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# Phuket Gazette

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# Frenchman fleeced in banking bungle

By Dan Waites and Atchaa Khamlo

**A** FRENCHMAN is demanding damages from his Thai bank after it let a fellow Frenchman with the same name empty his account of at least 164,000 baht.

Last November, Claude Alfred Francois Marie Prigent walked into Siam Commercial Bank at Chalong Circle and asked for a new ATM card and bank book. The bank obliged.

But the 60-year-old Claude Prigent in the bank that day was not the 67-year-old Claude Prigent who held an account at the branch.

The older Claude Prigent has lived in Rawai for three years. He is balding, wears glasses and stands 1.68m tall.

The man who walked out with the card was 1.75m tall with a full head of hair, according to a copy of his passport.



**VICTIM:** The 'real' Claude Prigent holds up his bank book in front of his bank at Chalong Intersection.

With his namesake's ATM card in hand, the younger Claude Prigent made a series of withdrawals in Phuket and Pattaya in November and December.

On January 16, he spent more than 16,000 baht on duty free goods in Suvarnabhumi Airport, then took a flight to the Philippines.

In Manila he continued to

empty Claude Prigent's bank account, spending at least 164,000 baht before his namesake realized anything was wrong.

The 'real' Claude Prigent put his rapidly dwindling funds down to his own festive overindulgence.

"I noticed at Christmas and New Year that I'd been going through a lot of cash. I thought, 'best cut down on the spending'. But I didn't realize someone else was spending the money for me," he said.

On January 18, his card was rejected by a store in Phuket. When he checked his balance he was shocked to discover only 4,000 baht left.

He went to his branch the next day. The bank was quick to admit it was at fault, yet it refused to pay the money back straight away.

*Continued on page 2*

# Hunt for Supercheap woman's killer



Thipkasen 'Khwan' Heep-phech.

**P**OLICE are hunting for the boyfriend of a Supercheap employee found strangled to death in her room on February 24.

Miss Thipkasen 'Khwan' Heep-phech, 24, was found in her room in Koh Kaew by a colleague after she was absent from work for two days. She had a mobile telephone charger cord wrapped around her neck and a pillow over her face.

Police believe the native of Nakhon Sri Thammarat may have been raped.

Miss Monthira Saiyarin, who found the body, said Miss

Thipkasen was always cheerful, well-liked by colleagues and never had any arguments with anyone.

Miss Monthira's supervisor told her to go and look for Miss Thipkasen after she missed work for two days in a row and could not be reached by telephone.

Miss Monthira found the door to her colleague's room unlocked. Inside, possessions were scattered all over the floor.

Before her death, Miss Thipkasen had been seeing a man named 'Khao', Miss Monthira said.

She did not know his full name, she added.

Mr Khao paid the victim's rent and bought her a motorbike, she said.

The pair recently had an argument after Mr Khao asked Miss Thipkasen to return money he had given her, Miss Monthira said.

She had not seen the man since then, she added.

Police believe Miss Thipkasen was killed at least two days before her body was discovered. Officers are now hunting Mr Khao to question him about the killing.

*- Gazette reporter*

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# Historic building about to go *baba*

**T**HE PHUKET Peranakan Association is seeking donations to help transform the old Standard Chartered Bank building into a 50-million-baht cultural museum.

The classic two-story Sino-Portuguese building at the corner of Phuket and Phang Nga Roads in Phuket Town will be designated as the 'Phuket Provincial Baba Museum'.

Phuket Peranakan Association president Dr Kosol Tenguthai said the group is raising funds from public and private sources.

The association hopes to start construction in six months. Work should take about six months, and if all goes to plan the museum could open in early 2011, he said.

The bank building, which used to house a police unit, is now empty.

Formerly under the Treasury Department, the



The Standard Chartered building.

structure was consigned over to Phuket City Municipality, which has already authorized its use as a museum.

The museum will feature permanent exhibits of antique items and displays about Peranakan culture. Most of the items will be donated by local

residents as well as Peranakan communities in the region, including Malaysia's Langkawi Island and parts of Indonesia. There will also be a collection of history books to educate new generations about Phuket's tin mining trade and past ways of life.

Peranakan culture began when 14th-century Chinese merchants settled in the town of Malacca in present-day Malaysia.

The mostly male Hakka Chinese traders married local women. Their male offspring were known as 'Baba', while females were called 'Nyonya'.

The culture then developed and spread to communities in Malaysia and Indonesia as well as Thailand.

Anyone who would like to donate can contact Dr Kosol (Tel: 089-6527279).

— *Atchaa Khamlo*

## Tuk-tuk to the rescue



Mr Seree (right) hands the wallet back to Mr Alexanden (left).

**A** SHARP-EYED tuk-tuk driver last week returned a lost wallet to a Russian couple on holiday in Patong. Seree Yodthueng, 48, noticed the wallet in the back of an unmanned tuk-tuk belonging to a fellow driver.

The wallet contained 5,540 baht in cash, credit cards, an ATM card and an undisclosed amount of foreign currency.

The honest Mr Seree reported the find to the manager of his taxi stand, who told all drivers under his command to be on the lookout for a foreign tourist in search of a missing wallet.

At about 3pm, 30-year-old Russian tourist Tetenin Alexanden arrived with his wife at a tuk-tuk stand in front of Jungceylon asking if anyone had seen his wallet. Drivers there told the couple it was in safe keeping.

Mr Alexanden rewarded Mr Seree with 500 baht, saying he never thought he would see the wallet again.

## Banking mix-up

*Continued from page one*

Manager of the Siam Commercial Bank Branch at Chalong Circle, Thursak Chusak, said the bank had to make sure the two men hadn't colluded to defraud the bank.

While the bank's board was deliberating over the case, Claude Prigent was having to rearrange his finances.

"Having my account blocked meant my retirement money could no longer be credited to my account. My French bank wanted a new account number, which they wouldn't accept by fax. It took six weeks to sort out," he said.

"Luckily I have another account in France to withdraw from, otherwise how could I have survived?" he added.

Eventually the bank got to

the bottom of the affair.

Mr Thursak said Claude Alfred Francois Marie Prigent had tried to open an account at one of the bank's branches on Koh Chang.

"A bank officer there told him there was another account under the same name in Phuket showing on the monitor," he said.

"He probably tricked the officer into giving out more information about the account, like how much money was in it and where the branch was," he said.

The man then filed a police report, saying he had lost his Siam Commercial Bank ATM card and bank book, Mr Thursak said.

Police report in hand, he walked into the Chalong Circle Branch.

"The officer didn't want to annoy the customer or inconvenience him any more, so he didn't really look at the passport number," Mr Thursak admitted.

Satisfied that the 'real' Claude Prigent was indeed the victim of a crime, on February 24 Siam Commercial Bank credited his account with 164,000 baht.

Feeling this is not enough, Mr Prigent wants compensation for the inconvenience the affair has caused him.

The bank said it has refunded his money and he will have to prove any

additional expenses the affair caused him.

"The banking system needs to clean up its act. There are cracks in their system," Mr Prigent said.

Mr Thursak said the bank would set new regulations to prevent the same thing from happening again.

Meanwhile, the whereabouts of the mysterious Claude Alfred Francois Marie Prigent remain unknown.

Both Siam Commercial Bank and Claude Prigent agree he should face charges.

"We've told the police and immigration to lock him up right away if he ever comes to Thailand again," Mr Thursak said.

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**T**WO men who were set to paddle 14,000 miles from Phuket to California in a kayak have been forced to postpone their trip due to 'financial constraints'.

American Ryan Doran, 26, and Piya 'Mr X' Sukunthai, 28, were due to leave Phuket on March 10 aboard their 20-foot wooden kayak *Say-Lee*.

The pair insist their dream trip will still happen, but say it must be postponed until they raise enough money for all the equipment needed.

The pair's voyage was due to take 20 months. It would have seen them pass through territorial waters of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Taiwan, Japan and Russia before braving a 217-mile leg across the Bering Sea, one of the world's most treacherous expanses of ocean.

From there, they planned to continue on to Alaska and Canada, then the lower 48 United States, arriving in Ryan's home city of San Francisco in December next year.

But the pair have had to postpone their trans-Pacific paddle until an unspecified date later this year. They are now trying to sell their Phuket-made kayak *Say-Lee* to raise funds to build a new 18-foot 'catamaran' kayak, which would be used in the megapaddle.

"We are currently building an 18-foot catamaran. We have joined two 18-foot Chesapeake kayaks into a Hobie Cat rigging



Ryan (right) says Mr X (left), who has never experienced cold weather, should become sufficiently acclimatized along the way to take on the crossing of the Bering Sea.

# Voyage on hold

## Trans-Pacific kayak duo strapped for cash

system. We now intend to be sailing and paddling. We are also using kites to help power the boat," he revealed.

There have been numerous criticisms in the Gazette Forum charging the pair with being overambitious, impractical or downright crazy.

To one of these comments, Ryan replied:

"You're right that this is not a 'safe, well-planned adventure', but it is a well-planned adventure... We have planned this trip for two years and have assessed all risks. If the s\*\*t hits the fan, we will pay for our own rescue."

The trip would be insured through International SOS, an international medical and rescue service, he added.

"The extreme at-sea conditions will inevitably affect us: sores, heat exhaustion, sunstroke, dehydration, starvation, hypothermia, not to mention the

psychological hardships involved in this trip," he wrote.

"I know our plan says 20 months, but if it takes 10 years, then so be it. It took Oskar Speck seven years to paddle from Germany to Australia. We are prepared for that kind of commitment," he said, speaking of an epic paddle undertaken in the 1930s.

Responding to a sarcastic comment that climactic conditions in the Bering Sea and at Nai Harn Beach are quite different and that the Phathum Thani born Mr X might find them too harsh, Ryan replied:

"No, Mr X has never been in cold weather before... Assuming we actually make it to the Bering Sea, we will have paddled thousands of miles through the South China Sea and off the coast of Japan and Russia.

"If we make it as far as the Bering Sea, I think he will be pretty well conditioned for the weather. But thanks for pointing out that the Bering Sea is not Nai Harn Beach. We didn't know that."

Ryan and Mr X are still looking for additional sponsors for their trip.

Thus far, John Harris from Chesapeake Light Craft (CLC) Boats and Bennet Bar from the NRS Kayaking Team are the only official sponsors.

Anyone interested in sponsoring the trip can contact Ryan (rdoran66@hotmail.com).

— Fraser Morton

## New bus station to open mid-2010

**T**HE Phuket Land Transport Office appears resigned to run the new Phuket Provincial Bus Terminal by itself after two local governing bodies have apparently lost interest in operating the facility.

Work on the new station was completed in early December, but efforts by the Transport Office to find a local government body to administer operations there appear to have failed.

Initially, both the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (PPAO) and Rassada Municipality showed interest.

Now Rassada Municipality, where the station is located, says it is 'not ready' to operate the station.

The PPAO, run by its

fiscally conservative president Paiboon Upatising, is also no longer interested in running the station, according to well-informed sources.

With the station lying idle for three months already, the Phuket Land Transport Office now has little choice but to ask the Transport Ministry in Bangkok for additional funding to run the station on its own.

"Hopefully we will be able to open it by the middle of the year," said Phuket Land Transport Director Kanok Siripanichkorn.

Another glitch in the Land Transport Office's vision for the complex is that a plan to build a flyover to allow northbound buses to cross over busy Thepkasatri Road is on indefinite hold because

Tambon Rassada has yet to approve construction, he said.

The office is now considering an alternate plan that would see buses cross Thepkasatri Road into Sapam and use smaller roads before making their way north.

— Kitima Pornmongkhonwat

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# Inside Vachira Phuket's

**T**he Phuket Police are fighting a war on drugs. Rarely does a week go by without fresh arrests for narcotics possession, ranging from kids caught with a handful of pills to dealers trading shipments worth hundreds of thousands of baht. But while the police battle with the drug trade is well publicized, the island's hospitals are quietly treating addicts. **Atchaa Khamlo** reports from Vachira Phuket Hospital's drug treatment center, where she talked to patients and the professionals helping them to kick the habit.

**P**ui is 20 years old, pretty and five months' pregnant. She is also a recovering crystal meth addict. Pui is attending Vachira's drug treatment program, trying to free herself from a habit that saw her blow tens of thousands of baht on the drug known in Thai as *ya ice* every month.

"I started on *ya bah* [methamphetamine]. I began taking *ice* after I heard it would make my skin whiter and more beautiful. If I had money, it went on *ya ice*. It made me feel dreamy but wide awake, so I could stay up all night. I thought I could stop taking the drug by myself, but the more I took, the more addicted I got and it became hard to stop," she said.

Unaware her daughter was on drugs, Pui's mother was sending her money from Phang Nga. "I once spent 30,000 baht in two weeks on crystal meth," Pui said. "Then I got caught."

Getting arrested for drugs possession landed her in one of Vachira's drug treatment classes, which she now attends along with seven other addicts. Patients take an 11-class course modeled on a drug and alcohol treatment program pioneered by the Matrix Institute in Los Angeles.

Psychiatrist Dr Tappana Sumpatanarax heads the program.

"Addicts must attend 11 different lessons aimed at changing their opinions about drugs," he said.

"They learn about their bodies, their minds and society. The program will alter their ideas, helping them to stop taking drugs and break the cycle of addiction."

The scheme started in 2003 during Thailand's controversial War on Drugs, during which it is alleged hundreds of dealers were killed extra-judiciously.

The program got underway with 20 confessed addicts. There are now more than one hundred enrolled in small classes, ranging in size from eight to ten patients. A team of 10 professionals runs the program: three doctors, two psychiatrists and five social workers.

There are three reasons



**MEET THE TEAM:** From left, psychiatric social worker Ruangsit Netnuanyai, psychiatrist Dr Tappana Sumpatanarax, nurse Boonchoke Wintasit and social worker Tippawan Prompen.

patients end up the center. Either they are ordered to attend drug treatment by a court, they decide to seek treatment by themselves, or they are brought in by relatives after they start to display serious mental health issues. Most fall into the first group: overall, 80% are sent to the program by the probation office. Of these, around 80% are male.

According to Phuket Public Health Office, from October 1, 2008 to September 30, 2009, 97 people voluntarily signed up to drug treatment programs in Phuket, while 581 were forced into treatment by the probation service. Besides Vachira Phuket, patients are treated at other government hospitals, local public health stations and the Phuket Juvenile Observation and Protection Center.

Of the people who volunteered for treatment, 82 were men and 15 were women. Of these, 52 were in for *ya bah*, 13 for marijuana, two for inhalants, 20 for *Mitragyna Speciosa* (krathom leaf), one for *ya ice*, three for antidepressants, two for heroin, and four for other addictive substances.

## Tricky business

Rehabilitating drug addicts is difficult work. At Vachira, just one in 10 of the patients successfully complete the course; the rest disappear.

The hospital informs the probation office when this happens, although many are never seen again, Dr Tappana said.

"Those who come in to cure themselves voluntarily almost always complete the course." Around 80% of the patients who complete the course are able to kick their habits, he said.

Course attendees come from a variety of backgrounds. "We are starting to get to know each other now and we're talking a lot more. It's good to make friends," said Pui, the young mother-to-be from Phang Nga.

The classes have helped her realize the effects her addiction to *ya ice* could have on her baby and her own brain. "When I saw my friends taking the drug, its smell made me want to take it. Picturing my unborn baby inside me stopped me from thinking like that," she said.

Jack, 18, was arrested for *ya bah* possession and ordered by the probation office to attend a class every two days.

"I started taking *ya bah* after being urged by friends," he said. "I don't think I'll buy the drug again because I don't want to go back to jail. I just got off spending six days in Bang Jo detention center in Thalang."

Moo, a 33-year-old man from Phuket, got caught with *ya bah* in October last year. "I'd been taking it since my early twenties. Not constantly, just for

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# quiet war on addiction

fun. I wasn't addicted. I feel very sorry for my family as my parents as my wife tried everything to help me to get out of jail. They had to work so hard. I'll never go back to the drug again."

## Back to reality

There are seven symptoms addicts generally display on entering the program at Vachira, Dr Tappana explained: insomnia, lack of appetite, mood swings, auditory hallucinations, visual hallucinations, paranoia and anxiety.

Vachira Hospital differs from other institutions in that it is more likely to treat psychological symptoms with drugs, he said.

"Because Phuket is a tourist destination, if something bad happens after a patient goes crazy, it will damage the island's reputation and harm tourism," he said.

Those patients who fail to complete the course quickly enough are sent on tougher courses in other organizations, such as 'boot camps' in Surat Thani and Nakhon Sri Thammarat.

Patients with more serious conditions, such as amentia (men-

tal retardation) used to be sent to Suansaranrom Psychiatric Center in Surat Thani or another center in Songkhla. But with both of those centers filled for the past year, patients have been kept at Vachira, Dr Tappana said.

"I want people to be aware of the dangers of all kinds of drugs, even anti-obesity and Valium-type substances. If you take too much of them, even if you stop for a while, the drug can continue to affect your brain as a mental deficiency. For example, I know of a case of a man who stopped taking drugs seven years ago, but still has mental problems now," he said.

"Marijuana addicts are six times more likely to have panic attacks than normal people. The panic attack will make the addict feel like his heart is shaking. They experience the same type of panic you get when standing looking down from a high building or

drinking four cups of coffee in one go," he said.

Dr Tappana said it typically takes human brains about four months to recover from drug-induced damage. But if a drug is taken repeatedly, some parts of the brain cannot recover, he said.

"Ya ice is the same kind of drug as ya bah. It gives the same effects, such as stimulation and dreamy states. But ice is purer. It contains 85% more amphetamine. In the long term, taking ice gives addicts mental problems," he said.

Relatively few ice addicts attend Vachira's program. As ice is an expensive drug, most of the people who take it are well off. They can generally afford treatment at expensive private hospitals. Most of them are people who take the drug when they go out at night, or if they work at night.

Around one-quarter of drug addicts say they have thought

**"Around one-quarter of drug addicts say they have thought about committing suicide, while 50% of suicides have a history of drug use."**



Officials unload bags filled with thousands of methamphetamine and amphetamine pills in Bang Pa In on June 26, 2008. The authorities burned more than 310 million dollars worth of drugs in an annual narcotics bonfire to mark anti-drugs day. AFP PHOTO/NICOLAS ASFOURI

about committing suicide, while 50% of suicides have a history of drug use, Dr Tappana said.

Like many healthcare professionals, he favors treatment over imprisonment.

"I think we should place more importance on drug treatment instead of the government's policy of emphasizing the arrest of drug addicts," he said.

Those seeking treatment for substance abuse should contact the Psychiatric Ward at Vachira Phuket Hospital. Cost of the 11-class course is 4,600 baht, not including any medications that might be required. Foreigners are welcome to attend, but the language of instruction is Thai. For more information call: 076-361234 x1266.

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## Bangkok's 2,000 roving eyes

One thousand motorcycle taxi drivers are shown various types of explosives at a recent meeting. Police have asked them to help monitor suspicious objects in Bangkok. The plan follows four grenade attacks on banks during the weekend of February 27-28.

## Queer News

### Peeping Tom exposed

UDON THANI: Police are questioning the owner of a women's dormitory after residents found CCTV cameras hidden in their bedrooms and bathrooms.

The cameras were first spotted by 24-year-old Phornphat Kimsee as she was taking a shower in the early hours of February 28.

Miss Phornphat, who manages a branch of fast food chain Chester's Grill, said she looked up and noticed a small round hole next to the light bulb.

Somewhat perturbed, she dressed and called her friends. The group pulled up a chair and removed the ceiling panel. There was a small CCTV camera hidden in the ceiling. A wire led from the camera out of the room.

Her four friends went back to check their rooms. All found CCTV cameras hidden in their bedroom ceilings. The group went to the dormitory owner, 38-year-old Winnu Bandit, to see if he knew anything about the cameras. He denied all knowledge.

The following morning, the group reported their find to police.

On further investigation, officers found the wires from the cameras led out of the dormitory building to the house of Mr Winnu. The cables stopped just short of Mr Winnu's computer and, according to the police, looked like they had been freshly cut. The hard drive was also missing from the computer.

Mr Winnu told police that he had cut the cables years ago, but forgotten to remove the cameras. He said he first installed the cameras to spy on male tenants who he claims were causing trouble. Later he decided to rent rooms only to women and cut the cables to the cameras, he said. Mr Winnu claimed there was no hard drive in the computer because it was being repaired.

