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# Phuket Gazette

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## Trio bags Gazette Award

The Phuket Gazette's title 'Person of the Year Award' for 2009 was abruptly forced into the plural last week with the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding to curtail Phuket's extravagant use of plastic bags.

Our award is thus presented to the three driving forces behind that project: Dr **Wiwat Seetamanotch**, Deputy Chief Medical Officer of the Phuket Provincial Health Office; Mr **Jirasuk Tummawetch**, Director of the Phuket Provincial Energy Office; and Mr **Nick Anthony** of Indigo Real Estate.

It was they who recognized an urgent community need, enlisted the strong support of Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop, and ignited a groundswell of approval for the bag project among *Gazette* readers.

Although curtailment of plastic bag use is hardly an original idea, with various models in force in several countries around the world – and calls for it in many more – our award winners have distinguished themselves by achieving in Thailand what might well be described as 'the near impossible'.

The *Gazette* is quick to appreciate that a Memorandum of

Understanding (MoU) does not always herald successful implementation of anything, but we are prepared to take that risk in making these awards. We also acknowledge that the project is currently limited to Phuket province alone, but see that as a major plus, given the greater odds of success with small-scale implementation and the opportunity for Phuket to set an important national trend.

Over the past few weeks we have published four stories about the scope and progress of the bag project. All have met with high-volume comment – in letters to the editor, on web boards, and in personal exchanges with *Gazette* editorial and reportorial staff. The overwhelming majority of these readers have been highly supportive.

Where there have been opposing views, the issues cited have not been critical. They would be easy to fix post-implementation. For example, several have suggested that the proposed 2- or 3-baht charge for a plastic bag is too low to make a difference. But should that prove to be the case in practice, an adjustment to 5, or even 10 baht, is not difficult to imagine.

D-day is February 14.

The *Gazette's* annual Person of the Year Award is for commu-



Winners of the *Gazette's* 'Person of the Year Award' for 2009, (L to R): Dr **Wiwat Seetamanotch**, **Nick Anthony**, and Mr **Jirasuk Tummawetch**.

nity service. It goes to that person who in the opinion of *Gazette* editors has done the most for Phuket based on reader feedback and nominations from local residents, Thai and expatriate.

Our runners-up for the award this year are each and every one of the retailers who ap-

pear as signatories to the Memorandum of Understanding. As we go to press, they are: Jungceylon, Central, Carrefour, Robinson, Supercheap, Big C, Phuket Grocery, Family Mart, 108 Shop, Index Living Mall, SB Furniture, Homepro, and many more.

– *Gazette Editors*

## Arrested Aussies released on bail

A young Australian couple accused of stealing three bottles of perfume from a duty-free shop at Phuket Airport have been released on bail but must remain in Phuket while their court cases are heard.

Police identified the couple as 21-year-old Nathan Robert Hinds and his 16-year-old fiancée, whose name cannot be reported because she is a minor.

The couple were arrested by Tah Chat Chai Police on November 28 for allegedly shoplifting the perfume from the King Power duty-free shop in the departure

area of Phuket International Airport.

The couple were awaiting their return flight to Australia after a 10-day holiday in Phuket when the alleged theft occurred. Their plans changed abruptly when they were arrested with the perfume, valued at 22,000 baht.

The cases of Mr Hinds and his betrothed will be sent to the Criminal and Juvenile Courts respectively, Tah Chat Chai Police say.

Phuket Juvenile Observation and Protection Center director Sukhaporn Udomsin said the young Australian woman was turned over to her mother and an

Australian diplomatic official after depositing 30,000-baht bail on November 30.

A source at Phuket Provincial Court said Mr Hinds was released on 100,000 baht bail the following day. His first court hearing was set for December 11.

How long the minor will have to stay in Phuket is up to the Juvenile Court, Ms Sukhaporn said. King Power also has to be contacted to see whether they want to press charges, she said.

It will be up to the prosecutors whether or not to file the case in court.

"I can't tell how long the accused will be in Phuket, but cases involving foreigners don't normally take too long," Ms Sukhaporn said.

Tha Chat Chai Police duty officer Lt Col Sarit Bodnongsang said the couple are accused of conspiring to steal the perfume by slipping the bottles into each others' bags.

Both deny the charges, he said.

Because the alleged crime took place at night, they will face more serious penalties than for daylight shoplifting if convicted.

– *Atchaa Khamlo*

More background details and updates at [PhuketGazette.Net](http://PhuketGazette.Net)



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## Fish breeder found hanged in Wichit

**P**HUKET police are treating the death of a man found hanged to death outside his Wichit home as a probable suicide.

Chalong police identified the deceased as 34-year-old Sutee Sirithungkan, whose body was discovered by a neighbor around 8am on December 7.

Mr Sutee's body was found suspended by a nylon cord tied to a cross beam under the roof of the covered car park outside his home in the Phuket Ban Sabai residential estate off Chao Fah

East Rd, near Phuket Villa 3.

Police suspect problems related to his business of breeding tropical fish or a nervous condition may have driven Mr Sutee to take his own life.

There were no wounds found on the body except those from the nylon cord, police said. Kusoldharm Foundation workers took Mr Sutee's remains to Vachira Phuket Hospital for examination.

Mr Sutee is survived by his mother, wife and three children.

-*Atchaa Khamlo*

## Patong Aqua Zone opens



**T**OURISTS seeking some good, clean fun in Patong can once again enjoy 'Aqua Zone', a collection of 13 inflated playthings floating in a roped off section of Patong Bay.

The 150-square-meter aquatic playground is located off the Patong Bay Garden Resort, which is owned by Patong Mayor Pian Keesin.

Free of jet-skis, Aqua Zone is open from 9.30am to 6pm daily until the end of April, about the time monsoon-season winds and currents are expected to return.

A flat fee of 300 baht allows beach visitors to use Aqua Zone for a full day. Now in its fourth year, Aqua Zone went into operation on December 6.

It is run by JAV Partner Co, Ltd, whose director Jazon Edouard is also manager of the HeadStart International School Phuket, located near Central Festival in Kathu. The company pays Patong Municipality 20,000 baht a year for the concession and the money is used to fund the municipality's beach cleaning budget, he said.

-*Pimwara Choksakulpan*

## Barging into coral reefs

**A** BARGE carrying building material has seriously damaged a patch of coral reef off Koh Racha, according to the Department of Marine and Coastal Resources (DMCR).

Locals reported that the barge, allegedly belonging to Namchai Ocean Transport Company, was being towed ashore at Siam Bay on Koh Racha Yai when the incident happened.

Prachuap Mokharat, a fisheries officer with the DMCR's regional office in Phuket, led a team of officers to inspect the area on December 4.

The team found the barge had already been dragged to shore. Two tug boats, the *Namchai 9* and *Namchai 10*, were moored nearby but there was no sign of the crews.

Mr Prachuap said the barge had seriously damaged a 15m x 10m patch of coral about 100m from the shoreline. A large amount



The barge (left) that destroyed a 15 x 10-meter area of coral (right).



of brain coral, finger coral and table coral was destroyed. The team photographed the area as evidence.

Destruction of coral is an offence under the 1992 Wildlife Preservation and Protection Act, Mr Prachuap said adding that the incident has been reported to Chalong Police.

The DMCR will prosecute the barge owner as well as the owner of the hotel for which the building materials were destined.

Chutha Pratheep na Thalang, a member of the Koh Racha Yai Marine Resources Management Committee, said the barge had damaged a large area of coral that would take many years to grow back.

Mr Chutha said he hoped the authorities would deal with the problem quickly, otherwise it could lead to disputes between locals and business people on the island.

-*Gazette reporters*

## Mr India inferno scares off curry lovers

**A** FIRE at the 'Mr India' restaurant on Wiset Road caused an estimated 300,000 baht in damages and brought an abrupt end to the meals customers were enjoying on December 6.

Chalong Police Inspector Chana Suthimas said it took a total of four fire trucks about 30 minutes to contain the blaze, which broke out in the two-unit shophouse restaurant at about 11.30pm.

The fire started as guests were still enjoying their meals in the restaurant, which, as its name suggests, specializes in the culinary offerings of the subcontinent.

By the time Chalong Police Superintendent Chinnarat Rittakananond and investigating officers arrived, a crowd of Thais



Mr India was a favorite with local expats in Chalong. The heat from the fire was enough to warp the metal of the shop's roll-down door.

and foreigners had gathered to watch the blaze engulf the two-story building. The damage is initially estimated at about 300,000 baht.

Owner Yashsal Singh said the fire started on the second floor.

All inside the building managed to escape; there were no reports of injury. Police are investigating the cause of the fire.

They suspect faulty wiring may have been the culprit.

-*Atchaa Khamlo*

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# Protests over destruction of ancient trees



Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop visited the site where eight 'ton son' pine trees were felled.

**P**ROTESTERS who blockaded roads to the West Sands resort project in early December, have abandoned their posts, and access to the resort has resumed as normal.

The blockade began on December 1, when local villagers discovered eight pine trees had been felled with chain saws along the border of the project site and the beach.

The trees were 100 years old, the protesters claimed.

On December 4, protesters began to allow access to resort staff, but continued to deny access to any large vehicles involved in construction at the site.

They eventually abandoned their protests following a visit to the scene from Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop.

Believing the trees were on protected land under the jurisdiction of Sirinart National Park, the protesters began their quest for justice in the fashion that has become the norm in Phuket: setting up a tent and blocking a public road.

Led by Mai Khao Village 2 headman Manoch Saithong, the protesters initially claimed they would continue the blockade until justice was served.

The villagers believe project developers cut down the trees because they would block sea views from rooms.

One highlight of the large project is a waterpark that is scheduled to open on December 20, though it appears that

date could now be in question.

Protest leader Mr Manoch issued five demands for cessation of the protest.

Among them is the cancellation of the MoU signed between West Sands and Sirinart National Park on January 20.

One of the provisions of the MoU, signed to protect the beachfront, is that public hearings must be held before any development can take place on a 500-meter-long strip of land adjacent to the project site.

The protesters want Sirinart National Park officials to take an active role in investigating and bringing those they claim are guilty to justice. They also want a precise delineation of the boundary dividing resort land from national park land.

Signs were recently erected indicating the boundary exists, but do not specify exactly where it lies.

After being shown the felled trees, Governor Wichai said the matter would be investigated and those responsible prosecuted under the law. He said he has already ordered the formation of a committee to investigate the matter.

Chaired by one of the governor's deputies, the panel will also include appointees from Thalang District Office, Tah Chat Chai Police, Phuket Land Office, Mai Khao Tambon Administration Organization and Sirinart National Park.

-Gazette reporters

# Swedish man found dead on Racha Yai

**C**HALONG Police are investigating the case of a Swedish man found dead in his hotel room at a resort on Racha Yai Island in the early hours of December 6.

Lt Chana Suthimas of Chalong Police identified the deceased as 36-year-old Jan Mirael Viltfors.

Mr Viltfors' body was discovered by police in his bed at the Ban Raya Resort and Spa.

Together with rescue workers from the Phuket Ruamjai Kupai Foundation, Chalong Police Superintendent Chinnarat Rittakananond travelled from Phuket to Koh Racha Yai in a speedboat to recover Mr

Viltfors' remains and investigate the room.

Mr Viltfors was wearing a black shirt and black shorts at the time of his passing.

There was some foamy saliva around his mouth, but an initial police investigation did not uncover any evidence of fighting or foul play, either on Mr Viltfors' body or inside the room.

Swedish diplomatic staff have since been notified and have contacted the deceased's family in Sweden.

Mr Viltfors' body was sent to Vachira Phuket Hospital in Phuket City for further analysis and to await receipt by his next of kin.

Staff at the resort said Mr Viltfors checked in on

November 24.

When he came back to the resort after a day of diving, he told the reception staff not to disturb him, because he was tired and wanted to rest.

After staff noticed that Mr Viltfors had been in his room for an unusually long period, they contacted police.

Police opened the room and found Mr Viltfors had passed away.

Police now suspect the cause of death was cardiac arrest, not suicide, as first thought.

The Swedish Embassy was notified of Mr Viltfors' death on the day his body was discovered. The embassy then notified his next of kin.

-Gazette reporters



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# A look at consular services in Phuket

**W**ITH the opening of the new Norwegian Consulate last month, Phuket now has 14 consuls assisting their foreign nationals living in and visiting the province.

Pornphan Sitthichaivijit was recently appointed as the new Norwegian honorary consul for Phuket. Born into the well-known Tantipiriyakij clan, Ms Pornphan is not the only Thai national serving as Honorary Consul for a Nordic country.

Others are Bangkok Hospital Deputy Director Dr Sompoch Nipakanont (Sweden) and Pamuke Achariyachai (Finland).

Listed on this page are all of Phuket's consulates with a description of each of their services and contact details. This list will also be in the 2010 *Gazette Guide*, due out mid January.

## The Honorary Consulate of Australia for Phuket, Phang Nga and Krabi.

Provides general consular services, including passport renewals for Australian citizens. 113 Moo 3, Cherngtalay, Thalang, Phuket 83110. T: 076-372600. F: 076-372606. E: larry@thechavaresort.com. Contact: Mr Larry Cunningham. Opening times N/A.

## The Honorary Consulate of Austria

Provides consular assistance to Austrian citizens. Does not deal with passport applications. Anuphas Manorom Co Ltd, 2 Moo 4, Wirut-Hongyok Rd,

Wichit, Muang, Phuket 83000. T: 076-248334-6. F: 076-248337. Contact: Wanida Hongyok. Open Monday-Friday 10am-12pm.

## British Honorary Consulate

Offers consular services to British passport holders in Phuket, Krabi and Phang Nga Provinces. Provides various notary services to British passport holders. Does not issue passports or offer any advice on UK visa policies and procedures. 103 Plaza Del Mar, Moo 1, Pasak Koktanod Road, Cherngtalay, Thalang, Phuket. 83110 T: 076-318188 or 085-4890106. F: 076-318190.



**British Honorary Consul Martin Carpenter MBE.**

E:: martin.carpenterhon@fconet.fco.gov.uk. W: ukinthailand.fco.gov.uk. Contact: Martin Carpenter MBE. Open Monday to Friday 9am-4pm.

## The Honorary Consulate of the Czech Republic

Provides general information and assistance. Phuket International Hospital, 44 Chalermprakiat Ror 9 Road, Muang, Phuket 83000. T: 076-249400. Ext: 1501, 3330. F: 076 -210936. E: manita.s@sirroj.com. Contact: Manita Salika. Open Tuesday-Thursday 10am-2pm.

## The Royal Danish Honorary Consulate for Phuket, Phang-na and Krabi

Issues passports, driving licenses and other documents, and offers legal advice. The Consulate does not receive applications for visas to Denmark. Laung Por Cham Road, Moo 4, 35/176 Land and House Park, Bann Parichat Road 6. Chalong, Muang, Phuket 83000. T/F: 076-378365. Contact: Mr Kennerth Boerje Ronny Karlsson. Open Tuesday-Thursday 10am-1pm.

## The Honorary Consulate-General of Finland

Provides information and assistance. Kata Beach Resort, 1 Pakbang Road Karon, Muang, Phuket 83100. T: 076-330530-4 ext 2631. F: 076-333216 finnishconsul@katagroup.com. Contact: Mr Pamuke Achariyachai. Monday-Friday 9am-12pm.

## The Honorary French Consulate of Phuket

Provides general information. 39/4-5 Marina Boat Lagoon, Moo 2 Thepkasattri Road, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83000. T: 076-273511 or 081-8933212. Contact: Mr Lucien Rodriguez. Tuesday-Friday 9am-12pm.

## The Honorary Consulate of Germany

Provides consular assistance and issues passports, driving licenses and other documents and offers some legal advice. 100/425 Moo 5, Chalermprakiat Ror 9 Rd. (bypass road) Rasada, Muang, Phuket 83000. T: 076-610407. F: 076-610408. E: dirk@junkseilon.com. Contact: Dirk Naumann. Monday-Friday 9am-1pm.

## The Honorary Consulate of Ireland

Provides general information.

Application for visas and passports. 79/6 Moo 4, Soi Suksan, Viset Road, Rawai, Muang, Phuket 83130. T: 076 281273, 076-384342 F: 076 281 084.

E: irelandconsulate.phuket@gmail.com. W: ConsulateIrelandPhuket.org. Contact: Phanida. Monday-Friday 9am-12.30pm.

## The Honorary Consulate of Italy

Provides consular assistance and renews passports. 113/40 Wichit-songkram Road, Anuphas Golf Ville-Manorom 5, Kathu, Phuket 83120. T: 086-6896819. F: 076-319210. Contact: Mr Francesco Cavaliere. Monday-Friday 9am-12pm and 2pm-5pm.

## The Korean Consulate of Phuket

Provides information. Does not accept passport applications. 65/8 Moo 5, Wichit Songkram Road, Wichit, Muang, Phuket 83000. T: 076-234452, 076-234384. F: 076-223597. Contact: Sucheela Japin. Monday-Saturday 8.30am-5.30pm.

## The Royal Norwegian Consulate of Phuket, Phang Nga and Krabi

Muang Mai Building, 3rd Floor 9/17 Moo 6, Thepkasattri Road, Rasada, Muang, Phuket 83000, Thailand. T 076-237156. F: 076 236317. E: norconpt@phuket.ksc.co.th. W: emb-norway.or.th. Contact: Porn-phan Sitthichaivijit. Monday-Friday 10am-12am and 1am-3pm. Closed on Wednesdays.

## The Honorary Swedish Consulate

Provides consular assistance to Swedish citizens. Issues passports, driving licenses and marriage certificates. 25/50 Maeluan Road, Taladnua, Muang, Phuket 83000. T: 076-380000. F: 076-380019. E: info@swedishconsulatephuket.org. Contact: Dr Sompoch Nipakanont. Monday-Friday 9am-12pm.

## The Honorary Spanish Consulate

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## WANTED: Simone the Bangla ladyboy

WHERE is Simone? An English artist, who has been traveling to Thailand for holidays with her family for over 15 years is trying to contact 'Simone', a Soi Bangla ladyboy, to let her know that a painting of her was recently voted into the 'Top 50 Favorite' paintings on the world-famous Saatchi on-line art gallery.

English artist Lisa Andrews entered the life-sized, oil-on-canvas painting into the 'Saatchi Showdown'.

The painting received thousands of votes from across the globe and critical acclaim in a national UK newspaper.

"I thought it would be lovely for Simone to know that she is now famous with admirers across the world," said Lisa, a mother of two daughters from Surrey in England.

She met and photographed Simone on Soi Bangla in 2008.

"Our family has been on holiday to Thailand over 20 times. We love the country and the people, and I felt that Simone was a fantastic subject to paint, striking to look at and very beautiful. I hope that she is happy with the painting and would love her to have a copy."

Since the *Gazette* first published ['Desperately Seeking Simone', *Gazette Online*, December 2] the story received over 1,300 visits in its first 12 hours online. However, Mrs



The painting was based on a photo taken in 2008. But where is Simone now?

Andrews said as yet, Simone still hasn't been tracked down.

Do you know Simone, or are you Simone? If so, contact Lisa in the UK. E:media@lisajandrews.com. W:lisajandrews.com T: +44 800-756-1281.

## British Gov pushes big brother tracking scheme

BRITISH Ambassador to Thailand Quinton Quayle is encouraging all British subjects who live in or travel to Phuket or other parts of Thailand to register their presence here using a new on-line service set up by the UK's Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

The 'Click on this link' campaign encourages British Nationals to use an online system to register their contact details and those of their next of kin.

"Whether you are visiting Thailand on holiday, flying in for a business trip or simply reside in this beautiful land of smiles, the last thing you want is to be caught up in a situation in which your loved ones cannot locate your whereabouts," Ambassador Quayle said.

"I'd like to encourage British nationals in Thailand to register with LOCATE so that, if necessary, we will be able to contact your next of kin and locate you."

LOCATE allows the British Embassy in Bangkok to contact British nationals in an emergency.

Younger Brits with older, less-computer-savvy friends from the UK are encouraged to help them register.

Long term residents who have registered with the British Embassy before, but not using LOCATE, are encouraged to re-register using the new system. Data from the old database will not be automatically migrated.

Personal details entered onto LOCATE are password-protected and access to data will be for the crisis management purposes only and strictly in line



The British Embassy's LOCATE tracking campaign was launched recently in Bangkok.

with the UK Data Protection Act.

The UK is the leading source of European arrivals to Thailand, with about 860,000 UK nationals visiting Thailand in 2007, the last year for which figures are

available from the Tourism Authority of Thailand.

