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Basket case ruins holiday

Bike bandit leaves Brits broke

TWO tourists robbed in
Kata were left penniless
when a thief snatched a
bag containing all their
remaining holiday cash from the
basket on their rented motorbike.

The thief, riding another
motorbike, snatched the bag on
Kata Noi Road at about 7.30pm
on Monday.

The bag belonging to British
holidaymaker 21-year-old Emma
Kim Parker, a passenger on the
bike driven by a male traveling
companion, contained the equiv-
alent of about 230,000 baht in US
dollars and euro.

An expensive Nikon camera
was also in the bag.

Police believe the lone
basket bandit took advantage of
the fact that the tourists would
not be able to give chase with
two of them weighing down
their bike.

The pair had planned to stay
in Thailand for several weeks, but
with no spending money left after

arriving less than a week ago, they
told the *Gazette* they were so
traumatized that they wanted to
go home as soon as possible.

"This is our first time in
Thailand and we don't know what
to do now. We've never had this
kind of experience and didn't
expect our stuff could be stolen off
a [moving] motorbike," they said.

While waiting for money to
be sent from abroad so they could
buy flights home, the young trav-
elers had to rely on charity from
the owner of the Pineapple Guest-
house where they were staying.

"There is a safe deposit box
in their room, but they didn't keep
their money in there. I don't know
why," said the owner.

According to the police, the
bandit had already targeted a
young Swedish couple who were
riding a motorcycle in the same
area an hour earlier that evening,
making off with a camera and
3,000 baht in cash.

— Kitima Pornmongkhonwat

Karon's golden girls



AMERICA'S Jen Kessy (left) and April Ross successfully
defended their Thailand Open title following a straight sets
victory over compatriots Angie Akers and Tyra Turner at
Karon Beach on November 8.

The pairing, ranked number three in the world, made light
work of their opponents on their way to their sixth SWATCH
FIVB World Tour gold medal since forming their partnership
back in 2007.

More about the tournament on page 27.

Controversial road 'good for environment'

ANEW road linking
Chalong and Patong will
reduce accidents, save
fuel and result in the destruction
of fewer trees than detractors
believe, the Phuket governor said
on November 9.

Phuket Governor Wichai
Phraisa-ngop was addressing a
meeting at Provincial Hall to
discuss progress on the
controversial project, a key part
of his aggressive plan to improve
Phuket's road network

There are three possible
routes which can be used to
complete the road, all of which have

already been partially cleared, Gov
Wichai told the meeting.

"They're all pathways," he
said. "Whichever route we
choose to develop, there won't be
many trees cut down."

Lower stretches of the road
on the Chalong side pass through
the entrance of Luang Pu Supha
Temple, he said.

The 4.6-kilometer route
would reduce the island's fuel
consumption to the tune of an
estimated one million baht per day,
the governor added.

The new road would reduce
accidents along Patak and Phra

Barami Roads, both of which are
'quite dangerous routes',
according to Gov Wichai.

However, the project still
needs Cabinet approval to go ahead.

Gov Wichai said Cabinet had
asked that the project's environ-
mental impact assessment be
revised before it can get started.

The road is legally problematic
because parts at the highest
elevations need to pass through
national forest land, much of which
is above the 80-meter building limit
put in place in 1994 to prevent
erosion, encroachment and flooding.

The EIA should be comp-

leted in about one month, with
Cabinet backing expected within
about three, Gov Wichai said.

"Once the project gets a
Cabinet resolution, I am sure the
construction could be finished
within nine months," he said.

Twenty-six million baht in
funding for the project would
come from the government's 100-
billion-baht Strong Thai Action
Plan 2012 stimulus package.

Another 14 million would be
provided by Patong Municipality
and Chalong Tambon Admini-
stration Organization (TAO).

— Pimwara Choksakulpun

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Encroachment road divides local opinion

Villagers and local officials are at odds over whether a new road in Mai Khao caused the destruction of 25 rai of peat swamp forest or stopped the encroachment from being much worse.

Mai Khao Tambon Administration Organization built the 28-million-baht road, which is 3.5 kilometers long and skirts the boundary of Jik Forest.

Mai Khao TAO President Sarawut Srisakhukham said the road was built for two reasons: "to serve the convenience of both tourists and local villagers, and to protect the forest from encroachment by investors."

Nevertheless, he admitted the forest had shrunk from 102 rai to 77 rai since the road was built but added the road served as a boundary, protecting what remained of the peat swamp forest.

"Private land and the forest are clearly separated by the road," he said. "If we didn't build it, I'm sure all the forest would be gone."

But villagers complained that the road had actually caused the destruction of a large portion of the forest because new devel-

opments have sprung up along it.

Responding to their concerns, Phuket MP Chalermklak Kebsup asked the Natural Resources and Environment Committee of the House of Representatives to launch an investigation into the project.

Committee President Waruj Siriwat visited the site and confirmed that encroachment had occurred.

"Villagers are afraid the road has damaged the forest and that it will bring more property construction into the area," he said.

"We have to check whether there was a public hearing and environmental impact assessment before the construction started," he added.

Mr Waruj noted that the peat swamp and mangrove forests in the northwest of Phuket had been nominated by Thailand as a Ramsar Convention site, meaning they were of international importance and should be protected.

The Ramsar Convention is an international treaty aimed at conserving the world's wetlands.

-Gazette reporters

Coral reef discovery

A NEW coral reef covering an area almost the size of two soccer fields has been discovered north of Phuket off the coast of Phang Nga.

The reef was discovered by fishermen around five nautical miles west of Kho Kao Island in Phang Nga's Takuapa District. It lies at a depth of about 21 meters.

Mr Chaimongkol Yaemrunpattana, a coral researcher at the Phuket Marine Biological Center (PMBC), was part of a diving team that surveyed the reef on November 9.

"The reef's fertility is

average and we found mostly encrusting corals, tabulate corals, several species of fish and four or five octopi," he said.

Mr Chaimongkol said the reef was very beautiful and 'very attractive for diving in general'.

The Phang Nga Tourist Association, together with the Marine and Coastal Resources Conservation Department, and the Department of Fisheries, has started a project at the new reef and others in the province called 'Nemo Return'.

The project will involve introducing new fish to the reefs and carrying out cleanups in order



The recently discovered reef. Photos by MCRCD.

to improve dive spots and reduce the number of divers around the popular Similan Islands.

-Sitthipong Nongkaew

Phuket's PAD and UDD head North

PHUKET'S yellow-shirted People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD) supporters and their red-shirted opponents, the United Front for Democracy Against Dictatorship (UDD), will both be traveling to large gatherings in the near future.

The Phuket PAD will be heading to Bangkok to protest former Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra's appointment

to a high-level advisory position by Cambodian premier Hun Sen.

The protest will take place at Sanam Luang on November 15.

Phuket PAD co-ordinator Aparat Chartchutikumjorn said the island's activists would definitely be attending the Bangkok protest.

"I've already had a lot of calls about this, so I think a lot of people are going to go," she said.

"Anyone in any color shirt who agrees with us can join the protest," she said.

Meanwhile, Phuket UDD leader Sunthorn Toemarn

applauded Mr Thaksin's new appointment by Phnom Penh.

"It's right and democratic," she said. "It's a good thing and we agree with it."

The UDD would be heading to Khao Yai National Park in Nakhon Ratchasima province for a big meeting – including a phone in from Mr Thaksin. The rally will be hosted by the Bonanza Khao Yai Hotel on Saturday, he said.

Around a hundred red-shirts would be heading to the gathering in cars and vans, he said.

-Atchaa Khamlo

Cops fish for loan sharks

POLICE are cracking down on loan sharks who offer desperate people high interest loans, sometimes backed up with the threat of violence against those who fail to pay back their debts.

The most recent arrests were four men accused of offering loans with interest above the legally permissible rates.

They were paraded before a press conference at Phuket City Police Station early November.

Phuket Provincial Police Commander Pekad Tantipong said police are also looking for another group of loan sharks

who recently put a number of debtors in Vachira Phuket Hospital after they failed to meet their repayments.

Gen Pekad said the men were charging interest rates of 30 percent per month.

All four suspects confessed to charges of usury.

Back in June, Chalong Police arrested a gang of loan sharks extracting money from Rawai's sea gypsy community.

Police said at the time that they believed there were an estimated 40 loan shark gangs operating in Phuket.

-Atchaa Khamlo

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Rubble trouble



Dirt and rubble has been piled up against houses in the area.

PROBLEMS continue at the troubled Panason City housing project with residents of the nearby Ketkeaw village claiming workmen tried to bury seven houses under mounds of earth using excavators early November.

The development has been the subject of numerous protests this year, with residents claiming the developers are trying to drive them out of their homes.

The project owners claim a number of families are living on the 78-rai plot without title deeds and are trespassing on company land.

Resident, Yaowaluck Promsiri, 52, who has lived in a house in Ketkeaw village with her husband and daughter for over 10 years,

said she left her house one morning on a *salaeng* (motorcycle with sidecar) to find her path blocked by a mound of dirt.

The dirt, which had been previously piled up elsewhere, was now covering seven local residents' homes.

Mrs Yaowaluck said residents of Ketkeaw village didn't have any title deeds, but had residency contracts with the company that originally sold them the houses.

She claimed the Panason City project owners had agreed not to go ahead with any more work on the project until after a meeting with local residents, scheduled for November 30.

"Until then they shouldn't do any more work at all," she said. — *Atchaa Khamlo*

Arrest made in jewel heist

AFTER analyzing DNA evidence, police arrested a cashier at Phuket FantaSea early November, for the theft of more than two million baht's worth of diamond jewelry from the souvenir shop safe on May 23.

Police said a sample of a 26-year-old female suspect's hair matched those found near the safe shortly after the robbery, which took place at Phuket FantaSea in Kamala.

Police said they found fingerprints on the safe and hair nearby.

Police collected hair samples from 940 people and used DNA analysis as part of the investigation, he said.

The suspect denied committing the robbery when police interrogated her after her arrest, police said.

Police are awaiting results of fingerprint tests for further evidence against the suspect.

— *Atchaa Khamlo*

What a great guy

A 47-year-old Muslim man with no education past high school has won top honors for Phuket in a nationwide search for the most outstanding citizen in each Thai province.

Jeerasak Torthip was named an 'Outstanding Citizen' for his work in securing a simple, sustainable way of life for the people of Bang Rong Village, a coastal community of about 1,000 Muslims in tambon Pa Khlok.

Mr Jeerasak was awarded the honor through a project called Thaen Khun Paen Din ('Showing Gratitude to the Country') 2552, run by The Nation Group together with the Social Development and Human Security Ministry.

He was credited for his devotion over the past decade to restoring and protecting the natural environment in Bang Rong, and ensuring the community sticks to a traditional, Islamic way of life.

Mr Jeerasak said he encourages his neighbors to resist materialism temptations, stressing the importance of mangrove forests to their way of life.

"Eighty per cent of village people use mangroves as a source of food. Besides that the mangroves played a role as a barrier to the 2004 tsunami."

Materialism destroyed this traditional lifestyle, he said.

"Villagers sold their land to property developers in exchange for money to buy cars and live lavishly," he said.

When the mangrove forests started being destroyed it became harder and harder for villagers to make a living, he said.

He uses his position as a leader at Bang Rong Mosque to instill the community with Islam-based beliefs about conserving nature.

In 2002, Mr Jeerasak and other mosque leaders created a project called 'Bang Rong Agrotourism'.

The project is based at Bang Rong pier, which is surrounded by



Jeerasak Torthip from Pa Khlok was named as Phuket's 'Outstanding Citizen' for his dedication to preserving the island's mangroves.

over 2,000 rai of mangrove forest.

Tourists can hire canoes and boats to explore the forests, take a bicycle tour of the village or go trekking.

"We use tourism activities as a tool to manage community resources both on land and in the sea, through a process of informal learning," he said.

"The villagers are offered an opportunity to remain in the community rather than seek work elsewhere. They also learn to value their own resources."

Around 50 tourists visit the Bang Rong mangroves every day.

"All the guides for tourism activities are people from the community. Everything runs in a cycle," he said.

Mr Jeerasak's community projects don't stop at agrotourism.

The mosque committee started a savings fund with 30

villagers back in 1997.

The fund now has more than 700 members with almost 30 million baht in savings, Mr Jeerasak said.

"With this fund we've bought back many plots of land from investors and given scholarships to poor but smart students so they can get a university education," he said.

Mr Jeerasak talked of his feelings on receiving the 'Outstanding Citizen' honor.

"I never expected to receive it," he said.

"Everything I've done is for my neighbors, because of my love for the land and especially because of my love for His Majesty the King."

He would put his award on public view at Bang Rong Mosque, he said.

— *Pimwara Choksakulpan*

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Happy Hainan visitors

REPRESENTATIVES from the Chinese province of Hainan paid a visit to Phuket as part of a three-day study tour examining tourism management and development strategies.

The Hainanese delegation held talks with Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop, Vice Governor Smith Palawatwichai and other officials at Provincial Hall on November 9.

It was the final day of their three-day stay in Phuket, which included tours of the Laguna Phuket resort complex and the Phuket FantaSea cultural theme park.

Hainan, the smallest Chinese province, comprises some two hundred islands. The vast majority of residents stay on the main island of Hainan Dao.

The delegation included Hainan Vice Governor Jiang Sixian, Hainan Tourism Development Commission Division Director Zhou Ping and Foreign Affairs Office Director Gen Wu Shicun.

Official visits between leaders of the two islands date back to 2002, when then-Hainan Governor Wang Xiaofeng led a delegation to meet then Phuket Governor Pongpayome Vasaputi,



Hainan Vice Governor Jiang Sixian.

who is now Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Interior.

Hainan has a rapidly expanding tourism industry, with the vast majority of visitors being mainland Chinese.

"The numbers are increasing annually. We already have two airports, but it is not enough to meet demand, so we are planning to build another," Mr Jiang said.

Noting that Hainan has 70 times the land area and 25 times the [official] population of Phuket, Mr Jiang said he wanted Phuket business people to be aware of the investment opportunities Hainan has to offer.

Gov Wichai told reporters

the Hainanese delegation 'learned a lot from us'.

Mr Jiang also invited Gov Wichai and a Phuket delegation to visit Hainan from March 20 to 22 next year for a tourism promotional event.

The possibility of sending a Phuket delegation to attend the March event would be discussed with the TAT and Phuket Chamber of Commerce.

In addition to being island resort destinations, Phuket also has cultural ties with Hainan.

A considerable portion of Phuket's ethnic Chinese can trace their roots back to the island.

The Hainanese Shrine in Phuket City is one of the few Chinese shrines on the island that does not take part in the annual Vegetarian Festival.

Phuket Hainan Association President Chaovapong Mekarakul, also publisher of *Siangtai* Daily newspaper, told the *Gazette* Phuket and Hainan were officially linked as sister cities several years ago when then Phuket Governor Udomsak Uswarangkura signed a memorandum of understanding with his Hainanese counterpart at the time.

-Pimwara Choksakulpan and Stephen Fein

New Swedish consul



Dr Sompoch Nipakanot (left), the new Swedish honorary consul, and Swedish ambassador to Thailand Lennard Linner.

A DOCTOR at Bangkok Hospital Phuket is the new go-to man in times of trouble for the Andaman region's sizable Swedish community.

Dr Sompoch Nipakanot, assistant director of Bangkok Hospital Phuket, was formally appointed as the new Swedish honorary consul on November 2.

Swedish ambassador to Thailand Lennard Linner presented a letter of appointment to Dr Sompoch from HM The King Carl Gustaf XVI.

The appointment ceremony was also attended by Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop, representatives from other foreign consulates in Phuket and members of the island's Swedish community.

The event took place in the hospital's King Karl Gustaf Conference Hall, which was built after more than 540 Swedes lost their lives in the 2004 Asian tsunami disaster.

Bangkok Hospital Phuket treated many of the survivors, earning praise from the Swedish government and leading the Swedish Royal Family to grant permission to name the conference room in honor of the Swedish monarch.

Dr Sompoch was a member of the hospital's executive board at the time.

"When the tsunami happened, lots of Swedes were looked after by the medical team here at the hospital," he said.

"The Swedish government was extremely grateful to

us. The Swedish Red Cross even invited us to their country to lecture them on how we coped with Swedish patients at that time."

In February 2005, HM King Carl Gustaf XVI visited Thailand with HM Queen Silvia to visit areas affected by the tsunami.

Dr Sompoch was the royal couple's private physician for the duration of the visit.

On his appointment to the position of honorary consul, he said: "I am so proud...My next task is to bring benefits to both Thai people in Phuket and the Swedish community here."

Dr Sompoch said he was "just an ordinary physician like other medical staff," saying he had been appointed to the job purely because of his contribution during the tsunami.

The previous Swedish honorary consul was Wichit Na Ranong, a Thai tourism industry pioneer and owner of the Pearl Group of resorts.

After the tsunami, the Swedish government appointed one of its own nationals to take charge of consular affairs in Phuket.

In mid-2008, the official consular position ended and Mr Wichit was again offered the honorary post. After Mr Wichit declined, the position was offered to Mr Sompoch.

Dr Sompoch can be contacted on 081-893 3244 and 076-254 425, or by email: sompoch@bgh.co.th

-Hasan Che-aware and Pimwara Choksakulpan

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Residents in Songkhla's Hat Yai district grasp a rope for support and direction while wading through floodwater in their home town. Photo by Charoon Thongnual

Youths kill cop in karaoke bar fight

NAKHON SRI THAMMARAT: Three youths stabbed a police officer multiple times and carved a star into his forehead following an argument in a Chawang District karaoke bar last Thursday.

The officer, 41-year-old Sen Sgt Maj Somchai Chumjan, later died in hospital from his injuries.

Witnesses told police that Sen Sgt Maj Somchai was drinking with a friend in Khru Niow Karaoke when the attack happened.

Sen Sgt Maj Somchai, who had earlier been drinking in another bar with fellow police officers, became angry with three young men who were singing and dancing in front of the TV screen, blocked the subtitled song lyrics.

The officer threw some ice at the youths to get them to move. Later, when Sen Sgt Maj Somchai went to the toilet, the youths followed him.

They held him in a lock and stabbed him multiple times and,

in a scene reminiscent of Quentin Tarantino's latest film *Inglourious Basterds*, carved a star in his forehead.

Sen Sgt Maj Somchai managed to stagger back to his table. His friend rushed him to hospital, but doctors were unable to save him.

Inspector Chitranarong Nunak from Chawang Police said officers think they know the identities of the three youths and are now hunting for them.

Source: Khao Sod

Tourist nabbed for nude snooze

CHONBURI: A European tourist was arrested for indecent exposure in Pattaya on October 7 after falling asleep naked on the hood of a car outside a beer bar.

Carl Heinz Lienteller, 52, was picked up by police around 4.30am after 42-year-old Parichat Phusrisom reported there was a naked *farang* asleep on her Toyota, which was parked outside Garage Beer Bar. Mr Lienteller had also defecated on the car, and himself.

Police took him to Pattaya City Police Station to sober up and subsequently be charged.

Source: Khao Sod

Queer News

Canine caper leaves carnal cleric in coma

PITSANULOKE: An errant monk was caught in a compromising position on November 5 after he suffered a stroke while having sex with a temple dog behind Sam Toei Temple in Wat Thong District.

Villagers were drawn to the scene by the howls of protest from the dog, which the monk had lashed to a tree.

