

# Phuket Gazette

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Find out why Phuket fitness fanatic Les Bird is getting ready for his toughest test yet.

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# Lovers leap 17 floors to death

A YOUNG couple jumped to their deaths from a Patong condo in the early morning of March 7 after their parents disapproved of the relationship.

Anon Phawalaksanawat, 26, and Atachima 'Wan' Onkaow, 24, traveled to the island for a last holiday together before their planned suicides.

The two Bangkok residents were identified from documents left in a 17th-floor room at the Patong Tower on Thaweewong Road.

Police found the room's lights, television and air-conditioning left on and the balcony door open.

The couple had jumped off a wooden box found stacked on a table next to the balcony railing.

Police also found five letters addressed to family members.

In one of them Miss

Atachima apologized to her family, saying the couple had decided to come to Phuket for a final holiday before killing themselves because of her family's disapproval of their relationship.

The young lovers had been renting the room since March 5.

Before their deaths, they arranged their possessions in pairs and left a photograph album containing pictures of them at Phuket tourist attractions.

The bodies were found by a security guard at around 5:30am. The condo's CCTV system showed they jumped at 5:24am.

There was no sign of a struggle.

Police are treating the deaths as suicide.

Source: Kom Chad Luek/Khao Sod



TRAGIC END: Wan and Anon (inset) leapt 17 floors from the Patong Tower.

# Beach safety in jeopardy

DESPITE sweetening the terms of reference, the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (PPAO) has again failed to attract a single bidder for the tender to supply lifeguards at the island's beaches.

An officer at the PPAO supply unit confirmed that two companies purchased the bid plans, but failed to show at the scheduled bid opening meeting on March 2.

The same happened in February when two companies expected to tender for the contract failed to submit bids.

The previous contract expired on November 12, 2009. It was not renewed due to 'managerial issues' and beaches have been unguarded since then.

PPAO president Paiboon Upatising is currently attending the International Tourism Bourse (ITB) Berlin and has yet to comment on developments.

Phuket Lifeguard Club was one of the organizations which paid for the latest bid plans.

Prathaiyut Chuayuan, the club's president, said it didn't bid for the contract because of PPAO regulations.

"Only companies are allowed to bid on the contract. But our club isn't registered as a company, it's registered as a juristic person," he said.

The contract, which would require the provision of 83 beach

guards at 22 separate points, is worth 10 million baht.

"I think the other company that was due to bid calculated that they couldn't make enough money for it to be worth their while," Mr Prathaiyut said.

Although the budget was tight, the club was willing to take on the contract for the benefit of its members, he said.

"We are ready if the PPAO will give us a chance."

- Pimwara Choksakulpan

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## Tsunami buoys on the way

THE DIRECTOR of the National Disaster Warning Center says two more tsunami buoys will be deployed off the Andaman Coast by year-end.

NDWC Director Viriya Mongkolveerapan said the government is spending more than 100 million baht on the tsunami detection units, which are on order from Italy.

One will be deployed about 10 to 20km off the coast of Phuket and the other a similar distance from Ranong, he said.

Last December the NDWC replaced the single existing direct detection buoy, anchored to the sea bottom about 600 nautical miles northwest of Phuket.

The 'Dart II' unit, deployed in December 2006, was gifted to Thailand by the US government under the stipulation that the NDWC would be responsible for its routine maintenance, including an annual change of battery.

Due to bureaucratic obstacles, the NDWC never changed the battery. Last September the buoy finally stopped transmitting, leaving Thailand with no direct detection capacity for over three months.

The switch-out was finally made and the new unit began transmitting data in December, just in time for the fifth anniversary of the tsunami disaster.

— K. Pornmongkhonwat and S. Fein

# Camp extortion scam uncovered

A MAN posing as a government official was arrested on March 3 for extorting money from Burmese construction workers' camps.

Making the arrest was Thammarong Chuy-aksorn, deputy chief administrative officer of Thalang District, who led a team of 14 undercover officers to carry out a sting operation at the camp.

Mr Thammarong said the action followed complaints from construction project supervisors on the island, mostly in Thalang.

The supervisors said a man calling himself 'Inspector M' and claiming to be a government officer was extorting money from the camps by promising not to report the presence of unregistered Burmese workers in exchange for cash payoffs.

The man, who allegedly brandished a .45 handgun to intimidate people, claimed he was under orders to conduct a survey of alien workers for the National Intelligence Agency.

The camp where the man's extortion campaign ended is on the site of a large residential estate project by a large Bangkok-based development company off Thepkrasatri Road in Thalang.

The man first approached the project foreman on February 28.



Mr Somrit (seated) after his arrest with Mr Thammarong (in glasses) and others who took part in the sting operation. INSET: The fake Isoc ID used in the scam.

He reported the extortion attempt to the Phuket Governor's complaints department, which asked the Thalang District Security Division to apprehend the man and bring him in for police questioning.

The foreman arranged to meet the man to pay a bribe of 1,000 baht at the site at 3pm.

When 'Inspector M' arrived, Mr Thammarong's men were in the camp disguised as construction workers.

After the foreman handed over the money, the team moved in and arrested 'Inspector M' without a struggle.

Inspector M was later identified as Somrit Patanon, a 47-year-old resident of Cherng Talay.

A search of his person uncovered a picture ID badge with the logo of the Internal Security Operations Command

(Isoc), a .45-caliber pistol, a sound recording device, a pair of handcuffs, a digital camera, a police radio, a notebook containing lists of construction sites, and many more items.

Mr Somrit confessed to charges of impersonating a government officer, but denied using threatening behavior.

He claimed he was just the bag man for a high ranking district officer and a village headman who were behind the racket.

Mr Thammarong and his men escorted Mr Somrit to Thalang Police Station for questioning.

The scam is not the first of its kind in Phuket.

There was a spate of extortion attempts at Burmese labor camps in 2008, including one that ended in murder.

— Pimwara Choksakulpan

## Fatality at water plant

A N EMPLOYEE at a desalination plant in Karon died on March 3 when he was sucked into a high pressure intake hose at the facility.

The worker, 40-year-old Tannit Pramungij, accidentally fell into a large vessel containing sea water while performing maintenance at the REQ Water Services plant about 2:30pm on March 2.

Mr Tannit was sucked into a 30-meter length of high pressure intake hose connected to the tank, used to force saltwater through the reverse-osmosis membrane tubes.

Colleagues rushed to free him, but he emerged unconscious and with a very low pulse.

He was taken to Patong Hospital, where he later died.

## 'DJ Nat' dies

A DJ at the popular Boat Bar in Patong was found dead in his bedroom above the venue on March 3.

Police believe 35-year-old Ratchanon Bawonsakulchart, known as 'DJ Nat', died of chronic health problems.

Colleagues found Mr Ratchanon dead on his bedroom floor at around 8pm.

Boat Bar, located on the access road to the Royal Paradise Hotel, is one of many venues in the area that cater to gay tourists.

Kathu Police Inspector Sophon Borrirak said there were no signs of foul play or robbery at the scene, on the fourth floor of the building.

An examination at Patong Hospital suggested Mr Ratchanon suffered from diabetes, asthma and high blood pressure, in addition to being overweight.

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# Red shirts: 'We won't burn our own home'

ONE thousand local red shirts left the island on March 11 to take part in mass demonstrations in Bangkok.

A local leader of the red-shirt United Front of Democracy Against Dictatorship (UDD) movement, Soonthorn Tohmharn, said there would be no demonstrations in Phuket.

At the time of going to press, a huge UDD protest in Bangkok was set to take place on the afternoon of March 12 in a last ditch effort to topple Prime Minister

Abhisit Vejjajiva's government.

The planned protests were expected to draw hundreds of thousands of red shirts from around the country.

PM Abhisit said the Internal Security Act would be imposed to deal with the protests.

"I hope we don't need to impose martial law," he said.

Mr Soonthorn insisted there would be no violence in Phuket.

"We are not going to burn our own home," he said. "We are aware of what we should and shouldn't do," he added.



**RED SHIRTS:** Phuket United Front of Democracy Against Dictatorship leaders, including Soonthorn Tohmharn (second left).

"All red shirts are following their heart to capital," he said.

Phuket City Police Acting Superintendent Chaiwat Auykham said he was not worried about red-shirt protests in Phuket. However, he expected a hike in criminal activity to coincide with the Bangkok demonstrations.

"I have ordered local police to make hourly checks, especially on politicians and government buildings such as the Phuket Provincial Court, to ensure safety and order," he said.

Representatives from Phuket's yellow-shirted People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD) said on March 10 they urged all political group members to refrain from violence.

Phuket PAD leader Soonthorn Rakrong said his members would not attempt to stop red-shirt protests in the South.

He added, however, that due to the large number of yellow shirts in the region, the leadership would not be able to exert complete control over the situation.

— K. Pornmongkhonwat

## Supercheap strangler cuffed at checkpoint

POLICE have arrested a man wanted for the rape and strangling murder of 24-year-old Supercheap employee Thipkasen 'Khwan' Heep-peech last month.

Nakhon Sri Thammarat native Sutthiporn 'Khao' Morasin was arrested as he tried to leave the island at Tah Chat Chai checkpoint on March 6.

Witnesses told police Mr Sutthiporn, 25, lived next door to Miss Khwan at the Laem Hin Home apartment block in Koh Kaew.

He was wanted for questioning in the case soon after Miss Khwan's body was found in her room on February 24.

Witnesses told police Mr Sutthiporn and his victim had been in a relationship that soured for financial reasons.

Mr Sutthiporn denies all charges.

— Pimwara Choksakulpan

## Smugglers netted

FOUR Rawai fishermen were arrested on March 7 for smuggling protected marine species.

The suspects, 34-year-old Pichit Bangjak and three minors, were arrested at 11am in a pickup truck parked along Thepkrasattri Road in Rassada.

A search of foam coolers in the bed of the truck uncovered 250 aquarium fish, 300 corals and 20 sea fans ready for transport in plastic bags and other types of packaging.

The value of the items was estimated in excess of 200,000 baht.

The arrests followed a report that men in a truck would be loading protected species onto a Bangkok-bound tour bus leaving the Phuket Bus Terminal in Phuket Town at 10:50am.

The operation was led jointly by Phuket Marine and Coastal

Resources Conservation Center Director Paitoon Panchaipum and Phuket Marine Police Deputy Inspector Natthapong Preugtharathikul.

The officers followed the P2 company bus out of the station to Rassada, where the men were waiting to flag down the vehicle and load the containers into the storage hold.

The suspects confessed to transporting the items, but insisted that the marine life did not belong to them and that they were simply acting as handlers.

All four suspects were taken to Phuket City Police Station and charged with possession of protected species without permission.

Police will try to expand the investigation and bring more fish and coral smugglers to justice.

Mr Paitoon said there are still 28 fishing boats operating



**Marine conservation officials inspect the smuggled fish and coral, destined for buyers in Bangkok.**

illegally in the waters off Phuket collecting aquarium fish and transporting them to Bangkok,

where there is still high demand for them by aquarium supply stores.

Each vessel has a crew of seven or eight men, he said.

— Gazette reporter

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# Ironman to climb Europe's

**A 59-year-old Phuket resident is training to climb Mont Blanc in the French Alps. If he makes it, Everest is next...**

**L**ES BIRD's teeth are clenched, muscles taut and body drenched in sweat as he sprints the last leg of his hour-long training hike to the summit of Nakkerd Hill in Chalong.

As he heaves off his 40 kilogram bag and glances at his watch, Les scolds himself for finishing his training hike in under an hour.

"I need to slow down; I'm going to buy ankle weights today. That will stop me running," the 10-year Phuket resident says.

In the thirty degree heat atop Phuket's highest peak, Les shivers. He knows he has a monolithic challenge ahead: a climb 14 times the height of the 350-meter Nakkerd Hill – and just a few degrees colder.

## A treacherous climb

Mont Blanc, or the White Mountain, bestrides the French and Italian borders and is one of the world's deadliest climbs. Each year, at least a dozen climbers die trying to reach the 4,810-meter (15,781 foot) summit.

Glaciologists and climbing experts warn that falling seracs, or ice shelves, resulting in avalanches are a threat often ignored by the 20,000 climbers in the summer season, from June to August, every year.

Both Italian and French rescue teams deal with up to 800 emergency calls a day in this period.

Les, however, with only three years' climbing experience gained 40 years ago in his native England, says he will be well prepared for the climb.

He will be climbing in a

two-man team with fellow Brit Harry Taylor.

A former Special Air Service (SAS) soldier, Taylor was the first man to traverse the Pinnacles, on the Northeast Ridge of Mount Everest in 1988.

"Climbing at five kilometers above sea level in crampons in sub zero temperatures will be extremely demanding for Les," Taylor said.

The pair plan to take the feared Peuterey Integral route, one of the longest and technically difficult summit traverses in the Alpine region, where 75 mph icy winds and temperatures of minus 20 make for treacherous climbing.

Les will arrive in the Alpine resort of Chamonix Valley a month prior to the July 4 climb. There, he will have three weeks of mountain training, including an Avalanche Awareness Course.

He will also practice sliding down mountain slopes at speed, careening onto his side and using his ice axe as an emergency brake.

"Altitude sickness, hypothermia and exhaustion are all dangers, but slipping is my biggest fear. Even experienced climbers have slipped on Mont Blanc, been unable to stop and fallen to their deaths in crevasses," he said.

It will take the duo eight days to reach the summit.

Over the first three days, the pair will make ascents to 1,500, 2,000 and 3,500 meters, descending back down the mountain after each climb.

On day four, they intend to climb 4,000 meters, camp for the night, and again descend to the Chamonix Valley.

On the sixth day, they plan to reach the 4,810 meter summit, plant the Thai national flag at the top and then make the precipitous descent the next day.

"Your body has to get used to operating with less oxygen, so when you go up on the final two-day climb to the summit, the amount of oxygen in your blood is sufficient for you to function," he said.

"If a person attempted to do the climb on the first day, unless they were superhuman they would be in dire trouble," he added.

## Phuket support

As Les stoops into a delapidated classroom in Phuket Town, 40 little faces look skyward mouths agape. At six feet four inches he must look like a giant to the students under the care of the Child Watch Phuket foundation.

The classroom is a stone's throw from Phuket Provincial Prison, where most of these children's parents are being detained.

One little boy eyes the visitor's size 14 running shoes, while others stare at his T-shirt which is emblazoned with iron man competition logos.

Through his Mont Blanc challenge, Les hopes to raise one million baht for impoverished, orphaned and abused children cared for by the foundation.

Since 1998 the foundation has helped over 1,500 children with education scholarships, day care services and shelter at the Phuket Town and Kathu based centers.

"If Phuket people would be so generous as to donate to my Alpine adventure, the funds will go to a very just cause," Les said.

## The Ironman

'Fanatical' is how Les describes his Alpine training regime.

On Mondays he opts for a spot of ocean swimming: four kilometers from Bang Tao Beach to Koh Waeo Island.

A safety boat tails him to help avoid long tail fishing boats. "They wouldn't expect to see a swimmer so far out," says Les.

Three times a week, he cycles 125 kilometers wearing a weight belt. He endures three-hour runs and day-long hikes up Nakkerd Hill. He is a man who takes pleasure in pain.

"My friends stopped training with me years ago. They say I'm no fun," he says of his tendency to use a heart rate monitor, and stopwatch when running, hiking, swimming and cycling.

Les has competed in seven Ironman competitions around the world over the past 10 years.

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# highest peak



cycle and a 42.2 kilometer marathon, Ironman competitions are revered as the toughest triathlons on the planet.

In November last year at the World Ironman 70.3 Championships in Florida, Les represented Britain after winning the 50-59 age group in Ironman Singapore 2009.

His first competitive athletic outing came at the China Coast Marathon on his 40th birthday.

After a decade of marathon running throughout South East Asia, he moved to Phuket a week prior to his 50th birthday, and a few days before the Laguna Phuket Triathlon, which he entered.

But even superfit Les knows his Alpine climb demands a different style of training.

The deleterious effects on his body due to altitude sickness are also a concern.

"A person can be a world class athlete at sea level but become a vegetable at 4,000 meters," he says.

