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Mates murdered after 'misunderstanding'

MISUNDERSTANDING between a group of workmates may have led to an execution-style shooting which left three people dead and another man in hospital fighting

Police said the killer shot his four victims in the head at close range with a .38 calibre pistol as they sat drinking outside a home near Chalong circle just before midnight on Saturday.

Pol Lt Col Boonlead Aonkrang of the Chalong Police said the three men died at the scene, and the injured man was

taken to Vachira Hospital where his condition is described as serious.

The dead men have been identified as Kowit Nongmanee, 38, from Songkhla, Somsak Rodchuay, 29, from Nakhon Sri Thammarat and Phaisarn Kraikaew, 49, from Phuket.

The injured man is Yothin Singhakosit, 29, from Phrae.

Lt Col Boonlead said five construction workers had been drinking together at a makeshift table outside a house on the Chalong-Rawai Road when an argument erupted.

"They were close friends who worked together on construction sites, and it was common for them to drink together," he said.

"It is difficult to determine exactly what happened, but it seems there was a misunderstanding about a work contract or some other small businessrelated problem."

Lt Col Boonlead said when the argument broke out, one of the men left the party and returned a short time later with a .38 calibre pistol.

He then shot his colleagues

at point-blank range before fleeing in a black Toyota pickup truck, he said.

Lt Col Boonlead said police found two bodies on the floor and the third victim slumped dead in his chair.

Police raided the nearby home of the suspected killer, where they seized an air pistol and a holster, but not the .38 pistol used in the shootings.

A man has been charged with three counts of premeditated murder, attempted murder and firearms violations.

-Kitima Pommongkhonwat

Tsunami village evacuated

of a village in Phang Nga, just north of Phuket, were evacuated on Tuesday morning amid fears that earthquake off the Indian coast could trigger another tsunami.

The evacuation followed reports by the US Geological Survey of an earthquake measuring 7.6 on the Richter Scale, which was centered about 260 kilometers north of India's Andaman Islands with an epicenter 33 kilometers beneath to their homes after the tsunami the earth's surface.

Maitree Jongkraijak, a community co-ordinator at Ban Nam Khem village, said he received an SMS warning from the National Disaster Monitoring Center just after midnight on Monday following a report of a second earthquake measuring 4.8 on the Richter Scale.

ORE than 400 residents the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center in Hawaii issued a tsunami watch for Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Burma and Thailand, saying it was strong enough to cause a tsunami along coastlines within a 1,000kilometer radius.

When the second warning was sent to Ban Nam Khem, Mr Maitree and 60 volunteers woke up residents and took them to the upper floors of the three-story Ban Nam Khem School.

Theywere allowed to return warning was cancelled at 7am.

Meanwhile, the tsunami direct detection buoy moored off Phuket resumed transmitting data on Monday, just before the Indian earthquake occurred.

The buoy stopped transmitting data on June 16 when its battery ran flat.

National Disaster Warning Following the larger quake, Center (NDWC) advisor Dr



The Dart buoy is sending signals again, despite having a flat ba AFP Photo/Pornchai Kittiwongsakul

Seree Supratit said the buoy had resumed transmitting data, although he did not know how.

NDWC committe chairman Dr Smith Dharm-asaroja said last week the buoys which were still functioning off the coast of India would be of little benefit to Thailand in the event of another tsunami.

Dr Smith said he had requested a budget to cover the cost of replacing the batteries on the Phuket tsunami buoy 'many times', but without success.

Fly from Phuket to Penang (4x weekly)





Fast track for road project | Tourist faces



The Chalermprakiat Somdejprasrinakarin school's main gate, which has never been used.

ORK on a longawaited road con necting Saphan Hin and Sakdidet Road is set to begin this week, even though the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE) has yet to approve the project.

Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop said he had authorized work to begin by invoking a legal clause which allows provincial governors to order emergency action when 'national stability' is at stake.

Cabinet approval could come at a later date, he said.

The project has been held up for years by the MNRE because the road will run through protected mangrove forest which falls under the jurisdiction of the Royal Forest Department.

Work on the 30-million-baht project is set to begin, following a religious ceremony which took place on Wednesday.

Governor Wichai said the extension, which is scheduled to be completed by the end of this year, will be a 'New Year's gift'

for the people of Phuket.

The four-lane road, an extension of Sakdidet Road Soi 7, will make it easier for people living in Wichit and Chalong to access Saphan Hin, Phuket City's most popular recreational area.

The 600-meter stretch needed to complete the road was originally going to be a concrete flyover which would have left the mangrove forest below largely unaffected.

But under a new cost-saving plan, eight rai of mangroves will be cleared to complete the road.

Governor Wichai said money earmarked for less-urgent projects would be diverted to pay for the new road.

He denied rumors that 2,000 rai of mangrove forest would be cleared for the project.

Ongard Thanacharnmongkhon, who heads the MNRE's Phuket Office, refused to elaborate on the project or the impending destruction of the mangrove forest.

Students and staff at the Chalermprakiat Somdejprasrinakarin Phuket School have welcomed plans to build the new road because it means they will finally be able to use their entrance gate.

The elaborate main gate faces directly onto mangrove forest, but ever since the school was built, students and staff have had to use a back gate off Rattanakosin 200 Pi Road.

When the school was built more than 10 years ago, the road extension was deemed to be imminent

Art teacher Chalermsak Chaiyanun, who is also responsible for the school's buildings and maintenance, said the school had been told to 'take care' of some parts of the mangrove forest in preparation for last Wednesday's ceremony.

He said the road extension would improve traffic flow in the area and would finally allow the main gate to serve as intended.

Governor Wichai is also waiting for Cabinet approval for a new road from Patong to Chalong, and a second north-south artery running parallel to Thepkrasattri Road in Thalang.

Tourist faces life in prison

BRITISH tourist is facing life in prison af ter being charged with forging English pound notes and trying to exchange them for Thai baht.

Pol Lt Col Boonlead Aonkrang of Chalong Police said Martin William Pritchard, 52, from Bristol, went to the Karon branch of the Nakorn Luang Thai Bank and tried to exchange twenty 20pound notes for 21,972 baht.

The teller became suspicious and called police who arrested Pritchard.

Under Thai law, anyone convicted of uttering forged currency can be jailed for up to 15 years and fined up to 30,000 baht. If they are convicted

BRITISH tourist is of actually making the forgeries, tacing life in prison af they could be sentenced to life in prison.

Police said Pritchard denied all of the accusations.

He told police he withdrew 1,500 pounds from a branch of Lloyds TSB in England before coming to Thailand on holiday last month.

He said the money appeared to be real and he had no reason to believe otherwise.

Pritchard has been granted bail of 300,000 baht and is expected to face court later this month.

Meanwhile, police have sent the suspect notes to Bangkok to determine their authenticity.

-Kitima Pornmongkhonwat

Money for monkeys

RASSADA Mayor Surathin Lianudom is hoping Bangkok will put up the money for three tourism development projects in and around the 'monkey viewpoint' area on Srisuthat Road.

Mayor Surathin said the works would include a network of boardwalks through mangrove forest, renovation of the Mali Kaew Dam and Wat Phranon, a gymnasium, a health park, restaurants and a car park.

The project is expected to cost between 70 and 80 million baht, but Mayor Surathin said it would be a 'dream project' which would beautify the low-lying area along Klong Tha Chine which separates Koh Sireh and Phuket City.

Mayor Surathin said if the budget for the project is approved quickly, it could be completed by early next year.

The area is home to about 100 crab-eating macaques.

'Mermaid' baby born

Surgeons will operate to try and save a Burmese baby born on Sunday with a rare birth defect known as 'mermaid syndrome', a condition in which both legs are fused together from the torso down.

The infant, named Sui, was born at Vachira Phuket Hospital.

Doctors have not yet been able to determine Sui's sex, but believe the baby may be a girl.

The hospital's assistant director, Dr Sirichai Silapa-archa said Sui would be taken to the Prince of Songkla University where surgeons would operate, firstly to make it possible for the baby to urinate and defacate, and secondly to seperate her legs.

He said the success of the operations depended on how healthy Sui's heart, kidneys and urinary tract were.





Seafood for the future



A student releases a batch of fingerlings into the sea.

ORE than 300 people turned out last week to help Phuket Provincial Fisheries Office release a load of future seafood dinners into the ocean.

A total of 1.8 million tiger prawns, 600kg of mud crabs, a million banana prawns, 3,000 grouper, and 20,000 Lates Calcarifer fish were released from near the Weerasatree Anusorn School in Pa Khlok.

Phuket Vice-Governor Tri Augkaradacha said it was important to replenish the fish stocks which were rapidly being depleted.

Pa Khlok Mayor Atipong Kongnam said by releasing the small fish now, it would ensure the future supplies of local seafood.

He said Pa Khlok Municipality would continue the project by releasing more fish.

Lovers love it here

OREAN couples are flocking to spend their honeymoons in Phuket because of our bargain prices, our beaches, but mainly because they have fun here.

According to South Korea's honorary consul in Phuket, Tossaporn Tephabutr, one in four Korean brides chooses to spend her honeymoon in Phuket.

He said it was also becoming very fashionable for high society couples in Korea to spend their holidays here.

Kim Pae Woen, who heads the Korea Association in Phuket, said the 'marrying seasons' in Korea were in March, which was springtime, and September, which was autumn.

"The rest of the time it is either raining or too cold," he said.

Mr Kim said about 50,000 Korean newlyweds honey-mooned in Phuket every year.

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Chinese scammers nabbed in Phuket

OLICE have smashed a gang of Chinese telephone scammers which was operating out of rented properties in Phuket.

Investigators had been watching the gang for about a year, and last Friday a task force of more than 70 officers from Bangkok and Phuket raided six homes in Bang Tao, Kathu and Phuket City. They arrested 30 Chinese men and 10 women.

The Deputy Police Commander of the Central Investigation Bureau, Panya Mamen, said the gang had been operating in Thailand for some time.

He said police initially planned to arrest the gang last year when they were working out of Chiang Mai, but the gang was tipped off that police were closing in and fled to Bangkok, then to Pattaya, and finally to Phuket.

One of the houses raided last Friday was a mansion in upmarket Bang Tao, which the gang was using as its headquarters.

A police spokesman said the gang rented the house, which came complete with its own swimming pool, for 100,000 baht per month.

Inside the house, police found databases filled with personal information on consumers in China and Taiwan.

The spokesperson said the information was divided into categories of income and location.

The scammers used the information to call their victims pretending to be officials such as bank workers, police officers or debt collectors.



Police raid the gang's luxury headquarters in Bang Tao.

They would convince the victims to go to banks or ATMs and trick them into revealing account details so money could be withdrawn from their bank accounts.

They would also persuade the victims to transfer funds to one of the gang's many bank accounts.

The VoIP phone systems disguised the fact they were calling from Thailand, making the victims think they were local calls made from inside China.

Maj Gen Panya said the gang was believed to have scammed more than one billion baht from its victims.

He said the gang used the vast profits from the scam to purchase properties, using Thai nationals as front men, then sold them.

He said large amounts of

money had been moved between Thailand, Shanghai, Taiwan and the Chengdu islands.

Police seized 79 VoIP telephones, 41 VoIP modems, 65 mobile phones, 12 laptop computers, 31 passports and 200,000 baht in cash, as well as two grams of crystal meth (ice), during last week's raids.

Rubber stamps similar to those used by Chinese government agencies were also found in the luxury Bang Tao headquarters.

Police said the 40 gang members had been charged with extortion and working without work permits.

Maj Gen Panya said charges of swindling and forgery were likely to be laid when further investigations were completed.

-Khunakorn Terdkiatkhachorn



Debt relief arrives Work continuing for Rawai gypsies

HREATS of beatings and electrocution by brutal loan sharks have abaited for scores of Moken sea gypsies since a Phuket-based community organization stepped in to help.

The 'Poor's Right to Develop Phuket Network' (PRDPN) paid off the debts worth more than half a million baht for 162 Rawai sea gypsies last week.

Nevertheless, hundreds of residents of the sea gypsy village near Rawai Beach remain in debt and living in fear of punishment.

The loan sharks, themselves residents of the village, charge interest of up to 60 percent for loans over periods as short as 15 days.

The creditors threatened those who couldn't pay with a punishment they called '2-7-2': two kicks, seven punches and two electric shocks.

Villagers said they were forced to take out the loans, because on many days during the



Sucheep Janrung, 60, fears violence at the hands of loan sharks.

rainy season they couldn't go fishing, which was their usual source of income.

Sucheep Janrung, 60, said the PRDPN had repaid thousands of baht of her debts but she still owed 3,000 baht and lived in fear of punishment.

She said she had seen people who couldn't pay being taken away and beaten.

"One lady who sold *somtam* for a living came to live in the village and ended up 50,000 baht in debt," she said.

"Some men tricked her into going to Saphan Hin with them. When she came back she was covered in bruises."

Mrs Sucheep said she wasn't aware of anyone being electrocuted but feared it would happen to her if she couldn't pay.

"Even if I die, the debt will move onto my family and they'll have to pay," she said.

-Atchaa Khamlo

on new Chalong to Patong road

the new Nanai to available for the project. Chalong road continues, despite not having Cabinet approval for a hilltop stretch which cuts through national forest land.

The road has long existed as a dirt pathway over the Nakkerd Hills, but its highest parts are only passable by all-terrain vehicles due to its sharp inclines, twisting turns and rough surface.

Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop, who has made expanding the island's road network a top priority, has ordered the Phuket Office of the Department of Rural Roads to move forward with the project.

The work involves widening, grading and surfacing the entire five-kilometer stretch from Chao Fa West Road in Chalong to Nanai Road in Patong.

Grading work is well underway on the 800-meter stretch from Chao Fa Road to Wat Luangpoo Supha.

Further east the road rises steeply up the hillside and into National Forest land.

Despite the rough terrain, local residents have long used the road because it reduces the trip to Patong from 20 kilometers to only five.

The area is used mainly for growing rubber trees, but other activities include charcoalmaking, off-road car rental and goat herding.

Despite concerns about the legality of the project, the Department of Rural Roads says it is prepared to continue the project, provided they are given written orders from the governor.

Nid Nilphan, who heads the Department of Rural Roads planning office in Phuket, said his office was preparing the necessary documents for the governor to sign.

Governor Wichai has applied for Cabinet permission to go ahead with the project and funding of 40 million

HUKET CITY: Work on baht has already been made

He said the project could be completed within six months.

Mr Nid said he did not know if the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE) was opposed to the project.

"It is my duty to follow the governor's orders, but I want to get them in writing first," he said.

A source at Phuket Provincial Hall said the project would be good for Phuket.

"This road has long been used by local villagers who grow rubber up there, even though it is illegal in parts designated as National Forest," he said.

Ongard Thanacharnmongkhon, who heads the MNRE's Phuket Office, said although the road only occupied a small part of the total forest area, the project would open up large areas of adjacent land to encroachment.

Moving ahead with the project without formal permission would only reinforce the idea that people could get away with doing whatever they want, regardless of the consequences for the environment, he said.

The governor and the MNRE are already at odds over another road project which would destroy eight square kilometers of mangrove forest to create a new access road to Sapahn Hin.

One couple living on the lower Klong Krata hillside said they saw vehicles heading up the hill at all hours of the day and night and suspect they may be involved in illegal activities such

Although improvements to the road will no doubt affect their way of life, the couple are in favor of it.

"The road will enable people to evacuate out of Patong if there is another tsunami or similar disaster," said Mr Kasem.

-Kitima Pornmongkhonwat





Robber dogged by rotten luck

a thief as he was fleeing police in Pattaya last Tuesday.

Thanaphong Phromchan, 18, snatched a gold chain with Buddha amulet from 46-year-old Jaran Suansamai and fled with two accomplices.

The youths made their escape on two motorcycles.

Police soon caught up with Siriphong Phongphinij, 18, and Suwan Inaphai, 29, but Mr Thanaphong dismounted and ran into a housing estate.

When he ran into a yard to hide from his pursuers, two Thaibreed guard dogs set upon him, one grabbing his left leg, the other his right.

The dogs' owner Chumphon

CHONBURI: Two dogs caught Chusang said he heard screams coming from his yard.

> When he looked out he saw the dogs subduing an intruder so he called the police.

> Officers found the missing gold chain with amulet in Mr Thanaphong's pocket.

> After being treated for bite wounds to his legs, Mr Thanaphong was taken to Pattaya Police Station to be charged along with the other two suspects.

> Police said the suspects admitted carrying out a string of snatch thefts in Pattaya.

> Police have asked victims of snatch thefts to come and identify the suspects.

Source: Khao Sod

Aussie's death a mystery

SURAT THANI: An Australian man found dead on a path leading to a lookout on Koh Samui on Saturday morning may have died more than two days earlier.

The man, identified as Steven Lovikay, was found lying below a wooden walkway leading down to the beach.

A nearby rock had a large bloodstain on it.

Mr Lovikay was covered in scratches and a nylon rope was hanging from the walkway above him, indicating he may have tried to hang himself.

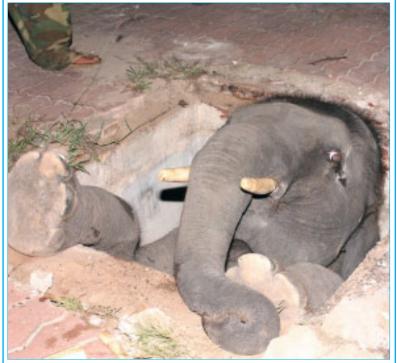
Police believe he may have lost his balance and fallen to the rocks below, hitting his head.

Police are also investigating the possibility he was murdered.

Police said Mr Lovikay was having money problems and owed money to his guesthouse and a motorcycle rental shop.

Police are waiting for the results of an autopsy to establish the cause of death.

Source: Khao Sod



A baby elephant fell into a manhole in Rayong's Muang District on Sunday. Rescuers took three hours to free it, using a bulldozer to widen the hole. It was unharmed during the rescue.

Snake had a taste for veal

NAKHON SRI THAMMARAT: A huge python swallowed a whole calf in Nopphitam District last Tuesday.

The 20-foot snake slithered into the village in Tambon Krung and ate the calf, which weighed 60kg.

It was then too full to make its escape and was caught by villagers, who released it into the forest.

Reticulated pythons, which are common in Thailand, can grow to be almost 30 feet long.

Source: MCOT

www.austrian.com

Queer News

Afghan judo coach lost to his ladyboy

Afghan judo squad attending the Asian Martial Arts Games in the Thai capital was robbed of hundreds of thousands of baht after falling for a ladyboy he met in the Nana red light district.

Assaladee Sakala, 43, told police he and his team checked into the Grand Ayudhaya Hotel Bangkok in the Ratchada area and went looking for some female company.

He said he made some new 'female' friends and took one of them back to his hotel room.

He poured two beers and left the room briefly to talk to a team mate.

When he returned, Mr Sakala and his 'girlfriend' drank the beer at which point he started to feel sleepy.

The next thing he knew, it was 2pm the following day and his companion had vanished, along with all his valuables.

Mr Sakala told police the 'woman' had stolen \$US5,000 and 1,500 euros in cash, a gold

BANGKOK: The coach of the ring, a gold wrist watch, a digital camera, and a digital voice recorder worth a combined total of more than 300,000 baht.

Metropolitan Police Commander Lt Gen Saroj Phromcharoen said the thief had been identified as 21-year-old ladyboy, Phongphichit Prasertsuk.

Mr Sakala said he had no idea his 'lady friend' was actually a man.

Police believe Mr Phongphichit slipped tranquillizers into Mr Sakala's beer before stealing his valuables.

An arrest warrant has been issued for Mr Phongphichit.

Mr Sakala was the second high-profile foreign victim to be drugged and robbed by a ladyboy in less than a month.

Last month, a Lieutenant Commander from the Australian navy reportedly lost a laptop belonging to the Department of Defence after being drugged and robbed by a ladyboy he met in the notorious Nana district.

Source: Khao Sod

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Mothers' day celebrations



Naval officers honor Queen Sirikt in Wichit.

HUKET celebrated Her Majesty Queen Sirikit's 77th birthday on Wednesday with a wide range of activities, including an early morning merit-making ceremony in Phuket City, a mothers and daughters fashion show at Central Festival, a candle lighting ceremony at Jungceylon, and a mangrove planting ceremony at the Chalermprakiat mangrove forest.

At Phuket Rajabhat University, there were a host of other celebrations, including a special Mothers' Day speech, singing and dancing, presentations of awards to 'good mothers', and an essay competition.

The Queen's Birthday is also celebrated as Mothers' Day in Thailand and was a designated public holiday.



Governor Wichai gives alms in Phuket Town.



Students perform a dance routine in Kathu.



Young people light candles in Sri Phuwanart park.

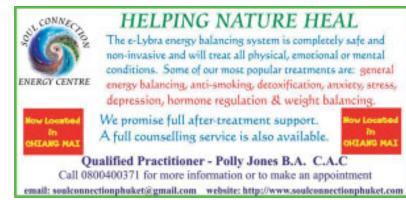




Families make merit at the Royal Park, Phuket Town.



A young girl posts a birthday message at Big C shopping center.



CHEAP **eats**

By Nick Davies

ven if you don't understand the sweet, crooning vocals of the 1950s look groong singer Chalin Nantanakorn or recognize the stunning face of Thai silverscreen goddess Petchara Chaowarat, their presence in the form of classic-era memorabilia decorating a roadside stall in Phuket town is a comfort zone to customers, as is the traditional fare served with homely husbandand-wife hospitality – just like the good old days.

The 'Classic Zone', as Prawit 'Odd' Thantibusapan and his wife Mui call their night-time stalls on Yaowarat Road, comprises a large, pedal-powered tricycle fitted with a teakwood fold-out bar and stools, a tea and coffee stand and a collection of tables and chairs, which is set up every evening under a shophouse overhang.