Inspector Singharach Kaowketmee from Muang Udon Thani Police said officers were investigating whether Mr Winnu had a license to run a dormitory.

As for charges relating to the cameras, Lt Col Singharach said police were still trying to establish the facts.

Source: Thai Rath

# Truckers' quarrel ends in tragedy

RATCHABURI: A young truck driver was killed on February 23 after being hit by an 18-wheeler. He was trying to escape another truck driver who was chasing him with a cleaver at the time.

At the scene, in Ban Pong District, police found the body of 18-year-old Suksan Channarong

lying on the road near his truck.

Witnesses reported that Mr Suksan had been duelling with another truck driver, each trying to overtake the other. The pair then parked their trucks to confront each other.

The driver of the other vehicle got out of his cab and went

for Mr Suksan with a cleaver. Mr Suksan fled across the road, but was hit by the 18-wheeler. Mr Suksan's adversary drove off.

Police are now hunting the driver of the 18-wheeler, who left his vehicle and fled the scene on foot.

Source: Khao Sod

## Karaoke killing

KRABI: A teenager was killed and another three seriously injured when a dispute over whose turn it was to sing karaoke turned deadly on February 23.

The incident happened at a wedding party at a bar on the Krabi-Ao Luek road.

Around 12:15am, two groups of youths were dancing in front of the stage and singing karaoke. When a member of one group tried to wrest the microphone from the other group, a fight broke out.

Things escalated and two of the youths drew guns – one 9mm pistol and one shotgun – and opened fire.

Kittiphong Yotroisap, 17, was hit in the stomach and arm. He died of his injuries. Three other men received bullet wounds.

Police said they already know the identities of the gunmen.

Karaoke is a major cause of disputes in South East Asia, where lapses in etiquette or criticism of other singers are often met with violence.

In one of Thailand's most famous cases, in Songkhla in 2008, a man shot eight of his neighbours dead after they sang John Denver's *Country Road* one too many times.

Source: Khao Sod

## Half a million workers facing deportation

BANGKOK: Authorities are getting ready to deport about half a million Burmese, Laotian and Cambodian workers because they failed to seek new work permits or submit requests for nationality verification within the deadline.

March 2 was the last day for the 1.3 million or so Burmese, Laotian and Cambodian people working in Thailand to hand over requests or applications to the authorities. This is a mandatory step for workers who have already registered in Thailand's labour market in recent years.

"We will not be lenient," Employment Department deputy director-general Supat Gukun said. His department would work closely with the police and the Immigration Bureau to enforce the law, he added.

Mr Supat insisted the nationality verification process was not very complicated.

"For extra convenience, employers can hire one of 12 certified private companies to handle the task of verifying the nationality of their workers for no more than 5,000 baht per head," he added.

Many employers have sought the service, with the companies earning more than a total of 1 billion baht.

The nationality verification

process has recently been made mandatory, in addition to the long-existing requirement for alien workers to carry a work permit.

The process has two main steps. Employers fill nationality verification forms and submit them to the Labour Ministry, which forwards them to the governments of Burma, Laos and Cambodia for verification.

Once the documents are verified, the alien workers can return home to get passports. Thailand has given alien workers until 2012 to get their passports.

Meanwhile, Human Rights and Development Foundation chairman Gothom Arya urged the government to not deport alien workers who failed to meet the March 2 deadline.

"Some Burmese workers feel their lives are at risk if they have to go back to their country. Political and ethnic conflicts are still going on there," he said.

He also urged the government to extend the deadline for registered alien workers' nationality verification.

Mr Gothom said if Thai authorities refused, many Burmese workers would simply go underground and live here illegally.

"Some corrupt officials might then exploit these people," he said.

Source: The Nation

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# Muddy's mojo movin'

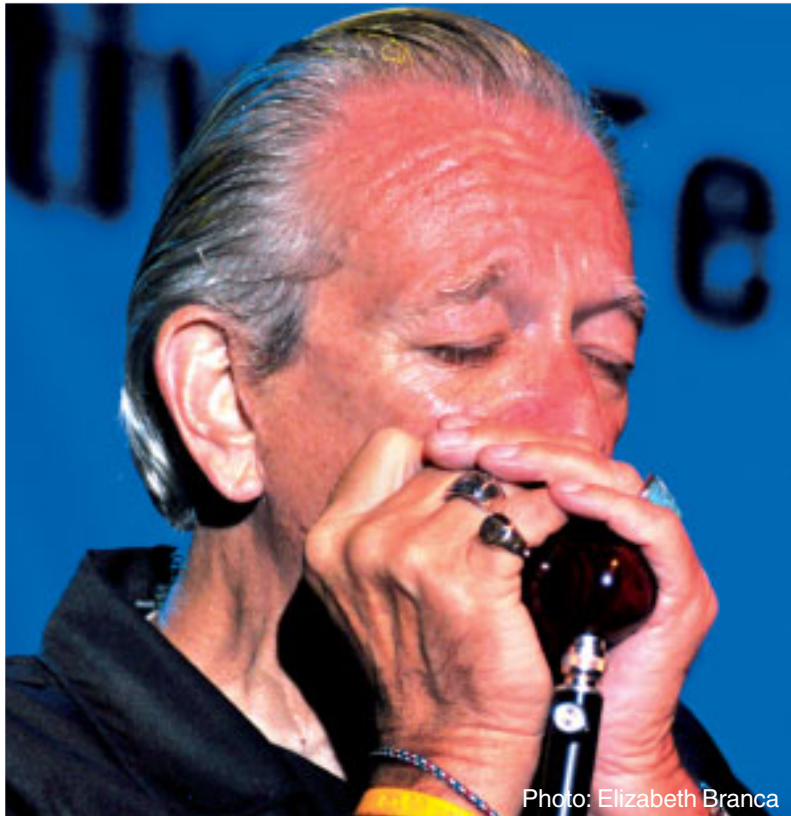


Photo: Elizabeth Branca



Photo: Christian Mouchet



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Photo: Elizabeth Branca

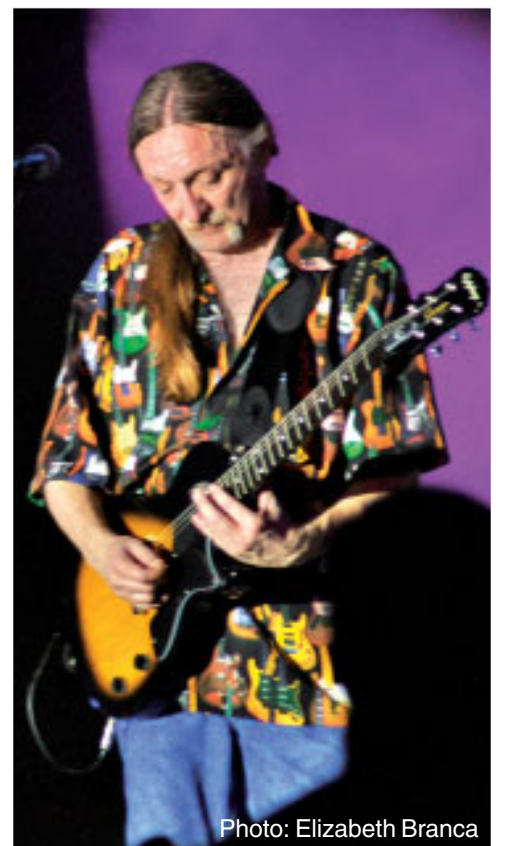


Photo: Elizabeth Branca

**CLOCKWISE:** Charlie Musselwhite soulfully works his blues harp as he closes the Festival on Saturday night. It was the blues master's debut performance in Thailand; Andy Gonzales and The Rockin Angels work the crowd on the dance floor; Rich Harper brings down the house with *Take me to the River*; Aussie soul and blues ingenue KNiKi performs songs from her original album 'JUST'. Norway's The Prodigal Sons rock out their signature blend of guitar, harp and organ.

Hundreds of Phuketians paid homage to a powerful blend of the Delta, Chicago and Texas blues at the Phuket International Blues Rock Festival, held from February 26 to 27, at the Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort and Spa in Karon.

The two-day charity event raised funds to support the Rotary Club of Patong and the Phuket Has Been Good to Us Foundation.

The gates opened around sunset on Friday with Robert 'One Man' Johnson performing his brand of folk blues.

Retrovision and Andy Gonzales & The Rockin Angels fired up the crowd with their emotive rockin' sounds.

When Rich Harper took the stage, fans jumped to their feet for his rendition of Al Green's *Take Me to the River*, and headliner Richard Clapton recieved an enthusiastic cheer from his Aussie fans.

On Saturday night, fans got their musical mojos working when Aussie female blues maven KNiKi growled into the mic, and at nearly midnight, headline act Charlie Musselwhite took the stage and encouraged everyone to get to their feet.

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## Venerable view

A world-wide exhibition of ancient and sacred Buddhist relics from the Maitreya Project Heart Shrine Relic Tour will be stopping in Phuket from March 6 to 7.

Relics from Kasyapa Buddha, Shakyamuni Buddha, and other Buddhist masters will be on display for the first time in Thailand at Karuna Meditation and Yoga Center in Kamala.

This free event allows local residents the rare opportunity to view a precious collection of sacred relics believed to promote healing and inspiration. These holy objects, which include teeth, hair and other objects discovered after cremation, are believed to embody the Buddha's qualities of compassion and wisdom.

When a spiritual master's body is cremated, pearl-like crystals and other objects are sometimes found among the ashes and for this exhibit Buddhist leaders from around the world have donated their relics to this traveling collection.

Since the Maitreya Project Heart Shrine Relic Tour began in

2001, it has featured more than 1,000 relics, which promote their non-sectarian message of loving kindness and world peace.

Each visitor will have the opportunity to be personally blessed by the relics of the Buddha, which are believed to promote healing and inspiration upon contact with the body.

All donations made during the relics tour go to the Maitreya Project based in Kushinagar, India. Kushinagar is one of the eight great places of Buddhist Pilgrimage, because it is where the historical Buddha passed away.

The name Maitreya comes from the Sanskrit word for love and the project intends to build a 500ft bronze statue of the Buddha as a way of honoring the region's rich spiritual heritage.

Viewing is between 10am and 7pm, and will be held at the Karuna Meditation & Yoga Center in Nakatani Village, between Kamala and Kalim beaches. For more information contact Chris. T: 087-8858622. E: info@meditate-Thailand.com.

## A cause for six courses

By Scott Phillips

Unlike most gala dinners at high-end hotels in Phuket, Mercure Patong's latest fine dining experience kicked off by discussing something other than the menu.

As the lights dimmed and the servers – one for every two guests – approached the tables to present the first course, the voice of a narrator introduced a video that summarized the cause of the dinner:

"Sadly, here in Thailand, whether in Bangkok, visiting the exotic North or relaxing by one of the beautiful beaches, you do not need to venture far to see poverty."

Living in Phuket, with all of its luxury distractions and natural beauty, that poverty easy to forget. So it is all the more appreciated when one of the largest hotel chains on the island uses their status and power for a cause far greater than fiscal profits.

It wasn't that the food wasn't going to be a highlight. On the contrary, Mercure – one of six hotels in Phuket owned by Accor Hotels – went above and beyond the average dining experience.

Under the quantitative catchphrase "quintuple sixes 4 one cause" the hotel attracted the eyes and stomachs of foodies with a one-off collaboration of each of Accor's properties.

The six Accor hotels each presented their head chef, each one preparing a course to be accompanied by a different wine. Live entertainment was also put on for each course.

The evening's goal was to raise 250,000 baht for the Yim Kids Foundation and for their upcoming event: Race to Survive. Yim Kids is an Accor charity throughout Thailand that donates 100% of its proceeds to children in dire need, such as those in Bangkok slum schools, abandoned children living with HIV, and those left without homes or families after the 2004 tsunami.

The Race to Survive is an international effort that challenges teams to raise US\$7,000 each for the right to take part in four days of swimming, mountain biking, kayaking, running, and camping at night. The event takes place on March 22 in Phuket and has drawn an international collection of teams.

In Phuket, the six Accor hotels have organized the team Fantastic Phuket, with General Manager of Novotel Phuket Resort Herve Duprat leading a team of four Accor employees ready to hit the terrain.

The gala dinner on February 25 was the event that team Fantastic Phuket needed to push past



Herve Duprat, General Manager of Novotel Phuket Resort, presents a check for charity of funds raised at the dinner.



the \$7,000 mark. Having successfully helped the team meet their goal, guests enjoyed a six-course meal that included lasagna of smoked salmon with zucchini, vol-au-vent of pearl chicken with Chiang Mai asparagus, and four other fine dishes, each accompanied by wines from France, Chile and Italy.

The live stage entertainment of six performances included the *Ram Thong Klong Thai* – a musical display of the historic golden Thai drums, and *Rabam Klaplong* – a Thai modern dance performance.

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Photos: Elizabeth Branca

# Patong pride party

By Elizabeth Branca

Lavishly costumed ladyboys, scantily clad pole dancers, and hundreds of proud partiers marched for several sea-front blocks in Patong last Thursday to Saturday to celebrate Phuket's Gay Pride Festival 2010.

Organized by GayPatong.com and the Connect Guesthouse in Paradise Complex, Patong, the event is touted as 'one of the best gay festivals in Asia.' Native gaysians and other local gay pride supporters have staged the parade event since 1999.

Not limited to Saturday evening's jubilant parade, gay pride was in full effect for four full days of events, which included a festival kick-off at 10pm on Thursday with the 'Power of Paradise' party at Soi Paradise Complex in Patong.



Merriment shifted into high gear at Friday's Gay Beach Volleyball Tournament on Patong Beach.

The weekend's queer honor festivities culminated with the festival's parade. Banners emblazoned with Phuket business logos showed support for their gay brethren, and were carried along the four-block loop, starting from Absolute Sea Pearl Resort Patong.

Flatbed trucks equipped with poles, balloons, dancers and giant sound systems pumped deep house and carried boys draped in rainbow flags through the streets at sunset.

Gay pride supporters, tourists, photographers and curiosity seekers lined the parade route to cheer on the rolling discos and foot parade.



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# Danish Royal tours Phuket's best

**H**is Royal Highness Prince Henrik, Consort of Denmark, paid an official visit to Phuket last month.

During his eleven-day stay on the island, Prince Henrik caught up with personal friends, Mom Tri's Boathouse Hotel's General Manager Louis Bronner and Mom Tri's Villa Royale Phuket Hotel General Manager Adisak Pitakrojananont.

Prince Henrik was in Phuket as part of a tour of Asia on a number of official visits, and was the personal guest of Mom Luang Tri Devakul, aka Mom Tri, while on the island.

The prince was given a royal welcome when he visited Bangkok Hospital Phuket, where he was met by Hospital Director Dr Kongkiat Kespechara and Assistant Hospital Director Dr Sompoch Nipakanont, who was recently appointed Honorary Consul of Sweden for Phuket.

Prince Henrik also visited the hospital's tsunami memorial and expressed his gratification.

"In Denmark, we all followed the news on television about the tsunami and the aftermath with so much concern. You



Mom Tri's Kitchen, at the Mom Tri's Villa Royal Phuket Hotel, hosted a dinner for His Royal Highness Prince Henrik, the Prince Consort of Denmark. Pictured from left: William Warrant, HRH Prince Henrik and Mom Luang Tri Devakul.

have done great work in coping and helping with the disaster. Not only I, also the Royal Family and my Danish compatriots, have the highest admiration for the unself-

ish actions of the Thai people.

"I would like to say we are very grateful for what you have done. Thank you!"

Prince Henrik is well known

as an environmentalist and for his love of marine life, as well as his numerous green initiatives.

He is also President of the Danish World Wild Life Fund, which is dedicated to environmental protection.

During his stay, Prince Henrik paid a visit to the Phuket Aquarium, which he started as a combined initiative with Her Majesty Queen Sirikit.

The Prince is known to eschew plastic bags and was shocked to learn from a display at the aquarium of the damage done to turtles by discarded plastic bags.

"HM Queen Sirikit and I wanted to combine our efforts to assist the sustainability of the marine environment – a cause close to our hearts.

"In the aquarium's early stages we focused on a turtle hatchery and the release project, as in those days, the turtle population was already in decline.

We thought Phuket would be an ideal place for such a project," Prince Henrik said.

To the delight of many Scandinavian tourists, Prince

Henrik could be seen dining at Mom Tri's Kitchen and Mom Tri's Boathouse restaurant.

Prince Henrik's affections for Phuket go back to the 70s, when he first visited the island.

During last month's trip, the Prince managed to take time from official engagements to visit the Big Buddah for the first time.

A grand barbeque party was organised at Villa Terra Cotta for the prince and his entourage, giving him the chance to meet Danish Ambassador HE Michael Sternberg and his wife Madame Sternberg.

A farewell cocktail party was held for Prince Henrik at the Boathouse on the last night of his stay, to which all Danish and Scandinavian guests staying at Mom Tri's Boathouse and Villa Royale were also invited.

After bidding farewell to his friends and hosts at Mom Tri's Boathouse, Prince Henrik left Phuket to continue his Asian tour, moving on to Indonesia to attend several official functions, before returning to his home in Copenhagen.

**"My Danish compatriots, have the highest admiration for the unselfish actions of the Thai people."**

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## EXPAT GALLERY

## Scott Duncanson

Scott Duncanson is the General Manager – Southern Operations for Property Care Services, a major provider of integrated security, facility management, pest control, janitorial and gardening services to many of Phuket's finest resorts, hospitals and villa projects.

He came to Phuket in 1999 as Operations Manager for Securicor, a high end security company with a fleet of armored cars for bank operations. He opened the company's first office at Canal Village and by the end of 2000 was providing security for all five of the resorts at Laguna Phuket.

Scott was born in Adelaide, Australia and spent his childhood racing yachts with his father. The family business, Duncanson Offshore Yachts, provided him with a direction for study. He completed a four year apprenticeship to become a shipwright and built his own 8 meter junior offshore group racing yacht.

"My dad and I started with a piece of paper and designed the sloop. We built it and achieved second place in the Victoria State Championships."

Scott went on to win the Junior Offshore Group international championship during the 1988 Australia Bicentennial, and the Australian National Championship the following year. In 1990, he was named

South Australian Yachtsman of the Year and nominated as Australian Sportsman of the Year.

Duncanson Offshore Yachts built the first computer program utilizing Auto CAD to control machines to cut components for boats.

In the early 1990s, the company expanded operations to Thailand. Scott moved to the eastern seaboard at Sattahip as the Thai Navy and Ital Thai offered contract work to build naval patrol boats and oil rig supply ships.

"Using AutoCAD, we computer modeled the vessels in 3D and programmed the machines to cut aluminum and steel components."

He spent the next three years working to establish the family business and meet contract demands.

He then joined the faculty at the Laem Chabang School of Engineering, a subsidiary of Melbourne's Swinburne University, to teach the use of Auto CAD and Auto CAMachining software. He held this position until 1998.

"One day I was called by Julian Haskard, GM of Securicor Thailand, who I had met when he was working in Hong Kong in security operations. We had supplied patrol boats to his regiment. He asked me to sail from Phuket to Langkawi. This turned into a three day interview."

Scott moved to Phuket to

head up operations for Securicor.

"I was ready for a new adventure and Phuket is hard to resist. The company offered a very professional international standard of security with its motto, *Global Expertise, Local Understanding*, and I looked forward to the challenge."

His new duties included training staff in bank support services, ATM replenishment, cash in transit, and providing security services to five-star resorts. His client list included Bangkok Bank, JW Marriott, Twin Palms, and Mom Tri's Boathouse, in addition to the Laguna Phuket properties. By 2005, he was supervising 360 staff.