For more information visit the British Embassy's ebsite [fco.gov.uk/locate](http://fco.gov.uk/locate)

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Lin Ping, a panda cub at Chiang Mai Zoo plays in an open-air ground on Monday, December 7. People flocked to see her during the three-day holiday and the zoo enjoyed an income of about Bt1.4 million during the holiday. Photo by Kwandao Jitpana.

# Top cop transferred after station dust up

NAKHON PHANOM: A police superintendent has been transferred following allegations that he beat up one of his officers.

Superintendent Phatharaphol Hanthanong of Phon Sawan Police admits punching the officer, but claims he was hit first.

On December 1, Sen Sgt Maj Withun Khonglamsam, 53, together with relatives and his local sub-district and village chiefs reported the incident to Nakhon Phanom Provincial Governor Phongsiri Kusum.

Sen Sgt Maj Withun said he had spent the day drinking with Col Phatharaphol and other officers to celebrate the completion of the police station's new accommodation block.

An argument broke out between him and Col Phatharaphol about the division of money in

the station, Sgt Maj Withun said.

Col Phatharaphol grabbed his shirt collar, throttled him, punched him in the face until he collapsed and then began kicking him when he was down, Sen Sgt Maj Withun alleged.

Later that day, Col Phatharaphol came to his house with his wife, Sen Sgt Maj Withun said.

When Sen Sgt Maj Withun answered the door, Col Phatharaphol began punching him in the face again while he brandished a pistol to stop anyone intervening.

Col Phatharaphol stopped only when Sgt Maj Withun's son arrived and pleaded for his father's life, Sen Sgt Maj Withun said.

Col Phatharaphol denied this version of events. He said it was Sen Sgt Maj Withun who attacked him out of anger about being disciplined over his work.

Col Phatharaphol admits punching Sen Sgt Maj Withun, but said he was acting in self-defence. Col Phatharaphol said his wife had nothing to do with the incident and was at home looking after his children the whole time.

Col Phatharaphol said he believes local politicians had put Sen Sgt Maj Withun up to reporting the incident to the provincial governor.

Gov Phongsiri said he would make sure both parties were treated fairly and he had ordered Nakhon Phanom Provincial Police Commander Phanomphon Ithipraseri to form a panel to investigate the incident.

Col Phatharaphol has been transferred to an inactive position at Nakhon Phanom Provincial Police Headquarters while the committee investigates.

Source: Khao Sod

## Tank round narrowly misses school canteen

SARABURI: Disaster was narrowly averted when a tank round fired from an army base in a practice exercise landed just 50 meters from a school canteen.

Children dived for cover when the 66mm round landed outside Wat Thung Salika School on December 4. Fortunately, the round did not explode.

Eleven-year-old Thanaphol Nakmeunwai said that he was eating with friends when he heard the sound of incoming artillery and saw the shell land across the

street. Everyone in the canteen ran for cover fearing it would explode, he said.

Cpt Prakop Imchai, a training officer at the nearby Prem Tinsulanonda Tank Shooting Range, said that the round that landed on the school's grounds was just a training round, designed to emit smoke rather than explode.

He did not explain how the round had managed to land so far off the base.

Source: Nation Breaking News

## Officers caught smuggling migrants

RANONG: Two police officers were caught using a police truck to illegally transport migrant workers between jobs on December 6.

Sen Sgt Maj Sombun Yitamrit, 43, and Sen Sgt Maj Kasem Srisawai, 52, both squad leaders at Phato Police Station in Chumphon,

were stopped at an army checkpoint in Ranong's La-un District.

In the back of the truck, soldiers found two men and one woman, all Burmese, as well as a large amount of baggage belonging to the passengers.

The soldiers notified their commanding officer, Col Thim Reuanto, as well as Deputy Inspector Chatchai Hayimama from Ranong Immigration Office.

Sen Sgt Maj Kasem admit-

ted he and his colleague had picked up the workers in Ranong and were taking them to a rubber plantation in Chumphon.

Sen Sgt Maj Kasem said he knew it was wrong to use the police truck, but a friend had asked him to take the workers and he didn't feel he could refuse.

Cpt Chatchai said the two police officers would be charged with human smuggling offences.

Source: Breaking News/ Khao Sod

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# Aviation flies high in 2009

## Talking Planes



by  
**Alastair Carthew**

**T**his year in review of Phuket aviation activity looks a lot better than previous years, and there are promising signs for future growth and development.

There are currently about 50 airlines servicing Phuket domestically and internationally, either directly or through charters, and that figure continues to grow.

A new airline, Happy Air, was launched this year in a welcome but somewhat risky and unusual move.

Owned by a Thai family, Happy Air offers flights to Hat Yai and Langkawi in Malaysia on a 34-seat SAAB 340 Standard aircraft.

A second SAAB could be introduced, depending on how business grows.

Firefly Airlines of Malaysia started, then suspended, then restarted flights between Phuket and Penang, Malaysia. They could be dubbed "visa run" airlines because of the short runs to Malaysia.

Air Asia's announcement of using Phuket as a second Thailand hub showed strong commitment to the island's tourism industry.



**Happy Air was one of the new airlines to begin operating flights between Phuket, Hat Yai and Langkawi this year. Malaysia's Firefly airlines also operates 'visa-run' flights between Phuket and Penang, Malaysia.**

China Eastern Airlines and Shanghai Airlines also started routes after some temporary delays due to the Songkran riots in Bangkok.

These airlines represent the growing industry of 'semi-budget' airlines, or those that offer limited 'full' service.

Perhaps one of the most successful figures relates to safety: there were no major accidents among Phuket flights in 2009.

The only major incident in Thailand was a Bangkok Airways ATR-72 aircraft plowing into the Koh Samui control tower, which caused extensive damage, but no fatalities.

Thai Airways International (THAI), which accounts for around 50 percent of all passengers into Phuket, launched direct flights from Hong Kong --

a smart move, given the large number of Hong Kong nationals who now own property on the island.

Tiger Airways, Silk Air, Singapore Airlines, JetStar Airlines and Air Australia continued their growth patterns with uninterrupted services to Phuket.

The long-haul budget carrier V-Australia is set to begin flights from New Zealand with connections on Pacific Blue, the budget carrier servicing New Zealand.

From Europe, up and coming airlines like Condor and Air Berlin are seen more and more frequently.

THAI also has plans to offer direct Frankfurt-Phuket flights early next year, which will boost already high numbers of tourists from Germany.

The charter business this year also seems to be holding up, although latest figures were not available at the time of writing.

Among the charter-flight airline operators are BaiAir, Switzerland; Britannia Airways, UK; Britannia Scandinavia, Scandinavia; FinnAir, Finland; Martin Air, Holland; NovAir and PremiAir, Sweden; UNI Airways, Khaoshung and Taipei.

As a sign of the times, a lot of consolidation is taking place among airlines in Europe. TUI Travel, one of the biggest charter operators, took a 9.9 percent stake in Air Berlin, Germany's second biggest carrier.

Such deals can only be positive for Phuket, given the large

## Soi pups earn their wings



**Many visitors to Phuket return home with a Thai dog as a pet, often from the Soi Dog Foundation. Photo: AFP / David Mcnew**

**P**huket's soi dogs have a habit of winning over the hearts of vacationing tourists who, after offering a bit of help with the care of the dogs, arrange to have them flown home.

If you happen to be one of these, here are a few tips on how to get your pup back to your overseas home.

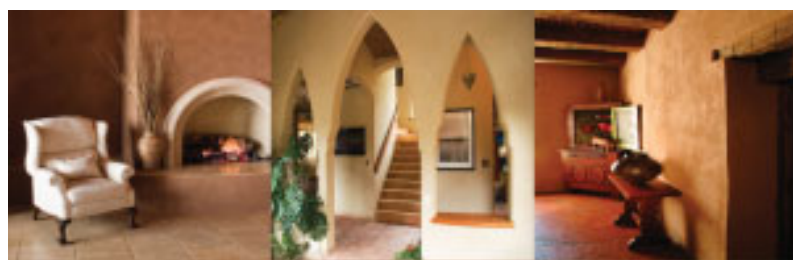
Start by checking the climate conditions. Airlines are getting more strict about shipping pets in climates that they define as too hot or too cold, a welcomed policy which aims to avoid placing pets in inhumane conditions for long plane rides.

Next, check that your doggie's papers are up-to-date (check with a local veterinarian). Regulations crossing international borders vary from country to country, so make sure you're familiar with your arrival country's policies. Airlines generally also require a health certificate.

Then there is the actual move. Many airlines only allow you to drop off your pet an hour before departure, and the same for pick up. This can vary, depending whether you're flying on an international or domestic flight.

Hopefully you didn't indulge your new pet too much, because each airline will specify a weight limit. Northwest Airlines in the United States, for example, has a limit of 45kg. And that's including the weight of the kennel. The maximum size and weight is based on handling facilities and the size of the aircraft.

For more information about the Soi Dog Foundation contact John Dalley. T: 081-788 4222. W: [soidog.org](http://soidog.org) E: [john@soidog.org](mailto:john@soidog.org)



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volume of German tourist traffic.

With the high season just beginning, assessing whether tourist numbers will be higher than last year is difficult, but given the upheaval caused by last year's airport closures in Bangkok and Phuket, the numbers are likely to be higher.

November saw a heavy flow of tourists in what seems to be the beginning of a busy high season.

At Phuket International Air-

port, despite the parking fee going up by 400 percent to 200 baht per day, there have been some noticeable and welcome improvements, particularly in the international area.

The Airports Authority of Thailand is spending a great deal of money to improve the airport in a tremendous investment in the future of the island.

New lounges, restaurants, cafes, shops and other facilities have recently sprung up all over the airport.

There are more immigration booths and the queues seem a bit shorter.

Plans to build a VIP terminal for the glitterati to fly in and out of Phuket undisturbed were also announced.

Overall, aviation in Phuket is alive and well, and shows promising signs for the near future.

*Alastair Carthew is a freelance writer and public relations consultant based in Phuket. Email: [alastaircarthew@gmail.com](mailto:alastaircarthew@gmail.com).*



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# Night and day, King's Cup

## Chang Regatta Moonlight Night



Under the wing of the King's Cup this year, Karon Beach hosted a commercial full-moon festival. Although not as popular as Roy Fest, held in October, hundreds partied in to the small hours of the morning aided by Beer Chang and Mekhong whiskey. Photos by Fraser Morton



The crew of *HiFi*, winners of the Phuket King's Cup 2009. Neil Pryde (one hand on the trophy) has now won the Racing Class four times, equalling Bill Gasson's record.



## A party week

Hundreds turned out for a week of parties and award ceremonies for the 23rd annual Phuket King's Cup Regatta.

Staged at various locations in Kata, Kata Noi and Karon, the festivities drew to a close in splendid fashion at the Kata Beach Resort and Spa on December 5.



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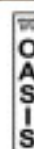


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# a real winner for Phuket

Inaugurated in 1987 to celebrate the 60th birthday of His Majesty the King of Thailand, the Phuket King's Cup Regatta has been held every December since then, and has grown in stature with every passing year. This year's regatta attracted a record fleet of 110 boats in various categories, culminating in a grand final on December 5, HM The King's 82nd birthday.



The crew of the *Royal Thai Navy 1* won two races out of two on the final race day. They were the only all Thai crew to taste victory at this year's regatta. Photo: Guy Nowell



An international flotilla of sailors salutes His Majesty The King's Royal Thai Navy ship *HTMS Bangpakong*.



Before the big boats took to the water, one- and two-man crews battled it out in weekend dingy races. Photo: Duncan Worthington



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TOP: The winning crew led by Niel Pryde on *Hi Fi*  
RIGHT: Damian Ford's *SEA Properties*



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# Not just another electronic DJ

Last week, the Spanish 'Godfather of Sunsets' gave a performance of his distinct melodic mixes as the sun went down over the Andaman at Anantara Phuket Spa & Resort's vast beach-front pool area.

As staff buzzed around preparing for the evening, music mixologist José Padilla – famous for his Cafe Del Mar albums of sensual, up-beat sounds – talked with the *Gazette's* Nick Davies about his current forays into the world of music in a mission to find something new.

José's 'Godfather of Sunsets' pseudonym comes from his early-until-late-evening performances in Ibiza, a Spanish holiday island popular with British tourists, where he mixed melodies and beats to create uniquely uplifting instrumental music to dance or just chill out to.

## Are sunsets the same the world over?

"Sunsets are different in different parts of the world. In India, it's quite amazing. The colors change... You know, like purple. The sea can get silver. It depends on the day, the clouds, but they are always different.

"Basically, I have a way of playing but I never prepare, really. Normally, I go to the place, feel the crowd, see the faces. It's a bit of a psychological job.

"I have a lot of music, which

can sometimes be a problem. I forget which is which."

## Is it fair that people call your music 'electronic music'?

"No. I play many different textures. 'Bella Musica' is a more organic compilation. 'Cafe Del Mar' was more contemporary electronic. Now I'm doing the Cafe Mambo, which is a mixture of both. I don't have barriers. I use analog, digital, whatever. If it sounds good, it sounds good.

"I'm working with a female Scottish award-winning vocalist



José Padilla plays 'Silk Rhythms' at the Anantara Phuket Spa & Resort last Thursday, accompanying a Jim Thompson fashion line-up with some of Thailand's top models.



Anantara Phuket Resort & Spa's general manager Mark Hehir (center) with models sporting the latest silk garments from Jim Thompson.



Kirstie Kitch. We're recording a piece called *Dragonfly*, which will be on the new album. She's a fantastic singer.

"Because, singers, you know... I'm very particular. There are lots of them out there but to find a decent one is difficult. Kirstie's different. She's got it. The attitude, she's humble, she's a good musician with a particularly unique voice, she's herself and has a very good presence on stage.

"It's all of those things together that make me want to work with her.

"I go with the flow. I'm working on my third solo album with Paul Tucker from the

lighthouse family. We've already recorded one track.

"When I go back to Spain, some musician friends are coming from London and we're going into the studio for two weeks.

"I want to go to Brazil to do some tracks. I'm just going to make music."

**After more than 10 years in the party scene and making close to 20 albums, what keeps you motivated after so long in the business?**

"A while ago, I got kind of burned out. I couldn't listen any more. I couldn't see the difference between a good and a bad track, so I stopped for two months, and it worked. I

got my audience back – they waited for me.

"José said his audience ranges in age from 20 to 60.

"Even old grannies sometimes come to me and say, 'my child listens to your music and I bought your album, too.'"

The breeze picked up as we finished our chat and the sun was making its decent.

José went off to warm up his sound system and the models as they prepared for their catwalk sequence for the evening's Jim Thompson silk collection fashion parade.

The Godfather of Sunsets was in his element on the edge of the Andaman.



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## EXPAT GALLERY

## Richard Watson

Richard Watson has been advising people what to do with their money for over 25 years. He has over 150 clients who depend on his readings of the international financial markets, as well as *Phuket Gazette* readers who have enjoyed his insights into global markets for over a decade.

Richard was born in Edinburgh and studied economic history at George Watson College.

"I was an only child and I lost my mother quite young. I grew up with my father and we always had long talks about history, politics and money. As soon as I graduated, I moved to Australia as the economy was booming and I wanted to work in the dynamic financial sector."

Before he was 20 years old, he joined Bank of NSW in Sydney and later moved to the Custom Credit Corporation, part of the National Australia Bank. He started in collections but then moved to assist the manager in charge of supplying money to clients.

"Between 1969 and 1975, I worked for various financial institutions in Sydney and Adelaide, learning all aspects of financial systems. I was young and moved to where I wanted to go and where the money was."

By the mid-1970s, Richard was ready for another adventure

and had heard that banking in South Africa was taking off. He accepted a banking job in Johannesburg as an assistant advances inspector, a job that entailed checking creditworthiness, quality of business, and assessment of loans and their returns. At the same time, he was trading in the stock market and making more money there than from the bank.

Richard decided to start his own business and opened Versailles International, a packaging and distribution operation for high-end perfumes. He also became involved in the first multi-racial night club in Johannesburg, 'Club New York City'.

In 1981 he met his wife, Joan, and went to work at Barclay's National Bank as a financial adviser. He worked in offshore services, personal financial planning, trust accounts, and tax and estate planning – exactly what he does today.

He then set up the offshore investments department for Banque Indosuez. In 1988, the Watsons decided to move to Durban where he established his own consulting company, International Money Management.

"We loved Durban. We had a fantastic property with over 400 trees and ponds and terraces. We had 13 staff to keep the gardens

up. In our spare time, we would sail on our 42 foot Sparkman & Stephens yacht. By 1997, we were ready to retire."

They sold their property, hauled anchor, and moved into a planned retirement, sailing around the world. They arrived in Phuket early in September 1997, after sailing for eight months.

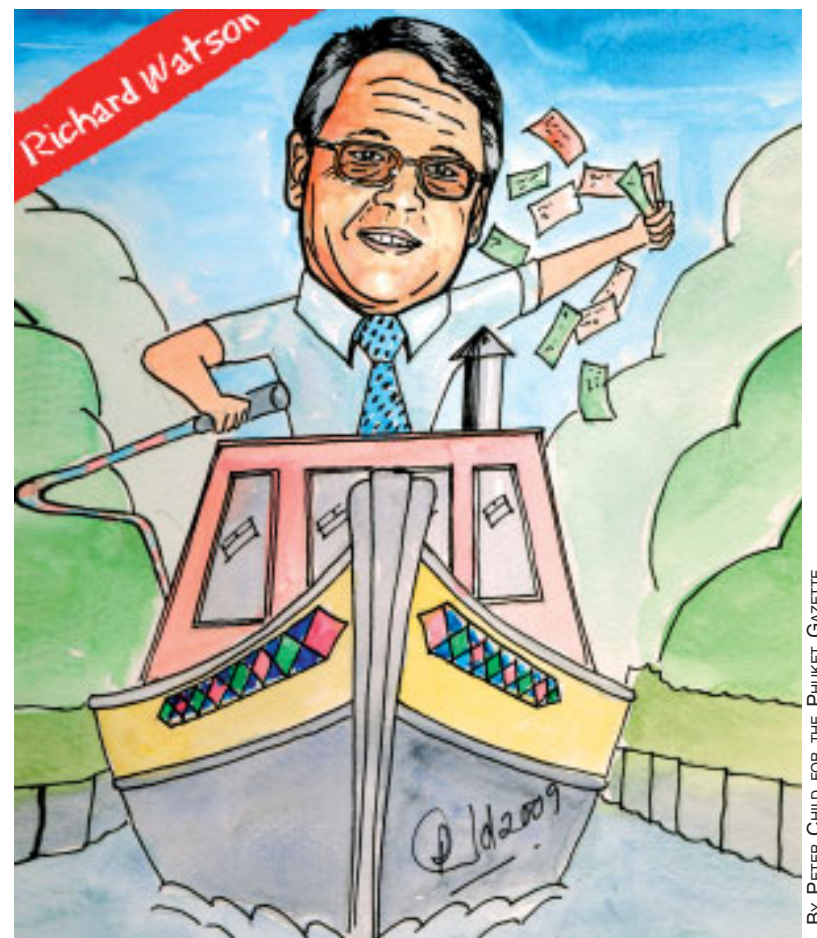
"I was totally bored and couldn't wait to get off the yacht and start a new business in the financial sector. Phuket was the perfect place as we could have a nice house and garden, and in a good market for financial services."

Richard starts his day at 6am checking currencies, commodities and the financial markets. He then watches the financial media, such as Bloomberg and CNBC, and checks the *Wall Street Journal*, *Financial Times* and other sources to determine trends in the markets.

"My main business is to consult with my clients to determine their attitude toward risk, their financial goals, their family status, and whether or not they need an income. It is all very interesting as I work with different nationalities and in different currencies."

When not making money for his valued clients, he enjoys the beautiful gardens surrounding their home in Chalong. He also takes holidays with Joan. Most recently, they have been exploring the rivers and canals in England by narrow boat. Richard and Joan are enjoying life.

– Bruce Stanley



BY PETER CHILD FOR THE PHUKET GAZETTE

## ABOUT EXPAT GALLERY

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

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Please contact [darren@phuketinternationalacademy.com](mailto:darren@phuketinternationalacademy.com) for further information and registration.

## • Karate Jutsu Kai Lessons

Every Tuesday from 25th November onwards 10.00 to 11.00 / Beginners Adults 375THB per session or 1,000THB per month

Every Friday from 20th November onwards 16.00 to 17.30 / Juniors 375THB per session or 1,000THB per month



## PIA AQUATIC ACADEMY

Please contact [debbie@phuketinternationalacademy.com](mailto:debbie@phuketinternationalacademy.com) for further information and registration.