When asked why he would want to put himself through this personal anguish, he replies: "I have to do it. I don't want to look back in five years and realize I missed my window."

## In the line of fire

As former Royal Hong Kong Police (RHKP) Commander Les served 21 years (1976-1997) in a profession synonymous with danger.

He's been shot at by drug traffickers, lost close friends in the line of duty, and was involved in one of the most successful international narcotics operations in RHKP's history.

The 1989 operation resulted in 24 arrests and the seizing of 43 kilograms of heroin in what amounted to the complete dismantling of an international drug smuggling racket.

"In the late '80s I was in charge of the marine counter terrorism unit and the counter piracy unit...It was a very physically demanding job. Everyone in the unit was scared fit," he said.

## Bank on Bird

Les is determined his fitness will see him reach the top of Mont Blanc. If he succeeds, he plans to summit Everest.

If anyone on Phuket can do it, bank on him being that man.

— Fraser Morton

## Help Les reach Bt1 million

W: [childwatchphuket.org](http://childwatchphuket.org).

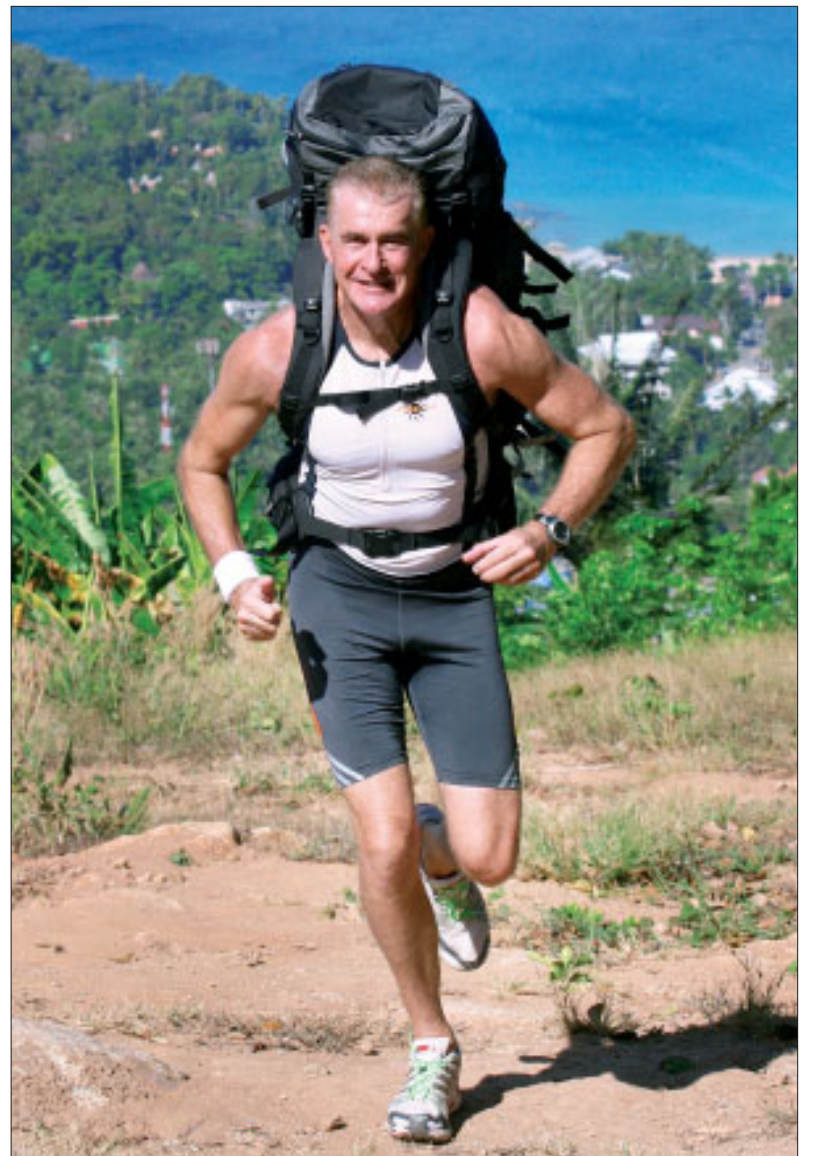
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Les Bird trains atop of Nakkerd Hill in Chalong and (left) a view of Mont Blanc Mountain in the Alps. Open source photo by Benh Lieu Song.

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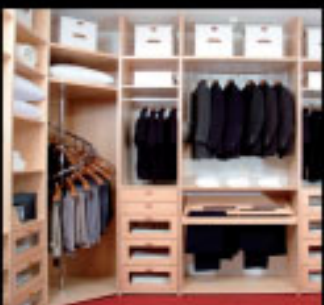
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# Eco-plan sustained for Krabi

By Lesley Chittayanon

SUSTAINABLE tourism has been the buzz phrase in the tourist industry for a while now, but a recent event in Krabi proved that both tourist operators and travelers consider it more than just a passing trend.

Rayavadee Resort hosted the Phranang - Railay Sustainable Tourism Development Project on March 9 and 10. The event's aim was not only to promote conservation and protection of the local surroundings and culture from the detrimental effects of tourism, but develop a model which can be used throughout the Kingdom.

Having learned from neighboring Phuket's misguided moves early on in the game, Krabi is aware of the importance of guarding its rich heritage, deep rooted culture and outstanding natural beauty from mismanaged tourism.

Rayavadee Resort has been instrumental in developing and promoting sustainable tourism on the Phranang - Railay peninsula. The premier five star resort, which spans 26 acres, recycles both waste water and garbage.

Rayavadee's Chief Designer, Khun Garnchai explained, "The water recycling system ensures that waste water does not contaminate the sea. The recycled water is used for flushing toilets and watering the plants, which reduces the resort's overall water usage."

The resort also recycles waste materials from the kitchen and garden to produce an organic fertilizer. By recycling waste, Rayavadee not only reduces the



amount of rubbish, but creates an effective soil regenerative.

The resort's annual mangrove planting involves schoolchildren, visitors and local government representatives anchoring new plant life in this important ecosystem. Aside from restoring nature, this initiative cultivates an environmental consciousness in the local community. By donating floating buoys, the resort also hopes to prevent further damage to the sea bed due to longtail anchors.

The last presentation from the Phranang - Railay Sustainable Tourism Development Project explained their main objectives, which deal with the social, economic and environmental benefits to the community.

A signing board inviting tourists to comment on the initiative illustrated the growing demand for responsible ecotourism, as many visitors expressed their sincere hope for the program's success and left email addresses

to receive updates on the progress of the initiative.

As tourism relies so heavily on the appreciation of the country's thriving nature and vibrant culture, sustainable

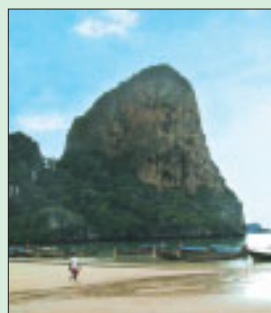


ecotourism needs to be recognized on a national level.

ABOVE, LEFT: A project manager explains how Rayavadee Resort's water filtration system promotes 'sustainable tourism' and preserves Krabi's natural beauty. The resort's fish pond (above, right) – filled with the treated water – is one example of the resort's resourceful recycling.

Few places on this earth combine the vast range of natural habitats and ecosystems to form the diverse landscape and

marine environment of Krabi. Mangroves, beaches, islands, forests, karst caves and shallow reefs are so closely juxtaposed – not to mention the myriad of cultures residing in the region.



**ACROSS THE BAY**  
By Gus Reynolds

WELL, it is that time of year again. With the new year comes time for the *OrBorTor*, or administration of district offices, to assess taxes on the local businesses.

Over the years, Krabi tax payers have attempted to understand and document the seemingly arbitrary tax rates imposed for structure and building taxes, but to no avail.

In recent years, business owners have faced a 400% increase, with no explanation from 'the man'.

Tax payers have often made trips to the *OrBorTor*'s offices to inquire as to how the huge increase was calculated,

## Living in taxing times

but the clerk provides some formula that would leave an Oxford math PhD baffled.

'Just pay 100,000 baht!', would be the reply from the clerk.

Since only paying 22,000 baht in tax the year before, this random increase has left taxpayers feeling stunned and angry.

Through written complaints and negotiations, one could argue their way to a settlement of 45,000 baht, and feel relieved that the tax was only raised by 100%.

Recently, there have been some new and shocking tax rates announced, which will effect a broad spectrum of business owners.

First announced was a swimming pool tax. Yes, that's right, folks. Hotels will be taxed for the size of their swimming pool. And if that is not enough, there will be a restaurant tax imposed, as well.

Add these new taxes to the hotel tax, building and structure tax, VAT tax, social security tax, salary tax and we are fast becoming like another over-taxed westernized country.

Although fighting with the taxman is nothing new, I think it is best described in the Beatles song *Taxman*:

"If you drive a car, I'll tax the street. If you try to sit, I'll tax your seat. If you get too cold, I'll tax the heat. If you take a walk, I'll tax your feet."

A faster way to raise taxes, rather than burden legitimate businesses, would be to create a special tax on tailor shops. They outnumber every other business in Krabi by a wide margin and hire few or no Thai staff.

How about a tax on street touts?

Or tax on the street vendors that clog the sidewalks with their wares, annoying tourists and disrupting legitimate businesses?

The underlying theme for those dreaming up new taxes should be: raise taxes on the things which there are too many of and give a break to the other businesses that enhance the value of Krabi.

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# ‘Invincible’ monk stabbed to death

NAKHON RATCHASIMA: A monk was stabbed to death after boasting that his magic amulets made his skin impenetrable to weapons.

Phra Sunantha Phongsuwan, 44, died in the early hours of March 2 from a single stab wound to the chest.

Witnesses reported that the previous evening Phra Sunantha and his friend Phra Sathien Khamphira, 55, had been at

Samnak Takhro Temple discussing amulets and charms.

Phra Sunantha boasted that a type of herb he had in his possession made him invulnerable to weapons.

To test the power of their charms, the two monks slashed each other's arms with a knife.

The pair reportedly found that the knife did not make an impression on Phra Sunantha's skin.

The middle-aged monks

quarrelled over whose turn it was with the knife and Phra Sathien reportedly slipped, falling knife-first into Phra Sunantha.

This time the amulet failed and the knife went deep into the monk's chest.

They rushed Phra Sunantha to hospital but doctors were unable to save him.

Police have charged Phra Sathien with murder.

Source: Khao Sod

## Cops nab drug dealing granny, 80

CHONBURI: An anti-drug squad arrested an 80-year-old woman for selling *ya bah* in Sattahip.

An informant used marked banknotes to buy three *ya bah* (crystal methamphetamine) pills for 740 baht from 80-year-old Waen Srisuk at her house on March 8.

The squad then moved in to

arrest the suspect. Police searched the house and found the banknotes as well as three more *ya bah* pills.

Mrs Waen confessed that she bought the drugs from her daughter for 200 baht a pill and sold them for 250 baht each.

Mrs Waen was previously arrested in 1994, when she was 64, for selling heroin. She spent

more than 10 years behind bars.

Life in prison was very comfortable as there was free healthcare and everyone looked after her because she was the oldest inmate, she said.

Since being released she had found life very difficult and had to sell drugs to pay bills and medical fees, she said.

Source: Kom Chad Luek



## Rogue general under arrest

Maj Gen Khattiya 'Seh Daeng' Sawasdiphol in custody on March 7. The army specialist, who is a known sympathizer of Thaksin Shinawatra, has been charged with possessing war weapons at his home in Bangkok.

## Queer News

## Parents outraged over teachers' magic potion

BURIRAM: Parents are up in arms after teachers at a government school tried to use black magic to find out which of their pupils stole money from a staff member on March 2.

Children complained they were made to swear they didn't take the cash, then drink 'magic water' from a bottle containing various kinds of garbage.

Saithong Khareram, a local village chief, said parents claimed three teachers at Ban Nong Trat School used unacceptable means to find the child who had stolen 800 baht from one of them.

After no child admitted to the theft, the teachers fetched a bottle of 'magic water' made by a local monk, Mr Saithong said.

The water contained old nails, marbles, toothpicks, human hair, leaves and rubber bands.

The teachers forced the children to drink the concoction and swear they didn't steal the money.

Many of the children agreed to the test, though others refused, rendering the trial useless.

After hearing what happened, parents were furious that the teachers made their children drink such a potentially dangerous concoction.

The parents have demanded the three teachers and the school director be transferred.

Narong Phaowphalasong, a senior Buriram education official, said he would set up a commission to investigate the complaints.

"If the teachers and school director are found to be guilty, they will be punished," Mr Narong assured parents.

Source: Khao Sod



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# Khanasutra's perfect culinary caravan

## On the menu WITH Wilko

As anyone who has ever read Henri Charriere's *Papillon* will testify, it's maddening to be forever sifting through the book, sorting out what's true or shameless male chest beating. Although the story is riveting, one can't help but wondering how heady the mixture of fact and fiction is.

But think about the sensory onslaught of literature, celluloid and cultural influences that the subcontinent churns out and, more importantly, think about just how long it's been since you've indulged in a good Indian culinary blowout.

'You can't curry love' Phil Collins should have sang, so due preparations were patiently made, diplomatic passes ensured, pack camels packed and the Wilkos stalked up, much to the astonishment of the Chinese New Year revelers, over to Khanasutra Indian restaurant on Phuket Town's Takuapa Road.

References to the nomadic



Restaurant Khanasutra offers a taste of traditional Indian cuisine in their richly decorated and romantic venue. Offering dishes created from a blend of 38 herbs and spices sourced from different regions in the Indian Sub-Continent and from the foothills of the Himalayas

life are, in this case, quite appropriate as the one-room restaurant is alive in swathes of vividly dyed

textiles, Arabian-style scatter cushions and ample horizontal Pasha spaces in which to lie



down. We, being ramrod-backed Anglo Saxons, however, choose to sit at table and absorb the atmosphere at what must be one of the most exotic restaurants in Phuket Town.

Indian-tinged contemporary music gushes and swirls in and out of the pillars as a waitress lights wall and table candles, and the restaurant comes alive in a kaleidoscope of glittering figurines and faux wall vines.

Those looking for the erotic side of things will no doubt associate the restaurant's name with the Indian love manual the *Kamasutra* and get all giggly, but in fact 'Khanasutra' is the North Indian dialect for 'food'.

Speaking of which, we kick off with veggie samosas priced at 120 baht, veggie pakora for 80 baht, before launching into a fish, then a spinach-and-chicken masala – both 250 baht.

It's all excellent stuff and a real change from the lighter yet more polemical Thai cuisine. The fish comes out the best with a wonderful texture and taste.

The samosas were deliv-

ered handsomely, and of course, we had a selection of nan bread – priced at 60 baht for plain and 80 baht for garlic butter – to accompany the main dishes.

To wash all this down we enjoyed a few glasses of the excellent South African house wine at 180 baht.

The restaurant throws a curry buffet every second Sunday of the month at which diners can indulge in a varied set menu at a very reasonable price.

Owner Billy Chima is one of Phuket Town's 'original' characters and is responsible for quite a few football-related events on the island. If you are an Arsenal football club supporter, waste no time in getting on down there if a game is on – you'll be in very good company.

Khanasutra is located at 18-20 Takua Pa Road, off Rasada Road, in Phuket Town. Open for lunch Monday to Saturday 11am to 3pm and dinner 6pm to 10:30pm, or till the last customer leaves. On Sundays, Khanasutra is open for dinner from 6pm to 10:30pm. Closed on Tuesdays.