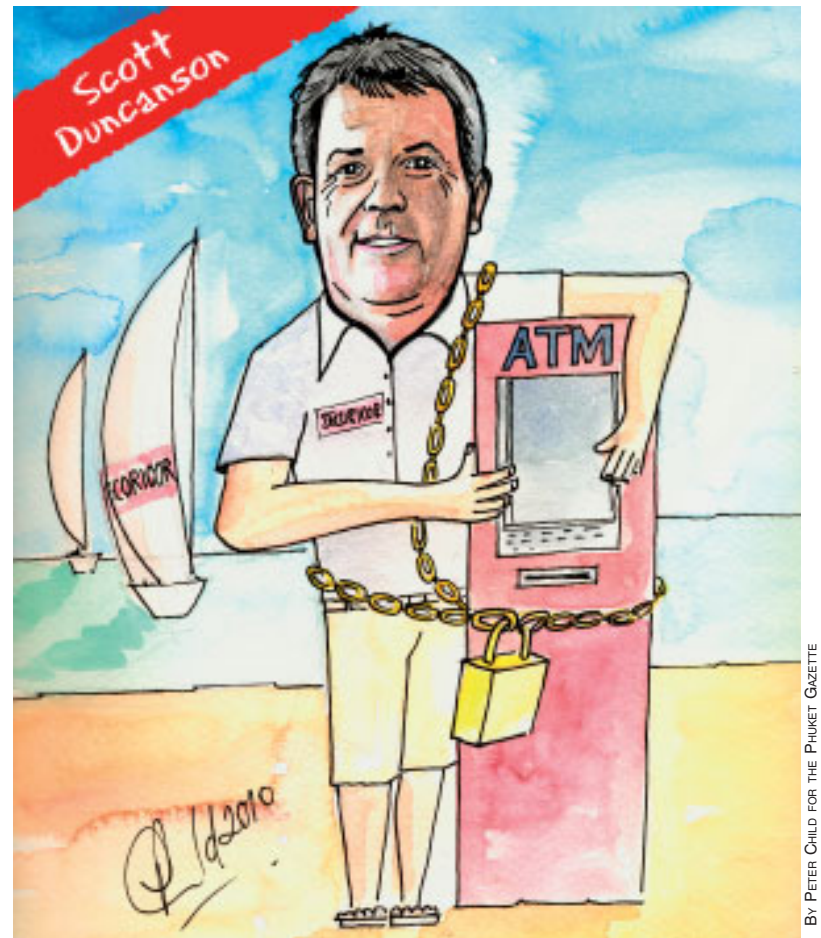
Scott returned to his love of sailing when he moved to Phuket. He was helmsman on the winning *Fine Pitch* in the 2000 King's Cup Regatta. In 2002, he designed a new class of boat, the Phuket Sports 8, with his father. It was then built by Mark Horwood of Latitude 8 and went on to win two more King's Cup regattas, in 2007 and 2008.

"The Phuket Sports 8 is quite demanding to sail. One requires the strength of a wrestler and the balance of a ballerina. Six of them have been built to date."

He has served on the Phangnga Bay Regatta Committee and as Commodore of the Ao Chalong Yacht Club.

Now he spends most of his time supervising his more than 800 staff working around the Andaman region to keep it clean and secure.

– 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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**GOOD MEDICINE:** Bangkok Phuket Hospital opened a new medical clinic near Muang Thong market circle in Wichit on February 18 with a ceremonial ribbon cutting. To better serve the local Wichit community the clinic is open every day from 7:30 to 8pm. Pictured are: Bangkok Hospital Southern Group CEO Dr Kongkiat Kespechara (right) and several of Bangkok Phuket Hospital's board members, nurses, doctors and other support staff.



**SEXY STRUT:** More than 200 guests were treated to a fashion show featuring international and Thai clothing on a red carpet catwalk in front of Skippers Bar & Restaurant on February 20. Pictured are: Infinity Communications & Consultant Managing Director and RPM fashion show organizer Chanut Nawnarong (left); Royal Phuket Marina Event Manager Murat Can Sakarya (second from right); owner of Skippers Bar & Restaurant David C Tyson (fourth from left) and models.



**GREEN TEAM:** Participants at the "Together Green" environmental seminar and workshop, sponsored by the US Embassy in Thailand, spent the day brushing up on eco-issues and received certificates of achievement. The event was held at Kan Eang@pier restaurant in Chalong on February 24. Pictured from left are: US Embassy of Thailand Public Diplomacy Officer, Media and Cultural Section, Rebecca Landis; Systainability Asia Bangkok, Thailand Director Robert Steele; Vice-President National Audubon Society Washington DC, USA Judy Braus; and Kan Eang@pier restaurant staff/seminar co-host Wallee Pachantabutr.



**YOUTH DAY EXALTED:** Fun was the day's priority when the JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa in Mai Khao hosted an activity day for the children and volunteers of Phuket Has Been Good To Us Foundation last month as part of the Marriott's 'Spirit to Serve Our Communities' program. In the morning, children participated in "Circus Art", an interactive reality circus, and in the afternoon, they visited the newly-opened Turtle Awareness Center, operated by the Mai Khao Foundation at Turtle Village.



**BEAUTY TRINITY:** Celebrating its grand opening on February 17, DC-one Med Spa Phuket hosted a 'forever young' themed party with a cocktail reception, fashion show and a prize drawing. The DC-one Med Spa complex houses Senses Beauty and Wellness Day Spa, Face2Face Skin and Aesthetic Center and DC one Dental Clinic Phuket. Pictured are: Senses Beauty and Wellness Day Spa President Khun Kathy Naranporn Namchoo (red dress) and DC one Med Spa CEO Khun Poo Poompong Patpongpanit (center).



**ARE WE HAVING FUN YET:** Phuket Vice Governor Teerayuth Eimtrakul presided over the ribbon-cutting ceremony of the Phuket Community Foundation's (PCF's) 4th Toy Library, located at Baan Bangkhun primary school in Koh Kaew. The February 26 event provided the school children with plenty of new toys and games to enjoy and share free of charge.




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Toog mak!





# On the menu

WITH  
Marc Mulloy

## Exploring the art of good living

When Evason talk about their Six Senses Resort and Spa, one may wonder what the sixth sense is, as according to most sources, we only have five.

In mid February, sitting in their sun-dappled herb garden in Rawai and sipping wonderful Italian wines with the winemaker himself, it could have been a Tuscany picnic in July. Artists painted, sculptors sculpted, cooks cooked and musicians mused.

As we awaited the beautifully prepared natural food, it sank in: the sixth sense is one of well being.

The ever innovative Evason had done it again, this time with a themed event dubbed 'Redefining Art', which was held over two days at the resort.

The combined talents of Livio Felluga wine maker Maurizio Felluga and Executive Chef Thomas Jakobi provided the gastronomical feast while local artists transformed the organic herb and vegetable garden into an open Art gallery, which was a feast for eyes, nose and ears – an experience that left the body feeling lighter and the heart fuller.



LEFT: Wine maker Maurizio Felluga and guests picnic in Evason's organic herb garden surrounded with artwork by local artists. ABOVE: Chef Thomas Jakobi tops off one of the many courses served over the two-day gastronomic adventure. BELOW: Artist Deng and the painting he created for the 'Redefining Art' event with Evason Sommelier Monica Bielka-Vescovi. Photography: D-ImagePlus



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Acqua is one of the most contemporary and chic restaurants in Phuket, with a high reputation for the freshness and quality of its ingredients and for the extensiveness of the wine list where all the top of the top wines find their places. Chef and owner, Alessandro will introduce you in a culinary experience, where authentic Italian specialty with a contemporary flair will make your experience unforgettable. Acqua can be booked for private lunches, dinners, parties-meetings.

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# Making Macs hard to hack



Mac users frequently brag about enjoying a higher level of security than their PC counterparts. Much of this is due to Apple's innovative security programs, but even the most secure systems require users to practice smart protective measures.

Don't Mac owners buy their computers so they can feel invincible? No one can invade their privacy and steal their identity because they chose the computer that is totally safe, right?

Wrong. As long as there are bad people in the world, your computer is never completely safe. The good news is that there are several security measures built right into Mac OS X to keep you protected.

The first and most important thing to remember is passwords. Use a good one!

Things like "password" and "12345678" are not strong passwords. The best protection comes from using a combination of upper and lowercase letters and numbers. Apple's operating system includes a password assistant that tells you how good your password is.

There is one important

password that most people don't know about or set: the firmware password. It makes sure that anyone who doesn't know the password can't boot your Mac from any disc other than the startup

disc. In other words, if someone steals your computer, they won't be able to boot from and install DVD (basically reinstall the operating system to make your computer their own) without the

password, rendering your stolen Mac a big paperweight for the thief. Serves them right! A word of caution here: if you forget it, you can't reset it and there is no hint to help you remember.

Each computer should only have one administrator. There are many things an 'admin' account can do that others can't; like install and uninstall applications, adjust system preferences, and create new users.

When the same Mac has multiple users, each user should have a standard account or an account with limited access, such as parental controls for children. People who will only use your Mac once should login using the guest account. When they log out, the guest account will delete the contents of its home folder.

As the admin user, you should also disable automatic login. Entering your password each time really helps keep your computer secure.

The 'keychain' is a great example of Apple's software engineering. It lets the computer store your passwords all in one place, so you don't have to memorize them all. However, if you leave your Mac for a moment while it is still booted up, anyone can come by and access your keychain.

To prevent this, you can adjust your settings so that your Mac goes to sleep whenever you walk away, so that a password is required when you come back. You can also adjust the keychain

access settings so that the keychain locks after a given time or whenever the computer goes to sleep. I prefer the second one. Until a password is entered, nobody can access your IM client, checking your credit cards or email. It even stops applications that use passwords from getting new data.

Another feature that is built into Mac OSX is called "sandboxing". It takes applications you have downloaded and isolates them from your other files and applications. It won't let these new applications access files or folders other than its own until you say it is OK. This is particularly helpful the first time you open an application downloaded from the web.

Virus protection is a very sensitive issue for Mac users. Most don't use virus protection because they think they don't need it. This is true for the most part, but compared to Windows PCs, only a fraction of the malware out there targets Macs. However, it only takes one virus to cause severe damage.

Better safe than sorry.

The most popular anti-virus software for Mac is from [www.intego.com](http://www.intego.com). Dual protection is available for those of you using Windows and OS X on the same Mac.

Last but not least (and this might sound like a no-brainer), the best way to protect your Mac is to not leave it lying around.

If you have it with you, nobody can use it, take it, or try to hack into it.

In my next column, I'll introduce some of the software that makes Apples so popular; specifically, how to use iPhoto to organize and edit your pictures.

Shane is the COO of Elite Asia and can be contacted via [www.eliteasia.org](http://www.eliteasia.org) or [info@eliteasia.org](mailto:info@eliteasia.org)

## St. Patrick's Ball 2010 (LHP benefit) at

### JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa on Saturday, March 27th, 2010

Event tickets 3,000 baht each or a table of 10 for 30,000 baht to include pre-dinner cocktails and free-flow wine, beer at dinner

Dress Code : National Costume / Black Tie  
Welcome Cocktails 18.30 - 19.30 Dinner 20.00



For more information and tickets please contact: Life Home Project - Daoroong (Joojee) 076-614060 or 081-397 9809 ([joojee88@yahoo.com](mailto:joojee88@yahoo.com)) or Khun Nid, Or and Nee 086-948 1580





## EVENTS CALENDAR

## Upcoming events on the island

## Phuket International Women's Club monthly lunch – March 18



The March PIWC lunch will be held at Le Meridien Phuket Beach resort and will be preceded by the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Only fully paid-up members may vote but all are welcome. Lunch is 450 baht for members and 600 baht for non-members. The AGM starts at 10am, lunch is from 11:30am to 2pm at Le Meridien Phuket Beach Resort. For further information contact Sue Arnulphy.

T: 076-200730, 087-2776948.  
E: info@phuketiwc.com  
W: phuketiwc.com

## March 19. Red &amp; White Party at Royal Phuket Marina

Be a red devil or be a white angel! Guests are invited to enjoy a hot night with highly acclaimed DJ Tank from Club Lime, playing all his trademark beats. A sensual belly dance will be performed by the amazing Malika Sexy Angels, Devil Dancers and much more. Entrance: 250 baht with one free beer or one glass of wine. Dress code: Sexy red or virgin white. From 8:30pm to 11:30pm at At the Grasslands, Royal Phuket Marina's new open-air pier-side venue. For further information contact Murat Can Sakarya. T: 081-797 3364. E: muratc@royalphuketmarina.com. W: royalphuketmarina.com.

## March 20-21. Sea Turtle Charity Event at Aleenta

Aleenta is proud to announce its third sea turtle charity event. Over the past four years, Aleenta has raised more than one million baht in support of the sea turtle sanctuary of the Phang Nga Coastal Fisheries Research and Development Center in Thai Muang. This year, Aleenta is again aiming to raise 500,000 baht to support valuable research. Everyone is invited for a fun-filled weekend for the entire family! All proceeds of the event go to Aleenta's turtle fund. From 12pm to 3pm at Aleenta Resort & Spa Phuket - Phang Nga. For further information contact Andreas. T: 085-4891301. E: rmphuket@aleenta.com W: aleenta.com/phuket.

## March 20. Charity Jazz Dinner Concert at The Adamas Resort &amp; Spa

Join the first of two Charity Jazz Dinner Concerts in Phuket with the famous Stockholm City Jazz Orchestra and Deri Rowlands from Sweden. All donations will go to the following three schools on islands off Phuket: Koh Loan School, Ban Koh Naka School and Koh Mapraow School. Funds raised will be used to buy computer equipment and other learning materials. Tickets for this first concert, at The Adamas Resort & Spa, Nai Yang Beach, are 1,600 baht and are inclusive of cocktails and gala dinner. 200 seats are available. Tickets go on sale on March 1 at The Adamas Resort & Spa; SF Cinema at

Jungceylon in Patong (076-600555); and SF Cinema, Central Festival (076-209000). From 6:30pm to 10pm. For more information contact Claude J Scheffer. T: 076-316000. E: claudes.s@adamasresortspa.com. W: adamasresortspa.com.

## March 24-26. International Baccalaureate Art Exhibition 2010

Come to the Grand Opening of an exhibition of students' art on March 23, 4:30pm, at BIS. For further information, contact the BIS Marketing Department. T: 076-238711. E: usarap@bisphuket.ac.th W: bisphuket.ac.th.

## March 27. Saint Patrick's Day Ball at JW Marriott Resort and Spa

Bringing in a bit of the celtic festivities from around the world, JW Marriott presents the first St Patrick's Ball Phuket has ever seen. This event is about all things Irish, including the best of food, beer and the 'craic'. The Life Home Project is proud to be the beneficiary of this event. Tickets are 3,000 baht and include free-flow wine and beer at dinner. The night will be sparkled with live and silent auctions along with many raffles. Join us for an evening of sophistication, fun and dancing till dawn. From 6:30pm to 2am. For further information contact Nid. T: 086-984 1580. E: joojee88@yahoo.com.

## March 27. Charity Jazz Dinner Concert at The Metropole Hotel in Phuket Town

Join the second Charity Jazz Dinner Concert in Phuket with the famous Stockholm City Jazz Orchestra and Deri Rowlands from Sweden. Donations will go to three schools on islands off Phuket (see March 20 listing). The March 27 concert will be at The Metropole Hotel in Phuket Town. Tickets are 1,200 baht per person, inclusive of cocktail and gala dinner. Tickets are available from March 1 at The

Metropole Hotel (076-214-020/9); SF Cinema at Jungceylon Patong (076-600555); and SF Cinema, Central Festival (076-209000). From 6:30pm to 10pm. For further information contact Khun Patitta. T: 086-682 7118. E: patitta@metropolephuket.com. W: metropolephuket.com.

## April 2-8. Day-Night and Day art gallery at Royal Phuket Marina

Day-Night and Day will feature the works of renowned artist Nguyen Tan Cuong on mixed media canvas. The theme of time in 'Day-Night and Day' contains several moments that continuously run around and mingle, opposing the contradicting aspects of the flow of time. The artist has participated in art exhibitions throughout the world. The exhibition runs from 11am to 7pm on weekdays and from 12pm to 6pm on Sunday. At D Gallery, Royal Phuket Marina. For further information contact Watinee (Ann) Kaewket. T: 076-360867. E: info@dgallery.co.th. W: www.dgallery.co.th.

## Free Computer Clinics

Have a computer problem? Frustrated with your Internet connection? Join "For Dummies" author and Windows victim Woody Leonhard at one of his FREE weekly Computer Clinics, held every Sunday morning at Woody's Sandwich Shoppes in Chalong, Patong and Laguna. All clinics are from 10am-12pm.

March 7 – Patong, March 14 – Laguna, March 21 & 28 – Chalong. For more info contact Woody. T: 076-290468. E: woody@KhunWoody.com.

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# Economic stumble may sanction stimulus



## 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: 076-381997 Mobile: 081-0814611. Email: imm@loxinfo.co.th www.global-portfolios.com

America's central bank, the US Federal Reserve, decided in late February to raise its discount rate to 0.75%.

At first glance, this may not appear to be a significant move, but it is the *first* change in interest rates.

Naturally, the discount rate is not of great importance as it simply reflects the rate that banks requiring central bank assistance can borrow money.

The trend is important, as it is the first indication that the Federal Reserve is seeing those first, elusive shoots of recovery for the US economy.

However, most analysts believe an increase in the key Federal Funds Rate is many months away.

The financial crisis spread its tentacles into many areas of the US economy, so economic recovery this time is likely to be different from other recessions, but with the simulative effect of all these Federal packages still helping the economy, it is still very difficult to assess how the economy will react without them.

Assuming the worst: that the US economy will stumble later this year towards a 'double dip', more stimulus will be added.

Basically, it will be a matter of having to rescue the economy, regardless of cost.

Any concerns that this will lead to a more indebted America



The US Federal Reserve Board Chairman Ben Bernanke prepares to testify at a House Financial Services Committee hearing on February 24, 2010, at the Rayburn House Office building on Capitol Hill in Washington DC. Most analysts believe that an increase in the key Federal Funds Rate is many months away. Photo: AFP / Saul Loeb.

will have to take a back seat.

Most economists agree that the US is not yet in a debt trap; the level of government debt is presently high, but assuming that government spending will fall as a percentage of the Gross Domestic Product in the future, the US economy's position will be sustainable.

However, the future political will to run a sustainable economy is still of great concern as claims for social security, health care and many other issues continue to rise.

Unemployment in the US has fallen slightly but it is likely to be a lagging indicator going forward. The aftermath of the recession in 2001 showed that unemployment takes time to fall. That recession was a very mild compared to the latest.

The nature of employment this time around promises to be very different; before, many of the jobs created were in

construction and the real estate sector. It is very unlikely that these areas will lead the way in this recovery.

The latest report from the (US) National Association for Business Economics (NABE) is optimistic: stating that they see a 'healthy expansion underway'.

What does come as a pleasant surprise is their positive outlook for the housing market: home prices are expected to rise 1.6% in 2010 and 2.6% in 2011.

Rising home prices may be muted but they are going in the right direction.

Another big surprise is the NABE's outlook for the stock market. They expect the key index – the S&P 500 – to rise 23% by the end of 2011.

More than half of US households hold part of their savings in the stockmarket, so a rise of this magnitude will make many people feel a lot happier.

The NABE report identified

their greatest concern as being the size of the Federal debt.

One area that is at last achieving some attention is credit cards. President Obama has announced that a new law is to be introduced to ensure that all

**“A big surprise is the NABE's outlook for the stock market. They expect the key index – the S&P 500 – to rise 23% by the end of 2011.”**

applicants for credit cards under the age of 21 will need to be co-signed, and that credit cards may not have an interest rate increase applied in the first year.

This has been a serious problem in the US, as well as other countries, with young people being supplied with a deluge of credit cards.

It is common for young people to find themselves in debt, and often from avoidable expenses.

Naturally, should the US economy return to a sustained growth path, interest rates will have to rise.

Investors should note that stockmarkets do not like interest rate increases, especially when

they become a regular event.

The opposite side of that coin is that stockmarkets would become even more concerned if there was an absence of interest rate rises in the face of economic growth.

That would mean the inflation genie was being let out of the bottle.

A recovery with rising interest rates is called, in stockmarket terms, “climbing a wall of worry” but this is a natural phenomena and very different from panic in markets.

According to the current consensus the US consumer is still going to only have a weak tone in demand.

Should that prove to be the case then the possible Fed Fund rate increases will be postponed.

Fed Chairman Bernanke is an ex-economics professor at Princeton University and he is acknowledged as an “expert” on the causes of the Great Depression in the 1930s and into the 1940s.

One of the lessons is don't raise interest rates or drain liquidity until an economic recovery is definitely underway.