After seeing the monk in *flagrante delicto* with the heavily pregnant Thai Bangkaew dog, villagers called the police.

By the time officers arrived on the scene, the excitement had obviously been too much for the 65-year-old monk to take.

He was found lying unconscious next to the animal. A bottle of dishwashing liquid was found next to the monk, presumably

used as a makeshift lubricant.

Rescuers rushed the monk to hospital, where he remains in a coma. Doctors said he had suffered a stroke and are not sure if he will survive.

The cleric was identified in Thailand's best-selling daily newspaper as Phrapan Chitutasaro,

Phramali Dhamachantho, the abbot of Wat Sam Toei, said Phrapan had been at the temple for only a few days.

Temple authorities were preparing to ask him to leave because he had refused to provide references from his former temple.

Police did not say what Phrapan would be charged with if he regains consciousness.

Source: Thai Rath

Expats hurt by angry elephant

NAKHON PATHOM: An elephant at Samphran Elephant Ground & Zoo attacked two expats during a feeding session last Wednesday.

Witnesses said the large bull elephant grabbed the men in its trunk and flung them to the floor before its mahout managed to lead it away.

South African Peter Teron, 49, and American Richard Herring, 54, both suffered head injuries in the attack by the enraged pachyderm.

The attack happened after an elephant show where visitors are allowed to feed the animals.

The injured men were taken

to Mahachai Hospital in Samut Sakhon for initial treatment before being transferred to hospitals in Bangkok to complete their recovery.

The zoo manager reportedly accepted responsibility and offered to pay for all medical expenses incurred.

Source: Khao Sod

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Rising from the economic ashes

It's November already and there are few people in the hospitality business in Krabi with high hopes for this high season. Many businesses are hoping to survive by cutting costs, reducing prices or enticing customers with freebies and package deal discounts.

Some local businesses are being harder hit than others. The economic downturn has affected the world unevenly in terms of its depth and severity, and its recovery is also experiencing a variety of trajectories, depending on where you are located.

Market psychology is quite different if you are sitting in Amsterdam than if you are in Shanghai.

China, for one, has been less affected than its neighbors and mainland Chinese investors continue to pour money into Hong Kong, Macau and other countries in the region.

It is no secret that the powerful Thai Chinese community in the Kingdom is forging closer investment ties to the mainland during these harsh economic times.

Other investors in Thailand have started to become a bit bolder as the purse strings of the banks and venture capitalists are slowly loosening. Some see this as the opportune time to make an investment; business is depressed and the economy is just starting to stabilize.

As a successful Wall Street investor friend of mine always said, "Buy fear, sell greed".

Pockets of investment money continue to exist. A recent investment meeting of businessmen from five diverse countries proved that, while investors are certainly more averse to risk taking, a well thought out and researched business plan can get financed.



Investors' confidence that Koh Lanta's property and hospitality market is bouncing back has spurred construction of several new resort projects. This one, Thai Island Dream Estate, is at Klong Nin beach.

Several real estate development projects in Krabi seem to be timed well to take advantage of the coming improvement in consumer confidence.

While questions remain about Thailand's political future (was there ever a time when this wasn't the case?), it still rates highly in most categories as a holiday and residential destination.

One of the most ambitious projects is the Thai Island Dream Estate development on Klong Nin beach on Koh Lanta. This project encompasses 43 rai and offers a total of 140 units, including beach-front villas for 24.7 million baht.

Compared to similar properties on Koh Samui and Phuket, this is a bargain. Also on



ACROSS THE BAY

By Gus Reynolds

offer are pool villas, beach apartments, terrace apartments and seaview apartments, all ranging from 3.75 million to 14.75 million baht.

Financed and marketed by European backers, the Thai Island Dream Estate is proceeding as scheduled, with model units complete and sales already underway.

Back on the mainland, the Krabi Garden Resort has begun construction on its hillside lot in Klong Muang.

This project is backed by investors in Sweden and offers seaview villas and apartments.

Construction is being undertaken by Swedish company Lindab, makers of high quality insulated wall units that are energy efficient, soundproof, resistant to mold and moisture, and easy to construct.

The prices in this development range from 3.8 million to 12.2 million baht for the

apartments, while the villas are priced from 6.6 million to 11.4 million baht.

With construction underway and two units complete, the project is well positioned to sell all 42 units on offer.

Also in Klong Muang is a Thai-backed condominium project called AT SEA Condos.

This is one of the few properly registered condominium projects in Krabi. Sales interest has been good.

Its lower priced units are seen as a fairly safe investment and are the right price for this economic environment.

Prices start at 1.69 million for a studio and go up to 3.6 million baht for a two-bedroom condominium.

With attractive seaviews, the studio apartments have sold out already.

Another Thai-financed project of interest is a private marina being built in the Ban Lampo section of Ao Nang.

Unlike several other private marina projects that exist on paper (and dreams) only, this land has been secured for years and construction has been ongoing for some time.

This 'green marina' will keep all the mangrove trees on the sea front, utilize a natural inlet for access and include botanical gardens and a retirement village.

This eco-friendly project is also blessed with thousands of rai of surrounding mangrove forest and ensures a quiet natural setting for its residents.

The projects mentioned, all planned or financed during the economic downturn, should be well placed for the economic recovery, providing an inventory to suit all market tastes.

Let's hope the rising tide of improved business lifts all our boats!

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Botox while you shop



Acne, wrinkles and uneven pigmentation are just some of the facial issues that can be quickly and easily addressed these days with the plethora of hi-tech skin treatments available.

In fact, a quick visit to your local dermatologist for a Botox session or rejuvenation mask can be made during an everyday shopping trip.

Puttharaksa Aesthetic on the second floor of Homepro Village in Chalong is one new skin therapy place providing customized face-fixing services for men and women of all ages with medical technology, modern facial treatments and medication.

Specialists at the Phuket clinic – another is located in Bangkok on Sukhumvit Road – work in three different areas of skin care: acne, wrinkles and pigment problems.

The treatments available include Botox, Filler, Facelift and Rejuvenation Mask, each designed to banish wrinkles and tighten skin.

For giving the skin a glow, there are treatments such as Absolute Whitening, Mesotherapy and Derma-roller treatments.

Mesotherapy is a non-surgical cosmetic medicine treatment performed by injecting pharmaceutical and homeopathic medications such as plant extracts, vitamins, and other ingredients into the subcutaneous fat.

The injections target localized fat deposits, causing the fat cells to die.

The dermatologists at Puttharaksa Aesthetic are trained on a weekly basis to ensure they are kept up to date with the latest in skin care technology developments.

They also understand that it's not just hi-tech equipment that customers want to be treated with, but a little TLC goes a long way as well.

Treating acne can take several sessions of treatment but results can be clearly seen after the first session.

Puttharaksa Aesthetic's customers range from 15 years old to over 70, approximately 80 percent of them being Europeans aged 30 and over.

Most of the customers go for Botox and Filler treatments to rid facial areas of wrinkles by filling in areas under the skin to smooth out the creases, while most teenage customers go there for acne treatment.



LOST IN Translation

By Wilko

There's many a slip between in-tent and actual content in Thai hotel in dusty literature. But mangled English is not only the domain of brochure writers, often struggling in non-native English.

Native-English speaking guest comments can often be hilariously confusing. Have a look at these gems gleaned from the unwieldy pens of guests wishing to vent their praise or bile on internet pages devoted to the Thai Hotel Experience.

Guests with rose-tinted glasses

A hot water hose under the sink burst and hot water and steam flooded the room.

The maintenance staff did come and replace the hose right away and the housekeeper mopped up the floor.

The toilet also bubbled up and gurgled threateningly at regular intervals. It's hard to put my finger on why I did not like it.

How expensive is free?

The only problem I found was the breakfast which didn't have much choice and wasn't actually worth the price, but it was free.

There's quite a bit of stuff to do at the hotel. Tennis, snorkels/kayaks can be rented for free.

Risen from the dead

The following afternoon we returned to find our room swarming with dead flies.

Only in Thailand

The trip ended with a bit of a disaster. I carefully explained that my next destination was Phi Phi [Island]. The hotel offered to take me out on the hotel boat to meet the Phi Phi ferry.

I got on the ferry, having again explained where I wanted to go, only to wake up in Krabi. I went to the travel agent in Krabi, and explained that I needed to get to Phi Phi the same day to meet my girlfriend who was flying in from Singapore.

I was told that the last ferry had gone, but not to worry, they would find me a hotel, and a girl for the night.

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Emissions plan will hurt all

Talking Planes



by

Alastair Carthew

If you have ever traveled to Phuket from Europe on a regular airline, be afraid – be very, very afraid.

Not for your safety of course but for your pocket.

Fat cat bureaucrats from the European Union are out to 'get' many airlines for their carbon emission contribution to global warming, but it will be you, the customer, who eventually pays the price through your ticket.

The EU has decided that from 2012 onwards, the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) for aviation will come into effect.

The ETS is a somewhat complicated cap and trade scheme that charges all airlines flying to, from and within the European Union zone for their CO2 emissions.

This means airlines like Thai Airways, which flies in and out of many European cities every day, will be charged for CO2 emissions when its aircraft enter European Union air space.

You might argue, "I don't fly to Europe very often, so it will not effect me".

Oh yes it will.

Other areas – Asia-Pacific,

Australia and New Zealand – are already working on their own ETS schemes, as is Japan.

The whole idea is likely to snowball as other parts of the world basically retaliate against the European scheme, seen by many as a cash cow being created by the EU.

Put it this way: the International Air Transport Association (IATA), which represents over 230 airlines in 125 countries and has been vigorously opposing the ETS, estimates that by 2020, the ETS could cost the world's airlines up to US\$21.2 billion.

So who will eventually pick up this bill?

You and I.

The EU approach wouldn't be so bad if aviation was a huge contributor to CO2 emissions but contrary to what every rabid environmentalist would tell you, energy production and ground transport are major contributors to the world's CO2 emissions.

Aviation only contributes around two percent of CO2 emissions but because of the industry's high profile, it's an easy target for politicians and bureaucrats to aim at and make a few billion dollars on the side.

To combat this, the airline industry – based on 2005 CO2 emission levels – has committed to improving fuel efficiency by an average of 1.5 percent annually until 2020; stabilizing emissions from 2020 with carbon-neutral growth; and cutting emissions in half by 2050.

All of this might sound quite a long way off but you have to start somewhere. That some-

where includes alternative fuels such as biofuels.

In this regard, there are now well publicized biofuel experiments already undertaken by airlines like Virgin Atlantic and Air New Zealand, proving that flying an aircraft safely on biofuel is feasible, albeit still at an early stage of development and certainly nowhere near the point of flying commercially with it.

But progress is being made in some surprising places.

In the Middle East, for example, the Arab Air Carriers Organization (AACO) will be the first to deploy what is called an Aircraft Emissions Manager, the world's only monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) software tool specially designed to accurately measure carbon emissions and fuel burn in tonne-kilometers as per the new EU requirements.

All twelve AACO airlines have taken up the MRV developed by air transport IT specialist firm SITA.

Qatar Airways has recently completed the world's first commercial passenger flight powered by fuel made from natural gas.

An Airbus A340-600 made a six-hour flight on Rolls-Royce Trent 556 engines using a 50-50 blend of synthetic Gas to Liquids (GTL) kerosene and conventional oil-based kerosene fuel.

These are just some of the many measures being taken by the industry to develop alternative, cleaner burning, lower CO2 emissions initiatives to meet the demands of climate change.

Alastair Carthew is a freelance writer and public relations consultant based in Phuket. Email: alastaircarthew@gmail.com.

Behaving badly at 32,000 feet



AIR RAGE: British actor and former soccer star Vinnie Jones leaves Uxbridge magistrates court in west London, December 2003. Jones was sentenced to 80 hours of community service and fined £1,000 for an air-rage assault on a fellow passenger on a Virgin Atlantic flight bound for Tokyo. Photo: AFP / Odd Andersen

The seat pocket in front of you on a plane can often contain a lot more things of interest than just the airline's in-flight magazine. Disgusting trash, toenail clippings, mushy meals, chewed tobacco juice spit, dirty nappies, half eaten food, candy... and that's just the more disgusting ones.

Psychologists say that when people board an aircraft they can become 'psychologically off-kilter' and are more likely to do silly and unreasonable things – stuff they wouldn't normally dream of doing. Nose picking, drink throwing and general tantrum-like behavior are all favorites and, of course, the 'Mile High Club' (having sex in the sky) is also popular with first class passengers mainly.

But why? Many people blame the no-smoking rule, others blame alcohol. However, it has been shown that even people on alcohol-free airlines like those in the Middle East, can behave badly.

There are other reasons, for which the airlines are mainly to blame, such as people being forced to share confined spaces, the quality of the food (or lack of food on many airlines these days) and delays. All of this creates a belief among the customers that airlines have little emotional attachment to them, so why not behave badly and trash their airplanes in return?

It's all a bit sad, especially for the poor flight attendants who have to dodge flying glasses of booze, put up with abuse from stressed mothers trying to shut little Johnnie up because he is disturbing the other passengers and wrestling alcohol-fueled men and women to the floor.

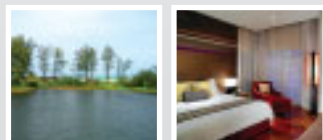
Some airlines even carry handcuffs and strait jackets for such eventualities. The only saving grace is that punishment for such behavior can be quite severe. Paying the cost of a Boeing 747 diverting to an unscheduled airport to offload an offending passenger could turn out to be one very expensive extra drink.

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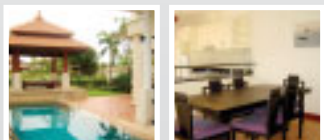
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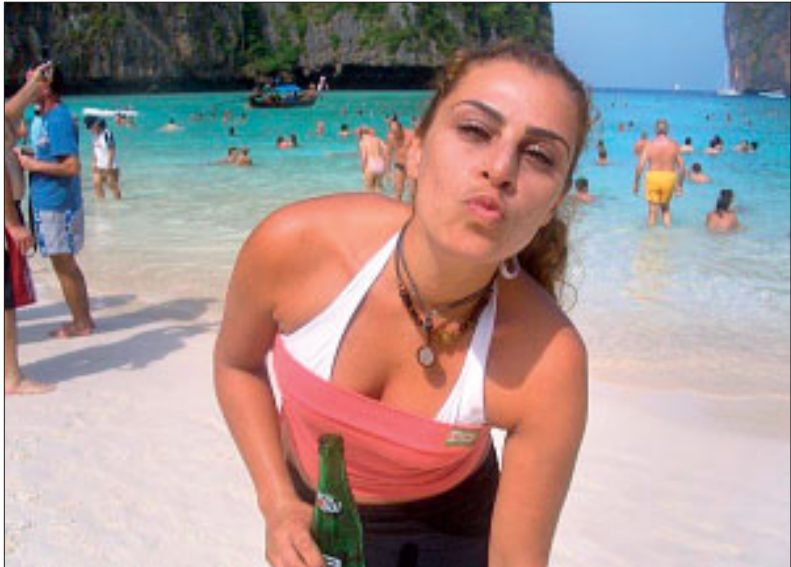
The Beer Garden



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PATONG - PHUKET

From Kata to Kabul and

By Fraser Morton



BEACH LIFE: Carol Kayed lived and worked in Phuket from 2006 to 2008.

An American United Nations training officer stationed in Afghanistan, who is currently holidaying in Phuket, has been ordered not to return to her post in Kabul because of deteriorating security in the region.

Carol Kayed, 32, flew to

Phuket in early November for a two week holiday and to catch up with old friends.

But after the UN ordered 600 of its 6,000 international staff serving in Afghanistan to be evacuated and relocated to safer sites, Miss Kayed's Phuket holiday looks certain to be extended.

Miss Kayed lived in Kata, Phuket from 2006 until 2008, where she worked as an English Teacher at Katjonkiet and Banmaireab schools.

A life-long human rights campaigner, volunteer and aid worker, she was posted to the Afghan capital to serve as an English training officer in June last year.

Miss Kayed said she was uncertain of what exactly the relocation plans would mean for her, but speculated she may have to return to the US or be deployed to a UN safety zone 'somewhere' in the Middle East.

The relocation move came a week after suicide bombers, posing as police officers killed five UN foreign staff in central Kabul.

The UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) said last week, they were taking additional steps to reduce risks to its national and international staff serving in Afghanistan in light of the October 28 attack against UN staff in Kabul as well as further ongoing threats.

However, the relocation of foreign staff was played down by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon who rejected reports the UN was set to leave Afghanistan altogether.

Meanwhile, it has also been reported that the withdrawal of UN international staff has hampered US President Obama's counter-insurgency war strategy at a time his top commander in Afghanistan is calling for thousands of more troops to the region.

But news of the relocation comes as a severe blow to Western efforts to stabilize the country, and to Miss Kayed, who said she was 'devastated' she may have to leave her Afghan home and students behind but was 'content to be stranded in familiar surroundings in Phuket.'

In Kabul, the majority of



KABUL: (top) Two UNICEF school kids make their way home from school across debris and rubble.



Right: The capital's 3 million residents try to go about their daily lives as normal amid the constant threat of suicide bombings and unpredictable violence.

Miss Kayed's students are adult Afghan nationals working for UN agencies.

But being driven to work under armed guard each day and living under tight security in UN compounds didn't faze the bubbly training officer.

She said working with people who have endured 30 years of war and still wear a smile on their face was astonishing and made everything all worth while.

"My students would often bring a tear to my eye, and most of our English conversation classes would almost always come back to a war-related subject," she said.

"Many of my students had suffered and lost so much, but they still found a way to keep upbeat and we had some wonderful classes," she said.

Miss Kayed recalled one class when her oldest student, a 68 year-old white-bearded man happily joined in a 'head, shoulders, knees and toes sing-song.'

"He loved it and the whole class found it all hysterical," she said.

While Miss Kayed said teaching in Afghanistan is fulfilling, she added that she was the first female teacher her students ever had.

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Index livingmall

back again . . .



KABUL: The 3,000 year-old city has been ravaged by war since 1978.

women were not allowed to teach and girls were not allowed to attend school.

Heinous human rights violations were widespread, with women banned from seeing male doctors, laughing and listening to music.

Adding to this, they lived under prison like conditions where animals were seen of higher importance.

Public stoning for women caught having sex out of wedlock and fingers being cut off for wearing nail polish occurred regularly under Taliban rule.

But Miss Kayed said the fall of the Taliban in late 2001 was a

historic turning point for Afghan women that saw a number of UNICEF-supported education programmes to train new Afghan teachers made available country-wide.

Miss Kayed says the effort to educate Afghan women teachers is making headway and was the reason she applied for her current UN role.

Women's rights and the role they play in modern day Afghan society seems to be continually getting better, she said.

"Although there are improvements, women are banned from driving and misogyny is still widespread."

Miss Kayed said corporal punishment is also still widely used in Afghan schools and children are often beaten by teachers with steel rulers.

However, Miss Kayed said efforts to stabilize insurgent attacks was an issue that was 'defiantly not making headway, adding that she was heartbroken when she heard of the most recent suicide bombings and deaths.

"Security and safety are constant concerns for all international staff but we often have to take a route where we travel on the most dangerous road in the world just outside Kabul."

A road, she said where bombings and kidnappings take place regularly.

Miss Kayed said heightened security measures to protect the Afghan people is what's needed.

