Ltd. was established in Phuket 10 years ago. We are a professional printing technology and post-production company for customer, in Europe and Asia, that co-operate with a business partner company with headquarter in Europe.

We are expanding our production department and looking for active colleagues to work as a "Text-Editor". Interested candidate must be a fast learner, self-motivated, creative, keen to learn new thing & have IT skills and also a team player.

**Text & Content Editor**

**Job Description:**

- Knowledge of German language
- Text and content checking/correcting
- Combination of text and figure in double page
- Work with text editor software: QuarkXpress, Indesign or illustrator
- Art or imagination of design
- Cooperate with retouch and other department

**Qualifications:**

- Male/Female, Thai or German Nationality
- Good German Language skill in writing + reading
- Any Vocational, Diploma or higher education related field of study
- Good knowledge of Computer (Windows or Macintosh) and Internet
- Experiences of text editor would be advantaged
- High responsibility and punctuality
- Able to work in team or independently, and as a shift working

**Salary & Welfare:**

- Salary, Bonus, Social Security Insurance, Tax, Food, etc.

Interested applicants should submit your resume stating qualifications, previous work experience and position applied for along with a recent photograph to:

**VS Asia Co., Ltd. (Human Resource Department)**  
42 Moo 3, Palai 2, Chaofa Rd, Chalong, Muang, Phuket 83130  
Tel. (00)66-76-380600  
Fax. (00)66-76-380605  
Email: as@vsdma.com

## 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. Please contact tel: 076-273379. Email: info@octopusasia.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

## REAL ESTATE SALE ASSISTANT

Mon-Sat, good pay, plus bonus. Please send to email: simon@aquapropertygroup.com

## SALES MANAGER - EXPAT

Must have track record, university degree, start ASAP. Tel: 085-787 6321. Email: tgutherie@gmail.com

## WEB DESIGN & MULTIMEDIA

Cameron Hansen Gallery is now recruiting a full-time multimedia designer to work from our Kata office. Applicants must be experienced with Adobe Indesign as well as web-design applications. A recent uni-graduate is ideally suited to this position. A strong command of English is also necessary. Exciting and ongoing projects await the right person! Tel: 089-731 6814. Email: cameronjhansen@yahoo.co.uk Website: <http://www.cameronhansen.net>

## THAI WEBMISTRESS

We are looking for a Thai webmistress. Easy online home job, 10,000 baht per month basic. English speaker required. Please contact for more info. Tel: 085-798 4625. Email: contact@phuketfinder.com Website: [www.phuketfinder.com](http://www.phuketfinder.com)

## INBRED DP CO LTD

1. Secretary Executive
2. Marketing Executive

Good written and spoken English. Relevant experience with established organization preferred. Tel: 076-261857, 081-367 4696. Fax: 076-261859. Email: acs@inbreddp.com For further details, please see our website at <http://www.inbreddp.com> Email: info@inbreddp.com and acs@inbreddp.com

## INTERNATIONAL

financial advisers wanted for Kuala Lumpur. Native English speakers, mature, proactive, self starters, strong sales or finance background essential. Please sent CV to marie@pp-intt.com

## SALES JOB LOW SEASON

If you are an experienced sales person and want to earn 50,000 up/month, please call 083-393 6226. Requirements: good appearance and impeccable English.

## 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@stjames-properties.com

## 2 THAI TEACHERS WANTED

for an international nursery in Rawai. 1 part time (afternoons), and 1 full time. Tel: 081-979 3839. Please send CV and expected salary to lisaaston04@aol.com

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



# Island Job Mart



'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,  
Sri 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



## 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>

## KINDERGARTEN TEACHER

Female, native English speaker with experience, 45 hour week, Chalong. Send resume to: phuketpreschool@yahoo.com

## MARKETING FOR BOAT TOURS

We require an experienced, English-speaking executive for marketing boat cruises to top hotels, tour operators and agencies. Tel: 085-666 5504. Email: vishal@jabudays.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)

## RECEPTIONIST & MARKETING

Staff wanted at Phuket Spa, Chalong. Urgent! Tel: 076-282704, 085-567 8929. Fax: 076-282703. Or send email: natali1800@hotmail.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.

## 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

## 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

## 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

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:editor@phuketgazette.net)

## THAI ENGLISH TEACHER

Teach 5 children English. 3 hours per day, Saturday and Sunday. Pay 6,000 baht. Email: phuketpreschool@yahoo.com

## MARKETING STAFF

Marketing and appointment staff required. Thai nationals with fluent English. Karon/Kata area. Good conditions and wages. Call Craig on 085-655 5166 for an interview.