The US consumer may be weak but they are also deleveraging; in other words, paying off debt and that was the cause of the crisis in the first place.

Assuming that the US recovery is on track, this is very good news for the global economy.

The US may account for an ever reducing percentage of the world economy but it is still the largest individual economy by a very long way.



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# PUZZLES

## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID  
OUELLET

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

BLOOD THINNERS

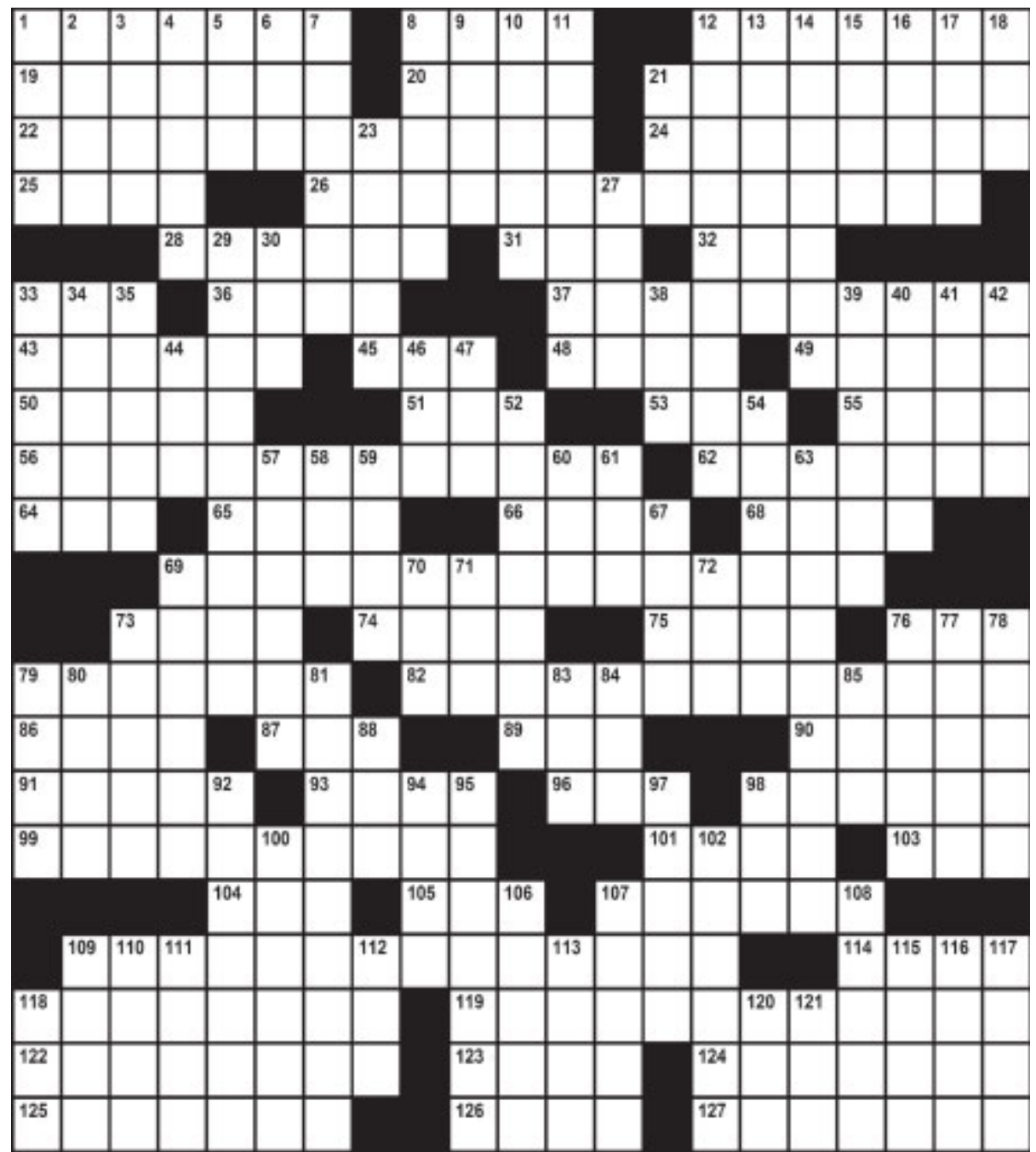
Solution: 8 letters

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

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9/18

Aggrenox, Aspirin, Biology, Bleed, Bruise, Cardiovascular, Cell, Chemical, Clot, Coumadin, Count, Dicumarol, Doctor, Dose, Drug, Emboli, Generic, Health, Heart, Heparin, Herbal, Inject, Life, Lovenox, Lung, Natural, Onion, Oral, Pharmaceutical, Pill, Platelet, Plavix, Pressure, Stroke, Surgeon, Surgery, Test, Thrombosis, Vein, Vitamin



## ACROSS

- 1 "Blonde Venus" actress Dietrich  
8 Where to grip a baseball  
12 Peacock's pride  
19 Alarm function  
20 "Young Frankenstein" heroine  
21 Words before "later"  
22 Brush-off  
24 Sounds from a tug  
25 Reason for giving a darn?  
26 Things scattered at intervals among other things  
28 Condition of equilibrium  
31 "Isn't \_\_\_ Lovely" (1976 Stevie Wonder hit)  
32 Thirteenth Hebrew letter  
33 Seamstress' sticker  
36 Black and white cookie  
37 Brinks vehicle  
43 Embellishes  
45 Count sheep, but not many  
48 Hawaiian party  
49 One of the Ephrons  
50 Easily-wrinkled fabric  
51 Satirical magazine since 1952  
53 "And the list goes on" (Abbr.)  
55 "\_\_\_ you be my neighbor?" (Mister Rogers)  
56 Major avenue in Paris  
62 Regular customer  
64 Brick carrier  
65 Alley Oop's girlfriend  
66 Oom-\_\_\_ (tuba sounds)  
68 They're cut into wedges  
69 Prepares to leave  
73 Lighthearted diversion  
74 Improve, as one's

- acting skills  
75 \_\_\_-ho (enthusiastic)  
76 "Give \_\_\_ break!"  
79 Put out again, as a book  
82 Genre of art and literature  
86 "It's \_\_\_ ever dreamed of"  
87 Tissue layer  
89 \_\_\_ Tome and Principe  
90 "\_\_\_ a stinker?" (Bugs Bunny line)  
91 Admiral's command  
93 "\_\_\_ good cheer"  
96 1040 scrutinizer  
98 Organ near the stomach  
99 Pottery material  
101 Accomplishes, Biblical-style  
103 "... in excelsis \_\_\_"  
104 Work the oars  
105 "Treasure Island" author's initials  
107 Bono and Corleone  
109 1998 Eddie Murphy remake  
114 Mgr.'s right-hand man  
118 Head of an arthropod  
119 "Leave me alone!"  
122 Type of motive  
123 Numeros \_\_\_ (top dogs)  
124 No-nonsense threat  
125 Begin to flourish  
126 Some puppy patter  
127 Fresh quality

## DOWN

- 1 Airplane speed indicator  
2 "Buck" add-on  
3 50 pennies, conveniently  
4 Some downers, for short  
5 Unfinished dollar sign  
6 Opposite of "yeah"  
7 Fictional Plaza Hotel girl  
8 River bank

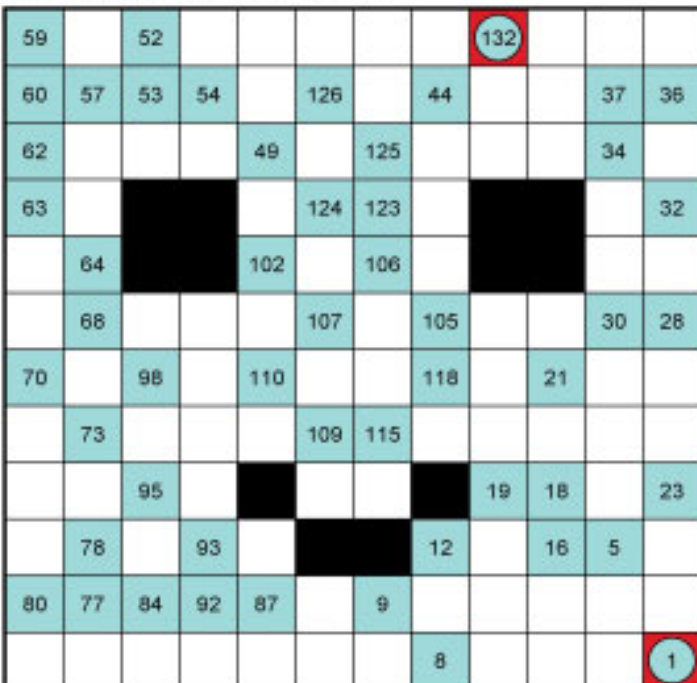
- deposits  
9 "The Neverending Story" author Michael  
10 Golden \_\_\_ (senior citizens)  
11 Dillon's job  
12 Complain about one's lack of money  
13 Less tense  
14 Like open-ended tests  
15 "Allow \_\_\_ introduce myself"  
16 Elvis \_\_\_ Presley  
17 Baby words or foods  
18 It makes Rob formal?  
21 \_\_\_-Foy, Quebec  
23 \_\_\_ Jack (British flag)  
27 Pizarro  
29 Orchestrated compositions based on folk tales  
30 "\_\_\_ gratia artis" (MGM motto)  
33 Make very thirsty  
34 British Columbia neighbor  
35 Wanderer without roots  
38 "Goodness Had Nothing to Do With It" autobiographer West  
39 More moist, as morning grass  
40 Thickens, as cream  
41 Aboriginal Japanese  
42 \$25 per hour, e.g. \_\_\_ shot (drummer's quickie)  
44 "The Joy Luck Club" novelist Tan  
47 Ballerina's step  
52 Push, as a button  
54 Scarface Al  
57 Get all sudsy  
58 Antiquity, antiques  
59 Eyelid unit  
60 "Dog \_\_\_ Dog"  
61 "Don't make a sound"  
63 Account of a

- person's life  
67 Lily of the West  
69 Socks maker  
70 Dandy dresser  
71 Yoko born in Tokyo  
72 Bad firecracker  
73 Agitator  
76 Extracted with picks  
77 First name in beauty products  
78 An acid  
79 Makeshift river conveyance  
80 Swimsuit model  
81 Adequate maneuvering space  
83 "Hollywood Squares" square  
84 Clean the kitchen floor  
85 It's nothing, really  
88 "Are we there \_\_\_?"  
92 Genghis Khan followers  
94 Spanish alternative  
95 Scapegoat  
97 First name evoked in "The Producers"  
98 Penn, e.g., in N.Y.C.  
100 "Gangsta's Paradise"  
102 Grammy winner  
102 Five-dollar bill, slangily  
106 Historic rival of Florence  
107 On the glacial side  
108 College football coach Nick  
109 Wooded hollow  
110 Prefix meaning "vision"  
111 Fidel's pal et al.  
112 "Hands off" in the ER  
113 Sporty car roof option  
115 With all one's marbles  
116 Anat. and chem.  
117 B'way booth in Times Square  
118 A little grizzly  
120 Emma Bovary's title (Abbr.)  
121 Wood for archers' bows

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



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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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rebn92****cry      pain****Get your brain in gear with the  
MONSTER QUITZ**

- On a sailing ship which crew member doubled as the vessel's doctor?
- On a climate map an isoneph indicates equal distance between what?
- Bumper Harris had what famous job on the London underground?
- In the novel *Ivanhoe*, what is the name of Ivanhoe's wife?
- The lent lilly is more commonly known by what name?
- What is your profession if you are a coryphee?
- What is the longest river in France?
- Whose last words were, "Clito I owe a cock to Asclepius. Will you remember to pay the debt"?
- The German word 'Panzer' translates to what in English?
- In which month is Munich's beer festival held?
- What was the name of Norse God Thor's hammer?
- In the Bible, who ordered the execution of John the Baptist?
- Before Micky Mouse, what was Walt Disney's first cartoon character?
- What medication did Alexander Flemming discovered in 1928?
- Who wrote the 1924 novel *Beau Geste*?
- Which island is called *Rapa-nui* by its natives?
- In the novel *The Arabian Nights*, what was Aladdin's father's name?
- Which US state is called the 'Badger' state?
- Why was Fred Lorz disqualified from a 1904 Olympic marathon?
- In China, what color does the bride wear in a traditional wedding?

Answers below



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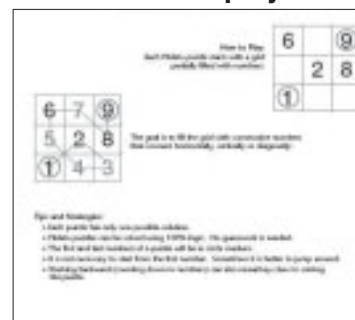
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Bacon & Gammon • Cooked Meats • Imported Groceries  
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Solutions****Wonderword Solution: Battleship****Solution to this week's crossword:**

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

**Monster  
Quiz  
Answers**

- Cook
- Cloud cover
- New escalator rider
- Rowena
- Daffodil
- Ballet dancer
- Socrates
- Armour
- Loire
- October
- Mjolnir
- King Herod
- Oswald the Rabbit
- Penicillin
- P C Wren
- Easter Island
- Mustapha the tailor
- Wisconsin
- He hitched a lift on a passing car
- Red

**Hidato: How to play****WHATZIT?  
solutions**

- A dark horse
- Return to sender
- Cry out in pain

**Hidato Puzzle Solution**

5/3

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

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# The Nerdwell plan for plastic

My friend Fardley Nerdwell approves this idea for Thailand and envisions the following scenario, which I present in his own words:

"Because of environmental concerns, we must limit the production of plastic bags and make people pay for them. A plastic bag should be a treasure to be cherished and used forever.

"In the future, people will purchase one plastic bag for their shopping and try to make it last as long as possible. Each bag will be stamped with the date of purchase. Prizes will be awarded annually to the shopper who can produce the oldest bag. In 2030, the prize for Environmental Hero(ine) of the Decade will be awarded to Mrs Emma Bollocks, age 95, who possesses a grungy and tattered plastic bag purchased in 2011.

"Slogans will be imprinted upon plastic bags to encourage green thinking: 'Go green, dude!' 'I'm keen on green!' 'One shopper, one bag!' 'I'm greener than you!' 'Don't be a bag wastrel!'

An entire lexicon of insults will malign profligates who use more than one bag: bag hog, bag thug, bag perp. For women, bag hag.

"The plastic bag will become a fashion icon. Women will vie to see who can carry the most trendy bag, imprinted with the faces of fashion models and advertisements for Armani, Gucci, and St.-Laurent. Men will flaunt macho bags imprinted with automatic weapons, helicopter gunships, Stealth bombers, and photos of Sylvester Stallone and Arnold Schwarzenegger arm wrestling.

"Women will carry their plastic bags in their handbags, men in their pockets. But to stimulate the interest of male shoppers, women will be permitted – nay, encouraged – to carry their bags under their bras. To preserve the pleasing symmetry with which bras (and their contents!) have always been associated, women will be granted a concession. They'll be allowed to carry two bags – one under each cup.

"Male shoppers will surely

be keen to follow the procedure whenever a woman artfully disengages a plastic bag from beneath her bra.

"For the sake of sexual equality, men will be encouraged to carry their bag in their crotch. Bored check-out girls will quickly snap to attention whenever a handsome male shopper steps up to the cash register, unzips his fly, and pulls out... a plastic bag.

"Alas, some deviant shoppers, desirous of arousing the prurient interest of the opposite sex, may be tempted to cheat. Some women may stuff two or three bags under each cup, so as to enhance their supposed endowments. For the same purpose, some shameless men may stuff three or four bags in their crotch.

"To thwart such criminal designs, environmental police, colloquially dubbed bag cops, will be deployed at all shopping malls to make random checks of suspicious-looking bras and crotches. Shoppers guilty of carrying multiple bags, a felony known as polybaggy, will receive a stern

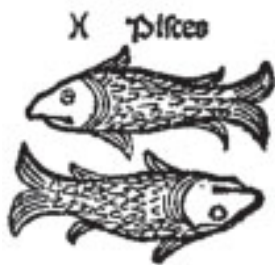
warning for the first offense and a severe scolding for the second. For the third offense, guilty polybaggyists will be hustled out to the parking lot, tied to whipping posts, and publicly flogged.

"People will use their bags for so long that they'll become as fond of them as they are of a beloved pet. Men will give their bags affectionate names like Baggy, Bagger, and Bagdude.

"Women will give their names like Baggette, Bagella, and Baggine. The aforementioned Mrs Emma Bollocks, upon receiving her award, will gush, 'I love my old bag so much I've given her a name. I call her Bagatelle.' Her husband, Mr Jeremy Bollocks, 97, will josh, 'I love my old bag too. I call her Emma.' Subsequently, Mr Bollocks' newly fractured skull will be attributed to natural causes."

S. Tsow can be flamed at s.tsow@gmail.com, except when he's busy removing his 18 plastic bags from his crotch.

## Horoscopes



**PISCES** (February 20-March 20): Pisceans wanting to leave a gray area behind will need to take the bull by the horns this week. Your typical reluctance to force issues needs to be addressed – Tuesday is the most auspicious day for important discussions. The stars will also support your efforts to put a romantic relationship on a more permanent footing. Those with a birthday in the week ahead can look forward to a year of more positive thinking.



**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): An air sign is poised to take you under their wing and this should enable Arians to make faster progress at work during March. Promotion is highlighted to give you more scope for growth, but financial gain may not be as much as you would like. The stars predict that showing what you are capable of before making demands is the way forward. The number three can be lucky this weekend.



**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): Many Taureans will be as content as a buffalo basking in mud this week. Good

news regarding a family member who has been causing you concern is forecast to arrive, and there are signs that a trip overseas will be more pleasurable than you thought. Romance is also predicted to become less problematic as March gets underway. However, you should avoid taking a new relationship too seriously until you know the person concerned better.



**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): The second week of March should be smoother sailing for most Geminis, but there is chance of delays concerning business. You should set reasonable deadlines and not automatically expect others to see things from your point of view. Where affairs of the heart are concerned, Capricorn wants to shower you with affection, but this could come with a price. Spending quality time with family this weekend will be much appreciated.



**CANCER** (June 22-July 23): Cancerians could be palmed off with less than they deserve this week. Your willingness to accept the first offer made may result in you losing out on a valuable work opportunity. The stars suggest that your self-confidence will be stronger after the middle of the month, so delay any acceptance until then. Love with Aries is well-starred, but a recent hook-up with Sagittarius will not bring the happiness you seek, so exercise caution.



**LEO** (July 24-August 22): Working with other fire signs gives Leos the right motivation to succeed. Your ideas will be well received, particularly concerning a project involving property. Take care that a well-meant gesture doesn't backfire on you this weekend – a friend who is in the middle of a dispute should be allowed to figure out the answer on their own. Monday is a hot day for romance and the number eight can be lucky next Tuesday.



**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23): Virgoans wanting to get out of a tight corner should ensure that their excuses are watertight. Your sudden reluctance to keep a promise this week could cause a break in a friendship. Those who can keep their feet on the ground will be taken seriously at work – if your head is in the clouds, expect to lose out on promotion possibilities. Your partner's ideas for a short getaway may take some getting used to.



**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23): Allow yourself the luxury of some extra time off this week, even if this is only a long weekend. The stars indicate that many Librans have been pushing themselves to the limit recently and recharging batteries should be priority. In the realm of romance, an Arian's romantic interest is forecast to be a flash in the pan, but you could be more interested in flirting with an earth sign.



**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22): Your luck with finances starts to increase, with the middle of March bringing golden investment opportunities. Those born under the sign of Scorpio who are considering relocation should ask Pisces for useful tips. If you are content in your current domestic situation, redecoration could help to sweep away negative energy. Incorporate the colors burgundy and cream to promote a creative environment. Sunday is a lucky day for new romance.



**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): Sagittarians who are snowed under with work commitments this week may find that a water sign can provide support. Your social life will also be demanding, but there is emphasis on finding new ways to let off steam during March. Romance is well-starred and those who are single will find out that someone they would like to see more of feels the same way. The number five can be lucky on Tuesday.