"There are orphans everywhere on the streets of Kabul, living homeless and in constant danger."

"Kids take care of kids is the philosophy in Kabul, she said"

Miss Kayed said she is intent on going back to Afghanistan to help efforts to stabilize the country.

"With the relocation of international staff I can only hope that I will get to see my students again."

But, until she receives word, she will have to stay on Phuket.

"Just now I'm stranded in paradise until I receive my next orders," she said.



FLYING HIGH IN AFGHANISTAN: United Nations training officer Carol Kayed takes part in a kite flying day held at a secure compound in Kabul.

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'Green' kids aim to help the nation



Above: Darasamuth students (from left) Panit Tangjak, Sorawich Siripan and Phanthira Yangsuebrakul proudly display their trophy and certificate for finishing second. They and the windmill they created (left) will go onto to represent the South in the finals in Bangkok.

A trio of smart students from Darasamuth School will represent Southern Thailand in a national science contest aimed at demonstrating the potential of wind power.

Sorawich Siripan, 13, Panit Tangjak, 14, and Phanthira Yangsuebrakul, 14, were awarded second prize in the Southern round of the Ministry of Energy's 'Wind Challenge' scholastic science contest

held in Songkhla last week.

Defeating 14 other teams, the trio will now go on to represent the South in the finals in Bangkok in December.

Their project, *Kanghan Lom Chuay Chat* ('Windmills Help the Nation'), comprising an electricity-generating windmill, is made entirely from recycled materials and other low-cost equipment.

The students' teacher Ajarn Nummon said the project aimed

to show the cost-saving potential of wind power.

"We realized the school spends a lot of money on energy, so we came up with this project to show how wind power can reduce energy costs," he said.

"We're delighted to win the prize and be given the chance to represent Phuket against other teams from across the country," he added.

Panit thanked Ajarn Nummon and Sister Prayongsri

Yamsuntorn for giving her and her schoolmates the chance to take part in the competition.

The students adapted their wind turbine design over several weeks to make it work efficiently in low winds and generate enough energy to power lighting.

The wind turbine won the approval of energy ministry officials when the students put on a demonstration for them on a local beach.

-Sitthipong Nongkaew

Reflections of the Mediterranean



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PLAZA

EXPAT GALLERY

Colin Mackay

While sitting in a local pub in my village in Cherngtalay after work, the warning "Here's trouble" inevitably signifies the arrival of Colin Mackay. These all-too-frequent visits usually occur during one of his legendary two-hour expeditions to order a pizza for his wife. Yet he lives but five minutes away.

Colin Mackay has spent the last three years writing a history of Phuket and the region, a huge task involving research from the earliest recorded history right up to today. It seems that unlike most of the Malay peninsula, Phuket was never colonized, primarily, according to a Spanish sea captain, because it was "one of the most dangerous and violent places known to the seafaring world."

"The Spanish Inquisitors had nothing on these lads," Colin says. "Many think the first Europeans to set foot on Phuket were the early tourists of the 1970s, but during the Ayutthaya period, which was drawing to a close about 200 years earlier, Phuket had two French governors."

The book is going to make an interesting read.

Colin arrived in Phuket in 1997 after a financially successful stint as a stockbroker in Hong Kong. At 50 baht to the U.S. dol-

lar, he bought a bit of land on the beach at Bang Tao and developed the first project in the north of the island, Ban Chai Nam.

Colin Mackay is a Scotsman (no surprise there). He was born in Kenya and grew up in Tanzania, which, according to him, justifies supporting South Africa in all sports, especially rugby – except when a contingent from that nation is playing Scotland. But if bets involving money are in play, he tends to stay with South Africa.

Colin studied in Edinburgh, earned a Masters in history, and got a job with Adventure Holidays as a guide on camel tours in the Sinai Desert. From there he journeyed overland towards Asia and Australia, ran white water rafting tours in Nepal and Australia, and finished up in Hong Kong as a photo-journalist. In the latter role, he did two stints as a war correspondent in Cambodia. It was as a journalist that he first found Phuket in 1986.

Back in Hong Kong, Colin says, "I decided to become a stock broker as the girls there weren't much interested in a journalist with an adventurous background."

According to legend, his stockbroking days yielded a lot of money in a fairly short time, so he left Hong Kong and went off

looking for shipwrecks where he indulged in treasure hunting.

This was a period during which he lived in the pirates' old hunting grounds, particularly the Dominican Republic where he learned to speak Spanish and developed a fondness for "poor countries with pretty girls."

When his treasure ran out he set up a venture capital fund in Austria and Russia, he says, investing in mining in Africa and South East Asia. In doing this he apparently made enough money to retire to Phuket, in 1997, for the primary purpose of writing history books.

He invested in the booming property market, with Ban Chai Nam and Surin Springs. Then came the very top-end Samsara, which became a victim of the great Phuket land "scandal", just before Colin was going to list his company on the Stock Exchange of Thailand.

"I felt like a hamster on an exercise wheel," he says, "so I got off it and went back to the history book."

He became president of the Hash House Harriers, "a club for drinkers with a running problem," and, of at least equal note, married his lawyer Anurak. They have a daughter, Skye.

After traveling the world for so many years Colin was finally able to settle down – to some extent. "If you're going to drink yourself to death," he says, "Phuket's as good as anywhere else to do it." – *Graham Doven*



By PETER CHILD FOR THE PHUKET GAZETTE

ABOUT EXPAT GALLERY

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

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ALL SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM: Ete Ice Cream staff at their outlet in Lime Light Phuket in Phuket City show off their new flavors for the month of November. Ete Ice Cream, which has three parlors on Phuket, are now offering hungry shoppers blackberry and garcina (a member of the same family as the mangosteen).



AMBASSADOR'S RECEPTION: H.E. Quinton Quayle, Ambassador to United Kingdom, visited the Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort & Spa as the guest speaker for the British Business Association Phuket Seminar on November 5. The Ambassador was in Phuket to deliver a speech entitled "Half Time Team Talk", reflecting on the first two years of his four-year posting. Ambassador Quayle (left) was welcomed to the hotel by the resort's general manager John M. Kidd.



BURN THAT GUY: Fire master Howard Digby-Johns in robes of wizardry at the annual Bonfire Night ritual held at The Green Man Pub & Restaurant in Chalong on November 5. The traditional festivities, also known as Guy Fawkes Night in the UK and former British colonies, mark the downfall of Catholic conspirators' gunpowder plot to blow up parliament in 1605. Photo: Island Life photos




HOLY DAY: Former *Phuket Gazette* reporter Khunakorn 'Auy' Terdkiatkachorn stands with his mother Orathai, father Jarin and sister Natira on his ordination into the monkhood at Wichit Sangkaraam Temple in Phuket Town on the morning of November 9. Photo: Sakhorn Saengtongsamarnsin



HAPPY DAYS: Executives of new passenger carrier service Happy Air cut the ribbon to mark the launch of its new Phuket to Haad Yai route on October 31. Pictured from left to right are Happy air executives CEO and Captain Jiratid Ong-Aree; Deputy CEO Tassaporn Yokchure; President Sanoh Sontipun and Marketing Manager Phatcharapon Sontipun.



FIT AND HEALTHY: RPM Health Club at Royal Phuket Marina hosted a 'Rocktober Angels in Black and White Party' on October 30. As part of the evening organizers held a light-hearted contest to find the most healthy and beautiful people at the party. Pictured are competition winners Vladimir Zagadov (left) and Elena Volkova (right), and RPM Health Club's general manager Gary Robinson. Photo: Dan Miles



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Putting Spain on the map

BEHIND THE WHEEL
By Jeff Heselwood
jhc@netvigator.com

Where do the best supercars originate? The Italians have Ferrari, Maserati and Lamborghini; the Germans produce Mercedes-Benz and Audi; the French manufacture the frighteningly quick Bugatti Veyron; while the British develop the elegant Aston Martin.

But what about Spain?

Not the most likely contender, it's true, but a company in Valencia has produced the Iberian Peninsula's very own contender – the GTA Spano.

Experience in motorsport competition has been a key ingredient in the development of a car which features five world patents.

The chassis has been created combining Kevlar and carbon fibre as well as titanium.

The engine is an 8.3 litre, supercharged V10 mounted in a

The stunning GTA Spano



longitudinal rear position, producing a massive 780bhp (574kW) and 920Nm of torque. A bio-ethanol conversion is an optional extra, which ups the power to 840bhp.

Top speed is a claimed 340km/h, while the benchmark 0-100km/h sprint takes less than three seconds.

The GTA features a seven-speed sequential manual gearbox, with the option of an automatic system with paddle shift on the steering wheel.

The suspension comprises a 'double wishbone' configuration with adjustable shock absorbers to select 'ride hardness' and affords the possibility of raising

the bodywork over speed bumps.

The tires are the latest Pirelli P Zero set on specially developed wheels. The braking system features huge 380mm carbon-ceramic ventilated discs complete with six-piston callipers, while ABS is standard.

Directed by Domingo Ochoa, the GTA team manager, the project began three years ago and the company has now reached distribution agreements with many of the most relevant dealers in the world.

"We published the project for everyone one year ago after developing it technically and logistically for two years. Now,

after hard and exhausting work, we are ready to show the results," Ochoa explained.

"We are convinced it will be a car that will set a precedent on the international automobile scene."

After 15 years of elite-level automobile motorsport, GTAMotor decided to go one step further and make Ochoa's dream of building a supercar in Spain come true.

The result was a car that combines all the automobile technology with elegance and exclusivity.

The use of new technologies in several components led to a more ecological product than similar products currently on the market.

The company intends to use this technological transfer as the launch pad for a pioneering automobile industry in Spain.

Designed by GTA Motor's engineering director Sento Pallardó, a limited edition run of 99 GTA Spanos will be produced.

These 99 cars will boast the most advanced technology, innovative aesthetics, studied aerodynamics and a good number of solutions for the future, all of which are capable of competing with internationally prestigious brands in terms of image and performance.

One of the Spano's main

distinguishing characteristics is its lateral view where the doors fit perfectly into the air intakes.

Apart from performing an aerodynamic function, these air intakes refrigerate elements such as oil coolers, power-assisted steering and the brakes.

Its design is original – yet another distinguishing mark of the concept.

Access to the interior is accomplished by pressing the GTA logotype, rendering it a more elegant design thanks to the lack of traditional handles.

Its frontal view – along with its two large lateral air intakes – afford it a strong personality, while its convex bonnet, complete with an aerodynamic streamlining zone to facilitate the air flow, provides it with an athletic look.

At the rear, the wing fits perfectly into the design with an underfloor diffuser, while the two air intakes and the twin exhaust system emphasize the vehicle's sporty character.

Valencia's GTA Motor has come to distribution agreements with the most important companies on the world automobile scene and will soon be seen in dealerships in China, the United Arab Emirates, the USA, Russia, Germany and Italy.



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

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EVENTS CALENDAR

Upcoming events on the island

WET & WILD: an exhibition of art by Robin Gillow

November 26 - 27



Don't miss WET & WILD, an exhibition of original art by Robin Gillow. The general public are welcome to attend the opening party at the Ao Chalong Yacht Club on November 26.

Exhibition schedule:

- November 26: opening party.
- November 27: Ao Chalong Yacht Club.
- November 28 - December 5: Kata Beach Resort.
- Christmas/New Year: Kata Beach Resort.

From 7pm to 9pm at Ao Chalong Yacht Club and Kata Beach Resort. For further information contact Robin Gillow. T: 081-797 1421. E: robinzart@gmail.com.

November 14. BIS' Eighth Annual Football Tournament

British International School invites you to its eighth annual Football Tournament on Saturday, November 14. In this year's tournament 19 school teams will compete at the BIS campus in various age categories from under-9s to over-15s. The action-packed day starts at 8.30am and ends at 3.30pm. Contact the school details. T: 076-238711. E: cespouy@bisp Phuket.ac.th. W: bcis.ac.th.

November 14. Eighth Annual QSI Fun Run

A day of fun activities and fund raising at Bangwad Reservoir in Kathu to help improve the educational experience of all students attending the non-profit international school. There will be music, games, silent auctions, raffles and lots of other family fun from 6am until 8pm, including a 6.5-kilometer run and two one-kilometer runs. Drinks and BBQ will be served. For more information contact Matt Zandstra. T: 076-8813580. E: matt-zandstra@qsi.org.

November 14. PIWC Anniversary Party '20 Years and Still Rocking'

The Phuket International Women's Club is celebrating its 20th anniversary with a party in the spirit of the '60s, '70s and '80s at Le Meridien Phuket Beach Resort on November 14. Be there or be square! Tickets on sale now. From 6.30pm to 1am. Contact Carole Dux. T: 076-200730. E: info@phuketiw.com. W: phuketiw.com.

November 15. Phuket Pearl Lions – A Ray of Hope Bowling fundraiser

The Lions Club of Phuket Pearl invites you to 'Have Fun for Funds' by joining the charity bowling competition on Sunday, November 15 at C. S. Bowl in Big C. Entry for a team of three costs 3,000 baht but donations of any amount can be made. Complimentary vouchers to promote participating businesses of any type are also welcome. Donations are needed more than ever as living conditions for the less fortunate deteriorate more and more. From 9am to 4.30pm. For further information contact Adrienne Tusoni. T: 076-284 713. E: adrienne.tusoni@gmail.com. Or call K Wanida on 086-954 4389.

November 15. 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: KhunWoody.com.

November 20. Jim Newport's 'Tinsel Town'

A literary first for Phuket – the global launch of a new book, Jim Newport's *Tinsel Town - 'Another Rotten Day in Paradise'*. Come and meet the author at Hung Fat's Restaurant in Kalim, get a signed copy and then read all about the seamy underbelly of Hollywood, by the man who knows where the skeletons are buried. For more info contact Jim Newport. Tel: 086-5189 597. E: jwnewport@aol.com. W: vampireofsiam.com.

November 21 - 22. 4th Andaman Phuket Soccer 7s

An invitation tournament providing a socially competitive environment for players who approach the game with the right attitude and in the right spirit. Categories include open men, masters (over-35s) and women (last year's participants will be given preference). With no prize money at stake, teams take part for one reason only – their love of soccer. Games are two seven-minute halves (no offside rule) on 3/4-size pitch (70m x 45m), full-size goals and rolling substitutions. Registration open now. From 9am to 5pm at FIFA Phuket Tsunami Football Center. For more information contact Alain and Tim. T: 02-9906881. E: info@Thai7s.com. W: Thai7s.com.

November 21. Phuket Yacht Club Celebrates 40th Birthday

Skippers Restaurant at Royal Phuket Marina is hosting the PYC's 40th birthday celebration on Saturday, November 21. The event will ap-

peal to all ages with children's entertainment, a buffet dinner, silent auctions, happy hour bar, music and raffle prizes. From 5.30pm to 10.30pm at Skippers. For more information contact Donna Stephens. T: 086-120 0752. E: awatea@loxinfo.co.th. W: phuketyachtclub.info.

November 22. 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: KhunWoody.com.

November 25 - 28. Phuket International Sportfishing Tournament 2009

Registrater at the Captain Hook Bar and Grill from 6pm on November 25 Fishing days are from November 26 to 28. Prize giving dinner on November 28 from 8pm onwards at the Tamarind Bar with a live band, free food and beer for all anglers and their guests. For more info contact Uwe Schitteck. E: uweschitteck@yahoo.com. W: phuket-international-sportfishing-tournament.com.

November 27 - 28. Seventh Phuket International Soccer 7s

The one and only Phuket Soccer 7s will celebrate its seventh anniversary this year. This tournament has developed into one of the largest sevens tournaments in Asia. Organizers expect up to 50 teams taking part in three categories: open men, masters (over-35s), and women (last year's participants will be given preference). Games are two seven-minute halves, no offside rule, on 3/4-size pitch (70m x 45m), full-size goals and rolling substitutions. Please register your interest now. From 9am to 5pm at FIFA Phuket Tsunami Football Center. For further information contact Alain and Tim. T: 02-990 6881. E: info@Thai7s.com. W: Thai7s.com.

November 28 - December 5. The Phuket King's Cup Regatta

First sailed in 1987 to celebrate His Majesty the King of Thailand's 60th birthday, the Phuket King's Cup Regatta is now in its 23rd year. From 8am to 10pm at Kata Beach. For further information contact Khun Kae Wattana. T: 076-273380. E: info@kingscup.com. W: kingscup.com.

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PUZZLES

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID
OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

TETRIS TURNS 25!

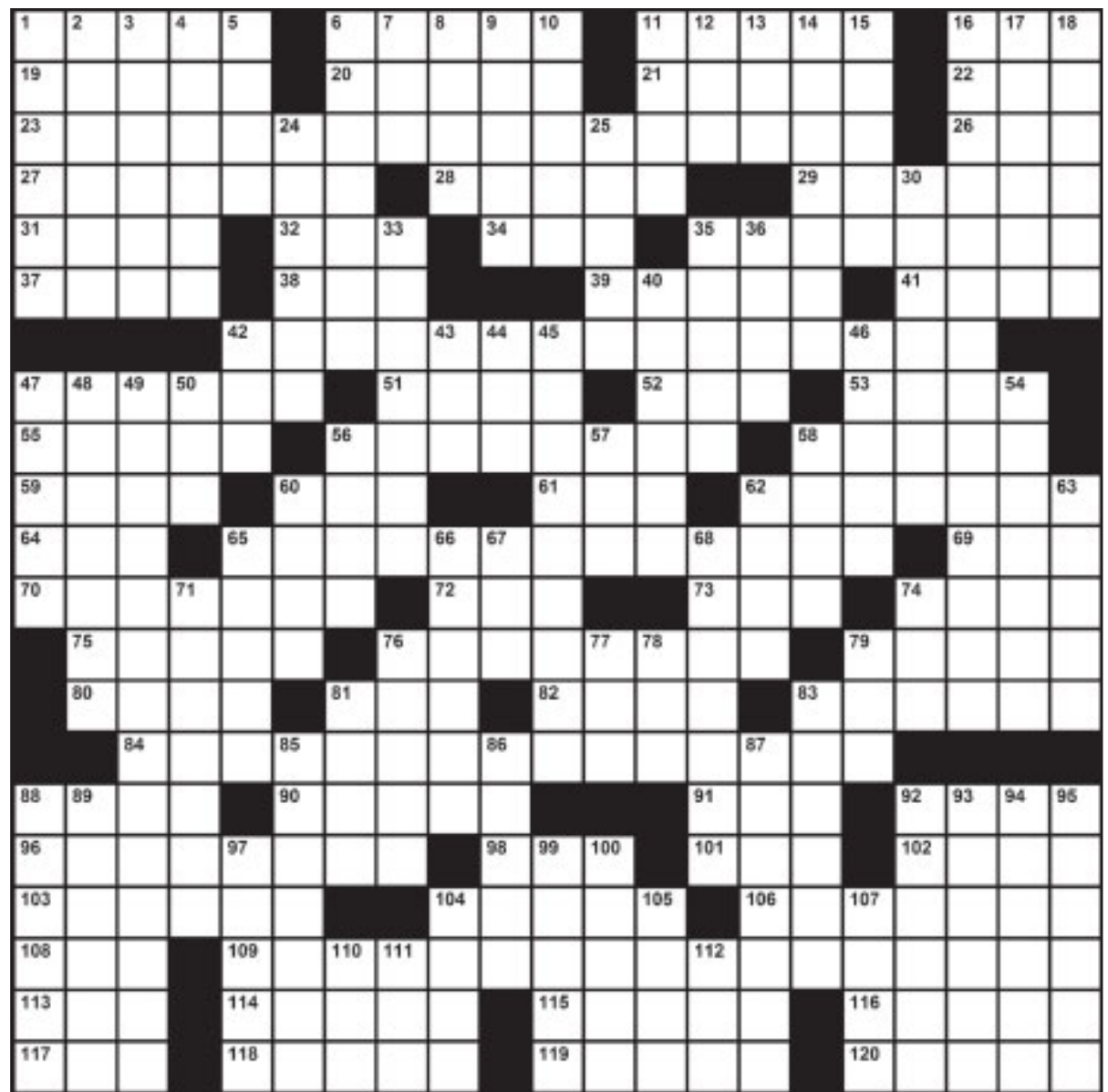
Solution: 8 letters

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

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9/9

Academy, Algorithm, Brown, Cascade, Colors, Computers, Cyan, Disappear, Drop, Easyspin, Fill, Gravity, Green, Hard, Horizontal, Lines, Locking, Magenta, Manipulate, Matrix, Mode, Moscow, Pajinov, Platforms, Records, Red, Role, Rotation, Sent, Sideways, Single, Snap, Soft, Sold, Soviet, Speed, Sport, Spots, Stacks, Super, Tactics, Tetrominoes, Yellow