## • Aqua Aerobics

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professional coaches Debbie, Martyn, Dave, Darren and Sean will be hosting these activities and we look forward to seeing you there!



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Please contact [martyn@phuketinternationalacademy.com](mailto:martyn@phuketinternationalacademy.com) for further information and registration.

## • Thalang Tigers Football Club / Training / Matches

Every Tuesday and Wednesday from 10th November / 16.00 to 18.00 Ages 6 and above (Bus collection available upon request)

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## • Adults Floodlight Futsal League

Every Thursday from 12th November onwards / 18.00 to 19.30 500THB per team per evening

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**CLOSING CEREMONY:** Mr Santi Kanchanabandhu (left), member of the organizing committee of the 2009 Phuket King's Cup Regatta, joins Mr Chris King (center) and Mom Luang Tridhosyuth Devakul, co-founders of the Phuket King's Cup Regatta, for the event's closing party celebrations on December 5. Photo by Duncan Worthington.



**SWISS TIME:** Her Excellency Mrs Christine Schraner Burgener, the newly appointed Swiss Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand, with her husband, His Excellency Christoph Burgener, Swiss Ambassador to Cambodia, Laos and Burma. They were among the many distinguished guests who attended the Swiss Society of Phuket's tenth anniversary dinner held at the Cape Panwa Hotel and Spa on November 27.



**BEST WISHES:** Mr Peter Komposch, General Manager of the Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket Hotel (front row, third from left), presided over a candle-lighting and National Anthem singing ceremony to pay respect and good wishes to His Majesty the King of Thailand. Hotel associates and guests also participated in a nationwide celebration on the auspicious occasion of His Majesty The King's 82nd birthday.




**CONFERENCE CENTER:** Mövenpick Resort & Spa Karon Beach Phuket hosted the first Asia Connect Conference on November 30. The 'hot' issues addressed at the conference included social media, rate parity and best available rate guarantee, selling in a buyers market and optimizing revenues.



**CULTURAL EXCHANGE:** Nine Chinese students and seven teachers traveled to Phuket to inspect some of the island's schools with hopes of launching a student exchange program in the future. Once the program is up and running, students from China will stay in Phuket for three months at a time and learn about Thai culture.



**PLANTING PARTY:** Executives and resort associates of the JW Marriott Mai Khao Beach along with members of the local community and students from Hongyok School planted mangrove trees at Klong U-Taphao mangrove forest in Mai Khao on December 4 to celebrate His Majesty The King's birthday.



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# New look for region's biggest marine expo

Organizers promise a lot more than just big boats at PIMEX 2010

Some of the finest offerings in Southeast Asian boating will dock at the Royal Phuket Marina on January 7 to kick off PIMEX 2010, widely known as 'Asia's favorite boat show'.

Showcasing 45 luxury yachts and 80 exhibiting companies, the event opens its doors to all potential buyers, families, hardcore boat junkies, and anyone curious about the marine lifestyle.

The 2010 event will boast a new look and a new format, following PIMEX's recent union with the Informa Yacht Group, affiliates of the world-leading Monaco and Abu Dhabi Yacht shows. The expo will be held at the Royal Phuket Marina and waterside Exhibition Hall from January 7 to 10.

Previously held in December, the show has been moved to early January to accommodate the vast number of visitors who arrive in Phuket for Christmas and New Year.

Some of the largest luxury yachts will be on display, including the 103-ft *Mangusta*, the largest open yacht in the world.

Luxury boat brands to be featured at the show include Sunseeker, Gulf Craft, Formula, Chris Craft, Princess, Riviera,



PIMEX 2010 will be held from January 7-10 at the Royal Phuket Marina. Widely considered to be Asia's premier boat show, this year's event will boast the largest in-water display of any exhibition in the region.

Pershing, Ferretti, Crownline, Cranchi, Fairline, Horizon, and Mustang.

An amphibious vehicle will be featured as part of the exhibition hall display and will be accessible for close up inspection.

For sailing enthusiasts, Jeanneau, Bavaria Yachts, Hanse, Andaman Cabriolet will be represented, as well as a number

of other brands and luxury charter boats measuring up to 20m.

Several Phuket-based property and residential marina projects will also be exhibiting their top-quality offerings.

A new development for 2010 is the introduction of a series of seminars that combine international experts on maritime security with technical experts in

their specific fields.

Organized by the Human Development Forum Foundation (HDFF), the Phuket Maritime Forum will facilitate discussions on harbor security, archipelago states security, security of sea lanes, and new sustainable technologies.

A complete selection of boating electronics, engines and

other marine accessories will also be on show along with plenty of 'pretties' showing you how they work.

The *Phuket Gazette* is a media sponsor of PIMEX 2010.

For further information contact Show Director Andy Dowden. T: 081-8927670. E: info@phuketboatshow.com.

-Phuket Gazette



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3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 224 sq.m.

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Pruerk-Pailin	80	5,630,000	100,000	2,715,000	2,815,000
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

- \* These prices include air-conditioners, wall paper, kitchen and garden
- \* 1-year-free use of the club facilities except spa and restaurant
- \* The price and style of the houses may be changed without prior notice

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# Hello, and welcome to Jazz Club

When most people under the age of 30 think of jazz, chances are they will think of random notes that, when brought together, kind of sounds like music, but seems to have no direction and no beginning, middle, or end.

Only a few born after 1979 truly appreciate its qualities, with its improvisation, syncopation, polyrhythms and more.

As a relative novice when it comes to jazz, I would have firmly placed myself in the former camp. In fact, before arriving in Phuket, my only exposure to jazz music was from the great BBC sketch comedy *The Fast Show*, which did a skit about a jazz club TV presenter called Louis Balfour, whose smooth opening gambit was, "Hello, and welcome to Jazz Club. Nice!" – totally stereotypical and utterly hilarious for fans of the show.

But after more exposure to the genre, I have begun to appreciate its subtlety and the talent of its exponents, and have acknowledged that jazz is, in a word, cool.

Everything about it is cool – from the smooth trumpet work of Miles Davis in *Boplicity*, to the very names of just about every great jazz musician: Duke Ellington, Thelonious Monk and Jelly Roll Morton to name but three.

I was starting to get into the groove when the offer came through to enjoy an evening of

dinner and live jazz while surrounded by the legends of Hollywood and the music industry at The Siam Supper Club just outside Laguna. I saw it as an opportunity to further my education.

Arriving at the restaurant/bar in Tinlay Place, my companion and I were greeted by Ben de Bellis, the affable general manager, who welcomed us and immediately offered us a drink to quench our thirst after the long five-minute drive from Bang Tao.

One of the nicest things about the Siam Supper Club is being made to feel welcome by Ben, who greets you like a long-lost friend each time you arrive.

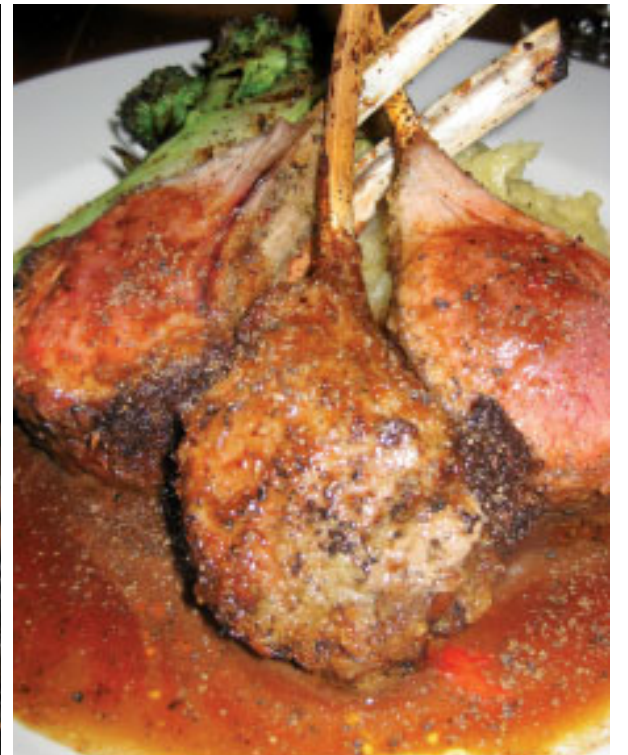
If he doesn't know you, he takes the time to introduce himself, and is always quick with a smile. Younger than his slightly graying hair would suggest, Ben is full of youth and exuberance. As is the owner Sean, without being quite so young...

Sean is, however, in charge of the music – except on jazz night of course – and the bar bounces along nicely thanks to a well-rounded soundtrack, making it a good place to drink, eat and relax, particularly after a hard day at work.

But Thursday nights are all about jazz – nice – and as we kicked back with a sharp and tasty margarita, the Cosmo Jazz Quartet struck up a lively number, and within minutes there were feet tapping and fingers clicking



IF MUSIC BE THE FOOD OF LOVE, PLAY ON: Japan's Lek Hisahsi hits all the right notes as part of a four-man jazz ensemble. The food at the Supper Club is fantastic. The lamb was one of a number of highlights of the evening.



as people started to feel the vibe.

Like jazz music, The Siam Supper Club is, again for the want of a better word, cool. Home to a number of tables used primarily for dining, people are often found perched up by the bar, chatting to friends and enjoying a fine glass of wine from a cellar that is home to bottles from around the globe.

The lighting is subtle, providing a relaxing mood, but it is the incredible array of classic black and white photographs of former Hollywood stars, legendary musicians and leading politicians that make the Supper Club truly stand out from the crowd.

It almost feels as if one is rubbing shoulders with the likes of Frank Sinatra and the legendary Hollywood Rat Pack, JFK and the Beatles; it's certainly an experience sharing a bathroom with a semi naked Steve McQueen, while noticing Sophia Loren having a sneaky ogle at Jayne Mansfield's famous cleavage.

Margaritas finished, we peruse the menu and plump for the Supper Club's warm goat cheese salad with argali and pesto balsamic vinegar, accompanied by

a glass of Forrest Estate Sauvignon Blanc from New Zealand. This is followed by a margarita pizza and the grilled tenderloin of New Zealand spring lamb with garlic mash and ratatouille, and selected a glass of Sunrise from Chile to enjoy with it.

The short wait between courses was filled by the smooth sounds of the four-piece ensemble, featuring David Donald on double bass, Tim Hedges on piano, Giuseppe Greco on drums and Lek Hisahsi on sax.

All four hail from different parts of the globe and different cultures to form one successful sound – quite an appropriate metaphor for jazz when you think about it.

The mains arrive and all thoughts of jazz and conversation are put to one side.

The lamb was divine. Each lamb cutlet was thick, tender, juicy and cooked beautifully rare, and was complemented well by the smooth red with its slight peppery finish.

Once the last morsel of food had disappeared, my ears noticed the band was still playing and

some vigorous foot tapping aided my digestion and helped make room for dessert.

Taking the plunge, we plumped for the Supper Club cheesecake and a vanilla creme brulee. The latter was something else; quite possibly the finest either of us have ever eaten.

As the band brought their set to a pulsing conclusion, it was time to conclude matters of my own over a glass of 15-year-old glenlivet, just one of the Supper Club's fine selection of malt whiskeys.

The decor and ambiance of The Siam Supper Club make it the perfect place for a jazz evening, particularly when you consider that some of the legends of jazz are looking down at you from above, like a pantheon of the gods as it were.

The food was excellent – especially the rack of lamb and the creme brulee – as were the drinks and the service.

All in all it made for a wonderful evening, and I'm sure Jazz Club's Louis Balfour would agree: "Great? Really great!"

-Daniel Ogunshakin

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

## Upcoming events on the island

## Third Annual Phuket Kart Races – December 19



Phuket Kart Speedway will be holding its third annual Phuket Kart Races on December 19. Watch Thailand's best kart drivers battle it out on the professional track from the raised stadium seats. Races start at midday and will be held all day long. The track is on the right side of the road heading from Kathu to Patong. Refreshments available. From 11am to 11:30pm. For further information contact Nuy Kolan. T: 076-202085. E: phuketkart@hotmail.com. W: phuketkart.net.

**December 12. Kick Off The Holiday Season**

Home & Life invite you for an evening of entertainment and great food. Bring your children and have them meet Santa Claus. Enjoy the Christmas tree and carols with a choir, surprises for the children and music from our DJ. Admission fee: one small gift for a child (gifts will be distributed to disadvantaged children in Phuket). All proceeds will go to the Home & Life Orphanage. From 6pm to 11.30pm at the Town Square, Royal Phuket Marina. For further information contact Mr Murat Can Sakarya. T: 081-797 3364. E: muratc@royalphuketmarina.com. W: royalphuketmarina.com.

**December 13. Free Computer Clinic – Laguna**

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

**December 17 - 18. Asia Superyacht Rendezvous**

The Asia Superyacht Rendezvous, sponsored by Feadship, The Chedi resort and Asia Pacific Superyachts.com. From 17.30pm onwards on December 17 and from 10am until late on December 18. Located at the Chedi Resort in Surin. For more information contact Charlie Dwyer. T: 081-797 4100. E: charlie@asia-pacific-superyachts.com. W: asia-superyacht-rendezvous.com

**December 19. Stranger Art Exhibition at D Gallery**

Stranger will feature acrylic on canvas work by talented Thai artist Jirapat Tatsanasomboon. He conveys the different scenes between traditional Thai lifestyle and West-

ern capitalist cultures. He merges different cultures by featuring characters from Thai art arranged among well-known modern cartoons from American and Japanese comics. The dissimilar characters represent the faces of varied cultures, old and new, in Thailand. Jirapat has participated in art exhibitions in Thailand, Korea (2003), USA (2006), Singapore and China (2008). The exhibition at D Gallery runs from Dec 19, 2009 to Jan 31, 2010. Tuesdays to Saturdays: 11am to 7pm. Sundays: Noon to 6pm. At D Gallery, Royal Phuket Marina. For more info contact Watinee Ann Kaewket. T: 076-360867. E: info@dgallery.co.th. W: dgallery.co.th.

**December 20. Free Computer Clinic – Chalong**

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

**December 21-23 Phuket International Academy (PIA) Kids Christmas Camp**

From 9am to 4pm each day at the PIA Sports, Arts & Wellness Centre. A fun-filled three days of sports and arts for boys and girls aged six and over. Choose arts or sports activities with all-day or part-day options. Lunch provided for full-day guests. Morning soccer session: 9am-12pm daily. Arts or Mixed Sports Session: 1pm-4pm daily. Soccer School: 500 baht /session. Arts Program: 500 baht /session. Mixed Sports: 250 baht /session. Full Day: 750 baht - 1,000 baht /day. Three Day price: 2,750 baht. For

more information contact Khun Mik. T: 076-33600. E: jinatta@phuketinternationalacademy.com.

**December 25. Christmas Day**

This is not a public holiday in Thailand.

**December 27. Free Computer Clinic – Chalong**

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

**December 27. 4th Local Life Festival**

No tickets. Free entry. The chance for expats to mingle with locals and enjoy food and drink in the old town district, just like the old days. From 6pm to 11.30pm on Thalang Rd. For more info contact the Old Phuket Foundation. T: 081-719 5493. E: prasitkoy@yahoo.com.

**December 31. New Years Eve (Day) – Public Holiday**

This is a public holiday in Thailand.

**December 31. New Year's Eve at the Royal Phawadee Village**

Celebrate at the Thai-style resort at Patong Beach with a gala buffet, cabaret show, Thai-style dance performance, games and a spectacular fireworks display. Adults 3,000 baht. Children 1,500 baht. From 7pm to 11:30pm at Royal Phawadee Village. For more info contact Claude de Crissey. T: 076-345576, 081-893 6677. E: claud@crisseyco.com. W: royal-phawadee-village.com.

**December 31. Egyptian Extravaganza at Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket**

Celebrate New Year's Eve in an ancient Egyptian-styled marquee, complete with mummified ice sculptures and beach front chill-out pyramids. Begin with welcome cocktails and bubbles followed by a culinary experience including a variety of tantalizing appetizers, hand carved meats, fresh seafood and mouthwatering desserts served buffet style. Adults 7,999 baht ++. Children (five to 14 years) 4,999 baht ++.

For reservations, complete the Egyptian Extravaganza online reservation form at sheratonphuket.com Dining Food and Beverage promotions. From 8pm to 1am at Gekko on the beach. For more info contact Adam Beasley. T: 076-324101. E: adam.beasley@luxurycollection.com. W: sheratonphuket.com.

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### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- This contest is open to all Thai students aged 14-18 years old
- All entries must be in English
- Essays must be written by the students and should not be edited by others
- The submission must be 800-1,200 words long
- Submissions will be accepted from November 15, 2009 until January 15, 2010
- The name of the winner will be announced on February 20

# THEME: SO NEAR YET SO FAR

WRITERS FROM SOUTHERN REGION CAN SEND THEIR ENTRIES VIA E-MAIL TO:

DublinAwards@PhuketGazette.Net OR MAIL TO:

Events Manager  
The Phuket Gazette  
367/2 Yaowarat Road, Taladyai, Muang Phuket 83000

\*Write your name/surname in Thai and English, age, school name, class, e-mail address and contact number at the top of your entry.

For more information, please contact Khun Jib at 076-236 555 or Email: jib@phuketgazette.net

### PRIZES

1 The Winning author from each region will earn 10,000 baht and there will be two merit awards per region of 5,000 baht each.

2 The overall national winner will win a trip with one parent to Dublin where they will attend the senior international IMPAC Dublin Literary Awards ceremony and take part in a reading with the worldwide winner.

\*The Dublin trip for the Thailand national winner is compulsory. If the national winner cannot go, the trip will be awarded to the next winner who can go.

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The Nation



# 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.

SMELLING SALTS

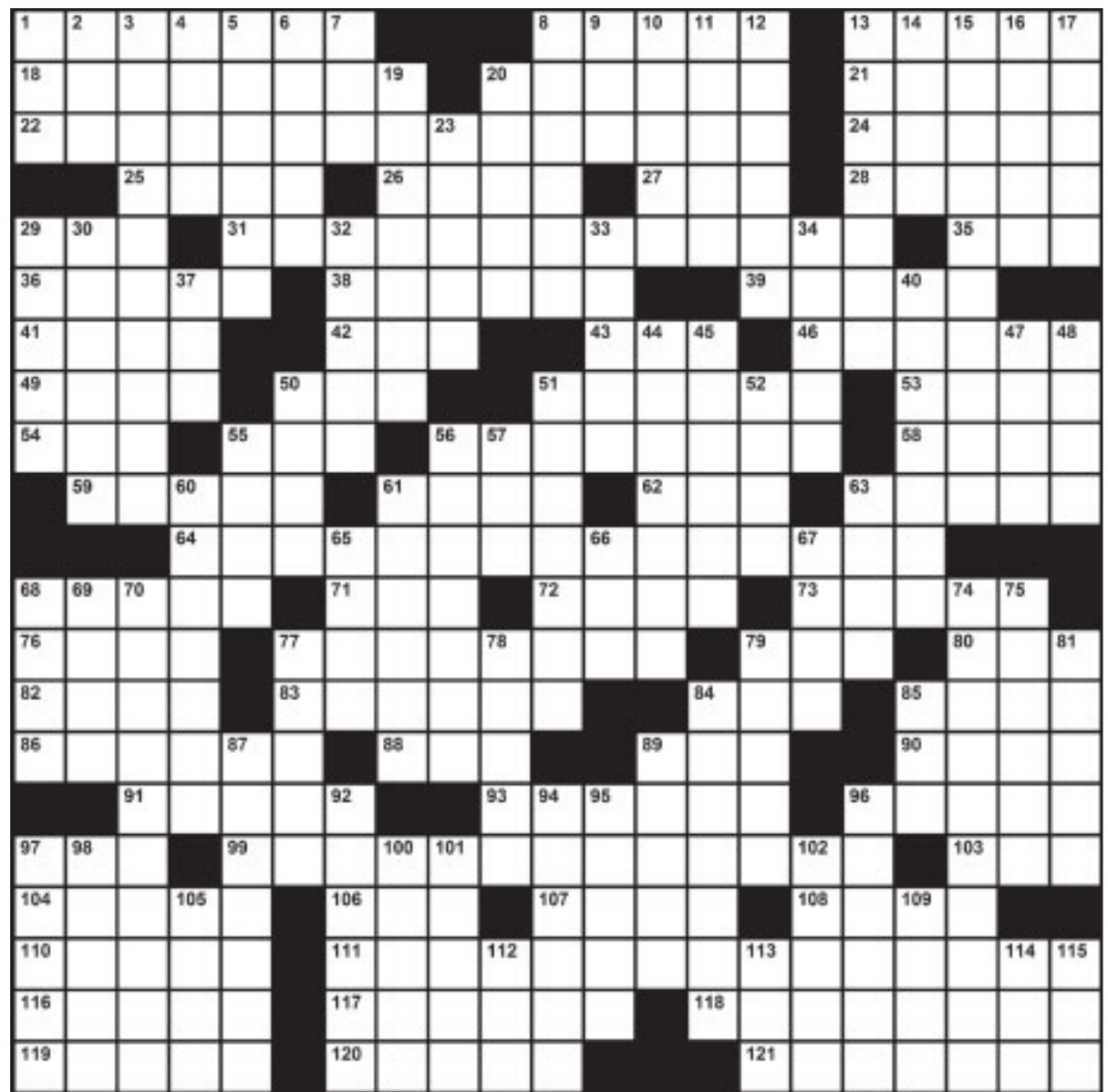
Solution: 8 letters

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

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9/11

Activity, Ammonia, Athletes, Care, Coaches, Combination, Concentration, Consciousness, Dose, Fine, Invigorate, Laboratory, Lift, Lungs, Membrane, Mucous, Nasal, Nostrils, Oils, Oxygen, Preparation, Renew, Restore, Rouse, Sensation, Senses, Sharp, Sinus, Smell, Sniff, Solution, Spirits, Stimulant, Therapy, Throat, Treatment, Trigger