Adorning the cozy surroundings are trinkets from times gone by, such as old vinyl record covers, movie posters, faded black and white photographs and hand-crafted earthenware and wooden ornaments.

Romantics at heart, Phuket natives Odd and Mui met when they were students at the same school, and both share a passion for all things old. Together, they work their stalls with the aim of keeping social traditions alive.

By day, Odd works at an antique shop selling Buddha images and other collectible artifacts. At night, he stocks up his pedal-powered mobile 'bar' – a triangular frame made from old teakwood window shutters fashioned like a miniature roof – with his selection of traditional tonics and classic-era socializing paraphernalia.

Mui sets up her coffee stand next to Odd's mobile bar, and together they entice customers with their home-grown hospitality and the smell of traditional brews, hot and cold, wafting from their various pots and jars.

Mui brews her drinks the traditional Southern way, adding bai toey (screw pine) leaves to the urn of simmering water, giving the drinks a subtle herbal twist. She also serves snacks like

Tasting southern comforts



For a truly traditional touch, Mui (above) adds *bai toey* (screw pine) to her hot and cold beverages, while Odd serves herbal tonics (right).





Customers seated at Odd's tricycle bar enjoy cultured conversation surrounded by classic-era memorabilia.

tuna sandwiches and jam on toast, and sells at traditional prices, too. Most drinks are 15 baht each.

Odd's traditional drinks, although alcoholic with a rice-wine base, are also subtle but still pack a bit of a punch. As well as stocking small bottles of Spy and local beer, Odd serves up sato and a selection of herbal tonics brewed with roots, leaves and bark. The amber and rouge concoctions are served in large shot glasses and accompanied with cups of hot ginger tea and *gup geam* (finger food), such as plates of pickled grapes with a salt dip.

Behind the stalls is a loose arrangement of chairs and small tables, each one with a complimentary supply of rolling tobacco and natural grass-stem cigarette rolling papers.

Mui's solid teakwood coffee bench dates back a good generation or so but beside the bench sits one of the few modern contraptions in the surroundings; a CD player playing songs that were popular forty to fifty years ago with the volume set just right for conjuring a relaxing atmosphere without intruding on conversation.

Look groong music is not to be confused with the jiggy tempos of look toong music, which is popular in Isarn. Look groong singers were Thailand's versions of western singers like Nat King Cole, Bing Crosby and Frank Sinatra.

Odd's contribution to the classic ambiance is a selection of four secret blends of rice wine tonic. He also makes a fifth blend

by mixing three of the others.

The first is an invigorating tonic called *Ma krathup* (galloping horse). The second, *Do mai loo lom*, is supposed to be an aphrodisiac. The drink's name is a description of a rigid structure that 'doesn't sway in the wind'

"This one is favored by middle-aged men," said Odd.

Next is *Nok kao dang kong*, which describes a bird trapped in a cage, repeatedly crashing against the bars to escape. The forth is a brew especially designed for ladies. *Nalee lang pung* is a slightly sweeter

blend than the others as it contains honey. *Nalee* means young lady and *lang pung* means honeycomb.

Odd said his tonic recipes were secret and that other vendors also keep their recipes secret. "No two places will have the same," he said. However, he did reveal that he used mainly dried medicinal plants supplied by a local Chinese herbalist.

The tonics sell for between 20 and 30 baht a shot.

Odd's tricycle came from a village near Supanburi province, the only place in Thailand known to supply these custom trikes.

"Traditionally, the tonic vendors would pedal from village to village but you just don't see that anymore. There are just three of us in Phuket with this kind of set up," said Odd.

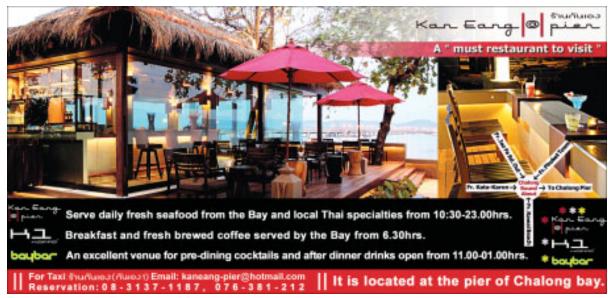
A lot of customers pull up in cars and roll down the window to order from Mui's coffee stand. However, there are several regulars who like to hang around a little longer and soak up the atmosphere. Asked why they liked to stop at the classic zone, one customer, 29-year-old Chet, a dentist's assistant who lives nearby, said he stops by with his girlfriend most evenings.

"It's nice and relaxing. Khun Odd's friendly, too, so he's easy to get along with and makes the atmosphere cozy."

Twenty-seven-year-old Lek, who pulled up on a 'classic' Honda with rusting mudguards, said he also stops by whenever he can, and does so for the friendly conversation.

"Lots of people my age go to noisy pubs and drink expensive brands of beer and whiskey, but I prefer to come here for some good conversation. It's much more relaxing, and it's cheaper," he said.

None of the customers knew Odd before he opened his stall but said spending time in the classic zone was like catching up with old friends – just like the good old days.





B PHUKET GAZETTE LIFESTYLE August 15 - 21, 2009

A top fashion model should always have a lapdog handy.

Soi dogs day afternoon

he Soi Dog Foundation hosted its 'unleashed' fashion brunch at Les Anges at the Royal Phuket Marina last week to raise much-needed money for the animal welfare charity. The afternoon featured a gourmet brunch and spectacular fashion show, as well as some great live entertainment, courtesy of music maestro Ricky Zen.

Dozens of people turned out for the 1,000 baht per person event, and by the end of the day, a total of 350,000 baht ended up in the charity's coffers.



Christy Baker and Ricky Zen

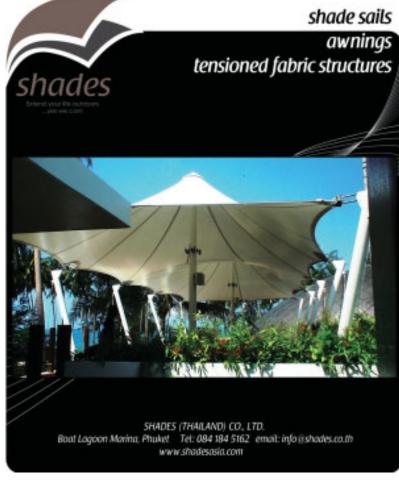


Joanne and Oscar









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Superhuman bionic bo ots invade

By Fraser Morton

If you've ever dreamed of having superhuman powers, imagine being **L**able to leap three meters in the air, bounce over rush hour traffic in Phuket Town, or slash your morning jog on the beach in half with breakneck speed.

People in Phuket are on the verge of discovering their superhero abilities with an imminent invasion of the MadHop bionic-boots from Bangkok.

Spring-loaded jumping boots, jumping stilts, kangaroo boots or bionic-boots are just some of the aliases given to the MadHop boots, Thailand's answer to the German-invented originals which are taking off throughout the Kingdom.

Essentially, the boots are stilts fitted with springs which make you 10 inches taller, blessing you with the ability to leap high into the air, but cursing you with the distinction of sticking out like a sore thumb.

Cee Buristrakuln, the manager of MadHops in Siam Square, Bangkok, is currently looking for either the right premises in Phuket or an agent to propel the boots into the island's 'most wanted list' of alternative products for both tourists and locals.

Since she opened her shop in Bangkok three months ago, Cee said demand for the bionic boots had skyrocketed and business was booming.

"Phuket is the next obvious choice for us, and with such a big tourist market on the island, we're sure the MadHop boots will be a success there," she said.

A Gazette reporter flew to Bangkok,





The MadHop spring loaded boots: As an advisory note, the girl in the photo is a professional 'MadHopper' and assured the Gazette she didn't need a helmet. We did ask.

strapped on a pair of MadHops and braved the capital's harsh concrete pavements for a superhuman test run.

It was not pretty a pretty sight. Elation, trepidation fear as well as the very solid sidewalk were all felt during

the short free-trial on the MadHop boots.

Due mainly to a lack of athletic ability, the experience took its toll, but it was a workout and an adrenaline rush not be missed.

a drunken Bambi on ice, a group of five expert 'MadHoppers' leapt around the narrow lanes of Siam Square, effortlessly bouncing three meters into the air and bounding past startled shoppers at dizzying speeds.

MadHop shop assistant 'Up' - a nickname given to him before his tenure at the store – can execute grabs and even back flips after being a MadHopper for only three months.

He explained body balance and continuous stepping were vital.

"It's when people stop moving that they fall," he said.

For some, the boots are seen as an alternative sport and will appeal to the island's rogue pockets of skateboarders and rollerbladers who cruise the streets

For others, it's simply an unorthodox and adrenaline fueled form of exercise.

Originally patented by German inventor Alexander Bock in 2003, the bionic boots bounded to the top of consumer's wish lists in Europe, Australia, Hong Kong, Korea and the US.

Now it's Thailand's turn for a love affair with the bionic boots.

Madhops come in five sizes, depending on your weight.

But be warned, at some point you will fall, so knee and elbow pads as well as helmets are highly recommended.

A pair of Madhops can cost anywhere between 5,900 and 8,900 baht.

For further information visit As our reporter staggered around like www.madhop.com or call 02-252 7400.





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10 PHUKET GAZETTE HAPPENINGS August 15-21, 2009



WEDDING BELLS: Former *Gazette* colleagues Chris Husted and Sutharat 'Su' Khaodee were married in Trang earlier this month. The couple will live in Brunei.



WETTING THE BABY'S HEAD: New father John Young (center) celebrated the birth of his daughter Katrina with a head-wetting party at Arfur O'Tools in Kata earlier this month. Also pictured with John are friends Tiger (left) and Paul Robenson, who both joined in the fun. Photo: Dan Miles



BEACHFRONT SUMMIT: Shure Asia Limited, a global leader in audio electronics, recently held a four-day Shure Asia Distributor Summit 2009 at the Radisson Plaza Resort Phuket Panwa Beach. The the beachfront resort, which celebrated its soft opening last month, left the 58 participants with a good impression of Phuket's unique brand of hospitality.



CARICATURE EXAMINATION: The *Phuket Gazette* last week presented Lori Ashton, Marketing and Art Director of *Art & Culture*, with a caricature created for her profile in the newspaper's weekly 'Expat Gallery'. Pictured (L to R) are Serendipity Designs Managing Director Ken Brookes, Lori, and members of the *Gazette*'s management team: Publisher John Magee; Managing Director Oranee 'Ann' Hildebrand; Classifieds Manager Porntiwa 'Jeab' Hongwongpaisarn; and Editorial Admin Manager Thanasorn 'Nid' Chookate.

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EXPAT GALLERY

John and Jill Dalley

J Soi Dogs one of the leading charities on Phuket.

They first came to Phuket in 1996 to celebrate their marriage at the Dusit Thani Laguna Resort, and were so impressed with the island that they returned twice a year on holiday. Then in 2000, they invested in a piece of land at Laguna Homes for future retirement.

John spent 30 years as a production manager for Dupont Chemical in his native England, and Jill worked in banking for 20 years in Leeds. They decided to take early retirement and move to their dream island.

They designed their ideal home and had it built almost wholly through Internet communication. By 2003, they were ready to move in.

At that time, they had no intention of spending almost every waking hour working to benefit animals in need.

John had bred King Charles spaniels and participated in dog shows in England and Jill had bred Persian cats. After they moved to Phuket, they were immediately struck by the great number of mangy, hungry stray dogs, and instinctively started to feed them and have them sterilized.

"I actually planned to spend my retirement playing golf and

Tohn and Jill Dalley have made diving, but I also wanted to give something to the community so we started collecting stray dogs, finding homes for them, and providing medical care. We had wonderful co-operation with the local vets, Dr Suchon in particular."

Since you cannot help feral dogs without first capturing them, John and Jill had to become skilled at using blow dart tranquillizers.

"It did take awhile to get the technique. We used to practice at home by shooting darts into pillows and balloons. Eventually, we became experts," John says.

One day Jill managed to tranquilize a dog that ran into a field full of water. Without knowing the consequences, she ran after the dog to prevent it from drowning and discovered some days later that both her legs had become infected by toxic microorganisms.

The condition led to amputation of both of her legs. But instead of retreating to a life at home, she continued to work enthusiastically with animals.

Her fortitude and dedication were recognized by Channel News Asia who named her "Asian of the Year" for 2007.

"Now I spend most of my time on the Internet developing sponsors for the many dogs that need homes. A sponsor will commit to providing \$240 per year for

the care of his or her chosen pet. Over the past few years, we've been able to find sponsors for almost 500 dogs and cats."

John and Jill work closely with WSPA, the World Society for the Protection of Animals. The 2004 tsunami brought substantial funding from the international community for a two-year recovery program which funded fulltime vets, two dog catchers and staff for a clinic.

John launched an appeal in 2007 and raised five million baht for a facility with eight main runs for 200 dogs as well as staff housing.

Currently, he and Jill are working hard to raise funds to buy a piece of land for a permanent home for Soi Dogs.

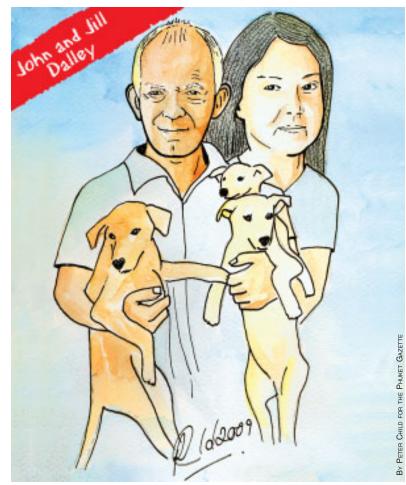
"We have some tremendous supporters on Phuket, like the Evason Six Senses and Chedi resorts who sponsor our fund raising benefits, and the Tatonka restaurant which throws a lovely Christmas party each year.

"Now we're working very hard to raise 7.6 million baht by October to buy the land that will become our new home."

In addition to helping animals on Phuket, John and Jill run an international animal adoption program. Currently, they have twelve dogs to be sent to their new homes overseas, with eight of them destined for Sweden.

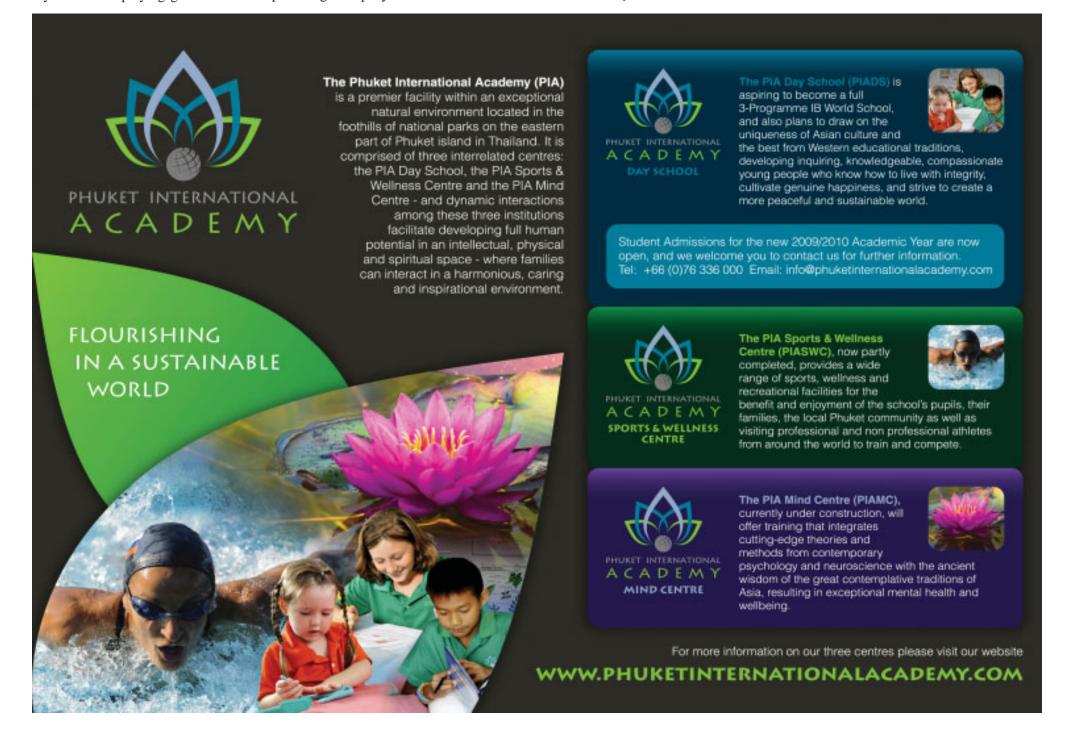
"What we thought was going to be a peaceful retirement in Phuket has turned into a very active and rewarding new life for both of us," John says.

- Bruce Stanley



ABOUT EXPAT GALLERY

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



Anyone care for a chang?

A two-part look at Thailand's beloved elephants



policeman is confronted with a massive problem. A mad elephant has run amok and he has been summoned to dispatch it.

But he hesitates:

"It is a serious matter to shoot a working elephant.

"It is like destroying a huge and costly piece of machinery.

"And at that distance, peacefully eating, the elephant looked no more dangerous than

"Circumstances force his trigger finger, but even as he fires, he witnesses a ghastly transformation.

"In that instant, a mysterious, terrible change had come over the elephant.

"He neither stirred nor fell but every line of his body had altered.

"He looked suddenly stricken, immensely old as though the frightful impact of the bullet had paralyzed him without knocking him down."

These moving extracts are taken from a 1936 essay by Orwell, long George before Animal Farm and 1984 were yet to be written, and Orwell was working as a colonial official in Burma.

In a typically candid coda, he confesses that he only killed the elephant because he didn't want to look a fool in front of a crowd of natives baying for its blood.

That he clearly hated doing it was a measure of Orwell's secret regard for the beast.

We all love elephants.

To those of us never lucky enough as youngsters to see them in the massive flesh, the children's stories about Jumbo, Kipling's Just So tale, The Child Elephant and Dumbo, the animated film by Walt Disney, were enough to convince us what lovable creatures they were.

This is even more true for most rural Thai children brought

up alongside real elephants in their local village communities.

It has been estimated that in 1850, Thailand had more than 100,000 'chang'.

In a human population of about six million, that meant one there was one elephant for every 40 or 50 people.

Of course the majority were wild – just as the African elephant is today – with herds roaming the lush, virgin jungles of the kingdom.

Happily, Thailand is one of 13 countries where Asian elephants are still born free, and the Kingdom still boasts a population of about 3,000 wild elephants.

Amazingly, Huai Kha Khaeng Park, in Udon Thani, has a population of about 700 of them.

But many elephants have been 'domesticated' for a long time, working as beasts of burden in paddy fields or, more often, used in logging activities which, ironically, threatened the very habitats their wild brethren called home.

Logging was made illegal 20 years ago, but still goes on remorselessly in the forests of Northern Thailand, and sadly, it always will.

However, today's 'huge and costly pieces of machinery'- to borrow Orwell's phrase - are literally metallic beasts bulldozers, back-hoes, and noisy

So what do the domesticated elephants do now?

For a start, there are far fewer of them.

A recent survey by the Livestock Development Department put the dwindling population at 2,400.

A very select few are doing what they've done for centuries, and are employed in traditional ceremonies and pageants.

For example, HM The King has 10 'white' elephants, beasts judged to be so perfect in every elephantine detail that they are considered fit only for a monarch.

Some of His Majesty's royal ancestors fought duels against their neighbours from the relative safety of an elephant's broad back.

More recently, they have been used not in battle, but in a friendly game of elephant polo played annually in Hua Hin.

That they are innately intelligent and quick to acquire skills is beyond all reasonable doubt.

Go to Phuket Zoo and you



Happily, Thailand is one of 13 countries where Asian elephants are still born free; the kingdom still boasts a population of about 3,000 wild animals. Amazingly, Huai Kha Khaeng Park, in Udon Thani, has a concentration

will see elephants playing instruments, dancing with ponderous grace, and propelling wheeled vehicles around

One group of Bangkok elephants has been taught to paint, and some of their efforts have sold for considerable sums in New York.

There is even an elephant orchestra, whose collective creative efforts, taken seriously by many music critics, have been made into a CD.

Sadly, many hapless elephants end up being led by their mahouts along the fetid, lung-bursting sois of downtown Bangkok where touists pay to hand feed them sugar cane.

Mattana Srikrachang insists, 'Elephants should live in the forest where they belong, not on a farm or on the streets.

"In Bangkok alone, more than 200 stray elephants have been rescued in recent drought seasons."

Most of these orphans are abandoned because their

mahouts can no longer afford to maintain them in fodder and water which is hardly surprising considering an average elephant stands up to 12 feet at the shoulder and can weigh a massive nine tons.

Here in Phuket, we have more than our fair share of these noble creatures.

There are two elephant camps on the mountain road from Rawai to Kata, one of very recent vintage, with seven animals including a four-year-old baby.

There, you can be riend them and feed them, go on a stately trek into the adjacent jungle, or watch them feeding, on huge mounds of pineapple leaves.

"They eat about one As 'wildlife' biologist hundred and fifty kilos of food, about eighty liters of water," said the elephant camp owner.

"They can eat a tenth of their body weight each day."

Imagine a 170 pound man consuming 17 pounds of food over lunch and dinner.

Of course elephants are herbivores, and in a forest environment, 50 per cent of their diet will consist of grass and the rest from leaves, roots and bark.

Elephants also love bananas and sugar cane.

But vast quantities are required daily and since their guts are inefficient at absorbing nutrients, about 60 per cent of the intake passes out, undigested, at the other end.

Which reminds me of an unrepeatable rugby song about a lady at the Wild West Show whose curiosity takes her too close to a elephant's tail.