## 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@teffphuket.com](mailto:info@teffphuket.com)

## DREAM SALES OPPORTUNITY!\$

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

## SECRETARY WANTED

Must have good English + Excel. Monday-Friday 45 hour week. Chalong, salary 12,000 baht. Tel: 080-624 7060

## SECRETARY WANTED

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

## 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](mailto:michiel@online-internet-marketing-services.com) For further details, please see our website at <http://www.manual-submissions.com/directory/how-to-do.php>

## FLORIST REQUIRED

Experienced Florist required for start-up of high-end florist business in Chermg Talay. Conversational English is essential. Tel: 086-028 0869. Email: [parissa.mobasher@gmail.com](mailto:parissa.mobasher@gmail.com) For further background, please see: <http://www.parissa.co.uk>

## 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](mailto:martin@phuketfishboat.com) For further details, please see our website at <http://phuketfishboat.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](mailto:leondisley@yahoo.com)

## 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-coco.nutisland.com](mailto:jay@thevillage-coco.nutisland.com)

## 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@elecpro.com](mailto:info@elecpro.com)

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

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### RESTAURANT FOR SALE

On the hill of South Patong Beach, 350sqm on rented land with 5-year contract. 8,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-882 1445. Email: [jonassvegso@hotmail.com](mailto:jonassvegso@hotmail.com)

### BAR FOR SALE BANGLA

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### FLORIST REQUIRED

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Shop in Kata center in bar zone for sale. 600,000 baht and 6,000 baht per month (with stock and furniture). Tel: 089-474 2231.

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2. Steal this guesthouse. 17 new rooms, Eight year lease, Co Ltd. Web, great location. Asking 2.3 million baht. No agents.  
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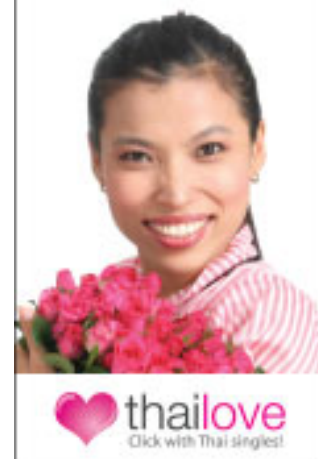
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1989, good condition, great engine, red. Price: 85,000 baht. Please contact. For more information. Tel: 08-6271 6214. Email: Rachelwides@gmail.com

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### ONLY 9 IN THAILAND

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### HONDA CRV 2003

Silver, automatic, ABS, airbags, fully serviced, new LPG. Price 545,000 baht. Call for more details. Tel: 087-889 4160.

## Motorbikes

### KAWASAKI BOSS 35 K

Nicely maintained bike, 4 stroke-175 cc, 2002 model. Contact me (as above) for more info. Tel: 080-589 2046. Email: svein@byggguiden.no

### HONDA PHANTOM

2009. Must sell. 3 years warranty, 2,500km, black. Sale price 70,000 baht ono. Tel: 087-882 1963.

### YAMAHA MIO

Two years old, 17,000 km, white, excellent condition, green book, etc. Price: 19,000 baht. Tel: 089-589 2987. Email: rob@tiwi.nl

### HARLEY DAVIDSON

1. HD Pro-One, S&S engine 1800cc. Purple, imported from USA, w/bike book. Sale 850,000 baht

2. HD Sportster 883cc. 2009, dark blue, brand new w/bike book. Sale 600,000 baht. Tel: 081-691 9346. Email: sumon@ridethailand.com

### HONDA WAVE 125

2005 33,000 Kms Good Condition. Price 19,000 baht. Call for more details. Tel: 087-263 4992.

### 2008 AUTOMATIC BIKES

Yamaha Nouvo Elegance 135cc, 47,000 baht. Honda Airblade 42,000 baht. Please contact. Tel: 081-091 8908. Email: giepp969@hotmail.com

### THREE GREAT MOTORBIKES

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- Wave 125i, 23,000 km: 27,000 baht

- Million, 24,000 km, 20,000 baht. Tel: 08-1493 1130. Email: rick.h.lee@gmail.com

### COOL HONDA STEED

Modified legal chopper. Call for more details and pics. 130,000 baht. Tel: 081-187 1571. Email: ianlenton@hotmail.com

### HONDA SHADOW SALE



750cc, 2008, as new, low mileage, green book. 360,000 baht neg. Tel: 076-486624, 086-281 9311.