## ACROSS

- 1 Certain winged hunter
- 8 He lent a hand to the Addams family
- 13 Olympic skiing medalist Phil
- 18 Catches, as in a net
- 20 Wisconsin city
- 21 At full speed, nautically
- 22 Be responsible for more than one thing
- 24 Nast of publishing
- 25 Form of "lie"
- 26 Be deficient in
- 27 Singer King Cole
- 28 Walker on a trail
- 29 "Alice" diner owner
- 31 Suit perfectly
- 35 7'6" Ming
- 36 Fidgety
- 38 Hilton Head Island, for one
- 39 Frame job
- 41 Activate, as a switch
- 42 "... how I wonder what you \_\_\_"
- 43 L.A.'s west side?
- 46 Mr. Fix-It's job
- 49 '70s TV detective series
- 50 Grafton's "\_\_\_ for Burglar"
- 51 Cambridge student, for short
- 53 New York Liberty's org.
- 54 Abbr. in a help-wanted ad
- 55 Conversation, for some
- 56 What grand slams reach
- 58 Related by blood
- 59 Rubbish
- 61 Base runner?
- 62 Bank statement abbreviation
- 63 Meeting for lovers
- 64 Famed London police headquarters

## DOWN

- 68 Bartlett cousins
- 71 "The Name of the Rose" author Umberto
- 72 Gremlins and Hornets
- 73 Coarse metal files
- 76 "... like \_\_\_ not!"
- 77 Precise heading
- 79 Adjust, as a spark plug
- 80 "...-Pah-Pah" ("Oliver!" tune)
- 82 Plumb crazy
- 83 Pilgrim family
- 84 Celebrated mummy
- 85 Burn-soothing plant
- 86 William Shatner novel
- 88 "Warm" or "cold" ending
- 89 Singsong syllable
- 90 1996 Emmy winner Daly
- 91 Warmed an engine
- 93 John Glenn, for one
- 96 Diamond opportunity
- 97 White paper (Abbr.)
- 99 Makes anxious
- 103 Gilligan's boat, \_\_\_ Minnow
- 104 Expenditure
- 106 "All Things Considered" ailer
- 107 "Andy Capp" quaffs
- 108 Trumpet legend Al
- 110 Popular vodka, informally
- 111 Reduce expenses
- 116 Pointed, as a gun
- 117 Words after "the claws" or "the stars"
- 118 Mother of the blues
- 119 British submachine guns
- 120 Is eliminated from competition
- 121 Yellowstone attractions

## DOWN

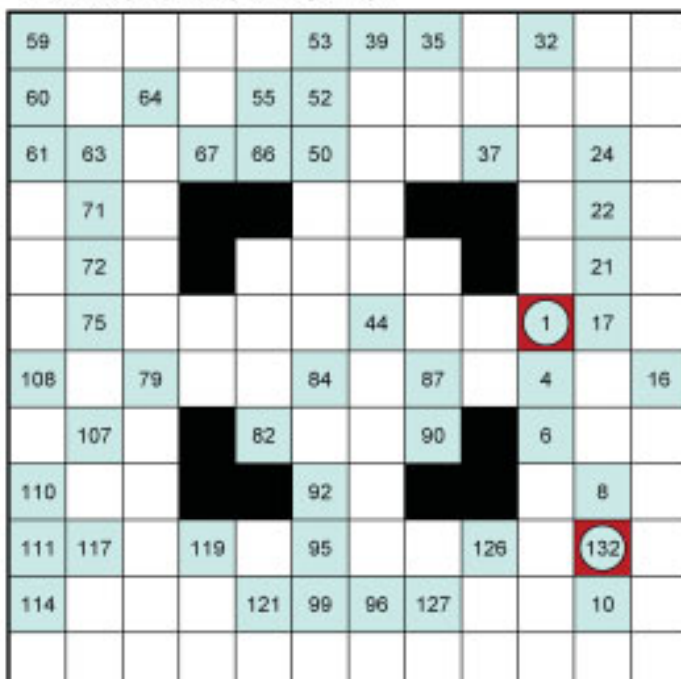
- 1 Limited number
- 2 Ending for some women's names
- 3 Petty person
- 4 Daughter of Cronus
- 5 Harden like bone
- 6 "... was your age ..."
- 7 "My Name is Asher ..."
- 8 Motormouth
- 9 "Beg pardon?"
- 10 "What would you do if \_\_\_ out of tune?"
- 11 Relating to birth
- 12 Zest
- 13 Cane cutter's tool
- 14 To me, in Paris
- 15 Funny business
- 16 "... Wild Pony" (1975 film)
- 17 First month in Madrid
- 19 Many eBay users
- 20 Oddball
- 23 Bluffer's ploy
- 29 Dull finish
- 30 Implant deeply, as in soil
- 32 Genetic inheritance
- 33 Someone with a lot on his shoulders
- 34 Parts of complete sentences
- 37 Whirlpool whereabouts
- 40 Above (with "of")
- 44 What some stubborn folks won't give?
- 45 Where fans can be found
- 47 Sacred bird of the pharaohs
- 48 \_\_\_ and rave
- 50 Make beer or coffee
- 51 Tornado refuge sites
- 52 Bar member (Abbr.)
- 55 Captors in a sci-fi classic
- 56 Change for a Jefferson

- 57 Like dog days
- 60 Chic clique
- 61 Acquiesce
- 63 It may be set to catch a speeder
- 65 Pas \_\_\_ (dance solo)
- 66 10 cc, e.g.
- 67 "I smell \_\_\_" (suspicious comment)
- 68 Manufactured, in some brand names
- 69 Ally of the Missouri
- 70 "Laugh-In" line
- 74 Ingredient in lubricants and synthetic rubber
- 75 ASAP part
- 77 "... say more?"
- 78 "... with a cherry \_\_\_"
- 79 Fertilizer from bats
- 81 Convenes
- 84 Window over a door
- 85 Sprint alternative
- 87 Mints in a tin
- 89 Bus payment, often
- 92 Component of some benefits packages
- 94 Break in the action
- 95 Shoreline opening
- 96 According to me
- 97 Artist Bonheur and activist Parks
- 98 "To \_\_\_ mildly ..."
- 100 Former VP Agnew
- 101 Encourages
- 102 "And \_\_\_ you have it!"
- 105 "Glengarry \_\_\_ Ross"
- 109 Hitter's stats
- 112 Gardener's tool
- 113 Old horse
- 114 Personification of the sea, in myth
- 115 Baseball's Cobb et al.

## HIDATO®

FIND THE PATH - SOLVE THE PUZZLE

Complete the grid so that numbers 1 - 132 connect horizontally, vertically or diagonally:



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Difficulty ★★★★★

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www.whatzit.com August 17, 2009

**WHATZIT?**

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

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**HAND FOOT****Get your brain in gear with the**  
**MONSTER QUIZ**

1. In which month did the majority of the Russian October revolution occur?
2. "Nobody's perfect" is the last line in which classic comedy film?
3. How did Buffalo Bill stick to one glass of whisky a day?
4. In 1760, what means of personal transport was invented?
5. What three counties was Eliza Dolittle taught to pronounce?
6. In Hitchcock's film *The Trouble with Harry*, what was the trouble?
7. What was the first gramophone record made from?
8. What did George Washington soak his wooden dentures in for taste?
9. Which organization links George VI, Mozart, Al Jolson and Casanova?
10. Who famously once said, "Its so long since I had sex, I forget who gets tied up?"
11. St Appolonia is the patron saint of what?
12. What is measured on the Gay-Lussac scale?
13. A squid found in New Zealand had the biggest what ever seen?
14. Which Romanian state was the first to guarantee freedom of worship?
15. Which famous person invented the cat flap?
16. By law, what can you not do in Minnesota with your washing line?
17. Why do Tibetans grow long nails on their little fingers?
18. Richard Penniman is more famously known as who?
19. What is a snood?
20. Who said, "Men are creatures with two legs and eight hands?"

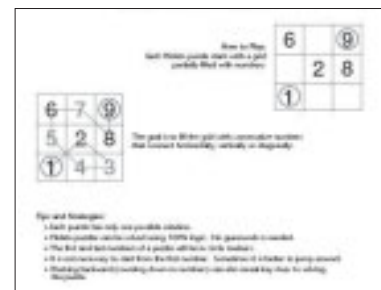
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email: [info@swmeat.com](mailto:info@swmeat.com) • Tel: (John) 089 650 3940**Puzzle Solutions****Wonderword Solution: Battleship**  
**Solution to this week's crossword:**

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

**Monster Quiz Answers**

1. November; 2. Some Like it Hot; 3. He Drank from a Quart Glass; 4. Roller Skates; 5. Hertford, Hereford and Hampshire; 6. He was Dead; 7. Tinfoil; 8. Port; 9. Freemasons; 10. Joan Rivers; 11. Toothache; 12. Alcohol strength; 13. Eye (15.75 inches); 14. Transylvania; 15. Sir Isaac Newton; 16. Put Male and Female Clothes Together; 17. To pick noses efficiently; 18. Little Richard; 19. A hairnet; 20. Jayne Mansfield.

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

1/11

59	58	57	56	54	53	39	35	34	32	31	30
60	62	64	65	55	52	40	38	36	33	27	29
61	63	68	67	66	50	51	41	37	26	24	28
73	71	69			49	42			25	22	23
74	72	70		48	46	45	43		2	21	20
76	75	78	80	47	85	44	88	3	1	17	19
108	77	79	81	83	84	86	87	89	4	18	16
109	107	106		82	93	91	90		6	5	15
110	105	118			92	94			7	8	14
111	117	104	119	120	95	98	97	126	9	132	13
114	112	116	103	121	99	96	127	125	131	10	12
113	115	102	101	100	122	123	124	128	129	130	11

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# Second thoughts on death panels

old age. We figure we've paid our dues and can take things easy. The prospect of facing death panels would quickly snap us back into line and upgrade our behavior.

For most of us, death panels will be a breeze.

We're talking about U.S. government death panels here. Old age has endowed us with cunning and guile.

If we can't fast-talk our way past death panels run by the U.S. government, we deserve to die.

I believe every old geezer ought to appear before a death panel for a lifetime performance review at the age of 65. This is how I'd expect mine to go.

Call the judges Yama (after King Yama) and Pete (after St Peter), the judges of the dead in the Hindu-Buddhist and Christian traditions, respectively:

Yama: S. Tsow, eh? You are a dubious character, Tsow. During your long and dissolute career on this planet, what have you contributed to its betterment?

Have you fed the starving, clothed the naked, housed the homeless, nursed the sick, and sucked the leper's sores?

Tsow: No, sir. I was an English teacher. I taught my students what a gerund is.

Pete: A gerund? What's that?

Tsow: Sir, a gerund is a verb that functions as a noun.

Yama: Say what? A verb that functions as a...? That doesn't make any sense at all.

Tsow: Ah, sir, but it does and that is why my pedagogy was so vital to the welfare of our species. Take the sentence, "Running is my favorite activity." "Running" is a verb. But because it is the subject of the sentence, in this context it functions as a noun. Ergo, it is a verb that functions as a noun: in short, a gerund. (The entire courtroom bursts into wild applause.)

Yama (growling): I fail to see the usefulness of such pedantry.

Tsow: Sir, there is a law of linguistics known as the Domino Theory of Language Degen-

eration. If students are ignorant of what a gerund is, it follows as surely as the elephant pie follows in the wake of the elephant that they will also be ignorant of what a participle is; not to mention a conjunctive adverb, the past perfect progressive tense, and the Oxford comma.

With the population thus wallowing in ignorance of their mother tongue, the entire magnificent edifice of the English language – the language of Chaucer and Shakespeare, of Donne and Dryden, of Milton, Coleridge, and Keats – yea, even of Bruce Stanley, Frank Visakay, and Marque A. Rome – will come crashing to the ground.

Pete: I'm impressed. I think we should pass him.

Yama: I'm not, and we shouldn't.

Tsow: Sir, were the noble gerund to be lost from the vast storehouse of human knowledge, 'twould merely be the first small step in the gradual, but inexorable unraveling, the erosion, the disappearance unto the extinction,

of all knowledge whatsoever.

The gerund is a tiny island, cut away from the main; sink it beneath the waves, sir, and let no man ask for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee.

Yama: Your efforts to preserve the gerund from extinction do not constitute sufficient justification for your continued existence on this planet. I therefore vote that you should be staked out in the snow to be devoured by wolves.

Pete: Yam, I disagree. The gerund is a valuable construction, worth preserving to stimulate the brains of generations of students yet unborn. I vote to spare this venerable English teacher.

Yama: Then we have a split decision. Come back in five years for a re-evaluation, Tsow. And don't forget to sign in every 90 days.

Tsow: OK. And next time I'll tell you how I invented a unisex pronoun.

*S. Tsow can be flamed at s.tsow@gmail.com while he's preparing for his next performance review.*

## Horoscopes



Isla Star



Sagittarius

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): Sagittarians who are getting cold feet over holiday plans that were made on their behalf should state their case tactfully this week. Events are predicted to rocket out of your control, causing extra seasonal stress. Those who want to find someone to share a special Christmas with will discover that Aries is in the same boat. If your birthday falls in the week ahead, the coming year brings calmer conditions at work.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20): Your personal life begins to be less fraught with difficulties, but Capricorns who were hoping for commitment before the end of this year will probably be disappointed. This weekend, someone born under a water sign has good news regarding your plans for relocation. Tuesday is the most auspicious day for signing agreements relating to property. Keeping important documents in safe places is particularly recommended as loss is highlighted midweek. Wear the color mint green to encourage a calm outlook.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19): The stars forecast that Aquarians who aim higher this week will be successful. Those who are prepared to settle for second best are certain to miss out on a lucrative gain. A romantic date this weekend might not go quite as you had hoped for when two is company, but three is a crowd. If you have your heart set on a relationship with this person, patience will be necessary. Wear the color plum to encourage understanding.

**PISCES** (February 20-March 20): Pisceans are advised to resist becoming involved in anything they sense might be beyond their talents this week. The stars forecast that you could end up feeling like a fish out of water. Your love life improves when a partner starts to show more consideration for your needs. Those still in search of a meaningful relationship may find that Capricorn is compatible. The number six brings good luck this weekend.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): Arians should be wary of falling coconuts this week. The astral atmosphere promises to be unpredictable – what you presumed to be a safe move in business may turn out to be a situation that's too hot to handle. Your romantic life could demand more attention than you are prepared to give this weekend. A family member has interesting news and this could prompt travel later in December. Wear a diamond to encourage more good luck.

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): An outbreak of jealousy in your

social circle requires Taureans' tactful handling this week. Someone who you have been distancing yourself from is forecast to show their face when you least expect it. Sunday is the best day for airing your true feelings. A slight financial downturn earlier this month is put behind you when you receive payment of a long-standing debt. The number nine can bring some much-needed good fortune next Tuesday.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): Your decision to allow someone else to organize Christmas festivities could give cause for regret this week. It's not too late to offer ideas that will suit your needs better. Where gift giving is concerned, a wave of inspiration this weekend prompts a shopping expedition. However, money matters remain less than well-starred until the end of the month, so over-spending is inadvisable. Romantic dreams can come true on Tuesday. Wear the color silver to encourage a lighter outlook on life.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 23): Cancerians may be on an emotional rollercoaster this week. Those who have been involved with another water sign are forecast to be confused by this person's behavior and may want to call it a day. However, a meeting with Libra could be enough to prevent you checking into heartbreak hotel. If you are in a committed relationship, there are signs that your partner is about to drop a bombshell concerning this year's Christmas celebrations.

**LEO** (July 24-August 22): Starting the week on a

cliffhanger could give Leos a negative impression of what the remainder of December may bring. The stars suggest your path will be less fraught with tension after Wednesday. Positive answers to your burning questions are forecast to leave the air clear for relaxed Christmas celebrations. A water sign who you would like to get closer to will help brighten up this coming weekend.

**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23): Virgoans who have been trying to contact someone who can help them with a financial question should find that third time lucky will work. Money matters are predicted to become less trying during the second half of December and you will be glad when friends reveal plans for an economical Christmas celebration. Romance with a water sign sparkles on Tuesday. The number five can bring some over due good luck your way this weekend. Wear the color avocado to curb your enthusiasm.

**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23): Your luck in business during the remainder of December depends on whether you can be more open to possibilities. Librans who are prepared to listen properly to ideas before dismissing them could catch a glimpse of lucrative projects for next year. Where romance is concerned, Cancer is impressed by your smooth as silk approach this weekend. Those already spoken for are advised to listen more carefully to what their partner says.

**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22): Tracking down a lost item could be like looking for a needle in a haystack this weekend. Scorpions could be helped in their search by a practical Capricorn friend or family member. In the realm of romance, your tendency to live in your own world is forecast to affect a relationship. Those who truly seek commitment should endeavor to be more open with a prospective partner. The number three is particularly lucky on Monday.



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- Since 1994 -

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## What constitutes a crisis?

I expected some backlash for my support for a provincial plan to implement a charge for plastic bags [*Phuket Gazette*, November 21], and it came last weekend in the form of a strongly-worded open letter to the Phuket Energy Office with the heading: 'Crisis? What Crisis?', after the 1975 Supertramp album by the same name.

The letter, by a Canadian who identified himself only as 'DM Surin Beach', described the plan alternatively as 'moronic', 'a misguided crusade', a 'highly regressive tax on consumption,' 'of dubious legal standing,' etc.

After a well-written, eight-point argument, he finishes: *I... will be the first to boycott any store imposing such a moronic tax as the bag tax.*

Attempts by the *Gazette* to reach the author to get his real name and permission to run the full letter have been met with no reply. Hopefully 'DM' will grant such permission soon, but in the meantime I would like to address the introduction to the letter, which states:

*In support of the effort, Mr Stephen Fein of The Phuket Gazette describes a landfill 'crisis'. Where does he get this idea from? What is the exact nature of this crisis? This is most certainly make-believe hysteria. There is no crisis. Plastic bags do not have a stench. They take up a tiny amount of space.*

To answer this I encourage DM to take a trip down to Saphan Hin to see what is going on there.

As a journalist, I try to take a measured approach when applying the word 'crisis' to any situation, whether it be the global economy or the environment – or even a darts match.

But in my opinion, piling up mostly unsorted garbage at a rate of at least 300 tonnes a day adjacent to the island's largest municipal park and at less than a meter above the high tide mark in a mangrove, does constitute a crisis.

I am sure the fish farmers who had their stocks wiped out by a toxic effluent plume in June 2007 would agree, as would long-suffering residents of the nearby Ban Saphan Hin. I am sure DM would agree too, if all this waste were being piled up in Surin, not Saphan Hin.

It may be true that plastic bags comprise a small percentage of the waste stream by weight or volume, but their excessive use as 'packaging' for wet food waste, other organics and even toxic wastes like used batteries is causing a great deal more environmental harm than is necessary.

For the record, the Saphan Hin landfill is also routinely referred to as a 'crisis' by local Thai department heads and municipal officials, the same people who typically promote Phuket as the 'Pearl of the Andaman'.

If they are calling it a crisis, you have to think it might actually be one.