On the other hand, dung beetles in the vicinity have a fine old time.

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

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Touring with torque and technology



aunched in Geneva earlier this year, the new 5-series BMW Gran Turismo incorporates the high seating of an SUV with the luxury of the top-of-therange 7-series.

The new car also features a coupé-like silhouette and the luxurious interior of a 7-series, but at the same time retains the functionality of a BMW 5-Series Touring or X5.

The new model is available as a four-seat executive sedan for a luxurious and spacious feel or with a five-seat configuration for a blend of sophistication and practicality, says BMW.

An innovative feature is a two-piece tailgate, a first in the premium segment.

Now an owner has the option of choosing between two ways of opening the rear of the vehicle, depending on the objects which need to be carried.

A conven-tional sedan-style trunk opening provides access for smaller objects, allowing the cabin area to remain cool and, importantly, without noise intrusion.

The hatch-style opening, combined with a flexible partition, comes into play should the Gran Turismo owner wish to make full use of its load-carrying capacity.

In addition, the rear seats can be moved 100mm forwards or backwards, increasing boot space or providing greater legroom for rear seat passengers.

With the rear seats moved forwards, the seat backs folded virtually flat and the parcel shelf removed and stowed beneath the luggage compartment floor, much bulkier items can be transported comfortably.

The Gran Turismo is offered as a 530d, a 535i and a 550i.

The diesel, which is expected to be one the most

popular options in Europe and possibly Thailand, delivers 245bhp and a massive 540Nm of torque.

The benchmark 0-100 km/h sprint takes just 6.9 seconds, while the claimed maximum is a decent 240km/h.

Topping the range is the BMW 550i GT.

Powered by an acclaimed 407bhp 4.4-liter gasoline V8 with twin-turbo technology, the 550i GT offers near 'supercar' performance, capable of zero to 100km/h in just 5.5 seconds and boasts an electronically limited top speed of 250km/h.

The twin-turbochargers provide a near-flat torque curve, providing relaxed yet rapid ingear acceleration.

Peak torque of 600Nm is on hand from 1,750 through to 4,500rpm.

All the Gran Turismos come with BMW's new eight-speed automatic gearbox, announced earlier on the 760Li, as standard.

The all-new transmission is six percent more fuel efficient than the previous six-speed automatic, yet it is just as compact and weighs exactly the same.

The Gran Turismo comes with a lot of the technology which is incorporated in other BMWs.

Brake energy regeneration which recharges the vehicle's battery during engine over-run is standard and ondemand control of the car's ancillary units, such as the electrical coolant pump and the power steering pump, can all be decoupled to prevent draining power from the engine.

Active aerodynamics also plays a part in the BMW's performance and efficiency by closing off flaps behind the front kidney grilles to improve the aerodynamics of the car.

All cars include drive dynamic control as standard, a feature first showcased on the BMW 7-series, allowing the driver to fine tune the chassis configuration to suit their individual style.

Drivers will be able to specify normal, comfort, sport and sport plus with each setting, changing the amount of steering assistance, the throttle response



The new 5-series BMW Gran Turismo incorporates the high seating of an SUV with the luxury of the top-of-the-range 7-series.

and gear shift characteristics.

The GT is also available with integral active steering instead of the standard hydraulic steering configuration.

The new BMW comes with a greater level of standard specification than previous 5-series models.

Dakota leather upholstery,

four-zone air-conditioning, panoramic sunroof and metallic paint are all included.

Features such as reversing assist camera and side view camera capability are available as options.

The reversing camera works in conjunction with the park distance control system,

providing a 360-degree picture of the car when maneuvering at slow speeds.

The side view camera allows drivers to pull out of blind junctions with confidence.

The new 5-series Gran Turismo goes on sale in the fall, although no prices have been announced yet.



T∈l: 076-225136-40 Fax: 076-213233



The Nerdwell guide to shopping with women



By S. TSOW

he other day, my friend Fardley Nerdwell made a strange claim. "I know how to shop with women," he boasted. This surprised me.

Fardley and I had agreed long ago that going shopping with a woman was, for a man, the quickest way to insanity and financial ruination.

It was to be avoided under all circumstances. And now he was bragging that he knew how to do it! The ensuing conversation went like this:

Me: Isn't that like saying you know how to commit suicide?

Fardley: Hear me out.

Under most circumstances, when a woman wants to take her man shopping, the wily fellow will be able to take evasive action.

But sometimes the woman will outmaneuver him. However much he may weasel and dodge, eventually the battlements of the dreaded megamall will loom up before him like the portals of doom.

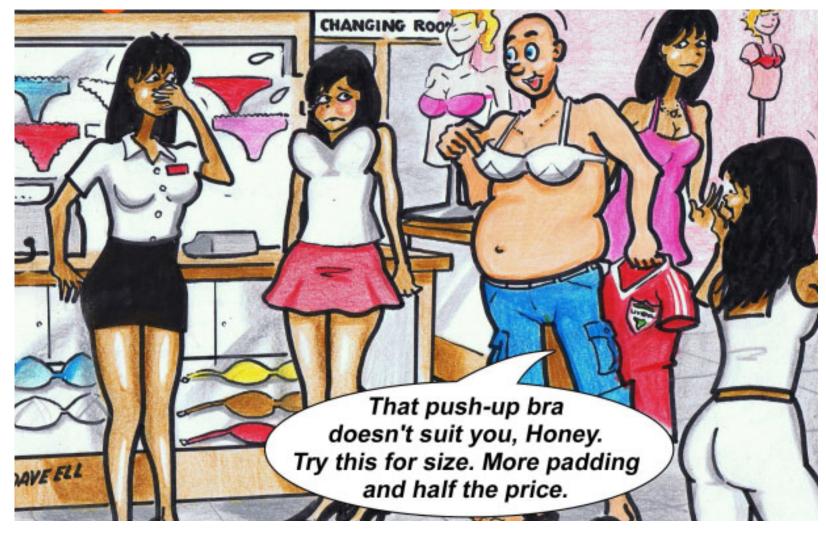
In such cases, the artful and discerning male will protect his wallet from unwanted depredations by observing a few simple rules.

Me: Like what?

Fardley: Rule #1: If she expresses interest in an expensive item, fabricate whatever outrageous excuse you can to avoid buying it.

Once Noy wanted to buy an expensive dress. I said, "Oh, that's a nice dress. I saw a fat woman wearing one just like it yesterday.

In fact, I've seen several fat women wearing that same design.



Yes, indeed. And some of them had dark skin. I guess fat, dark-skinned women like that kind of dress."

Noy lost interest immediately. If there are two things Thai women fear, it's being fat and having dark skin.

Me: You clever devil, Fardley! You really understand the Thai female mind.

Fardley: Thank you.

On another occasion, she wanted to buy a bikini being modeled by a mannequin with frizzy hair.

I told her that any bikini worn by a mannequin with ugly hair like that couldn't possibly be any good.

Besides, if she bought the bikini and wore it long enough, she might develop ugly hair just like the mannequin.

Me: Say, that's brilliant! Fardley: Of course.

Now, Rule #2: Always steer her to the cheapest model, but never let her know that you know it's cheap. Women hate to buy anything cheap. They are genetically programmed to go for the expensive stuff.

So if she's comparing two handbags and asks which one is best, never ask, "Which one is cheapest?"

Instead, surreptitiously check the price tags while pretending to inspect the handbags themselves, and tell her that the cheaper one excels the other one by far.

You might also mention that you've seen photos of Angelina Jolie carrying the exact same handbag.

Me: That might work if she doesn't catch you checking the price tags beforehand.

Fardley: Rule #3: Diss the discounts. No Thai woman can re-

sist a discount.

The bigger the discount, the greater the certainty that she will buy the item, even if she has a hundred better ones already in her closet.

Suppose she finds an expensive face cream, with a sign screaming '80% Discount!'

Have her figure out the net price, then smile wisely and say, "Ah, yes. Why, just the other day, I was in here, and the price for this very face cream was the exactly the same as it is now with the discount.

"They're cheating you, Noy. They're not giving you any discount at all."

If you can get away with this, and especially if you can convince her that all discounts are spurious, you will have scored a significant and enduring victory in the shopping wars.

Me: That would be a victory, all

ight.

Fardley: Finally, there is one way to ensure that she will never take you shopping again.

Wear your oldest and most ragged clothes—scruffy shorts, smelly old T-shirt, broken-down sandals—and lead her to the section that sells bras.

Find the bras with the biggest cups, and test them out by squeezing them and squealing "Boop-boop!"

She may give you hell for making her lose face in front of all the customers and salesgirls, but she'll never take you shopping again.

If she suggests it, just say, "Oh, good, I want to check out the bra section.

"I'll wear my shopping clothes."

That will stop her cold.

Me: Fardley, you really are a genius.



EVENTS CALENDAR

Upcoming events on the island

Quiksilver Thailand Surf Series – Island Crown – September 4 – 6



The Island Crown competition is the final round of the three-part 2009 Quiksilver Thailand Surf Series (TSS). Under the rules of the International Surfing Association, the TSS will become part of the Asian Surfing Championship ranking system, offering a platform for Thai surfers to compete with other Asian surfers in meets around the region. The events expect to have participants from 15 countries and will feature four divisions: short board, long board, groms (kids), and women. The TSS is organized by the Phuket Boardriders Club and sponsored by the Phuket government and local businesses. From 7am to 6pm at Kata Beach. For further information contact Phuket Boardriders Club. T: 081-956 5854.

E: joob@phuketboardriders.com. W: www.thaisurfseries.com.

August 14 – 16. Quiksilver Thailand Surf Series – King of the Jungle

This is the second event in the 2009 Quiksilver Thailand Surf Series (TSS). Under the rules of the International Surfing Association, the TSS will become part of the Asian Surfing Championship ranking system, offering a platform for Thai surfers to compete with other Asian surfers in meets around the region. The events expect to have participants from 15 countries and will feature four divisions: short board, long board, groms (kids), and women. The TSS is organized by the Phuket Boardriders Club and sponsored by the Phuket government and local businesses. From 7am to 6pm at Kamala Beach.

For further information contact Phuket Boardriders Club. T: 081-956 5854. E: joob@phuketboardriders.com. W: www.thaisurfseries.com.

August 15. Retro Disco Party at Laguna Phuket

Step back in time and join the fun at Laguna's Summer Family Festival 'Retro Disco Party'. Fabulous competitions, tunes from 91.5FM, prize giveaways, locally priced drinks, BBQ and much more more. Put on your fancy dress and boogie on down to Canal Village, Laguna Phuket. From 5pm until midnight. For further information contact Mrs Chureeporn Manabutr.

T: 076-362330. E: shopping@lagunaphuket.com. W: www.lagunaphuket.com.

August 28. Chateau Los Boldos Wine Dinner at the Boathouse

Exclusive wine dinner featuring wines from Chateau Los Boldos, a leading wine producer from Chile located at the foot of the Andes in the Rapel Valley. One of the oldest vineyards in Chile, it is known for its world-class wines where traditional French wine-making techniques are adapted to the valley's porous and stony soil, resulting in wines of rare quality. Mom Tri's restaurants' Maître-Cuisinier de France Chef Jean-Noël Lumineau has created the menu for this five-course gourmet dinner which will be posted shortly on our website. Wine reception from 6.30pm and dinner from 7.30pm. Price 1,400 baht net per guest. From 6.30pm to 10pm at Mom Tri's Boathouse. For further information contact Pinyo Thippimas.

T: 076-330015. E: fb@boathousephuket.com. W: www.momtriphuket.com.

September 24 – 26. Phuket International Hospitality Show

This is the first international exhibition featuring the best food and drink, hotel, bakery, restaurant and food service equipment, supplies and services for the hospitality industry for Phuket and the nearby provinces of Krabi, Phang Nga and Surat Thani.

The show combines a trade exhibition featuring suppliers from all areas of hospitality, a demonstration forum – the Phuket Culinary Fair – and various industry-specific seminars during the three-day show. From 11am to 8pm at Royal Phuket Marina International Exhibition and Conference Center. For more information contact Jennifer Drew. T: 080-146 2673.

E: jennifer.drew@informayachtgroup.com. W: www.phukethospitalityshow.com.

October 4. End of Buddhist Lent Day (*Ork Pansa*) On this day, the three-month rain retreat for Buddhist Lent (Khao Pansa) is over for the monks.

October 14. Punchline Comedy - Live International Stand-up Comedy

This October, Punchline Comedy is proud to present a fantastic night of comedy headlined by Bob Mills, the star of the cult British TV show 'In Bed with Medinner'. Supporting Bob will be Andre Vincent and Barry

Castagnola. Further show information and ticket outlets can be found at our website. The show is sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette*. From 8pm to 11pm at the Holiday Inn Resort Phuket, Patong.

For further information contact Khun Boom. T: 089-646 9278. E: info@phuketcomedy.com. W: www.phuketcomedy.com.

October 23. Chulalongkorn Day

Chulalongkorn Day commemorates the reign of Rama V, who is best remembered for abolishing slavery in Thailand.

COMPUTER CLINICS

August 16. FREE Computer Clinic - Chalong From 10am to 12pm, at Sandwich Shoppe Chalong. For further information contact Woody Leonhard T: 076-290468. E: woody@KhunWoody.com. W: www.KhunWoody.com.

August 23. FREE Computer Clinic - Chalong From 10am to 12pm, at Sandwich Shoppe Chalong. For further information contact Woody Leonhard T: 076-290468. E: woody@KhunWoody.com. W: www.KhunWoody.com.

August 30. FREE Computer Clinic - Chalong From 10am to 12pm, at Sandwich Shoppe Chalong. For further information contact Woody Leonhard T: 076-290468. E: woody@KhunWoody.com. W: www.KhunWoody.com.

September 6. FREE Computer Clinic - Patong From 10am to 12pm, at Sandwich Shoppe Patong. For further information contact Woody Leonhard T: 076-290468. E: woody@KhunWoody.com. W: www.KhunWoody.com.

September 13. FREE Computer Clinic - Laguna From 10am to 12pm, at Sandwich Shoppe Laguna. For further information contact Woody Leonhard T: 076-290468. E: woody@KhunWoody.com. W: www.KhunWoody.com.

September 20. FREE Computer Clinic - Chalong From 10am to 12pm, at Sandwich Shoppe Chalong. For further information contact Woody Leonhard T: 076-290468. E: woody@KhunWoody.com. W: www.KhunWoody.com.

September 27. FREE Computer Clinic - Chalong From 10am to 12pm, at Sandwich Shoppe Chalong. For further information contact Woody Leonhard T: 076-290468. E: woody@KhunWoody.com. W: www.KhunWoody.com.

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PHUKET GAZETTE

What went wrong in 2008



By Richard Watson

Richard G Watson runs Global Portfolios Co Ltd, a Phuket-based personal financial-planning service, and has over 25 years experience in this field. Office: 076-381 997. Mobile: 081-0814-611. Email: imm@loxinfo.co.th www.globalportfolios.com.

he global credit crunch which led to a worldwide recession presents certain questions. Where do we go from here? And, perhaps just as important, where are we at the moment?

We have certainly made some progress since the dismal days of September last year.

While the majority of people know that bad things have happened, they're not sure exactly what they were.

Last September was the low point in the whole saga.

It was then that the American authorities allowed Lehman Brothers, a mid-sized investment bank, to go bankrupt.

The psychology of the authorities was understandable.

It was time the bankers who had caused all the problems felt some harsh reality.

There had to be an example made that would show the general public the 'bad guys' were paying the price.

The theory was great, but the reality was a disaster.

The US Treasury and US Federal Reserve found that it is not possible to simply allow an investment bank to fail.

Investment banks have what is known as counterparties; other banks on the other side of each transaction.

These institutions were spread around the world.

The effects of the Lehman

a financial tsunami, and distance didn't limit the damage.

In this case, counterparties to Lehman went into shock and, in turn, other counterparties of those counterparties suffered.

The damage seemed to

Economic historians will say that at this point, the world stood at the edge of an economic abyss.

If the US Treasury and Federal Reserve had not taken immediate action when they realized what they had allowed to happen, the world would have been a very different and more frightening place.

What became the great recession would have become the great depression.

The shock of the Lehman Brothers collapse caused governments all over the world to come to the rescue of their banking sectors.

It is estimated that world governments have already had to spend at least US\$10 trillion in bailouts.

This has stabilized the financial system, although it will take a bit longer for confidence to return.

Even from financial professionals I hear statements like 'the world has irrevocably changed', 'it will be different from now on' and so on.

In truth, this is rubbish.

Change is something ongoing; and the events of the last two years have not been that much of a watershed.

Certainly, some lessons have been learned, such as not allowing investment banks to go into freefall.

But the greatest lessons have not been learned. These lessons relate to regulators.

There was a total failure of regulation.

In America, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) was a shambles.

They had no idea what was actually happening in front of their eyes.

Even Bernard Madoff, the largest fraudster in history, is on record as saying the SEC investigated him on several



THE MIGHTY HAVE FALLEN: The Lehman Brothers headquarters in New York City. Photo by David Shankbone

Each time, he thought he had been 'rumbled', but he said that they never really worked out what he was doing.

The 'scam' he operated was one of the oldest, a Ponzi scheme, which says little for the professionalism of the SEC.

The regulator in the UK, the Financial Services Authority (FSA), was also oblivious to what was happening.

Fortunately, the Conservative Party, which is the main opposition party in Britain and appears almost guaranteed to win the next election, has enacted a new policy. They want to totally scrap the FSA.

The credit rating agencies have also been widely criticized for their role in creating the current financial crisis.

Banks and other lenders had to securitize their loans in order to sell them on to other parties.

For this to happen, the debt issuers required credit ratings agencies to issue high investment grade ratings, such as double or triple 'A' or the equivalent.

Once a securitized debt had an investment grade rating attached, it could legally be sold on to major investors, such as pension funds.

Under US law, pension funds are only allowed to purchase financial instruments with at least an investment grade credit rating.

Pension funds are a good example of a major investor constantly trying to diversify

holdings to mitigate risk.

They are a major buyer of securitized debt.

Now that this debt has been shown to be of poor quality in many cases, pension funds are looking to recoup their losses.

There is at least one major case for \$US1 billion in damages being brought against the large credit rating agencies by a huge pension fund.

The initial hearing was heard by a US court, and the full case has been adjourned until December this year.

Depending on the outcome, this could well lead to an avalanche of similar cases.

The basic problem is that those organiations which require a credit rating are generally the same organisations which pay the agencies.

Historically, this worked well when there were only two major credit rating agencies, but at least one insider has blamed the entry of a third large credit rating agency for increased competition.

Normally, competition is a healthy component of the free market system.

Unfortunately, when it came to credit rating agencies, it meant lenders seeking a betterthan-deserved credit rating were able to play one agency off against the others.

As they say, 'he who pays the piper, calls the tune'.