**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20): Capricorns could be dismayed to discover that their words were misinterpreted. This situation should be put right before a tangled web is woven. Monday is the best day to tell your side of the story. Romance is forecast to brighten an otherwise dull week – someone born under a water

sign could take you by surprise this weekend. Those already in a relationship will be pleased when their partner makes an unexpected gesture.



**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19): Your grasp of reality becomes firmer during this week. Aquarians should be able to seize a moment of opportunity when an earth sign lets them into a business related secret on Tuesday or Wednesday. Where romance is concerned, there are signs that an introduction at the start of the year could lead to a meeting of the minds. Personal finances improve when you decide to backpedal on an expensive hobby.

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**The Phuket Gazette**

- Since 1994 -

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## What's taking so long?

Thailand has a long history of public works projects that are fully completed and ready to serve the people, but then stand idle while the various forces involved squabble over division of the associated spoils.

Here in Phuket, we have two important projects that fall into this category, even though authorities in both cases had plenty of time to settle the issues that now prevent these facilities from opening.

The first of these is the new Phuket Provincial Bus Terminal on Thepkasattri Rd southbound in Rassada [See news pages.]

Completion of the terminal, built at a cost of 128 million baht, was a milestone given the amount of time it took to become a reality.

The Phuket Land Transport Office had been aware for well over a decade that having scores of large inter-provincial buses lumbering through the narrow streets of Phuket Town to reach the old station was untenable, especially given ever-worsening traffic congestion in the town center.

When the station was finally completed and handed over to the Land Transport Department on December 4 last year, there was little of the pomp-and-circumstance that usually surrounds such an event.

Now, three months later, the facility remains deserted and neither Rassada Municipality nor the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (PPAO) are interested in operating it.

This strikes the *Gazette* as unusual. Such facilities – and the right to administer the many concessions that go along with them – are generally the types of projects local administrative bodies love to sink their teeth into.

But the powers-that-be in Rassada Municipality say they are 'not yet ready' to take over administration of the moribund station.

Even worse, the PPAO, which has shown real commitment to improving public transport with its 'pink bus' service in Phuket Town, is also reportedly not interested. As a result, it now appears Phuket will have to wait three more months, at the least, before the Land Transport Department opens the station under its own administration.

Even harder to explain is the situation on Ranong Road where the 167-million-baht Fresh Market that was completed early last year has been sitting idle for more than a year now.

Phuket City Municipality said throughout 2009 that they wanted to wait until 'everything was in order' before opening, but surely a year should be more than enough time to broker a solution to whatever impasse lies between the municipality and the vendors.

With such large amounts of taxpayers' money involved, the public deserves better performance from its elected officials.

– The Editor

**The Phuket Gazette**

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

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## Letters

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

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

### Plea for the positive

It would be nice to see more stories like this [*Gazette online*, Phuket leukemia patient gets royal treatment, Feb 23]. I know stories about jet-skis, tuk-tuks and murders generate a lot of interest and reaction, but when I look at the ratio between the positive and the negative, I see quite an imbalance.

Too many people concentrate on the bad things. I no longer read the papers from my own country because they have become like tabloids. They sensationalize too much or go on and on with a story until it's beaten into the ground.

Perhaps you should run stories about HM The King, his life and how the people love him. A local monk who has devoted his life to helping others? The people who care for those dying from HIV/Aids or their orphans?

What about how people travel here for surgery or dental work because of the quality of the doctors and hospitals?

How about the food? Ask people to comment on their favorite restaurant or beach and what they like best about it. Or how good food can be found on push carts.

What about polls on favorite foods or beaches? About different pubs or beer bars and their owners? I have always found local boat builders and artisans interesting.

I love Phuket, the Thais and the positives that bring me here, but I know some people will find negatives with everything. These are only suggestions. I would be interested in your opinion.

**Randy Hodge  
Kata**

### What not to wear

*Re: Readers' Poll: Phuket economy after Court ruling [Gazette online, Feb 28]*

My biggest problem with this whole mess is that my closet is full of red and yellow shirts, bought before this stuff started. Now I cannot wear any of them, because someone will misinterpret my political feelings, which are perfectly neutral.

This is a Thai problem and must be solved by them.

**John  
Phuket**

### The Swedish solution

Why not let the victims of road accidents give lectures in schools? They should be honest about what happened and the consequences: 'I was driving drunk'; 'I didn't have any insurance'; 'I was arguing with a friend'; 'I drove too fast when it was raining', and so on. People can't just blame others for accidents.

At many schools in Sweden, victims teach classes for young people. Many driving schools have their students visit accident victims to see the consequences of bad driving. This can have a real effect on young people.

We have the lowest road death toll in Europe.

**Birgitta  
Phuket**

### Road worries

I was happy to read your editorial on road accidents [*Phuket Gazette*, Feb 27]. There are so many bad drivers on the Phuket roads that I feel my life is

in danger. How can we stop stupid motorbike drivers who drive irresponsibly and without consideration for other road users?

Thanks for trying to do something, because we can't go out on the roads anymore. There are too many killings.

**Chanisara Radomwong  
Phuket**

### My Phuket wish list

The tourism image of Phuket should above all remain Thai, not Western. Visitors should return home with only the best memories and rave reviews.

Traditional-style tuk-tuks are an attraction, not little red trucks. Beachfront planters should spill with Thai flowers. Perhaps there could be elephants on the beach for photo opportunities.

Street food vendor carts should be immaculate, as should the staff. Sewers should be flushed or covered to get rid of offensive smells. Shop frontage and the pavements should be cleaned with more than a dirty mop and broom.

All visitors should return home and rave about how clean, hygienic and well-maintained Patong and Phuket are. Positive word-of-mouth will pay off better than any advertising campaign.

Cleanliness, fresh paint, plants and good maintenance set a positive image of what Thailand is, if you want visitors to return and bring their friends. It's easy and costs very little if everyone takes part.

Put Phuket on top of the tourist destinations: start with the basics.

**Tim Devlin  
Toronto**

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).



# Patong's new top cop speaks



## FIRST PERSON

New Kathu Police Superintendent Arayapan Pukbuakao knows his current assignment will not be an easy one. The 49-year-old native of Samut Sakhon will have to call on all his 24 years of experience to maintain law and order in Patong. After serving 17 years in Chumphon and five in Ranong, Col Arayapan was transferred to Phuket two years ago. He last served as superintendent of Tung Tong Police, located just over the hill in Kathu. He took up his new post in Patong on February 16. Here he speaks with the *Gazette's* Kitima Pornmongkhonwat about the challenges he faces.

I never expected to become a policeman, but my personal circumstances at the time led me into this career – even though it wasn't really what I wanted to do. So I made a promise to myself from the beginning that I would never be boastful or take advantage of other people, qualities of bad police officers that I have never liked.

I was among many senior officers who wanted the position of Kathu Police Superintendent, so I put in a request for it two years ago. I was very surprised to learn that I had been selected, because I never really expected to get it. It has helped me to realize that if you work hard every day, your efforts will eventually be rewarded.

I think the position of Kathu Police Superintendent is a very challenging one, as Patong is one of the largest tourist destinations in Thailand and there are so many problems here to fix. I also know that if I don't do a good job here I won't hold the position for long; that's why I intend to do my very best. That being said, even if I do eventually get transferred against my will, I'll accept it. I can work anywhere, so I won't mind.

Patong has many problems that are very complicated and

have been in place for a long time, so solving them will not be easy. This is especially true for the tuk-tuks. I will probably need three months before we see positive results that benefit both tourists and tourism business operators.

As I have only been here two weeks, my first order of business will be getting to know the 165 officers under my command. I need to clean up the inside of my house before I can address the problems outside it.

Within one-and-a-half months, people entering Kathu Police Station will notice a new look and improved public services. We will have a better waiting area and the service counters will be more orderly than they are at present.

I agree with the governor's idea to make Patong a special nightlife entertainment zone that can stay open until very late for people who enjoy nightlife. Otherwise they will have no place to go after the bars close and will continue drinking on the beach or along roadsides, which is not good. I also agree with his idea of putting meters in all tuk-tuks and taxis. It could happen, but it won't be easy.

I will begin to solve Patong's problems with traffic and lack of public parking. I will have to end

the current one-way traffic system, which not only confuses people but is also in violation of current Thai traffic laws.

Before, Patong levied very high fines for traffic violations and these were assessed differently depending on whether the violator was Thai or foreign. I will look into that and make sure the same fines are levied on everyone. But my real focus will not be on arresting or fining violators, but on building discipline and respect for traffic laws among motorists.

I want to make sure Patong is safe for tourists and I intend to study and solve the problem of bars that overcharge their guests.

Soi Bangla is a walking street, so I want to make it nice. That is why I have already stopped those people who bring animals onto the soi so that tourists can have their picture taken with them. I am also co-operating with Patong Municipality in keeping the soi clean. I hope we can find a way to do away with the bad [sewage] smells there.

I am also talking with Patong Municipality about fixing traffic lights at intersections that have been out of order for a long time, as well as installing more CCTV cameras to help police deal with traffic and crime.



**HOSE DOWN:** Col Arayapan has made cleaning up Soi Bangla a priority.

My working style is people and community oriented, so I have to walk among the people and get to know them first and get the information I need. This is especially true of influential figures who employ gunmen for protection. I will talk to them, explaining that having armed guards only increases the possibility of violence, and tell them they have to disarm. If they have a valid reason for needing armed gunmen for protection they will have to come and see me first and ex-

plain the reason.

As I have been given this chance, I will try my best. I hope things will start to change in three months' time.

**Do you have something you want to get off your chest? Are you an expert on an issue relevant to Phuket? Send us a short biography, a 600 to 1,000 word opinion piece and a picture of yourself to editor @phuketgazette.net and YOU could be our First Person.**

## Issues & ANSWERS

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

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213971, or submit your issue  
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## Please clear the sand from the beach road

After the tsunami, a hard-faced road was built alongside the wall next to Kamala Beach. It's excellent for beach users, parents pushing strollers and handicapped people.

However, the last 50 meters of the road (towards the bridge leading into town) are completely covered in sand. I have seen parents struggling very hard to push their strollers during this last stretch. Can this sand be removed?

**Gudrun Forsberg  
Kamala**

**An officer at Kamala Tambon Administration Organization replies:**

Please notify us of the problem directly by calling us or coming to our office. We will send staff to take a look at the problem area. We can use a water truck to spray the sand off the road. We will do this as soon as we receive a complaint from a resident.

For more information contact Kamala TAO: 29 Moo 2, T. Kamala, A. Kathu, Phuket 83150. T: 076-385640-1. E: [kamalaphuket@gmail.com](mailto:kamalaphuket@gmail.com)

## Can I hook a trailer to my motorcycle?

Would there be a problem if I manufacture a small trailer for my Honda Wave motorcycle for transporting goods?

It's very dangerous to have bags hanging on the handlebars after going to the supermarket.

**Bjorn Lindqvist  
Chalong**

**An officer at Phuket Provincial Land Transport Office replies:**

Trailers and sidecars are normally illegal. The police can stop you any time if you are using one.

If you really want to use a trailer you have to find a company with an engineer who can check the rig for safety and produce a certifying document. Then you can come to the Technical Transportation Section of our office to register the trailer.

For more information contact Phuket Provincial Land Transport Office: 42/4 Rattanakosin 200 Pi Road, T. Talad Neua, Muang, Phuket 83000. T: 076-211019, 076-214930 # 202, E: [info@phuketlandtransport.th.org](mailto:info@phuketlandtransport.th.org)



# FC Phuket rallies for first home win

## FC Phuket 3, Nakhon Sri Thammarat 1

FC Phuket recorded an historic first ever win at the Surakul Stadium last Sunday. The team, who failed to win a single home game in their debut season last year, defeated Nakhon Sri Thammarat 3-1 with two dramatic late goals.

The first home match against Pattalung was a disappointing scoreless draw. The second game of the season, away to newly formed Phang Nga, also ended in a draw. Nakhon Sri Thammarat then went into Sunday's game hoping for a repeat of last year's success when they beat FC Phuket 4-3.

Phuket FC, however, reinforced by the return of Ivory Coast midfielder Ali Diarra and the arrival of Thailand under-19 international Adisak, is an entirely different team this season. The Mighty 'Sea Kirin', as they now wish to be known, dominated the match from start to finish.

Ali Diarra provided some much needed steel in the middle of the park and his inclusion meant that playmaker Japan, ab-



FC Phuket gave a lively home crowd something to cheer about last Sunday, when they defeated Nakhon Sri Thammarat 3-1, in an impressive display of new talent. The win was FC Phuket's first at their home turf of Surakul Stadium since their debut last year.

sent due to sickness, was hardly missed. Diarra was continually able to find time and space and provided the impetus for a commanding first half performance.

Adisak's inclusion at the expense of Anurak, who has long been regarded as the best footballer in Phuket but has seldom impressed in FC Phuket col-

ors, demonstrated that new coach Arjhan Songgamsub is more interested in ability than reputation.

The teenage Adisak, who has arrived on loan from Muang Thong Utd, justified his manager's faith in him when he twisted to head in a cross from an improbable angle in the 30th

minute.

When the fourth official held up his board to indicate there would be one minute of added time in the first half, FC Phuket appeared destined to head into the interval with a one-goal lead, but the referee stunned the home supporters by awarding a penalty to Nakhon Sri Thammarat. The visi-

tors seized the opportunity to tie the score as the clock winded down for halftime.

FC Phuket continued to dominate play in the second half, as their opponents struggled to keep possession, but were unable to regain any of their first half fluidity and failed to convert their superior possession into any points on the scoreboard.

Another disappointing day at Surakul Stadium seemed imminent when the 85th minute cross was flicked on and fell at the feet of Adisak, who calmly sidestepped the ball, beyond Nakhon Sri Thammarat's keeper. With minutes remaining, Nakhon Sri Thammarat responded by throwing men forward in search of an equalizer, but FC Phuket were able to capitalize with a counter attack, culminating with substitute Nitirol applying a simple finish.

FC Phuket Coach Arjhan Songgamsub was delighted with the performance and in particular by the impact of the new signing.

"Adisak did very well and I was pleased with him scoring two goals. Nakhon Sri Thammarat beat Chumphon last week but we were much better than them today. I'm happy have won a game in Phuket at last," he said.

— James Goyder

## FC Phuket Fixtures

Phuket is listed as the first team in matches played at home.  
All home games are played at Surakul Stadium in Wichit.

February 14	Phuket vs Pattalung	0-0
February 20	Phang Nga vs Phuket	1-1
February 28	Phuket vs Nakhon Si Thammarat	3-1
March 7	Chumphon vs Phuket	4pm
March 13	Phuket vs Satun United	5pm
March 21	Phuket vs Pattani	5pm
March 27	Yala vs Phuket	4pm
April 3	Phuket vs Ranong	5pm
April 10	Trang vs Phuket	6pm
April 24	Phuket vs Krabi	5pm
May 2	Hat Yai vs Phuket	4pm
May 8	Phuket vs Surat Thani	5pm
June 12	Krabi vs Phuket	5pm
June 20	Phuket vs Hat Yai	5pm
June 26	Surat Thani vs Phuket	4:30pm
July 11	Satun Utd vs Phuket	5pm
July 18	Pattani vs Phuket	4pm
July 25	Phuket vs Yala	5pm
July 31	Ranong vs Phuket	4pm
August 8	Phuket vs Trang	5pm
August 15	Phattalung vs Phuket	4pm
August 22	Phuket vs Phang Nga	4pm
August 29	Nakhon Si Thammarat vs Phuket	4pm
September 5	Phuket vs Chumphon	4pm

## Viagra champs in Bangkok

The Phuket Viagrabonds recently traveled to the Kingdom's capital and became 2010 Bowl Champions at the annual Bangkok Rugby 10s.

The first opponents were the Philippine Volcanoes, who had a squad of 30 players and defeated the Viagrabonds 22-7.

The Viagrabonds regrouped for the second match against the Thai legends and were rewarded with a 10-0 win.

Following the previous day's

win, the team was unexpectedly propelled into the Bowl division and Bombay Gymkhana Club from India forfeited the semi-final, meaning the Viagrabonds automatically made it to the final.

Opponents for the final would be the vastly more experienced and athletically astute British Club Old Boys. Straight from the kickoff, the BC Boys were on attack with the heavier forwards rolling towards the line. BC was awarded a surprising penalty

try which they duly converted to take a 7-0 halftime lead.

The Viagrabonds responded with a second half try, leaving the scores level at 7-7. With a minute to go, teams were informed that if scores were even, BC would win by virtue of having scored first.

This geared the team up for one final effort and some good interplay between forwards and backs saw Big Red crash through for the winning score in the last play of the game.

## Silverfinz show big in Singapore

The swim team from the Phuket International Academy Sports and Wellness Centre (PIASAWC), known as the Silverfinz, returned from their latest meet in Singapore with a handful of medals and new personal best times set by every swimmer on the team.

Highlights of the Fighting Fish Invitational Meet included an impressive backstroke swim by Jeremy Kemp to win bronze in the



The Silverfinz at their successful meet in Singapore. The team's impressive performance brought home a handful of medals.

8 and under division; a new meet record and gold-winning 50m backstroke by Taj Jones, a silver medal in the 100m breaststroke by Shannan Burchard and a gold-winning performance by Tanylle Ashenden in the 25m fly.

The most memorable moment, however, was from Tamino Lokenberg, who was competing for the first time at just 4 years of age. He was the youngest swim-

mer at the meet and completed a 25m butterfly, breaststroke and freestyle, gaining 5th place ribbons in all three events.

With only a team of nine swimmers, Silverfinz managed to make their mark on this event, with Tanylle Ashenden winning the 2nd place overall trophy in the 8 and under girls and Taj Jones winning 2nd place overall in the 10 & under boys.



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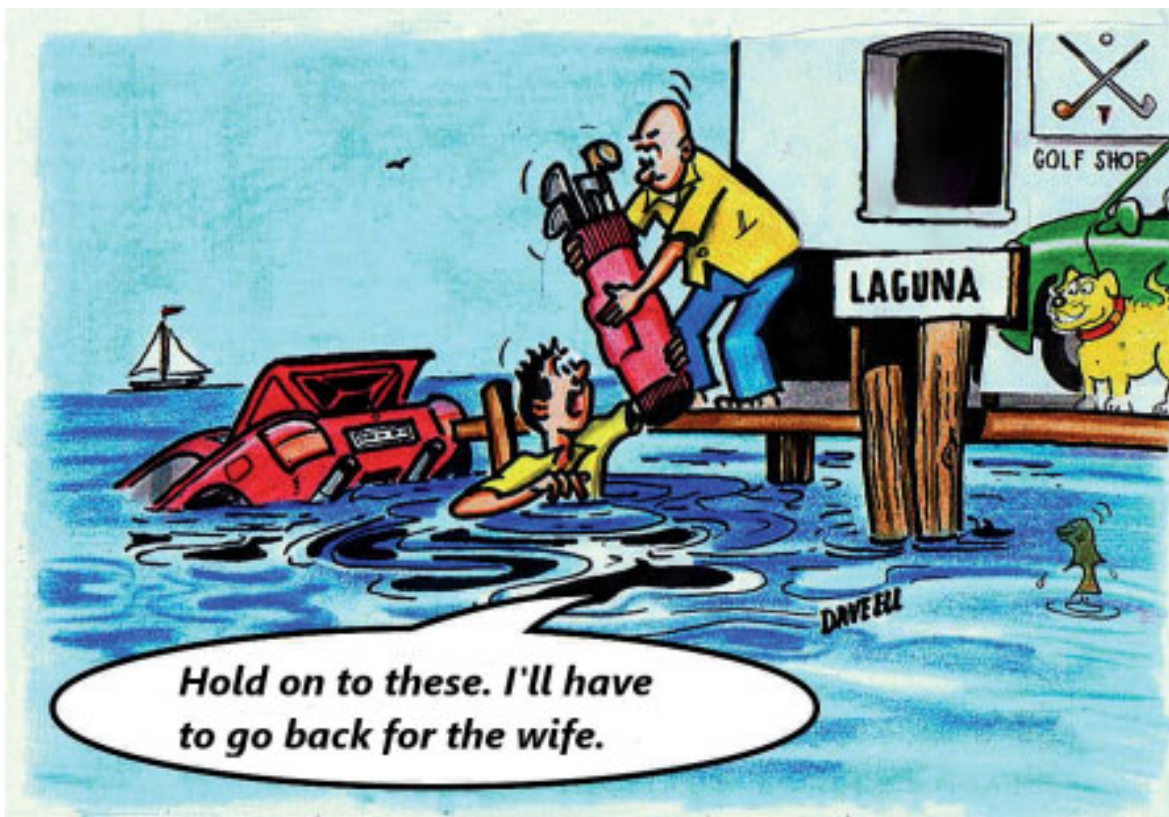
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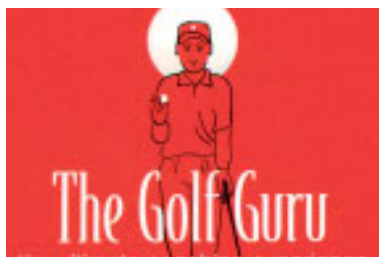
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## Eyeing the final green



In this third and final Golf Guru piece, I'll talk about the practical dimensions of the game: choosing the right club, the pre-shot routine, and the age old advice of keeping your head down.