– **Stephen Michael Fein**

**The Phuket Gazette**

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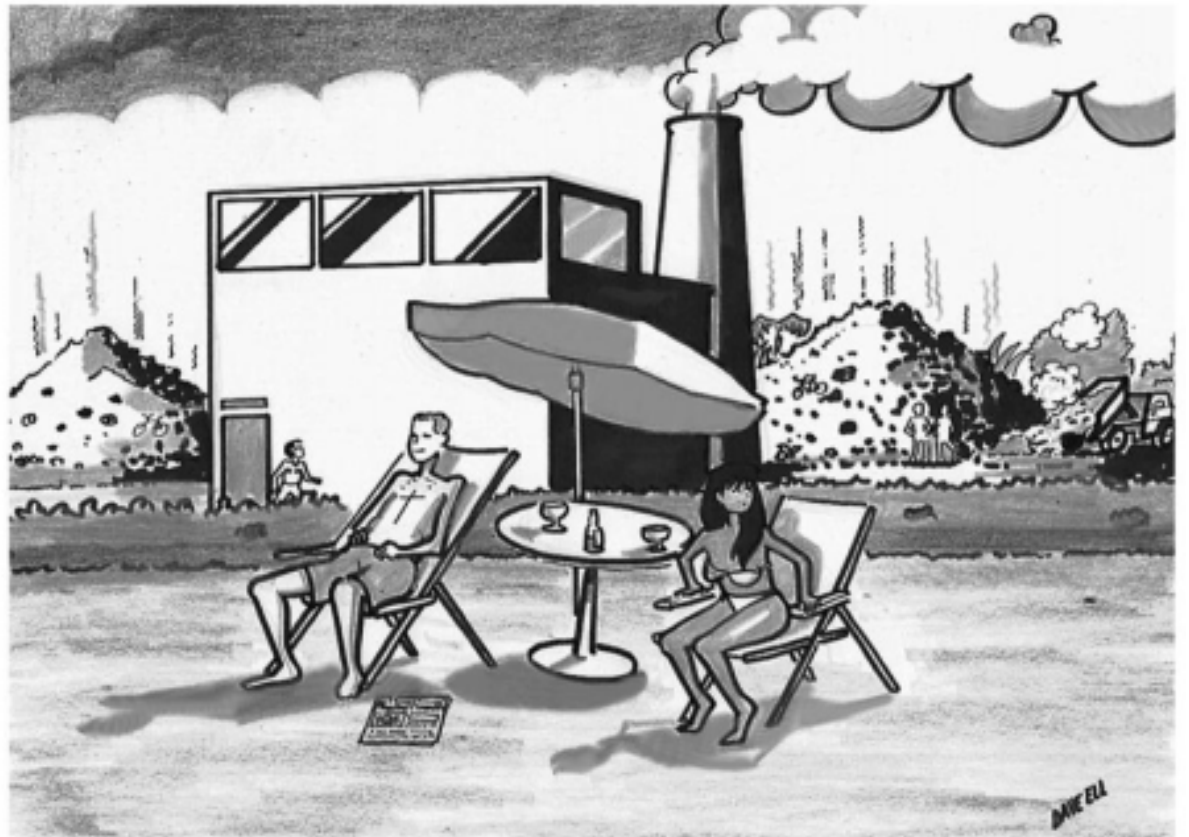
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## Letters

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.

### Beach parties

Regarding the *Gazette* Readers' Poll: Night bashes at Karon Beach: these kinds of parties should be held away from any residences and or hotels.

They should be held at the roundabout where we have enjoyed Loy Kratong on Karon Beach.

**Hansruedi Frutiger**  
**General Manager**  
**Moevenpick Resort & Spa**

### Lazy farangs

It is reassuring to see villagers understand that preserving nature is more important to the future of Phuket than yet another concrete monument to capitalism ['Phuket residents protest destruction of ancient trees', *Gazette online*, December 4].

It is also gratifying to hear the Governor talk about the protection that old trees provide in case of natural disasters like tsunamis.

If they really care about Thailand, all of the farangs who spend their days denigrating Thais and Thai government officials would get off their enormous keesters and join the protest.

**Elliot Klein**  
**Muang, Phuket**

### Off the track

The tracking system is a good idea ['Brits encouraged to sign up with tracking system', *Gazette Online*, December 1], but not carried out very well.

The arrival and departure dates are more applicable to visitors than they are to residents. For example, I had to put in today's date for my arrival with departure in 366 days, even though I've been here six years.

It's also impossible to put in mobile phone numbers, as the country code will accept only three numbers. The +66 prefix is not accepted, although they indicate that it would be.

**Michael Archer**  
**Phuket**

### Useless hype

I am amazed at the short-sightedness of this plastic bag issue ['Plastic bag MoU signed in Phuket', *Gazette online*, December 5]. Cost alone will *not* reduce the amount of plastic bags used. The real issue is to stop the amount of plastic in use.

The solution is to get customers to take reusable (eg. cloth) bags shopping with them.

Shops must make this type of bag available at minimal cost so that customers soon have a sufficient supply. Without it, the plastic bag policy will be ineffective.

**Jannie Breytenbach**  
**Kathu**

### Bum deal

Those toilets that Mr Rohlofe Jeck cleaned are more then foul ['German tourist takes on foul latrine in Kamala', *Gazette online*, November 25].

Last year I needed to use them and was charged five baht. I went in, turned around and walked straight back out again. I went back to my villa to use the toilet.

Then to read that it is a criminal offense for foreign tourists to engage in work here was simply unbelievable.

Mr Jeck was a paying tourist in Kamala.

The way I see it, he paid to clean those toilets and the labor laws don't apply to his kindness.

It is a pity that Mr Jeck had to spend time cleaning out those toilets. Take the toilets away because they are a public health hazard or have something done about it, so people who want to come back to the area know there is a suitable place to relieve oneself.

**Suzanne Rod**  
**Singapore**

### Flooded development

This situation with the flooding in Patong is just ridiculous [*Gazette online*, November 20].

Prior to the development of the area, there was no problem.

As far as I know, it is against the law in Thailand to obstruct natural drainage, so why cannot the municipality force the offending developer to take responsibility for the trouble he's caused?

Another method would be to fill up the low spot in the road to a level higher than the entrance to the newly established developments, allowing the water to naturally find its way across the land to where it used to flow.

**Guenter Bellach**  
**Thalang**

### Horn charge

Is there anyway that people can be charged for excessive horn usage in Phuket? It drives me nuts.

In this high-tech age we live in, isn't it possible to have a chip implanted on the horn button that automatically deducts 100 baht from the user's bank account every time they use it?

This would deter people from beeping unless it was absolutely necessary. It particularly grates when being beeped at by someone driving on the wrong side of the road.

**Dominic Wall**  
**Rawai**

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



# Creating new life in the sea



## FIRST PERSON

The effects of heavy tourism on Phuket's environment seems to have finally acquired some much needed public attention in 2009. Dr Naline Thongtham, who holds a PhD in biology from the University of Southern Denmark, has been trying to bring the subject to the spotlight for nearly 15 years. Over that time, she has been conducting research on the Andaman Sea, while trying to educate the public on the damaging effects of human activity on the region's coral reefs. Much of the research she began in 1994 still continues today, including her work on the effects of domestic sewage, damaged corals in Phuket and coral reef rehabilitation. Now an academic officer at the Phuket Marine Biological Center (PMBC), Dr Naline continues her pursuit of preserving the Andaman's natural ecology with the 'Rehabilitation of Coral Reefs in Thailand' project. This widely successful campaign has helped grow new coral reefs and sustain existing ones around the area. In this week's 'First Person', she shares her thoughts.

Our latest research shows that 21.3 per cent of the coral reefs around Phuket have sustained heavy damage, making it one of the most damaged provinces around the Andaman Sea. Most of this is from human activity, such as global warming and development around the island's beaches.

The 'Rehabilitation of Coral Reefs in Thailand' project in effect today is an effort to restore some of the damaged coral by sinking artificial reefs in areas where new coral is likely to grow.

Following initial success in Koh Mai Thon, the project now covers Panwa Cave, Koh Aew and Koh Heh.

The project started in Koh Mai Thon, where abundant coral reefs, such as staghorn corals, used to live before being damaged by the heavy storms of rough monsoon seasons.

Under normal conditions, the coral would naturally regrow, but the effects of global warming and other human activities created deeper, rougher waters, altering the seabed around the island. Such conditions made it difficult for young coral to proliferate and flourish in the area.

Corals are small living organisms that grow in colonies. A reef typically starts to grow when coral spawn floating in the sea latches onto stationary objects, such as limestone rock. When the coral dies, its 'skeleton' serves as the foundation for new corals to grow and, over time, form a coral reef.

Because of this process, once a coral reef is completely destroyed, it is very difficult for it to grow back. Artificial reefs function by sinking concrete structures that imitate the rocks that corals need to latch onto in order to start growing.

The skeletons of dead coral will eventually turn to limestone, creating the natural conditions needed for a coral reef to form.

The main objective of artificial reefs is to bring fish to the area for villagers' fisheries. Coral reefs attract aquatic animal life, so we could actually call them artificial rock reefs or fish homes instead.

The project has proven to be a success. We started it 15 years ago by sinking concrete structures at a depth of five to

six meters and now young corals have covered all the structures. Right now we are testing out a new methods by transplanting some various coral species from the abundant reefs to less populated areas.

We have to experiment with a variety of methods when



Dr Naline's 'Rehabilitation of Coral Reefs in Thailand' project actively plants artificial reefs around Phuket's waters in an effort to restore some of the damaged coral.

'planting' the corals, then constantly monitor them to see how successfully they are growing.

One successful approach has been tying branches of coral to pieces of iron to anchor them down, but this will not work with the larger corals.

In addition to our research,

we have started to educate the public on how they can help with the project.

As of now, we have just four academic officers, so we need help from local volunteers, such as divers in and around Koh Phi Phi, to help look after local coral nurseries.

## Issues & ANSWERS

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

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213971, or submit your issue  
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## Why have I been waiting three years for a landline?

How long does it take to get a telephone land line connected to a house in Phuket?

I have been in the queue now for three years with both phone companies in Phuket.

Every time I write to them, they tell me to call them. Every time I call, I get the same answer: "you have to wait".

Is it normal to have to wait for more than three years for a phone line in Phuket?

Wanna Tamminen  
Thalang

Mr Montri, an officer with the TOT branch in Thalang, replies:

First we need to know your personal details, such as your name, address and queue number so that we can check on the status of your application.

In brief, it is quite normal to wait three to five years for applications outside existing service areas because expansion of the network is very expensive.

For more information contact me at: TOT Public Company Ltd, Thalang Branch, 310/50 Ban Don Rd, tambon Thepkrasattri, Thalang District. T: 076-311188, 076-311166. F: 076-311431.

## Can people legally drive around Suan Luang Park?

I've been exercising at King Rama IX park (Suan Luang) a few times now and I've been wondering whether cars have permission to drive through the park.

Lately I have seen many cars and motorbikes driving around there during the day and it strikes me as being quite dangerous. It's also a shame as it is such a lovely park and a great place to exercise.

Are cars and motorbikes allowed into the park?

Ari Saastamoinen  
Phuket

Miss Naruedee, head of the public parks division at Phuket City Municipality, replies:

The road in King Rama IX park is not a highway.

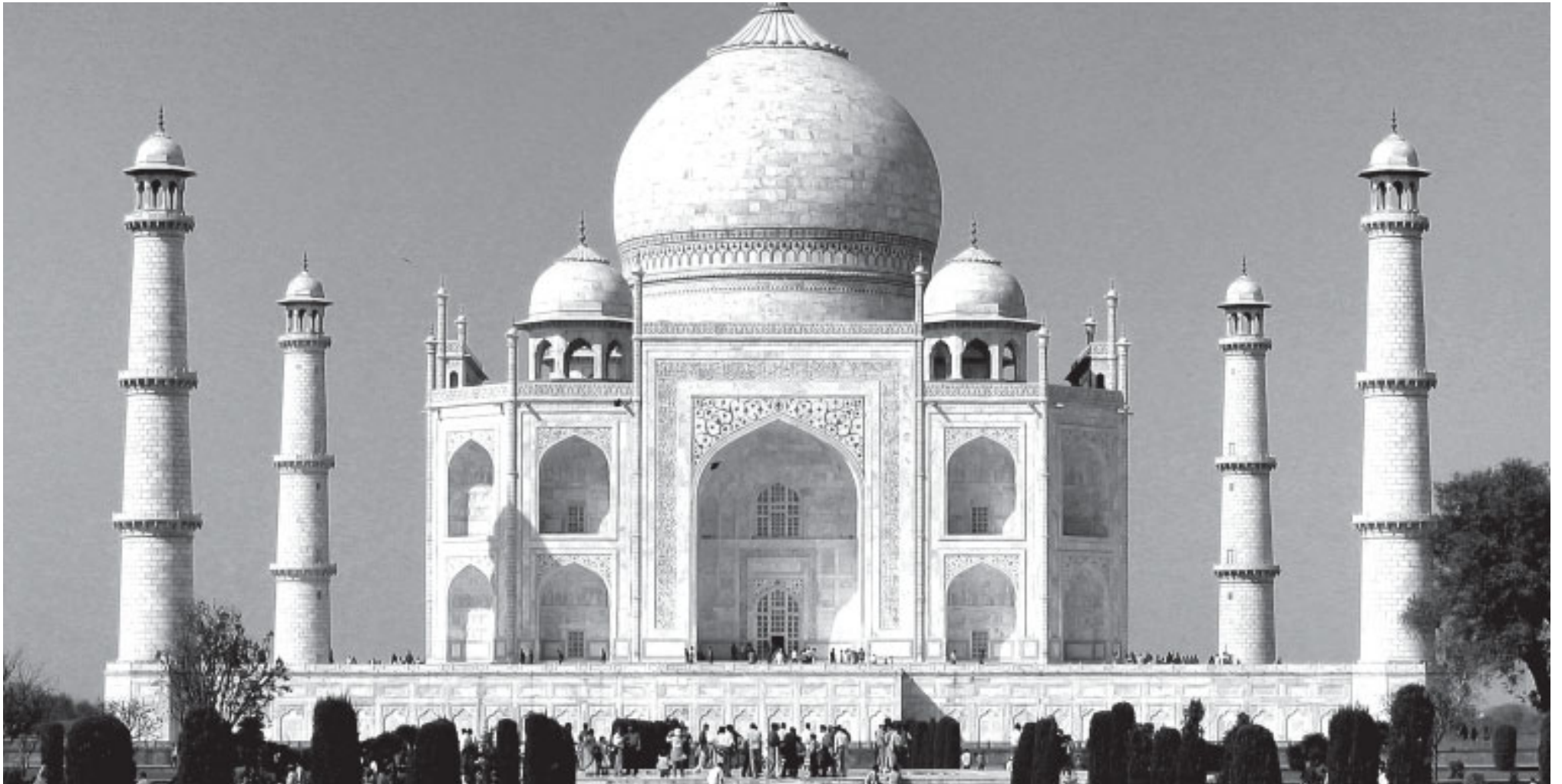
We do not allow cars or motorbikes to drive throughout the park, with the exception of the local people who live at the back of the park.

We allow them to drive through because they have no other way of getting out.

For more information contact: Phuket City Municipality, 52/1, Narisorn Road, Taladyai, Muang, Phuket 83000. T: 076-214306.



# The titan often overlooked



The majestic Taj Mahal is perhaps the ultimate symbol of India. Modern day India has become a new epicenter for a wide range of services and industries, with international expansion at the core of Indian business.

Despite being the third largest country in Asia, and the second most populous country in the world, India is a place that investors commonly ignore.

In the past there were good reasons for this, including overwhelming bureaucracy, an unwelcoming attitude to foreign investors and widespread poverty.

In the forty years after its independence from Britain, the government of India seemed determined to lead the country on a downward spiral.

When I landed at New Delhi airport as a teenager in 1969, there were a number of planes on the ground, but virtually all of them carried the Aeroflot (USSR) logo. This was indicative of what was happening in India – the adoption of a quasi-socialist

economic system.

Some of the attachment to the USSR was purely strategic. The US was a close ally of Pakistan, a country that India had waged several wars against.

In addition, India-China relations were in the same boat, and it became a case of 'my enemy's enemy is my friend'. It was also a fashionable time to proclaim anti-imperialist sentiment.

This state of affairs and the economic malaise that accompanied it remained until the late 1980s and the collapse of the Soviet Union. The only boom in growth was in the population.

But a new generation of politics was coming to the fore as many other Asian countries were performing economic miracles; India wanted to be part of it.

The first moves to improve the economy were tentative. Bureaucracy, internal subsidies and all sorts of infrastructural problems littered the country. Despite these adversities, a number of Indian companies were able to find success.

The economy started to grow in the early 1990s and as the decade progressed, so did the pace of economic growth. Much of the growth was inward looking, but as the number of university graduates



## 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.

increased, so did the level of sophistication of the services and products offered by an ever-growing number of companies.

The development of the internet also broke down international barriers. India was more fortunate than China and many other Asian countries in that a large percentage of its population spoke fluent English.

This allowed the development of services such as call centers, which, by Indian standards, brought impressive numbers of new, well-paid jobs with little or no investment.

As India's role in international business increased, the world discovered that many Indians are natural entrepreneurs.

High-tech companies continued to develop, marking the country as a new epicenter for a wide range of services and industries. International expansion soon became the core of Indian business.

India had another significant advantage over China in its long-established financial markets and banking system. In the wake of the post-USSR era, Indian businesses initially viewed the Chinese as competitors, but as of late, they are increasingly expanding their trading links.

Over the past few years, India has started to establish itself as an international manufacturer. Many foreign investors are opening factories in India and more companies are entering the country all the time.

Economic growth has been excellent, sitting in the six to eight percent range. This might be one to two percent lower than China, but still impressive. Third quarter growth in 2009 was 7.9 percent.

The government is increasingly pro-business and recently reduced company tax. Representatives of the government are frequently guest speakers at Indian business conferences and are vocal in their support of the business community.

India is a democracy and its main political parties, the Congress Party and the BJP, are acutely aware that if they want to have any chance of winning future elections, the economic upswing must continue.

The domestic market is also becoming substantial. With a population of more than one billion, a quarter of which is 'middle class', it has plenty of room for additional growth.

So how can an investor take advantage of this investment opportunity? There are several ways. The easiest is to invest in a mutual/offshore fund. There are a number of choices managed by reputable international groups.

The advantage of this route is that all the research and asset selection is undertaken for a modest fee and investors are able to use their economies of scale in this regard.

Investors are also able to compare the performance of various managers against each other and the main Indian stockmarket indexes. These indexes are the Bombay Sensex 30 and the S & P (Standard & Poors) Nifty 50. They cover the leading 30 and 50 largest companies in India, respectively.

For the more adventurous, there are alternatives such as Indian small companies funds. Investment amounts for these funds are generally low and investors can choose to hold more than one fund.

On a general recommendation, I would see India as having a case for holding five to 10 percent of a growth portfolio. However, the market is neither cheap nor expensive, trading at about 15x earnings.

India's emergence as a manufacturing base has yet to be the subject of much debate in Europe and North America.

The currency is free floating, although in reality, it is closely linked to the US dollar. This is another advantage it has over China: in that it can avoid tensions over trade disparities that provoke increased political ire.

Interest rates were widely expected to be raised in the first half of 2010, but the strong performance of the economy, which exceeded official forecasts, has probably brought the first interest rate increases forward. The central bank (the Reserve Bank of India) is keeping a wary eye on inflationary pressures.

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# Going out and getting wrecked



## BENEATH THE WAVES

By Diver Dan

A little more than a week ago, the *Gazette* ran a story about the sinking of a boat in order to create an artificial reef to help try and preserve Phuket's existing coral reefs ['Dive boat sunk for Phuket artificial reef project', *Gazette online*, December 1].

The boat was sunk in about 25 meters of water and will eventually become home to corals and a plethora of different marine creatures.

The news got me thinking about wrecks once again, and how much I love wreck diving.