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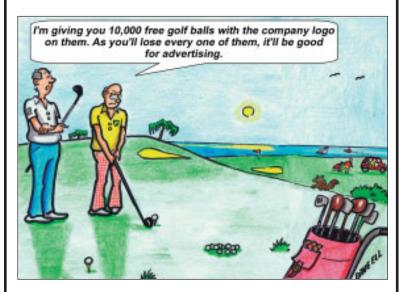




the Difference



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





FIND THE PATH - SOLVE THE PUZZLE

Complete the grid so that numbers 1 - 132 connect

		17							93		
			25	29			98	95			Г
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	14	22	33	34						88	
12		36						79	81		
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						115		61		70	
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			122					129			132

www.hidato.com Difficulty ***

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120							121							122						
123	\vdash						124		\vdash	\vdash	\vdash				125					\vdash
123							124								125					

ACROSS

- 1 "If ... broke ..."
- 7 Sister of Moses
- 13 Leak source, often
- 19 Problematic
- 21 List for a meeting
- 22 Lock, stock and barrel
- 23 Marketing technique for a new product
- 25 Customary
- observance 26 Speak to one's countrymen
- "Fish" star Vigoda
- 28 "Atalanta and Hippomenes" artist
- "Natural High" singer Haggard
- Collector" (1999)
- 32 Had a spoonful
- 34 Getty contents 35 Lawyer's wear,
- often 40 Elective surgery
- choice
- 44 Mama Cass
- 45 Andy's mate
- 46 Favoritism or discrimination
- 48 Divorce mecca
- 49 Thing to fetch 50 Unlike Norman
- Bates
- 52 Mangy mutt 53 The common
- people, generally
- 55 Bask in a bath
- 56 Not imagined
- _ for tat 60 Weapons that are hardly cutting-
- edge 63 "Annie" character
- (with "The") 64 Thing's hairy
- visitor 65 Tokyo's former name
- 66 Give a new corporate image to

- 69 Niches in churches
- 71 Environmental
- group member 73 Unhealthysounding
- beverage? 74 Meteor tail?
- 75 Companion of the hart?
- 76 Judicial capital of Bolivia
- 77 Great weight
- 78 Some purified liquids
- 82 Six-shooter of the Wild West
- 86 "... get a bang out of life" mint
- 88 Fate of Wednes-
- day's child 89 "St. Elmo's Fire'
- actor Rob 90 War classic "Low
- 91 Sports legend
- Arthur 92 They may clash in
- Tinseltown
- 94 Cup perimeter
- 95 Bantam
- 96 Sitcom with two Darryls
- 98 Activities organized for one's own protection
- Lingus (airline) 102 87, 89, 91 or 93
- 105 Himalayan abomination
- 106 Young salmons
- 108 Units of electrical resistance
- 109 Luau chow
- 110 Plaster of Paris preparation
- 115 FedEx alternative
- 117 Quick meet-andgreet, e.g.
- 120 Earth pigment
- 121 Attract attention
- 122 They have paydays
- 123 More nimble
- 124 Where to drink glogg 125 Appear that way

DOWN

- 1 Stats and stuff 21 mmHg _ lot (gorged
- oneself)
- 4 "So this is the thanks _
- 5 Steno pad
- 6 Craggy peak 7 Able to go into
- men's rooms
- 8 "Need on?" 9 "E-I-E-I-O" is one
- 10 Overrun, in a
- troublesome way
- 11 Make _ in (progress)
- 12 Osmond sister
- 13 Type of Christmas tree
- 14 Feminine sides, to Jung
- 15 Speakers
- 16 Medieval entertainer
- 17 Roster-truncating abbr.
- 18 Enameled metalware
- 20 Portrayer of Woody's Annie
- 24 Retired for the night
- 31 Uneaten table morsel
- 32 Pitch adjuster 33 Incriminating
- evidence
- 35 Tracy, nee Trueheart 36 Certain register
- 37 Hipbone sections 38 One with a lollipop
- 39 Smooth, as wood
- 41 Slowly permeating 42 New York silverware city
- 43 Fenway Park locale
- 46 Speed inhibitors
- 47 Angry feeling
- 50 Chukka boot materials
- 51 Pt. of Q&A
- 52 Work for Sam Spade 54 "... happily ever

- 57 It has three legs
- 58 Cause of atrophy
- visit to (called
- on) 62 Temptress,
- essentially 66 Wickerwork material
- 67 Kay Thompson title girl
- 68 Reserve player
- 69 Parting south of the border
- 70 True north spot
- 72 Say, as the Pledge of Al-
- legiance 76 "So" homophone
- 79 Blue pool ball
- and kicking 81 Pith helmet (Var.)
- 83 Wednesday was
- named after him 84 "I think we should"
- 85 Support for a backvard tire
- 87 From Iran's capital, old-style
- 90 Check one's math
- 93 Title Pontiac of
- song 94 Kind of oil
- 95 Pampered one
- 97 Poisonous gas
- 98 Loose shirt or tunic
- 99 Rhone's capital 100 Prepare for take
- off in winter 103 Baseball's "Georgia

Peach" and family

- 104 Heaved
- 106 "___ in Boots" 107 Take _ _ (sample
- tea) 109 Teller's partner
- 111 Feminine suffix
- 112 Stern's other end 113 Spanish muralist
- Jose Maria
- 114 Estimator's phrase 116 Roman household god
- 118 Agent's cut, e.g.
- 119 Intl. alliance since 1948



12356789 END



FAWN CORAL YELLOW INDIGO **MAROON** GREEN

Get your brain in gear with the

INSTER QU

- 1. Which animal lives in a drey?
- 2. Why is Louise Brown, born in 1978. famous?
- 3. The title of whose book translates as 'My Struggle'?
- 4. What name is famous American painter Anna Mary Robertson better known by?
- 5. In which country would you find the Negev Desert?
- 6. Which character has been played by the most actors?
- 7. In Greek mythology a Hamadryads spirit guarded what?

- 8. Jocasta was the wife of Laius and the mother of who?
- 9. Who wrote *The* Rights of Man and The Age of Reason?
- 10. What is the capital of Sicily?
- 11. What was invented by Dr Edward Land in 1947?
- 12. Syd Barett, Roger Waters, Richard Wright and Nick Mason are members of which rock group?
- 13. Carlo Collodi created 20. The Mau Mau were which famous children's character?
- 14. What is extracted from pitchblende?

- 15. What connects Delft, Sevres, Wedgwood and Chelsea?
- 16. Which country introduced the world's first diesel locomotive in 1912?
- 17. In 1656, Christian Huygens invented what type of timekeeper?
- 18. Duvali, Dushira and Holi are religious days in which religion?
- 19. In what industry did John Davidson Rockefeller get rich?
- terrorists in which country during the late '50s and early '60s?

Answers below



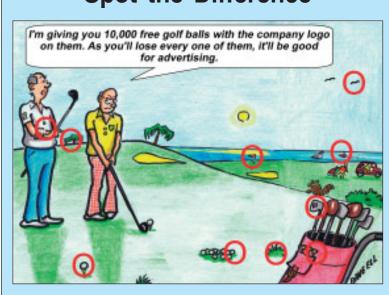
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Puzzle Solutions

WHATZIT? solutions 1. Forgone conclusion. 2. Humpback whale. 3. With flying colors.

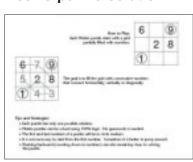
Solution to this week's **Spot the Difference**



Monster Quiz **Answers**

1. Squirrel; 2. First test tube baby; 3. Adolf Hitler; 4. Grandma Moses; 5. Israel: 6. Sherlock Holmes; 7. Trees; 8. Oedipus; 9. Thomas Paine; 10. Palermo; 11. Polaroid; 12. Pink Floyd; 13. Pinocchio; 14. Uranium; 15. Porcelain; 16. Germany; 17. The Pendulum clock; 18. Hindu; 19. Oil; 20. Kenya.

Hidato: How to play and this week's puzzle solution.





Solution to this week's crossword

1	T	Α	1	N	T			M	1	R	1	Α	M		F	Α	U	C	E	T
Ν	0	Т	G	0	0	D		Α	G	E	N	D	Α		1	N	Т	0	Т	0
F	R	Е	Е	Т	R	1	Α	L	0	F	F	Е	R		R	1	Т	U	Α	L
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				В	0	N	Е		T	A	s	T	Е	D		Α	R	T		200
Т	Α	1	L	0	R	Е	D	s	U	1	Т			N	0	s	Ε	J	0	В
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			Е	Р	Е	Е	s			Α	s	Р		1	T	Т		Е	D	0
R	Е	В	R	Α	Ν	D		Α	Р	s	E	s		s	1	Е	R	R	Α	N
Α	L	Е		1	Т	Е		D	0	Е			s	U	С	R	Е			
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S	1	Е	Ν	Ν	Α		В	Е	S	Е	E	Ν		Е	Α	R	Ν	E	R	S
S	Р	R	1	Е	R		s	W	Е	D	E	N			s	Е	Е	М	T	0



By James Eckardt

remember being deeply impressed in my fourth-grade history class by the story of Ferdinand Magellan's voyage around the world.

It is a tale of how 260 men left Spain in five ships and, three years later, only one ship returned with 18 emaciated survivors.

One of the survivors was Antonio Pigafetta, who kept a daily chronicle of the voyage.

Now in veteran biographer Laurence Bergreen's Over the Edge of the World (Harper Perennical, New York, 2003, 458pp) we have a full account, from many sources, of the greatest

The greatest voyage ever

MAGELLAN'S TERRIPYING

LAURENCE BERGREEN

શ

voyage of all, the circumnavigation of the globe between 1519-1522.

Magellan was the man for the job, a master mariner who discovered the Strait of Magellan in Cape Horn.

Along with his crew, he was deeply religious and superstitious, and saw the hand of God in every episode of his epic journey.

Crossing the Pacific to the Philippines left him with a messianic ardor that led him to incite mass conversions to Christianity and led to his death in an inter-tribal war.

Bergreen is adept at conjuring up all the wonders and terrors of Magellan's quest.

"As they continued to sail through the strait, Magellan's crew observed a solid wall of ice rising majestically before them – two hundred feet, five hundred feet and more," he wrote of the glaciers at the bottom of South America.

these glaciers, some of them ten of Africa and head home.

thousand years old, and they looked it, with their grimy faces deeply pockmarked n weathered.

Magellan and his crew faced these wonders with a mixture of fear and religious awe.

They were also ex-

tremely tough, but they had to be.

They were constantly praying for help and giving thanks when it came.

Nearing the end of their voyage, they had to battle the monstrous storms of the Cape of

95

"They were ancient edifices, Good Hope to round the bottom

"The constant pummeling exhausted the crew, and simply finding a quiet moment to consume a few handfuls of barely edible food, usually rice, came to seem a major accomplishment, and getting through the day a miracle of sorts,' Bergreen wrote.

"Of course, the weather continued to batter the boat by night as well, so there was no rest for the crew,

nor safe harbour, nor cooking fire, nor soft dry blanket, nor guarantee that their misery would end anytime soon.

"And so they tried again and again and again, fleeing for their lives, hoping to cheat death just

The survivors retired on the riches they gained from the few bags of cloves and nutmeg they brought back from the fabled Spice Islands.

But the implications for history went far beyond the making of a few men's fortune.

Shakespeare used Pigafetta's account as the basis for his play, The Tempest, his meditation on the New World.

Bergreen, however, had the last word.

"By confronting the intellectual and spiritual limitations of the ancient view of the world, by subjecting its assumptions to the ultimate reality-check – traveling around the globe – Magellan looked ahead of his time to the Age of Reason and beyond, to the present.

"Their deeds and character, for better or worse, still resonate powerfully."

Isla Star

Horoscopes

LEO (July 24-August 22): Leos

are advised to choose their new

friends carefully this week. An

air sign would like to get closer,

but their motives are less than

honest. Where business is

concerned, solid foundations you

laid last month can now be built

upon. Those celebrating a

birthday in the week ahead will

see chances to expand their

financial interests in the coming

year. The number seven can

VIRGO (August 23-September

23): The sun shines on your luck

in business this week. Capricorn

comes up with the offer to try

something different, but this could

coincide with the offer of

promotion in your current work

situation. You should weigh up the

pros and cons carefully before

making a decision. Personal

relationships are put to the test mid-

week when money becomes an

issue. Wear the color lavender to

encourage a clearer perspective.

LIBRA (September 24-October

23): Where work is concerned,

try setting your sights higher this

week. The stars suggest that

better rewards are available if you

have the confidence to ask for

them. This strategy could also be

applied in the world of romance

– if you feel someone has been

taking you for granted, now is the

time to make that clear.

Unexpected travel is highlighted

during the second half of August.

SCORPIO (October 24-

November 22): An unresolved

issue at work threatens to reach

boiling point this week. Scorpios who have not found a way to deal

with this situation could be faced

with difficult decisions. An earth sign friend could provide the

sensible advice you need.

Finances are well influenced by

astral conditions during the

second half of August, but a

bring good luck this weekend.

monetary mistake midweek could cause some stress. Wear the color primrose yellow to

SAGITTARIUS (November 23-December 21): Love is in the air for many Sagittarians this week, although a relationship begun last month with another fire sign could prove too hot to handle. The stars suggest that hooking up with Pisces will bring the balance you need. Those returning to work after a summer holiday could find new colleagues a challenge to get on with. Arranging a social outing with them may be your best approach for success.

encourage a peaceful mood.

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 20): Many of those born under the sign of Capricorn will be tempted to throw caution to the wind this week. An unusually impetuous mood should ensure that boredom is the last thing on your agenda. Someone born under the sign of Aquarius is about to cross your path and romance is strongly indicated. Work is a flurry of activity when the deadline for a project is suddenly brought forward.

AQUARIUS (January 21-February 19): Life is predicted to be a game of snakes and ladders for Aquarians this week. Fast progress can be made on Monday and Tuesday, but a water sign's reluctance to commit midweek may delay the celebration you were anticipating. Affairs of the heart continue to bring happiness – those who have been trying to make contact with an old flame should receive good news. The number five comes alive this weekend.

PISCES (February 20-March 20): Pisceans will have the opportunity to build bridges this week. A breakdown in communication that caused stress last

month should now be replaced with open discussions. Tuesday is the most auspicious day to make agreements. Romance is also forecast to go more smoothly – those with a partner see that airing their grievances can have a positive outcome. If you're single, Gemini has something interesting to say this weekend. Wear a piece of turquoise to bring good luck.

ARIES (March 21-April 20): Arians should continue to play it safe where money is concerned. Early next week, an offer that seems too good to be true probably is just that. An earth sign can provide valuable inside information if you ask the right questions. In the world of romance, Sagittarius is ready to show you how much they care, but beginning a relationship with Cancer looks unlikely. The number nine brings good fortune on Monday.

TAURUS (April 21-May 21): The last two weeks of August will see Taureans escaping from their usual routine. Holidays are forecast to be more enjoyable than you expect and those returning to work could find it difficult to focus again. This weekend, a heartbroken air sign friend needs a shoulder to cry on, but it would be wise to keep your honest opinions to yourself. Wear the color navy blue to encourage practical thinking.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21): Your quick thinking helps dissolve a sticky situation early next week, but business matters will require diplomatic handling until the end of the month. Those who are single discover that a water sign is interested in romance. If you're already committed, a secret that surfaces this weekend could threaten domestic harmony. Wednesday is the most auspicious day to investigate new employment possibilities – ask a Leo friend for tips.

CANCER (June 22-July 23): Cancerians could find it hard to keep secrets this week so are advised to think twice before allowing someone to confide in them. Your input at work is about to be valued more – Thursday is the best day for discussions relating to promotion. A new romance gets off to a flying start when you discover that you have more in common with the person concerned than you thought.

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Better public transport would make more sense

Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop's efforts to push through three road projects correctly recognize the need to improve road transport in Phuket, but it is a shame such determination couldn't be directed to a more environmentally-friendly solution, such as reasonably priced, tourist-friendly public transport options.

Two of the three projects the governor is pushing have been on the drawing board for years, but have been held up by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment – with good reason.

The governor says the extension of Sakdidet Road Soi 7 to serve as a new access road to Saphan Hin will involve clearing only eight rai of mangroves, but the actual effects could be much worse.

The new road will certainly affect drainage in what remains of the mangrove forest in that area, which is already home to the Phuket City wastewater treatment plant, the island's overburdened waste incinerator, and the ever-growing mountains of landfilled garbage behind it.

Pools of highly toxic, black leachate from the landfill have already run off into the nearby local mangrove swamp at Koh Phi, killing untold millions of farmed fish and marine life.

Further disruption of the mangrove ecosystem there will no doubt increase the likelihood of this happening again.

A visit during high tide to the nearby Chalermprakiat School, built almost entirely on reclaimed mangrove forest land, is certainly an eve-opener.

Brackish water swirls around, only inches below the access road, a reminder of just how low-lying the area is.

Local researchers recently said coastal erosion was becoming a major problem for Phuket, mainly due to destruction of mangroves, yet the island's mangroves remain under attack, including at Klong Bangyai in Patong

Rassada Municipality has asked for a huge budget to 'develop' the mangroves along Klong Tha Chine as a tourist attraction with a gymnasium, health park, restaurants and car park.

The governor's second pet project, improvement of the treacherous dirt path connecting Nanai Road and Chalong, has been held up for years because it cuts through Royal Thai Forest land.

While the idea of a shortcut to Soi Bangla will no doubt appeal to some, the history of road building in Phuket shows that new roads into remote areas inevitably serve as a Trojan horse for encroachers, as the road to the Big Buddha in Karon demonstrates.

Phuket needs to address growing traffic congestion, not by building more roads, but by giving us better public transport.

- The Editor

"Phuket Gazette

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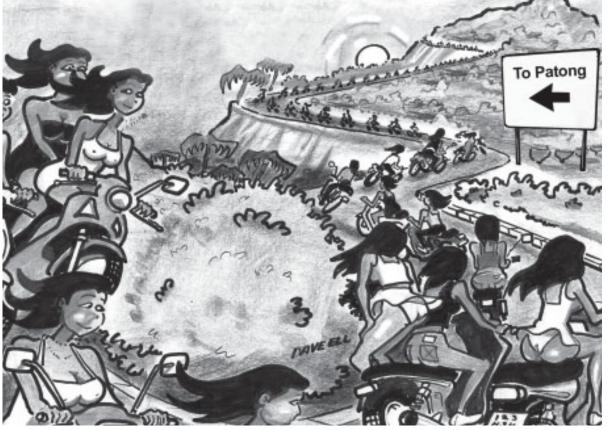
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Letters

The *Gazette* is pleased to receive mail from readers. Please write to us at 367/2 Yaowarat Rd, Amphur Muang, Phuket 83000, fax to 076-213971 are acceptable 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.

Too many details

Do you really think it is necessary to mention that the victims were drinking Leo beer ['Phuket landlord arrested for triple homicide', *Gazette* online, August 10]?

It's a bit disrespectful for the people who were shot and killed.

A real journalist reports the facts and provides analysis.

Frederic Smith Chalong

Our sincere thanks

After being home a little more than a week after our holiday in paradise, Kathy and I would like to extend our sincerest thanks to *Phuket Gazette*, IMAGE Asia, the Evason Six Senses Spa and Resort, and everyone involved in making our stay at Evason possible after winning the *Phuket Gazette* Amateur Photo Contest.

We had an amazing time and it was great to catch some of the racing action too, so thanks again and we will no doubt be back again.

Kathy and Stijn te Strake China

Another great read

I would like to take a moment to commend Anand Singh on his journalistic endeavor after reading his piece titled 'The Unbreakable Villagers of Chalong' [Phuket Gazette, August 8].

The content was very enlightening and I look forward to reading his future efforts.

Bravo.

David B Zanders Phuket

Sympathy pains

Regarding the front page story, 'Spinal Patient forced to travel by wheelbarrow' in last week's issue [*Phuket Gazette*, August 8], a similar thing happened to me when I had a car accident in Petchaburi province.

I felt enormous pain in my lower back.

An ambulance was called, but the male paramedic decided that I had to sit on a chair in the ambulance instead of lying down.

Later in the hospital, they discovered that my L5 vertebrae was broken.

Walter Goossens Chalong

Tsunami warning buoy disgrace

It is a disgrace to see how the Thai government protects its citizens, knowing that the tsunami detection buoys are the first warning should another disaster happen [Gazette online, August 10].

How difficult is it to replace the battery with the amount of money the country has in its reserves?

Sam Bethpage New York

Our condolences

Following the tragic death of Tom Quigly, I would like to offer my condolences to his family.

I first met Tom and Porn when I first sailed into Phuket 18 years ago on a world journey that went no further because people like them were around.

They were truly wonderful people who made a go of it against all the odds.

It was Tom's wish that he

and his wife would be together again in passing if they could not remain together in life.

Knowing how close they were, it is easy to understand why.

I think very little more can be said, except that we all share your sorrow, Patrick. May Tom and Porn rest in peace.

> Sportsman69 Gazette / Thai Visa Phuket Forum

New roads needed

I don't understand all the whining I'm hearing about building new roads in Phuket.

If there's one thing the island needs, it's more roads.

It's an absolute joke that I have to travel 25 kilometers to get from Chalong to Bangla Road every weekend.

For all those worrying about the encroachment that will supposedly accompany any new roads, face it, this island is already well overdeveloped. Let's at least make it convenient.

> **Bob Planter Chalong**

Hove Expat Gallery

I've been meaning to write and tell you how much I enjoy reading Bruce Stanley's Expat Gallery.

He comes up with really interesting people and Rolly Tasker was the icing on the cake.

We met Rolly when he had just moved into the loft above the garage at the Phuket Shopping Center, and to see his new place on Chao Fa West is to know that once a mover and shaker, always a mover and shaker.

Pat Michel Rawai

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

Jet ski scam leaves a sour taste



FIRST

Over the years, thousands of tourists have fallen victim to the jet ski scam, being forced to hand over hundreds of thousands of baht to cover the cost of bogus repairs or damage to the uninsured watercraft. Although the scam is damaging our

international reputation and further crippling our already haemorraging tourist industry, the authorities either can't or won't do anything about it. Dutch tourist, Marnix van Hesteren, was one such victim, although fortunately, unlike many others, his beachside drama had a happy ending.

few weeks ago, I took my wife and two teenage sons to Patong where a beach boy approached us and asked if we wanted to hire some jet skis.

There was an atmosphere of trust and friendship between us and we even had a drink together before we jumped on the jet skis.

I wanted to get some pictures, but my son was keen to get out onto the water and wouldn't wait.

Things happened rather quickly and my 14-year-old son signed his own hire contract, although I understand a minor cannot do this in Thailand.

The beach boys never checked the jet skis for damage before we headed out to sea, but when we returned 30 minutes later, they rushed straight to my younger boy's jet ski and even before it had come to a stop, they started shouting and accusing him of damaging it.

They were so busy shouting about the damage, they didn't even help my son bring the jet ski safely back onto the beach.

A crowd of people had gathered, and they were obviously astonished by this display of temper and bad manners.

The jet ski operators demanded I pay for the damage there and then, although my son was adamant he hadn't had an accident or hit anything while he was on the jet ski.

It was obvious the small amount of damage was already there before we hired the jet skis.

The beach boys refused to

let us to go back to our place on the beach and they blocked us each time we tried to walk away.

The owner of the jet skis arrived about 30 minutes later, and was very aggressive right from the start.

He became violent, although he did not actually hit us.

Instead, he showed off his Thai boxing skills by hitting his own jet ski. He was obviously trying to intimidate us.

I tried to discuss the situation calmly with him, but he refused to listen to me and kept shouting at me and my son.

Staff from a nearby hotel advised us to remain calm, not to pay anything, not to sign anything and to wait until the police arrived.

It was getting dark, and with the threatening manner of the jet ski owner, we all felt very unsafe.

Not knowing our way around Patong, we were unable to find a police officer.

Finally, after some pressure from our side, the owner telephoned the police.

A police officer arrived but apparently the situation was too hard for him to handle because he didn't speak English.

But after speaking in Thai to the jet ski owner, he indicated that we should pay whatever the jet ski owner was asking for.

We would not agree, and eventually we all went to the Police Box on the beach.

Many bystanders told us they had seen this sort of scam in action before, and advised us to seek help from the Volunteer Tourist Police.

Luckily, there was a

Volunteer Tourist Police officer at the police box, but the jet ski owner kept yelling and shouting and trying to stop us from talking to him.

The discussions there weren't really fruitful and the jet ski owner appeared to take control of the police box, refusing to let us go inside, refusing to give us water and refusing to let us use the toilet.