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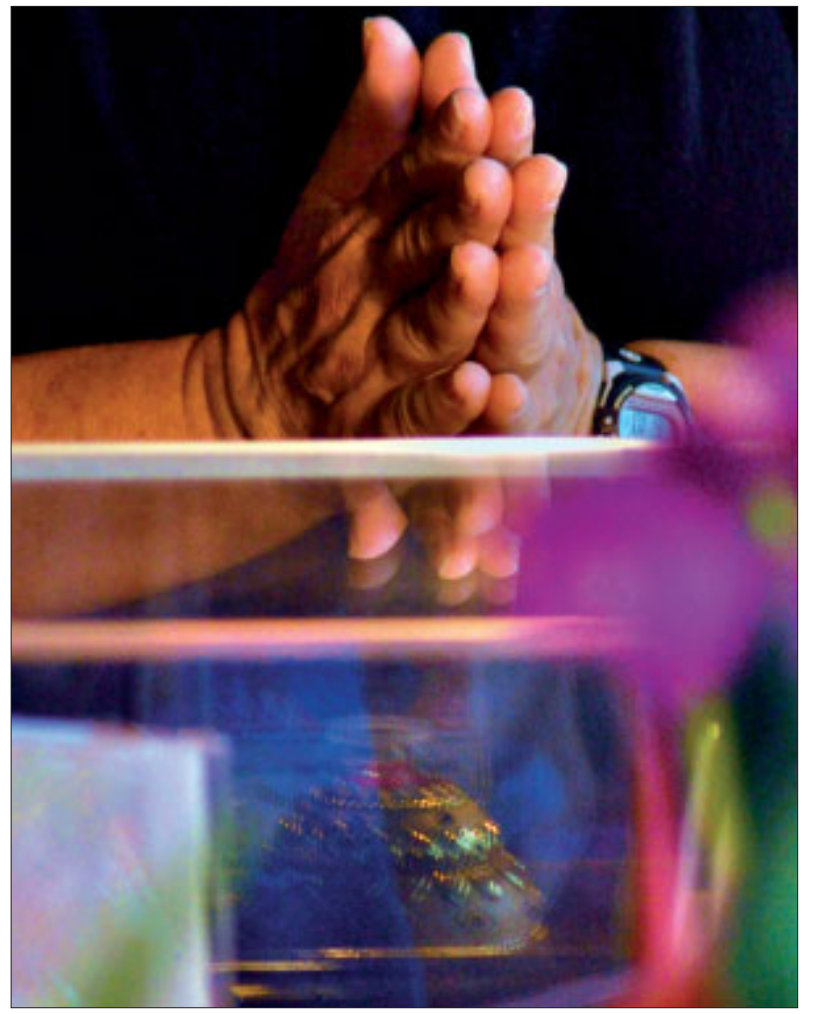




# Relics promote peace



Photos: Elizabeth Branca



By Elizabeth Branca

**M**aking its Phuket debut, a collection of holy relics, believed to be from the historical Buddha and many other Buddhist's masters, was on display last weekend at the Karuna Meditation and Yoga Center in Kamala.

Throughout the two-day special event, several hundred

Thai and western visitors viewed a rare collection of over 1,000 venerated relics.

Buddhists believe these relics, which resemble pearl-like crystals, are found after cremation and are produced as a result of the master's spiritual qualities of compassion and wisdom.

For Friday's pre-viewing event, the center hosted a small private audience of local monks,

worshippers, volunteers and media to celebrate the relic tour's arrival in Phuket.

The ceremony was presided over by Phuket's head monk Pra Ajarn Wisuthi Dharmakaneer who talked with audience members and lead many prayers and chants.

Both Pra Ajarn Wisuthi Dharmakaneer and Pra Ajarn Vorasak Varadhammo made brief presentations on the Metta and its aspects of friendship, benevolence and loving kindness.

Although the viewing event was free to the public, 25,000 baht was collected in donations which will benefit the Maitreya Heart Shrine Project's many community initiatives in Kushinagar, India.

Long term planning includes the construction of a 500-foot bronze statue of Buddha, along with a park, exhibition hall, museum and library.

The Maitreya Project Heart Shrine Relics Tour has traveled the world since 2001 promoting the non-sectarian message of spiritual healing, loving kindness



and world peace.

After its brief visit to Phuket, the tour is headed to Penang, Malaysia, and then continues on through Asia before returning to Kushinagar, where it will be on permanent display.

For more information about

donating to the Maitreya Project, visit the organization's website [maitreyaproject.org](http://maitreyaproject.org).

The Karuna Meditation and Yoga Center in Kamala offers daily meditation classes for more information contact Chris. E: [info@meditate-Thailand.com](mailto:info@meditate-Thailand.com).

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# Laughter is the best medicine

**M**aking dental treatment a positive experience for patients is a proud job for every passionate dental professional, and one in which both sides benefit. Anxiety relating to dental treatment is common, but in a well-prepared dental office, there are ways to deal with this problem. One of the safest, most effective and pleasant choices is nitrous oxide sedation.

Nicknamed 'laughing gas' for its euphoric effects, Nitrous oxide is used in dentistry to induce sedation and put patients in a calm, dreamy state who would otherwise be nervous and unable to co-operate.

I have never undergone nitrous sedation myself, so I don't have first-hand experience to share with you, but thanks to years in the trade, I don't get nervous about being jabbed in the mouth. However, my patients have told me they felt relaxed and half awake, like dreaming, and that time appeared to pass quickly. Some had tingling sensations in their arms and legs. All were conscious and aware of what was going on but were detached, distracted, and could not concentrate on the fear.

In high doses, laughing gas has analgesic qualities and acts like a weak general anesthetic. In dentistry, nitrous oxide is used in relatively low doses as a blended nitrous oxide/oxygen formula, only for sedation and raising the pain threshold. The general ratio is 30:70 to 50:50 nitrous oxide/oxygen, which is controlled by a flowmeter. Local anesthetics, such as lidocaine, are administered to numb the nerves.

Nitrous oxide is colorless, non-flammable and has a pleasant, slightly sweet odor and taste. Dentists deliver nitrous oxide/oxygen to patients through a fitted mask placed over the nose and ask the patients to breathe normally. Uptake occurs through the lungs. At the end of treatment, it is eliminated from the blood system after a short period (about five minutes) of breathing pure oxygen, and all the effects of sedation are reversed. Unlike IV sedation or general anesthesia, patients can leave the office almost immediately by themselves, without an escort.

Nitrous oxide/oxygen is perhaps the safest sedative in dentistry. It is well tolerated, has a rapid onset, is reversible, can be adjusted in various concentrations and is non-allergenic. Patients remain conscious, keep all their natural reflexes and are capable of responding to questions or requests, making it suitable for adults and children alike. Additionally, it works well for patients whose gag reflex interferes with dental treatment.

## Word of Mouth

With Dr Yupares Nimkarn DDS., MS.



Nitrous oxide (laughing gas) takes the stress and pain out of a trip to the dentist. It puts patients in a dreamy state and makes them unable to focus on fear. However, a small percentage of patients are not affected by the gas.

Nitrous oxide has few side effects. High doses can cause nausea in some patients, and about 10 percent of patients do not benefit from it. Patients who are not comfortable wearing a nasal mask or have nasal congestion cannot use nitrous oxide/oxygen effectively. Patients with severe anxiety may need laughing gas in conjunction with other sedative agents. In dental literature there have been reports that a small number of patients experienced hallucinations instead of euphoria, which may be related to the dosage.

If you are worried by the sights, sounds or sensations of dental treatment, nitrous oxide/oxygen sedation may be an alternative for you. In this sense, Happy Dentistry is dental euphoria for the patients and euphoric dentistry for the dentists.



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## EXPAT GALLERY

## Mick Kealy

Mick Kealy is well known and well regarded in Phuket's ever-growing yachting industry. He established Octopus Electrical Services, with offices at the Boat Lagoon, in 1997 and for the past three years has been the Commodore of the Ao Chalong Yacht Club.

He started life in Bunyip, Victoria, Australia, one in a family of eight children.

While still in school, he started a four year apprenticeship as an electrical mechanic with the State Electricity Commission and attended Yallorne Technical College. It was a challenging job as he repaired electrical systems in coal mines. He was assigned to assist in making sure that the mine's conveyor belts were maintained in good working condition.

In 1984, Mick was 22 years old and spent the next few years working and traveling around Australia and Southeast Asia.

"Those were some great years. I worked at a resort on Hayman Island in the Whitsunday island chain and then drove to Perth and worked in Kalgoorlie. I was able to save enough money to travel around Indonesia and Thailand.

"I flew back to Darwin and then drove all the way across Australia to Melbourne and then headed west to Perth where it

was the America's Cup and the Australia Bi-centennial in 1986."

Mick was working in Perth wiring computer systems when he received a call from his brother who invited him to join a film project in Western Samoa.

"I flew to Western Samoa where my brother was working on a documentary about the early explorers on a hundred year old, 100 foot traditional sailing ship. It was my first sailing experience and opened a new world for me."

He began working on large sailing vessels in Fiji and the Philippines, doing the electrical installations on refits.

In the early 1990s, Mick found his version of paradise at the simple bungalows at Ao Sane Beach, a hidden enclave north of Nai Harn. With his VHF radio, he was able to alert the local yachties of his ability with marine electrical repairs and would windsurf to the boats to do the work.

Mick bought his first boat, *Chelsea Morning*, a 32 foot sloop with no engine, and entered the King's Cup Regatta in the cruising class. While making Phuket his base, he worked on a variety of boats as engineer. He then became the captain of the 60 foot Camper & Nicholson luxury yacht, *Caryali*.

"I took this yacht to San Remo, Italy and got to visit a lot

of incredible places like the Pyramids in Egypt, the shores of Sudan and the island of Rhodes."

Mick returned to Australia and worked in gold mines in Western Australia and the Northern Territories and earned enough to set up Octopus Electrical Services at the Boat Lagoon in 1997. He became the agent for many of the world's best brands of equipment for boats, including Ray Marine. He provides essential equipment like generators, water makers, battery chargers and inverters.

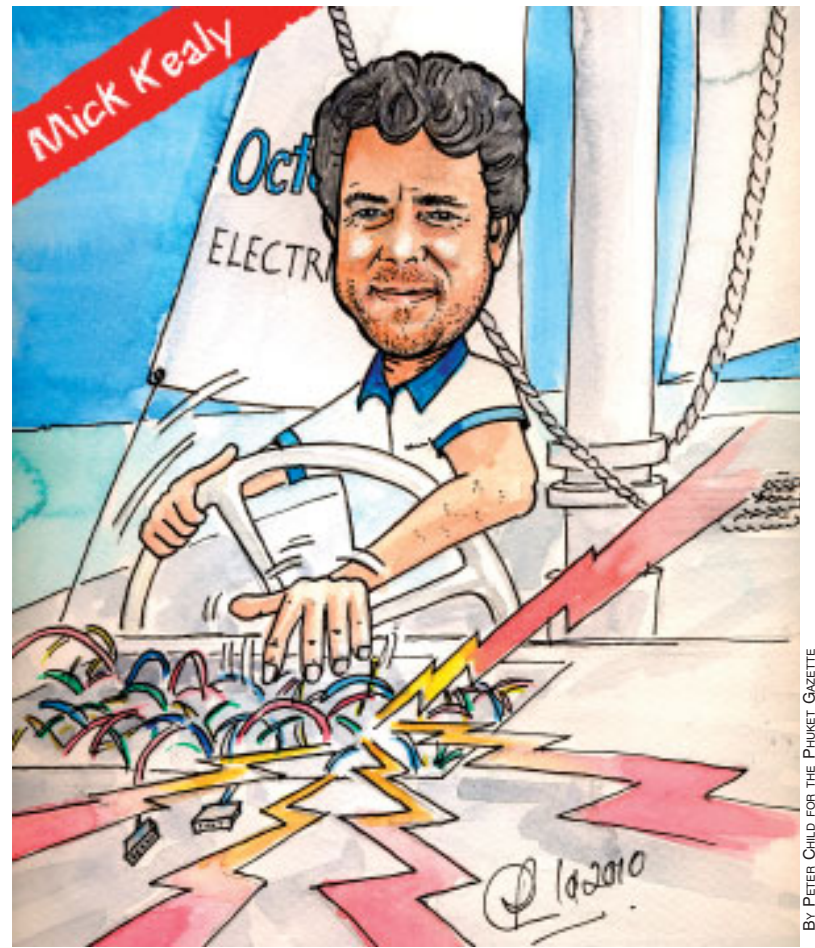
When the import duties on Thai registered boats were reduced several years ago, his business grew faster than expected and he found it challenging to cope with the demand.

"At one time I had 15 Thai electricians working with me on over 40 boats. It was very hectic and I decided to downsize our operation to something I could control. Now I focus on fault finding and prevention. I have a corps of excellent electricians that have been with me for many years."

Mick is now half owner of a 34 foot X yacht, *Minx*, which won in the first three Phuket Race Week competitions, in addition to a big win in the Langkawi Regatta and a second and a third in the King's Cup.

When not socializing with his mates at the Ao Chalong Yacht Club, he spends his happy hours sailing with son Liam and daughter Gemma.

— 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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\*Local residents can also participate; feel free to contact us through the website.





**BENEVOLENT BEAUTY:** Women's Will Power Phuket Charity Group presented a check for 120,000 baht to the Phuket Sunshine Village on February 27. The donation follows sales of a 2010 calendar featuring the the group's members, who were sponsored by Cape Sienna Hotel and Villas, Indigo Pearl Resort, Chava Resort, 7-Eleven and many more Phuket based businesses. The kids were also treated to ice cream and a special magic performance from Khun Magic. Photo: Dan Miles



**AMAZING ADVENTURE CHALLENGE:** Four teachers from the British International School – Paul Preen, Paul Walby, Jason Haywood and Jeff Fuller – after successfully competing in the River Kwai Trophy Adventure Race. The one-day March-6 event, which began at the famous bridge over the River Kwai in Kanchanaburi, involved mountain biking, running, swimming and kayaking challenges through the tough local farmland and hilly terrain.



**LIGHT LUXURY:** Phuket City Municipality Mayor Ms Somjai Suwansupana celebrates the grand opening of The Light Suanluang Condominiums on February 23 with Supakorn Boonyakajorn, Managing Director of the evening's host, Phuket Living Co.



**BIG GIVE:** Phuket Tourist Association President Somboon Jirayus (center) and Vice-President Bhuritt Maswongssa (second from left), received a 140,000-baht check in donations from Jungceylon's representative Chief Executive Officer Prawit Janyasittikul, (second from right). The donation was made by Jungceylon Patong Mall to the Phuket Tourist Association to help with the organization's current Haiti disaster relief efforts.



**GREEN TEAM:** More than 25 resort ambassadors from the Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket Hotel, including General Manager Klaus Christandl (back row with blue shirt), gathered with students from Baan Laem Sai and Baan Paa Klong Cheep schools to participated in a mangrove planting program on February 26. Under the guidance of Sombat Kanchanapaihan, an ecology specialist from the Department of Marine and Coastal Resources, the group listened lectures pertaining to the importance of mangrove ecosystems.



**EXCLUSIVE VENTURE:** Catch Beach Club at Surin Beach held an elegant grand opening bash to launch the upscale boutique property agency Niche Real Estate on February 15. Pictured from left is the wife of RicoMax HK founder Marcy Yakuel; RicoMax HK founder Miron Yakuel; Niche Real Estate Managing Director Daojai (Dao) Tanommuang; world famous flute musician Andrea Griminelli and his wife Rosana Griminelli; and Aman Resorts founder Anil Thadani.



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# Junior sailors await windfall

by Katy Gooch

**T**opper Sail Phuket is organizing sponsorship for seven children from the Phuket Sunshine Village Foundation to compete in the Top of the Gulf Regatta in Pattaya next month. Aged 10-15 years old, they will sail in the regatta's Thailand Optimist Nationals race.

In Southeast Asia, the Top of the Gulf Regatta is one of the most prestigious events on the sailing calendar and attracts top class sailors from all around the world. It runs from April 30 to May 4, making it an incredible travel and learning adventure for these young competitors.

Children from the Phuket Sunshine Village Foundation, which provides a safe and secure home for children orphaned by the 2004 Tsunami or are unable to live with their natural parents, have been sailing for just over a year. On most Sundays, these young sailors have been joining in with the club races at Phuket Yacht Club under the supervision of Katy Gooch and Paul Firmin from Topper Sail Phuket. They will also be joined at the Regatta by two other club members for a total of nine junior entries from Phuket.

Staff at Topper Sail Phuket, founded and operated by Katy and Paul, have been donating their time teaching the fine points of sailing, as well as arranging races for them every month.

The Phuket Yacht Club has also played a large part in the Sunshine kid's sailing program by allowing them to use its facilities in Ao Yon bay for training exercises and races.