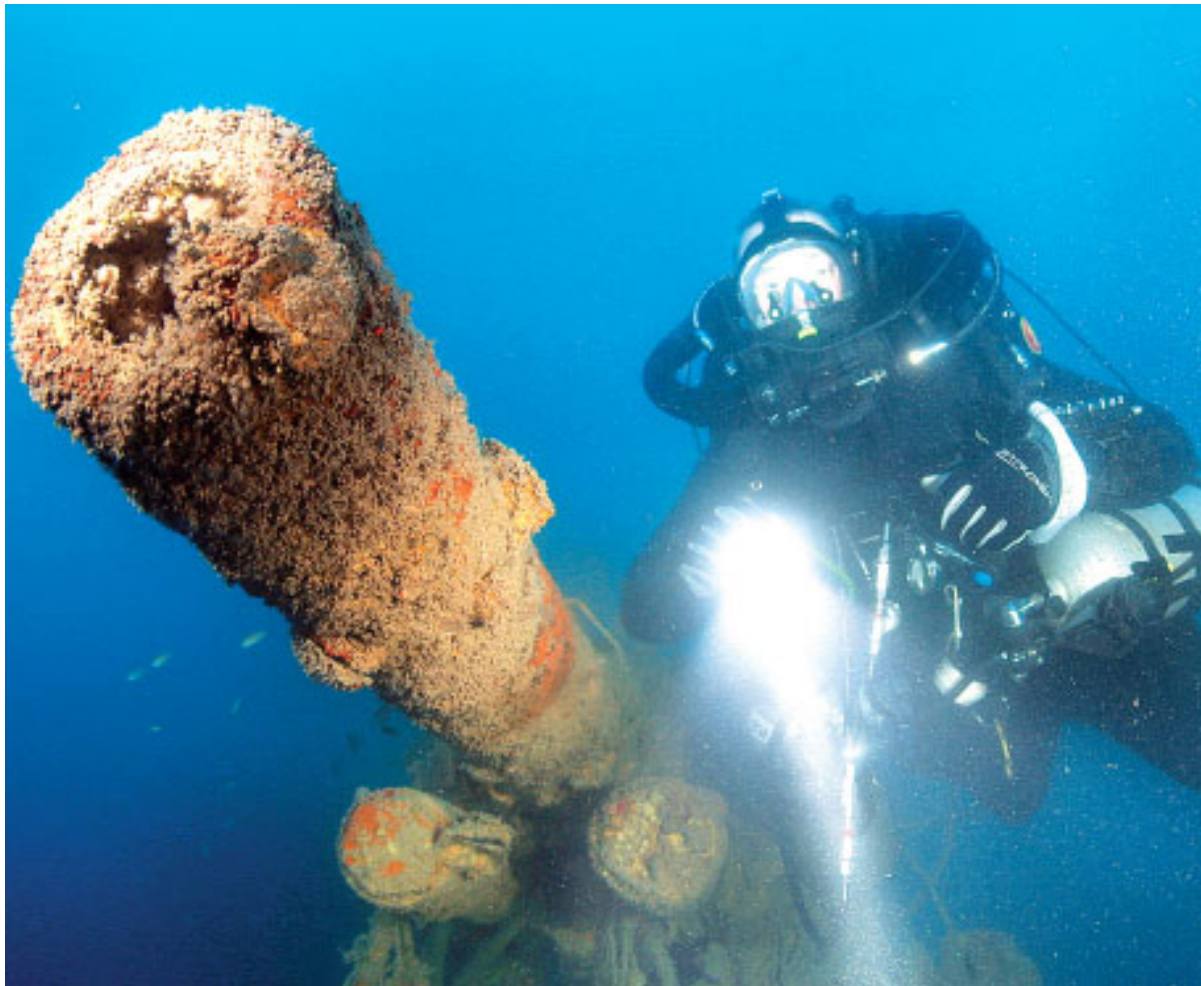
I've been fortunate to dive some fantastic wrecks since I learned how to dive, and my enthusiasm for this facet of the hobby I love grows stronger with each passing year.

It's an amazing feeling when you descend down into the deep blue waters and all of a sudden the outline of a ship looms in front of you, dwarfing you and making you feel quite insignificant.

Glimpsing a wreck for the first time is often a breathtaking and awe inspiring sight, especially one that wasn't purposely sunk and has sat on the bottom of the sea for a number of years. Such wrecks are teeming with life and often have interesting stories connected to them.

To this day, the best dive I have ever done was a wreck dive in Australia on a ship called the *SS Yongala*, which sank in a tropical storm back in 1911, tragically claiming the lives of all 106 people on board.

Sitting beneath the waves for almost a century, the ship dubbed Australia's *Titanic* has become a thriving coral reef and is home to thousands upon



**GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN:** Wrecks like the *USS Lagarto* (above) are fascinating because of their history. This particular wreck sits at 76m and requires advanced training to be able to dive it. A lot of wrecks sit in fairly shallow water and can be dived by open water or advanced open water divers. Photo: Charles Shaw

thousands of fish, drawn to the wreck like bees to pollen.

It truly is an incredible sight to behold as this once proud ship is seemingly alive and is occasionally blocked from your sight by the sheer volume of fish.

Thailand is home to a number of wrecks, particularly in the Gulf of Thailand, and many are excellent dives.

Back in May, I wrote a piece about the discovery of a World War Two submarine, the *USS Lagarto*, in the Gulf of Thailand by a group of wreck enthusiasts [*Phuket Gazette*, May 28].

It was the discovery of that wreck which prompted me into to taking my tec-deep course, a qualification that is necessary when it comes to diving wrecks that sit in fairly deep water.

The course is fantastic and I would recommend it to anyone who enjoys wreck diving, but that's a story for another day.

The course culminated with a three-day liveaboard, giving us

the chance to dive the *HMS Phangan*, a former English navy vessel that sank in the gulf.

That wreck had a number of penetration points and we were able to enter the ship and have a look around the insides of the vessel, getting a feel for what it was like for the sailors who lived and worked on the seas.

Penetration is a key aspect

of wreck diving, but isn't something that divers should be *laissez faire* about. It can be very dangerous and caution is often needed, but done correctly and with the proper equipment, it can be incredibly rewarding.

Many wrecks have huge holes cut into them precisely for that reason and each section has multiple exits that allow plenty of

natural light inside, enabling divers to navigate their way around the wreck with ease.

The safest option is follow a guide through the wreck. They dive the wreck on a regular basis, often know every nook and cranny and can show you the best parts of the site.

Some wrecks are impenetrable, while others remain the resting place for people who lost their lives at sea and aren't penetrated as a mark of respect.

On a personal level, one thing I find enthralling is the history behind each wreck as many have a fascinating story to tell.

The *Lagarto* has a particularly interesting history as it saw combat in World War Two, sinking three ships before it came to a premature end when it was sunk by a depth charge dropped by a Japanese vessel.

It then remained lost for 60 years before being discovered in May, 2005, bringing to an end a lifetime of questions for the families of those on board.

Reading up about the background of the wreck adds to the dive experience and many have books or guides that reveal the boat's history before it was lost to the sea.

The Department of Marine Coastal Resources plans to sink another vessel in the waters off Phuket.

It would be great if they could manage to get hold of a former navy vessel that can be penetrated easily, as it would be a real boon for the island's diving industry.

-Daniel Ogunshakin

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# Thor hammers multihull field



Henry Kaye and Fergus Wilmer's *Thor* wiped the floor with the rest of the Multihull class, winning nine out of nine races.

Photo: Rolien Muller/Andaman Sea Club.

Phuket-based multihull *Thor* was the stand out boat of the 2009 Phuket King's Cup Regatta, crossing the finishing line first in its class nine times out of nine in its King's Cup debut.

Owned by Henry Kaye and Fergus Wilmer, the duo produced a stunning series of races to blow a high class 12-strong field out of the water and clinch a famous victory.

A record fleet of 110 boats, featuring more than 1,000 sailors from 33 countries, took to the water for the 23rd annual King's Cup, a regatta marked by some

extremely close races and dominant sailing performances.

Conditions were kind, with a noticeable absence of rain and steady winds picking up towards the end of the week.

Neil Pryde's *Hi-Fi* dominated the IRC Racing Class, finishing in the top two in seven out of the eight races it participated in.

Frank Pong's *Jelik*, Ray Robert's *Evolution Racing* and Chris Mead's *Full Metal Jacket*, featuring America's Cup sailor Chris Dickson on board, were all competitive, winning six of the nine races between them, but



The 2009 Phuket King's Cup Regatta was a huge success, boasting a record fleet of 110 boats, featuring more than 1,000 sailors from 33 different countries. The weather was also good, providing great conditions, which made for exciting racing. Photo: Rolien Muller/Andaman Sea Club

unlike Pryde, they all suffered from a lack of consistency.

A third place finish in the penultimate race was enough to secure victory for Pryde.

"I'm really happy. We probably could have won this morning's race if we had really gone for it, but we didn't want to risk damaging the boat, so we settled for second place behind Ray Roberts," said Pryde.

"The crew has worked really well together. It's been a great regatta and I am looking forward to coming back next year."

Elsewhere, Matt Allen's *Ichi Ban* was the stellar performer in the IRC 1 class, winning every race it participated in.

With the class title already secured, Matt Allen on *Ichi Ban* had the luxury of watching the final race from the shore. *Thor*'s co-helmensmen Fergus Wilmer and Henry Kaye had the same opportunity, but chose to race, making it nine wins out of nine.

In the Firefly 850 class things were much closer, with only a point separating eventual winner Brent Gribble's *Twin Sharks* from second place Hans Rahman's *Voodoo Child*.

For Brent Gribble, victory was especially sweet because he was involved in a serious accident in the 2006 King's Cup, where he suffered broken ribs and had to have his spleen removed after a collision.

"I was back on the water three months after the accident and it definitely hasn't put me off sailing," he said.

"It meant a lot to win because Bill Phelps, the boat's owner, is selling the boat, but he kept it for the King's Cup because he wanted to give us one last chance at winning it."

Anthony Hasting's *Baby Tonga Hiwayways Club* won the Premier Class, posting back to back top two finishes to see off the challenge of Robert Tanner's *Shahtoosh*.

The most exciting division proved to be IRC 2, where Phuket resident Peter Dyer's *Team Bentley* raced into an early lead, only to be pegged back by last year's winners, CPO.3 Wiwat Poonpat's *Royal Thai Navy 1*.

First place finishes in races five, six and seven saw *Royal Thai Navy 1* cut *Team Bentley*'s lead

to a point going into the final day.

This meant the crew of *Team Bentley* knew they would only have to finish ahead of *Royal Thai Navy 1* to ensure victory.

"We could have taken them out, but we thought that would not be in the spirit of the King's Cup," said Dyer.

"We did decide to engage them on the start line, which was fun, but it meant we were both a few minutes behind the rest."

"We both managed to sail through the fleet, but they finished first and we finished second. It was good racing and I take my hat off to CPO.3 Wiwat Poonpat and his crew."

For CPO.3 Wiwat Poonpat, victory was especially sweet coming on the King's birthday.

"It was an honor to win the King's Cup on the King's birthday and we are proud to be the only Thai crew to win this year," he said.

"We started slowly, but we finished strongly, winning the last five races to overtake *Team Bentley*."

The *Phuket Gazette* is a media sponsor of the King's Cup.

-James Goyder

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# Frodo crowned lord of Laguna



**ON THE PODIUM:** (Above) The top three men and women celebrate their success on the podium after the race. (Top right) German superstar Jan Frodeno breaks the tape, smashing the old course record by almost three and a half minutes. (Bottom right) Women's champion Radka Vodickova crosses the line with one of the Laguna Phuket elephants. Photos: Sakorn Saengtongsamarnsin

Beijing Olympic Triathlon gold medalist Jan Frodeno smashed the Laguna Phuket Triathlon course record by almost four minutes on his way to an emphatic victory over his rivals last Sunday.

The German superstar also known as Frodo, originally from South Africa, lead the race from start to finish, posting a winning time of 2.24.56, more than 12 minutes ahead of second-place Mathieu O'Halloran of Canada. Frodeno contended his way past his competitors over nearly 70km of land and sea to claim the title and US\$3,500 in prize money.

Hungarian athlete Balsaz Csoke completed the top three, a further minute and a half behind.

Defending champion Richie Cunningham of Australia struggled over the second half of the run, finishing in seventh place.

Like her male counterpart, Radka Vodickova of the Czech Republic lead the women's field right from the start on her way to an impressive time of 2.46.15, just outside the Laguna course record.

Defending champion Aus-

tralian Belinda Granger was in touching distance in the transition from cycle to run, but faded on the run.

Rachael Paxton, also from Australia, completed the top three – finishing behind Vodickova and Granger in 2.52.16.

Now in its 16th year, the 2009 event boasted a record field.

More than 900 athletes representing 40 different countries gathered at the start line at the Laguna Beach Resort for the 2009 Laguna Phuket Triathlon.

Despite strong winds, the seas were flat and the sun shone brightly overhead as the first flight of athletes went into the water at 7am.

Olympic champion Frodeno was the first to exit the water, covering the 1.8km course in under 22 minutes, establishing a 45 second lead over O'Halloran.

It was a lead he would never relinquish as he underlined what it takes to become Olympic champion, further revealed by a blistering performance on the bike, covering the 55km course in 1.20.15, 6.5 minutes faster than anyone else.

With a seven-minute lead

established, the first-time Laguna competitor could've relaxed on the 6km run, but spurred on by what he described as "a festival atmosphere", he stretched his lead to more than 12 minutes, annihilating the old course record set by Cunningham in 2008.

In the women's event, Vodickova established a slender lead over defending champion Granger after the swim, exiting the water 14 seconds ahead.

Ever the competitor, Granger fought back on the cycle, overtaking her younger opponent.

Vodickova slotted in behind the 2008 winner, conserved energy, then surged in front to snatch the lead from Granger as they came into the transition between the cycle and run.


Once Vodickova had her nose in front again, she pulled away from the tiring Granger, breaking the tape 3.5 minutes before the popular Australian.

In the team event, Triathlon Travel crossed the line first in a time of 2.46.10.

The *Phuket Gazette* was a media sponsor of the 2009 Laguna Phuket Triathlon.



-Daniel Ogunshakin





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# High season hi jinx



## PROPERTY WATCH

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

The much-anticipated high season has arrived, and with it, perhaps a collective sigh can be heard across the island that the end of 2009 is finally within sight.

With the fortunes of the hotel and property industries back in the limelight, it will be interesting to see if the next few months bring a boost to the real-estate market, or if we'll be wearing 'same same but different' branded T-shirts in 2010.

December kicked off with the launch of three new international hotels: the 68-unit Outrigger Laguna Resort and Villas; Accor hotel group's 258-room Ibis Phuket Kata; and the 144-room Best Western Sawaddi Patong.

More changes are also on the horizon for Rawai's Mangosteen Resort and Spa, which signed a new management deal with the global Golden Tulip Hotel chain. Global Tulip made headlines earlier this year when it was acquired by global investment management firm Starwood Capital.

Growing regional chain InVision plans to open a Patong-based boutique resort in January called B-Lay Tong and two new chain deals are expected to be announced within the next month.

JW Marriott opened its doors in Khao Lak, and in Krabi, the Ritz-Carlton Reserve's Phulay Bay will debut just in time for Christmas. In Phuket, the long-awaited Hard Rock Cafe at Patong's Courtyard by Marriott is now serving one and all.

In good news for overseas hotel investors, Thailand's BOI (Board of Investments) has expanded its certification to hotels

with 100 percent foreign ownership. Previously, only projects with 100 keys or more could qualify for the certification, but a second initiative was added in which the minimum requirement for the number of rooms can be modified if the project cost is over Bt500 million (excluding land and working capital).

This second initiative now makes projects more feasible for areas like Phang Nga, where there was a post-tsunami ban limiting the size of new hotels to 79 rooms if they were located within 300 meters of the sea. This effectively disqualified any new hotels from BOI certification, but the new initiative adds both scale and the ability to leverage debt and investment, offshore and domestically.

On the property front, which has been auspiciously quiet for much of the year, new products are coming onto the market. Sri Panwa is launching the fourth phase of its luxury residential estate with seven new villas priced from US\$6 million.

In Bangtao, Mandala's Luxury Condos took an innovative approach to the global financial crisis by forgoing the project



The Mangosteen Resort & Spa has signed an agreement with Golden Tulip Hospitality Group to become the first Golden Tulip Resort in Thailand. The resort is now re-branded as the Golden Tulip Mangosteen Resort & Spa. Pictured sealing the deal at the resort in December are (from left): Mangosteen Resort's Communications Manager and Director Nuttibon (Rose) Laodee and Managing Director Hajo von Keller; Golden Tulip's Managing Director for South East Asia Mark van Ogtrop; Assistant Officer Development (Paris) Sophie Delangautier; and Chief Officer Development (Paris) Mathieu Evrad.

launch phase, which typically sells land and units before construction, and instead elected to build out the units before they were put on the market. Now close to completion, the condos are hitting the market without development risk to buyers.

In tourism, new airline routes are opening and helping to boost arrival figures. Thai Airways has announced plans to offer flights from two of China's largest cities: Beijing and Shanghai. JetStar from Singapore has re-emerged, V Australia is providing new services here, including direct flights to Langkawi, and AirAsia now operates a direct Phuket-Hong Kong route.

There remain many whippers and skepticism about potential setbacks that could derail this year's high season to a prosperous return. Several issues still loom in the background, be it the continued Thaksin rift with saber rattling between Cambodia and Thailand, the Dubai credit crunch, or the re-emergence of H1N1. One thing we learned from the tsunami is that no matter the threat, real or imagined, you can


never predict just what may go wrong.

Traveling around the island, business is indeed moving, and new initiatives are blossoming, such as the start of the newly widened Sarasin Bridge, talks of a second major north to south artery, plans for the Mai Khao Convention Center and the new international terminal at the airport.


'Going green' is finally coming on the radar with successful beach clean ups and the new plastic bag initiative, which are all positives for the ecosystem of Phuket. While it may not all be perfect, these are at least baby steps in the right direction.

The rains were savage this year, and as the sunshine returns with the year's end, so do large numbers of tourists, and hopefully, an increasing number of property buyers. Perhaps it's a good time to reflect on what Phuket is doing right, rather than only focusing on the negatives. Asia remains a bright spot in the troubles of the global financial crisis, and what better place to be than on this island?





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# Things to consider when leasing

When entering into a lease agreement as a tenant for commercial or residential property, there are a few important points that need to be considered and should be discussed with your lawyer or advisor.

This should be done in order to understand the legal specifics of leases under Thai law and ultimately protect your interests.

Typically, your landlord or his agent will provide you with a standardized lease agreement; one that has already been used for leases in the past.

This is not likely to be a tailored agreement drafted specifically for the lease of the property you have chosen, be it land, a shop house, office space, an apartment or residential building.

In addition, such agreements are usually drafted in favor of the landlord and may include provisions which provide harsh consequences in case the lessee is in default, sub-leases the property, or makes changes to the leased property without the landlord's consent.

Diligent review of all relevant legal documentation in connection with the lease and good negotiation skills are required.

The duration of the lease is

one of the most important points to discuss with your landlord.

Under Thai law, the maximum duration for a commercial lease is 50 years and 30 years for a residential property.

Every lease longer than three years must be agreed upon in writing and recorded with the relevant land department in order to ensure its enforceability.

With the exception of long-term residential (land) leases, which usually have a duration of 30 years plus options for renewal, landlords and tenants may wish to negotiate on the duration of a lease.

From a landlord's perspective, it seems to be preferable to agree on a lease period of less than three years, as such a lease period does not need to be registered with the land department and eliminates registration fees.

Tenants may prefer a long-term lease, particularly if they wish to spend a considerable amount of money on improving the premises, for which they will receive no compensation from the landlord when the lease expires.

As a compromise, the parties could agree upon lease renewal options that can be exercised by the tenant whenever the lease expires.

However, it needs to be

understood that the agreed renewal option is a contractual right which is only legally binding to the landlord with whom the tenant entered into a lease agreement with.

This means that the agreed right of renewal can not be enforced against a third party in the event of the property being transferred to a new owner.

Another important point that should be discussed with your landlord is the security deposit usually required when entering into a lease agreement.

Lease agreements typically include provisions that describe the exact amount and for what reasons the landlord has the right to keep (part of) the deposit, for example, stipulating that the security deposit can be used by a landlord to compensate for damages to the property caused by the tenant.

The deposit can even be forfeited if the tenant breaches the agreement, not only, but also in regard to, payment of the rent followed by termination of the lease by the landlord.

A total loss seems to conflict with the spirit of a security deposit, as it should (only) provide security to a landlord with regard to damages caused to the property by the tenant.

The maintenance of the leased property should also be



**Scrutinize your rental agreement carefully before signing it, especially the duration of the contract. Many contracts are not specifically tailored to the property you plan to rent, which could cause problems when it's time to move out.**

discussed with your landlord.

Usually lease agreements include provisions through which the landlord passes all maintenance responsibilities to the tenant, whether they be aesthetic repairs or major defects.

A fair compromise seems to be to agree with the landlord that he or she is responsible for the maintenance and liable for repairs with the exception of minor defects and aesthetic repairs which shall remain the duty of the tenant.

There are other important points that should also be carefully scrutinized and discussed with your

lawyer or advisor before entering into a lease.

These include moving out procedures upon expiry or termination of a lease, and default provisions and the subsequent consequences in the event of a breach of contract by either party.