ACROSS

- 1 It puts the whole world in your hands
6 Make accustomed to
11 Painter Picasso
16 Polling amt.
19 Pet-store purchase
20 Paired like oxen
21 Almost-sacrificed son
22 Hockey legend Bobby
23 Fasting may be a form of it
26 Grazing area
27 Twin sister of Apollo
28 Tender-hearted one
29 "Mutiny on the Bounty" island
31 "Candid Camera" openings?
32 Legendary avian
34 Letter that sounds like a question
35 Affecting human infants
37 Works a Kakuro puzzle
38 Something for the golden yrs.
39 Build up, as a fortune
41 Spots for discounted items
42 Like some fields
47 At an angle
51 Helmut of Germany
52 Scottish turndown
53 "Take ___ a compliment"
55 Apt rhyme for "Cheers"
56 Like Camden Yards during night games
58 Activity for young swingers?
59 It's often made up
60 Start of a giggle
61 Baby goat sound
62 Low-cal drink
64 90 degrees from starboard

- 65 Purchasing stimulus
69 Eggs, biologically
70 Madame's chamber
72 "___ So Fine" (Chiffons oldie)
73 "I'm ___ Rappaport"
74 Water container of pre-plumbing days
75 Some singing birds
76 Franc divisions
79 It may be stolen
80 Horne who sang "Deed I Do"
81 Winner's take
82 Genesis son
83 Parked like a bark
84 Brotherhoods
88 Barbecue bar
90 Spoil the surprise
91 Phase out
92 Fail to connect with
96 Negligent
98 Travel aimlessly (with "about")
101 ___ Beta Kappa
102 Youth org. or disco hit
103 Inverse trig function
104 Generous granter
106 Needing bailing out
108 Teammate of Babe
109 Result of getting physical?
113 Yale alum
114 Jocks' antitheses
115 Conclusion
116 It may be added to the bill
117 Complete collection
118 Portfolio holding
119 Dost speak
120 "Happy Birthday" writers

DOWN

- 1 Petting zoo animal
2 Got misty-eyed
3 Had staying power
4 Evaluate, as for

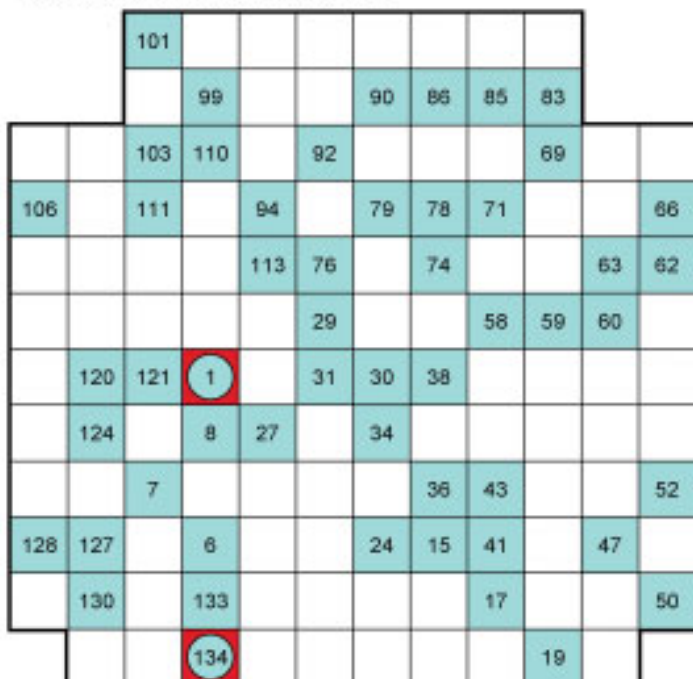
- 5 Adjust with a wedge
6 Weedy abandoned lot, e.g.
7 "Conjunction Junction" conjunction
8 Some Hawaiians pick them
9 Scatter again, as seed
10 Benefit morally
11 Feel sorry for
12 "___ matter of fact ..."
13 Make off-limits
14 Cause of some intolerance
15 One is Indian
16 Clout in D.C., for some
17 Canea native
18 Backpacker's byways
24 Manly
25 Cook, as clams
30 Natural environment
33 Egg layer
35 Be shrewish with
36 Feudal fieldhand
40 "Flashdance" hit
42 7-in. platters
43 Before-long connection
44 P, on fraternity row
45 Michelangelo or Rembrandt
46 Dalai Lama's homeland
47 Britcom with Edina and Pats
48 Coastal birds
49 Where big speakers are found?
50 Seam discovery
54 Native of Ljubljana
56 Adrenaline trigger
57 ___ du Flambeau, Wisc.
58 Add a bit of color to
60 "Get a load of ___!"
62 Comedy teams, usually
63 Cut back

- 65 Schwarzenegger role
66 Place in a Presley song title
67 Teasdale's twilight time
68 Simplest type of process
71 What de stenographer takes?
74 Tree-hugger's prefix
76 Articles on a rack
77 It's accommod-ating
78 Question asked with raised eyebrows
79 "Mamma Mia!" song
81 Air Force One VIP, briefly
83 Saudi Arabian site of Muhammad's tomb
85 Strips blubber from
86 "Mary Tyler Moore" actress Georgia
87 Put a damper on
88 Features of Libras and Pisces
89 Inmate's hope
92 Beyond ordinary understanding
93 Slow the progress of
94 Basket maker
95 Dionysian attendants
97 Climbing tropical vine
99 Is entitled to a hand
100 Swinging Dors of British cinema
104 Wind blast
105 Sin of the green-eyed
107 Longfellow's "The Bell of ___"
110 Yearbook gp.
111 Suffix with "stock" or "block"
112 They're highly recommended

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Complete the grid so that numbers 1 - 134 connect horizontally, vertically or diagonally:



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Difficulty ★★★★★

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Answers below



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A night to remember

because of my economic condition, which may be described most elegantly as penurious.

To be elevated suddenly to the unimaginable luxury of a suite at Mom Tri's Boathouse threw me into deep culture shock.

The Boathouse is a lovely, rambling teakwood lodge, built in Thai style right on Kata Beach, with a superb view of the sea and gardens all around.

The suite was palatial and so big I got lost in it. It had a large bathtub with hot running water, a 50-inch TV screen and an emperor-sized bed big enough to sleep an entire village.

Best of all, it was free.

Life doesn't get any better than that, folks, and when I die I don't want to go to heaven, I just want to spend the rest of eternity being pampered in the luxury of the Boathouse.

My side-kick and help-mate Khunying Ann was equally ecstatic.

The charming and efficient Public Relations manager Lisa Sol welcomed us warmly and

helped us get settled in.

We had a day to acclimatize before the gala event on the evening of the 16th (it didn't take long – we got used to this lifestyle in no time at all).

Fearful that nobody would show up, I had sent emails to everybody I know on Phuket, begging them to come and give me some face. They responded like champions.

Among the notable attendees were the *Gazette's* publisher, John Magee, a.k.a. Magee the Magnificent Multimedia Megamogul, erstwhile managing editor Alasdair Forbes, current managing editor Nick Davies and a host of local literary luminaries.

Best of all was a stunning contingent of beautiful young Thai staffers from the *Gazette*, each of them excelling in the pulchritude of superstars like Jessica Alba, Charlize Theron, and Angelina Jolie.

The event was emceed by the irrepressible Bruce Stanley, whose charismatic presence added color and panache to

compensate for the squat and stodgy image I tend to project.

I read two messterpieces – one about cockroaches, one about expats.

Scholarly note: I have always been annoyed by the inability of writers to invent a better name for any written composition than the ugly word 'piece'. 'Piece' is fine if you're talking about cake, pie or even a handgun, but a unit of written composition requires a grander appellation, so I call such effusions messterpieces.

I used to call them excretions, but that's just for the bad ones.

I had been worried about the question-answer session. I expected a hostile audience to crush me with unanswerable face-losers like these:

Why can't you write like Chekhov?

What has inspired the delusion that any rational human being could possibly be interested in the drivel which you constantly inflict upon us?

Why don't you go back to

wherever you came from?

Fortunately, the audience was friendly and the questions were mellow.

One questioner, however, struck a raw nerve when he asked if I'm one of those troglodytes who still believe in grammar.

I answered an emphatic yes, for I am a former English teacher.

I lament the meltdown of the language of Shakespeare and Dryden under the brainless atrocities inflicted upon it by callow teenyboppers addicted to internetspeak – BTW, LOL, c u l8r and all that.

I know nothing about DVDs, iPods, Facebook, YouTube, Twitter and all the excrescences of contemporary techno-worship.

But I do know the difference between a gerund and a participle, and any writer worth his salt should too, never mind that we're all headed for extinction.

In all, the experience was a foretaste of heaven and if they ever want to invite me again, I'm ready.

S. Tsow can be flamed at s.tsow@ymail.com, except when he's dreaming that he's back at the Boathouse.

They say that every dog has his day and this old dog had his day on July 16, 2009, when I was the guest speaker at a Writer's Night hosted by Mom Tri's Boathouse on Kata Beach.

Being the main dude at such a classy function is heady stuff. To write about it may be self-indulgent and narcissistic, but I'm going to do it anyway.

I'm an 'Ice Age backpacker' and ordinarily I stay at seedy ratholes with names like the Happy New Squalor Guesthouse, where they'll give you one bedsheet if you're lucky (I didn't say it would be clean), there are cockroaches in the mattress and the bathroom is in the alley.

I stay at such places

Horoscopes



Isla Star

SCORPIO (October 24-November 22): The second half of November will prove to be a more relaxing period for those born under the sign of Scorpio. Pressure at work is lifted when a new colleague shows they are more capable than you suspected. If your birthday falls during the week ahead, expect to visit pastures new in the coming year.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23-December 21): Sagittarians seeking to improve their fitness levels are advised to beware of the no pain, no gain method. The stars suggest that physical damage could be caused by over-exertion this week. A dream you have early next week can help you understand why a recent romance didn't work out. The number six is lucky on Sunday.

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 20): Capricorns trying to plan ahead for the holiday season next month receive news that could prompt a family dispute. You should wait until next week before finalizing your trip as the astral atmosphere will be clearer then. Love is also subject to a difference of opinion when someone close to you reveals they have been on a spending spree.

AQUARIUS (January 21-February 19): If you need to ask a favor, Capricorn is a soft touch this weekend. Aquarians who have finally accepted they have too much on their plate this month should seriously consider offloading some responsibilities. Your family life will become more relaxed as soon as you devote more time to those closest to you.

PISCES (February 20-March 20): A business scheme ripens quickly, but should be harvested slowly. Pisceans who are impatient to move on to new investments are advised to wait until the beginning of next year. This is not the mom-ent to embark on a new relationship, but getting to know a fire sign holds promise for the future.

ARIES (March 21-April 20): Your hot-headed mood causes friction this week. Arians who feel let down by a business colleague should not allow this to affect other relationships. Where romance is concerned, those who would like to impress another fire sign have the perfect chance to do so this weekend. The number seven is lucky on Sunday.

TAURUS (April 21-May 21): Taureans are likely to be affected by a bout of forgetfulness this week. Make careful notes of appointments to avoid unnecessary stress. Friends who were planning to visit you in December may need to bring their trip forward, so take rain checks on other offers for next month. Those who are single and considering an involvement with a fire sign learn something to their advantage.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21): The second half of November brings a chance for change in your working life. An employment offer you weren't impressed with is likely to be repackaged to appear more tempting. Those Geminis who would like to have more time to enjoy life could decide that less money is worth more happiness.

CANCER (June 22-July 23): The second half of the month sees Cancerians feeling more positive about their lives. Completion of an important business scheme is indicated to be cause for celebration this weekend. Romance is somewhat less well-starred when a shaky relationship with another water sign is put to the test. The number three can be lucky this Saturday.

LEO (July 24-August 22): Something you have been trying hard to achieve in the world of work begins to look more

promising. Those born under the sign of Leo who needed more support than they received earlier this month will now be showered with offers of help. Joining forces with Taurus is the recommended course of action.

VIRGO (August 23-September 23): Things look up for many Virgoans during the second half of November. A lucky streak at work should boost your confidence and the astral atmosphere lightens for those attempting to branch into other

areas. Love brings disappointment this weekend when three into two won't go, but Sagittarius could offer distraction.

LIBRA (September 24-October 23): Those Librans who are having a hard time combining study with work could consider cutting down on their responsibilities. Your general tendency to go it alone may be having a negative effect on a personal relationship and confiding more in a partner is recommended.

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Just missing the locals

Now in its fourth year, the Phuket Thailand Open beach volleyball tournament last week was the best and biggest ever, with 66 teams from 28 countries taking part.

There was a great deal of excitement during the third-place final, when a large contingent of Russian fans cheered Maria Bratkova and Evgenia Ukolova to an exciting win over Lauren Fendrick and Ashley Ivy of the US.

While the all-US final lacked the excitement of that match, it was nevertheless a masterful performance by world number one pairing of April Ross and Jen Kessy.

So good was it in fact that it left some in the crowd with the same feeling one gets when watching one of the Klitchko brothers dispatch challengers in boxing's heavyweight division: a strange mix of awe and apathy.

Despite the fact that entry to all of the exciting matches was free of charge, there were quite a few empty seats throughout the tournament, including the championship match.

A look in the stands throughout revealed that most of those who came out to enjoy the play were foreign tourists, not Thais.

All this begs the question: with such attractive, world-class athletes; excellent organization; strong pre-event publicity; a nice breezy venue and no admission charge, why hasn't the event – and beach volleyball in general – failed to really take off among Thais?

Some have suggested that it may be that Thailand lacks the kind of 'sporting culture' found in Western countries, but this is probably not the case.

Thais get just as riveted by sporting events as any other, provided they have a horse in the race.

Unfortunately, too many people in Phuket try to recreate this passion artificially, by betting on matches.

Getting back to beach volleyball, it is likely more Thais would have turned out to watch if the five Thai pairs were not eliminated from the competition so early on.

Another factor is the sun. While hanging out by the beach on a sunny day might be the Western definition of bliss, most Thais still see the fiery orb as something to curse, not worship. Perhaps playing at night under floodlights could be a partial solution.

Whatever the case, the Phuket Thailand Open continues to grow, and this year seven teams took part in an amateur event for hotel workers that ran concurrently and drew good crowds of supporters.

Next year event organizers Pentangle Promotions hopes to expand this amateur tournament and hold workshops at local schools to get more youth involved. These are positive steps in helping this fun and very healthy sport really take hold here. [see related column, facing page.]

– **Stephen Fein**

The Phuket Gazette

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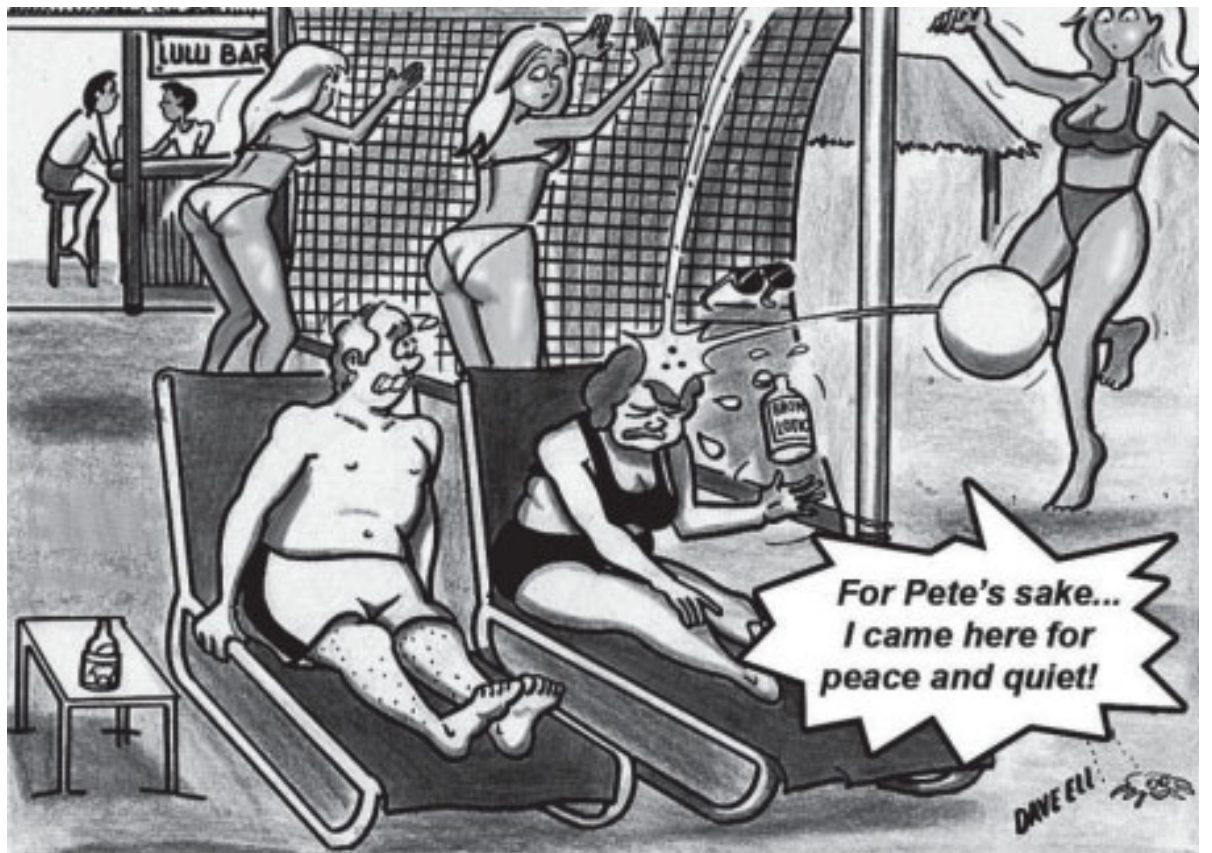
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Letters

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 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 stairs

Regarding Dan Waites' editorial piece on wheelchair access to allow disabled persons to study the CCTV monitors at Phuket City Police station (*Phuket Gazette*, November 7), one thought immediately comes to mind: if a lift is too expensive, why was thought not given at an earlier stage to locating the monitors at ground level?