In preparation for their show at the Nationals, Topper Sail Phuket is arranging for the junior racers to join the Advanced Optimist training course, run by the Junior Sailing Squadron Thailand, (JSST) at Sattahip Naval Base in Chonburi from April 17-25.

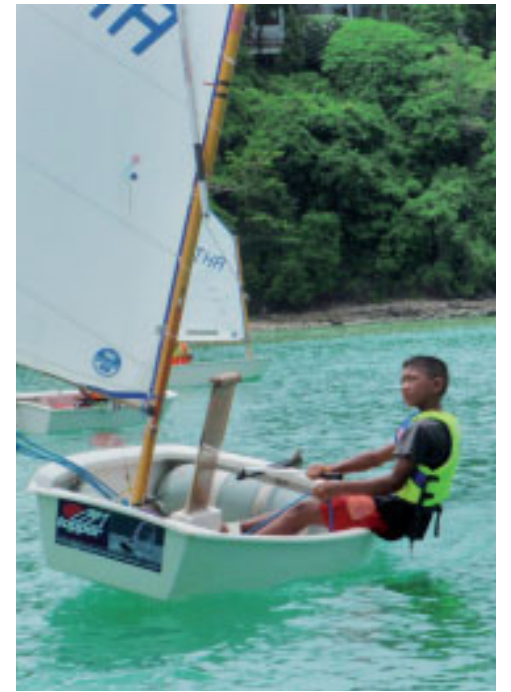
Sailing the JSST course will give the children a great opportunity to improve their sailing skills and racing knowledge, as well as the chance to practice with a larger fleet. Arrangements are also being made for them to stay on for further practice

before competing in Nationals.

The cost of sending the children to the Advanced Optimist training camp and the Gulf Regatta is estimated at approximately 100,000 baht, including accommodation, food, course fees, boat charter, entry fees and transportation.

Travel arrangements, however, have not been confirmed due to the fact they are looking at various low cost and sponsorship options, including sponsored flights from Phuket to Bangkok.

Katy said, "I am happy to donate my



**LEFT:** Young sailors spend the morning racing their boats through Ao Yon Bay on the south end of Cape Panwa. Pictured above is Akapoj Kankaew, one of the young sailors from Sunshine Village Foundation, enjoying a day on the water.

time to these children from the Phuket Sunshine Village, but unfortunately I am not in a position to donate 100,000 baht.

"These children love to sail and have improved so much since they started learning with us. It would be fantastic for them to have the opportunity to go and compete in the Nationals. Sailing helps self-reliance and quick thinking and I have seen how it has helped these children."

Anyone interested in sponsorship should contact Katy Gooch. T: 085-215 9185. E: [toppersailphuket@gmail.com](mailto:toppersailphuket@gmail.com).



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Pruerk-Ampai	91.10	6,350,000	100,000	3,075,000	3,175,000
Pruerk-Amporn	136.4	9,100,000	100,000	4,450,000	4,550,000

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# Balancing the imagination deficit

By Nick Davies

Embarking on a soul-searching adventure, a young Alan Wallace left behind the good life of his suburban Southern Californian upbringing and bought a one-way ticket to self-imposed poverty on the other side of the world.

He bade farewell to an attractive, intelligent girlfriend, turned his back on his straight-As higher education and began studying Tibetan Buddhism in India.

Two decades later, the dynamic lecturer, progressive scholar and one of the most prolific western writers and translators of Tibetan Buddhism, including ancient medical texts, Alan Wallace (Ph.D) is on a mission to integrate Buddhist contemplative practices with Western science to advance the study of the mind.

Today, equipped with a degree in physics and the philosophy of science, and having been ordained by H.H. Dalai Lama, Alan Wallace is president and founder of the Santa Barbara Institute for Consciousness Studies. Last year, his 'job' took him on a 200,000-mile tour of the globe, attending conferences, conducting lectures and leading meditation retreats around the world.

Phuket has also become a base from which Alan conducts his teachings. He has played a leading role in establishing the Mind Centre at Phuket International Academy (PIA), where he will be conducting the centre's first weekend retreat from April 10 to 11, open to the Phuket community. The 'Genuine Happiness' retreat is a workshop that will explore techniques used to cultivate a focused mind and an open heart.

Asked how his teachings on

Eastern spiritual concepts are accepted in the west, Alan said that more and more people were taking those first steps towards spiritual and mental development.

"I recently led a one-day retreat in Sydney, at which 3,000 people attended. There were people of all ages and all walks of life. For many, it was their first step into meditation, but the high number of people now attending these conferences shows that meditation has become mainstream."

Alan puts the increasing popularity of such retreats down to people's desire for more spiritual answers in a modern world, where he says many suffer from 'imagination deficit disorder'.

"There's good reason to believe that when you're in 'industrially-developed' countries, when you've got surplus wealth, you're comfortable and in good health, but you're still not content, not fulfilled or happy, you start looking around asking: 'What more?'"

"Those with an imagination deficit disorder will say, 'more. More of the same'... 'I had good sex, so I need more sex... I only have one car, so I need another.' I met a guy recently who owned nine cars. He had to rent a warehouse just to keep the cars which he hardly ever drives.

"The imagination deficit disorder comes in and says, 'Well, I'm pretty happy having this much but I want to be happier, so I'll just have more of the same.' However, there are all sorts of scientific studies that show that this way of thinking doesn't work.

"Having nine more cars doesn't make you nine times happier."

"The single-minded pursuit of money, sex buildings, and even things like prestige, fame and reputation, can all be part of that

imagination deficit disorder."

"On the other hand, if you don't have enough to eat, don't have shelter, don't have enough clothing or medicine, this can make you unhappy. So this is the great question of the modern era. 'Once you've got enough, what now? Are we going to follow the example of the United States and Western Europe and just consume more?'"

"It's a matter of choices and imagination."

At some point in the future, Alan anticipates a 'revolution' in scientific study of the mind, which is still a relatively new branch of modern science.

There have been two revolutions in modern science – the study of physics, which began about 400 years ago, and biology, which goes as far back as Darwin – but scientific study of the mind is only about 135 years old. "There has not yet been a revolution," Alan explained.

"Some scientists study the minds of others externally with questionnaires and by watching the brain and behavior of their subjects, but the problem there, is that no subjective experience is detectable from an objective perspective. In other words, psychologists don't have direct access to any one else's mind."

"Explaining scientifically the effects of meditation on the mind has always had the barrier of scientists 'studying' their subject (someone meditating). There is no scientific instrument or technology that can detect or measure thought, emotions, perception or states of consciousness."

The central theme of Alan's mission is complementarity. "I'm interested in expanding the horizons of both sides [spiritual and scientific]." Alan aims to achieve this by bringing Eastern and Western philosophies together



Alan Wallace Ph.D., at the Phuket International Academy (PIA), where he will be conducting the PIA Mind Centre's first weekend retreat in April. Alan gave up the Californian good life in his early 20s to follow a spiritual path, which took him to India, where he studies Tibetan Buddhism under the Dalai Lama.


and continuing to work on research projects with cognitive scientists, psychologists and neuroscientists.

"Both sides have limitations. Buddhism has no brain science, no developmental psychology, no quantitative behavioral science. On the other hand, modern science has very little in terms of understanding compassion, how you develop attention, inner wellbeing, mindfulness and fulfillment."

Although Alan lays no claim that neither [Eastern spiritualism or modern Western science] is better than the other, he did point out that Buddhism is six times older than modern science.

The two-day Genuine Happiness weekend retreat will be held at PIA from 9am to noon and from 2pm until 5pm on April 10 and 11. To sign up for the retreat contact Ms Primporn. E: primporn@phuketinternationalacademy.com. T: 076-336 000.


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## EVENTS CALENDAR

## Upcoming events on the island

### Charity Jazz Dinner Concert at The Adamas Resort & Spa – March 20



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

#### March 14-20. Boathouse French Food Festival

PHUKET: Thailand's only Maitre Cuisinier de France, Chef Jean-Noel Lumineau, treats discerning diners to some exceptional French food for the Boathouse's 9th French Gastronomy Festival. Three-course dinner menu (1,600 baht++); four-course French degustation menu (1,800 baht++), or for 3,660 baht++ each course is accompanied by a glass of selected wine. From 6pm to 11pm at the Boathouse Wine & Grill. For more information or to make a reservation contact Pinyo Thippimas. T: 076-330015. E: pr@boathousephuket.com.

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

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 and lunch will follow from 11:30am to 2pm at Le Meridien Phuket Beach Resort. Please call ahead in order to book a reservation. For further information contact Sue Arnulphy. T: 076-200730, 087-2776948. E: info@phuketiw.com. W: phuketiw.com

#### March 19. Sundowners, Paresa Resort, Kamala

The Australian-Thai Chamber of Commerce (AustCham) is holding a "Sundowners" seminar and business network-

ing reception with a sustainable development theme. The seminar begins at 3:30pm and will be of interest to those in the property and construction industries and will be limited to 30 persons. This will be followed by a Sundowners business networking function at 6:30pm, a good opportunity for members of the Phuket community to meet, network and exchange views in a social environment. Sponsored by World Construction, Paresa Resort, and V Australia. AustCham Members: 400 baht; non-members: 600 baht. From 3:30pm to 8:30pm at Paresa Resort, Kamala. For further information contact Harry Usher. T: 081-273 1740. E: harry@ladypie.com.

#### March 19. Red & White Party at RPM

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 (RPM) 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 19. SideWood Wine Dinner

SideWood Wines and Royal Eastern Beverage presents a Wine Dinner at Les Anges. Come and enjoy Chef Peter's menu with a great selection of wines from SideWood. Only 2,500 baht. From 7:30pm to 11:30pm at Les Anges Restaurant at Royal Phuket Marina. For further information contact Mr. Perter Webber. T: 081-968 0738 or 076-360803. E: peterw@royalphuketmarina.com. W: lesangesphuket.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. 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. Grand opening party at Il Palazzo

The new Il Palazzo restaurant, bar, and lounge invites all Phuketians for a free night of its luxury atmosphere, unique view, live music and magnificent taste. Come enjoy the night at Il Palazzo Fine Dining Club & Lounge. Guests can sample delicious finger foods or try out the barbeque and sushi bars. ALL FOR FREE! Also on offer is a free flow of selected drinks. Dress code: Smart casual. Sorry, they won't accept slippers. From 9pm to 2am at Il Palazzo. For more info contact Ms Ceren Guncavdi. T: 085-679 3808. E: ilpalazzo.phuket@gmail.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.

### Free Computer Clinics

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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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Occasionally, the European Union (EU) comes up with a set of rules that actually benefit the population.

This was true in respect to 'pension mobility' by residents of the EU member states – or set guidelines dictating how a citizen can transfer a pension if they

want to live in another country. Naturally, this was only allowed where the holder of private pensions actually moved to another country, prohibiting those from simply transferring their pensions on paper in order to gain tax benefits.

Britain, as a member of the EU, had no choice but to comply with the directive. This was despite UK politicians often protesting against the mobility of pensions. One example was a Liberal Democrat Treasury spokesman, Lord Oakeshott, who demanded that the UK Treasury "stamp out" this concession. "When you have pumped up your pension pot with top-rate tax relief, you can't then cheat the taxpayer by sailing off into a tax haven sunset to draw your pension," he said.

Lord Oakeshott had not taken into account that the British government would be sav-



Photo: Photohound

**RETIRE IN PARADISE:** Retirees who want to live in places like Thailand can take their pensions with them. It only takes a little research and the right resources to make sure you get the most of your pension while living abroad.

ing money on National Health, Social Security and other benefits, all of which are considerable.

The average person leaving the UK on retirement is not a member of the ultra rich.

The mobility of private pensions became known as QROPS – Qualifying Recognized Offshore Pension Schemes.

When a UK pension is moved out of the UK, there must be an acceptable structure in the new country to accept this pension. This also requires that a trustee, acceptable to HMRC, is part of this transfer.

Some companies in Singapore abused the spirit of the pension legislation by allowing withdrawals and other irregularities. This resulted in HMRC refusing to recognize any pension transfer to Singapore.

It is not actually necessary for the pension to be domiciled in the country where the pensioner is living. For example, a pension holder could be a resident in Thailand and have the new pension trustees located in Guernsey of Hong Kong.

QROPS do not offer any route for changing a pension to cash as was tried in Singapore. QROPS do, however, allow income to be taken tax free and the normal 25 percent withdrawal is allowed.

With a QROPS, more free-

dom of choice for underlying investments is allowed and, importantly, at the age of 75, the individual is not compelled to buy an annuity. This can be very important, as it leaves a lump sum on death that can be passed on to beneficiaries.

Naturally, there is a substantial amount of red tape and form filling to be completed, however, this is the responsibility of a financial advisor and trustee.

At Global Portfolios we use trustees who update us on a weekly basis on the status of the transfer while it is in progress. This enables the client to know exactly what is happening.

QROPS are not some magical tool but simply a way of moving a pension from a high tax country to a tax free one. I have used both Hong Kong and Guernsey as bases, but the latter offers cheaper trustee fees.

When a pension moves offshore, there are strict controls over governance of the pension. The trustees are controlled by the relevant financial services authority in whichever jurisdiction is chosen. The examples of Guernsey, Channel Islands and Hong Kong are indicative of very advanced regulatory systems which are acceptable to the UK's HMRC.

Initially, it may seem complex, but the process of transfer-

ring pensions offshore from the UK is very routine. It is virtually mass production.

There is no alternative to the involvement of a trustee when using a QROPS. Even in the UK, there is always a trustee in place. Each trustee, in turn, has a list of acceptable 'platform providers'.

The main decision to be made by the pension holder is the style of investment, which are only composed to protect holders.

Everyone involved realizes that eventually, each pension holder has individual requirements, and these must be tailored to suit and flexible enough to change if and when necessary.

People who are contemplating using a QROPS scheme should be very aware that where anyone is offering 'extras' that they are stepping onto very dangerous ground. What happened in Singapore can happen to any jurisdiction that incurs the wrath of HMRC.

QROPS are worthwhile, but it all depends on the amount involved. One major QROPS trustee in Guernsey stated that the minimum amount that would normally be considered is 75,000 pounds. This is not a hard and fast amount.

If an individual had strong opinions on the matter and the amount involved was less than this, it could still be considered. However, these guidelines are established where the pension transfer would bestow benefits over costs.

During the first five years of the QROPS, new trustees are required to report back to HMRC. Should there have been unreasonable transfers to the pensioner, HMRC reserves the right to claw back tax relief. It is for this reason that people should only expect reasonable withdrawals.

The trustees can also intervene in the choice of investments, but the intervention should only occur to protect the client. Trustees will not otherwise intervene and I have always found them to be reasonable.