*This article is written by International Law Office Patong Beach Co., Ltd. For enquiries, contact Michael Greth, Consultant, by email (michael@ilo-phuket.com) or phone (+66- (0) 76-222 191-5).*



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# A whiter shade of pale



**W**hite has so many associations – positively, it imitates innocence and purity; adversely, coldness and sterility.

In Thailand, white is often identified with good fortune, and it dominates floral garlands. Most *leis* contain two or three white flowers for good luck – buds of jasmine and milkweed [*calatropis*] plus a pair of creamy magnolias [*chumpaa*] for good measure.

The vast array of white flowers is just as equally represented in the average Phuket garden – from the pure white of the flowering jessamines, boxwoods and bauhinias, to the cream-tinted flowers of brunfelsia and *Buddleia paniculata*.

It is a blessing that so many of these flowers are fragrant, almost as though Mother Nature decided that their pallor needed something extra to attract the attention of pollinating insects, or nature-loving humans.

To illustrate the point: The two most fragrant plants in my garden are the racemes of buddleia and fiddlewood [*Citharexylum spinosum*]. Both are relatively unimpressive visually, but the scent of the tiny flowers is rich and intense, especially in the morning.

A word of warning: The fiddlewood is sometimes sold as



Epibase

a buddleia, but a buddleia it isn't. It has distinctive, bright green leaves (the buddleia's are grey-green and rough to the touch), and it grows rapidly. I bought a couple about a year ago, and one is already outgrowing all the other shrubs. Unless you want a specimen tree or some rapidly acquired shade, it is not for the cottage garden.

Other white bloomers are more tractable. Take, for example, the gardenia [cape jasmine or *put chin*]. A member of the madder family [*rubiaceae*], it is beloved of florists worldwide, because of its large, scented blooms and glossy, evergreen leaves. Its tubular or funnel-shaped flowers are usually creamy white in color and exist in any number of cultivars, which range from semi-double varieties such as *Magnifica* to the double blooms of *Mystery*.

Preferring rich, acidic soil, the gardenia is a good choice for a substantial pot, since it is a shallow rooting plant and needs some

protection from the sun in the tropics. It will take readily from cuttings.

The tabernaemontana [*put farang*] has flowers that superficially resemble those of the single gardenia. Five-petaled and curved, they remind me of propellers and look as though they should be revolving in the breeze. This evergreen shrub has shiny leaves and, given the right conditions, will flower for much of the year.

As you may have guessed, it too is also fragrant, especially at night. Like the gardenia, it is also easy to propagate from seeds or cuttings, and is available at most garden centers.

Equally famed for their perfume is the family of jasmines. The common version, *Jasminum officinale*, was hardy enough to thrive in my London garden. It is a vine which can, if unchecked, reach thirty feet in height. But it is not really a shrub for the tropics, and its relatives do better here.

A better alternative is Arabian jessamine [*Jasminum sambac*], well known in Thailand as *mali son*. Its white flowers are star-shaped and appear in clusters all year round. Unlike most



Quadell

The white, tropical flowers can live up any Phuket garden.

Top left: the large, scented blooms and evergreen leaves of the gardenia.

Top right: the fragrant buddleia, which emits a rich and intense fragrance in the morning.

Pictured right is the ever-popular jasmine with bright flowers and a light perfume – a welcome addition to any garden.



varieties, it is tolerant of dry soil.

Other jasmines you can try are *Jasminum multiflorum* [star jasmine or *mali phueng*] and rex [royal jasmine or *pan yai*]. Both have evergreen foliage, are climbers, need moisture at their roots and some support for their branches. Given these conditions, they will bloom for most of the year. The royal jasmine produces two or three white flowers at the end of each vine; multi-florum has eight-petaled blooms which are covered with fine yellow hairs.

The favorite variety here is probably the orange jasmine [*Murraya paniculata* or *dok kao*]. It is not a vine and thus needs no support: in a couple of years, it will grow into a neat bush about four meters high. It has a spicy fragrance which attracts butterflies, and it will tolerate semi-shade. While I am not a fan

of the Thai propensity for pruning and clipping shrubs into symmetrical shapes and hedges, the orange jasmine will tolerate such treatment, and for this reason is widely grown in Phuket.

Last but not least is the *Wrightia religiosa* [*mok baan*], a white flowering shrub from the apocynaceae family. It is a familiar plant in Phuket, usually grown as a hedge, or arranged in a line of earthenware pots.

I confess I am a little perplexed by this vogue, since the flowers are of little attraction, pendulous and bell-shaped, but minuscule.

Moreover, the light green leaves are pretty insignificant and the whole plant has a very open structure. To its credit, it is evergreen, so it does bloom for much of the year. And, dare I say, it is yet another of those white shrubs that smells divine.

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# Royal welcome awaits in Kamala

**D**evelopment of the Royal Kamala Phuket Condominium is entering the final stages as the finishing touches are being applied.

Located just outside Kamala in walking distance of Phuket Fantasea, the developers hope to be able to offer furnished units to potential customers by the end of the month.

Hoping to set a new standard of living and leisure in Kamala, the exclusive project offers a total of 72 units between its two buildings, each rising five stories.

The Royal Kamala Phuket was built by Royal House Company, one of Thailand's top home builders, with over 20 years of experience in the market.

Construction began in February 2008 on two rai of open land. Completion of the first building is expected later this month.

Welcoming residents and guests to the building is a recreational garden and palm pavilion on the first floor as well as a modern clubhouse, complete with a 100 square meter swimming pool and fitness room.

Also provided is a private party deck, which can be booked for personal events, in addition to



Construction on the first building of the new Royal Kamala Phuket Condominiums is expected to be completed later this month. One-, two- and three-bedroom condos will be available, as well as top-floor penthouses, covering up to 151 square-meters each, including a pool and terrace.

a public barbecue area.

Prices start at 2.5 million baht for a modern 60sqm single bedroom unit, complete with living area, dining area, and pantry.

Two-bedroom 80-square-meter rooms and 140sqm three-

bedroom units are also available.

Each unit has at least one balcony offering panoramic views of either the sea or surrounding Kamala hills.

The fifth floor of each building is reserved for penthouses

starting at 5.7 million baht. They will each have a terrace, private Jacuzzi and sunbathing area.

A modern security system will also be in place by the time the project is finished.

Residents of the Royal Ka-



mala Phuket Condominium will be able to relax with peace of mind thanks to the condo's closed-circuit television, keycard-only access and 24-hour security presence.

- *Thanasorn Chookate*

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# Property Gazette

## Properties For Sale

WWW.PHUKETBUYRENT.COM

### 550,000 BAHT CONDO RAWAI BEACH



Sale, lease, rent 7,000 baht per month, furnished, WiFi, pool, 200 meters to the beach. Contact. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

### 17 RAI WITH PALM TREES

At Kok Kien, Takuapa, Phang-Nga. 85,000 baht per rai. Contact Khun Piek. Tel: 081-892 4094, 084-304 9339.

### PRICE REDUCTION

Houselots, East side. Chanote title, seaview. 600,000 to 900,000 baht. Tel: 086-942 1930.

### BEACHFRONT CONDO

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

### CONDO / PENTHOUSE, KATHU GOLF

Condo/penthouse style. Center of golf course. Freehold, nice view, 135 sqm. 1 bedroom, 2 bathrooms, big living room, Western kitchen and terrace. 5.6 million baht. Tel: 076-293149, 081-824-1385. Fax: 076-293149. Email: jbiwo@csloxinfo.com

### KARON BEACH PHUKET

8 plots, 400sqm each, land title deed, hillside, seaview. Tel: +00-491-7140 67534. Email: naruchai@gmx.de

### 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

### LUXURY HOUSE



for sale. Mission Heights community. 7 mins to Blue Canyon Golf Club, 10 mins to airport. House: 454 sqm, land: 1,444 sqm, 4 beds, 4 baths, Western kitchen, 16x6m pool, fully furnished with solar heating. Tel: 081-344 4473, 081-862 2962.

### PA KHLOK 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.

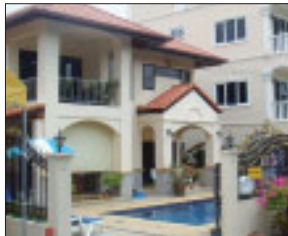
### 30 RAI IN TOWN

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

### 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.

### HOUSE RAWAI/ NAI HARN



for sale or rent 35,000 baht per month. 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

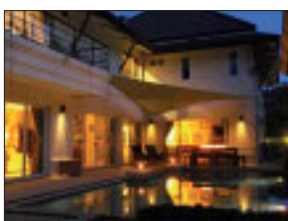
### NEW BRAND CONDO

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

### PATONG BEACH CONDO

Freehold 11th floor corner unit. 125sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, big living room, Western kitchen, terrace, pool, carport, sea view. 10.8 million baht. Tel: 076-293149, 081-824 1385 Fax 076-293149. Email: jbiwo@csloxinfo.com

### IDEAL FAMILY HOME



Luxury 5+1 bedroom villa conveniently located 800m from BIS and central to marinas, shopping, golf, airport and beaches. 535sqm of practical, contemporary living with indoor or outdoor entertaining, excellent bathrooms (Jacuzzi) and spacious bedrooms. Functional kitchen with open-plan dining. Safe and secure estate. Perfect for a young family. Excellent rental return for investors. Sale price 19.5 million baht. Tel: 084-442 1580. Email: ab@megazip.com.sg

### 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

### 4 RAI FOR SALE

Layan Hill, Bang Jo. Near main road. 3.75 million baht per rai. Chanote. Tel: 081-956 0527.

### PATONG BEACH CONDO

Studio, 57sqm, freehold, 8th floor corner unit. Pool, car park, mountain and sea views. 3.9 million baht. Tel: 076-293149, 081-824 1385. Fax: 076-293-149. Email: jbiwo@csloxinfo.com

### LAND AT PA KHLOK

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

### PATONG HOUSE & LAND FOR SALE

1.5 rai with seaview at 50 Pee Rd. Nice house for sale at Benchamas Villa close to Jungceylon and Bangla Rd. Tel: 081-893 1360. Email: noi@phuketinvestments.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: 085-690 3114 (Thai), 080-648 9622. Email: debrasapstead@hotmail.co.uk

### VASSANA RESIDENCE



for sale. Rawai/Nai Harn, 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

### 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

### 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.

### PRIVATE SALE OF HALF A RAI

in Ao Makhm. 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.

### BARGAIN APARTMENT

Kamala. Quiet forest location. 5.9 million baht. Email: dyhkt@hotmail.co.uk

### POOLSIDE APT

at Patong Beach. One bedroom (85 m2) and two bedroom (175 m2) poolside apartments built to the highest standards. Includes European kitchen, air conditioning and secure undercover parking. Very quiet and natural location. Tel: 081-8913 466 (English). Fax: 076-296160. Email: antc@phuket.ksc.co.th

### PALM BREEZE RESORT

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### OCEAN VIEW CONDO

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# Property Gazette

## BEAUTIFUL HOUSE, FULLY FURNISHED



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## 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

## THE HOME PLACE CONDOMINIUM

Urgent sale room# 431. 100,000 baht, room on 4th floor, 30sqm. Furniture from The Holme Place Condo, Samsung LCD TV 32", Samsung air conditioning, furniture from Index, hot and cold water. This rate includes 5 foot mattress from Slumberland and refrigerator 6.1Q from Samsung. Contact K.Atchara. Tel: 084-054 2223. Email: porpae29@hotmail.com

## TOWNHOUSE, 2 STOREY



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

## LAND NEAR YACHT HAVEN



for sale. Area: 511 square wah, 38,000 baht persquare wah. Contact Mr Tachin Tel: 081-7871811, Miss Kob Tel: 081-273 3303.

## SURIN BEACH

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

## 3-BEDROOM PRIVATE POOL

villa for sale. Fully furnished, close to beaches, shopping and restaurants. Location: Chalong/Rawai. Set in lovely tropical garden. Tel: 085-788 8299. Email: nattacha14@hotmail.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

## NEW TOWN HOUSE



in Phuket Intervilla project for sale. 2.3million 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.

## KATHU / LOCH PALM LAND

Chanote land plots overlooking Loch Palm. All roads and infrastructure already in place together with landscaping. Views from most plots are quite spectacular and location is ideal with proximity to the BIS, Phuket Town and Patong areas. From there it takes approx 25 minutes to the airport. Large plots ranging from 3 Ngan up to 1 rai and may be sub-divided by buyer. Prices at 20-24,000 baht per sq wah. Or 6-9 million per plot depending on size and views. For more information please enquire by email. Tel: 081-893 3462 (English), 081-956 3166 (English & Thai). Email: kathuland@gmail.com

## 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

## THE ROYAL PLACE

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

## NEW HOUSE IN NAI HARN-RAWAI



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

## PATONG HOUSE

5.9 million baht, seaview, 3 storey, 7 rooms, 3 bathrooms. New pool villa, 7.2 million baht. 6 rooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 storey. Tel: 087-053 6016.

## 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.

## 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.

## KARON SEAVIEW

land, 200sqm. Good to build guesthouse. 3.5 million baht. Tel: 081-303 2202.

## HOUSE FOR SALE OR RENT

Fully furnished, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 aircon, hot water, washing machine, ADSL, WiFi, tel, garden. 10 minutes to Bang Tao beach. Price 18,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-795 6363. Email: sara\_supertik@yahoo.co.th

## 3 BEDROOMS HOUSE

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

## 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.

## LAND FOR SALE

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

## AO YON PHUKET



Beautiful land near waterfall. 3 rai, 3 ngan, 10sqm. 600 meters to the beach. Good place for sailing, anchor your boat for free in this area. Beach restaurants near by. 5 million baht per rai. Contact Winai. Tel: 089-871 4374.

## 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.

## 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

## 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: drbeamshaw@gmail.com

## LAND AT PA KHLOK



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

## CONDO PATONG

for sale. Furnished, 1 bedroom. At Phuket Palace in Patong. Freehold. Price 2.5 million baht. Tel: 081-892 1621.

## KATA BEACH HOUSE

3 floors great area, must sell, moving quickly. 3.5 million baht. Tel: 081-303 2202.

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# Property Gazette

## 1.7 MILLION TWIN HOUSE



for sale. Heroines' Monument. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms at 3.3 million baht. Call Jane. Tel: 089-729 8009.

## KARON CORNER

townhouse in nice lane, international occupancy. 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, sea and mountain view, chanote title, fully furnished. 6.3 million baht. No agents. Tel: 089-594 0423. Email: crustaceaus@yahoo.com

## CHALONG CHANOTE

3 bedrooms, 2x5-star bathrooms, small picture perfect garden, full aircon. 4.2 million. Optional furniture, newly painted, beautiful finish. Photos. Contact Peter. Tel: 084-843 3492.

## POOL HOUSE REDUCED

Must view to appreciate. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished, 6m pool, sala, 120sqm house, 70sq wah land. 3.8 million baht. Negotiable. Tel: 087-637 3935 (Thai), 087-639 3002 (English).

## 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.

## 2 HOUSES IN PATONG



for sale. Live in 1 and rent the other or sold separately. 5.1 million baht each, fully furnished, well kept, 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, Western kitchen, phone line and ADSL. Center of Patong, 2 minutes to Jungceylon. Contact owner at Tel: 087-279 3312.

## 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.

## CONDO FOR SALE

Furnished, pool and spa. 750,000 baht. Tel: 089-966 0568. Email: gidmansimon@yahoo.co.uk

## BEACH LAND KOH YAO YAI

8 rai. 80 meters of beach front, public road and water supply. Beautiful land. Tel: 081-649 3557 (English). Email: ken@phuketlifestyle.com http://www.phuketlifestyle.com

## 3 STORY SPACIOUS TOWNHOUSE

Chalong, sale or rent. 3-bdrm, 3-bthrm, 2-carport. Spacious living/dining area and Western kitchen as well as plenty of storage space. Master bedroom with large ensuite bathroom and a walk-in closet. Tel: 086-947 3880. Email: bpang@windowlive.com

## HOUSE FOR SALE URGENT



2 stories, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 aircon units, some furniture, Kathu area. 3 minutes to Central, 15 minutes to Patong. Asking for 3.5 million baht. Contact Khun Sanya. Tel: 081-891 6939.

## 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.

## HOT DEAL FOR INVESTMENT

or retirement. Semi-detached house with swimming pool. Live in one, rent out one plus internet cafe in hot spot of Nai Yang. Relocating. Quick sale: 14 million baht. Call now. Tel: 087-271 4484 (English & Thai), 085-889 1220 (English & Swedish). Email: supha2007@hotmail.com

## KATA OCEAN VIEW

90 square meters, includes furniture. 1-year-old. 5.5 million baht. More details at the website link below. Tel: +1-408-627 5793, 087-005 5951 (English). Email: maurick1@yahoo.com http://oceanviewkata.shutterfly.com

## QUICK SALE

Villa with jacuzzi, pool, seaview, Chalong Bay, open daily 9am-12pm. Tel: 089-908 2112.

## VILLA FOR SALE NEAR LAGUNA



3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Open-plan kitchen, living room. The villa is fully airconditioned and furnished. Built on 360sqm, 176sqm living area, with a beautiful garden. The location is only 10 minutes to Bang Tao beach and 5 minutes to Laguna. Price 5.5 million baht. Tel: 089-813 1447. Email: kwanphuket@hotmail.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.

## PHANG NGA BAY VIEW

Knock down price! Sensational sea view. Elevated site 4 rai near Mission Hills. Tel: 087-267 5376 (English & Thai). Email: w.gabrielle@gmail.com

## BEACH FRONT KHAO LAK 5 RAI

Beautiful 5 rai. You won't find better than this, next to 5-star resort. 118m of beach front. Tel: 081-649 3557. Email: ken@phuketlifestyle.com http://www.phuketlifestyle.com

## 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

## 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: yarivios@gmail.com

## LAYAN LAND



for sale. 11 rai, flat land. 3 min from Layan beach, hill and lake view. Price 4.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 089-813 1447.

## 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

## LEASE ON 12 RAI, KATA

Four houses on 12 rai of uninterrupted sea view. 18 years remaining on lease. Perfect for resort or hotel. Tel: 081-891 4069 (English). Email: dickytassenaar@hotmail.com

## 2 BEDROOM CONDO

New, beautifully furnished, top floor, sea & mountain views, 4.5 million baht. Tel: 085-039 3784 (English & Thai). Email: tominphuket@yahoo.com

## 9 HOUSES ON 2 RAI

Rawai. Great investment with cash flow and lots of potential. Tel: 087-209 5174.

## 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

## 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 email: allservices29@gmail.com

## KAMALA REGENT APARTMENT



Fully furnished, 3 bedrooms, freehold, 106sqm, 3d floor. Price 6.5 million baht. Tel: 085-472 0501. Email: sales@tr-d.ru

## 4/5-BDR HOUSE PATONG

1-year-old, nice view over sea & town, 4/5 bedrooms, office, 3/4 bathrooms/ensuite + 1 toilet, 5 Aircon units & fans. Laundry, European-style kitchen, large balcony. Quiet area, 2 levels + flat top (135sqm) for outdoor entertaining. Ready for Jacuzzi & garden. 1 car + motorbikes space underneath. Possible to separate into two living spaces with own entrance. 12,500,000 baht. Tel: 081-273 1326. Email: jeanwass@yahoo.com.au

## CONDO IN KRABI

New condo in Ao Nang, Krabi, 1 month from completion. 32sqm condo management company already committed to rent it for 14,000 baht per month if bought for investment. Photos on request. 1,960,000 baht. Tel: 081-895 7095 (English), 089-908 7586 (Thai). Email: peter@seafa.com

## LAND FOR SALE IN KATHU

Land with infrastructure near the Loch Palm Golf Course. Starting from 800sqm. Price: 6,400,000 baht per rai. Tel: 089-724 7211 (English). Email: julienmayard@me.com

## GOLF CONDOS KATHU

2 freehold condos at Phuket Country Club. 132sqm. 3.9 million baht. 5.5 million baht (renovated). Tel: 081-922 4045 (Seb), 085-794 1511 (Wal).

## SEA VIEW LAND

Koh Lanta hill estate project. 17 rai, chanote, concrete road, electricity, water, company masterplan. 33 million baht. Tel: 089-909 3882.