Lack of access for the disabled is common throughout Thailand.

A typical case in question are the new Immigration offices; empty useless space at ground level and a grand staircase to the upper levels.

Last year I arrived in a leg brace and had to rely on my girlfriend to deal with a friendly officer to renew my year's visa.

Similarly, I had to walk up to the third floor of the TOT offices in Chalong on crutches to complain about the lack of ADSL service.

At least it is a pleasure to shop at Central, where there are not only lifts, but wheelchairs provided.

As an architect in the UK, I would not even be allowed a 5cm step into any building.

Isn't it time some stringent regulations were enforced here?

Michael Archer
Rawai

Archaic closing times

I was in Patong last week as a tourist and was disappointed to have to leave the clubs at 2am (*Gazette online*, November 5) and be virtually forced to go home by the lack of options.

This seems to be an outdated law for an international

tourist resort like Phuket.

Efforts now should be made to keep the clubs and pubs open later.

As stated in the article, this will increase revenue locally and nationally.

This would be a win-win situation for Thailand.

Mike Massino
Pittsburgh, USA

Muddy waters

I have recently driven along the road from Heroines' Monument to Pa Khlok where they are widening the road a number of times and it would be nice if the contractor doing the work would stop sprinkling the road and actually wash the dirt and mud away.

What they are doing is making it worse for traffic, especially motorbikes, which have to go through that mess.

Wash the road properly and stop wasting time sprinkling the road.

Tom Notaro
Phuket

Tuk-tuk plan

Having been to Phuket recently and had many arguments with tuk-tuk drivers over the price, I feel I may have a possible solution to part of the problem.

Why not establish an incentive co-operation between the big shopping centers and the tuk-tuk drivers?

If you spend, say, 1,500 baht, you would then be entitled to get a tuk-tuk back to your hotel for 150 baht.

The tuk-tuk driver would receive the 150 baht from their fare and additional fees from the retail centers.

Such a plan helps all the

retailers win and the tuk-tuks would get used more often.

The tourists are also considered in this scheme and are encouraged to use and spend their money at the big retail centers.

Stuart Clark
Australia

Closing time troubles

I have just returned from my holiday to Phuket, having spent many a night on Soi Bangla meeting people and getting more than a little merry.

What soured my trip was witnessing a number of scuffles while out and about.

I wondered if they might be linked to the 2am closing time of the bars on Bangla (*Gazette online*, November 5).

In the UK, we had years of problems with early closing times and the booze-fueled fights that would erupt outside of venues as people were forced to leave *en masse*.

Closing earlier forces people to drink much more quickly than their bodies can handle because they know they are on a limited time schedule.

This causes them to get drunker than they otherwise might and can cause tempers to flare.

The UK has now brought in 24-hour licensing and statistics have shown that incidents of late night fighting have decreased.

People on holiday tend to get more drunk than they would at home, so if Patong wishes to remain trouble-free, maybe the powers that be should consider extending the licensing hours to stop people leaving all at once.

Dave Moorhouse
Haxby, England

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.

Building support for sport



FIRST PERSON

For the past year, Daniel Ogunshakin has covered many of the island's world-class international sporting events for the *Gazette* and has become heavily involved in promoting the island's semi-professional football team, Phuket FC. As a sports enthusiast and promoter, the action on offer this past year has brought him great pleasure. However, rallying local support for sporting events on the island has been an uphill challenge. In this week's First Person, he outlines his views on Phuket's sporting environment.

Prior to making the decision to move to Phuket and base myself here permanently, I had visited the island a couple of times and liked what I had seen.

Despite a lot of development, there were still some superb areas of natural beauty to enjoy, good scuba diving, a seemingly never-ending choice of restaurants and bars, and many decent people.

There was one concern I did have: I believed there was a lack of live sporting action on the island.

I am a very passionate sports fan and take an interest in most sports. Indeed, I am at my happiest when watching, playing, talking about, listening to or reading about sport.

Some might say I am obsessed and, to be honest, they might have a point. But if it makes me happy, what's the problem?

Coming from England and having spent 18 months of my life living in Australia, two countries where watching live sport is ingrained in the culture, I felt I might have had trouble adjusting to the presumed sport-free life here on the island.

Arriving at the end of October last year, I was immediately greeted by the

SWATCH FIVB World Tour Thailand Open volleyball on Karon Beach, shortly followed by the Phuket King's Cup Regatta, the Laguna Phuket Triathlon and the four-team King's Cup tournament between Thailand, Lebanon, Denmark and North Korea.

People might turn their nose up at the standard of the opposition of the tournament, but, to underline the quality taking part, Denmark and North Korea would later go on to qualify for the 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa.

Since those first few months, I have had the pleasure of attending many more international-standard events, none more so than the 2009 Singha Thailand Open golf tournament held at Laguna Phuket Golf Course back in March.

Here was an event that attracted the very best of the Asian Golf Tour to our shores along with a two-time winner on the USPGA tour, the hardest tour there is for professional golfers.

With my fears of a lack of sport to enjoy assuaged, I was thrown another gift with the announcement of the creation of Phuket FC and its entry into the Thai league system.

I, along with a colleague, decided to throw myself fully

behind the new team, and even established a supporters group with the view to generating a fan base for the Sea Dragons; people who would turn out for matches and create some atmosphere.

Working for the *Gazette*, I have had the privilege of observing all of the aforementioned events and have been able to get behind the scenes and interview players, coaches and officials alike.

Sadly, what it has also shown me is that few people in Phuket seem to appreciate how good they have it here, the one exception being the King's Cup final where 16,000 raucous fans filled Surakul Stadium.

I appreciate that not everyone enjoys sport as much as I do, but have still been disappointed by the lack of enthusiasm shown.

Access to top-class sport is generally hard to come by, particularly if you are in the UK.

Fans are often required to be members of clubs to have the chance of getting tickets and are then still asked to pay often huge fees to see the sport they love.

Here in Phuket, it is quite the opposite. Many of the sporting events on the island are free for spectators – the recent 2009

volleyball tournament for example – and those that aren't require just a small financial outgoing.

What impressed me most this year was that the Thailand Open golf was free, but, despite this, crowds were relatively sparse.

Compare that if you will to the 2010 British Open to be held at St Andrew's in Scotland.

Tickets for all four day's play will cost you 12,500 baht, plus a further 12,500 baht if you wish to reserve a place around the 18th green, for example. An expensive few days out, but you can guarantee the course will be chockablock.

While I would never argue that the two tournaments are of equal stature, I have to wonder why people aren't willing to watch the biggest golf tournament in sunny Thailand for free, when thousands are willing to spend a small fortune to stand a good chance of getting soaked in Scotland?

The problem, I believe, lies in the lack of pre-event coverage on the island.

This isn't the case with every event; some are marketed excellently, especially the Thailand Open, but more could be done to make people aware of what is going on around them.

People I have spoken to said

they would attend more events if they were made aware of them and surely this has to be the responsibility of the event organizers and the Tourism Authority of Thailand.

They need to saturate the island with information to ensure that everybody – Thais, expats and tourists alike – are aware of the top-class sporting action unfolding around them.

Those behind Phuket FC must ensure that the island's expat community and tourists are informed, in English, when matches will take place; currently all advertising is conducted in Thai.

As sports editor at the *Gazette*, I have tried to publicize events to the full extent of my ability in a bid to reach as many people as possible.

This is particularly the case with Phuket FC, but, judging from the number of people in the stadium, clearly I have work to do.

Ultimately, it's not my responsibility to ensure the island's sporting events and teams are well supported, but as a resident of the island and a sports fan, I like to help.

I will continue to support the events every way I can and hope that, one day, people will start to join me.

Issues & ANSWERS

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

Write to:

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at www.phuketgazette.net

What are the things that give you a mild sting in the water and what can be done to prevent being stung?

We swim in the ocean everyday at Kata and Karon.

There is some type of organism in the water that gives a mild sting.

The sting is not strong enough to force us to leave the water, but my friends and I have been arguing about the cause of the stinging for years.

Some say jellyfish and others say a protective device for drifting fish eggs.

It also seems to float at the surface of the water.

Can you ask a marine biologist what causes the stinging sensation and is there anything that can be done to prevent it?

Kevin Baker
Kata

Dr Lisa-Ann Gershwin, one of the world's foremost jellyfish experts, replies:

Most often, the 'sea lice' feeling (basically that niggly, itchy, scratchy and slightly painful feeling) that people get in tropical waters comes from a mixture of small jellyfish and/or jellyfish pieces.

These are the typical 'jelly buttons' or hydromedusae, as they are more scientifically called.

There are literally many hundreds of species which fall into this category, and usually they are only annoying, but not dangerous.

However, in many parts of the world, including Thailand, Irukandji jellyfish also

accompany the 'sea lice', so what starts out to seem like a minor irritant can become quite dangerous indeed.

We don't know why they hang out together, just that they do.

Furthermore, many Irukandji stings actually feel like sea lice in the beginning, so you don't even know the difference until it's really throwing you for a loop.

A good method of protection from these mild irritants and from something more severe like an Irukandji, is to wear a lycra or neoprene suit (dive skin, stinger suit or wetsuit).

Both protect well from all types of jellyfish stings by covering the majority of the body.

If stung, the best treatment is to flush the area with vinegar, even (or especially) if the sting seems fairly mild.

If it's an Irukandji sting (and you won't know it for another half an hour), it will stop the envenomation process so that you won't take on any more venom.

If it's nothing, it won't do you any harm.

For more information about jellyfish contact: Dr Lisa-Ann Gershwin.E: Lisa.Gershwin@launceston.tas.gov.au, lisa.gershwin@qvmag.tas.gov.au.

Dr Somchai Bussarawit: Phuket Marine Biological Center, P.O. Box 60, Phuket 83000. T: 076-391 126, 083-183 9963. E: somchaibussar@hotmail.com.

ON THE MOVE

Associate Professor Dr Perapun Jareonchasri has joined the brand new Rhinology and Allergy Center at Phuket International Hospital. A native of Bangkok, Associate Professor Dr Perapun learned his trade in a number of countries including Belgium and Japan. He arrives at Phuket International Hospital with more than 20 years' specialist experience spent working at Siriraj Hospital in Bangkok in the diagnosis and treatment of allergies, and conditions of the nose and paranasal sinuses.



Greg Findlay, General Manager at The Westin Siray Bay Resort and Spa, has been appointed to lead the resort's pre-opening team and guide the strategic direction of the resort. Mr Findlay is famed for his creativity, dedication to renewing guest experiences and refreshing management style. His distinguished career with Starwood has spanned more than 16 years and has brought numerous industry accolades and high profile postings including General Manager at the Sheraton Krabi Beach Resort.



Vice Admiral Choomnoom Ardwong has assumed the current position of commander of the Third Naval Area Command. Originally from Bangkok, V/Adm Choomnoom started his military education at the Armed Forces Academies Preparatory School before entering the Royal Thai Naval Academy. After one year he was selected for a scholarship at the Marineschule Murwik in Germany. Graduating four years later in 1976, V/Adm Choomnoom was commissioned as an Ensign and has risen steadily through the ranks.



The need to diversify reserves



MONEY TALKS

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.

The recent decision by the Indian Central Bank to buy 200 metric tonnes of gold from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) took the gold market by surprise.

It also propelled gold to an all time record high.

The IMF needed cash – and a substantial amount of it at that – to fund its assistance programs to countries in trouble after the financial crisis.

The 200 metric tonnes sold to India is only half the amount the IMF is actually selling. Many market participants believe gold buying by other central banks will account for the remainder.

This gold never actually appeared for sale in the market; it was a direct transaction between the parties involved.



A 50-gram standard gold bar at the National Indian Bullion Refinery (NIBR)'s gold and silver refinery in Mumbai. The price of gold surged to a record peak of US\$1,095.80 an ounce after India bought 200 tonnes of the precious metal for 6.7 billion dollars from the IMF. Photo: AFP / Indranil Mukherjee

Everybody in the gold market knows that India is the biggest importer of gold in the world – the Indian wedding season in the Northern Hemisphere's autumn is well known for creating massive demand.

However, demand for the yellow metal in India in 2009 was down 30 percent year-on-year.

The reasons behind this fall in demand are the slowdown of the Indian economy as a result of the global financial crisis and the high price of gold, which has encouraged many to sell their traditional gold bracelets.

The central bank of India had another reason – reserve asset diversification.

India now has substantial

foreign exchange reserves running into hundreds of billions of dollars. The gold purchases cost about 6.7 billion dollars – a very small percentage of overall holdings.

India is not alone in having large foreign exchange reserves. China has the largest reserves at well over US\$2 trillion, followed by Japan.

China and Russia may shout about the amount of US dollars they have in their foreign exchange reserves, but all countries with large reserves have the same problem; the need to diversify.

For any holder of substantial amounts, the problem of how to hold these massive reserves soon comes to the fore.

Simply put, a central bank with large foreign exchange reserves can only place so much in euros, for example, as the majority of the amount held ends up in Euro Zone's bond market.

This creates its own problems.

The countries that make up the Euro Zone can only absorb a certain amount of cash, especially when the central banks owning these reserves effectively want to hold liquid assets.

The US has the world's largest bond market and liquidity is a real concern for central banks. This is why a very large proportion of foreign exchange reserves eventually end up in US dollars.

This year, many predicted that the US dollar would be weak. These predictions have come to pass, but fears of a US dollar meltdown have proven to be unsubstantiated.

In the world of currencies, many unexpected events take place, but a meltdown of the US dollar is probably one of the more unlikely scenarios.

It is fashionable to deride the 'Greenback', but when the financial crisis reached its peak in the third and fourth quarters of 2008, panic money found its way into US Treasuries.

That was then looked upon as being the haven of last resort.

Much of the US dollar's weakness in 2009 can be attributed to a realization that the world is not going into financial meltdown and investments in other areas and currencies have continued. As risk appetite returns, funds have been moving out of the dollar.

Substantial deficits in the US are one of the biggest reasons for arriving at the conclusion the dollar is going to weaken.

It is certainly true that the budget deficit is enormous – the Economist Intelligence Unit believes it will reach 11.9 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) this year. This is some way from the maximum three percent that the IMF recommends as sustainable.

However, the word 'sustainable' is the key. America's budget deficit will certainly not be at this level every year. This has been a huge crisis – by far the largest since World War Two – and policy response had to match the size of the problem.

Additionally, when countries are in recession, income from taxation drops substantially.

America is showing signs of healing – GDP for the third quarter of 2009 reflected economic growth at an annualized rate of 3.5 percent.

Much of this growth was the result of stimulus measures and probably reflects an artificially high level.

However, it is growth and that means that the US is out of recession.

For years analysts have noted that the US is running large deficits, but the deficits that have caused concern have usually been the trade deficit and the more encompassing current account deficit.

Again using the Economist Intelligence Unit's statistics, the current account deficit for 2009 is only expected to account for three percent of GDP – even the IMF will not raise its hypothetical eyebrows at that figure.

Simply put, the recession caused the levels of imports into the US to drop substantially.

Providing that the US Federal Reserve can navigate the slow removal of excess liquidity from the economy, America can stay out of recession.

It is not going to be an easy task but one reality still exists: the US government is having no problems finding investors for new issues of Treasury Bills.



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Heir to the house of Slytherin



SNAKE LADY: Frances spends time with Wat, one of 53 snakes her and husband Kevin have living in their house in Chalong.



'Wat' is a three-year-old green tree python from Sarong in the western tip of New Guinea.

When most people think of snakes, they are more likely to consider them dangerous predators rather than household pets.

For one Phuket family though, snakes fall firmly into the latter category.

Frances Ashby and her husband Kevin currently have 53 snakes living in their house in Chalong along with three dogs, four cats, four rabbits, a few chickens, two terrapins and a turtle.

According to Frances, "They all get on very well with one another, probably because they are all very spoiled," she said.

Of the 53 snakes, most live in tanks, but a few have supervised free roam of the house.

One of the lucky few is Wallace, a 12-foot long Burmese python, who has taken up residence in the downstairs bathroom.

"He likes to sit on the sofa and watch TV and sometimes he will even sleep in the bed with me," Frances said.

"He has got a liver disease and has to be fed with a tube."

Unfortunately due to the fearsome reputation, which, rightly or wrongly, snakes have earned, not everyone treats them with as much care as Frances and Kevin.

"I've got a blood python

here, which we saved from the cobra show. Someone has obviously tried to chop its head off but they didn't kill it," said Frances.

"Blood pythons are not aggressive, they live in creeks and feed on rats. Its jaw was broken in three places and we think they must have used a machete.

"She can't go back in the wild because she can't feed herself, I have to feed her by putting a tube down her throat."

As a child in Australia, Frances kept pet lizards, but she didn't discover her love of snakes until she met her husband Kevin, who used to keep snakes in his native South Africa.

A year after arriving in Phuket she got her first snake, a ball python.

"That was four years ago and at the time we only thought we would have the one, but it just grew from there," she said.

Twenty eight of the snakes we have now belong to us, five are being treated for various ailments for the Cobra Show and the rest we are just babysitting for a friend."

Frances feels the threat humans pose to snakes far outweighs the threat snakes pose to humans.

"Snakes don't bite unless they are really upset – if someone is trying to catch or kill them, for example," she said.

"They are more scared of

us than we are of them. If you find a snake in the house do not try to box it in, just leave it alone and it will probably leave of its own accord."

There are a number of snakes indigenous to Phuket, including vipers and three different types of cobra.

Cobras are dangerous to humans and are very common in Phuket, but Frances said it is not something we should worry too much about.

"Snakes are extremely reluctant to bite. If they are going to bite you they will normally warn you first," she said.

"Cobras can also bite without releasing their venom. All the hospitals in Phuket have anti-venom and it is extremely rare for anyone to die of a snake bite."

Realistically, you are more likely to encounter venomous snakes at the many cobra shows on the island than in the wild. Frances works closely with these shows.

"The cobra show will ring us up if they have injured or sick snakes and we will take care of them," Frances said.

"At the moment they don't have the time or the knowledge to take care of the snakes by themselves, but they want to learn and we are trying to teach them."

Frances will not allow venomous snakes in the house. All her snakes are either boas or pythons, neither of which are venomous, but this does not stop her helping the cobra shows take care of their venomous snakes.

"Kevin and I went and showed them how to give medicine to the King Cobras for their stomach parasites. We also fed them by tube as they were very undernourished (King Cobras normally eat snakes, but don't complain about chicken mince), which was pretty scary," she said.

"They would have died if we hadn't helped them though and King Cobras are a protected species."

Frances wants people to realize that, not only are snakes mostly harmless, they also provide a valuable public service.

"Snakes are an essential part of the ecology. They eat rodents and without snakes there would be rats everywhere," she said.

"There are already too many rats in Phuket."

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Ancient Aussies beat Vagabonds

PETERSHAM Rugby Club from Sydney, Australia brought their season to a close in Phuket on October 30, recording a convincing 42-17 win over the Phuket Vagabonds.

Fresh from a night on Soi Bangla, the visitors raced into an early lead and were ahead by 27 points to nil going into half time.

The Vagabonds had the better of the second half, managing to put some points on the board, but were unable to stop Petersham from adding another 15 points by the end of the 80 minutes.

The Sydney-based club, formed in 1883 and believed to be the oldest rugby club in Australia, turned up with a full squad of first- to fifth-grade players, having previously told the Vagabonds they were just a bunch of old crocks.