We then went to the Kathu police station where the jet ski owner ran inside indicating that he knew his way around.

He was even giving orders to the police officers who were working there.

The police confiscated my sons' passports, and we agreed to meet again at 4pm the next day.

When we met again the following afternoon, the jet ski owner made a point of telling us where we had gone the night before, making it obvious we were being followed.

His story changed, and now instead of one jet ski being damaged, there were two damaged jet skis, and he now wanted 75,000 baht.

When we objected, he reverted to his original claim that only the one jet ski had been damaged, and he demanded 30.000 baht.

We asked the police to confiscate the allegedly damaged jet ski so we could obtain an independent estimate of the damage, but the police refused our request.

We then discovered the police had given the jet ski owner copies of my sons' passports.



Beach boys drag an allegedly damaged jet ski from the water.

We met at the police station again the following day and a senior officer told us that in Thailand, if someone damages someone else's property, they must pay the cost of any repairs.

He said if they were not willing to pay, then the Law of Mischief gave police the right to put them in prison for 48 hours.

He urged us to pay the jet ski owner the money he wanted.

He said our choices were to pay the damages, or wait for the matter to be heard in court.

We then contacted a lawyer who came to the police station and told the police officer the hire contract was invalid because the boy was under age, and that because he had no intention of damaging the jet ski, no crime had been committed, and it was therefore a civil matter, not a criminal matter.

The lawyer also pointed out that it was illegal to arrest children

in relation to a civil matter.

He also argued that the alleged damage was minimal and would cost no more than 3,000 baht to repair – much less than the 30,000 baht being claimed by the jet ski owner.

After hearing all this, the senior officer returned the confiscated passport, and advised the jet ski owner to drop his claim for damages, which he did, albeit reluctantly.

We were lucky. We managed to walk away with our wallets intact, although we had wasted a lot of time, there had been a lot of emotional damage done to my family and we had to pay lawyers' costs and other expenses.

The incident ruined our holiday, and although we will come back again, we certainly won't be hiring any more jet skis, and we would urge every other visitor to Phuket to do the same.

Issues & ANSWERS

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

Write to:

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

If I leave my job, does my work permit belong to me or does it become the property of my employers?

I resigned from my position from a company a few months ago and they kept my work permit as they assured me that it belongs to them.

A new employer has subsequently asked for this work permit in order to hire me and his lawyer told me that the work permit does, in fact, belong to me, the worker. My question is, does a working with the company work permit belong to the worker or to the company? are working with the company who acquired it for you. Once you are no longer working with

Dave Smith
Bang Tao

An officer at the Phuket branch of the Department of Employment replies:

A work permit does belong to the worker, so long as you

are working with the company who acquired it for you. Once you are no longer working with the company it becomes the property of the Department of Employment.

Your old company will cancel the work permit for you and you must bring the cancellation documents when you apply for a new work

permit with the new company.

You also have to bring the canceled documents to Immigration if you had a one-year visa with the old company.

For more information contact the Department of Employment, 38/27 Rattanakosin 200 Pi Road, T. Talad Nua, A. Muang, Phuket 83000. T: 076-219660-13. F: 076-219660-1#16.

Ready for the roller coaster

By Daniel Ogunshakin

s the year moved into August, a ripple of excitement emanated from bars the length and breadth of Phuket.

Inside many of the island's watering holes, men and women from all walks of life focused their thoughts and conversations on a single topic: football.

Only 84 days after the final whistle blew on the 2008/09 English Premier League season, England's top flight will commence a nine-month roller coaster ride this Saturday when the world's most exciting league takes center stage again.

No doubt this coming season will see Phuket locals, expats and tourists alike packing into bars across the island to catch the thrills and spills of another Premier League campaign.

It has been an unusual off season in England this year.

The Premier League often commands the attention of the footballing world, but this summer the heavyweights of English football have been firmly put in their place by the new generation of 'Galacticos' at Real Madrid.

That's not to say that clubs in England haven't been spending money.

Newly-rich Manchester City have been flying the flag and boss Mark Hughes has spent heavily on Emmanuel Adebayor, Carlos Tevez, Roque Santa Cruz and Kolo Toure and is expected to add Everton's Joleon Lescott to his ever-expanding squad.

Add City's existing players like Robinho, Shay Given and Shaun Wright-Phillips, and Hughes has the makings of a good side on his hands.

Martin O'Neill believes City should be installed as title favorites, but Manchester United boss Sir Alex Ferguson doesn't believe their city rivals will challenge for the title, labeling them "a small club".

Of last season's top four, Man United, Liverpool and

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Arsenal have been weakened by the loss of key personnel.

Although Cristiano Ronaldo's departure to Madrid is the most significant, not forgetting Tevez joining city rivals Manchester City, Liverpool will be weakened by the loss of Xabi Alonso, while Arsenal have sold Adebayor and Toure to City.

Of the three teams, it is Liverpool that have been the most active side in the transfer market with the early signing of Glen Johnson and the recent acquisition of Alberto Aquilani, following Alonso's move to Madrid.

The Reds went close last season and Rafa Benitez will hope these signings will give them the extra quality they need.

If he can keep Torres and Gerrard fit, then Liverpool have a great chance of ending their barren spell without a league title.

Antonio Valencia and Michael Owen arrive at Old Trafford with enormous boots to fill.

Ronaldo has dominated the scene at United for the past two years but if Owen stays fit, he may be an inspired signing and Ferguson can expect big things from Wayne Rooney, who should step out of Ronaldo's shadow if given time in his favored position.

Arsenal now have money, but it remains to be seen if Arsene Wenger will spend.

Wenger's young Arsenal side has undoubted talent, there are few better than Cesc Fabregas and Andre Arshavin, but should they suffer a couple of injuries, a lack of squad depth and experience might cost them.

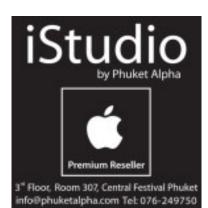
Only Chelsea have retained key personnel, adding Russian international Yuri Zhirkov and Man City's Daniel Sturridge.

They also have a new man at the helm in Italian Carlo Ancelotti, a man who won the Champions League twice as AC Milan manager.

With a strong team already in place, Chelsea are many people's favorites, although some concerns remain over the age of the squad.

Given their spending, Manchester City are most likely to break the hegemony of the 'big four' at the top of the table, but Aston Villa and Everton won't be far behind, although both teams have squad depth concerns.

Villa have lost captain Gareth Barry, but have added England international Stewart Downing and starlet Fabien Delph to their ranks,







FRIENDS AND RIVALS: Liverpudlians Wayne Rooney (left) and Steven Gerrard will go head-to-head as Manchester United and Liverpool take center stage in the race for the 2009/10 Premier League title.

while Everton welcome back Phil Jagielka, Michel Arteta and Yakubu after long-term injuries.

Both teams also have excellent managers who are key to their side's fortunes.

Tottenham Hotspur could also join this group, but the absence of key defensive players at the start of the season could see them playing catch up after just a few games.

After excellent campaigns last season, both Gianfranco Zola's West Ham and Roy Hodgson's Fulham will look to consolidate their position in the top ten, with the outside chance of a place in Europe.

Both managers have produced sides that play attractive football and hard to beat at home, but are yet to make any significant moves in the transfer market.

Like last season, it looks set to be a battle royale between the remaining 10 clubs in the bottom half of the league.

Bolton, Blackburn and Sunderland should finish around mid-table with experienced managers at the helm.

Sunderland have the added bonus of a new chairman with money to invest.

Stoke will hope to avoid the dreaded second-season syndrome, but they surprised many last year and look well-placed to do so again.

Fellow survivors Hull City have found it hard to attract signings in the off season, but with Phil Brown in charge and a season of top-flight football under his belt, the Tigers will be confident they can live to fight another day

Promoted sides Birmingham

and Wolves have managers with a point to prove in the Premiership, but may struggle, while Burnley, in their first season in the top-flight since 1976 and with a manager with no Premiership experience, also might find the gulf in class too much to handle.

However, it is impossible to write any of the promoted teams off as Stoke and Hull proved it is possible for unheralded teams to avoid relegation.

Hold on tight, it's sure to be another thrilling ride.

Predictions:
Champions:
Liverpool.
Champions League:
Man Utd, Chelsea, Arsenal.
Europa League:
Man City, Everton.
Relegation:
Burnley, Hull City,
Birmingham City.

Saphan Hin and Surakul Stadium to host second annual Phuket City Games

The second Annual Phuket City Games will be staged at the Saphan Hin Sport Center and Surakul Stadium, home of the Phuket FC Sea Dragons, officials from Phuket's administrative organization have announced.

The 17-day event is scheduled to take place from October 28 to November 14.

The Saphan Hin Sports Center will play host to the opening ceremony on October 28 and the event will close at Surakul just over two weeks later.

The City Games will feature nine sports ranging from football to table tennis and from athletics to *takraw*, the regional sport of 'kick volleyball'.

Most of the events will be open to both men and women with the exception of takraw and futsal, the latter also only available to seniors.

In the football competitions, men will play 11-a-side and women seven-a-side.

The games are being held for employees of Phuket's government agencies, but should provide some excellent spectator opportunities over the 17 days of competition.

Phuket City Mayor Somjai Suwansuppana said the Phuket City Games were to established to forge strong relationships between Phuket's 19 administrative organizations, in the hope that they might work more closely together in the future for the benefit of the island.

-Daniel Ogunshakin

Dolphins complete whitewash

he Zaheer Abbas Cricket Academy completed a clean sweep of victories against sides from the Phuket Cricket Union on a recent week-long tour to the island.

The hugely talented cricketers won all three of their matches comfortably, accumulating an impressive 764 runs with the bat and taking 29 wickets in the process.

The Zaheer Abbas Academy is one of the premier cricket academies in Pakistan, playing under the name of the Karachi Dolphins.

The academy takes its name from former Pakistan international cricketer Zaheer Abbas who played 78 test matches for Pakistan, scoring four double centuries, including one against England.

A free-scoring right-handed batsman, Abbas is still ranked as the second best limited overs batsmen of all time and was simply known as 'The Run Machine'.

While Phuket has a blossoming cricket scene with the Island Furniture Cricket League growing in popularity and a number of local schools adopting the sport, unlike Pakistan, it is still

he Zaheer Abbas a long way off being a fertile Cricket Academy breeding ground for future completed a clean international cricketers.

> Determined to test themselves against a very good Pakistani team, three different sides still took on the teenage prodigies with varying degrees of success.

The first side up was the Phuket Cricket Union Socialites (PCU) 'A' team.

The Karachi Dolphins made an impressive 251 for eight from their 35 overs and although PCU 'A' batted for their entire 35 over allocation, they could only manage 191 for the loss of nine wickets, losing by 60 runs.

The following weekend it was the turn of the PCU 'B' side.

Given that the 'A' team had come up short, the players must have hoped that a week in Phuket had taken its toll on their teenage opponents.

Such hopes were swiftly dashed as the Karachi Dolphins smashed 265 runs for the loss of eight wickets.

In response, PCU 'B' struggled against their talented opponents, mustering only 89 runs before being bowled out in the 27th over.

The final match saw a



WHITEWASH: The hugely talented Pakistani cricketers won all three of their matches comfortably, accumulating an impressive 764 runs with the bat, and taking 29 wickets in the process.

slightly stronger PCU side make one final attempt to stop a Karachi Dolphins whitewash.

With an improved bowling performance, the PCU did manage the most economic bowling performance of any of the three Phuket sides, restricting their opponents to 248 runs.

Unfortunately their batsmen failed to better the Dolphins' total

and were dismissed for just 129, ensuring that the visiting side returned home with three wins out of three.

Bill Brown, chairman of the PCU, was delighted that the Zaheer Abbas Academy chose Phuket as a touring destination.

"We're very pleased that they chose to come and play here, particularly given the lack of cricket facilities at present," he said.

"Phuket is a really attractive tour destination and I know they all had a great time. We are still looking for our own cricket ground and I think once we have a home, there will be even more teams coming here on tour."

-James Goyder

Phuket FC win

huket FC scored twice before the hour mark before resisting a strong fight back from Nakorn Sri Thammarat to register only their second win of the season last Sunday.

A goal either side of half time gave Phuket FC a 2-0 lead and although the home side reduced the deficit on 65 minutes, a vastly improved defensive performance from the visitors brought to an end a run of 10 matches without a win.

In recent matches, failure to score the vital second goal has been to blame for the poor run of results, but the 2-1 win ensured that some of the pressure mounting on the team to get results was relieved.

The victory was Phuket FC's first since a 1-0 win at Krabi in April.

The Sea Dragons have now accumulated eight points on their travels, but are yet to register even a point at home, losing six matches out of six.

The win lifts Phuket FC away from the foot of the table into seventh position above Phatthalung on goal difference.

After the heartbreaking last-gasp loss to Phattahalung, the visitors started brightly, taking control of the match and forcing the home side onto the back foot.

With 30 minutes gone, the visitor's endeavor was rewarded when the Phuket FC striker placed the ball past the Nakorn keeper to give Phuket a deserved lead which

they held until half time.

Following the restart, the Sea Dragons continued to pile on the pressure and on 54 minutes, Phuket bagged their second to establish a two-goal cushion.

Conceding the second goal brought the home side to life and 11 minutes later they pulled a goal back through Aekchai Bu-Nga.

With the bit between their teeth, Nakorn threw caution to the wind, but the visitor's defense held firm to seal a memorable victory.

Phuket FC's next match is on August 15 against Krabi at Surakul Stadium. Kick off at 7pm. -Daniel Ogunshakin

Somsak resigns

Following a poor sequence of results, the *Gazette* has learned that Phuket FC coach Somsak Waijeran has resigned.

Mr Naruebet will now take charge of first team matters until the end of the 2009 season.

Somsak was in charge of Phuket FC for 10 matches.

Phuket pair miss badminton gold

huket duo Peewara Burapasiriwat and Sasipa Maksasithorn narrowly missed out on clinching gold in the women's 'limited' division of the Thailand Dunlop Open Badminton Championships on Sunday.

The Phuket-based pair trailed Chayanit Chaladchalam and Pijitjan Wongpaiboonkit of Bangkok by one set to love, but rallied in the second to set up an exciting third and final set.

Unfortunately for the local pairing, the heavily favored duo from the capital held their nerve in the deciding set to claim a memorable victory.

The five-day tournament at Saphan Hin was the first time the Thailand Dunlop Open Badminton Championships had been staged in Phuket.

643 players from across Thailand converged on Phuket for the event, which concluded with a day packed full of exciting final matches on Sunday.

The women's limited doubles was the stand-out match and Peewara and Sasipa were roared on by a vociferous crowd

huket duo Peewara that had gathered in the corner Burapasiriwat and of the hall.

The pair from Bangkok were strong favorites, but inspired by the home support, Peewara and Sasipa made their opponents work hard, narrowly losing the opening set 24-22.

In the second set the roles were reversed and it was the Phuket pairing who prevailed 24-22 to set up a decisive third set.

Mistakes started to creep in from both sets of players but Chayanit and Pijitjan eventually pulled away to take the set 21-17, securing a famous victory by two sets to one.

Despite the defeat Peewara and Sasipa were not too disconsolate.

"I am not that disappointed to lose because they both play at a much higher level than us. We were pleased just to reach the final," said Peewara.

Tournament organizer



Action from the Championships at Saphan Hin.

Samon Yutthayad said hosting the Thailand Open represented a landmark for badminton in Phuket.

"It is the first time this tournament has taken place in Phuket and we had to be sanctioned by the Badminton Association of Thailand so it was a great honor," she said.

"Hopefully this tournament will take place in Phuket again."

-James Goyder





The current state of play: part one



PROPERTY WATCH

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

egative market sentiment and media perception, which linked Phuket to Thailand's wider political problems, heavily influenced the hotel market during the first six months of this year.

The majority of regional Asian markets have declined over the same period and there has been a shift in segmentation to lower-paying short-haul travelers.

Phuket has, by and large, fallen in line with the wider marketplace with a softening of room rates and lower occupancies.

Key destination competitor Bali, surpassed Phuket in the number of tourist arrivals, largely due to the high profile antigovernment demonstrations and airport closures that Thailand has been cursed with in recent formed the non-branded

Looking forward, shortterm trading will focus on occupancy at the expense of long-term rate strategies.

Cash flow is a key consideration in this market, with most hospitality assets carrying low debt ratios.

Defying the trends are the luxury tier properties, which operate in a favorable supply and demand segment, and the budget hotels, which are experiencing a boost in numbers because of a new wave of price-conscious travelers.

Mid and upper-scale properties have been hit by declining numbers.

This has resulted in a domino effect, creating substantial rate volatility.

The long-term outlook remains positive due to brand concentration, growing airlift and infrastructure improvements, but in the short-term, a recovery has effectively been written off this year, with prospects of Phuket recovering pushed to next.

For the first half of this year, a number of key factors were at play in the market.

Tourist arrivals declined by 14 percent in the first six months of this year compared with the same period for 2008.

island's The hotel occupancy stood at 60.4 percent, with average room rates of \$US141 for combined luxury, upscale and midscale segments, and revenue per available room sitting at \$US85.

Branded hotels outperproperties by 33.7 percent on average room rates. Although, in terms of occupancy, the nonbranded outperformed the branded by 12.4 percent.

Around 48 percent of projects listed in the hotel pipeline have been delayed because of the economic slowdown.

Despite this, the number of planned projects has increased from 30 to 38, which equates to 6.231 hotel rooms.

Non-traditional hotel products, such as condo hotels, villas and mixed-use properties, now account for 34 percent of those projects.

Looking forward to the rest of the year, we are faced with market recovery expectations now pushed back to 2010, continued economic slowdown, domestic political concerns, the threat of the A(H1N1) virus and hotel oversupply.

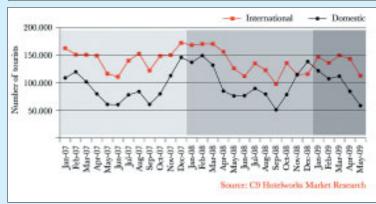
As a result of a growing regional network of low-cost carrier airlines, long-haul tourist numbers are expected to shrink. They will be replaced by loweryielding Asian and domestic visitors.

Occupancy versus room rate will be of primary concern for hotels. Other concerns for hotel owners include cash flow, competition from other hotspots in the region and long-term rate damage.

As suggested before, luxury and economy/budget segments should continue to outperform upscale and mid-scale properties, due to favorable supply and demand ratios and the current trend of penny-pinching travelers.

Limited leveraging of hotel projects will result in few transaction or business failures, but debt and equity will continue to loom on the horizon, thus

Direct Industry T&T Economy as a whole unt US S bn) Source: C9 Hotelworks Market Research



FACTS AND FIGURES: Graph one (top) shows Thailand's yearly travel and tourism GDP and predictions for five and 10 years time. Graph two shows the number of monthly arrivals at Phuket International Airport.

constraining new developments.

The ever-changing nature of Thai domestic politics, the continued volatility of oil prices and currencies, and rising global unemployment will all play a part in the number of tourist arrivals until the end of the year.

On a positive note, relatively strong regional economies coupled with favorable door-to-door travel time to regional hubs, and a rise in seat capacity provide Phuket with opportunities to attract 'volume' markets.

Seasonal trends that are creeping back into the island's trading patterns require the return of the MICE market, more widespread segmentation and geographic diversification.

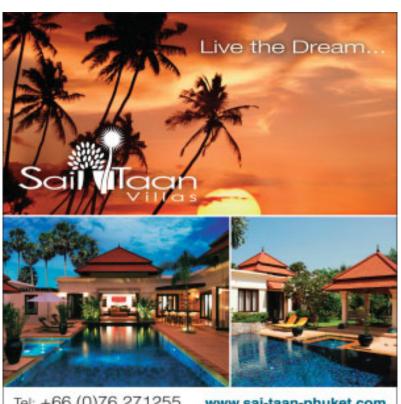
Phuket's hotel critical mass, brand concentration and continued growth in demand generators – marinas, golf, shopping, and tourist attractions – all boost the island's recovery prospects.

Tourism infrastructure investment should help aid recovery. The approval of a new overseas terminal at Phuket International Airport by Airports of Thailand is particularly significant and welcome. It will double the handling capacity to 12.5 million passengers by 2013.

Other recent infrastructure developments include a new four-lane bridge connecting the island to the Phang Nga mainland, and a new airport road from the north to the bypass intersection near Phuket City.

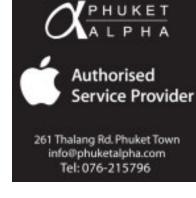
Next week, we will look at hotel performance by tier and brands versus non-brands.







- · Near entrance to Laguna 5 Star Resort Complex
- 3-4 bedroom single storey villas
- · Good size private pool
- - Plot size 950 sq.m.+ Villa size 2,666 sq.ft.+
 - From THB 26.8 million



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Phuket's little piece of California

he seven-villa Kalita residential project at Rawai Beach on the island's south, features stunning views of the Andaman Sea, Phuket's rolling hills and is only 200 meters to the beach.

Built on 1,016 square meters of land, the 'La Jolla' three-bedroomed house has a library, a living room, a dining area, a European-style kitchen, a maid's room, an infinity edge pool, Jacuzzis and a sala.

The design brings together Tuscan, Mediterranean and Spanish colonial architectural styles, while the attention to detail both inside and out recognizes the need for convenience as well as comfort.

The delicate motifs within the house produce an exquisite colonial grandeur which simply oozes quality.

The spacious downstairs area connects the inside of the house to the exterior with a series of large double windows, bringing plenty of natural light into the house.