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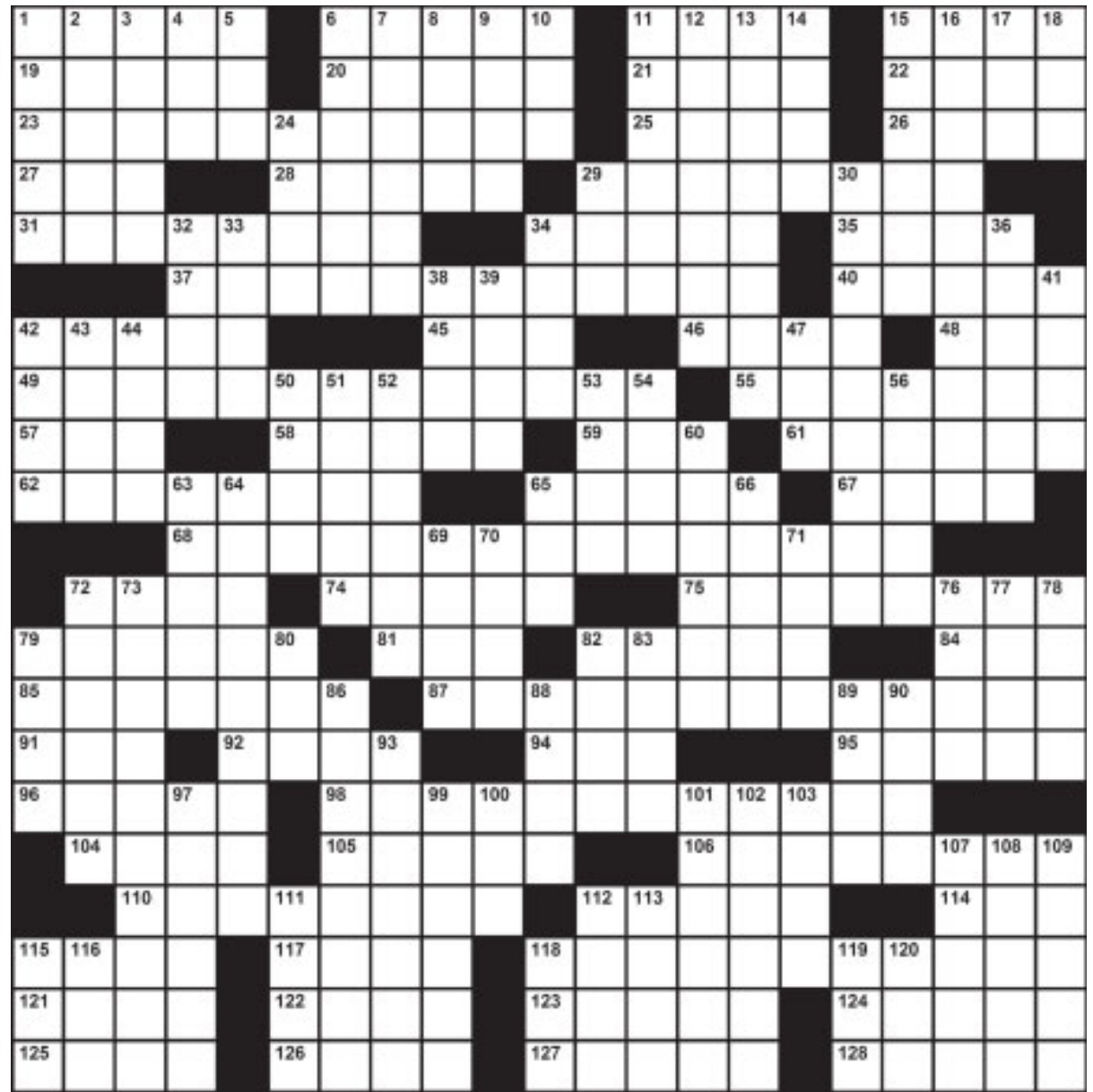


# PUZZLES

## Spot the Difference



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



### ACROSS

- 1 Chin dimple
- 6 "Dreams From My Father" author
- 11 Earn no class credit
- 15 Approached retirement
- 19 Prefix meaning "sun"
- 20 Squeals
- 21 "\_\_\_ additional cost!"
- 22 Animal fat
- 23 Well past one's prime
- 25 Native of Riga
- 26 Appropriate anagram of "Bart"
- 27 "\_\_\_ em, Rover!"
- 28 Cause to beam
- 29 Woody Allen's instrument
- 31 Captivate
- 34 Photo finish?
- 35 "Elemental \_\_\_" (Pablo Neruda work)
- 37 Not informed, as at work
- 40 Iran-Contra affair figure
- 42 Incite to action
- 45 Designer's bottom line
- 46 River west of the Nubian Desert
- 48 One doing a wobble dance
- 49 Partied heartily
- 55 Nursery needs
- 57 U.N. labor arm
- 58 "People are saying ..."
- 59 "The Mirror \_\_\_ Two Faces"
- 61 Furriers' wares
- 62 Watchtower guard
- 65 Mountain in Exodus
- 67 Highly organized insects
- 68 Like an overjoyed Santa?
- 72 Places for piracy
- 74 Convoy vehicles, often
- 75 TV ratings, informally

- 79 One who gets the message?
- 81 Bradbury's "\_\_\_ for Rocket"
- 82 Dealt a blow, old-style
- 84 Mauna \_\_\_ (Hawaiian peak)
- 85 Cathedral sights
- 87 Certain superhero's moniker
- 91 You need some, really
- 92 Disparaging remark
- 94 Org. that catches mules
- 95 Banishes
- 96 Adagio and allegro (Var.)
- 98 Next to one's angry clone?
- 104 Building for grain or missiles
- 105 Heads of France
- 106 "And other things"
- 110 Vacation souvenirs, perhaps
- 112 Charged, as to attack
- 114 "Andy Capp" cartoonist Smythe
- 115 Anodyne's target
- 117 "Tell Mama" singer James
- 118 Sensible
- 121 Away from the bluster
- 122 Skelton's Kadiddlehopper
- 123 "\_\_\_ Grows in Brooklyn"
- 124 Fauna's partner
- 125 Word with "love" or "empty"
- 126 For the lady
- 127 Woody's family on "Cheers"
- 128 Poi-producing tubers

### DOWN

- 1 Ordered, as from the menu
- 2 "The Boys From Brazil" author Ira
- 3 Choose by ballot
- 4 Cone-bearing

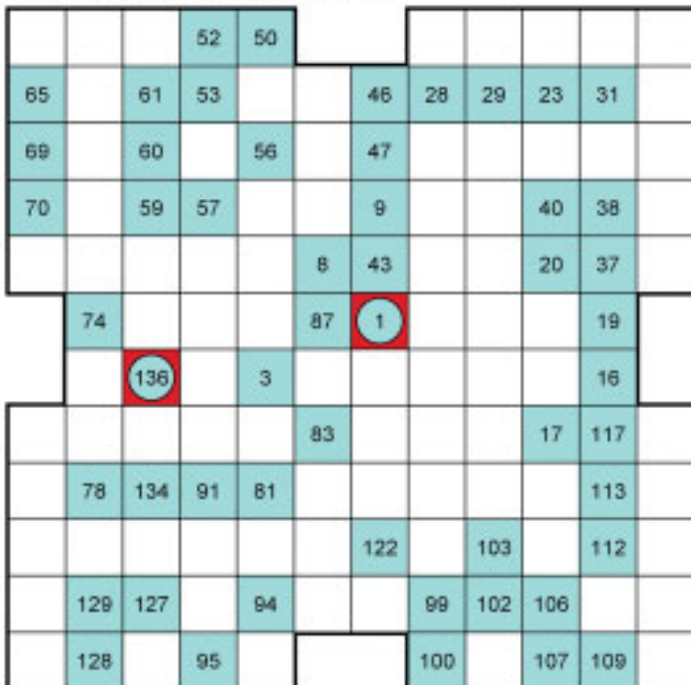
- 5 Wobbly walker
- 6 "Ave Maria" opera
- 7 On \_\_\_ of (representing)
- 8 Came to a perch
- 9 Miss from Marseille, briefly
- 10 Nonverbal way to communicate (Abbr.)
- 11 Get beaten by
- 12 Gorged oneself, informally
- 13 Fearless
- 14 "An Iceland Fisherman" author Pierre
- 15 Reflective power, as of a planet
- 16 Stocking connector
- 17 Chapter of history
- 18 Banned pesticide whose discoverer won a Nobel Prize
- 24 Furnace's output
- 29 Trask twin in "East of Eden"
- 30 Zip
- 32 Turns over in the garden
- 33 \_\_\_ of thumb
- 34 Workplace posting
- 36 Metric units of volume
- 38 Duke Ellington's "Take \_\_\_ Train"
- 39 German mister
- 41 Piano-playing Dame
- 42 Spring blossom
- 43 Y chromosome owner
- 44 Certain subatomic particle
- 47 Fleur-de-\_\_\_ (symbol on Quebec's flag)
- 50 Nick
- 51 Kojak and Huxtable
- 52 Elf, to Santa
- 53 "I sense bad news"
- 54 Cab charge
- 56 Mini-lakes
- 60 Appliqued
- 63 Adult tadpoles

- 64 Like congress, at times
- 65 Abbr. after "Cleveland" or "Brooklyn"
- 66 "Mefistofele" composer
- 69 Drop a line?
- 70 "A \_\_\_ Called Wanda"
- 71 Coral outcrop
- 72 Weekly TV program, e.g.
- 73 Acts of extreme wickedness
- 76 \_\_\_ out (barely manages)
- 77 Hair-removal brand
- 78 "Do the Right Thing" pizzeria
- 79 Jazzy improv style
- 80 Amazon zapper
- 82 Pirate of fiction
- 83 Word said with a tip of the hat
- 86 Foreign film feature
- 88 TV's Byrnes and Hall
- 89 It's always underfoot
- 90 Clump of grass
- 93 Come back into, as the atmosphere
- 97 Earth, for one
- 99 Uses an iron setting
- 100 "Y" pluralized
- 101 Craved (with "for")
- 102 Part of U.S.A.
- 103 Prefix with "plasm" or "morph"
- 107 Bonehead play
- 108 Back-to-the-past style
- 109 Ottoman officers (Var.)
- 111 Walesa of Poland
- 112 "Tiller" lead-in
- 113 Off the mark
- 115 Cook's essential object
- 116 Amber brew, perhaps
- 118 Apply, as ointment
- 119 Newborn newt
- 120 Recipe phrase

## HIDATO®

FIND THE PATH - SOLVE THE PUZZLE

Complete the grid so that numbers 1 - 136 connect horizontally, vertically or diagonally:



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Difficulty ★★★★★

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www.whatzit.com August 17, 2009

# WHATZIT?

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

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FORTNIGHT  
MONTHS  
SECOND  
HOUR

P  
I  
R  
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S

u

## Get your brain in gear with the MONSTER QUIZ

1. A muster is a group of which type of birds?
2. Bohea is a word derived from Fujian Chinese meaning what?
3. Which country was first to document the use of antibiotics for medical treatment?
4. Which country grew the first orange?
5. Gossima was the original name of what paddle game?
6. The herb wild marjoram is also known as what?
7. What was the name of the pet monkey on the TV show 'Friends'?
8. On a dray horse, brass ornaments were originally attached to the harness for what purpose?
9. Alfred Hitchcock admitted to being terrified of children, high places, failure and what else?
10. In the novel *Don Quixote* what was the name of Sancho Panza's donkey?
11. What art and science is called steganography?
12. Named for Queen Victoria's husband, Prince Albert, an Albert chain is usually attached to what?
13. What is the name given to a group of ravens?
14. A fellmonger deals in what items?
15. What color habit did the Conventual Franciscan Friars wear until 1932?
16. Nenen-Kona is the Russian name for which popular soda?
17. Hugh Lofting created which famous character?
18. In the 1980 Olympics, what was the name of Russia's bear mascot?
19. By law, what ingredient must French ice cream contain?
20. A group of what is called a kindle?

Answers below



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# Puzzle Solutions

## WHATZIT? solutions

1. A stitch in time. 2. Vertical takeoff. 3. Anything you can do, I can do better.

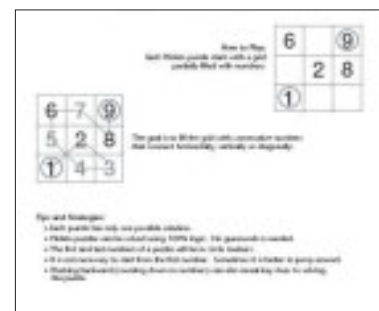
## Solution to this week's Spot the Difference



## Monster Quiz Answers

1. Peacocks
2. Black tea
3. Egypt
4. China
5. Table tennis
6. Oregano
7. Marcel
8. Ward off evil
9. Policeman
10. Dapple
11. Invisible ink writing
12. Watch
13. Unkindness
14. Animal skins
15. Gray
16. Pepsi-Cola
17. Doctor Doolittle
18. Misha
19. Eggs
20. Kittens

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



# Hidato Puzzle Solution

0/19

64	63	62	61	60	59	58	57	56	55	54	53	52	51	50	49	48	47	46	45	44	43	42	41	40	39	38	37	36	35	34	33	32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																								
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## Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt

Robert Harris is two thirds of the way through a gripping political thriller that takes place in Ancient Rome. *Imperium*, reviewed two weeks ago, takes the story of Marcus Tullius Cicero up to the moment of his triumph, assuming office as consul in 63 BC.

The second volume is *Lustrum* (Hutchinson, London, 2009, 454pp) and carries the story five years forward from the year of Cicero's consulship to his final battle as defender of the Roman Republic against a cable of power-hungry demagogues.

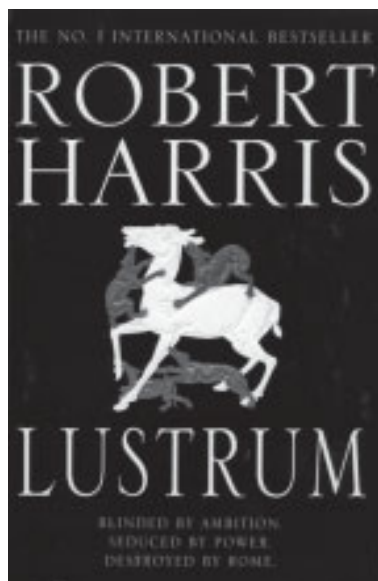
Central to this political drama is the conflict between Cicero and Julius Caesar, a senator just as crafty but much more ruthless. Cicero's great moment of glory was uncovering a plot in the Senate against the Republic

led by the ambitious, debauched, mentally unstable, charismatic Cataline. His great oration against Cataline in the Senate and his swift action to crush the plot led to his popular acclamation as Pater Patriae, father of his country. Caesar has been a member of the plot but managed to stay in the shadows and escape to Spain to gain military glory.

Cicero has three major legal and political confrontations with Caesar, outwitting him each time and nearly ruining him, but his time is drawing to an end.

Harris, in the voice of Tiro, Cicero's secretary and biographer, sets the stage brilliantly:

"Such was the state of the city on the eve of Cicero's consulship – a vortex of hunger, rumour and anxiety; of crippled veterans and bankrupt farmers begging at every corner; of roistering bands of drunken young men terrorising shopkeepers; of women from good families openly prostituting themselves outside the taverns; of sudden conflagrations, violent tempests, moonless nights and scavenging dogs; of



fanatics, soothsayers, beggars, fights. Pompey was still away commanding the legions in the East, and in his absence an uneasy, shifting mood swirled around the streets like river fog, giving everyone the jitters."

Cicero has formed an alliance with Pompey the Great, a great conquering general who, in many ways, was not too bright. They were together allied against

Crassus, the richest man in Rome. Pompey comes vividly to life, a giant of a man, impetuous and vain, whom Cicero cleverly manipulates. Caesar is also sharply drawn, his flint-dry voice and mirthless laugh.

"I remember him most as a curious combination of hard and soft – the muscles of a soldier within the loosely belted tunic of an effete dandy; the sharp sweat of the exercise yard laid over by the sweet scene of crocus oil; pitiless ambition sheathed in honed charm."

Cicero's downfall is triggered by a farce. Clodius, a former protégé and youthful hell-raiser, pulls a prank. During a sacred ceremony for the Good Goddess, attended only by women, Clodius sneaks in disguised as a woman. He's discovered and flees in to the night. During a subsequent trial, he is acquitted through a massive bribery of the jurors. This sets the stage for his political rise as leader of a gang of street thugs who terrorize the patricians.

Cicero might have coun-

tered him, but Clodius is backed by a secret alliance: Caesar, Crassus and Pompey – the first triumvirate or "The Three Headed Beast" as Cicero dubs them. Their combined wealth and military strength will prove too much for him. Still, he resists to the end with dignity. Tiro sums up the best of his character in these words:

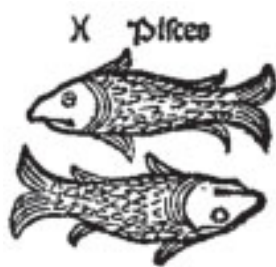
"But not the least of the reasons why I loved him, despite his faults, was that he possessed that most attractive form of courage: the bravery of a nervous man. After all, any rash fool can be a hero if he sets no value on his life, or hasn't the wit to appreciate danger. But to understand the risks, even to flinch at first, but then to summon the strength and face them down – that in my opinion is the most commendable form of valour, and that was what Cicero displayed."

In the end, Caesar completes his year of consulship and rides off on a five-year military campaign in Gaul. Cicero is ruined, fleeing Rome into exile with Tiro and a few other slaves. Volume three is still to come...