### DUCATI MULTISTRADA DS 1000

2004, immaculate condition, 18,000 km, green book. 450,000 baht ono. Call or mail for more information. Tel: 089-6941 0639. Email: andrew@damaskdesign.net

### CLASSIC HONDA

1964 Honda 125 twin. Mint condition, green book, engine, refurb by Honda, elec ign 40,000 baht. Call or mail for more info. Tel: 076-202638, 083-280 6799. Email: barlowmaurice@yahoo.co.uk

### HONDA XR650R OFFROAD AND SM

Top condition! 8500km. Lots of extras. Price 240,000 baht +60,000B if with green book. Tel: 089-011 4069. Email: thommm@online.no Full info and pictures of bike here; http://www.thaivisa.com/forum/Honda-Xr650r-Offroad-Supersmoto-Ho-t251655.html

### MOTORBIKES FOR SALE

5 Yamaha Nouvo bikes, only one year old, 115cc. Green books and registration up to date. As new. 38,000 baht each. Tel: 081-083 0024. Email: janya\_fino@yahoo.com

### HARLEY DAVIDSON

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2. HD 2004 DYNA super glide 1450 cc. Silver, in very good condition, bike book. Sale 580,000 baht. Call or mail for more details. Tel: 081-691 9346. Email: sumon@ridethailand.com

## Rentals

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### CAR FOR RENT

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### CHEAP CAR RENTAL

10,000-20,000 baht per month, full insurance. Tel: 084-472 7304.

### NEW CAR FOR RENT

Toyota Yaris, Mitsubishi Triton 4-door, automatic. 16,000-19,000 baht per month. Please contact. Tel: 081-970 3136. Email: agogniat@loxinfo.co.th

### CHEAP CAR FOR RENT

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### RENT MOTORBIKE 2,400 BAHT A MONTH

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for rent. 2006 space cap, manual, good condition. Tel: 089-728 6242. Email: renusj@gmail.com

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automatic, red, good condition, full insurance. Tel: 076-282182, 081-4763242. Fax 076-282182. Email: nat@phuket-festival.com

### MINIBUS AND CAR FOR RENT



Minibus, Vios, Jazz, City for rent. We're offering low-season prices. For further information please contact. Tel: 081-538 8567. Email: suksavat@hotmail.com

### A1 CAR RENTALS



Fully insured. 12,000 to 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-831 4703. Email: a1current@myway.com

### P.M.P. CAR RENT

New cars for rent - Toyota Vios, Yaris, Fortuner, Wish and Honda Jazz. Tel: 087-264 6808, 083-174 3880.

### GOOD CARS FOR RENT

Honda Jazz and Toyota Vios with insurance. 16,000 baht per month. Discounts for long term. Tel: 081-537 7137. Email: sunisadia@hotmail.com

## Others

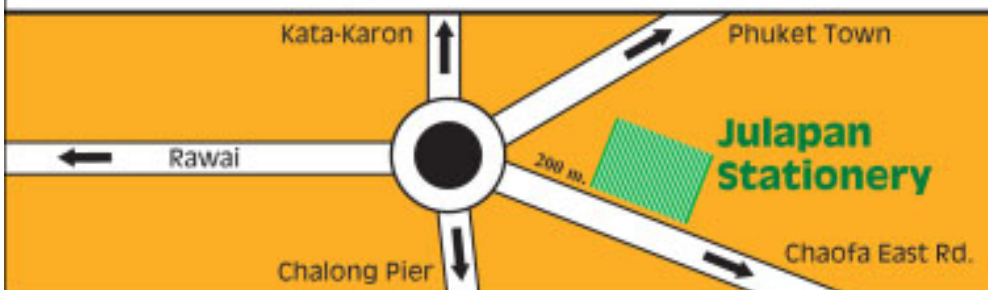
### SAMLOR MITSUBISHI

collection. Very nice, run well. Sale 49,000 baht. Mitsubishi 4WD, 2.8 GLS. Price 240,000 baht. Tel: 081-367 0991.

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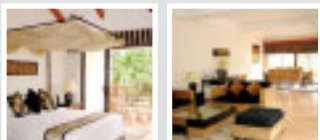
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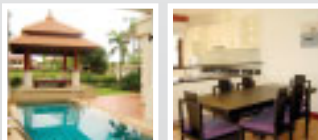
Properties for sale within Laguna Phuket

#### 1 Laguna Townhome THB 21 M



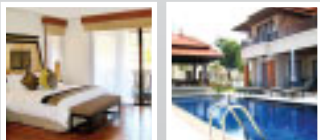
- 2-storey 3 beds Townhome
- quality furnishings & fittings
- Sheraton rental pool
- golf course view

#### 2 Laguna Village Townhome I THB 21 M



- 2-storey 4 beds 4 baths
- fully furnished
- rental pool available
- lagoon view

#### 3 Laguna Village Residence II THB 34 M



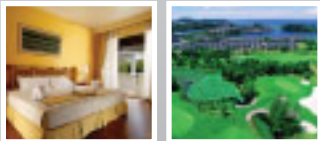
- 2-storey detached Residence
- 4 beds 3 baths fully furnished
- lagoon view

#### 4 Dusit Thani Pool Villa THB 36 M



- 3-storey Townhome
- 2 beds • rooftop pool
- guaranteed rental return

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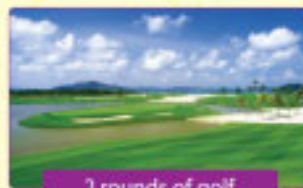


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