The Italian-style kitchen is fully equipped and provides plenty of space for the budding chef to get creative, while the well-crafted wine cellar gives owners the chance to stock up on some good wine to go with those culinary creations.



The covered infinity-edge pool is the home's central feature.

The dining area looks out over the pool, which gets plenty of sunlight during the day and at night is illuminated by the powerful outside lights, making it the perfect place to enjoy either an early morning breakfast or an evening meal.

The living room is comfortable, and there are some very chic curtains to create a warm atmosphere.

The room is fully furnished, but because of the spacious size of the room, it doesn't feel at all cluttered.

The upstairs floor is home to sell at only 36 million baht.

to the three en suite bedrooms, and there is a Jacuzzi in the master bedroom.

Each room is decorated with soft pastel colors, giving them a spacious, warm and airy feel.

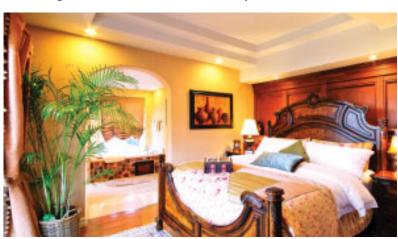
Outside, there is a large sala next to the Jacuzzi which leads into the pool.

The infinity edge pool looks out over the sea and is surrounded by the house on the remaining three sides, giving it an almost indoor feel.

The La Jolla house is priced to sell at only 36 million baht.

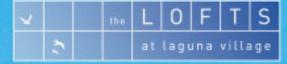


The dining room looks out onto the central pool area.



The combination of hard and soft lines, high ceilings and wood paneling make the bedrooms spacious and warm.





Starting from THB 7.9 M

Phase 2 is now on sale, comprising 27 Lofts and 3 Penthouses. The Lofts deliver an innovative product into the Phuket property market and offers buyers a choice of 3 out of 6 special 'Holiday Incentive Packages'*

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- **6** Deferred Payment Plan

*Offer available for a limited period only. Contact Laguna Property for details.



For an appointment to preview The Lofts at Laguna Village, please contact:

Laguna Property Centre, Canal Village, Laguna Phuket. T. 076 362 333 property@lagunaphuket.com www.lagunalofts.com

Note: The above distrills 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

Door locked and ready to rock

Photo 2



t a recent family barbecue, where we had lots of people eating and drinking, the bathroom doorknob lock malfunctioned.

Although the door had been unlocked from the inside, the push button didn't pop out completely, meaning the outer doorknob wouldn't turn.

The last person to leave the bathroom didn't notice, so the door locked behind them, and couldn't be reopened.

Since the repair process (it just needed oil) involved removing the doorknob, I opted to replace it – a very common chore, especially for apartment dwellers who want a new lock.

To replace a common, house-type doorknob with an inside push-button lock, and outside key lock, you first have to remove the inside knob, the one with the push-button lock.

On the right side of the shaft between the knob and the circular faceplate is a small hole with the end of a small metal bar inside it.

Use an awl, a small nail or the small brass tool usually included with a new doorknob kit, to press the little 'bar end' inwards.

The doorknob should then pull easily off its inner cylinder.

This cylinder has one short, L-shaped slot at the top and another long, straight slot on the side.

On the inside of the knob's collar are two tabs formed by indenting the collar's side.

These tabs fit into the long slot when reassembling.

Turn the round faceplate counterclockwise, slip it off, and you will see a round anchor plate,



with two tabs onto which the faceplate fits by a quarter turn.

The anchor plate is held to the doorknob assembly's other side by two screws passing through the doorknob hole (Photo 1).

Remove these screws and the anchor plate, and pull the outside doorknob assembly out of its hole.

Remove the two screws from the rectangular faceplate around the bolt which sticks into the door frame and pull the bolt assembly out.

At the bolt assembly's inside end are three small bars with 'ears' on the ends. These fit into the rectangular slot cut into the rotating cylinder section of the doorknob's lock assembly.

These two bars pull the bolt back when the knob is turned, the third works the lock (Photo 2).

Before installing a new assembly, apply a little light oil, or even motor oil, to all moving parts of the inner mechanism, turning the knob back and forth to distribute.

Do the same for the bolt assembly and apply a little grease to those bars' ears to insure long-term smooth operation.

The outer knob assembly has a faceplate on a threaded collar, which can adjust the assembly's 'depth' into the door.

Before installing a new assembly, insert this side's assembly into the door, with the inner cylinder's slot facing the bolt-hole and, checking visually through the bolt hole, adjust the faceplate so the slot sits exactly in the center of the door – in the bolt's line of travel.

Photo 4 shows the outside knob, with its slot.

To install, first put the bolt in place, making sure the angled side faces the door frame as the door closes, and run the two screws in almost completely.

Push and hold the bolt in, reach into the doorknob hole, and pull all three bars back as far as possible, so that all the 'ears' align (Photo 3).

Holding the outer doorknob assembly with the keyhole vertical, slide it back into the doorknob's hole.

The idea is to slide the doorknob assembly into place while holding the bolt inwards so that the bars' ears stick out far enough to slip into that slot.

Look through the hole on the inside to line-up the ears with the open end of the cylinder's slot.

You might have to relax the pressure on the bolt slightly so they can retract just enough to slip into the slot.

To be sure they're in place, release the bolt and turn the knob.

The bolt should move in and out easily.

If it doesn't, pull the knob back out, check for true vertical alignment for both the keyhole and the two anchor plate's screws' threaded receivingtubes, and keep trying, varying how far the bolt is held in, until the ears have slid into the slot.

Once they're in, reposition the anchor plate on the inner side, install the two screws, but not all the way tight.

Test the knob again, making sure the bolt moves freely.





Now tighten the screws, reinstall the faceplate, and attach the inside doorknob, making sure those tabs go into the long, straight slot.

Press the knob in, and jiggle slightly until that little 'bar end' kicks back into its hole.

Tighten the screws in the bolt's faceplate.

If the outside knob's faceplate isn't tight, turn it clockwise until it is.

That's it! Have a beer, but don't lock yourself out!

See you next time!







booking website

By Atchaa Khamlo



Phuket Software Industry Network Association (PSI-NET) president Prateep Kulapalanont.

government agency plans to launch a new website offering discounted rates at Phuket hotels to grab a share of the furiously competitive online booking market.

The Software Industry Promotion Agency (SIPA), the government agency in charge of developing Thailand's software industry, wants to encourage every hotel in Phuket to feature on the website.

The site, which is yet to be named, will attempt to rival other hotel booking websites popular with Phuket-bound tourists such as www.phuket.com, www.latestays.com and www.hoteltravel.com.

But some observers were skeptical that a government-run website could successfully compete in a market with such stiff competition.

Bill Barnett, managing director of property consulting firm C9 Hotelworks and writer of Phuket property blog thephuketinsider.com said, "It's a really competitive market out there. Phuket already has some very successful hotel booking websites and those guys are really astute people."

Plans for the new website

were discussed at a seminar at the Metropole Hotel in Phuket City last month that was attended by around 300 representatives from hotels, travel agencies and other businesses.

The website will be partially funded by the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization's controversial hotel tax, which Mr Barnett estimated around 60 percent of hotels were

Only those hotels paying the hotel tax will be allowed to feature in the website.

Phuket Software Industry Network Association (PSI-NET) president Prateep Kulapalanont said the site would come online by the end of next year.

Mr Barnett said the speed web technology was developing meant there was a risk the site might be obsolete by the time it was released.

"If you create something like that with such a long leadtime, technology will pass you by. It's like riding a push-bike down Thepkrasattri Road and getting passed by buses and everything else," he said.

Mr Prateep said the site had been approved by Cabinet and a procurement process was underway.



Agency planning Prime time for Panew Phuket hotel Khlok megaproject

ork on the 300million-baht Prime Place Phuket-Monument megaproject, set on 20 rai in Pa Khlok, is well underway.

The development, located about 800 meters from Heroines' Monument on the way to Pa Khlok, features around 120 units built in a modern tropical style.

The development will also include a park and will aim to provide natural surroundings combined with firstclass facilities.

The development features nine three-story office buildings providing 218 square meters of floorspace each.

The remaining units are townhouses and single house units.

The three-story townhouses feature 177 square meters of floorspace, including three large bedrooms, a living room and a dining room.

Single-story houses with a 'resort home' design feature 130 square meters of floorspace and include three bedrooms and



The Prime Place Phuket-Monument megaproject, which features 120 units set on 120 rai of land in Pa Khlok, is well underway.

two bathrooms.

Prices start from two million baht, rising to over four million baht per unit.

Developers Thanasiri Property Development Company

say 50 percent of the units are already reserved.

Construction began at the start of the year and is slated to finish around the middle of 2010. -Atchaa Khamlo

GARDENS Luxurious 3 bedroom penthouses and apartments overlooking Layan Bay

Show apartment is open for viewing. 6.5% Rental Guarantee and Financing available.



Properties For Sale

CHEAP LAND FOR SALE

Close to Phuket International Airport. 4 rai, Chanote title. 3.8 million bahtperrai. Tel: 081-868 7676. Email: phuketann@ gmail.com.

SEAVIEW PATONG

Hillside, 200m from the beach. Chanote and Nor Sor Sam Kor. 4 rai, 1 ngan. Tel: 081-891-8085. Email: sawasdee51@ hotmail.com

POOL VILLA RAWAI

4 bedrooms with ensuite bathrooms downstairs. Full Western kitchen, spacious living/ dining and sea view upstairs. Popular location. Priced to sell at 9.5 million baht, including company. Tel: 081-693 3406. Email: jdjanenz@gmail.com

NAI HARN LUXURY CONDO



2-3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 111 sqm. Start 4.5 million baht. Must see. Tel: 084-993 7308. For further details, please see our website at www.amphaiseabreeze.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

3 BEDROOMS HOUSE

for sale. 62sq wah, 2 bathrooms, Villa Dawroong. 4.5 million baht. Contact Khun Tar. Tel: 076-377052, 089-971 1268.

WONDER GOLFVIEW(2.X)

Quiet, private, fully furnished. Between Patong and Phuket Town. 1bed, 58sqm. Tel: 089-488 0955. Email: together@ myway.com

30 RAI IN TOWN

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

VILLA FOR SALE OR RENT



312 sqm. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Fully furnished, 24-hour protection. 5 minutes to Chalong Bay, 10 minutes to Nai Harn Beach. 20 minutes to Patong Beach and 15 minutes to Phuket Town. Price: sale: 7 million baht. Rent: 65,000 baht per month. Pls contact Khun Sam (English/Thai). Tel: 085-110 6449. Email: vipeurasian@yahoo.co.th For further details, please see our website at www. ipdproperty.com

80 RAI FOR SALE, CHANOTE

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

HOUSE & FURNITURE FOR SALE

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

ROYAL PLACE CONDO

New 37sqm one bedroom condo for sale at Royal Place, near the Tesco Lotus intersection on the Bypass Road. Comes fully furnished including all electrical appliances. Ready to move in August. Complex has pool, gym, restaurant etc. 1.85 million baht. Tel: 083-982 3768. Email: drbearnshaw@gmail.com

LAND AT PA KHLOK



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

LAND BEHIND



Manik-Bangjo area. 4M baht per rai with chanote. Selling half rai - 2 rai. Contact 081-5387050 or talayjan@yahoo.com

LAND AT CHERNG TALAY

390sqw, nice flat land, quiet area, chanote. In Pasak Soi 5 near Laguna Home. Price: 6 million baht. Tel: 089-4729118, 086-709-2933.

PERFECT LAND

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

NEW BRAND CONDO

Mid Town, Royal Place Project. Studio condo, fully furnished, reasonable price. Tel: 086-476-0612

BEACHFRONT VILLA

Newly renovated and decorated. 700,000 baht. Tel: 085-783 1890.

QUICK SALE

Land in Laguna Phuket area. 4 rai at 6 million baht per rai, Chanote. Located near Anchan Villas and Tanod Villas. Good size to do residential project. Tel: 081-538 7050. Email: talayjan@yahoo.com

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 your assurance that whatever's advertised here is seriously for sale.

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VERY NICE SEAVIEW LAND



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

LAND AT PA KHLOK

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

CHEAP HOUSE FOR SALE

1 story house on land. 1.5 rai, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished at T. Taimuang, Phang Nga 2.4 million baht. Tel: 083-180 2143. Email: pookie.lovely@gmail.com

LAND FOR SALE

near the main road to Baan Don-Cherng Talay. 68sq wah. 1.1 million baht. Tel: 089-472 9118. Email: honda.1437@ yahoo.co.th

LAND SALE IN THALANG

366sq wah, 1.6 million baht. 500m to Thalang market. Good view. Tel: 081-396 5752.

POOLSIDE APARTMENT

One- and two-bedroom poolside apartments. Quality construction and finish. Quiet and natural location at the north end of Patong Beach. You will not find better quality – guaranteed. Contact Andy. Tel: 076-296160, 081-8913466 (English). Fax: 076-296160. Email: antc@phuket.ksc. co.th

TOWNHOUSE, 2 STOREY



opposite Boat Lagoon. 24sq wah, 3 beds, 2 baths. Email: info@allaboutweb anddesign.com

PRIVATE SALE OF HALFARAI

in Ao Makham. Land is located opposite Port of Phuket and next to Bel Air Cape Panwa Resort. Price 4.2 million. Tel: 081-891 5932, 089-035 6702.

KATA POOL VILLA

New, 6 bedrooms, 7 bathrooms, 550sqm. 14 million baht or offers. Tel: 081-091 8908. Email: giepp969@hotmail.com

CHEAP PATONG CONDO

Very, very cheap unit on the 14th floor. Tel: 087-0312154 (English). Email: kellyshotel@hotmail.com Forfurther details, please see our website at www.phuketpalace owners.com

DOUBLE VILLA IN KATA



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

MUST SELL MOVING 12.5 MTB



5 mins to Kamala Beach, 4 bed, 5 bath plus 2 car garage. Studio apt above large pool. Western kitchen, furnished, UBC, WiFi. 370 m² home on 700 m² of land. Quality build inside-out. 12.5 million Thai baht. Tel: 084-850 0568.

CHANOTE, 29 RAI

at 1.6 million baht per rai. Nice and cheap land 12 minutes from Phuket airport. Located 200m from main road, electricity/ water well/ road access to the land. Good for housing project. Tel: 081-538 7050. Email: talayjan@yahoo.com

COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

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

THE ROYAL PLACE

4th floor unit with 2 balconies. Approx area: 42sqm. Fully furnished, ready to move in. Email: info@allaboutweb anddesign.com

ANDAMAN SEAVIEW LAND

1 to 6 rai, full seaview over Andaman Sea and airport. Close to Phuket Waterpark, West Sands, Mai Khao Dream and Piraya Resort. Perfect for villa, condos or resort. Tel: 076-319560, 084-441 3871 (English & Thai), 087-898 3570 (English & Thai). Email: sawasdeekhrap@hotmail.com



Mail: AdPower@PhuketGazette.Net

BAAN BAI MAI

for sale in Samkong near Bangkok hospital. 2 storey, 2 bed, 2 bath, 1 car parking space. Email: info@allabout webanddesign.com

KOH YAO YAI

Cheap land, good investment. 2.8 rai, Chanote title, water, electricity. Price: 900,000 baht. Tel: 081-8928208.

LAND AT PATONG BEACH

Different size land plots, very natural and quiet location, with natural waterfall, very good water supply, a wide concrete access road and underground utility. Good price. Contact Andy. Tel: 076-296160, 081-891 3466 (English). Fax: 076-296160. Email: antc@phuket .ksc.co.th

URGENT VILLA SALE

8 million baht, Chalong, 300 sq m. Fully furnished, 3 bedrooms. Tel: 085-472 0501.

2-STOREY HOUSE **IN PATONG**



sea view, 2-storey house, 60sqw. 2 bedrooms with balconies, 2 bathroom, air-con, fully furnished. Chanote. Price 17 million baht ono. Tel: 087-270 9093.

SURIN BEACH

Land on Soi Haad Surin 2 for sale. 2.2 Rai, 5 min walk to Surin Beach. Email: costello@exemail.com.au

LAND KAMALA 1.400 SQM + ROAD

Chanote, 900m from beach, electricity & water. 7 million baht. Tel: 080-528 1536 (English & Thai). Email: maisonpatong@ live.fr

CHEAP LAND

900sqm, Cherng Talay. 3 million baht. Tel: 086-161 1136 (Thai), 086-047 2463 (Eng). Email: jimi_change@hotmail.co.uk

THE ROYAL PLACE

7th and 5th floor 1 bedroom condo units for sale. Fully furnished, ready for occupancy. Secured complex with pool, gym, restaurant etc. Very central location. Tel: 087-273 0786. Email: napi-atfifty@hotmail.co.uk

LAND IN PHUKET & PHANG NGA

for sale. From 75,000 baht. Tel: 089-972 5441 (Thai), 084-848 5704 (Eng + Ger).

PATONG SEA VIEW

nice land. 2.3 rai at 18 million baht per rai. Nice location in a quiet area of Patong. Road and utilities access to the land. Ready to start a villa project. Tel: 081-538 7050. Email: talayjan@yahoo.com

BEST DEAL IN BOAT LAGOON

4 bedroom pool villa. Plot size: 630sqm, house size: 330sqm. Only 19 million baht for sale or 75,000 baht per month to rent. Tel: 076-238948, 081-968 9046 (English & Thai). Email: web master@phuketpropertytrip.com For further details, please see our website at www.phuket propertytrip.com/download/ Villa_Presentation.pdf

LAND IN PHANG NGA

for sale. 9.8 rai working fruit farm, 300+ trees, 5 fish ponds, 2 farm houses suitable for fishing park, 5 kms Phang Nga, 45 mins Phuket airport. Chanote title deed 4,700,000 baht Tel: 086-274 0056 English or 087-895 3099 Thai.

18 ROOM GARDEN RESORT

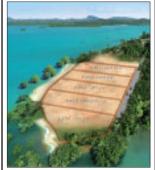
Rawai on 2 rai landplot. Fully functional, only 25 million baht. Email: docucolumns@hotmail.com

LEELAVADEE



Chao Fa East Road, Chalong. Modern Thai house, total area: 524sqm with swimming pool, terrace, tropical garden, covered carport and home security. 3 bedrooms, Western and Thai kitchen, living and dining rooms, and 4 bathrooms within air-conditioned surroundings. Tel: 087-689 9679,089-7727012. Email: a.tu2.corazon@gmail.com

LAND NEAR YACHT HAVEN



for sale. Area: 511 square wah, 38,000 baht per square wah. Contact Mr Tachin Tel: 081-7871811, Miss Kob Tel: 081-273 3303.

LOCH PALM POOL VILLA



600sqm land, 230sqm living space, garden, 4 bedrooms, golf course view, on main road. Ready to move in. Partly custom made, fully furnished. Price all in, only 14 million baht. Email: all services29@gmail.com

OVER 150 LAND PLOTS

Rawai, Nai Harn, Chalong, Panwa. All sizes and prices. Contact Khun Nong. Tel: 083-390 4176. For further details, please see our website at www.warmwaterland.com

KHAO LAK HOUSE

Beautiful new private house: 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 5 additional rooms, 4 aircons, 1 out house. Quiet area, only 4 mins to beach. 6 million baht. Tel: 084-849 8699. Email: ursulaspd@gmx.net

3 BEDROOM POOL VILLA RAWAI

Fully furnished, aircon, kitchen, big garden with private pool incl cleaning lady. Low season bargain 45,000 baht per month without broker. Sale or rent. Tel: 085-783 1890.

1 RAI IN PASAK

Pasak Soi 8. One rai with Chanote title. Pls contact me for exact location and details. Email: jgkg24@hotmail.com

CONTEMPORARY VILLA FOR SALE

4 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, 4m x 12m pool w/Jacuzzi, living room, dining room, Western kitchen, maid's room, solar hot water, sala, built-in BBQ, parking for 3 cars, electric gate, CCTV & alarm system and nice tropical garden on a 1,606sqm plot with over 400sqm of living area. 16 million baht. Email: nisaya@ vahoo.com

LAND IN KARON

Elevated land for sale in Karon. Seaviews, suitable to build condo. Email: beshert guesthouse@hotmail.com

LAND IN KATA BEACH

700m from Kata center, great location, 600 sqm, title deed. Please buy me. Tel: 081-271 9340. Email: brandyblackcherry @gmail.com

SUPER CONDO SALE PATONG

R.O.I. 6 condos, 50 sqm, furnished, great location, package deal. 16.5 million baht. Call Real Pro Co Ltd. Tel: 076-345238. Frank: 084-078 2753. Email: info.realpro@gmail.com

UNIQUELY DESIGNED POOL VILLA

Functionable, 2 bed, 2 bath, kitchen and living room. Just 10 minutes to beach. Only 6.9 million baht. Tel: 076-289900, 081-970 0743. Fax: 076-613114. Email: eve@twovillas.com

PARICHART



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

VILLAS/LAND FOR **SALE OR RENT**



1. Fabulous villa for urgent sale/rent. Sale: 35 million baht. Rental min 1 month. Panoramic seaview in a beautiful estate, promising total privacy sitting on 1 rai. Usable area: 480sqm. Perfect location, 3 mins to Karon Beach, 2 mins to Patong Beach, Jungceylon.