## Horoscopes



Isla Star



**PISCES** (February 20-March 20): Pisceans who have practiced not beating about the bush since the start of the month will see promising results this week. From now until the end of March, your newfound direct approach at work will earn due respect from others. Those celebrating a birthday this week should find a way to make an important dream come true in the year ahead. The number one can bring good fortune this weekend.



**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): A motivating week lies ahead for those born under the sign of Aries. The astrological atmosphere should especially benefit those endeavoring to leave a stale work-related situation behind. Your fears of losing out financially will be laid to rest midweek. Where love is concerned, the stars advise you to beware of friends who may not have your best interests at heart. An earth sign acquaintance is certainly suffering from jealousy.



**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): Your instincts about an investment opportunity prove to be

right this week. Taureans seeking a more profitable way to boost their finances are advised to wait until a trustworthy water sign is ready to let them into a secret. Those who still haven't found their soul mate could be intrigued by a meeting with Virgo this weekend. If you are already committed, encourage your partner to communicate more.



**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): More flexibility in business opens doors for Geminis this week. The stars predict that diversity will be a keyword for the remainder of March, with work-related travel highlighted. Freedom from a personal responsibility is highlighted to come as a welcome surprise – having more free time should encourage you to seek a new hobby. An earth sign friend is ready to act as Cupid for those who are single this weekend.



**CANCER** (June 22-July 23): Cancerians will benefit from setting personal deadlines this week. The stars suggest that laziness could prevent you from achieving much, and this could result in a hectic atmosphere during the second half of March. A difference of opinion between mutual friends turns out to be more complicated than you originally thought – listen to what everyone has to say before offering any solutions. Wear the color flame orange to fire up your energy.



**LEO** (July 24-August 22): Following through on a tedious task will mean that many Leos will have to keep very busy until the middle of next week, leaving them with very few spare moments. You can trust Aries to lend a helping hand, but asking for assistance from a water sign family member will give cause for regret. Money matters are well-starred during the second half of March, with an unexpected bonus payment highlighted. Sunday is a lucky day for those who are looking for love.



**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23): A burst of energy helps Virgoans to catch up with some obligations that have become overdue during the second half of March. Your dreams of far away travels may not be as much of a 'pie in the sky' thought as you came to believe – someone born under an air sign is about to make a suggestion. Where romance is concerned, be weary of the past: there are signs that you could be about to make the same mistake that helped to finish a relationship last year.



**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23): Librans would be wise to pay careful attention to financial transactions in the upcoming week. The stars indicate that mistakes are likely to be made during this time, and these will probably not be in your favor. Those

searching for romance learn that a water sign would like to be the apple of their eye. If you are already spoken for, there may be a hidden reason for your partner's lack of enthusiasm in response to the idea of taking a trip later this month.



**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22): A surprisingly negative reaction from a business colleague should be enough to cause Scorpions to think twice about matters this week. Keeping things prudent, the last two weeks of March can be better spent doing in-depth research, rather than jumping in at the deep end. Your luck with money improves slowly, but be extra cautious with spur-of-the-moment purchases, as there could be a strong temptation this weekend. Wear the scent of roses to heighten your romantic appeal.



**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): A health issue that you have conveniently swept under the mat should be addressed this week. The stars suggest that Sagittarians who have been feeling under par will feel better once they have dealt with this issue. Your personal relationships fall under benevolent astral conditions during the second half of March. Take advantage of this by rekindling friendships that have been neglected. The number six has the potential to be lucky in the upcoming weekend.



**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20): Capricorns will enjoy the easy-going atmosphere of the week ahead. After a somewhat frazzled start to March, your stress is forecast to dissolve during the second half of the month. Those with a partner should now find it easier to say what's on their mind, and singletons enjoy flirtation with a fire sign. Work becomes less time consuming when a new colleague quickly proves they can do the job.



**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19): This week could see Aquarians treading a fine line between helping others and being taken advantage of. Your heart of gold could land you in a situation that will be hard to get out of. Finances are moderately well-starred until the end of the month, but outgoings will be higher than normal. A love triangle becomes too close for comfort – the best day for making a romance related decision is Wednesday.

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**The Phuket Gazette**

- Since 1994 -

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## A deal must be struck

When it comes to showing visitors a good time, Phuket is hard to beat. As far as keeping them safe goes, the verdict has to be: must try harder.

Much has been written recently about the ongoing carnage on the island's roads. During high season we've heard less about Phuket's second most prolific killer, the sea.

News that the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (PPAO) has again failed to attract bidders to station life guards on our beaches is a troubling development (*see page 1*).

An island competing with the world's premier holiday destinations should make beach safety a top priority. To have no lifeguards on any beaches at all – the state of affairs since November – is unforgivable.

Last monsoon season a spate of tourist drownings shocked the island. At least 10 died on Karon Beach alone.

Most of those deaths happened while lifeguards, employed by previous tender holder LP Laikham, were stationed on the beaches, including Karon.

LP Laikham's contract was not renewed, amid accusations it failed to pay wages and provide its guards with the requisite equipment. Now no companies appear willing to take on the contract, despite the PPAO sweetening the deal.

If the PPAO must now find more money to attract a bidder, so be it. The consequences of having no lifeguards during this year's monsoon do not bear thinking about.

Much-maligned jet-ski operators, along with tuk-tuk drivers and tailor shop touts, often get the blame for soiling Phuket's image. Ironically, in the absence of any beach guards, the 'jet-ski boys' are now Phuket's primary lifesavers.

Everything must be done to ensure that well-equipped professionals are playing that role instead, and as soon as possible.

But the issue does not begin and end with lifeguards.

Many of the tourists who drowned in Phuket last year entered the water in spite of red warning flags and the protestations of lifeguards.

A well-funded danger awareness campaign would save lives. If that message can reach tourists before they arrive in Phuket – announcements on incoming flights are worth exploring – so much the better.

Meanwhile, drowning remains one of the biggest killers of Phuket's local children. Their lives are taken not just by the sea, but by canals and the tin mine ponds scattered around the island.

Teaching them to swim – a task neglected by the education system – should be made a priority.

There will always be tragedies. But we can do better.

– *The Editor*



## 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.

### Malaysian teaching

We have been living in Ao Nang for nearly a year, teaching English to Thai children the way we teach Australian children. While we were sitting on the beach yesterday, a Muslim family arrived with two small girls about three years of age. Imagine my surprise when the smaller of the two cried out in perfectly pronounced English, "Oh look at the beautiful colors up in the sky, Mummy."

I could not believe my ears. I approached her mother and spoke to her in Thai, asking her where her daughter had learned to speak English so well.

She looked at me quizzically and I felt slightly embarrassed, as I thought my pronunciation was improving. I repeated the question. She replied, "I'm sorry. I don't understand you. Do you speak English?"

She explained that her daughter was learning to speak English in her kindergarten in Malaysia. The family was here on holiday.

Until the Thai education authorities stop putting the cart before the horse and end the ridiculous practice of teaching English grammar to their students before they have been taught to speak the language properly, Thai children will never be able to speak English effectively.

They will always be at a disadvantage when they reach adulthood in trying to compete in the business world with countries like Malaysia and Singapore where the approach to learning English is so different.

**Garrick and Liz Mc Gavin**  
Ao Nang

### Cross words about the crossword

In support of the 'Plea for the Positive' letter in last week's issue, may I also ask for a new crossword puzzle? The current puzzle is from the *LA Times* and is obviously intended for an American readership.

In Phuket the majority of speakers of English as a first language are from the United Kingdom. Few of us have any knowledge of, or desire to know, American slang, idiom, sports statistics, professional athletes' names, obscure TV shows shown only in the USA and so on.

A crossword puzzle for a multinational community should be a challenge to one's general knowledge of worldly subjects and not USA-centric. There is little fun in having to access Wikipedia to answer many of the clues.

The UK's *Daily Telegraph* crossword is a classic example of one aimed at a multinational audience.

**Jum Ali Khan**  
Chalong

### Vexed about visas

A simple question: why is it necessary for those of us who choose to visit or stay in Thailand to be forced to leave this wonderful country on a regular basis, simply to request and be granted permission to re-enter Thailand and resume whatever it was that had to be put off?

The Thai government is imposing rules and regulations regarding visas that seem to serve no purpose other than to annoy and inconvenience foreign nationals who want to stay here.

It is pointless to attempt

explanations of the bureaucratic nightmare that is the Thai immigration process, as it leaves my head spinning. I simply see no reason in forcing people already in Thailand to leave the country in order to obtain new visas.

Who is the beneficiary of this procedure? Is there some kind of economic co-operation pact between the Thai government and neighboring countries which guarantees daily flows of hundreds, if not thousands, of tourists into cities in Laos, Cambodia, Malaysia, among others, simply to visit Thai consulates and spend money?

Is this policy responsible for keeping the tourism market alive in certain border towns?

Surely it would be easier to staff domestic Thai immigration centers in order to handle visas for people already in Thailand who wish to remain here. Visa fees can still be collected, and stress on my part can be avoided.

Maybe, in the end, it is simply a concerted effort to remind visitors that we are guests in a foreign country.

**Jefferson Andrews**  
Phuket

### Treat, don't punish

It was nice to see the piece in last week's issue on drug treatment. Governments often pursue punishment over treatment and Thailand is no exception.

These policies have led to images of drug users as criminals. In fact, they are ill. The more awareness raised, the better chance we have of treating the problem properly.

**Leonard Thompson**  
Bang Tao

**The Phuket Gazette**

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

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# Drink driving and the damage done



## FIRST PERSON

Nalinee Bunthawadchai has been the president of the Don't Drive Drunk Foundation's Victim Network in Phuket since its inception in 2005. Born on the island and currently employed as a clerk at Vachira Phuket Hospital, Ms Nalinee has been confined to a wheelchair for 20 years. Two separate road accidents have left her partially paralyzed and missing a limb. Here she recounts the experiences that left her disabled, her work with the foundation and her views on drunk drinking and road safety issues in general.

I have lived through two nightmares that changed my life forever. The first happened 25 years ago when I was on a bus bound for Bangkok, where I hoped to fulfill my dream of studying dance. The bus driver lost control and I lost my arm in the resulting crash, along with my dream of ever becoming a dancer.

Five years later I was celebrating my graduation with friends. The driver of the truck we were in was drunk. The resulting crash left me paralyzed in the lower half of my body. I came back to Phuket and spent almost a year trying to regain the ability to walk before finally accepting my fate and realizing I would have to move on with my life.

The Don't Drive Drunk Foundation's Victim Network started in Bangkok in 2001. I became president of the Phuket chapter in 2005. My job is to take care of our members, who are victims of accidents caused by drunk drivers. I also serve as MC at events at schools, hotels and local companies, giving speeches about our group's work and raising awareness about the dangers of drunk driving.

On the topic of road safety in Phuket, I am no longer surprised to see very reckless behavior, especially by motorcyclists. This includes ignoring the rules of the road, pulling out without looking, running red lights and not wearing safety helmets.

We currently have about 50 or 60 members in our network, far fewer than there should be given the number of accidents that occur here. One reason for this is that many victims come from rich, ethnic Chinese families who don't want to open themselves up to the public. Some of our members are still able to move around and go outside, while others are bedridden or even totally paralyzed.

We all work together in campaigning to raise public awareness of the dangers of drunk driving. To accomplish this we take part in parades and set up booths at high-profile events such as the Vegetarian Festival, New Year's celebrations, Old Town Festival, OTOP Fairs and other events that take place at Saphan Hin, for example.

Phuket is a tourist destination. As such there are not only many tourists, but also many people who come here to work from other provinces. The end result is a lot of people on the roads who don't know the local road network, including many who drive recklessly and with disregard for traffic laws. I sometimes see tourists with bottles or cans of beer in their hands and I feel concerned that they will try to drive afterwards.

I am quite happy with the work of the Traffic Police in Phuket. I think checkpoints help, especially with Thai people who are afraid of men in uniform and follow the rules when they see



**CAMPAIGNER:** Nalinee Bunthawadchai distributes Don't Drive Drunk stickers to Phuket drivers.

police or approach a checkpoint.

But I also want the police to be strict with people caught driving drunk. When they are arrested they usually just pay a fine and get a suspended sentence of six months, a year or maybe two years – but they never serve any jail time. I would like to see the police put them in jail for a period, even if it is just a few days or weeks – to let them know what is in store if they drink and drive again.

I think the current alcohol limit for driving under the influence (0.05% by blood alcohol content) is appropriate because

studies have shown that even a single can of beer can affect driving ability. That said, it is important that the equipment used to determine blood alcohol levels is working well.

I want to see drivers take responsibility by not driving when they plan to drink or using a taxi or tuk-tuk if they have had too much. I understand that renting a motorbike to get around might seem a cheaper option than taking a taxi or tuk-tuk, but you should consider that no amount of money can bring you back from the dead or buy you new organs, no matter how rich you might be.

I want to see Phuket become a place where people don't drink and drive. I understand that a lot of *Phuket Gazette* readers frequently drink and drive, but I advise caution. Don't think that just because it hasn't happened to you or your loved ones that you are somehow immune. It can happen to anyone of any nationality at any time. And if your drunk driving causes another person to be killed or maimed, simply saying 'I am sorry' is never enough. Words alone cannot undo the damage done.

## Issues & ANSWERS

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

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

## How do I get my deposit back from my landlord?

I would like to know what to do when a landlord refuses to repay a deposit. As a resident here I have had problems getting my initial deposit back on several occasions. Apart from consulting an expensive lawyer, what steps should people take when a landlord refuses to pay back (or doesn't have) a deposit?

**Michael Hopkin  
Phuket**

**A lawyer at Phuket Provincial Court replies:**

Bring the contract and the name and address of the lessor to the mediation center at Phuket Provincial Court. We will send a letter to the lessor asking them to come and explain why they have not paid the deposit back. If the lessor does not attend then you can sue them.

For more information contact Phuket Provincial Court, 25 Damrong Road, T. Talad Yai, Muang, Phuket 83000. T: 076-211160, -210204, -210269. E: [phkc@coj.go.th](mailto:phkc@coj.go.th). W: [coj.go.th/phkc/index.php](http://coj.go.th/phkc/index.php)

## Do I need a new license?

I have been driving in Phuket on a Singapore driving license. I have heard that holders of Singaporean and Malaysian licenses can use them here without applying for an international one. Is this true?

**Name and address supplied**

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

That's not true. Please bring your license to our office before 9:30am on a working day. We can tell you whether the license you are using is valid or not.

We nevertheless recommend you apply for a Thai driver's license.

To apply, you will need your passport and work permit with a photocopy of each; your Singaporean license; and a health certificate from a doctor. If you do not have a work permit, please have your present address certified by an Immigration officer;

For more information contact Phuket Provincial Land Transport Office: 42/4 Rattanakosin 200 Pi Road, T. Talad Neua, Muang, Phuket 83000. T: 076-211019, -220792, -214930. E: [info@phuketlandtransport.th.org](mailto:info@phuketlandtransport.th.org)



# Phuket's prize winning prose



The 6th Junior IMPAC Dublin Literary Awards southern region winner, Joy Corthesy (left), receives a certificate and 10,000 baht check from the *Phuket Gazette's* Marketing Manager Natthira Susangrat. Miss Corthesy now qualifies for the International IMPAC Dublin Awards.

The *Phuket Gazette* is pleased to announce seventeen-year-old Joy Corthesy as the southern regional winner in the 6th Junior IMPAC Dublin Literary Awards for Thailand. An eleventh grader from the Quality Schools International, Miss Corthesy collected a 10,000-baht first prize, as well as a return airfare for three and accommodation in Bangkok during the National Awards.

Organized by Thailand Ministry of Education, *The Nation*, *Citylife Chiang Mai* and *NJ Magazine*, this junior literary award contest is held annually with a grand prize that includes a trip to Dublin, where winners attend the senior international IMPAC Dublin Literary Awards.