Despite arriving at the British International School ground for the Friday afternoon kick off looking slightly worse for wear, the visitors still looked like they knew what they were doing and so it proved to be.

Before the Vagabonds had got a foothold in the match, the visitors had already raced into a

15-0 lead thanks to some sublime rugby skills.

Some superb defending by Andrew Fletcher, Oscar Larsson and Will Walker kept the visitors at bay, but it was only a matter of time before the scoreboard starting ticking over again and by half time the score was a one-sided 27-0.

Far from being discouraged, the Vagabonds came out firing for the second half and within a few minutes of the restart scored a great try to get some points on the board.

The Petersham boys then demonstrated their defense was as good as their attack as the Vagabonds put them under some sustained pressure.

Unfortunately for the home side, the visitor's defense held firm and the Aussies broke Vagabonds' line twice in quick succession to stretch further ahead.

The home side regrouped once again and pulled another try back when they won possession from a breakdown.

Quick hands through the backs enabled fullback Alex Cressard to make a break before feeding winger Anurak Gottschalk who sprinted through the covering defense to score in the corner.



HISTORY MAKERS: Petersham RFC (claret and blue) go on the attack against the Phuket Vagabonds in a match staged at BIS last month. The Australian club is believed to be Australia's oldest rugby club.

From the restart, Petersham piled on the pressure and the home side, despite valiant tackling from Ben Coffin and Charlie Northfield, couldn't stop them from scoring another try.

Moments later the visiting side scored the try of the match. Collecting the ball from the restart, Petersham's fly-half carried the ball almost the length of the pitch to score under the posts.

With full time approaching, the Vagabonds never-say-die spirit gave them the final say.

Launching one last attack, the Vagabonds' Wilson Good crossed the line for the closing try of the afternoon to make the full time score Phuket Vagabonds 17 Petersham RFC 42.

The Aussie Bar in Soi Bangla kindly put on an after match function with some food

and beers for the players. A good night was had by all.

The following morning, the kids at the youth training session at Prince of Songkla University were given a pleasant surprise when the whole Petersham team arrived to help with the training session and gave away rugby kit and match balls.

-Pat Cotter

Laguna Phuket Triathlon

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THE Thai Diving Association national fin swimming team returned from the Vietnam Asian Indoor Games held last week with a bronze medal in the men's 4x100m relay.

The quartet of (from left) Pawat Matjiur, Nuttapon Trachuwanitch, Akkarawat Ruangchairit and Panjapol Kongkhieo finished in a national record time of 2.43.88 to claim third in the final on November 2.

Following encouraging performances at the World Cup in Spain, the World Championships in St Petersburg, Russia and now Vietnam, the team will move onto the SEA Games in Laos next month full of confidence.

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Ross and Kessy boss final



BLOCKED SHOT: Twice runner up Tyra Turner blocks an attack from the pairing of Kessy and Ross in Sunday's final. Kessy and Ross won in straight sets to clinch back-to-back Thailand Open titles.

REIGNING world and Thailand Open champions Jen Kessy (formerly Jen Boss) and April Ross beat all-comers for the second consecutive year to claim victory at the FIVB Women's Volleyball World Tour in Karon.

The dominant American duo retained their title thanks to a routine straight sets win over compatriots Angie Akers and Tyra Turner.

In recent times, teams from America have dominated the Karon competition.

2009 was no exception.

Just as it was in 2007 and 2008, this year's final was an all-American affair, almost mimicking last year's gold medal match between Ross and Kessy, and Turner and Nicole Branagh.

There was a good turn out to witness the finals, but the atmosphere suffered during the final because of the lack of international competition.

In the first set of the match, both pairs made a series of unforced errors as they struggled to find their rhythm.

Once the hugely experienced duo found their groove, they jumped into an early lead.

Akers and Turner fought hard to claw their way back into the first set, but the defending champions never looked in danger of being caught, closing

out the first set 21-12.

The second set proved to be a much closer affair, but the reigning champions had too much in their arsenal for Turner and Akers and were able to clinch the second set 21-17 to take the title and the winner's cheque for US\$30,000.

Sunday's final was the seventh FIVB meeting between the two pairings. Kessy and Ross have yet to lose a match against Akers and Turner, boasting a perfect 7-0 record.

After the final and the awards ceremony, Ross was jubilant about the win.

"It was a very tough tournament because of the heat. It starts to take its toll once you have played a few games," she said.

"Angie and Tyra are good friends and we will all be going out together tonight, but on the court it is all about business and we came up on top.

"We love Phuket and the sand on Karon Beach is fantastic. We are both torn between coming here to play volleyball and coming here on vacation, and we have to find a balance."

In the bronze medal match, Russian duo Maria Bratkova and Evgenia Ukolova became the first team from Russia to win a medal on the SWATCH FIVB World Tour as they dispatched Lauren Fendrick and Ashley Ivy, also of the USA, to prevent an

American clean sweep.

The 22nd seeds overcame their opponents 15-21, 22-20 and 15-9 in 55 minutes to claim the bronze medal and a share of US\$15,000.

The Thailand Open was sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette*.

-Gazette Reporters



Jen Kessy (left) and April Ross proudly display their gold medals. The American duo beat compatriots Tyra Turner and Angie Akers for a seventh consecutive time to take the title.

NZRR boost for Phuket rugby

Further details have emerged about the agreement signed between the Phuket International Academy and New Zealand Rugby Resources revealed in last week's *Gazette*. Sean Panton of the Phuket International Academy Sports, Arts and Wellness Center (PIASAWC) and David Adamson, New Zealand Rugby Resources (NZRR), signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish a Rugby Academy in Phuket to develop and promote rugby in Phuket, Thailand and Asia.

"We are very excited to sign the first of many strategic alliances with leading global sporting bodies," said Mr Panton.

"We are thrilled to establish the Rugby Academy at PIASAWC as it fits our philosophy of developing individuals and teams in order to enhance their performance through a myriad of sports services."

NZRR is a New Zealand-based company which markets coaching resources to coaches, players and administrators on a global scale and has an extensive, experienced range of coaches who will be instructors at the Rugby Academy.

New Zealand, the home of the famous All Blacks, is a hotbed of rugby playing and coaching talent. The link between Phuket and New Zealand will boost rugby development both on Phuket and in Thailand in general.

The Thai Rugby Union, under The Royal Patronage of HM the King, has also endorsed this arrangement.

"The Thai Rugby Union is pleased to support and sanction rugby at Phuket International Academy as well as any tournaments that may occur there," said Khun Adisak Hemyoo, Honorary Secretary of the TRU.

PIASAWC, set amidst the foothills of a national park on the eastern part of Phuket island, is aiming to provide a world-class range of sports, arts, wellness and recreational facilities for the enjoyment of the local Phuket community and for visiting international professional and amateur athletes.

PIASAWC believes it will set the benchmark as a regional hub for sports, arts and wellness in Thailand and Asia.

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Adrian Gardner

Phuket has a global reputation for its maritime activities, thanks largely to the King's Cup, Phuket Race week and several prestigious marinas filled with exotic yachts and motor cruisers of all shapes and sizes.

Aside from the crammed passenger speedboats that bounce off to James Bond Island or Koh Phi Phi full of lily white soon-to-become-lobster-red tourists and a few launches lowered from the backs of super yachts, there are few quality recreational speed-boats in Phuket on which to enjoy island hopping, go snorkeling or to use to discover coves, beaches and inlets where the tourist masses never get to.

Few, that is, until recently.

Chris Craft boats were established in 1874 by Chris Smith in Michigan, USA. Smith was putting the first engines in boats at the same time Henry Ford was creating his first motor cars.

Originally, the boats were made entirely from mahogany. This continued until the late

Cruising in Chris Craft's latest 'limo'

sixties, at which point fibreglass technology began to replace it. The last traditional wooden Chris Craft was made in 1972.

Aside from winning many racing accolades, Chris Craft boats have been bought by three American Presidents as well as Hollywood stars Dean Martin, Elvis Presley, Katherine Hepburn and Frank Sinatra – to name but a few.

It was early on a Thursday morning when I left Boat Lagoon with Olly Wingate, an experienced global mariner in many different craft and the manager of Chris Craft Thailand, to put the Chris Craft Corsair 28 through its paces – as they say the proof of the pudding is in the tasting.

The craft sits low in the water with sleek lines, the dark blue hull contrasting with the lush hide-colored interior, something more akin to a luxury stretch limo than a speedboat.

Stepping aboard, the boat hardly tipped, no doubt due to three and a half tonnes of well-balanced construction.

The engines emitted a low, muffled sound and we cruised out into the channel, heading towards Phang Nga Bay. We cut through

the wakes of returning boats without so much as a bump or a splash, and as we neared the end of the channel and our speed picked up, we cornered effortlessly through the bends.

It felt and drove like a luxury car equipped with the latest high-tech suspension.

As we entered the bay, Olly merely touched the electronically driven throttle and we accelerated smoothly and effortlessly up to a steady 50 knots.

As I sat in the rear seats, my water bottle not moving from the inbuilt teak table, I was able to have a perfectly normal conversation without bellowing at one of my fellow passengers across the table – this despite the fact that the engines were only a meter away.

The deck space around the table was ample for six adults, while the passenger seat next to the driver, with its view of the



The Chris Craft Corsair 28's powerful 5.7 liter 280hp engines comfortably push the luxurious water-borne 'stretch limo' up to 50 knots.

boat's long teak-lined front deck, provided the perfect foreground for a beautiful 270-degree view of Phang Nga Bay.

The sun became much stronger and we raised the bimini (a sunshade for you land lubbers), electronically controlled and effortless, providing ample shade for all on board.

At the same time we looked at the engine compartment. The twin 5.7 liter 280hp engines looked stylish and powerful.

Taking the helm, the responsiveness of the controls and steering was immediate.

All electronically controlled, the propellers turn with the gearbox, giving immediate response and total control – just like driving a luxury car.

The instrument panel is clear and well laid out, affording enough spare polished chrome space for extra equipment.

The ride itself was as smooth as silk. I have been on many a craft where you jolt with every ripple, and experience a good salt water wash whenever you hit a wave – not in a Chris Craft.

The deep V-shaped hull with a flared bow provides a smooth, stable and dry ride.

The hull is thickly insulated so when you do encounter

waves at speed the effect is dampened, contributing to the smoothness, even in choppy water.

Other features include a double berth cabin with a flushing toilet underneath the foredeck (essential for ladies on board), stainless steel and teak finishes, 132-liter fresh water tank for showering down after a swim.

There's also ample storage for all of your equipment and the essential refrigeration unit.

The fuel capacity is a massive 568 liters, giving the boat a range of 231 miles at cruising speed.

Before going on the Chris Craft I read that the uniqueness of this boat is in its craftsmanship and design.


Being a skeptic, I thought, 'lets see', but now I have tasted the pudding I can confirm that it tastes good. All the hype is true and I am a convert.

The Corsair 28 retails at US\$249,000, ready to drive away fully Thai flagged.


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Construction Update

Mai Khao

Convention center 'a certainty'

Phuket's decades-old dream of having an international-class convention and exhibition center took another turn on November 6, when Deputy Prime Minister Korbsak Sabhavasutour the proposed project site in Mai Khao and suggested a number of changes to the latest plan.

Mr Korbsak, Pitak Direksuntorn, director of the Treasury Department's State Property Management and Services Office, reaffirmed that Cabinet has approved 2.6 billion baht in funding for the project.

However, the existing design may have to be changed depending of the results of the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) process, he said.

Mr Korbsak, a Democrat Party member, said he was unhappy with certain elements of the project design as presented by Pitak Direksuntorn, director of the Treasury Department's State Property Management and Services Office.

Under the latest design, the project would be built on 150 rai of Treasury Department land at the island's northern tip near Tah Chat Chai village.



Left: Deputy Prime Minister Korbsak Sabhavasutour (white shirt) examines the plans in front of Pitak Direksuntorn (black jacket), director of the Treasury Department's State Property Management and Services Office. Right: A mock-up bird's eye view of what the Mai Khao-based convention center will look like.



The Treasury Department initially requested 3.74 billion baht for the project, Mr Pitak said.

When Cabinet approved just 2.6 billion baht the project needed to be scaled back, so one of four exhibition halls and a hotel were axed from the initial design, Mr Pitak explained.

"When we get the rest of expected budget, the fourth exhibition hall and hotel will be built," he said.

Part of the 210-day EIA process involves a series of public hearings. When that is completed, the two-year construction period could begin, he said.

Under this time frame, if the EIA begins at the start of 2010, the project would be completed around July 2012.

Under the current plan, the construction would be carried out by King Mongkut's Institute of Technology, Ladkrabang campus.

After completion, contracts to administer the facilities would be awarded to private firms on a concessionary basis, Mr Pitak said.

Mr Korbsak questioned the reasoning behind putting a university in charge of the construction of the project.

He suggested using one of the five private-sector construction firms who tendered bids for construction of the new Parliament building in the capital instead.

"I think that would be more professional," he said.

Mr Korbsak also expressed concern about the environmental impact of the project.

He questioned the need for an underground car park and a hotel at the site and said he felt saddened that the natural beauty of the area would be diminished.

He also asked that damage to existing vegetation be minimized.

"The project design should better match the existing landscape, perhaps with a small park or promenade," he said.

Asked if the Mai Khao site would definitely be the location, Mr Korbsak said he was '1,000 percent' certain it would be.

"I know Phuket people really want the international convention center in Phuket...I guarantee it is going to happen."

"The project has already been passed by the cabinet, so it can proceed even if the government changes," he said.

The Mai Khao site has many detractors who say it is too far from the main population centers and could end up like the underused 'Welcome Gate' visitors' center nearby.

-Atchaa Khamlo



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You made your bed, now lie in it

After breaking their Thai host's bed in a 'good ol' fashioned pillow fight' last week, a visiting Northern Irish couple have been busy building a new bed made entirely from bamboo.

Personal trainer Johnny Owen, 27 and beauty specialist Lucia Macallion, 25 are in Phuket for a month's vacation, a trip they have made annually for the past three years.

Usually opting to stay at flash-packer hotels in Kata and Karon, this time round they decided they wanted something a bit more 'rough and ready'.

Renting a quaint wooden house close to Nai Harn Beach

from an 'adorable' Thai lady, the pair said they 'found a slice of Phuket life to call their own' on this year's vacation.

But after their bed-breaking incident, branded a 'moments madness' by Johnny, the two were left with a bed snapped in half, and some explaining to do to their sweet Thai landlady. Tails between their legs, the two vowed they would purchase a new bed. However, countless trips to bed stores around Phuket proved fruitless.

"They were either out of our budget or just ghastly to look at," said Johnny.

Tired, sunburnt and shopped-out from trawling furniture stores, Johnny said it was when he stopped at a traffic light

on Chao Fa West road, that the solution came to him to build his own bed from bamboo.

"There was a man, fixing the traffic lights atop of a ladder made of bamboo, and across the street there was building construction being carried out with bamboo being used as scaffolding," he said.

A quick stop-off at an internet café, two mocha's, some research, and few scrawled sketches later and Johnny had a rough plan for his bed with sizes needed for bamboo. Finding a bamboo yard Johnny was quoted an astounding 320 baht for the 50 meters of bamboo he needed to make his queen size bed.

However getting it delivered was no easy feat. Promises of



Johnny Owen takes a wight off on his new bamboo bed.

next-day delivery were soon dispelled as the next day came and went and a very unhappy Johnny still had no bamboo.

Eventually having to drive

the delivery truck himself, Johnny's 50 meters of bamboo finally arrived. The great bamboo-bed-build was ready to start...

-Fraser Morton

The following first person account is from Johnny. In his infinite Irish selflessness, the cheeky chappy has provided the following guide to building a bamboo bed. He hopes unfortunate fellow bed-breakers or readers who are just in need of a hobby, will find his account useful.

First, I assorted my 50 meters of bamboo into the different sizes needed: four side pieces measuring 220cm, four 200cm pieces for the foot and head of the bed, 12 x 30cm pieces for the feet and decoration of the headboard and 15 x 200cm for the bed slats.

As these were covered in dust, dirt and dead leaves, I cut the protruding offenders off with a machete and furiously sanded the bamboo shoots down. With them now smooth and showing the beauty of their natural color I painted all the bamboo with a rust coloured wood stain. This added to the beauty of the bamboo, green mixing with red into a vibrant oriental styled coloring.

The disadvantage to staining the wood is the time it takes to dry, in this instance 24 hours.

I returned the next day to begin phase two: 'operation protect bed'. I had recently purchased some fabric which I attached using glue and bands to the end of each piece of bamboo, (photo 2) as a way of dissuading any creatures from setting-up home. This task now out of the way there was only one thing left to do: operation 'bed-build'.

Immediately I ran into trouble. The chances of all the bamboo being perfectly straight are impossible as it had grown and bent out of shape, swayed and stretched by the wind and elements. Compounding the problem was that once cut, bamboo becomes incredibly sturdy and difficult to balance one beam on top of the other.

This hampered my lashing technique which was also proving

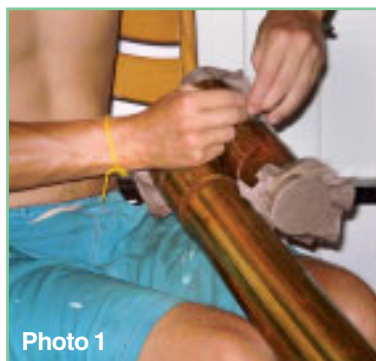


Photo 1



Photo 2

A simple sailing knot solved a few of Johnny's bent-bamboo issues.

error strewn. A friend had loaned me a copy of a British Special Air Service Survival Handbook which had a section on lashing and binding. As good as the guide may be for those living deep within enemy territory, it proved ineffective, as the incredibly strong fishing line I had bought continually slipped free once tension was applied.

I remedied this by tying a simple sailing knot, a bowline, in one end and whilst holding the two poles in place, looped in the knotless end, around and through the aforementioned loop.

The internet had failed me in trying to find lashing techniques so I left my fates up to trial and error.

I experimented and decided on a figure of eight mixed with a looping around the poles needing to be bound (photo 1).

My only problem now was how to create enough tension on the fishing line to minimise any further movement.

Finding an old pestle I discovered the answer to my problem. Wrapping the fishing line around the pestle, I found that I could easily put high pressure on the binding whilst I lashed the poles together. This proved the perfect accompaniment to my newly acquired lashing technique and soon the base of my bed was tightly lashed together. I stood back and admired the shell of what was to come. Even if it all fell apart right now, at least I'd had the testicular fortitude to give it a shot, I thought.

The next step was to attach the bed slats. As these sections of bamboo were only 3cm in diameter there would need to be 12 horizontal slats and three

vertical or else the bed frame wouldn't be able to cope with the mattress, two farang and whatever else may occur when the bed was built.

Rather than attach them all to the now complete base frame, I lashed the three vertical poles to attach to the head and foot of the bed, spacing them at regular intervals so as to offer greater weight distribution when the horizontal slats were attached.

Rather than attaching the horizontal slats directly onto the base frame, I constructed the top frame and attached the 12 slats, equally spaced, to this instead.

The top frame was then placed on top of the base frame as you might imagine a sandwich (the base frame and top frame being the bread) and the filling being the slats.