2.2 rai for sale. Ideal for small project. Spectacular view. At least triple your investment. Owner retiring back to Canada. Tel: 081-930 2212 (Eng), 089-973 1447 (Thai). Fax: 076-292980. Email: canport@gmail.com or meherwan@ceapparel.net

KOH YAO YAI FOR SALE

Land for sale near Ao Klong Son area. 5,033 rai (8,052.8sqkm), 2 access points, title deed, 5 minutes to the beach. 950,000 baht per rai. By The Owner. Tel: 076-289122, 084-848 7474. Fax: 076-289121. Email: kasina_ navamachiti@yahoo.com

LAND IN CAPE YAMU

Price 20 million baht. 2 rai, 3 ngan, 60 sq wah (4,640 sqm). Close to million-dollar developments the Yamu, The Bay and Baan Yamu. Perfect location for unique commercial plaza. Forecasted return of investment: 15% per year. Tel: 087-887 1162. Email: dohemi@ gmail.com

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2 bed, 2 bath + September media room, rooftop sala, smart sound+ lighting. Walking distance to Bang Tao Beach, spa gym, and cafe beach club. 13.5 million baht. Tel: 089-730 4543 (English). Email: paul-knight@ live.com

PATONG HILL CONDO

As new. Luxury one bedroom condo, city and sea view, fully furnished with pool. 6.5 million baht. Ready to live in. Tel: 085-478 6645. Email: graemeste@ gmail.com

PHANG NHA LAND

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

LAYAN LAND



for sale. 11 rai, flat land. 3 min from Layan beach, hill and lake view. Price 4.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 089-813 1447.

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BEAUTIFUL NAI YANG LAND



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

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for sale. At Royal Place

Project, opposite Tesco

Lotus. 45sqm at corner,

swimming pool view, fully

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2 ROOM DUPLEX

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LAND AT PATONG BEACH



Two rai of land, Nor Sor 3 Gor, good location, nice view, electricity, water. 50 Pee Road Patong. Price 4.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 076-296708, 087-284 4823. Fax: 076-296708. Email: beniluxnoi @ hotmail.com

Last Patong Paradise duplex

INEXPENSIVE LOTS
Chanote title, lots: 1/3 to 1/2 rai, 700,000 to 1,100,000 baht total price. Road and electricity. Near Mission Hills Golf Course. Tel: 086-942 1930.

PENTHOUSE FOR SALE

Beautiful penthouse (210 sqm) with infinity pool and deck. 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom, storeroom, built-in modern kitchen. Very quiet, surrounded by nature. 1km to beach. 12 million baht. Tel: 089-137 5325 (English). Email: mbdettmann@yahoo.com

URGENT SALE KATHU HOUSE

Wonderful fully-furnished 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom house with air-conditioning and a small garden. Tel: 087-806 2407. Email: tse.goran@gmail.com

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In the project "The Indy", opposite Boat Lagoon, Koh Kaew. Townhouse is at the comer and adjacent to the project's public garden. 2 floors, 6.5 meters wide, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished, western kitchen. Land: 33.4sq wah. For rent: 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-472 9118.

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NEW HOUSE FOR SALE

5 minutes from Heroines monument, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1.9 million baht or 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 3.7 million baht. Contact Kris. Tel: 081-082 2288. For further details, please see our website at www.phuketproperty plus.com

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Pool villas with 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and swimming pool. Close to British International School. From 13 million baht. Please Contact: K. Prasong 081-396 9307 (Thai), K. Hua 089-749 2186. www.phuketvillaorchid.com

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Beautiful sea- and mountain-view land adjacent to The Mangosteen Resort – approx 17 rai in yellow zone. Building up to 27 metres high is possible. Total price: 130 million baht. Freehold, Chanote. Several options available. Tel: 076-289399, 081-5365846 (English), 081-5395373 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-289389. Email: hajo@mangosteen-phuket.com Forfurther details, please see our website at: http://mangosteensuites.com

NEW HOUSE FOR SALE/RENT



In Srisuchart Grandville 3, not far from Tesco Lotus. 3 bedrooms 2 bathrooms, 1 car park and little garden. Very nice house contact to come see at 087-277 0978 or koyangle99@hotmail.com

2-3 BEDROOM HOUSE FOR SALE

Near Heroines' monument. 455sqm, 240sqm land. 2-3 bedrooms +1 bungalow, 3 baths, 4 aircon, big kitchen + laundry, fully furnished, 27sqm pool. Price: 6,200,000 baht. Rent: 35,000 baht monthly. Tel: 089-854 0277. Email: catayacht@csloxinfo.com

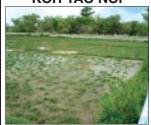
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21 rai of beachfront land, 10 minutes from Phuket bridge. Ideal for resort project. 15 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-396 3784. Email:oligi 10@hotmail.com

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Area: 2,076sqm, seafront (mangrove), Chanote title. Concrete road front. Next to Koh Yao Municipality Office. 3 million baht. Tel: 089-890 3161.

LAND IN CHERNG TALAY

for sale. 800sqm. Close to villas, with Chanote. 3.2 million baht. Must see. Please contact Bobby. Tel: 084-053 7690.

TOWNHOUSE IN KATHU

for sale. 2 storey, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Call for more information. Tel: 076-322211, 089-288 8519, 087-885 1567.

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4 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, 4m x 12m pool w/Jacuzzi, living room, dining room, Western kitchen, maid's room, solar hot water, sala, built-in BBQ, parking for 3 cars, electric gate, CCTV & alarm system and nice tropical garden on a 1,606sqm plot with over 400sqm of living area. 16 million baht. Email: nisaya@yahoo.com

NEW HOUSE IN NAI HARN-RAWAI



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

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1 to 6 rai, full seaview over Andaman Sea and airport. Close to Phuket Waterpark, West Sands, Mai Khao Dream and Piraya Resort. Perfect for villa, condos or resort. Tel: 076-319560, 084-441 3871 (English & Thai), 087-898 3570 (English & Thai). Email: sawasdeekhrap@hotmail.com

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for sale. 240sqm. Walk to Rawai Beach, 925,000 baht. 300sqm: 1.15 million baht. 480sqm: 1.85 million baht. 960sqm: 4.5 million baht. Soi Naya, Nai Harn Beach 500sqm: 3.2 million baht. Contact owner. Tel: 086-684 5368. Email: alex@sainam-naya.com

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300m to beach. Clean, modern, aircon, fridge, TV, king bed, pool, parking. 500 baht per night. For further details Tel: 081-082 5707., www.phuket-accomodation.info

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NAI HARN POOL VILLA

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

POOL VILLA 3 BED

Long - term, quiet hillside area, patio, furnished, aircon, 2 baths. 35,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-281 7605 (English). Email: nigelnpixie@yahoo.com.au

B.B. GUESTHOUSE RAWAI BEACH



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BUSINESS RAWAI

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Luxury, secluded two bedroom, two bathroom Rawai pool villa with full amenities. Available now through November 2009 (and most of 2010) for holiday and long-term rental. Tel: 080-145 8697. Email: markobrien 1966 @ hotmail.com

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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 for more information. Tel: 087-383 0936.

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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.

VILLA FOR RENT OR SALE

at Paklok. 4 bedrooms, swimming pool, fully furnished, UBC, Telephone line, internet. For further details Tel: 081-895 7310. please see our website www.horizonresidenceandspa. com

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Fully furnished 1 & 2 bedroom apartments. Large Western kitchen and bathrooms, A/C. Large seaview terraces, pool, parking, quiet location. Monthly but long-term preferred. Starting at 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-592 6890. Email: north8west98@yahoo.com

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and Country Club Golf residence. Quiet area, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Fully furnished, kitchen, living room, dining room, laundry area, 2 car parks, 340,000 baht per year. Tel: 081-370 9557. Email: khaopun@ hotmail.com

BRAND NEW CONDO FOR RENT

Mid-town, Royal Place project. Studio condo, fully furnished, restaurant, car park, shared pool and gym. Tel: 081-691 2526, 086-476 9612.

3 BEDROOM HOUSE

near Heroines' Monument. Furnished, ADSL, cable TV, A/C. 12,000 per month. Tel: 089-973-2917. Email: brunuiviv@hotmail.com

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Pasak soi 3. Fully furnished, 15,000 baht per month shortor long-term. Tel: 086-690-2119.

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1 MINUTE TO TESCO LOTUS

House for rent. Fully furnished. For further details Tel: 084-720 3048. Please see our website at http://www.narisaplace.net/house_for_rent.html

HOUSE IN CHALONG

near Palai for rent. 3 bedrooms, aircon, ADSL, fully furnished, cable TV, car park. Tel: 089-728 8311.

ROCK GARDEN VILLA

for rent or sale. 12,000 baht a month. Near Boat Lagoon and Royal Phuket Marina. Tel: 081-396 5752.

HOUSE IN KATHU

Nice house for rent, 2 bedrooms, fully furnished. For minimum six months. 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-110 6298.

PALAI GREEN

for rent. Fully furnished, 1-3 bedrooms, aircon, hot shower, free cable TV, ADSL internet. Start from 9,000 baht per month. Near Chalong Bay. Please call: 081-892 4311 (Eng speaking).

KATA BEACH APARTMENT

Low season special, fully furnished with kitchen. Tel: 086-595 8512. Email: nalumana 2000@yahoo.com

TOWNHOUSE IN RAWAI

for rent. 2 bedrooms. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-537 6866.

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Luxury apartment on the marina, 2 ensuite, King bedroom, etc. Large private deck directly on the 20m pool, fine gym, spa and top restaurant. Longterm: 100,000 baht per month. Short-term: up to 75,000 baht per week. Call Lotus 086-281 6299 or Luk 087-840 8163 for more information.

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Patong. Panoramic sea view, 2 bedrooms, fully furnished with private swimming pool, price negotiable. Contact more details. Tel:086-940 5187. (English), or Tel: 086-952 2070(Thai).

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SHOP NEAR BANGLA

2 shops for lease in Soi Sansabai. 17sqm. 17,000 baht per month. Tel: 082-289 4484 (English), 089-544 3555 (Thai).

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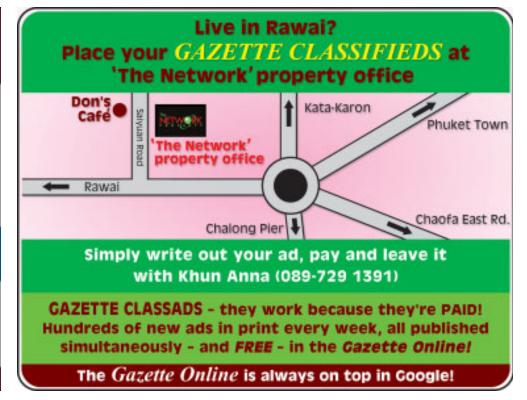


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I want to rent a house or an apartment in Patong or Kalim from September 2009 to April 2010, or maybe on an annual basis. The rent per month should not be over 15,000 baht. Tel: +45-31-515262, +46-70-551 2852 (English). Email: kjell. a.johansson@gmail.com

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We are searching for land in Patong. We prefer seaview for a resonable price. We can deal immediately. Please contact 086-4710167 or sent the information by email with picture and location Email: pavee na61@hotmail.com

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4-5 BR HOUSE + GARDEN

4-5 bedroom house with large garden (at least 300 sqm) wanted for long term rental. Should have minimum of 4 bathrooms, terrace or balcony, Western kitchen and ADSL installed. Must be fully furnished. Location: Rawai, Nai Harn, South Chalong. Price: max 25,000 baht monthly. Tel: +49-162-426 6636. Or send email to: sonnesunsol@googlemail. com

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2 bedroom house wanted. Will sign a 5-year lease. Tel: +44-162-687 3006, +44-77-848 4244 (English). Email: clive.morgan@hotmail.co.uk

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Luxury, secluded two-bedroom, two-bathroom Rawai pool villa with full amenities. Available now through November 2009 (and most of 2010) for holiday and long-term rental. Please contact for more information. Tel: 080-145 8697. Or send email: mar kobrien 1966 @ hotmail.com

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Quality serviced apartments in Patong. Maid, gym, large pool, mountain views. 100sqm, 2 bedrooms. 25,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-077 8454.

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Large building, Nai Yang. Need 2-3 people. No charge. Nonsmokers and drinkers. Tel: 086-942 1930.

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Kitchen, pool, True visions, WiFi, security. 5 min to beach 12,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 084-850 0568. Email: boomerkamala@hotmail.com

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in Surin beach. Modern, fully furnished, seaview, 1 & 2 bedroom apartments from 30,000 baht. Tel: 081-537 2018. Email: info@phuketwest.com For further details, please see our website at http://www.phuketwest.com

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WANTED IN KATHU

Would like to rent an apartment or small house in Kathu area. Budget is less than 10,000 baht per month. Must have internet and cable TV. Needed for long term. Please contact for more information. Tel: 086-787 3234 (English & Thai). Email: ped 2516@go.com

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Our (Finnish) family of 3 is coming to Phuket on Aug 19, for a dream holiday. We need a nice holiday rental for 4-6 weeks. Our budget is 1,500 Euro. Please send email: emailtome@wippies.com

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Needed from 1 Aug: 2 bedroom house or condo. Must be clean and safe, fully furnished, including fridge, and have ADSL and cable TV. Will rent for 3 months first. Max budget: 12-15,000 baht per month. Please send email: phuketbeach@me.com

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2 bedroom house wanted. Will sign a 5-year lease. Tel: +44-162-687 3006, +44-77-848 4244 (English). Email: clive.morgan@hotmail.co.uk

BUNGALOW FOR 3MONTHS

Will pay no more than 15,000 baht per month. Need 6 January 2010 to 6 April . Area should be around Kata, Karon, Chalong or Rawai. No need to be close to beach. Need aircon in bedroom, kitchen area. Please send emailto:micke22c@telia.com

URGENT APARTMENT

Iam looking urgently for a 2-room apartment with kitchen, balcony or garden (if possible, spacious). Long term rent wanted. Prefer Patong or close to the beach. Needed as soon as possible. Please contact for more details. Tel: 085-796 2790 (English). Email: tienbon@hotmail.com

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Mitsubishi 180 liter fridge: 4,500 baht. Call or mail for details. Please contact for more information. Tel: 086-272 2810. Or send email to: carolyn@siamsurveyors.com

NEW SWIMMING POOLS

All shapes and sizes of Above-Ground Pools – Intex brand. Low cost, from 6,000 baht. Free pump. Tel: 089-216 7220. Email: julian burgess@myway.com Please visit our website: http://www.pools4fun.com

MAKE AN OFFER

Leaving Thailand at the end of the month. A house full of fumiture, appliances, A/V, artwork, kitchen stuff and hundreds of books from 50 baht up. Come by and find a bargain. Please contact for futher details. Tel: 084-769 2131 (English). Email: richardalanstein@gmail.com

Household Services

PHUKET HOME MAINTENANCE

Construction, renovation, electricians, plumbers, carpenters, painters, tilers, gardeners, sand wash and gutter. Contact Khun Rin.Tel: 084-193 5124.Or send email: phukethomemaintenance@yahoo.com

REFRESH YOUR HOME

Painting, carpentry and gen building work. Pro service at local prices. Tel: 087-279 0280 (English & Thai).

Looking for land to buy?

See more classified ads at www.phuketgazette.net

All advertising must be paid for in advance.

Deadline for Property Gazette page: Friday 3 pm. Deadline for all other ads: Saturday 12 noon.

Boats & Marine

Ocean Marina Jomtien Beach

Contact: Mark Heath Mobile: 081 787 9408 tet: 038 235 061 fsx: 038 235 062

LUXURY MOTOR

YACHT

75 ft Technomarine (Italy). Cat-

erpillar engines, 2 x 1,250hp.

680 hours each. Asking US\$

1,280.000. Berthed Hong

Kong. Exceptional opportunity.

For details. Tel: 076-200730,

084-839 4868. Send emai to:

Feel-free kayak. 18,000 baht.

Call or mail for details. Tel: 089-

000 0200. Email: tonygbr@hot

luxuryyacht75@gmail.com

DOUBLE KAYAK

mail.com

THAILAND'S LEADING BROKERAGE & NEW YACHT DEALERSHIP LEE MARINE Please visit our website for more listings Ferretti 680 (2004) Twin Man 1200HP diesel engines • Central owners cabin with office Twin Generators Satelite communications 3 cabin + 2 crew cabin layout . Thai Vat Paid 1,450,000 Euro Princess 60 mssn \$179,000 AUD 170,000 GBF 499,000 Euro leemarine.com FERRETTI ■ Yacht Haven Marina Office The Yacht Haven Marina Phuket Contact: Jim Poulsen Moble: 081 891 3237 te/fasc 076 206 260 ■ Pattaya Office The Boat Lagoon Marina Phuket Contact: Martin Holmes Brokerage Office The Boat Lagoon Marina Phuket Contact: Andrew de Bruin / Marous Overman Mobile: 081 894 1530 / 081 968 1437 1el/fax: 078 239 729

WELLCRAFT 302 SPORT

American powerboat, 30 feet, twin Yamaha 250hp 4-stroke engines, only 60 hours. Mail for pics and more info. Email: mangeolsson@hotmail.com

YACHT CHARTER **COMPANY**

12-meter, ocean-going sailing boat with steel hull and Thai flag. Sale includes license, web sites, many parts and equipment. Call or mail for details. Tel: 076-283446, 081-892 7847 (English). Or fax: 076-283447. Email: patrick@oceanicglobal.com or please see at http://www.sailing-thailandphuket.com

YAMAHA 2HP **OUTBOARD**

Good condition 2hp Yamaha for sale. Recently serviced. 7,000 baht ono. Tel: 081-894 1530 (English). Or email: andrew@ leemarine.net

DEEP V FIBER SPEED BOAT

email: andrew@teemarine.net

Private speedboat in very good condition for fishing and diving. Also built for private tours. For sale at 1,200,000 baht. For more information, please contact Mr Roman. Tel: 076-485610, 087-881 0031. Fax: 076-485145. website at http://www.similan.net

BOAT FOR SALE



3.4m rigid single hull. 25cc Tohatsu outboard engines and cover for rigid hull inflatable boat. One seat removable. Call Mr Dydi. Price: 175,700 baht. Tel: 087-161

PHUKET CHARTER

email: jim@leemarine.net

Fishing charters, NEW boat, safe & solid returns. Co Ltd established for 10 years. Email for full details. Tel: 083-392 7150. Email: wunchart-thanna wat@hotmail.com

SAIL BOAT WANTED

30 to 40 feet. Racer/cruiser to charter for King's cup. Email: air2cure@yahoo.com

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

ZODIAC 40HP

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

Live in Patong? Place your GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS at The Deli Supermarket PATONG REACH ---To Kalim Bes Simply write out Tawiwong Rd. your ad, pay and leave it with Rat-U-Thit 200 Pee Rd. P.S.2 Bung The Dell Super Khun Damrong (076-342275) To Phuket Town Wat Suwankiriwong GAZETTE CLASSADS - they work because they're PAID! Hundreds of new ads in print every week, all published simultaneously - and FREE - in the Gazette Online!

The *Gazette Online* is always on top in Google!

2009 NEW 11.9 METER **YACHT**

2X225 hp Honda 4-strokes. Price 3.9 million baht exVAT. LOA: 11.9m. Beam: 3.6m. Material: fiberglass. Max speed 45 knots. Cabin: living space, kitchen with microwave oven, bedroom (king size bed) with 38" flatscreen TV, toilet, shower and small generator. Excludes 50 mile rathyoon radar. Agent welcome. We will also build your fiberglass sports yacht to your spectifications. Tel: 086-885 6885. Email: phu ketyachtsales@gmail.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: wojidkowbengt@hotmail.com

TROLLING MOTOR

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

WANTED

Small dingy, about 3 or 4 me ters, suitable for 3.5hp outboard motor for inshore pleasure. Tel: 076-388569, 085-794 6514. Email: hparkin@hotmail.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: wojidkowbengt@hotmail.com

Would you like to keep up on what's happening

SPORTS CRUISER

Mustang 2800. 4 berth, a/c, dvd, surround sound system, fridge, shower etc. Imaculate finish. 3.1 million baht. Will consider P/X for RIB. Tel: 084-778 5652.

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

32FT CATAMARAN

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

ONAN GENSETS

2 units in good working condition. 7.2kVA, 220V: 90,000 baht. 11kVA, 220V: 150,000 baht. Tel: 081-536 8188. Contact more details at. Email: tom.fekete@gmail.com

FIBERGLASS BOAT

Brand new 36 foot flybridge boat for sale. Contact more details at email: jgkg24@hotmail.com

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

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☐ Thai Baht 9,000 for an oversea	s subscription (any	country outside Thailand)
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Country:		

Island Job Mart

BOOKKEEP NEEDED

in fast-paced environment. Thai national. Some English required. Min 3 years exp. Tel: 087-077 8454 (English). Email: solitude001@aol.com

ACCOUNTANT WANTED

CPA or CA Accountant, required with 3-5 years experience. MYOB is an advantage. Contact Khun Shannon on 084-443 5983.

SPECIAL OFFER

for real estate sales people. Thai, too, or house/land owners. Ref. Sales! Contact for more details. Email: eudl@mail.com

BAR MANAGER

The Role: bar manager at one of Patong Beach's leading bars, the 'Two Black Sheep'.

This is an an exciting opening for an experienced Bar Manager.

The ideal candidate will have previous bar or hotel management experience and will be responsible for all facets of the business, including stock control, ordering, staff development and ensuring high levels of customer service at all times.

The successful candidate must be highly customer-focused and possess good communication skills and the ability to manage the team effectively.