Beating out hundreds of other student essayists from around Phuket, Miss Corthesy submission followed the contest's 2009/2010 theme, *So Near Yet So Far*, stories for which were limited to 1,200 words. Miss Corthesy's winning essay, published below, highlights her strong aptitude for creative writing, as well as outstanding skill in grammar, usage, style and punctuation:

## So Near Yet So Far

By Joy Corthesy

Samuel stood in front of the cream colored house, admiring the neat trim of the hedges, the blooming petals of the rose bushes, and the flawless blue paint on the window panes.

He frowned and looked at the paper clutched in his left hand. It was the right address, but it didn't look like the right house to him. It didn't look like the house of somebody who had left their family when their son was two years old. But that's what Samuel's dad did. Anger rushed through Samuel as he thought once again about the father he never got to know.

He thought about how his mom had to scrape money together from her three jobs just to put him through high school, the various parent-teacher meetings his dad was never there for, the 'Career' day when Samuel was in third grade, where he had to sit awkwardly at the back of the classroom while the other kids showcased their fireman dads or lawyer moms.

But what made Samuel even angrier than the absences or the abandonment, was that, after a year of searching for his father, he finds out that Lance Reno was living in the next town over. It was a one hour drive.

He lived one hour away

from the father he never knew, and the worst part was that his dad, if you could call him that, didn't even send a postcard to let his former family know that he was still alive.

Needless to say, Samuel was angry with his father, but he hadn't come all this way to knock on his father's door and yell at him.

Straightening his back and taking a deep breath, Samuel shook away his anger and rung the doorbell. He adjusted his backpack on his shoulders and waited.

The door opened, revealing a little eight year old girl with curls. Samuel stared at her, first in shock.

Then he noticed her sand blonde hair, like his, and her wide brown eyes, like his, and the freckles sprinkled on her cheeks, very similar to his. She frowned and said hi, whereas Samuel stood there, shocked.

"Suzy, who's at the door?" She looked back and yelled, "I don't know, Daddy."

Samuel could hear the

heavy steps coming towards the door from inside the house, and Suzy backed away from the door.

He looked a lot like Samuel. Just like Suzy, the man had sand blonde hair, brown eyes, and freckles. And like Samuel, they both had a large build and broad shoulders.

He suddenly realized that, though he had been searching for and preparing himself to meet his father for over a year now, Samuel had no inkling as to what to say to him.

But before Samuel could react, the man ushered Suzy to the living room and came back, closing the door behind him and stepping out onto the porch. He looked at Samuel up and down, inspecting him. His eyes looked anxious, but, unexpectedly, there was no hint of confusion on the man's face. Before Samuel could say anything, the man spoke.

"What are you doing here?"

Samuel frowned. "I'm here to see Lance Reno. That's you, right?" The man sighed and rubbed his temples with his forefingers. "Yes, that's me."

Confused, Samuel stayed silent.

Why was this man so frustrated?

Did Samuel come at a bad time? Did he do something wrong? It seemed as though, without speaking even more than ten words to his father, Samuel had made him angry.

Lance stayed silent, his head in his hands, looking very frustrated.

Samuel decided to speak, "Well... um, my name is Samuel Waldwick..."

"Yeah, kid, I know who you are." Samuel stared back at the man in front of him, stunned.

"What do you mean, you know who I am?" Samuel felt not only felt confused, but he also felt as if he knew what his father was about to say.

Lance sighed again, this time looking uncomfortable, as if he would've liked to be anywhere else in the world than on that porch, in front of the son he had abandoned 17 years ago.

He shoved his hands in his pockets, looking at the ground.

"Look, kid, I'm not proud of what I did to you and your mom. And if I were you, I'd avoid punch me right now. But... listen; I have a real family now. I got two little girls, and a lovely wife. They can't know I have another kid. I can't lose another family."

Upon hearing this, the anger Samuel had earlier pushed back rushed through his veins once again like a storm.

"You didn't lose us, you walked away." Samuel blurted

out. He stepped back, dropping his backpack on the floor. This guy knew who his son was, and didn't do a thing about it? Lance looked at Samuel, angry at what he had just said.

"Look, the way I see it, I did you guys a favor. I wasn't ready to be a father, not back then." Samuel glared at him, his eyes blazing with anger, no longer

holding any resemblance to the brown eyes he had inherited from his father.

"You didn't even call, or write once, or send me a birthday card. I'm going to college, and I didn't even know

where to send you the invite to my graduation!"

Samuel thought back to his high school graduation, how he had stood there, accepting his diploma and watching his mother cry tears of joy, and he remembered how he felt: after finishing high school, he still didn't know who his father was. It seemed as though that lack of vital yet ordinary information overshadowed anything he did learn in high school.

Suddenly, Lance grabbed the front of Samuel's shirt, his face inches away from Samuel's nose.

"Is that what this is all about, then? You need money for college? Is that it?"

Violently, Samuel pushed away from his father and grabbed his bag, mumbling to himself, "You're so far from who I hoped you were."

Angry and disappointed, he walked away into the dark, yelling back, "I don't need anything from you!"

Years later, Samuel thought back to that moment, when he realized that his father wasn't anything near what he expected him to be.

He had believed that, in order to move on with the next step in his life and become the man he wanted to be, he needed to know first what kind of man his father was.

He had imagined his father to have been, despite abandoning his family, a decent man who had gotten his life together. But the truth was, that man back at the cream colored house with the two little girls and the lovely wife, wasn't anything near the kind of man Samuel hoped to one day become.

He was just another husband in a suburban home, with what appeared to be large skeletons in his closet.

After that first, and last, encounter with his father, it was obvious to Samuel that, even though they lived so near to one another back then, in his mind, they really lived worlds apart.

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## Talking Planes



## In-flight banter inbound

**D**o you turn off your mobile phone when requested to do so by the airline before takeoff? For the majority of travelers, the answer is mostly, but not always.

This doesn't mean you are intentionally flouting the law and putting all other passengers and crew in imminent danger of crashing. It just means that passengers these days like to interpret, or misinterpret, the in-flight announcement to suit themselves.

The question these days, however, is whether the plane is truly at risk because a cell phone is on during a flight. The answer to this is yes, but increasingly less so.

Research carried out by the UK Civil Aviation Authority in the early 2000s showed that a number of electronic instruments in a plane are subject to malfunction by the interference that cell phone signals can cause.

Amongst a number of things, in-flight anomalies appeared when a cell phone operating at maximum level and located 30cm from vulnerable equipment or its wiring harness resulted in a freezing of the aircraft compass, unstable indicators, digital navigation bearing display errors, or reversal of the VOR navigation (VOR is an electronic aid used for landing, en-route guidance, weather forecasts, special flight instructions and other tasks).

That's a distressing list, but take heart – things are steadily improving. The risk of cell phone interference endangering an aircraft, particularly a large, modern jet, is very low. Aircraft are designed to cope with all sorts of emergencies and equipment failures.

But "low" is not good enough in the airline industry,



Photo: AFP/Mark Wilson

**IF OBAMA GETS TO DO IT...** The business of offering in-flight cell phone usage has been on the rise in recent years as more and more airlines integrate the technology needed to offer the service to passengers.

hence the continued ban on take-off, climb, approach and landing.

However, today's cell phones are becoming an increasingly common sight on aircraft because of advances in in-flight technology. The first technology was employed on a Boeing 777-200LR demonstrator aircraft in 2005 and subsequently tested with Qantas Airways in 2007.

The technology was developed by UK-based company AeroMobile, which has been leading the race for safe use of mobile phones during flights. In March 2008, the AeroMobile system was used to make the first authorized in-flight calls on a commercial flight.

Here's how an in-flight mobile phone service, developed for the Irish-based low-cost carrier Ryanair by OnAir – another pioneer company – works:

Once your cell phone or smartphone is switched on it connects to a mini mobile network within the plane. The signal is transmitted to the ground through a satellite link where the data is transferred to OnAir's telecom infrastructure, then hooks into the public telecom network, which

beams the data across the dialed phone number or requested website. At the moment, this is a limited service, but it is in the process of expanding.

In short, the technology has arrived. All that is required now is further development of it, and a change in social/public attitudes toward in-flight cell phone usage. As far as the airlines are concerned, they want mobile technology to be available, not only because it helps keep their customers happy, but because there is money to be made from the service.

In-flight cell phones, however, don't seem to have caught on in Asia as much as in the United States and particularly Europe. The exception is Malaysian Airlines, which since November 2008 has used AeroMobile systems to enable in-flight voice calls and text messages. At last count it had a passenger adoption rate of 40 percent.

Low-cost carrier Australia V is also expected to take up Aero-Mobile technology. Both airlines fly directly to Phuket, so it may not be long before we see the service offered here.

planes is to people talking while everyone else wants to quietly sleep, read, eat, drink or watch a movie. There is truth in this assertion. It's well established that most people talk louder on cell phones. The higher background noise on an aircraft would force people to talk even louder. Some airlines are looking at the concept of "cell phone zones" and "quiet time" on long-haul flights.

It was once argued that airlines were against cell phones in flights because they wanted to encourage passengers to use their own in-flight phone services, but these services are rarely used because of their expense. Airlines are finally catching up with the cell phone wave.

With the almost simultaneous growth in air transport and cell phone technology over the last two decades, they cannot afford to miss the plane.

*Alastair Carthew is an experienced Phuket-based writer, broadcaster and public relations consultant. E: alastaircarthew@gmail. T: 0817500448.*

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# Biking for the heroines



Bikers from around the area competed in the 11th Phuket Challenge Thalang Historical Route race, which traces the grounds of the historical battles that defended Phuket from Burmese invasion 225 years ago. Below: Mr Teerasak Boonchuay, winner of the open male race, and Ms Apinya Saisamorn, winner of the open female race. Photos: Pimwara Choksakulpan

Mountain bikers from around the world retraced the historical routes of Thao Thepkasattri and Thao Srisoonthorn – better known as the heroines who defended Phuket from the Burmese 225 years ago – in the ‘11th Phuket Challenge Thalang Historical Route’ bike race on March 7.

The race is held annually as part of the March fair that honors the day the heroines succeeded in defending Phuket from invasion.

Approximately 150 bikers took part in the race, which stretches 12km through the forested areas of Thalang, starting at the Thalang Warfare Victory Memorial and stretching through the grounds of the Phuket’s famous historical battles.

The race was divided into several classes, but the highlights were open male and open female classes, which were awarded Royal Cups on behalf of His Majesty Crown Prince



Maha Vajiralongkorn.

The winner of the open male racing was Mr Teerasak Boonchuay, 28, a local biker who of Beach Boy Team Phuket.

The winner of open female was Ms Apinya Saisamorn, 20, of Salaya Design Team, also a local Thai team.

Bikers from Switzerland and Sweden – Mr Martin Brot and Mr Kim Andersson, respectively – also took part in the event.

Starting at 9am and continuing until 4pm, the race was organized by Thepkasattri Municipality, with co-operation from Thao Thepkasattri and Thao Srisoonthorn Foundation and Phuket Provincial Culture Office.

After opening ceremony at 11am, non-competing bikers joined a free run ride from the memorial out to Thalang city to help promote the competition.

The annual fair runs until March 20 and will include a number of friendly games and competitions.

– Pimwara Choksakulpan



## Junior rugbys take on Bangkok's best

Phuket's junior rugby players competed in the Bangkok International 10s tournament on February 20 and 21, where they took on some tough competition from Bangkok and Sri Lanka.

Though most of the Phuket players were under 12, they were entered in the under 14s section. In their first game, they faced stiff opposition and lost 10-0 to Mathayomwatsrichanpradit School from Samut Prakan.

The Phuket lads were a lot more confident in their next game against Nawamintrachinutit School from Bangkok, but they were undone by a score from a quick-tap penalty by the Bangkok side and then lost a lineout on their own throw. However, they did get inside the Bangkok 22, where the Bangkok lads were penalized for going offside at the ruck.

Phuket scrum half Beng played a quick penalty and Lek scored in the corner. The final score was 15-5 to the Bangkok team.

The Phuket team then took on the vastly more experienced Agoal Rugby Academy B team from Sri Lanka. Phuket's forwards battered the Sri Lankans backwards time and again before the ball was shipped to the backs where center Fae crashed through a couple of tackles to score in the corner.

The Sri Lankan side were obviously not expecting such ferocity in the tackle and again the forwards secured a turn-over ball, which was passed along the line for Mut to sprint away and score. Phuket ran in two more tries to end up 20-0 winners.

The Phuket team's last game was against the other Sri Lankan team, Agoal A, a better side than the B team. Following an outstanding effort, Phuket walked away victorious with a 15-5 score.

In the Plate competition, they met The Bangkok lions. The game was a tight affair and with the scores level at 0-0 until the last seconds, when Phuket's winger Lek scored.

The final was a rematch with the Agoal Rugby Academy A side. The Phuket lads went in at halftime with a 7-5 lead. In the second half, a refereeing decision resulted in the Sri Lankan side winning a retaken line out to run in what proved to be the winning try. The final score was 12-7 to the Bangkok Lions.

## International Cricket returning to Karon

The 7th Phuket International Cricket 6s tournament will be taking place in Karon next month. First held in 2004, this year's tournament is expected to feature up to 30 sides from all over the world competing in the Cup, Plate, Bowl, Spoon and Women's Divisions in the

popular six-a-side match format.

A record number of teams, supporters and officials from Australia, UK, India, Pakistan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, New Zealand and China will be flying into Phuket for the tournament.

A Women's Division is also being introduced for the first time, which will feature up to five women's teams from around the region.

In addition to the main competition, the five day event will also feature a welcome reception, a Sixes Gala Awards Dinner and a T20 Fundraising Match for Junior Cricket.

The annual T20 Fundraising match will be held again under floodlights at Karon Stadium, featuring all the best players in the tournament. Funds raised at the match will be contributed by the tournament to the development of junior cricket in Phuket.

For more information visit: [www.phuketsixes.com](http://www.phuketsixes.com).

– James Goyder

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# Morning Star brings in-house victory



Phuket Morning Star sealed a victory at the 2nd Spicy 7s football tournament in the Masters competition for footballers aged 35 and over.

Attracting teams from all over South east Asia and Australia, The Spicy 7s football tournament returned to Phuket for the second year last weekend at Prince of Songkla University.

Highlights from the tourney came from both the open tournament as well as the Masters competition.

The open tournament was contested by five teams. At the end of the round robin matches the top two teams, Seoul Celtic and Saigon Raiders, contested the final.

The matches are only 14 minutes in length and tend to be tight, closely contested affairs. The final was no exception with the score tied 0-0 after five minutes of extra time. The game went to sudden death pen-

alties and Seoul Celtic watched their first effort sail harmlessly over the crossbar.

Victory was then secured for the Vietnam-based Saigon Raiders when Dominik Schaeffer coolly converted his shot.

Eight teams also took part in the Masters competition for players aged 35 and over. At the end of the group stages, four teams emerged to reach the semi finals.

Local team Phuket Morning Star emerged victorious from the round to earn a spot in the final against Bangkok Airways.

The local side dominated the match and looked the far likelier side to score but spurned the best chance of the match when Mark Lightfoot, the tournament's top

scorer, somehow failed to convert a shot from extremely close range.

This meant that penalties would be required. Phuket Morning Star captain decided to put his faith in Krabi goalkeeper Sonny Leonton and midfielder Jo Carre. Leonton fulfilled his part of the bargain, diving to his left to save the opening penalty, meaning that Carre only needed to convert on his kick to ensure victory for

Phuket Morning Star.

Carre made no mistake drilling his penalty low into the corner, bringing a victory home for Phuket.

"I missed one in a tournament last year but I wanted to take this one and I was cool as a cucumber. We won a 5-a-side tournament at PIA last month so we were confident we could win this," he said.

— James Goyder

## Fair play heads into final



England, playing in a changed strip of orange, guaranteed top spot in the Fair Play League with victory over Germany at BIS in the penultimate weekend. The final round of matches is scheduled to take place next Sunday morning at the Youth Football Home.



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# Dam delay

By Sitthipong Nongkaew

Construction of a 5.7-million-cubic-meter reservoir and dam in Chalong is on hold for a few months while the Irrigation Department awaits approval to use Forest Department land needed for the project.

Funding for the 960-million-baht Klong Krata Reservoir and a dam measuring 730 meters long and 25 meters high was provided under the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives.