Once bottom and top were lashed I set about the arduous and fiddly task of lashing the now joined horizontal slats to the vertical slats wherever they crossed paths (36 places as it happens).

It was tedious work but eventually my bed frame was complete. For dressing, you can tie rope around the corners of the bed for a more authentic feel. Also, a mattress usually helps.

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- Villa size 2,666 sq.ft. +
- From THB 26.8 million

Design with RnR in mind

- Concept design
- Custom made furniture
- Curtains/blinds
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- Woodcarvings
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- Pots and jars
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Andara is top of the props



AWARD WINNERS: Andara Phuket executives accepting the Kamala resort's awards in Bangkok. Pictured left to right are Sales and Marketing Director Jonathan Gascoyne; Sales and Marketing Manager (Property Division) Khun Jiab; CEO Khun Apple and Project Coordinator and Architectural Coordinator Khun Rafael.

The Kamala-based Andara Resort and Spa scooped four awards at the 2009 Thailand Property Awards held at the Grand Hyatt Erawan Bangkok on November 7.

The luxury resort secured first prize in the Prestige Thailand Magazine Best Villa Development, Phuket Post Best Villa Development, Limcharoen Hughes & Glanville Best Condo Development and the Gaggenau Best Architectural Design

categories, sealing a memorable night for the four Andara representatives who had made the journey to the capital.

Elsewhere, there were wins on the night for Indigo Real Estate Co Ltd, which scooped the award for Best Thailand Agent and The Heights Phuket by Raimon Land PLC, which scored a success in the category for Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors Best Condo Development.

More than 450 property industry representatives attended

the lavish five-star gala dinner in the nation's capital for the fourth staging of the awards.

This year, organizers handed out a total of 23 awards, including two new additions: Best Villa Development (Thailand) and Best Condo Development (Thailand).

In total there were seven winners from Bangkok, three from the Eastern Seaboard, four from Koh Samui and two from Hua Hin to add to the six successes from Phuket.

First held in 2006, the Thailand Property Awards have grown each year and this year received more nominations than ever before.

"We received more than 1,000 nominations this year – a 300 percent increase on last year," said Duncan Worthington, Managing Director of Ensign Media – organizers of the awards.

"The awards grow in stature every year and we are happy to see many new winners

this time.

"All entries that made the short-lists and the top three in each category should be very proud of their achievements. The quality of entries this year was exceptional."

The awards aim to create awareness and showcase the best of Thailand's real estate and promote the quality of Thailand's developments, construction, architectural and interior design as well as industry professional services.

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Property Gazette

Properties For Sale

WWW.PHUKETBUYRENT.COM

STYLISH COMPACT VILLAS



for sale. Thai-Balinese style, 2 bedroom, 2 bath (1 ensuite). High quality building, well-stocked tropical garden in quite relaxing location. A few minutes from bypass set in surroundings of palm oil and rubber plantations. Centrally located for airport, BIS, shopping and beaches at an excellent and affordable price. Communal pool, phone line and ADSL. MUST BE VIEWED to be appreciated. For price and more details please call Khun Por. Tel: 085-6903114 (Thai), 080-6489622. Email: debrasapstead@hotmail.co.uk

PATONG SHOPHOUSE

4 story building, 6x15m Office, restaurant, full kitchen, 4 fully furnished rooms, 5 aircon units. 16 million baht. Tel: 076-296231, 089-970 5265 (English). Fax: 076-296454. Email: jeperbu@hotmail.com

GOLF VIEW LAND

Nice view over Loch Palm Golf Course. Nor Sor Sam Kor. 20 rai. 8 million baht per rai. Contact Da. Tel: 089-731 4728.

PATONG BEACH UNIT

1 bedroom or studio, 14th floor, great view in great complex, large pool. Will trade up on house in Phuket Town. 25 million baht. Tel: 082-824 0040.

GOLF CONDO KATHU

2 freehold condos at Phuket Country Club. 132sqm: 5.5 million baht, 131sqm: 3.9 million baht. Tel: 081-922 4045.

2 MILLION BAHT OFF



Kamala Villa. 4 bed, 5 bath plus 2-car garage. Studio & apartment above. 370sqm on 700sqm land. fully furnished 15.5 million baht. Please contact Email: boomekamala@hotmail.com

4 BEDROOM HOUSE

Located in the heart of Patong in a boutique estate, this two-storey, 4-bed/3-bathroom house with quality fixtures and fittings throughout includes a large, modern Western kitchen with stainless steel appliances. Recently refurbished luxury bathrooms. Fully furnished. Must be seen to be appreciated. Tel: 086-276 4025. Email: butcheryork@hotmail.com

PRIVATE SALE OF HALF A RAI

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.

CONDO FOR SALE

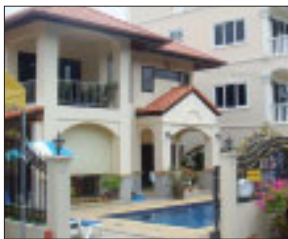
Fully furnished. Complex has swimming pool & spa. 800,000 baht. Tel: 089-966 0568.

NAI HARN LUXURY CONDO



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

HOUSE RAWAI/ NAI HARN



for sale. 3-bedroom house with 2 bathrooms, 9x4m swimming pool, 2 car parking spaces and aircon. In Rawai/Nai Harn. Just minutes from the finest beaches and scenery to be found in Phuket. 10.5 million baht. Tel: 087-882 9604. Email: artlpmj@yahoo.com

PALM BREEZE RESORT

Nai Harn penthouse for sale. New, large, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished with 42 inch plasma screen TV. Fitness center, spa, gym, tennis court and putting green on site. Large swimming pool and slide. Only minutes from some of the finest beaches and scenery to be found in Phuket. 7.5 million baht. Includes one year's maintenance fee, sink fund, transfer fee, land office duty registration tax and transfer costs. Ready to move in today. Tel: 087-882 9604. Email: artlpmj@yahoo.com

1.5 MILLION BAHT

Patong condo for sale. Renovated, fully furnished, 28sqm. 400 meters to beach, 5th floor, mountain view. Tel: 081-082 5707. Check photo on www.phuket-accommodation.info

LUXURY VILLAS RAWAI

Directly on beach-front. 5 villas (solo or total). No brokers. Tel: 086-143 7915. Email: hyiome@live.de

NEW HOUSE IN NAI HARN-RAWAI



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

2 STORY HOUSE, CENTER RAWAI



Sale/lease, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, carport, mountain view, financing available. 1.6 million baht. Tel: 086-940 8914.

PAKHLOK LAND Lovely 6 rai of flat land, valley and mountain view.

5km from Heroines'.
Soi Nanuea.

3.5 million baht per rai.

Tel: 081-894 5848,

081-719 5454.

LAKESHORE VILLAS

Luxury townhome. 2 bed, 3 bath large kitchen and store room. Very private, quiet, pool & garden. In exclusive estate next to Laguna. Price 14 million baht. Tel: 081-719 5454, 081-894 5848.

2 RAI IN AO MAKHAM



Chanote, in Soi Rat-U-Thit 1, public utility area. easy access in and out. Just 12 million baht for both rai. Tel: 076-522938, 087-689 9679, 089-588 5458. Email: tasuwan@hotmail.com

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450,000 BAHT CONDO



center Rawai. Sale, lease, rent 7,000 baht per month, furnished, WiFi, pool. Please contact 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.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.

LUXURY CONDO

for sale. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 106sqm. Cape Panwa, corner unit, granite kitchen. 5 million baht. Please call 082-179 8150.

3 BEDROOMS HOUSE

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

2 CONDOS

for sale. Andaman Beach Condo, Patong. Freehold, seaview, furnished. Complex has big pool, fitness and parking. 1-bedroom unit on 9th floor, 2 bathrooms, 86.53sqm. 2-bedroom unit on 16th floor, 2 bathrooms, 126.43sqm. Contact Songpan. Must be seen to appreciate. No brokers please. Tel: 081-737 8662. Email: songpanpirom@hotmail.com

BEACH FRONT CONDO

North Patong. 2 bedrooms, freehold, great seaview. 9.7 million baht. For pics, please contact Tel: 086-276 5117. Email: jihshand@gmail.com

NEW BRAND CONDO

Mid Town, Royal Place Project. Studio condo, fully furnished, reasonable price. Tel: 086-476-9612.

HEAVEN ON EARTH



5 bedroom Thai style villa in Phuket. Magnificent Phang-Nga Bay sea view. 3 big bedrooms are en-suite with seaview. Private swimming pool. Land plot 730.8 sqm. construction area approx. 573 sqm. Full security service. Located at Rommai Chailay Estate. 24.9 million baht. Tel: 089-474 2234.

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Property Gazette

RAWAI 5 BED POOL GUESTHOUSE



for sale: 6.5 million baht. Lease, cheap rent and financing available. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@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: 089-472 9118, 086-709-2933.

30 RAI IN TOWN

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

COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

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

HOUSE & FURNITURE FOR SALE

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

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

SHOPHOUSE - CHALONG

12 months old, 3 storey, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 1 km south of Circle. Full kitchen, 1 air con, hot water, all-glass front door, office furniture, beds, very clean. Rent 28,000 per month. Valued at 3.7 million, you pay 3.6 million baht including additions. Bargain! Tel: 086-476 2093.

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

LAND FOR SALE

near the main road to Baan Don - Chermg Talay. 68sq wah. 1.1 million baht. Tel: 089-472 9118. Email: honda.1437@yahoo.co.th

VASSANA RESIDENCE



for sale. Rawai/Nai Ham, Soi Keryn. 3 exclusive luxury apartments. Each apartment comprises 2 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, large Euro-style kitchen and living room, large balcony back and front with sweeping views over Rawai and Andaman sea. Swimming pool and roof top whirlpool. Price start at 8.5 million baht. Tel: 087-882 9604. Email: artlpmj@yahoo.com

LAND AT PAKHLOK

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

SURIN BEACH

Land on Soi Haad Surin 2 for sale. 2.2 Rai, 5 min walk to Surin Beach. Email: costello@exemail.com.au

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: drbearshaw@gmail.com

LAND AT TAKUAPA

for sale. 2 rai, 3 Ngan. Electricity, near main road, 200 meters to the beach. 1.5 million baht. Tel: 080-693 9069, 087-938-9531.

BEAUTIFUL VILLA

3 or 4 bedrooms, ready to move in. High quality construction, gated, community, 24-hour security, quiet location, big garden. Tel: 085-783 1890.

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

HOUSE IN KAMALA

for sale. 2 houses on land. 2 ngan, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished, Nor Sor Sam Kor title, good location, 5km from the beach. Price: 10 million baht. Direct from owner. Tel: 083-180 2143. Email: pookie.lovely@gmail.com

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

JUST OVER 1 RAI

for 5.8 million baht in Rawai. Nice plot, quiet area. Picture and info. Tel: 081-623 3784. Email: chartsri@yahoo.com

NICE PLOT BEHIND LAYAN HILL ESTATE



Manik area, 4.7million baht. Chanote title, good for pool villas. Tel: 081-538 7050. or email: talayjan@yahoo.com

BAAN BAI MAI



for sale in Samkong near Bangkok hospital. 2 storey, 2 bed, 2 bath, 1 car parking space. Email: info@allaboutwebanddesign.com

SUPERB BUY

1 rai with Chanote title for sale. 7.6 million baht. Prime location next to Phukana golf course, access road and electricity. Tel: 081-979 0122. Email: riam.niyom@gmail.com

1 RAI SEAVIEW LAND

Near Surin and Bang Tao. 1635sqm, uninterrupted views in exclusive development with million dollar homes already being built. First time offer: 12.8 million baht. Tel: 084-744 2240. Email: ross@funboatcrusies.com

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.

NEW HOUSE WITH POOL

for sale. 3 bedrooms, 3 ensuite bathrooms. We offer a very private living environment in a peaceful area of Chalong. Fully fitted Western kitchen. Located at Maneekram Village, Kwang Road. Asking for 7.5 million baht. Tel: 076-293196, 081-989 5487. Email: thebirdcagephuket@hotmail.com

CONDO FOR SALE

fully furnished. Complex has swimming pool and spa. 800,000 baht. Tel: 089-966 0568.

TOWNHOUSE, 2 STOREY



opposite Boat Lagoon. 24sq wah, 3 beds, 2 baths. Email: info@allaboutwebanddesign.com

VERY NICE SEAVIEW LAND



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

NEW HOUSE IN THE BANYAN VILLA



for sale. 3.4 million baht, near Land and Houses Park. 29.5sq wah, 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, hill view, common pool, club house. Tel: 089-873 1009 (English), 081-893 8524.

CHEAP HOUSE FOR SALE

1 story house on land. 1.5 rai, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished at T. Taimuang, Phang Nga 2.5 million baht. Tel: 083-180 2143. Email: yaris.vios@gmail.com

HOUSE NEAR LAGUNA

for sale. 36sq wah, 2 bed, 2 bathrooms with bath, 2 hot shower, 3 aircon, UBC, carport, Western kitchen, 1.7 million baht. Tel: 083-105 9689.

LUXURY HOUSE



for sale or rent. Mission Heights community, 5 mins from Mission Hills Golf Club. House 270sqm, 3 bedrooms, en-suite bathrooms with bath and shower, large Western kitchen, 90sqm pool complete with seating area, fully furnished throughout, complete with solar heating. Tel: 084-308 6216.

CHEAP LAND FOR SALE

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

NATAI LAND FOR SALE

4 rai and 1 ngan on the main road to Natai Beach. Only 2 km to the beach. 1,000,000 baht per rai. Email: nisaya@yahoo.com

LAND IN PHETCHABURI

65 rai on busy road in Khao Yoy, 85km to Bangkok. Ideal for roadhouse or motel. 13.6 million baht ono. Tel: 085-073 3136.

THALANG HOUSE

for sale. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, semi-detached, quiet secure project. Reduced for quick sale. 2 million baht. Tel: 086-905 1406. Email: lowprofile@mail.com

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

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To ensure clarity, please email. Do not Fax!

Property Gazette

LAND AT BANG TAO BEACH



Beautiful piece of land in a luxury location. 150m from the beach. 1.5 rai for only 18 million baht. Tel: 081-737 1687 (English), 084-845 5111 (English & Thai). Tel: oleg.spitsin@gmail.com

THE ROYAL PLACE

4th floor unit with 2 balconies. Approx area: 42sqm. Fully furnished, ready to move in. Please email: info@allaboutweband design.com

2 RAI FOR 3.4 MILLION BAHT

3,196sqm of flat land divided into 3 plots. Inside Mission Heights villa neighborhood, next to Mission Hills golf. Has road, electricity. All for 3.4 million baht. Tel: 082-498 0872 (English), 083-646 9906 (English). Email: shetz66@hotmail.com

PHUKET PRIME PROPERTIES

Prime properties in Bang Sai (Pa khlok) and Koa Yao Noi. Ideal for developers. Tel: 089-126 5671 (English & Thai), 087-275 3614. Email: coco_ivy@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at <http://www.wix.com/te deco/Phuket-Prime-Properties>

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.

RAWAI 4 BED POOL GUESTHOUSE



Sale 6.5 million baht. 5-year Lease: 1.6 million baht. Other financing options available. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

BEAUTIFUL HOUSE, FULLY FURNISHED



Ready to move in, 254 sqm. 2 floors. Near Downrung school, Laemchan area, close to Phuket Town, nice living room and garden, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished, 2 car parks, very nice and quiet area. Price: 7.2 million baht. Please call 081-5412025 for more information.

2 RAI PATONG SEAVIEW
land for sale. 26 million baht. Tel: 081-676 6214.

BEACHFRONT LAND



Beautiful piece of land (7 rai) with 185 meters of beach frontage opposite of Yacht Haven Marina. Water, electricity, road access, secure Nor Sor 3 Kor title. For sale direct from owner. Now only 35 million baht. Tel: 081-343 0777.

PERFECT LAND FOR SALE

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

BEAUTIFUL VILLA

3 or 4 bedrooms, ready to move in. High quality construction, gated, community, 24-hour security, quiet location, big garden. Tel: 085-783 1890.

PRIME NAIHARN

for sale. 1/3 rai: 3.5 million baht. 1/2 rai: 4.5 million baht. Call for info at Tel: 081-370 9661.

HOUSE IN CHALONG

2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, loft conversion, aircon. 2 million baht. Tel: 087-270 7671.

BEAUTIFUL HOME

Shady hillside, big pool & garden. 3 bedroom, 4 bathroom, office, freehold. Nice! Tel: 076-388236, 089-727 5407 (English). Email: cosmocampbell@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at <http://www.villa-sale-phuket.com>

LUXURY VILLAS

3-or 4-bedroom villas. Both ready to move in. Gated community with 24-hour security. Quiet location, big garden with private pool. High quality construction. Tel: 085-783 1890.

NEW TOWN HOUSE



in Phuket Inter villa project for sale. 2.3 million baht. 36.5sq wah. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, includes furniture, curtains, kitchen, 1 airconditioning unit, common pool access. Tel: 089-873 1009 (English), 081-893 8524.

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 Ham 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

BEAUTIFUL VILLA

3 or 4 bedrooms, ready to move in. High quality construction, gated, community, 24-hour security, quiet location, big garden. Tel: 085-783 1890.

LAND 161SQ WAH

for sale. Baan Maneekraam. Nice location. 3 million baht. Tel: 086-905 1406 (English). Email: lowprofile@mail.com

BOAT LAGOON PARK RESIDENCE

Great chance to own a marina house!!! Tel: 076-238948, 081-968 9046 (English & Thai), 089-111 2853 (English & Thai). Email: pen@phuketpropertytrip.com For further details, please see our website at www.phuketboatlagoon.com/parkresidence/

NICE HOUSE, QUICK SALE



Kathu area. Nice house, private, 215sq wah, 2 floors, swimming pool, garden. 8 million baht. Tel: 081-541 2025 (English & Thai), 081-767 6200 (English & Thai).

MUST SELL 2 HOUSES



Live in 1, rent the other. 4.8 million baht each or sell separately. Fully furnished, well kept, 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, Western kitchen. Center Patong, 2 minutes to Juncceylon. Please contact. Tel: 087-2793312. For further details, please see our website at <http://www.phukethouseapartment.com>

PRIME LAND IN KATHU

Within 2 km of 3 golf courses. 5 rai, 50sq wah with Chanote title, near Central, Tesco Lotus, Big C. Perfect for private complex. Reduced to only 5.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-854 0061 (English), 081-080 3414 (English & Thai).

COMMERCIAL BLDG

located opposite a hotel: 207 sqm on 3.5 floors. One shop, 1 living room, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. For rent or for sale. Tel: 075-662161, 089-652 7900 (English & Thai), 089-583 5097 (Thai). Email: mail@chanida.de

NEW DETACHED HOUSE



for sale in Phanason 3, Thalang. 253.25sqm, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, double garage, furnished and landscaped garden. 2.95 million baht. Contact Phing. Tel: 087-278-0067. Email: sweetpinkylive@live.co.uk

TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE OR RENT



In Moobaan Tinawut, Samkong, close to Yada Dental Clinic. 2 connected buildings, 2 floors, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. For rent: 12,000 baht per month, sale: 2.8 million baht. Tel: 081-597 6302, 081-597 9441.