### Customizing your clubs

I have clients who have rated their golfing season by how many shafts they bent or snapped in frustration. One particular golfer managed eight shafts in one year. He improved his game the next year, and only had to replace six shafts.

Most single-figure handicap golfers understand the specifications of their golf clubs, however, some players I see for the first time use golf clubs that don't fit them. The club head might be too upright or sit too flat on the ground. The shaft flex might be an incorrect speed for their swing or the golf grips might be the wrong size.

Good news for frustrated golfers: all of these problems are the club's fault, not yours.

When perfecting a swing, it's important to remember to let the club do the work. It's not what can you do for your clubs, it's what your clubs can do for you.

Fitted golf clubs can give your golf game an extra edge, so understanding how to customize them will help you find your true potential as a golfer. With well fitted clubs, your brain can send the right messages to your body, allowing you to fulfil your true potential as a golfer.

This requires someone with experience as a golf coach who can watch your swing and determine what's best. Once you've got the right equipment, the clubs are not just a lethal weapon that

you hurl high into the sky in frustration or objects to be broken so you can fit them in your bag easier.

### The pre-shot routine

Every golf player should go through a consistent pre-shot routine before they hit the ball.

What does that mean?

In a nutshell, it means practicing enough that you do the same thing every time before you hit the ball. This helps you to relax so your body can flow with the swing.

Golf needs to be played by the abstract part of your mind, which means you should try to picture the shot before you play. When you do that, your mind shouldn't be thinking about words, but the look and feel of your swing. See it and do it! The analytical part of the mind is the part you use to learn how to play golf; once this is done, then you must trust what you have learned and play golf out of habit. No second guessing.

So, select your golf club and think of the best shot you have ever hit with that particular club, and remember to hit the ball all in one movement.

For me, when I move into my pre-shot routine, it takes 8.7 seconds from start to finish.

After that, I am watching my ball fly to the target, if I take any longer or shorter I am out of my comfort zone.

### Keep your head down

The most common saying in golf, apart from 'give me my next putt', is 'keep your head down'.

This phrase is especially popular after topping a shot along the ground (politely called a daisy cutter, or impolitely called a worm shagger) or swinging and missing the ball completely.

But what does it mean to keep your head down?

Most beginners have a tendency to look up before their club actually comes in contact with a ball. Try considering this routine in order get the most out of this universal quip of golf advice: Keep your head up in line with the angle of your spine and your eyes down.

This is one of the best-kept secrets in golf. Doing this will allow your shoulders to swing more freely around your head, stopping your head from jerking up before your swing comes in contact with the ball.

It might feel awkward at first, but with practice, it will eventually feel comfortable.

Last but not least, even the most well-read 'golf guru' will not be much of a player if he doesn't hit the course. Reading for improvement can help with the broad picture, but save the finer details for when you're actually playing. So grab your clubs and head out for some practice!

## Fair Play League rounds up with runaway winner

The under 15s section of the Fair Play League came to its conclusion at PIA last Sunday morning in a final round of five-a-side format matches.

Fans and organizers had anticipated the tournament's final game would be between France and Germany. Germany fulfilled their side of the bargain, beating Brazil 5-4 in the opening match to leave them in a pole position 11 points ahead of second place France, who had 7 points. This

meant that victory for France over bottom placed Brazil would leave the destination of the trophy hanging on the outcome of the final game.

Brazil, though, had other ideas, defeating France 7-6 in a thrilling encounter to secure their first victory of the tournament. This made the outcome of the final match academic. Despite France claiming a 4-3 victory, Germany still finished top of the table by a single point.

Germany's Shannon Smith, 14, was delighted. "I am happy that we finished top. I play for the BIS team sometimes but it has been good to be able to play football matches every week and to get to know some of the boys from Youth Football Home. I would definitely like to play in this league again next year."

Piers Grasmann was the tournament's top goalscorer with 15 goals, and Saharat Khemtong of Germany was named the Most Valuable Player.

In the afternoon, round seven of the Under 13s section of the Fair Play League saw Germany claim their first ever win, defeating Brazil 12-7 in a 19-goal thriller. Spain won 4-1 against Holland and England beat Argentina 5-3 to remain a point clear at the top of the league ahead of Spain.

The next round of matches will be at BIS, next Sunday, with the final round scheduled to take place at YFH the following week.

— James Goyder



Action from the under 13s match between Germany and Brazil, which saw Germany get the better of a 19 goal encounter to mark their first win.





# Sowing the seeds of progress

## Answers to the most common gardening questions in Phuket

I have received a number of queries and comments about gardening matters since the inception of my gardening column. Most have been answered individually, but some have raised issues that may be of general interest.

One question concerned the availability of seeds. The despairing writer said he had tried everywhere to obtain tomato seeds without success. Oddly, most garden centers do not sell packeted seeds, but both flower and vegetable seeds can be obtained from a couple of those tacky, old-fashioned shops in the soi between the fresh market and the main roundabout in Phuket Town.

One sells only vegetable seeds, the other shop dispenses flowering annuals as well. Of three main producers of seeds – Lion Seeds, the Chua Yong Seng Seed Company and The AFM Flora Pro Company – the last-named seems to specialize in flowers. Prices range from ten to twenty baht and although the instructions are in Thai, small planting diagrams and germination rates help to explain things.

Lion also markets seeds in cans at thirty baht, but since the success rate in Phuket is so good, you hardly need to take the precaution of buying sealed containers. Incidentally, Tesco Lotus also has a limited selection of packets of seeds, and at the recent plant market in Saphan Hin, one stall had the widest range I have seen on the island.

Now you have your seeds, sow them in large plastic pots, about half a centimeter below the surface (more for bigger seeds) using a potting medium or sifted top soil, preferably with some sand and compost. The advantage of pots is that you can easily monitor progress, and move them around if necessary – most seedlings abhor constant sun, so starting things off



Photo: Pan krzyzowka

With a little searching, seeds for tropical gardening pleasures can be found throughout Phuket, such as *zinnia* cultivars (above) and the scarlet flowering *gomphrena* (below).

in semi-shade is probably best. And they are less likely to suffer from the depredations of birds and beasties.

Deep containers also make it easier to keep the soil moist. Ideally, use a watering can with a rose, but do not saturate the seeds; they should sprout above ground level within three to six days. Once they are a few centimeters tall, the seedlings will need to be repotted singly in small pots – most nurser-

ies here use chopped coconut husk – or transferred directly to their final destination. Otherwise, they will have insufficient space to develop. And if you do plant the seedlings straight into the garden, remember to give them a label.

Now for the tomatoes: If our friend cannot find the seed (both the aforementioned shops have at least two varieties) then why not sun-dry an overripe tomato and use the seeds?



I see no reason why this should not work. After all, it works with most seed-producing plants. And it will save you a few baht.

However, there are certain advantages in using packet seeds. You can be guaranteed a high rate of germination – 50 to 80% – and an end result that is true to the picture on the front of the envelope. Moreover, you may be able to buy better strains, or more exotic varieties.

Let me give you some examples. Yesterday I obtained some flower seeds from Phuket Town. I was able to buy not only the *blue ipomoea* (morning glory to most of us), but a deep red and, I believe, more unusual variety.

Also acquired were different cultivars of annuals and perennials already established in the garden. One was a packet of assorted *vinca* (periwinkle), in shades of red as well as the usual white and pink; another acquisition was a variety of scarlet flowering *gomphrena*, quite different in color from the magenta annuals that normally appear in Thai gardens.

And I found some newer *zinnia* cultivars, striking double varieties in both white and red. I had been enthused to see these flowering at the Royal Project, a research center on the slopes of Doi Inthanon in Chiang Mai. I hope they will do as well in the less forgiving environment of Phuket.

Another question was about soil conditioner or amendments. As we all know, the top-soil here is scanty and the subsoil not only lacking in nutrients, but dense and unworkable when dry. Lime would help to break down this sub-soil, but it is as well to remember that most plots here are already alkaline on account of all the builders' debris – especially cement run-off – that has found its way into the surrounding ground. It was certainly the case with my land.

I suggest two or three possible expedients. If you are short on fertile top-soil, lash out on a cubic meter or two. It can be ordered from some garden centers, already bagged. I recently did a deal with the driver of a mechanical digger who was clearing the top-soil prior to digging footings for a house. After I had waved two hundred baht at him, he promptly dumped a load in the back of my pick-up.

If that sounds too much like hard work, you can buy large bags of coconut fiber – the fine stuff that exists in heaps at the rear of many garden centers.

Local nurserymen often mix it with ordinary soil to create a potting medium.

You can use a similar strategy by forking the light-weight fiber into your flower beds, so as to improve the friability and texture of the ground. It acts in much the same way as sphagnum or moss peat – familiar to most farangs: it improves the structure of the soil, enhances its capacity to hold moisture and maybe helps to counter excessive alkalinity.

If you want to get more technical and money is no object, you can use vermiculite to dramatically improve water retention, or gypsum to help release nutrients and improve the soil's consistency.

But if you are feeling really weary, those ubiquitous bags of compost can be used in much the same way.

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# Buying a property with existing management

Managed property developments have become popular for property buyers in recent years. Management services such as security, gardening, and pool keeping all permit buyers to fully enjoy their property with peace of mind.

Whenever buying a unit in a managed property development, a buyer should turn attention to the management agreements between the project manager and the project owners. Careful review of such agreements is unfortunately often disregarded, as most buyers usually focus on the sale itself or lease rights to the chosen unit.

This mistake could have serious impact on an investment, as proper management and transparency regarding use of occurring management fees is of highest importance, not only in regard to successful operation of a property, but also with the resale of a property.

Typically, a management agreement should include a provision clearly describing the services to be provided by the management of a project. Furthermore, the scope of such services should be outlined. This should help to prevent any dispute between buyers and the management at later date.

In addition, a sound management agreement should be willing to provide the costs of the management, including all services provided under that management.

Typically, each buyer has to pay a proportionate split of the total expense, calculated on a basis of total area occupied by an owner. In this regard, it should also be clarified that the manager must have a right to reasonably increase the management fees in order to ensure that sufficient funds are available to cope with increasing costs for the provided services.

A management agreement should also include provisions giving the manager the right to collect funds to be paid into a sinking fund. Sinking funds are required to provide management with sufficient finances – to be exclusively used – to pay for major repair works and maintenance of the common areas in a development.

Buyers should understand that maintenance of sinking funds is in fact necessary to ensure long-term enjoyment of a project. Properties with poorly managed and neglected common areas hardly qualify for a resale.

Also keep in mind that transparency of expenses regarding the funds of a sinking fund is of the highest importance. Management should always be willing to reveal them upon request. It is the responsibility of management to maintain accounts and keep records in accordance with generally accepted audit principles, as well as provide annual statements to buyers, documenting the usage of all expenses.

Finally, a management agreement should provide a clearly defined recourse



**Buyers of properties with pre-existing management should go through a simple checklist to ensure they are aware of all the services and fees associated with that management.**  
AFP PHOTO / Fabrice Coffrini

in case management falls into a breach of contract. Such a recourse should be part of a carefully drafted default provision, whereunder buyers have a right to terminate the appointed management of a project and/or appoint a third party management company to provide the required services.

In summary, whenever investing in a managed property development, buyers should carefully review all provided sales and marketing documentation, including all agreements to be signed, potential risks, and subsequent damages that could occur

from poor management of a project. This should be routine practice for anyone interested in buying a managed property in Thailand.

*This article is written by International Law Office Patong Beach Co., Ltd., a Phuket-based law firm. For enquiries, please contact Michael Greth, Consultant. E: michael@ilo-phuket.com. T: 076-222 191-5).*



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# Top of the Rock



## PROPERTY WATCH

With

Bill Barnett  
C9 Hotelworks

As we come out of the peak season, there is fresh optimism in the Phuket property market, and the industry's players are talking about what's hot on the island.

Based on research carried out for this column and local property news website thephuketinsider.com, the following Property Watch forecast lists the hospitality and property industry's 'top of the rock' for the coming year, starting with the top five hot properties.

### 1. Kata Rocks

This piece sea-front real estate has a stunning aspect of west-coast views, which pairs high-profile buyers with world-class designers. Buying real estate on strong fundamentals is key to good investing. Kata Rocks has those fundamentals.

### 2. Mandala Condominiums

Located in central Bang Tao and a short walk from the beach, the developers took a major initiative and built the project prior to going to market. The condo units with super-sized pools are nearly complete and ready to move in.

### 3. Andara Residences

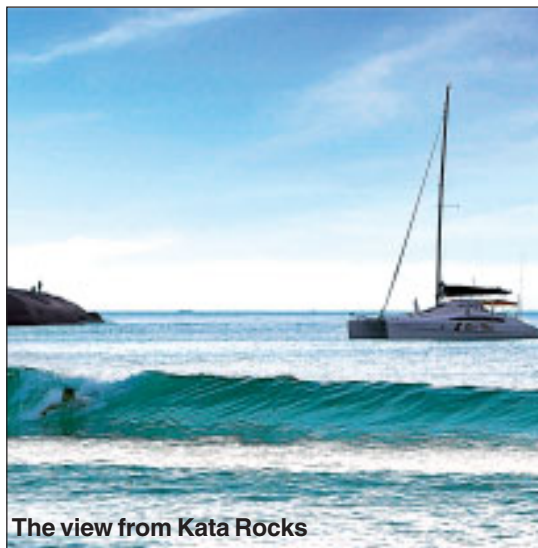
There are just a few units remaining in this mixed-use hotel project managed by Allan Zeman. The adjoining villas have seen resale transactions and appreciation beyond 100%. While this may not happen for the condos, there are strong fundamentals at play for excellent yields and good capital appreciation.

### 4. Malaiwana Luxury Apartments

We've heard that this project with a beach club in the works and super villas is now nearing completion in Nai Thorn, on the north-west coastline, and may be coming to the market in 2010. Be on the lookout for more international hotels in Nai Thon, which is poised to be one of the island's best addresses.

### 5. Land in Mai Khao and Thalang

Both these areas are set for large-scale development. More hotels are going up in Mai Khao including the new convention center. With addition of the Phuket International Academy (PIA) in Thalang, land prices are moving up fast in that area. The British International School is an example of how a property can make the surrounding area become a great place for longer term investment.



The view from Kata Rocks

prove to be a tough competitor for the aging Le Meriden Patong Resort. The new resort is set to begin welcoming guests in the first half of this year.

### 4. B-Lay Tong

Located on the northern end of the Patong beach road, this 125-room property is being compared with the stylish resort, Twinpalms. Opened in January under the management of Kevin Beauvais, this addition to boutique chain InVision moves the bar up a notch in this busy neighborhood.

### 5. Renaissance Phuket Resort and Spa

This is the newest entry into Mai Khao in northern Phuket. The 150-key hotel will open in the first quarter and has the JW Marriott, Sala Phuket and Anantara as neighbors. With a long, white-sand beach and in close proximity to the airport, — plus east-coast yachting, golf, and access to scenic Phang Nga — the area is becoming a major destination on the island.

## Top Five Players

While Phuket is the birthplace of modern Asian pool-villa resorts, such as the Amanpuri and Banyan Tree, all the hardware in the world won't make a difference unless there are some brave souls in the industry who will take risks, influence trends, and remain passionate about hospitality. Five who stand out in the crowd are:

### 1. Olivier Gibaud

Innovative and creative, Twinpalms quickly became the envy of many five-star chain managed hotels here. After introducing iconic Sunday brunches and Catch Beach Club, Olivier continues to hit home runs, and has created more buzz with the imminent opening of an island-wide chain of high-end bake outlets.

### 2. Vorasit "Wan" Issara

This Swiss hotel graduate showed the trendy hi-so crowd in Bangkok that Phuket could be a cool place by introducing them to Sri Panwa resort and the chilled-out Baba Dining Lounge. High-profile celebrity chef Gordon Ramsay could only sing the island's praises when he stayed at Mr Issara's resort.

### 3. Allan Zeman

With his own unique brand name, Allan Zeman effectively raised the bar for the coming decade by transplanting Hong Kong's rich and famous to this Andaman gem, offering them Plaza Surin, Andara Villas and SILK Restaurant, which has just opened at Andara. There seems to be little rest for this driven achiever.



Wolfgang Meusburger, the longest serving GM at an international hotel.

### 4. Wolfgang Meusburger

Wolfgang is a strong supporter of tourism on the island and is the longest serving general manager of an international property. During his lengthy tenure at the Holiday Inn Patong he has received numerous accolades within the top IHG hotel group and has fostered many repeat visitors.

### 5. Sean Power

Owner and witty personality of one of Phuket's best dining and drinking outlets, the Supper Club, Sean has created an atmosphere where the rich and famous broker high-end transactions and close deals. Sean has seen it all on a nightly basis, running a quality operation with a constant stream of new ideas, making his restaurant a 'scene to be seen'.

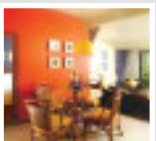
No doubt I've missed many deserving businesses and individuals here — the list is by no means exhaustive. For those here who have helped raise the bar, take a bow and give yourself a pat on the back.

## LAGUNA

PROPERTY RESALE

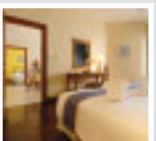
Properties for sale within Laguna Phuket

#### 1 Allamanda 1-Bedroom Suite THB 6.5 M



- 1 bed 1 bath fully furnished
- rental pool
- golf course view

#### 2 Allamanda 2-Bedroom Suite THB 7.5 M



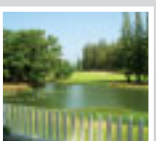
- 2 beds 2 baths fully furnished
- rental pool
- golf course view

#### 3 Laguna Village Villa THB 14.9 M



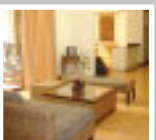
- 2-storey Villa
- 2 beds 3 baths
- fully furnished
- mountain view

#### 4 Laguna Townhome THB 23 M



- 2-storey Townhome
- 4 beds 4 baths
- custom kitchen • maid's quarter
- golf course view

#### 5 Laguna Residence THB 35 M



- 2-storey Residence
- 4 beds 3 baths
- fully furnished
- golf course view

For more information on these and other properties, please call:

**+66 (0) 76 362 333**

or email:

**resale@lagunaresale.com**

**www.lagunaresale.com**

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Tel: 076-620113 or 084-8506140 Fax: 076-620015



# Adding a high-end option to Patong

The latest addition to Patong, B-Lay Tong Resort, is aimed at taking the tourist area in a new direction by attracting a young and trendy Asian clientele with a unique and modern design of clean-line architecture commanding picturesque sea views from many of its uniquely appointed rooms.

Located along Patong Beach's up-market north end, the recently completed hotel was the first project designed by up-coming architect Sarinrath Kamolratnapiboon.

The resort is expected to appeal to high-end regional tourists from Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore and the Middle East.

The developers chose Patong because it 'has a beautiful beach and is recognized throughout the world.'

The hotel is located on the last piece of available land on the north end of Patong Beach, where things are relatively quiet but still close to the bustling life of Patong.

Welcoming guests at the concierge desk in the central lobby, the 123 room hotel is decorated in modern minimalist-style furnishings, augmented by splashes of bold color.

Intriguing art pieces and sculptural forms adorn most of the hotel's common spaces.