This is an excellent opportunity for someone looking for an exciting and challenging role. For further background info. Tel: 089-592 1735 (English). Email: niekeborst@hotmail.com Please see our Website at http://www.twoblacksheep.net/

WEB DESIGNER WANTED

Professional, experienced web designer wanted now by local e-commerce company. Must speak good English. Send resume and portfolio to email: support@thailove.com

RECEPTION & TOUR INFO STAFF

Needed in Patong. Must have experience of hotels, tours and computers. Must also speak and read English. These positions are for Thai nationals only. Tel: 076-340583, 081-827 8442. Or send email: wojidkowbengt@hotmail. com

ENGLISH TEACHER

Wanted for nursery. Rawai. Tel: 081-787 5646. Email: proundly_nicha@yahoo.com

TRAVEL AGENCY STAFF WANTED

We are currently looking for Thai staff that will support our full time personnel. We need 2 people who can write, read and speak fluent French and English, basic computer skills and knowledge about online booking. Good salary! Please contact Asia Sensations Travel by sending CV. Tel: 076-282906, 081-893 9925 (English). Fax: 076-282867. Email: info@phuket-excursions.com

SECRETARY WANTED

Must have good English and computer skills. Chalong. 12,000 baht. 45 hour week. Tel: 080-624 7060.

NEED GARDENER & MAID

Experience with hotels, Rawai area, Sarnia Villa, Soi Suksan (prefer couple) 2. Aged over 40. Tel: 081-797 7898.

NANNY IN NAI HARN

Looking for a full-time live-out nanny. English speaking and experience with children required. Please contact Lana. Tel: 089-593 9155 (English). Email: maria. wilewski@gmail.com

QUALIFIED THAI TEACHER PLUS

a native English teacher wanted for new nursery/preschool. Please send email CV to: phu ketinternation@asia.com

SEO WEBMASTER

wanted. Link building, article writing, coding etc. Advanced knowledge of HTML, PHP, CSS, JS & Flash. Tel: 076-385964, 087-892 5557 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-385965. Or send CV to careers @ modern-zen.com.

PART TIME INCOME

Work from home, using the internet. Must be fluent in English. Call me (Rick) after 6:30pm. Tel: 085-473 1629. Email: rickray@hotmail.com

SALES STAFF REQUIRED

Come and join a successful established holiday ownership company. We are offering the best commission rates in Thailand for professional sales reps: English, Scandinavian and German. The BEST training, the BEST commission and the BEST pay structure. Tel: 086-120 4282. Email: infosalesphuket@gmail.com

CHEF WANTED

Farang or Thai to work in English bar. Must be able to cook farang food especially English pub food. 6 days per week, hrs 12pm -10pm. Bar in Laguna area. Tel: 089-474 0431.



CBRE CB RICHARD ELLIS

CB Richard Ellis is the world's largest commercial real estate service firm with over 300 offices worldwide. Established in Thailand since 1988, due to our rapid business growth, we are looking for professional, energetic and self-motivated persons for the following positions:-

Estate Manager

- · Bachelor's / Master's degree in Business Administration,
- Hotel Management or related field • Fast-moving and service-minded
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills and proven team leadership skills
- Excellent written and spoken English

Assistant Estate Manager

- Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, Secretarial or any other related field
- · Good command of English
- Computer literate in Word, Excel, Power Point
- Good interpersonal relationship, hardworking, a team player and service- minded



CB Richard Ellis (Thailand) Co.,Ltd. 12/9 Moo 4, Thepkrasattri Rd., T. Kohkaew ,Muang, Phuket 83000 Tet.078-239967 Fax. 076-239971 Email: wanpen.duangjit@cbre.co.th

Marketing Company based in Rawai seeks female Thai national for the position of

Office Manager

- High level of written/spoken English & Thai required
 Computer Literate in particular Word/Excel/Outlook
- · Previous experience essential
- · Pleasant personality and people skills

Please send your resumé and photo to enquiry@thai-infocenter.com for an interview.

SALES AND MARKETING

Sales and Marketing Manager for food wholesaler based in Phuket. If you speak multiple languages, have experience in web-site maintenance, graphic design and have been working in the food service industry, we can offer an attractive salary, work permit, visa, private health insurance and company car. Please send email: simon@phuketfood.com

WEB PROGRAMMER

Thai national is wanted for website development. Must have strong skills with HTML and CSS-based websites using Dreamweaver and Photoshop. Some JavaScript (jQuery, Spry) and PHP would be a plus. College degree with good grades and good track record. We want someone reliable and hardworking. Salary: 15,000-20,000 baht plus bonus. For more additional details. Please send email to: recruitment@circumnav.net

PERSONAL ASSISTANT

A++ Software, based in Tha-lang, requires a capable personal assistant to the directors. Thai national, must speak and write English well, computer literate, good organisational skills. Salary negotiable, accommodation available. Tel: 087-417 8860. Or email carol@aplusplussoftware.com

DIVISION MANAGER

Small boutique villas resort seeks experienced property care and guests relations manager for full time position. Candidate must have bachelor degree in hotel and tourism management or related field, and strong organizational. Tel: 086-004 3008. Email to: asiacasa@gmail.com

ENGLISH SPEAKERS WANTED

Easy work, easy money. 50,000 baht a month and up. Please contact for more information at tel: 085-573 0638.

Director of Sales - Phuket

Company Description

One of the largest owned and managed hotel groups with more than 120 hotels worldwide is looking for a dynamic and self-motivated individual for the following position:

Director of Sales

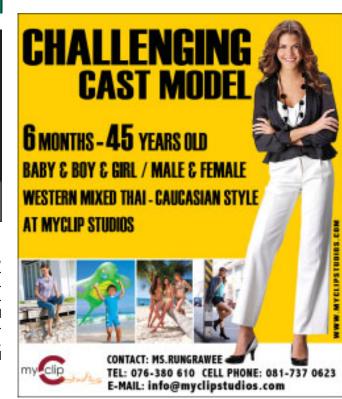
Reporting to the director of sales and marketing, you will be responsible for the development and performance of the Phuket sales team, helping them to achieve the revenue target and achieve maximum profitability and growth in the assigned market, in line with the hotel's business objectives. In this role, you need to maintain contact with all clients in the market area in order to achieve a high level of client satisfaction with accountability and follow up.

You should have a proven track record of at least two to three years of work experience in a similar capacity in the hotel industry with both MICE and leisure experience. You need to be energetic, proactive, self-driven, highly motivated and have excellent interpersonal and communication skills. You should also be adaptable, determined and be someone who wants to be part of a fast-paced environment that promotes change and drive for achievements. You will possess superior negotiation skills and a Will-to-Win mindset. Knowledge of Fidelio and Delphi Systems would be added advantage.

Interested applicants are requested to send in their resume along with a recent photograph and their <u>current and expected salaries</u>, to:

Mr William King

E-mail address: wkwilliamking4@gmail.com We apologize but only short listed candidates will be notified



QUALIFIED TEACHER WANTED

Home room teacher for mixed class (grades 4,5,6). Strong teaching skills in math and science required. Competetive salary. Please contact for additonal details. Tel: 076-288923, 086-476 9066. Fax: 076-383201. Or send email to: admin@montessori-thailand.

RECEPTIONIST IN KATA

Thai female required for hotel in Kata. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-892 1621.

TEFL/TESOL TRAINERS

- * Trainer. Degree, diploma in TEFL/TESOL, 5 years experience.
- *Trainer's assistant, degree certificate in TEFL/TESOL, 2 years experience.

Contact Michael. Send email to: michael.denigan@gmail.com

LADY WANTED FOR SURVEYS

Full time, must be taller then 1.65m and weigh more than 75kg. English and Thai speaking is a must. Not older than 35 years. Drivers licence. Tel: 081-537 6866.

Looking for a job?
Looking for a better candidate?
Find more Recruitment Classifieds at www.PhuketGazette.Net!

amanpuri

Reservations Manager

Amanpuri is the signature property of the world renowned luxury hotel group, Amanresorts. We are seeking a young, enthusiastic, experienced and motivated individual to join our Amanpuri family. The position focuses on heading our Reservations Department, liaising with our central reservations office, dealing with international agents and meeting monthly sales targets. Candidates should be self-motivated with a keen eye for sales and marketing.

Tasks Include:

- · Organizing the work flow of the department
- Communicating guest information to relevant departments
- · Inventory management
- Preparing weekly, monthly and marketing reports.
- Perform sales skills training

This position reports directly to Senior Management (GM, Hotel Manager and EAM i/c of Rooms).

Key Qualities and Skills:

- · Friendly and honest
- Flexible and understanding, able to adapt to changes and pressures
- · Driven and committed. A motivator, mentor and team player
- Excellent organizational skills and attention to detail
- At least 2 years experience in Reservations Management in luxury
- Fluent in both written and oral English and have overall exceptional communication and presentation skills especially when applied to sales
- Proficient in the use of Opera PMS, My Fidelio and MS Office

We offer a competitive salary with a desirable package. Applications are open to both Thai Nationals and Expatriates. Please e-mail your resume with a recent photo to pn@amanpuri.th.com or apply in person.

PO BOX 196 ~ PANSEA BEACH ~ PHUKET 83000 ~ THAILAND PHONE (66) 76 324 333 ~ FAX (66) 76 324 100 E-MAIL: pn@amanpuri.th.com

SCUBA DIVING INSTRUCTOR

Scuba Cat Diving Phuket Thailand is looking for an experienced instructor to join our team ASAP. Preferably German, French & English or Danish & English speakers but all are welcome to apply. f you are not able to sell, talk to people, are work shy or lazy, please don't apply because you can't make it with us. If you think that you are the right person, contact us. Tel: 076-293120, 089-872 2026, Fax: 076-293122, Email: info@scubacat.com For further details, please see our website at http://www.scubacat.com

TEACHERS WANTED IN PHUKET

Satree Phuket School is seeking full time English speaking and Asian (including Thai) teachers to teach Mathematics to 11 - 18year-old students. 4 weeks paid noliday, government nealth plan. Minimum requirements: Bachelor's degree or above, plus TEFL or CELTA certificate or equivalent. Asian and Thai teachers should be qualified with TOFEL score 550+. We can only reply to applicants who meet the minimum requirements. Please Email your CV with covering letter to Ajarn Charoon: ep@satreephuket.ac.th, toptip4736@yahoo.com Tel: 084-6663557.



The property- an absolute beach front property, recipient of various awards, and which comprises a total of 68 rooms, 7 suites, 7 beach villas and 39 billaide pool villas. Reclittes include 8 restaurants iii bars, @ home dining operation, conference facilities for up to 60/80 theater style, spa, diving center, islands outings requiring catering.

The Position: We are looking for an

Executive Assistant Manager I/C of Food & Beverage operation

- Expatriate aged between 38 to 45 years old
- At least 8 years experience in Hotel Management, including 2 to 3 years in a Food & Beverage manager position.

For the above position, the applicant should have:

- · Hotel management degree
- · Outgoing personality, self confident and with a high level of
- Computer literate in MS Excel, Word, knowledge in MS system
- Experience in 5 stars resort property with a proven track record of delivering exceptional service standards to a highly demanding
- · Be entrepreneurial, creative and results oriented
- Have excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Hands on person/as opposed to office bound and with excellent PR/Guest relation skills
- · Have the ability in living on an island environment
- Be fluent in English + other language if possible
- Experience working in Thailand is preferable.

Interested candidates, please submit resume, recent picture and expected salary to generalmanager@pimalai.com;

Please note that only short listed candidates will be contacted.

PIMALAI RESORT & SPA 99 Moo 5. Ba Kan Tlang Bay. Koh Lanta, Krabi 81150, Thailand www.pimalai.com/career.asp



Thavorn Hotels & Resorts (THR), Phuket



Owner and operator of Thavorn Beach Village & Spa on Nakalay Bay near Patong Beach, Thavorn Palm Beach Resort on Karon Beach Thought and Thavorn Grand Plaza in Phuket Town are currently looking for:

Sales & Marketing

- Web Programmers / E-Marketing Must be good at: SEO, PHP, MySQL, XML and Web Service
- Director of Sales / Sales Managers Expats or Thais For Japanese, Chinese, Russian and European Markets
- Marketing Communications Asst. Managers / Managers Native English speakers preferred
- Marketing Admin. Asst. Managers / Managers
- · Executive Secretaries / Office Admin. Managers Native English speakers preferred

Hotel Management

- Assistant Front Office Managers / Managers
- · Guest Relations Managers / Officers Expats For Japanese, Korean & Russian
- Executive Chef / Sous Chef / Chef de Partie For Japanese, Italian, Thai & Main kitchens
- Many junior and middle management positions

*The ideal candidates for professional positions MUST possess several years experience in a similar capacity with 4-5 star hotels and resorts, and MUST be willing to live in Phuket.

*First time candidates for the hotel industry are most welcome to apply if you possess a degree, preferably a masters degree, from a recognized university.

*We offer a good salary and excellent benefits to the right candidates.

Thavorn Group is looking for young, energetic, committed and result-oriented Thais and expats to join our team. All applications will be treated with the strictest of confidence. Only shortlisted candidates will be notified for an interview.

Interested candidates should send applications with CV's and two recent photos to:

Group Human Resources Director Thavorn Hotels & Resorts (THR), Phuket 40/5 Chana-Charoen Road Muang, Phuket, 83000

Email: recruitment@thavorngroup.com www.thavorngroup.com



THE PARADISE KOH YAO

The Paradise Koh Yao, a contemporary 70 room boutique resort is located on Koh Yao Noi island, a 60 minute boat trip from Phuket. Catering to the experienced traveler looking for unspoiled nature in uncompromised luxury - away form the crowded tourist spots of Phuket and Krabi.

We are seeking candidates with outstanding personalities to be the leaders of our motivated team with commitment to personalized, superior customer service.

HOST CHEF (in charge of kitchen / restaurant)

Covering all aspects of the F&B operations, including kitchen and restaurant. Based at the resort on Koh Yao Noi with regular visits to Phuket office.

- At least 3-5 years experience in 4 or 5 star hotels in Executive Chef or Sous-Chef assignment.
- Leadership skills
- Guest relation skills
- Implementation of innovative kitchen and restaurant concepts
- Previous assignment in Thailand / Asia an advantage
- Good command of the English language; knowledge of Thai / German is an advantage
- Foreign or Thai National 35 55 years of age

EXECUTIVE HOUSEKEEPER

Able to run the HK department to international standards - catering to the high expectations of our international clientele.

- At least 3-5 years experience in 4 or 5 star hotel/resort as Assistant or Chief Housekeeper
- · Able to run the housekeeping department independently
- · Thai National 30-40 years of age

Comprehensive remuneration / incentive package will be offered to the right candidate Send your resume with recent photo, references and salary expectations to joeraess@theparadise.biz

> The Paradise Koh Yao – Boutique Beach Resort & Spa (Phuket Office) 125/369 Rock Garden Village, Moo 5, T. Ratsada, A. Muang, Phuket 83000 Tel: 076-528919-20 Website: www.theparadise.biz

RESTAURANT LOUNGE **BAR**

in Rawai. Need 1 chef (European and Thai food), 1 pizza chef, 1 chef's assistant, 1 maid, 2 bartenders and 2 waitresses (ladies who can speak English). Need a band to play every night too. Contact Michael. Tel: 089-454 6584 or Valerie 086-781 1837. Or send email to: paul.phuket@gmail.com

Employment Wanted

JOB REQUIRED

25-year-old Scottish guy needs work in the Rawai area. Holds personal training and lifeguard qualifications. Willing to do anything, though; just email me. Tel: +44-135-876 1279 English).

LOOKING FOR WORK

15 years experience in hotel management, property marketing and developments in Australia. Tel: 084-838 1824.

WANT TO INCREASE SALES?

Sales and marketing manager, multi-linguist, huge tourism contacts, versatile contributor. Email: sales797@aol.com

Tout, Trader & Trumpet

Articles For Sale

EVERYTHING HAS TO GO

Items remaining from my Gazette ad of July 10:

- -2 single children's beds from Index
- vacuum cleaner with washable filters
- small electronic safety box
- wooden toys imported from Furone
- child's bike (suitable for 2-5 year olds)

Tel: 082-803 1706 (English). Email: waltergoossens@yahoo.com

WHITE GAZEBO

3m x 3m 500 baht. Tel: 089-196 1773. Email: cindyjcochrane@ hotmail.com

FOR SALE TV, VIDEO ADS

Visit For Sale dot TV at link below. Sell anything on video. Brand your ads with your logo. Add your website address so people can contact you direct. Upload a video talking head for your video business card. It's all free! Email: admin@idevelop.tv Website: http://www.forsale.tv

CIGAR HUMIDOR -RAMOS PINTO

Stunning 75-stick humidor in pristine condition with Cigar Master system. 35x23x13 cm. Madrone burl wood confection. Retails at 35,000 baht; am offering at 16,000 with 9 freebie cigars inside, including Cohiba, Churchills, Montecristo. Email for pics: Gordonray@mac.com

HAIRDRESSING EQUIPMENT

Brand new complete set. New price: 210,000 baht, now: 150,000 baht. Tel: 087-272-0303 (Eng), 086-2825492 (Thai).

GLASS DISPLAY CABINET

2 shelves and 2 lights on wheels. Approx 1m high x 1.3m wide. 3,000 baht. Tel: 089-196 1773. Email: cindyjcochrane @ hotmail.com

FLATSCREEN TV BARGAIN!

Brand new Samsung 40". Black square, only 4 months old and barely used. Bought 36,000 baht, will let it go for 26,000 Don't miss this deal! Email: phuket beach@me.com

3 DOOR BEER FRIDGE

Call for viewing, 8,000 baht, not including delivery. Tel: 082-277-4568.

ITEMS FOR SALE

- Fine china dinner service, white with gold rim, 34 pieces including; 6 dinner plates, 6 bowls, 6 salad plates, 6 side plates, 1 large meat platter, 1 gravy boat & saucer, 1 vegetable dish, 6 ramekins for 5,000 baht.
- -Granite mortar and pestel, never used, 1,350 bht.
- Jordanian green carpet with pattern 8,000 baht, 2 metres x 3 metres
- Samsung microwave (under warranty) 1,000 baht.
- Italian Pasta Maker (used once) 1,000 bht.
- Electronic piano/organ, 36 keys, suitable for beginners 2,500 baht. Never used.
- Walking machine multi programme with multi display calorie, pulse, body fat, height, weight, distance, safety stop. 20,000 baht.

Email: deewilliams@y7mail.

SECOND HAND FOR SALE

Many sofas, furniture, sound and music equipment, plus electrical equipment. Tel: 076-220171, 080-080 1427.

BIG WALL CLOCK

Big modern wall clock for sale, train station type. Black frame and white clock face, 60cm diameter, 8 weeks old. Bought at Index. Price: 900 baht (value when new: 1,900 baht). Tel: 083-522 2205, 087-269 5725 (English). Email: riro-around theworld@hotmail.com

GYM EQUIPMENT

Good basic gym equipment for sale. Tel: 086-120 3660. Email: chilligarden@hotmail.com

NEW JACUZZI FOR SALE

New Jacuzzi in good condition. Price: 60,000 baht. Ready for sale.Please call K.Canonica 087-2702021. Email: mayday 1978@hotmail.com

SPECIAL NUMBER

Phuket picture number plate 6060 (GO-GO). Price 30,000 baht no offers. Tel: 085-784 0569.

WASHING MACHINE

Siemens 7kg, electronic, warm water, front loading. Only 7 months old. New price: 24,000 baht; will sell now for 14,000. Contact. Tel: 082-803 1706 (English). Email: waltergoos sens@yahoo.com

KITCHEN BENCHES

modern kitchen 8 pieces. Corner 3, center breakfast, 2 chairs, 3 drawers + 2 doors. Excellent condition. 16 months old. 45,000 baht ono. Please contact me for photos and more details. Tel: 086-947 7233. Email: marknsue @loxinfo.co.th

BED FOR SALE

Original Perfomax Double Bed, including good mettress and top mattress. Good as new, less than half price, will sell at 25,000 baht ono. Call or email Henrik for more details. Tel: 087-897 1280. Email: gronnekaz@hotmail.com

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Deadline for Property Gazette page: Friday 3 pm. Deadline for all other ads: Saturday 12 noon.

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Maruyama cutter, price: 4,500 baht. Aircon Samsung 13,000 BTU, price: 5,000 baht. Both work OK. Call Tel: 089-594 4067.

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Articles Wanted

EXERCISE EQUIPMENT

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Bar & Restaurant Equipment

KNEADING MACHINE

12kg kneading machine for pizzeria or bakery. In very good condition. Bought for 25,000 baht, selling for 8,000 baht. Tel: +66-87-282 7357 (English). Email: jimdroz@hotmail.com

Bulletins

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For Phuket info (English) call 081-9564031, 081-8612995 or email phuketaa@yahoo.com English Speaking Meetings

Bangkok Hospital – Phuket City

Patong Hospital - Patong Mon. Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun at 7 Pl Green Man Restaurant - Chalong Women's Mosting Tue 7 PM

Krabi Hospital – Krabi Wed 1 PM additional Krabi meetings on reque by contacting 084-4463103)

Scandinavian Speaking Weatings Wat Karon School – Karon Ive 7 PM and (Set Nov-April only 7 PM) for (86-844)450 Swa. 082-2765656 Nov

For info on other Thailand AA meetings inquire @ 62-23118300 (for Thai language press 3) www.asthailand.org or email: info@asthailand.org

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LOOKING FOR TERRY BUTLER

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Business Opportunities

ICE CREAM BUSINESS

for sale. 100,000 baht, 7,000 baht monthly. Genuine reason for sale. Wife obtained UK Visa. Suit Thai girl. Easy to run and operate. Call Tony. Tel: 081-397 5479.

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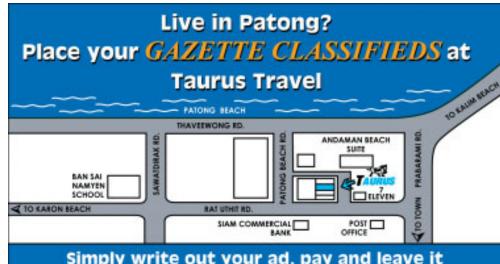
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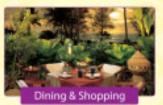








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