HOT DEAL 3-BED CONDO



Fully furnished, private pool condo. 400m to beach. Only 9.9 million baht. Tel: 081-968 3760 (English & Thai). Email: nannapat@twovillas.com

HOT DEAL 9.9 MB POOL VILLA



2-3 beds, fully furnished. 431sqm land, 5 mins to beach. Tel: 076-289900, 081-970 0743 (English & Thai). Email: natcha@twovillas.com

CONDO FOR SALE

Furnished, pool and spa. 750,000 baht. Tel: 089-966 0568. Email: gidmansimon@yahoo.co.uk

NEW HOUSE

for sale! Phuket Thane Project at Heroines' Monument. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, on corner, 24 hour security. Very good price: 2.9 million baht. Tel: 087-817 3019.

NAI HARN BAAN BUA

for sale. 1.5 rai, Chanote title, seaview. Close to beach. 21 million baht. Tel: 085-785 5338. Email: john.graham@shaw.ca

PHUKET PRIME PROPERTIES

Prime properties in Bang Sai (Pa khlok) and Koa Yao Noi. Ideal for developers. Tel: 089-126 5671 (English & Thai), 087-275 3614. Email: coco_ivy@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at <http://www.wix.com/te deco/Phuket-Prime-Properties>

LAND SALE IN THALANG

366sq wah, 1.6 million baht. 500m to Thalang market. Good view. Tel: 081-396 5752.

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- MV Sea of Fantasy II (former MV Nam Sai) immediately available for sale or rent. 25 meters long, 5.3 meters wide, built in October 2006.

- Registered and insured to Oct 2010.

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- Shipyard overhaul in Oct 2009.

- Similan Park License till Nov 2010.

- 3 compressors (900 l/min), 80 aluminum tanks & weights.

- 2 x Hino V 25 10-cylinder diesels.

- 2 generators (20 Kw + 30 Kw).

- 12 knots cruising speed.

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Thundercraft cruiser, 1992 imported from Canada, Jeanneau hull, very good condition, 25.5 feet. OMC inboard 5.71 V8 w/ 260HP newly rebuilt, double cabin, trim tab, kitchen, bathroom, shower, aircon, USA trailer. Price 1,300,000 baht. Okay delivery. Tel: 086-565 1955 (English & Thai). Email: mana ger@thaiFrance.com

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I want to buy for fishing and diving. 300,000-700,000 baht. Tel: 083-642 8798.

WANTED

Small dingy, about 3 or 4 meters, suitable for 3.5hp outboard motor for inshore pleasure. Tel: 076-388569, 085-794 6514. Email: hparkin@hotmail.com

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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@oceanic-global.com or please see at http://www.sailing-thailand-phuket.com

SPEEDBOAT FOR SALE

SAVAGE Scorpion 500 16ft speedboat. 75 HP Mercury (2-stroke). 2 yrs old, < 50 hrs use. Very fast (30+ knots). Great for fishing, water skiing etc. Includes VHF, fish-finder / depth, anchor, covers etc. Comes on a good trailer. Viewing by appointment. Tel: 076-273329, 081-882 7917, 089-634 3721. Email: p_brunning@yahoo.com

FOR SALE 50% OWNERSHIP

Catamaran 37 open Cabrio, 2005, 3 cabs, 2 baths, twin diesel 30hp. 4 sails, full electrics. Price 4,000,000 baht. Tel: 089-854 0277. Or email: cata yacht@csloxinfo.com For further details, please see www.acatayachting.com

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2 units in good working condition. 7.2kVA, 220V: 90,000 baht. 11kVA, 220V: 150,000 baht. Tel: 081-536 8188. Email: tom.fekete@gmail.com

WANT NICE FAST BOAT

One engine, max 200hp, rubber (rib) or fiberglass. Max price: 300,000 baht. Tel: 082-802 9125 (English). Email: s.enghamre@telia.com

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Sunseeker Manhattan 58. One-day tour: 110,000 baht+. Price includes captain, crew, cook, snorkeling & fishing equipment. Tel: 076-238976. Email: sales@sunnnav.com For further details, please see our website at http://www.sunnnav.com

7M RIB 225HP NEW!

2009, never used, Merc 225, galvanized dual axle trailer, all equipment, Bimini. 12 pax, CE, 60 knots. Two available in Kamala. Super price at 890,000 baht. More info by phone. Tel: 084-699 2618. Email: emanuel.par@gmail.com

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We have marine plywood, British Standard 1,088, in 15mm, 9mm and 6mm for sale. Best for boat building or for sub-layer on laminate flooring. Tel: 087-265 9977 (English & Thai). Email: jimmys@loxinfo.co.th

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I want to buy for fishing and diving. 300,000-700,000 baht. Tel: 083-642 8798.

WANTED

Small dingy, about 3 or 4 meters, suitable for 3.5hp outboard motor for inshore pleasure. Tel: 076-388569, 085-794 6514. Email: hparkin@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@oceanic-global.com or please see at http://www.sailing-thailand-phuket.com

SPEEDBOAT FOR SALE

SAVAGE Scorpion 500 16ft speedboat. 75 HP Mercury (2-stroke). 2 yrs old, < 50 hrs use. Very fast (30+ knots). Great for fishing, water skiing etc. Includes VHF, fish-finder / depth, anchor, covers etc. Comes on a good trailer. Viewing by appointment. Tel: 076-273329, 081-882 7917, 089-634 3721. Email: p_brunning@yahoo.com

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2009, Suzuki engine, 250hp, 9m, complete set of marine tools and equipment. Tel: 082-815 3132.

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One engine, max 200hp, rubber (rib) or fiberglass. Max price: 300,000 baht. Tel: 082-802 9125 (English). Email: s.enghamre@telia.com

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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

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Aluminium, 75hp mercury. O/B. For further details, please see our website at http://www.boatshedphuket.com

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30 to 40 feet. Racer/cruiser to charter for King's cup. Email: air2cure@yahoo.com

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2. Cook / Commis
3. Wait staff / Food Runner
4. Shop Assistant

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2. Sous Chef
3. Chef de partie
4. Cook Bakery
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6. F&B Manager (Thai)

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We are seeking applicants for the following positions:

- General Manager
- HR Manager / Training Manager
- Security Manager / Supervisor
- Financial Controller / Assistant
- F&B Manager / Assistant
- Chief Engineer
- PR & MarCom Manager
- Etc.

Qualifications:

1. Bachelor's degree in related field
2. Strong inter-personality and leadership skills
3. Proficiency in English and computer literate
4. Strong in driving results and people management and development
5. At least 3 years' experience in the field for department heads

Interested candidates, please send your updated resume and recent photo to: cw@invisionhospitality.com or walk-in to apply from November 11 - 13, 2009 (Wed.-Fri.) from 09.00 - 16.00 Hrs. at the B-Resort Group: 219/5 Phrabamee Rd., Patong, Kathu, Phuket



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The Yorkshire Hotel & Spa, located in Central Patong Beach
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requires the services of high quality, English speaking staff, who have previous experience in the Hotel industry. The successful applicants must be well presented, confident, happy, and have an ability to deal with people.

Our rapidly expanding premier 3-star hotel offers excellent rates of pay, plus tips and a 10% service fee. Free accommodation is also provided.

The following positions are available

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- Waiters/Waitresses
- Reception Manager
- Receptionists
- Spa Therapists

If you wish to join our family and are looking for a career and not simply a job, please telephone **Nipada** on **081-0913724** to arrange an interview. Please note CV's and references are required.

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One of Phuket's leading real estate agencies is looking for an enthusiastic and self-motivated Thai female to support our growing business. This position is based in Kata. This is an excellent opportunity for a young self-starter with strong interpersonal skills and who can interact in English with our foreign-based clients. Base salary and commission. Tel: 076-326125, 081-808 8896, 081-787 1108 (English). Fax: 076-326126. Please send CV and expected salary to: info@tropical-homes.net

BOOKKEEPER NEEDED

for busy office. Good English and computer skills essential. Tel: 085-789 2115 (English). Email: solitude001@aol.com

MEDIA COMPANY

Looking for advertising sales person with good personality, able to work independently, good English, computer skills and own transportation. Media background an advantage. Contact Pond. Tel: 089-474 4704. Email: p_eanso@hotmail.com

PART TIME

Accountant/secretary for small building company in Kathu. 2 days per week. Excellent spoken and written English, computer literate and own transport. Good package for right person. For more details. Tel: 082-281 8621.

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required with a strong high-school-level general knowledge of all subjects. Objective: to prepare a student age 17 to pass the USA GED test. Tel: 081-536 2069 (English). Email: siamtexan@gmail.com

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Sell businesses in Phuket. Experience unnecessary, full training given. Contact Phil. Tel: 087-034 0568 (English). Email: phil@tsba.info

EXPERIENCED NANNY NEEDED

We're looking for a nanny for 1-year-old twins. Must speak English. Tel: 082-818 3653. Email: destulin@hotmail.com

THAI FEMALE MAID/ CLEANER

to work abroad. Maximum age 25. We offer good conditions. For further details please email to: diving_thailand@mail.ru

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required for busy office. Good English and computer skills essential. Tel: 076-527565, 086-266 7032 (English). Send current CV and anticipated salary to rebecca.jk@hotmail.co.uk

URGENTLY REQUIRED: Phuket Office

The BayCliff Patong is a luxury seaview condominium in Kalim Beach, Phuket. This well-appointed residence, offering 1- and 2- bedrooms and penthouse, is currently looking for capable and reliable employees in Phuket for the following positions:

Receptionist

- Thai nationality
- Male or Female age 20-35 years old
- At least 1 years' experience
- Service minded, flexible working hours
- Must be reliable and speak English
- Fair computer skills

Accountant

- Female age 25-40 years old
- Bachelor's degree in Accounting
- Knowledge of Microsoft Office application
- At least 2 years' experience
- Pleasant personality and good interpersonal Skill
- Fair command of English

Candidates with the above requirements and qualifications are invited to send a resume with a recent photo via email: niramon@thebaycliff.com



39/12 Prabamee Road, Patong, Kathu, Phuket 83150 Thailand.
Tel: (+66) 76 342 696 Fax: (+66) 76 342 686
Website: www.thebaycliff.com

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Want English speaking Thai marketing team. Call Mar. Tel: 087-272 0303.

FEMALE KINDERGARTEN EP

teaching vacancy. ELT Phuket International is looking to appoint a qualified, enthusiastic and experienced kindergarten teacher to start at Ban Maireab School in Kathu, Phuket on 1 December 2009. Applicants must have a minimum of a Bachelor's degree plus a recognised teaching certificate such as TESOL/TEFL. We offer 38,000-40,000 baht per month plus other benefits. Please email a letter of application, CV, a recent photograph and email contact details of 3 referees to: eltorborjor@gmail.com unfortunately we will not respond to non-native speaker applications.

NANNY/CHILD CARER

Nanny needed in Kamala for 2 boys under 5 years old. You must have experience and good English. We offer good conditions. Contact. For more additional details. Tel: 086-972-2893 (English). Email: scot@toon.co.nz

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Full and part time positions now available in Phuket and Samui. Applicants must have a good understanding of ENGLISH, be self-motivated and possess a willingness to learn. Thai and foreign applicants welcome good salary and commission on offer for the right people. Full training is provided. Tel: 089-731 6814 (English). Email: cameronjhansen@yahoo.co.uk

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Full time maid/cleaner. Must have motorbike. Tel: 085-158-7638 (English & Thai). Email: pierre@husipuket.se

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Suits either Thai national educated overseas or native English speaker. Good rates of pay: both basic and commission. Must be willing to work hard, able to handle rejection. Full training given. Office based in Chalong area. Young progressive company. Please contact for more information. Tel: 080-524- 9913.

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Small, but beautiful boutique hotel with 24 rooms in Chalong is currently looking for: restaurant supervisor/cook (Thai and international food), assistant cook, waiter/waitress. Please contact for more details. Tel: 076-280651. Email: office@palm-garden-resort.com For further details, please see our website at <http://www.palm-garden-resort.com>

WHITEBOX RESTAURANT

Seeking right person in 4 positions: Technician (repair and maintenance), bartender, bartendy and PR & marketing manager. Please contact for more details. Tel: 076-346271. Email: rsvp@whiteboxrestaurant.com

NEED HOUSE MAID

Thai female, good salary and social security, experience in hotel or farang's house, Rawai. Please contact for more details. Tel: 081-7977898.

GSA - RECEPTIONIST

Day/night GSA - receptionist required for guesthouse in Patong. Male only, good English, one year of experience. Working hours: flexible. Please call for more information. Tel: 076-293196081-989 5487. Or send your resume to: v_choosi@hotmail.com

ASSISTANT HOTEL MANAGER

To assist GM in maintaining a successful and profitable Hotel 20-room boutique hotel in Karon. Bachelor's degree in Sales or Hotel Management. 2 years' management experience managing 10+ staff. Thai national, Fluent in English. Send CV to sales@ccbloomshotel.com

MASSAGE LADIES WANTED

Attractive Thai ladies required for small shop located off the beach road in Patong. Monthly bonuses for high earners. Tel: 084-058 2410, 085-819 8524. Email: jaques.carl@yahoo.com

PASTRY BAKERY

looking for qualified male or female. Full time. Tel: 086-470-1853.

FEMALE STAFF WANTED

Sales. English-speaking Thai with computer skills. For more information, please contact Gym Kathu. Tel: 081-477-4884.

PART TIME ASSISTANT WANTED

To work for a small charity in Khao Lak. Duties include basic admin and document/meeting translations. Must have a good standard of English and basic computer skills. Tel: 089-875 1995 (English). Email: samanna29@hotmail.com

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- **SPA SERENITI**
Spa Receptionist / Therapist
- **FRONT OFFICE**
Resort Host
Porter (Able to drive)
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Room Attendant / Public Area Attendant
- **ENGINEERING**
Air-Conditioning Technician
Carpenters / Painters (Temporary)
- **SAFETY & SECURITY**
Safety & Security Officer

Please send your resume with a recent photo or apply in person by November 10, 2009 to:

Human Resources Manager
125 Moo 3, Surin Beach, Srisoonthorn Road, Cherrngtalay, Thalang, Phuket 83110 Tel: 076-271271, Fax: 076-271270
Email: hr@ayarahilltops.com, www.ayarahilltops.com

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- Min 2 Years experience in sales
- Age 25 - 35, female
- Outgoing personality,
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- Have car or motorbike

If you meet the above qualifications, please submit your CV with recent photograph to: christophv@hotmail.com or fax: 076-521434, 089-7807558.

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(American Red Cross)

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For details please visit www.thaingo.org

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Need caucasian native, English speaking teacher. TEFL, degree and experience helpful, 40 hour week, work permit, Chalong, resume to: phuket preschool@yahoo.com

KARON CLIFF STAFF REQUIRED

- 2 Restaurant Hostesses
- Thai Sous Chef
- Cook
- 2 Bar Staff
- 3 Receptionists
- 4 Room Maids

All positions require experience and ability to speak English. Please send CV and recent photo to gm@karoncliff.com Website at <http://www.karoncliff.com>

STAFF FOR RESTAURANT

Urgent: We need a waitress, cooks, and a cook's helper for our restaurant in Karon. Good salary and benefits. Tel: 076-396931, 089-211 0147 (Thai), 087-885 8708 (English). Email: tomasholmberg77@hotmail.com

NIGHT GSA - RECEPTIONIST

Night GSA - Receptionist required. Male only, good command of English, one year of experience. Working hours: 10:30pm - 7:30am. Tel: 084-898 1611. Email: paulmccarthy007@yahoo.co.uk For further details, please see our website at <http://www.thekrisresort.com>

amanpuri

Amanpuri is the flagship property of the world renowned luxury hotel group Amanresorts. We are currently recruiting highly motivated and service minded individuals for permanent and casual positions. A host of excellent benefits are guaranteed for both permanent and casual employees, including a guaranteed monthly service charge.

Casual employees who excel in their duties will be given priority to become full time employees when opportunities become available. Experience preferred, but we welcome candidates with a willingness to learn, with lots of enthusiasm and who are customer service oriented. Good English language skills are essential for front of house positions.

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GUEST SERVICE ASST.
GUEST SERVICE SUPERVISOR
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RESTAURANT SUPERVISOR
BARTENDERS

WAITER/WAITRESS
MINI BAR ATTENDANT
CHEF DE PARTIE
CAPTAIN (AMANCUISES)
SPA RECEPTIONIST
VILLA HOUSEKEEPER

ROOM MAID
ROOM BOY
ELECTRICIAN

CASUAL VACANCIES

WAITER-WAITRESS
BEACH BOY
STEWARD
GYM ATTENDANT

ROOM MAID
VILLA HELPER
COOK HELPER

HOUSEKEEPING (PUBLIC AREA)
SECURITY OFFICER
LAUNDRY FOLDER

Please email your resume with a recent photo at pn@amanpuri.th.com or apply in person.

P.O. BOX 196 - Pansea Beach - Phuket 83000 - Thailand
Tel: 076 324 333 Fax: 076 324 100
E-mail: pn@amanpuri.th.com

The Village

The Village Coconut Island is now recruiting for the following positions:

The Village Group on Koh Maphrao

Resort

- | | | |
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| 1. Executive Chef 1 | 5. Commis I 1 | 9. Chief Engineer 1 |
| 2. GSA 3 | 6. Sport & Recreation 1 | 10. Boat Sales Manager 1 |
| 3. Waiter / Waitress 3 | 7. Spa Therapist 1 | 11. Sale Admin 1 |
| 4. Demi Chef 1 | 8. Night Manager 1 | |

New Phase

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|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Construction Manager 1 | 2. Purchasing Manager 1 | 3. IT Support 1 |
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Please contact 081 968 6912 (Mon - Sat 8.00 am - 6.00 pm)

E-Mail: dao@thevillage-coconutisland.com tar@thevillage-coconutisland.com

The Village Coconut Island: 51/7 Moo 6, Tambon Koh Kaew, Amphur Muang, Phuket 83200
Tel: 081-9686912 www.thevillage-coconutisland.com

HEADSTART INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

We are currently seeking qualified, experienced and caring teachers for kindergarten, primary and secondary levels. Please email CVs to: headstart pkt@gmail.com

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to manage small custom made fight-wear business. Excellent English and computer skills necessary. Must have experience with clothing production. Tel: +44-208-880 3667, 087-907 8528 (English). Email: boxergirl@boxergirl.net For further details, please see our website at <http://www.boxerworld.com>

ARCHITECT

needed for Modern Zen Architecture Office. Knowledge of AutoCAD, Photoshop, Sketch up and 3D Studio required. Tel: 076-385964, 087-892 5557. Fax: 076-385965. Email: info@modern-zen.com

ENGLISH TEACHER (THAI)

Security guard company looking for full time Thai English teacher. Contact. Tel: 076-336084, 081-607 6637. Email: greatdeal94@gmail.com

SALES CENTER POSITION

Rapidly growing company seeks sales center agents for multiple products. Fluent English speakers only - any nationality. Earnings of 40,000 baht per month possible. Must be sales-oriented and web proficient. For more info. Tel: 087-885 8622. Email: cstrach@gmail.com

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Experienced expat SCUBA equipment technician-manager. Must be fluent in English. Immediate start. Email: gm@divesupply.com For further details, please see our website at <http://www.divesupply.com/workshop.php>

Employment Wanted

LOOKING FOR WORK

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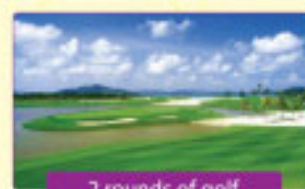
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