Adjacent to the lobby, 198 Lobby Bar overlooks Patong Beach and offers house cocktails, eclectic music and a large selection of wines and champagnes from the well-stocked cellar.

Open for lunch and dinner, the hotel's signature B Restaurant serves up a well-balanced menu, showcasing a range of dishes from Asia and Europe with a strong emphasis on seafood specialties.

Cocktails are offered throughout the day at the Drop Pool Bar with sweeping views of the Andaman Sea and the hotel's large infinity pool, which is equipped with fiber-optic luminescence lights to create a unique ambiance at night.

Every room maintains the resort's modern style, decorated with contemporary furnishings of blond wood, richly colored pillows, luxuriously linens, subtle lighting and a variety of Feng Shui color pallets.

All deluxe rooms come with a spacious Jacuzzi tub or large bath tub, while rooms on the ground floor have direct access to the adjacent lap pools and the



The pool view of Patong Bay from B-Lay Tong Resort, located at the north end of Patong.

lush inner garden courtyard. The variety of rooms offered starts with the 40sqm 'Superior Garden View' and culminates with the 145sqm Presidential Suite, all featuring day beds and sheltered balconies. All guest rooms have state-of-the-art audio and LCD equipment, free WiFi and LAN

internet connection.

Other opulent amenities include a full-service spa and gym, a well-stocked library and a full-service business center.

Music plays an essential part in the B-Lay Tong Hotel guest experience, as the hotel plans to invite a number of guest

DJs from around the world to make special appearances. At the heart of it all is the Beat Club, featuring the latest hi-tech sound system playing a selection of the hottest beats.

Introductory rates are available from now until October 31. Rates start at 4,900 baht.

## The BayCliff patong



## Now Available for Rent

### The BayCliff, Patong Phuket

The Luxurious Sea view Condominium offer a well - appointed Residence; 1, 2 Bedrooms and Penthouse for rent

#### Facilities

- Maintenance and security
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- Plunge pool terrace
- Private Balcony with Jacuzzi
- Cable TV, Wireless Internet

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BayCliff Development Co., Ltd.

Head Office: 39/12 Prabamee Road, Patong, Kathu, Phuket 83150 Thailand.

Tel: (+66) 76 34 26 96 Fax: (+66) 76 34 26 86 E-mail: patteera@thebaycliff.com Website: www.thebaycliff.com, www.theprivilegeatbaycliff.com



# Property Gazette

## Properties For Sale

### KAMALA NICE HOUSE



for sale. 2 bedrooms (possibility for 3rd), 2 bathrooms, jacuzzi, dining and living room, kitchen. Fully furnished, aircon, electric gate, all furniture included. 11 million baht. Tel: 086-280 7400, +33-624-483630, +33-490-255386 (nous parlons Français). Email: eaghold@yahoo.fr

### URGENT SALE FREEHOLD

Condo in Kamala, fully furnished, 2 bedrooms, 100sqm. 5.95 million baht. Contact us to view apartment. Tel: 081-878 2199. Email: orso.realestate@gmail.com

### YACHT FOR HOUSE

Trade your property for 48' luxury yacht+business. Based in Greece. 249,000 Euro. For further details, please see our website at www.hpyachtcharter.com

### SURIN APARTMENT

150m from the beach. 1 b/r, pool access. Great view. 4.99 million baht. Call or mail for further details. Tel: 02-076350. Email: jgstryker@gmail.com

### NEW BRAND CONDO

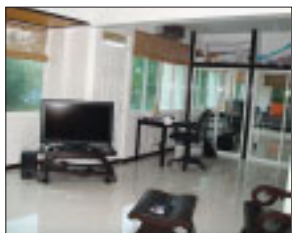
Mid Town, Royal Place Project. Studio condo, fully furnished, reasonable price. Tel: 086-476-9612.

### LAYAN LAND



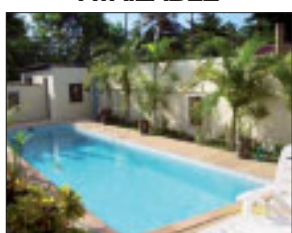
for sale. 11 rai, flat land. 3 min from Layan beach, hill and lake view. Price 4.2 million baht per rai. Tel: 089-813 1447.

### 1.7 MILL BAHT CONDO RAWAI



Sale 54sqm. Apartment 150 meter from sea. Financing 1 year. Tel: 080-078 0931. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

### 6-YEAR FINANCING AVAILABLE



Rawai Beach sale. 10 million baht. 860sqm. Land, bar, hotel 9 rooms. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

### 3.4M BAHT HOUSE, THALANG

For sale or long term rent. 400sqm, 3 beds, 2 baths and large common pool in garden place, Phuket. Tel: 085-887 7414 (English & Thai). Email: nimirphuket@gmail.com

### LAND LOTS RAWAI

Must See: Elegant, private green area. Own creek, 1.5 km from seaside, 2 km Chalong. 1/2 rai, chanote title. 2.9 million baht. 1 or 2 rai: 5.4 million baht per rai. Terms negotiable. Tel: 087-388 7702 (English & Thai), 084-850 7106 (English). Email: pkeowan@gmail.com

### VILLA FOR SALE

5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, fully furnished. Tel: 081-895 7310. See at www.horizonresidenceandspa.com

### SEA VIEW CONDO

Sale/rent new condo. 2 bedrooms, kitchen, balcony, pool, WiFi, parking. Tel: 084-851 0703. Email: st@kl.lv

### 30 RAI IN TOWN

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

### PATONG HOUSES

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

### SHOPHOUSE

12 mos old, 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, kitchen, 1 aircon unit, furniture. Rent: 24,000 baht per month. 3.8 million baht, pay 3.6 million. A bargain! Tel: 080-522 3357 (English), 086-476 2093 (English & Thai). Email: kcoyle@pinn.net

### HOUSE IN ANUPHAS GOLF VILLA

for sale. Kathu, 3 bedrooms, maid room, aircon, small swimming pool, Chanote title. 8 million baht. Tel: 081-854 0061 (English), 087-395 7301 (English & Thai).

### NEW ON THE MARKET!

3 lots, approx 1 rai each. Bang Pae waterfall area, east side. Beautiful views, privated road. Must see to appreciate. 2.75 million baht per lot. Finance possible. Call Chris. Tel: 086-942 1930.

### 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.

### 1.7 MILLION HOUSE FOR SALE



3km from Heroines' Monument. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms at 3.3 million baht. Tel: 089-888 8572.

### TWIN VILLAS AT NAI YANG



Only 600 meters from beautiful Nai Yang beach, this modern pool villa is perfectly located. Featuring a chic, clean-cut design coupled with a choice selection of quality materials and furniture, this villa is a promising investment for holiday seekers and permanent residents. Price: Bt10.2mil. Contact Khun Penprapa. Tel: 087-898 9646. Email: penprapa2526@gmail.com

### BEAUTIFUL HOUSE, FULLY FURNISHED



Ready to move in, 254 sqm. 2 floors. Near Downrung school, Laemchan area, close to Phuket Town, nice living room and garden, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished, 2 car parks, very nice and quiet area. Price: 6.8 million baht. Tel: 081-541 2025.

### BEACH FRONT CONDO

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

### WESTERN STYLE HOUSE

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1 powder room, hot water, 4 aircon units, telephone, ADSL, cable TV, washer, dryer, western kitchen, 40" LCD TV & entertainment. 160 m2. For rent or sale. Tel: 02-860 3254, 081-400 0796, 087-895 3555. Email: popeyepsc@hotmail.com

### 2-STOREY HOUSE IN PATONG



sea view. Hasip Pee Road, 49sqw. 4 bedrooms with balconies, 2 bathroom, air-con, fully furnished. Chanote. Price 17 million baht ono. Tel: 087-270 9093. Email: a.pueng@gmail.com

### CONDO PATONG 58SQM

Freehold, 7 floors, furnished, 400m to the beach, car park, pool. 1.6 million baht. Call owner at Tel: 081-082 5707.

### LAND NEAR RAWAI FOR SALE

1 rai 2 ngan 97 whaa with chanot. Tel: 089-885 4517 (English & Thai), 081-908 8580. Email: ruedi.kaufmann@gmx.ch

### 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.



### Phuket's All Pool Condominiums

"Our expectations are high that this project will be a top seller in the 2009/2010 high season."

Bill Samet, Managing Director of C9 Hotelworks

- Completed oversized apartments. Each with private pools. Located next to Laguna area and 350m to Bang Tao Beach
- Introductory prices are set 20% below comparable projects
- Quality construction by ISO certified DCM Solutions
- Foreign freehold and leasehold ownership available
- Fully furnished onsite model apartment now open for viewing

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087 034 2090  
tom@indigoRE.com  
www.baanmandala.com



### HOT DEAL LAYAN



Land 3 plots, Chanote of 3/4 of rai each, sale by lot or full plot, road, electric, water, lake view. Start at 4,500 baht per sqm.

Land 19 rai, Chanote, lake view, road, electric. Under priced at 5.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-787 4383. Email: ruggdan@gmail.com

### PRIVATE SALE OF HALF A RAI

in Ao Makham. Land is located opposite Port of Phuket and next to Bel Air Cape Panwa Resort. Price 4.2 million. Tel: 081-891 5932, 089-035 6702.

### 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: drbeamsaw@gmail.com

### VERY NICE SEAVIEW LAND



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

### NICE HOUSE WITH POOL



Near Nai Yang beach. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 220sqm. 4.2 million baht. Tel: 085-796 2827, 089-473 5873.

### CHEAP HOUSE FOR SALE

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

### HOUSE & FURNITURE FOR SALE

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

### 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.

All classifieds  
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# Property Gazette

## LUXURY POOL VILLAS



50% finance available, ready to move in for just 9 million baht, 4km from Layan Beach, excellent location, great value. Tel: 081-891 1826 (English), 081-891 2926 (English & Thai). Email: kevinq@loxinfo.co.th For further details, please see our web site at [www.baanboosa.com](http://www.baanboosa.com)

## 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: yariv.vios@gmail.com

## PERFECT LAND

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

## LAND FOR SALE

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

## 48 RAI KHAO LAK / BANG SAK

250m from the beach. Chanote, Nor Sor 3. Only 1.7 million baht. Call or mail for further info. Tel: 080-522 4089 (English), 081-397 4957 (Thai). Email: kamala@phuket.ksc.co.th

## 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

## YANUI PARADISE BEACH



Apartments for sale. Prices from 2.75 million baht. Close to Yanui beach and Rawai beach. Tel: 087-884 4663 (English), 089-292 9416 (German).

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

## 1 RAI 5.9 MIL RAWAI/ CHALONG

Chanote title. 1,526sqm, 200m south of Chalong Circle, east side main road. Ocean views when you build up. 400m to Chalong Pier. Soi Romutit. Contact Bruce. Tel: 086-267 7098 (English & Thai). Email: chalong2010@yahoo.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.

## NAI YANG MODERN VILLA

Top spec villa, 600m from beach. 210sqm, 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, pool, sala, big shade sail lookout, modern furniture. 10.2 million baht. Tel: 084-653 5863.

## FLAT LAND

for sale. 9,312sqm, flat land near Bang Pae waterfall on border with the main road to Mission Hill. Asking price 3.5 million baht per rai = 1,600sqm. Tel: 081-693 4075 (English & Thai). Email: kannanagarden@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 by email: [allservices29@gmail.com](mailto:allservices29@gmail.com)

## PRIME LAND FOR SALE IN KATHU

with in 2km of 3 golf courses, 5 rai, 50sq wah with Chanote title, near Central/Tesco Lotus/Big C. Perfect for private complex. Only 5.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-854 0061 (English), 087-395 7301 (English & Thai).

## NEW TOWN HOUSE



in Phuket Intervilla project for sale. 2.3 million baht. 36.5sq wah. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, includes furniture, curtains, kitchen, 1 air conditioning unit, common pool access. Tel: 089-873 1009 (English), 081-893 8524.

## 3 RAI LAND IN TRANG



for sale. 3 rai in Baan Po, Muang, Trang. Very good location for business, suitable for house projects. Electricity, access road. Sale by owner. With Chanote. Price: 9 million baht ono. No agents please! Tel: 075-210646, 087-270 9093.

## KRABI, AO-NANG POOL VILLAS

Land area 320sqm., 2 bedrooms. 6-7 million baht. Second home with strong rental income. Tel: 087-897 7380. Email: [mraxelmay@gmail.com](mailto:mraxelmay@gmail.com)

## KATA CHEAP GUEST HOUSE

Can resale as penthouse, 4 condos, 2 apartments, balconies, garden, near beach, security can extend. Offer over 7 million baht. Good investment. Tel: 086-276 6597.

## LAND FOR SALE

Several plots of land for sale, excellent locations, great value. Situated in Layan, Mission Hills and Paklok. 1/4 rai to 3 rai plots. Tel: 081-891 1826 (English), 081-891 2926 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-238940. Email: [kevinq@loxinfo.co.th](mailto:kevinq@loxinfo.co.th)

## 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.co.uk](mailto:sweetpinkylive.co.uk)

## SURIN BEACH

Land on Soi Haad Surin 2 for sale. 2.2 Rai, 5 min walk to Surin Beach. Email: [costello@hotmail.net.au](mailto:costello@hotmail.net.au)

## 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 discounts. Bargain! Tel: 086-476 2093.

## QUICK SALE HOUSE IN CHALONG

94sq wah, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 car park, big garden, full furnished. Price 4.5 million baht. Tel: 087-886 4208.

## HOUSE IN KATHU

for sale. Freehold, 2 floors, 2 bedrooms. 2,000,000 baht. Tel: 081-415 6415.

## FLAT LAND IN CHERNG TALAY

for sale. Over half rai. 2.6 million baht. Tel: 086-047 2463 (English), 086-161 1136 (Thai).

## BEACH LAND KOH YAO YAI

8 rai beach land, public road & water 80m long white sand beach, no rocks, include shop house, Beautiful view Beautiful land. Tel: 081-649 3557. Email: [ken@phuketlifestyle.com](mailto:ken@phuketlifestyle.com) For further details, please see our website at <http://www.phuketlifestyle.com>

## LOVELY POOL VILLA

Big pool & garden. 3 bedrooms, 4 baths, office. Quiet hillside near beach. Freehold. Secure. Very nice. Tel: 076-388236, 089-727 5407 (English). Email: [cosmocampbell@yahoo.com](mailto:cosmocampbell@yahoo.com) For further details, please see our website at <http://www.villa-sale-phuket.com>

## 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.

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

## 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.

## FAMILY HOUSE, PATONG

2 storeys, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, living, kitchen, small garden. Price: 8 million baht. Tel: 086-120 1873.

## VILLA FOR SALE

5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, fully furnished. Tel: 081-895 7310. See at [www.horizonresidenceandspa.com](http://www.horizonresidenceandspa.com)

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

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Country: \_\_\_\_\_



To ensure clarity, please attach a photocopy of this form. Do not Fax!



# Property Gazette

## 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. Center of Patong, 2 minutes to Jungceylon. Contact owner at Tel: 087-2793312. [www.phukethouseapartment.com](http://www.phukethouseapartment.com)

## TOWNHOUSE, 2 STOREY



opposite Boat Lagoon. 24sq wah, 3 beds, 2 baths. Email: [info@allaboutwebanddesign.com](mailto:info@allaboutwebanddesign.com)

## NEW CONDO CHALONG

Ready in May, 6th floor, some furniture, pool, freehold. 2.5 million baht. Contact Barry. Tel: 089-047 6174.

## 2 BED HOUSE NAI HARN

for sale in small quiet area, fully furnished, home theatre, 3 bedrooms, common swimming pool, internet, security. 10.5 million baht. Tel: 082-416 4878.

## APARTMENT SALE

Patong Condotel, ninth floor, 28sqm. Furnished, 5 minute to beach. 1.7 million baht. Tel: 089-909 3882.

## KATA CHEAP GUEST HOUSE

Can resale as penthouse, 4 condos, 2 apartments, balconies, garden, near beach, security can extend. Offer over 7 million baht. Good investment. Tel: 086-276 6597.

## 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.amphiseabreeze.com](http://www.amphiseabreeze.com)

## HOUSE IN KAMALA

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: 083-1802143. Email: [yaris.vios@gmail.com](mailto:yaris.vios@gmail.com)

## LAND FOR SALE - 2 RAI

Nice land for sale in Pakhlok, near the waterfall. Great mountain and seaviews. 2 rai plot. Price 4 million baht per rai. Please contact me for more details. Tel: 081-895 3347. Email: [nickfrangouides@gmail.com](mailto:nickfrangouides@gmail.com)

## FREEHOLD PATONG

Just finished, new apartments. Selling at good prices. Tel: 084-845 2170.

## NEW APARTMENT NAI HARN

Free hold, top floor, 102 sqm. 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, fully furnished with 42inch plasma tv., spa, gym, tennis, big swimming pool. Only minutes to beach. 6.5 million baht. Tel: 089-593 6815. Email: [shmaen2006@hotmail.it](mailto:shmaen2006@hotmail.it)

## TWIN HOUSE WITH BUSINESS

2 houses with business. Area totals 285 sqm. 5 years. 4,950,000 baht. Tel: 076-281196, 086-045 3139. Email: [finale.2001@hotmail.com](mailto:finale.2001@hotmail.com)

## BEACH LAND KHAO LAK 5 RAI

Beautiful 5 rai of Chanote land. Hard to find better than this, next to 5-star resort. 118m of beach front, stunning property. Tel: 081-649 3557 (English). Email: [ken@phuketlifestyle.com](mailto:ken@phuketlifestyle.com) For further details, please see our website at <http://www.phuketlifestyle.com>

## HOUSE SALE OR RENT

7 bedrooms, 7 bathrooms, swimming pool, kitchen, big hall bar, near Simon. Rent 70,000 per month or sale 19 million baht. Tel: 087-267 7281, 085-243 3878.

## 3 BR, POOL, 354 SQM

Modern home w/ pool. 3 bedrooms, 4 baths, kitchen, dining, living, parking. 8.5 million baht. Tel: 085-782 6900, 085-782 6900. Email: [dahammer6089@hotmail.com](mailto:dahammer6089@hotmail.com)

## RAWAI VILLA



Spacious in prime location. 3 ensuite bedrooms + guesthouse, all AC, maid's room, private pool, in 1,000sqm walled garden. Part-furnished. Chanote. 14.9 million baht. Tel: 087-273 0141. Email: [alangath@gmail.com](mailto:alangath@gmail.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](mailto:talayjan@yahoo.com)

## FOR SALE



**Patong Towers – Rare opportunity;**  
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[www.phillips-property.com](http://www.phillips-property.com)

## ONLY 6,300,000 BAHT, MANEEKRAAM

2-story house in Thai-applied style. Living area 152sqm and land 600sqm, pool, 5 aircon units, 2-3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 parking places with a large outdoor terrace. In a very calm and cool area near a hill. Special price for purchase before 31 March: 200,000 baht discount! Email: [sinsupa.sagerklint@gmail.com](mailto:sinsupa.sagerklint@gmail.com)

## NAI YANG MODERN VILLA

Top spec villa, 600m from beach. 210sqm, 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, pool, sala, big shade sail lookout, modern furniture. 10.2 million baht. Tel: 084-653 5863.

## POOLSIDE APARTMENT

Large 85 sqm. open plan, one-bedroom furnished apartment with pool and secure undercover parking. Very quiet and natural location in the hills at the north end of Patong Beach. 5 mins to beach. Contact Andy at Tel: 081-891 3466 (English). Fax: 076-296160. Email: [antc@phuket.ksc.co.th](mailto:antc@phuket.ksc.co.th)

## 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](mailto:koyangle99@hotmail.com)

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We've got it... 08 72 72 03 03

## SINGLE HOUSE



for sale. 51sq wah. 3 bedrooms. 2 bathrooms, 2km from heroines monument. Last price 2.3 million baht. Tel: 087-817 3019.

## APARTMENT IN PATONG

for sale. New condo in Patong, swimming pool, freehold, reduced price. Tel: 089-728 4005. Email: [thamad17@yahoo.com](mailto:thamad17@yahoo.com)

## KOH YAO YAI PARADISE

2 rai near pier water electricity, Chanote, nice road. 600,000 baht per rai. Tel: 081-892 8208.

## KAMALA LAKE HOUSE

5 years old. European, 2 bedrooms, furnished, quiet, clean. 2.9 million baht. Tel: 081-892 8208.