## HOUSE FOR SALE, RAWAI

2-storey, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths plus self-contained bungalow. 6.8 million baht. For sale by owner. No agents please. Tel: 087-628 3673 (English & Thai), 081-078 1112 (English). Email: islanderbar3@hotmail.com

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## WINDSTEERING

Windpilot Pacific Plus 2 for sale. In excellent condition, but main rudder broken off. Therefore, only 85,000 baht. Tel: 081-416 1072 (English). Email: hanss choeb@gmx.ch

## SWAN 42, 1982

Huge sail wardrobe for racing or cruising. \$150,000. For further details. Tel: 084-842 6146. Please see our website at <http://www.boatshedphuket.com>

## SEALING 260, 1995

300hp, Mercruiser diesel. 1,750,000 baht. For further details. Tel: 084-842 6146. please see our website at <http://www.boatshedphuket.com>

## TASMAN 9.7, 2004

Twin 130hp Volvo diesels, beautifully varnished wood finish. For further details. Tel: 084-842-6146. please see our website at <http://www.boatshedphuket.com>

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Kevlar GRP Sportfisher yacht, 3x250HP Mariner EFI outboards, 40+ knots. 5 KVA generator, aircon, sleeps 4 bathroom, elec toilet, full galley, microwave, fridge, sink. Asking 2.2 million baht. Tel: 081-842 3961. Email: gerrit.bijlsma@planet.nl

## BOAT HULL/MERCURY/DINGHY

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– 40HP Mercury Sea Pro. Many new parts, ready to run. 75,000 baht

– 3.5m dinghy. 20,000 baht or best offer! Tel: 081-968 3118 (English & Thai), 081-271 3228 (English & Thai).

Please send email to: [moodiving@yahoo.com](mailto:moodiving@yahoo.com)

## OUTBOARDER YAMAHA

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## 65 FOOT POWER CATAMARAN

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– Capacity: 70 guests + 5 crew.

– Shipyard overhaul in Oct 2009.

– Similan Park License till Nov 2010.

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– 2x Hino V 25 10-cylinder diesels.

– 2 generators (20 Kw + 30 Kw).

– 12 knots cruising speed.

Tel: 081-787 4043 (English), 081-882 5069 (Thai). Email: [wolly.woerner@gmail.com](mailto:wolly.woerner@gmail.com)

## 55' CATAMARAN

Composite construction, lots of room. Only 179,000 euros. Please see our web site at [www.boatshedphuket.com](http://www.boatshedphuket.com)

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## 29' FIBER 2X150HP VALUE

29' all-fiberglass Seat Boat. 2 Mercury Offshore 150hp. 675,000 baht. Tel: 087-132-3150. Or email: [skiyemen@yahoo.com](mailto:skiyemen@yahoo.com)

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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: [manager@thaiFrance.com](mailto:manager@thaiFrance.com)

## LOOKING FOR BOAT

I want to buy for fishing and diving. 300,000-700,000 baht. Tel: 083-642 8798.

## 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: [catayacht@csloxinfo.com](mailto:catayacht@csloxinfo.com) For further details, please see [www.acatayachting.com](http://www.acatayachting.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](mailto:patrick@oceanic-global.com) or please see at <http://www.sailing-thailand-phuket.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](mailto:emanuel.par@gmail.com)

## 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](mailto:hparkin@hotmail.com)

## ONAN GENSETS

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](mailto: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](mailto:s.enghamre@telia.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](mailto:emanuel.par@gmail.com)

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## WANT NICE FAST BOAT

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## FIBERGLASS BOAT

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## RIVIERA 43, 1995

Extensively refitted to high standard. Thai charter licence for 17+3. Call Alan on 084-842 6146. [www.boatshedphuket.com](http://www.boatshedphuket.com)

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## FULLER 60, 1991

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for luxury villa and condo. Needed urgently, salary plus incentive. Must be native English speaker, work in Phuket. Please send CV to [a.craig@phuketvillasandhomes.com](mailto:a.craig@phuketvillasandhomes.com) (Mr. Andrew).

### SALES STAFF WANTED URGENT!

HEXAACON PROPERTY LTD - PHUKET, THAILAND. We are now looking for English speaking sales staff for our real estate office in Phuket. We need good sales people who are outgoing, energetic, motivated, committed and loyal. Age 25 and up. Any nationality. Basic salary + commission + benefits. Tel: 076-604400, 089-649 0005 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-604404. Please send your application, including CV by Email to [bz@hexacon.dk](mailto:bz@hexacon.dk). For further details, please see our website at <http://www.hexacon-property.asia>

### MAID

Live out maid wanted for cleaning outdoor areas and garden for private villa. Must have experience looking after dogs & cats and will be required to stay in villa to look after pets when the owners are traveling. Must have good English. Very good salary for the right person. Tel: 081-271 3211 (English). Email: [sonya\\_norris@yahoo.com.au](mailto:sonya_norris@yahoo.com.au)

### HOUSEKEEPER / BOAT HOSTESS

An expat couple is seeking someone to be a housekeeper for their villa in Surin Beach and hostess on their boat. Duties include cleaning of the villa and boat and acting as boat hostess for day or overnight trips. You must have good English and the highest professional standards, and you must not get seasick. Salary: 10,000 to 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-271 3211 (English). Or send email: [sonya\\_norris@yahoo.com.au](mailto:sonya_norris@yahoo.com.au)

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The person we seek must:

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The person we seek must:

- have experience in selling new/used luxury motor yachts
- be fluent in English
- be able to handle/captain boats
- have a passion for boats
- have good computer skills (including internet).

A background in engineering or as a mechanic would be an advantage. Tel: 081-979 9911. Email: [vrit@boatlagoon-yachting.co.th](mailto:vrit@boatlagoon-yachting.co.th)

For further details, please visit our website at <http://www.boatlagoon-yachting.co.th>



The property: absolute beach front, with a total of 68 rooms, 7 suites and 46 beach & pool villas. Recipient of several tourism awards. Facilities include 8 restaurants & bars, @ home dining operation, conference facilities for up to 60 theater style, 2 large infinity swimming pools with terrace, island outings involving catering, weddings.

### The Position: Food & Beverage Manager

- Thai national aged between 38 to 45 years old
- At least 5 year's experience in Hotel Management, including 3 years in similar position

#### The applicant should have:

- Hotel management degree
- Outgoing personality, self confident and with excellent PR skills
- Computer literate in MS Excel, & Word
- Experience in 5-star resort property with a proven track record of delivering exceptional service standards to a highly demanding clientele.
- Entrepreneurial, creative, results oriented & with an eye for details
- Ability in living on an island environment.
- Fluent in English + other language if possible.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Hands on person/ as opposed to office bound

#### Other positions available;

FB secretary/ events coordinator; waiter/tress; bartender

Interested candidates, please submit, resume, recent picture and expected salary to: [hr@pimalai.com](mailto:hr@pimalai.com) or fax at 075 607 999 - Only short listed candidates will be contacted.

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99 Moo 5, Ba Kan Tiang Bay  
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### ASSISTANT WANTED IN KHAO LAK

to work for a small charity in Khao Lak (approximately 2 hours north of Phuket Town). Duties include basic admin and document/meeting translations. Must have a good standard of English and basic computer skills. Please apply with CV to: [samanna29@hotmail.com](mailto:samanna29@hotmail.com)

### MESSAGE - MAID

Good pay. Thai lady wanted to give daily massage to 70-year-old American and take care of house in Chalong. Email: [ltinesneg@aol.com](mailto:ltinesneg@aol.com)

### BAR MANAGER

to schedule live sports programs. Aussie preferred. Tel: 076-342143, 081-958 1055. Email: [pauljames@expathotel.com](mailto:pauljames@expathotel.com)

### OFFICE STAFF WANTED

Must have some experience. Computer skills needed. Must talk Thai and English. Please contact for more information. Tel: 084-443 5983.

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# Island Job Mart



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We are currently seeking qualified candidates to fill the following positions:

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- Assistant Director of Leisure Sales - Bangkok
- Director of Event Sales - Phuket
- Assistant Director of Event Sales - Phuket
- Marketing Communications Manager - Phuket
- Sales Executive Leisure - Phuket
- Safety & Security Manager
- Executive Sous Chef
- Sous Chef
- Chef De Partie
- Demi Chef De Partie
- Guest Relation Executive: Japanese
- Purchasing Officer

Please apply in person or send your resume and recent photo to:

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 F. 076 324 108  
 Email: sgip.recruitment@luxurycollection.com

## TSBA ASSOCIATES REQUIRED

Sell businesses in Phuket. Experience unnecessary, full training given. Contact Phil. Tel: 087-034 0568 (English). Email: phil@tsba.info

## SECRETARY TO DIRECTOR SALES

Dive Supply Co Ltd Phuket is one of the leading distributors and wholesalers, and exporter of big brand scuba and watersport equipment in Southeast Asia. We are looking for a Thai national to work as secretary to the Director of Sales and Marketing. Email: info@divesupply.com For further details, please see our website at <http://www.divesupply.com/jobs>

## BEAUTICIAN/ MASSAGE LADY

Experienced lady for wax and massage needed in Rawai. Tel: 076-388581, 084-442 5290 (English & Thai). Email: dejaco@cscms.com

## OFFICE MANAGER / PA CHALONG

Chalong-based health product manufacturer seeking Office Manager/PA. Aged 20-30, must speak good English, computer skills, some accounting experience, own transport, references from past employers, experience with exporting preferred. Good salary & benefits. Send resume with photo to tiso@email.com

## TELEPHONE MARKETING

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. Tel: 080-524-9913.

## 2 SWEDISH RESTAURANTS

in Bang Tao Beach, open all year. Two chefs wanted to cook farang food and 4 waitresses. Good spoken English required and good salary for experienced candidates. Contact Michael. Tel: 081-787 3167.

## CAMERON HANSEN GALLERY

Full time and part time sales staff now required in Patong and Kata. Nice working environment, great salary and commissions for the right person. The position is open to Thai and Philippine nationals, and English speaking skills are necessary. Tel: 089-646 8580. Email: cameronjhansen@yahoo.co.uk Please visit our website at <http://www.cameronhansen.net>

## NANNY FOR CHILD

Looking for a full time live-out nanny. English speaking and experience with children required. Please contact Maria. Tel: 082-288 3128 (English). Email: maria.wilewski@gmail.com

## BANG TAO TROPICAL RESIDENCE

We are currently outsourcing for management position and staff. We are looking for 20 to 30 energetic young individuals to join our working team in our new Condo Hotel in Phuket. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-261772, 083-522 2089 (English & Thai). For further details, please see our website at: <http://www.bangtao tropicalresidence.com>

## COOK/ BOAT GIRL

wanted for unique small charter yacht. If you are English speaking, 25+ with experience and reference. Tel: 083-102 7801.

## 2 ENGLISH SPEAKING LADIES

Morning & afternoon work - must have own motorbike or car. Tel: 083-102 8922 (English). Email: gregmackay67@hotmail.com

## PATONG RESTAURANT

seek experienced cook as partner. Tel: 087-267 7965. Email: ric.ddd@gmail.com

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Thai nationals wanted. Fluent English, computer skills and results oriented. Candidate must be knowledgeable in all government reports. Salary 15 to 18,000 baht per month plus service charge. Position available now. Forward CV via email. Tel: 076-333222, 086-604 1333 (English). Email: sales@ccbloomshotel.com

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- Based in Phuket
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- University / Vocational School graduated
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- Some working experiences will be advantage

Please submit your CV to email : [strikecoffee@mg.com](mailto:strikecoffee@mg.com)



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VS Asia Co Ltd, was established in Phuket, 10 years ago. We are professionals in printing technology and post-production for customers in Europe and Asia, which co-operate with a business partner company as headquarters in Europe.

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## VS Asia Co., Ltd. (Human Resource Department)

42 Moo3, Palai2, Chaofa Rd.,  
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Female, good English. Showroom in Rawai. More details call Khun Kob. Tel: 081-658 5962.

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## EXPERIENCED BOAT BUILDER

part time. Needed to assist in building a cruiser from plywood coated with fiberglass. Hours are flexible. Located close to Chalong pier. Full-time boat builders also needed for those positions. English is not required. Please call Gunnar between 9 and 12 am. Tel: 089-287 4007.

## PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR

Non profit organization. Right To Play seeks Thai with fluent English, computer literate, training and experience to work on education program. Email: [bdronkers@righttoplay.com](mailto:bdronkers@righttoplay.com)

## RECEPTIONIST

for beautiful guesthouse in Karon. Thai national. Please contact for more information. Tel: 086-271 8254. Email: [ninapartments@hotmail.com](mailto:ninapartments@hotmail.com)

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## FOOD STAFF, PATONG

Need good staff to sell food in Patong at NIGHT. Starting time is 8pm. GOOD SALARY. Tel: 085-158 7638 (English & Thai). Email: [pierre\\_hammar@yahoo.com](mailto:pierre_hammar@yahoo.com)

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# Tout, Trader & Trumpet

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for rent. 240 Rat-U-Thit 200 Pee Rd. Furnished, includes telephone line and internet, 3-year lease, 25,000 baht per month. In T-Son-Sine guesthouse. Tel: 083-173 6521. Email: mk@ksmediaverlag.de

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Located next to a Queen Air Tour Agency and 7-eleven (opening soon). Rent: 13,000 baht per month plus key money. Email: kornkamonat21@yahoo.com

## SHOP PATONG NO KEY MONEY

Shop opposite Cabana Hotel and immigration on Beach Road. 3-year lease. Rent 37,000 baht per month on. Tel: 081-958 6741 (English & Thai), 089-588 2392 (Thai). Email: PODA2000@HOTMAIL.COM

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This unique and smartly decorated restaurant is for sale or lease. Established in 2005 and listed in the luxe guide. 154 sqm with seating for 50, large bar, fully outfitted kitchen, LCD's for sports. Owner is moving and looking to sell or lease. Will consider financing. 9-year lease. Tel: 087-277 0240. Email: robertjfalls@hotmail.com

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Busy location in Rawai, all year trade, all equipment and building, staff, accommodation. Sale 1.5 million baht. Land lease 6,000 per month. Tel: 086-594 4521.

## SHOP / OFFICE SPACE

4mx8m, main road in Rawai, 10m from entrance to Evason hotel. 10,000 baht per month. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-415 4883 (English & Thai). Email: robinkhap@gmail.com

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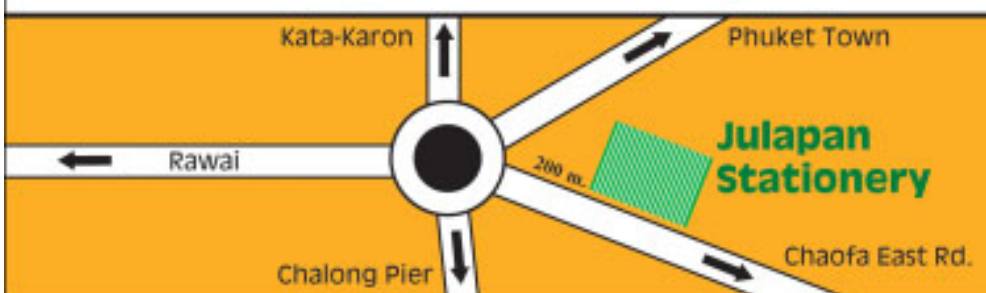
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<b>Trip To Malaysia</b>	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>Day</th> <th>Oct.'09</th> <th>Nov.'09</th> <th>Dec.'09</th> <th>In night time free pick up around island</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Wed.</td> <td>7, 14, 28</td> <td>4, 11, 18, 25</td> <td>2, 16</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sun.</td> <td>4, 11, 25</td> <td>1, 8, 15, 22, 29</td> <td>13, 20, 27</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Day	Oct.'09	Nov.'09	Dec.'09	In night time free pick up around island	Wed.	7, 14, 28	4, 11, 18, 25	2, 16		Sun.	4, 11, 25	1, 8, 15, 22, 29	13, 20, 27	
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clinic. Any kind of muscu. and sporting injury, we can make you better. For appointment, please contact. Tel: 081-423 6569. Email: kalayanee25@yahoo.com

**Club Memberships Available**

**GOLF MEMBERSHIP**  
Phuket Country Club. 625,000 baht. Includes transfer. Tel: 086-273 2392

**ONE MONTH'S GYM MEMBERSHIP**  
at PRM for sale. Must be used by December 31. Worth 3,000 baht. Will sell for 2,000 baht. All proceeds go to the Soi Dog foundation. Tel: 089-522 7266.

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13 pairs on 3 tiers, 5.5kg-35kg. Very good condition. Incline Bench included. Worth 65,000 baht, but asking only 40,000. Tel: 086-270 9970 (English), 084-841 3511. Email: davestacey16@hotmail.com

**GYM EQUIPMENT**  
Kata beach for sale. Only 380,000 baht. Email: chilli garden@hotmail.com

## Miscellaneous For Sale

**2 WEEKS PEAK SEASON**  
2 weeks peak use in The Absolute Sea Pearl is for sale and price is negotiable. US\$15,000 asking price. Many years left on contract (30+). Tel: +1-270-2457 182. Email: twenshaw3@msn.com

**Take me home with you!**



**Soi Dog Foundation** Tel: 081-7884222  
www.soidog-foundation.org

## Personal Services

**HOME MASSAGE**  
2-hour Thai massage: 300 baht. 2-hour oil massage: 400 baht. 1-hour foot massage: 200 baht. Tel: 083-257 4225.

**BEE MASSAGE AT HOME**  
Thai massage, 2 hour: 300 baht. Oil massage, 2 hour: 400 baht. Tel: 084-391 1336.

**LEARN TO SWIM**  
Beginner to intermediate. Individual or group classes. Contact Martyn. Tel 084-308 0827 Email: info@ufit-thailand.com Website: www.ufit-thailand.com

**LEARN THAI AT HOME**  
Charming Thai lady teacher gives Thai lessons at your home. Full course with conversation practice and home study material. Beginners or more advanced. Tel: 081-797 1497. Email: churee77@hotmail.com

## Personals

**COMPANION**  
During my vacation in Phuket in January/February 2010, I would like to find a nice, pretty and fun lady to spend some time with me. I am German, age 52, slim, sporty, generous and enjoy life. If interested, please reply with photo! Email: golfnut115@yahoo.com

**FRIENDSHIP 2010**  
If you would like to start the new year with a nice man, please email: patrik269@yahoo.com

**BACKGAMMON**  
Retired Businessman looking for Backgammon Players in Phuket. Tel: 081-577 8443.

**LOVE AT SEA?**  
Genuinely seeking farang female, age 30-40, fit and fun like me, for sailing, adventure and hopefully romance. Pics of my yacht (and me) available. Tel: 081-894 7366. Email: mail@andyalford.com

**SINGLE FARANG MALE**  
Attractive, romantic and true gentleman seeking a cute Thai lady for love and care. Email: ackroydee@yahoo.com

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**SOMETHING DIFFERENT?**

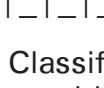

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Phuket Gazette Expat Gallery artist  
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(heading)

Classified ads are charged per line. Each line is 120 baht,  
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**Innovative cocktails & Tapas in  
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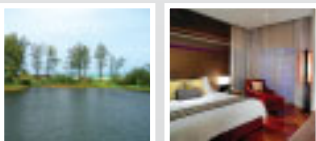
**Looking for a place to stay?**  
See more classified ads at [www.phuketgazette.net](http://www.phuketgazette.net)

## laGuna

PROPERTY RESALE

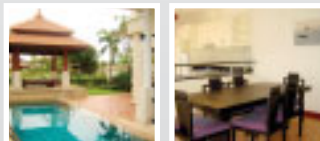
Properties for sale within Laguna Phuket

**1 Sheraton Island Villa - Duplex THB19.9 M**



- 3-storey 2 beds 2.5 baths
- fully furnished • refurbished
- approx. 5% rental return
- sea view • golf membership

**2 Laguna Village Townhome THB 21 M**



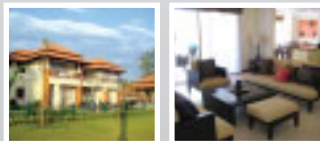
- 2-storey 4 beds 4 baths
- fully furnished
- rental programmed
- lagoon view

**3 Laguna Townhome THB 22 M**



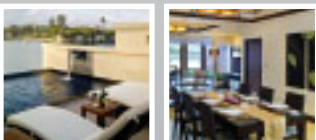
- 2-storey 3 beds Townhome
- maids' quarter • on golf course
- 25 sqm private pool

**4 Laguna Village Residence THB 38 M**



- 2-storey detached house
- 4 beds 3 baths • lagoon view
- fully furnished

**5 Dusit Thani Pool Villas THB 38 M**



- 3-storey Townhome
- 2 beds
- roof top pool
- guaranteed rental return

For more information on  
these and other properties,  
please call:

**+66 (0) 76 362 333**

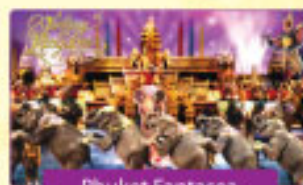
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