## THE ROYAL PLACE

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

## WAS BT10.5M NOW BT8.5M

Boat Lagoon Marina. Central island, house for sale, freehold title, approx 200sqm. Built in German kitchen, jacuzzi, beautiful furniture (with or without). 50" flat, carport, rare. Corner unit. From 31 Jan 2010. Tel: 085-258 3900. Email: [picharly@gmail.com](mailto:picharly@gmail.com)

## PATONG TOWER URGENT SALE

Freehold, lease hold. Start 4.7 million baht. Tel: 081-878 2199. Email: [orso.realestate@gmail.com](mailto:orso.realestate@gmail.com)

## MARINA VILLA, 14 MB!

New Pool Villa in Boat Lagoon. 14 million baht. Tel: 076-238948, 081-968 9046 (English & Thai), 081-353 9730 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-273466. Email: [pen@phuketpropertytrip.com](mailto:pen@phuketpropertytrip.com) For further details, please see our website at <http://www.phuketboatlagoon.com>

## KATHU HOUSE

for sale. Kathu area, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, on 2 floors, parking area, chanote, aircon, WiFi. Tel: 081-415 6415.

## KATA SEAVIEW HOUSE



3 bedroom, 3 bathroom, pool, 2 covered parking, teak kitchen & bath with granite tops, marble & wood floors, teak ceilings. New Hoffen UPVC windows & curtains, extensive stone work, separate self contained suite for quests. 10,900,000 baht with established company. Tel: 089-592 6890. Email: [north8east98@yahoo.com](mailto:north8east98@yahoo.com)

## VERY GOOD DEAL



352sqm, Thai style house, very quiet area on Khwang Rd, in Chalong, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, big kitchen includes some furniture and curtains, 2 aircon. Only 5.9 million baht. You must see. Tel: 076-377892, 086-564 7714.

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# Boats & Marine



**ORIGINAL THAI 12 METRE LONGTAIL CONVERSION. (2006)**

A very original boat, one of only 3 on Phuket. Converted to cruising and pleasure boat, ideal for family or charter with seating for up to 12 guests. She has a fully enclosed WC compartment and is fitted with a 2006 4-stroke Yamaha 250hp outboard engine with full service history, giving top speed in excess of 20 + kts Lying Laem Him pier. Asking 1.15M THB.

HER 10 METRE SISTER SHIP is also for sale. She is identical in design but being 2 metres shorter has seating for up to 10 guests and a 2006 4-stroke Yamaha 200hp outboard with full service history, giving top speed in excess of 20 + kts. Lying Laem Him. Asking 1M THB.

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**Call Scott: 081-978 4740**

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Sturdy cruising yacht, long keel US \$35,000. For further details, please see our website at [www.boatshedphuket.com](http://www.boatshedphuket.com)

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## AFRI-CAT 420 2006

Equipped for extended charters US \$549,950. For further details, please see our website [www.boatshedphuket.com](http://www.boatshedphuket.com)

## MAXUM 2100SC SALE@1.25MB

40 hours of use, 220 HP/ 5 Lt Mercruiser engine, Bimini cover, in excellent condition with Thai registration. Tel: 087-418 3552 (English & Thai). Contact for more details at email: [simon\\_murray489@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:simon_murray489@hotmail.co.uk)

## 1997 SAILBOAT 31FT



18hp Yanmar diesel, 2 set sails recent survey 2 cabins, fridge, stove head. 1,280,000 baht. Contact Rick. Tel: 087-277 2355, 089-724 4570.

## THUNDERCRAFT 25 F

Thundercraft cruiser, 1992 import from Canada. Jeanneau hull, very good condition, 25.5 ft. Newly rebuilt 260hp OMC inboard 5.7I V8. Double cabin, trim tab, kitchen, bathroom, shower, air conditioning, USA trailer, parking in yacht club marina. Price: 950,000 baht. Located in Pattaya. Tel: 086-565 1955 (English & Thai). Email: [manager@thaiFrance.com](mailto:manager@thaiFrance.com)

## SELLING YOUR BOAT?

Try [www.boatshedphuket.com](http://www.boatshedphuket.com) The "No sale No fee" brothers. Call Alan Tel: 084-842 6146.

## FOR SAES SUNNAV NEW 18 FT



1 outboard engine Yamaha 85hp, 28 knots complete with highest quality Trailer. Price only 450,000 baht. For future details Tel: 02-814 4070 ext 156, 089-4767443. Email: [sales@sunnay.com](mailto:sales@sunnay.com) See our web site at [www.sunnay.com](http://www.sunnay.com)

## MAXUM 1800

18" Maxum Bowrider 135 HK with trailer. Good condition, only 550,000 baht! Tel: 089-9325175. Or contact for more details at email: [wojckowbengt@hotmail.com](mailto:wojckowbengt@hotmail.com)

## MCGREOR 26 X



Beautiful GABRIELLA, trailered coastal sailing motor boat, for 6 pax. New 85 HP 2-stroke, many extras and spare parts. Thai registration. 1 million baht o.n.o. Tel: 081-958 2705 (English). Email: [oleksiiurash@gmail.com](mailto:oleksiiurash@gmail.com)

## YAMAHA 2000 LS JETBOAT

for sale. 20" Yamaha Jetboat 270 HK, 55 knots! With trailer. Good condition, only 575,000 baht. Tel: 089-932 5175.

## SUNSEEKER MANHATTAN 58



One-day tour 110,000+ baht. Price include captain, crew, cook, snorkeling & fishing equipment. Tel: 076-238976, 02-8144070 ext 156. Email: [sales@sunnay.com](mailto:sales@sunnay.com) [www.sunnay.com](http://www.sunnay.com)

## NEW 9 RXT-IS 255HP SPECIAL

Brand new 2009 RXT-IS 255hp (last unit). 70 mph! Special price: only 565,000 baht. Tel: 081-754 7599. Please contact for more details at email: [csutivas@hotmail.com](mailto:csutivas@hotmail.com)

## BOATS FOR SALE

5m center console fishing. Yamaha 25+Trailer, grand 330 Rib+Trailer, Avons 300 Rib+Nissan 5. Tel: 081-597 4443.

## KAYAK FOR SALE

New feelfree atlantis 14 cockpit cover. 25,000 baht. 9am-5pm. Tel: 089-591 9804.

## 55 FOOT CRUISING CATAMARAN

New! 6 double cabins, 105sqm. Sails, composite. Ready to sail! 1.8 million baht o.n.o. Tel: 087-461 8089.

## SEA KAYAK 2 SEATER

Cost 28,000 baht new, asking price 12,000 baht for quick sale. Contact Steve. For more details, Tel: 084-845 1200.

## JEANNEAU 35, 2003

3 double cabins. 27Hp Yamar spinnaker. Only \$79,950. [www.boatshedphuket.com](http://www.boatshedphuket.com)

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Brokerage Office  
The Boat Lagoon Marina Phuket  
Contact: Andrew de Bruin / Marcus Overman  
mobile: 081 894 1530 / 081 968 1437  
tel/fax: 076 239 729  
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Yacht Haven Marina Office  
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Ocean Marina Jomtien Beach  
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# Island Job Mart

## LIMITLESS DISCOVERY AWAITS

Le Méridien Phuket Beach Resort, a member of Starwood Hotels and Resorts, invites Thai candidates for the following positions:

- Assistant Conventions Manager
- Beverage Manager
- Guest Service Agent
- Guest Relations Officer

An exciting career awaits creative professionals along with a competitive benefits package.

Send resume with recent photo to:  
marit.pimparien@lemeridien.com

LE MERIDIEN  
PHUKET BEACH RESORT  
29 Soi Karon Nui, Karon, Muang Phuket 83100, Thailand  
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## Career opportunities to join and grow with us.

We would like to invite all applicants to come and apply for the following positions:

1. Project Coordinator
2. Civil Engineer
3. Assistant Architect
4. Accountant
5. IT Programmer
6. M&E Engineer
7. Secretary
8. Cad Production

### Key Qualifications:

- require 0 - 3 year working experience
- Thai national, Male/Female, age not over 35 y.
- Bachelor Degree and/or higher in related field.
- Ability to work under pressure and work independently
- Positive attitude, reliable, and pleasant personality.
- High computer literacy and ability to learn new operations

Please forward your CV and cover letter via e-mail to  
hr@ablearchitects.com

**Able Architects Co.,Ltd.**

38/5 moo 5, T.Vichit, Mueng, Phuket 83000

## WEST SANDS VACATION CLUB

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Be a part of something fantastic! West Sands Vacation Club is seeking outgoing, motivated individuals to join our fun-filled family. Competitive salaries and benefits.

Graphic Designer

1 position

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1 position

Send resume or CV with recent photo to [mark@west-sands.com](mailto:mark@west-sands.com)



## Dalton Co.,Ltd.

### Looking for

- Driver 2 Positions
- Cook & Maid 2 Positions

### Qualification

- Thai nationality
- Good command of spoken English
- Full Time

Please email application with recent photo and resume / CV to  
[rodriguez.l@scp-lawassistance.com](mailto:rodriguez.l@scp-lawassistance.com)  
Tel: 061 883 3212 or 061 988 0230

### HEADSTART INT'L SCHOOL

Is currently seeking qualified, experienced and caring teachers for Kindergarten, Primary and Secondary levels. Please email CVs to [school@headstartphuket.com](mailto:school@headstartphuket.com)

### HOME NURSING CARE SERVICE

Qualified nurse required for 2-3 months during post operation recovery. Family needs extra support. Should speak reasonable English. Contact: Tany. Tel: 086-944 1074.

### SECURITY SALES TECHNICIAN

Property Care Services (PCS) require a security sales technician to manage sales, installation and service of CCTV and Intruder Alarm systems. Preferred applicants are Thai nationals with basic English speaking skills and background in electronic systems and engineering. Tel: 076-376557, 081-958 6879. Fax: 076-958 6879. Email: [scott@pcs.co.th](mailto:scott@pcs.co.th) For further details, please see our website at <http://pcs.co.th>

### PROFESSIONAL SELLERS NEEDED

Thai women to sell ladies clothing and look after shop. Must speak English and feel comfortable with foreigners. Good salary and commissions. Tel: 086-548 4111, 087-365 0670(Eng, Thai). Email: [zabede@gmail.com](mailto:zabede@gmail.com)

### FOOD AND BEVERAGE MANAGER

Immediate opening for highly energetic and dynamic individual for 20-room boutique hotel. Salary 26,000 to 30,000 baht per month plus benefits. Thai national. For more details. Tel: 086-604 1333. Email: [sales@ccbloomshotel.com](mailto:sales@ccbloomshotel.com)

### WORK THE SUMMER IN GREECE

We are currently seeking German, French, Dutch and Scandinavian speaking persons to join us this summer on the beautiful island of Crete. Do you feel you want to do something different? Please send email: [acgcanbluerecruitment@yahoo.com](mailto:acgcanbluerecruitment@yahoo.com)



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**(Must be Thai Citizens)**

Excellent pay per tour, great locations and generous sales commissions

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### PCS SALES EXECUTIVE

Property Care Services urgently require sales executives. Preferred applicants are degree educated and experienced in service and hospitality industries. Attractive salary, travel allowance, and commissions available. Tel: 076-376557, 081-958 6879. Fax: 076-376560. Email: [scott@pcs.co.th](mailto:scott@pcs.co.th) Website at [www.pcs.co.th](http://www.pcs.co.th)

### SALE STAFF WANTED

Full- or part-time. Thai nationality with English speaking skills. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-537 6866.

### RECEPTIONIST IN KARON

Needed for beautiful guesthouse. Thai national. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-875 3823. Email: [ninapartments@hotmail.com](mailto:ninapartments@hotmail.com)

### HOTEL RECEPTIONIST

Hotel in Patong wants male receptionist with good spoken and written English and ability to use basic hotel booking system. Tel: 076-296654. Email: [rbpeters@fastmail.fm](mailto:rbpeters@fastmail.fm)

### STAFF WANTED

Therapists, esthetic, receptionist. Thai female, must speak English and have experience working at spa. Tel: 086-277 3899, 081-728 8087.

### British International School, Phuket

British International School, Phuket is looking for the following candidates:

- Business Development & Service Officer
- Junior Secretary at office of the Headmaster
- Teacher Assistant

#### Qualifications

- Thai National, Male/Female, aged 25-30 years old
- Bachelor Degree in any field
- Good command of spoken and written English
- Good personality and service minded
- Computer Literate : MS Office programmes and Internet usage

#### • PE Assistant

##### Qualifications

- Thai National
- University Degree, Physical Education Major or related fields
- Good English, Positive, willing & hard working
- Knowledge of local schools or clubs to arrange fixtures
- Knowledge of local facilities & sports opportunities
- Coaching qualification to coach a team such as Basketball or etc.
- Be able to do a supervisor for Military Training & Teaching Assistant
- Be able to work flexible day 1 pm. to 6 pm. all day Saturday

#### • Thai teacher

##### Qualifications

- Thai national
- Bachelor degree in Education, Thai major preferable
- Good command of spoken and written English
- Strong interpersonal and organizational skills
- Responsible and flexible
- Able to teach in both primary and secondary



59 Moo 2, Thepkasattri Road, Koh Kaeu, Muang, Phuket 83200

Tel: 076 238711-20 # 2103, 2206, 1111

Fax: 076 238711-20 # 1130

E-mail: [patcharakont@bisphuket.ac.th](mailto:patcharakont@bisphuket.ac.th) or  
[sirirats@bisphuket.ac.th](mailto:sirirats@bisphuket.ac.th)

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# Island Job Mart



Sheraton Grande Laguna, a Luxury Collection Resort, Phuket is surrounded by tranquil lagoons on its own "island within an island", facing the Andaman Sea. This five-star property offers 423 luxuriously appointed rooms and villas, plus eight dining and entertainment outlets.

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

- Director of Events
- Assistant Director of Leisure Sales - Bangkok
- Director of Event Sales - Phuket
- Sales Executive Leisure - Phuket
- Safety & Security Manager
- Community Relations Executive
- Sous Chef
- Chef De Partie
- Demi Chef De Partie
- Restaurant Manager
- Night Manager
- Chief Concierge
- Laguna Residence Administrator

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

**Human Resources Department**  
 Sheraton Grande Laguna, A Luxury Collection Resort, Phuket  
 10 Moo 4 Srisoonthorn Road, Chermgtalay,  
 Thalang, Phuket 83110  
 T. 076 324 101-7  
 F. 076 324 108  
 Email: [sglp.recruitment@luxurycollection.com](mailto:sglp.recruitment@luxurycollection.com)

**Wide Discovery Dot Com Co., Ltd.** is a full-service hotel internet marketing strategic services company. We help hoteliers take full advantage of the direct online channel and turn their websites into the hotel's main and most-effective distribution channel. We are seeking qualified candidates for the following position:



## Sales & Marketing Manager (1 position)

- Develop, implement and manage eMarketing strategies, plan activities for the assigned WD products, which align with brand strategies; ensure KPIs (key performance indicators), and other goals/objectives will be met or exceeded
- Build relationships with new clients
- Seek new potential hotel customers
- Helps grow customer channel volume through use of marketing services

### Requirements:

- Thai Nationality
- Male/Female, 30-35 years
- Bachelor Degree in Marketing or related field
- At least 2 - 3 year sales and marketing experience in property field
- Good command of English
- Computer literate-MS Office and good interpersonal skills
- Requires an energetic, strategically focused and creative sales achiever who enjoys the latitude of working independently and effectively uses their time management skills
- Good organizational skills
- Highly motivated and well presented
- A valid driving license is preferred

Interested?? Please send your application and CV and cover letter in English to [info@widediscovery.com](mailto:info@widediscovery.com) for more information, please contact us at 076 258474

### PRIVATE HOMESCHOOL

teacher. Two very nice girls aged 4 and 9 are looking for a top qualified female homeschool teacher (need to be able to teach in all subjects like english, math, science, history, geography etc.). Please do not apply for this job if you are "just" an English teacher. Private and very well equipped classroom, good salary, work permit (long term contract) and free accommodation provided. Tel: 075-662099, 089-873 0201 (English), 081-978 0602 (Thai). Fax: 075-637246. Email: [info@aonang-divers.com](mailto:info@aonang-divers.com)

### MARKETING STAFF

Highly successful property developer is looking for marketing staff for sales booths, initially in Jungceylon and Central Festival. We need Thai nationals, male or female, with outgoing personalities and excellent English communication skills. We are offering basic salary plus good commissions. Positions are temporary, but with good prospects for the right people. If interested, please send resume with photo to: [peter@raimonland.com](mailto:peter@raimonland.com)

### MARKETING EXECS WANTED

International Villa holiday specialist seeks Thai university graduates to help set up Phuket / Thai operations. Excellent English skills required. We pay top salaries to smart career focused people. Car provided. Involves travel. Email your CV, with photo, if you are ready to move up. For further details. Tel: 083-116 2852 (English). Email: [angus@exotiquealestate.com](mailto:angus@exotiquealestate.com)



## Opportunities in the Security Industry

**G4S** is a global leader in Security and Safety Solutions, operating at present in more than 100 countries and employing in excess of 500,000 people around the world. Due to the expansion of our Thailand business, we are seeking experienced professionals to fill a number of key positions in Southern Region:

### Security Services Manager: Based in Phuket

Educated to degree level with a minimum of 3 to 5 years' security industry experience, in particular manned guarding. Must be customer focused in delivering quality service. This position is open to both Thai and non-Thai applicants.

### Sales Manager and Sales Executives: Integrated Solutions

Educated to degree level with a minimum of 3 years' security industry experience, must be self motivated with a proven track record in customer relations and working to achieve sales targets.

### Customer Service Personnel Based in Phuket

Educated to degree in any field, good communication skills and service-minded, can communicate in English and computer literate. Female age between 25 - 35 years.

All positions require excellent communication skills, a high level of personal integrity and a good command of both written and oral English/Thai. We are looking for the highest caliber individuals and offer attractive salary & benefits. Interested candidates should submit their resume together with personal references, a recent photograph and expected package to:

Please send your CV to **Chris Hopkins, Regional Manager**  
**G4S Security Services (Thailand) Limited**

108/103 Chalmphrakiat Road, Rassada, Muang, Phuket 83000  
 Email: [Chris.Hopkins@th.g4s.com](mailto:Chris.Hopkins@th.g4s.com), Website: [www.g4s.com](http://www.g4s.com)

Please note all candidates will require security screening and background checks prior to employment.



## Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

**As part of a major expansion project, the Phuket Gazette is seeking a PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER**

### The Job:

- To initiate, drive and manage CSR projects
- To design and manage Contests and Events
- To take primary responsibility for the newspaper's relationships with Government, Hotels, and Charitable Organizations
- To design and implement promotional activities to support Nation / Gazette Seminars and Forums
- To assist in the design and use of flyers, posters and other graphics to support a wide variety of promotional campaigns
- To represent the Gazette at major Events in Bangkok, Phuket, and elsewhere in the region

### The Candidate:

- Thai National with a 'World View'
- Fluent in English, aged at least 28
- Positive, outgoing personality
- Ambitious and Proactive

Contact Khun Oranee Hildebrand, Managing Director, for further details. [Ann@PhuketGazette.Net](mailto:Ann@PhuketGazette.Net)

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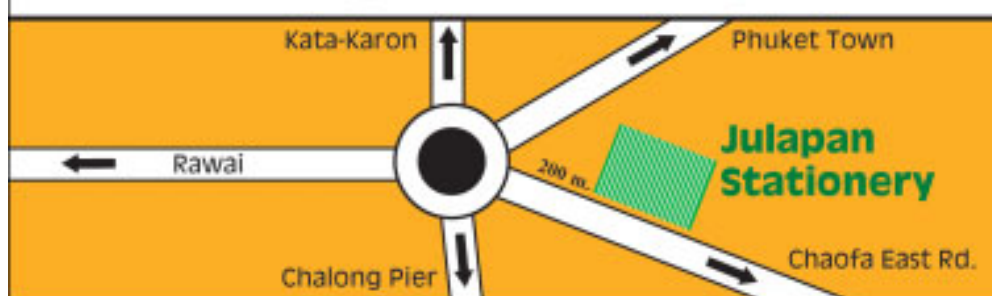
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