Of the project budget, about 300 million baht has been earmarked for acquisition of about 430 rai along the base of the Nakkerd Hills.

About 600 million baht will go towards construction of the dam across the existing Klong Krata (Krata Stream), and creating a 430-rai reservoir and recreational area.

The Klong Krata catchment area comprises a hilly area on the Chalong side of the Nakkerd Hills, the same area where a planned road connecting Chalong and Nanai Road in Patong is on

indefinite hold pending revision of its Environmental Impact Assessment.

The reservoir would cover much of the area between the Nakkerd foothills and Wat Luang Pu Supha.

Phuket Provincial Irrigation Office (PPIO) director Weerawat Aungsupanith told the *Gazette* the water will be used to augment domestic supplies in the area as well as to irrigate 200 rai of nearby farmland. The reservoir office will be located nearby at Ban Nakok.

The project would be funded under the central government's 100-billion-baht Thai Khem Kheng (Strong Thailand) stimulus package for 2012.

The only thing holding up the project now is gaining the right to use Forest Department land.

"Now we are just waiting for the for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment to approve the request. I think it will take about one or two months. After that we can sign a contract with the project contractor," Mr Weerawat said.



ABOVE: Part of 430 rai of Forestry Department land in Nakkerd Hills, in Chalong, which will eventually be under water when construction of a 25-meter high dam is complete. INSET: A rendering of the future dam.

To further increase supplies, work is also underway on a 41-million-baht contract to expand the storage capacity of two tin mine ponds, located behind Phuket Rajabhat University.

The two mines are separated by the back access road to the university.

The smaller of the two will be expanded to 15 rai and its storage capacity increased to 50,000 cubic meters under a 14-million-baht budget.

The other pond will contain about 500,000 cubic meters of water and cover 90 rai when the 27-million-baht contract is

completed.

"The water situation is not so bad. The Bang Wad Reservoir still has enough water to last for three more months.

"The rainy season normally arrives around the end of April, so there shouldn't be any problems," Mr Weerawat said.

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## Construction Update

Kathu

# Leisure man's dam gets a fresh look

By Thanasorn Chookate

**B**ang Wad Dam, a popular spot in Kathu for local residents seeking a bit of leisure, is getting an overhaul to help keep it clean and welcoming. A massive project is underway to add a new drainage system, a new bike path, new landscaping and build what is being called "the most beautiful toilet in Phuket."

Overseeing the makeover is Director of Phuket Irrigation Project Mr Weerawat Aungsunpanith. Mr Weerawat said the improvements are being made as a result of the dam's growing popularity in recent years, especially with local expats. The improvements will help turn Bang Wad Dam into a full-on recreational park.

Construction is currently taking place on the new 9.7-million-baht drainage system, which stretches 3,250 meters around the dam. The purpose of the project is to direct water during the rainy season, which typically overflows from the hills surrounding the dam onto roads. This creates hazardous conditions from both the immediate flooding as well as the long-term damage to the road conditions. The new drainage will ensure virtually all the runoff from rainfall will avoid the roads and instead make its way into the dam.

Construction of the project started in January of this year by the company Chalearmyod Pattana from Nakorn Sri Thammarat. The company is hoping to complete construction within 120 days, or before the end of May.

In addition to the drainage system, Chalearmyod Pattana is also building the infrastructure for a state-of-



Construction on a new drainage system (top left, bottom left) and a pristine restroom (bottom right) is currently underway at Kathu's Bang Wad Dam, a site of growing popularity for local residents seeking a bit of leisure. Additional plans are in place for a new bike path, new landscaping, and recreational areas. Photos/Thanasorn Chookate

the art restroom facility. Once complete, a separate company will design, decorate, and maintain the facility. Mr Weerawat hopes that it will become one of the most beautiful and hygienic restrooms in Phuket.

After the current phase of construction is complete, additional companies will be contracted to continue the other parts of the makeover, including a new bike path and new landscaping, which will include introducing new floral species to the area, as well as *salas* for people to

sit and eat. Plans are also in the works to include a security gate and sufficient lighting for the dam at night.

Mr Weerawat also told the *Gazette* that there are plans to expand the capacity of the dam reservoir by 3.3 million cubic meters by adding an additional three meters in depth. The construction schematics have been prepared, but Phuket Irrigation Project is still awaiting further approval that the dam, now 30 years old, is still strong enough to support the addition.



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# Avocados in Rawai

## Nosing around in Nikita's garden



I recently gave a talk for the Phuket International Women's Club, which was hosted at a member's splendid home. It confirmed my already well-founded suspicions that the island is a tropical treasure trove of exquisite gardens which are well worth sharing with readers of this newspaper.

As it happens, the first garden we went to look at had been lovingly developed and tended by a lady, but not by a member of the aforementioned club.

Nikita, the person in question, owns one of the best known and longest established bars in Phuket.

Indeed, years ago the *Gazette* ran a piece about 'Nikita's', and not just about its extensive wine list, but also about the wide range of plants that grace the seating area.

Under the benign shade of a massive tamarind tree are lots of foliage plants – *crotons*, *dracaenas*, *aglaonemas* and *philodendrons*, and, to add some color, orchids in abundance.

All these plants are flourishing within arms length of the sea and its salt-laden winds. Clearly they get lots of TLC-so it was inevitable that Nikita and her English partner's house would also reflect this love of tropical shrubs and trees.

Their house is tucked away

on a hillside, and sits on a walled corner plot approached by a steep private road.

Nikita has made the most of this natural feature by creating a series of terraced gardens.

These are not formally patterned gardens; instead the aim has been to incorporate existing features such as the large boulders which flank one side of the green area next to the house.

This terrace, with its lawn of lush Malaysia grass, has quite an intimate and enclosed feel, with steep steps cut into the rock providing access to the next level.

It is there, the swimming pool, bordered on one side by swathes of *heliconias*, sends cascades of water over the sandstone-clad retaining wall, giving the impression that you are in a water garden.

The focal point of the property, there are plenty of mature trees here – after all the garden has been ten years in the making – included a specimen traveller's palm fully six metres tall, lofty coconuts, sealing wax and royal palms, and a whole range of avocado trees.

Avocados are much loved by Nikkie and her partner; they aim to grow a total of thirty in the next few years, and they are already two-thirds of the way there. Today the mature ones – which fruit after seven of eight years – were beginning to produce avocados, and all the signs presaged a bumper crop.

In the neatly tended borders were a range of shrubs and ferns, yellow-green *pisonia alba*, *monstera deliciosa*, better known in western sitting rooms as the swiss cheese plant, some fine coral plants *jatropha multifida* in full red livery.

They provided a splash of scarlet in a predominantly green garden, one dominated by foliage



**ABOVE:** This private Rawai home and garden features a variety of tropical trees, grasses and plants including *crotons*, *dracaenas*, *aglaonemas* and *philodendrons*. **RIGHT:** The *Heliconia* is a genus of 100-200 species of flowering plants native to the tropics. It is also referred to as the 'false bird-of-paradise' because of its rich red and orange colors.



rather than blooms.

On one of the mature trees was a magnificent staghorn fern, enjoying the dappled shade afforded by its situation.

It is evident that Nikita enjoys unusual plants.

A couple of strange leafless specimens with bulbous stems that almost filled their containers had been brought home all the way from Laos.

In Balinese style, these are a number of thatch-roofed, low-rise buildings dotted around the grounds. One, above the swimming pool, serves as an office; another, at the summit of the property, has panoramic vistas across Rawai and beyond.

The sloping terrace below this viewpoint has more avocados and palms flanking the lawn.

I say 'lawn' but it is an interesting example of how Mother Nature, despite all our intentions to the contrary, can end up getting her own way.

Originally planted with Malaysia grass, the space was then annexed by a native grass which in turn has given way to a fine-leaved variety. It clearly enjoys the dry conditions there.

So too the row of avocado trees, which respond positively to the well drained conditions in this elevated setting.

The garden's diversity is one of its fascinating aspects.

Divided into separate terraces, the different areas enjoy varied conditions, a series of micro-climates in one garden.

Thus the bottom terrace, situated below the main house,

supports a wide expanse of conventional lawn, dotted with mature palms and flanked by shrubs such as *mussaenda*. Shielding it from the approach road, a dense thicket of bamboo stands guard, ensuring the privacy of this very secluded space.

And at the end of the day, both literally and metaphorically, that is what this garden engenders; a palpable sense of tranquillity, a million miles from the hustle and bustle of the beach.

If you are the owner of a Phuket garden which you would like to see featured in the column of Green Sleeves, please contact either the *Phuket Gazette*. T: 076-236555 or email pcampbell45@gmail.com.

Photographs are welcomed with each submission.

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# Banyan Tree dives into family vacation market

In an effort to further penetrate the family-vacation market, Banyan Tree Phuket has added 22 deluxe two-bedroom pool villas to its accommodation options of contemporary Asian-style villas surrounded by lush tropical gardens and Asian watercourts.

The new villas at the flagship Banyan Tree resort in Laguna Phuket were launched in conjunction with a new 'Family Occasions' summer package on March 1. The package includes new activity programs for kids of different ages.

Mr Francois Huet, General Manager of Banyan Tree Phuket as well as a Vice President with the Banyan Tree Group, said the trend of soft family adventures was a welcome addition to the signature resort.

"Couples who have enjoyed various types of holidays prior to starting their families have more options than ever to continue their adventures as their children grow up. Shared experiences become more enriching as families choose discerning, activity-enriched destinations such as Banyan Tree Phuket. It's a win-win situation as parents do not have to sacrifice their comfort and style for kid-friendly facilities, and children of all ages do not have to sacrifice their play time and exploration for an adult-friendly environment," he said.

The family package includes deals for up to six people – with reductions for under 12s – and is designed to provide multi-generation families with quality bonding time and experiences.

The new pool villas are hailed as an unparalleled product for the family travel market. Covering 370 square meters, each villa comfortably accommodates four adults, and can hold up to six people in total; featuring a master bedroom, a twin bedroom, a fully-equipped kitchen, a game room plus a dining area and lounge. The large, private outdoor pools measure 3.5 by nine meters and include a jet pool, while an outdoor sala provides a place to relax with an encompassing view of the villa.

The well-appointed kitchen and dining area allow space for families to gather over private meals, which can be self catering or delivered and beautifully arranged by the resort's discreet service team.

Of course, family holidays can be tiring for the adults when coupled up with kids who'd rather be exploring, so they can join the resort's Turtle Club, which offers outdoor activities that do not box kids into a playroom. Activities include kite making, sand sculpture, batik painting, and aquacise, which bring out the best cultural and local items of interest. For adults, facilities such as the holistic Banyan Tree Spa, and romantic options such as the Intimate Moments drawn bath or Destination Dining exclusively for two, allow them to truly rejuvenate on holiday, and return home without needing yet another break to recover from a family holiday.

Younger children can join the Banyan Tree Rangers program for under 10s,



One of Banyan Tree Phuket's 22 new deluxe two-bedroom pool villas, designed to cater for up to six people with 370sqm of space and a 3.5 x 9m pool.

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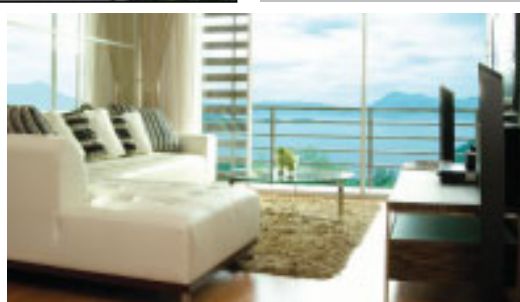
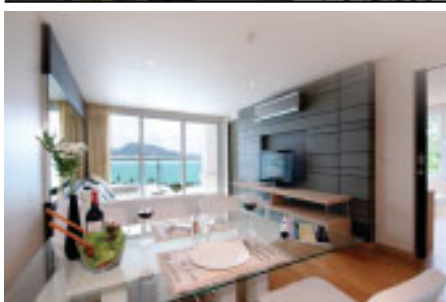
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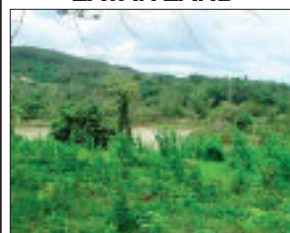
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3km from Heroines' Monument. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms at 3.3 million baht. Tel: 089-888 8572.

### 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.

### 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](mailto:ruedi.kaufmann@gmx.ch)

### 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).

**MANDALA CONDOMINIUMS**  
BANG TAO BEACH

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Bill Samet, Managing Director of C9 Hotelworks  
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### 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. 800m from beach, very quiet. 11 million baht. Tel: 086-280 7400, +33-624-483630, +33-490-255386 (nous parlons Français).

### 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 bathrooms, common swimming pool, internet, security. 10.5 million baht. Tel: 082-416 4878.

### 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)

### 3 BEDROOMS HOUSE

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

### 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.

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# Property Gazette

## 2 HOUSES IN PATONG

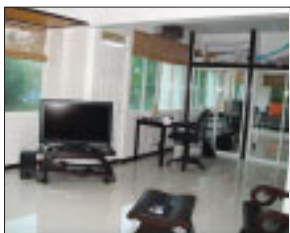


for sale. Live in 1 and rent the other or sold separately. 5.1 million baht each, fully furnished, well kept, 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, Western kitchen. Center of Patong, 2 minutes to Jungceylon. Contact owner at Tel: 087-2793312. www.phukethouseapartment.com

## 6 BR KAMALA, URGENT SALE

2 story home high on a hill with great sea and valley views. 3 bedrooms and complete living room and kitchens on both floors. A total of 6 bedrooms (5 kings w/ ensuite) with 5.5 baths. Can live on one floor and rent the other. Approx 450 sqm of living area on over a half rai of land with room for 2nd house and or pool. Priced for quick sale at 9.5 million baht. The home is FULLY furnished as well; move right in! Tel: 088-442 2407. Email: bazzoli@hotmail.com

## 1.7 MILL BAHT CONDO RAWAI



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

## SHOPHOUSE - CHALONG

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

## 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

## 30 RAI IN TOWN

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

## 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

## PERFECT LAND

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

## LAND FOR SALE

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

## 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.

## THE ROYAL PLACE

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

## 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

## 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: drbeamshaw@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.

## HEAVEN ON EARTH



5 bedroom Thai style villa in Phuket. Magnificent Phang-Nga Bay sea view. 3 big bedrooms are ensuite 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.

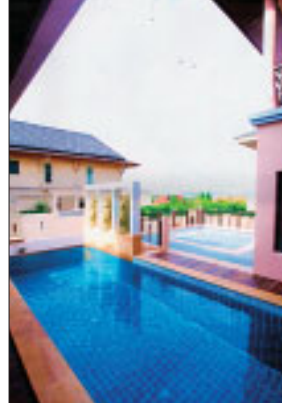
## LAND AT PA KHLOK

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.

## 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

## NEW HOUSE IN NAI HARN-RAWAI



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

## PATONG 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.

## 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 For further details, please see our website at http://www.phuketlifestyle.com

## KRABI, AO-NANG POOL VILLAS

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

## LAND AT PA KHLOK



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

## 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 BRAND CONDO

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

## KAMALA LAKE HOUSE

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

## NEW TOWN HOUSE



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

## KOH YAO YAI PARADISE

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

## KATHU HOUSE

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

## 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.

## 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

## 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.

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# Property Gazette

## NEW DETACHED HOUSE



for sale in Phanason 3, Thalung. 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

## 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.

## SEA FRONT HOUSE FOR SALE

Large, partly furnished 4 bedrooms, pool side, sea stunning view in Sirae Island only 15 minutes drive to Phuket town. 33,000,000 baht. Tel: 081-535 1269 (English & Thai). Email: info@phuketrentalhouse.com For further details, please see our website at <http://www.phuketrentalhouse.com/siraehouse.html>

## MUST SELL EVA NO.1

Eva Rawai fast sale, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, pool, seaview. 17.9 million baht this month only. Tel: 086-272 3217. Email: harriedekort@gmail.com

## TOWNHOUSE, 2 STOREY



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

## ELEVATED SEA VIEW

Patong house, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 5 balconies. 250 sqm. Lock up, garage, 12 million baht. Tel: 076-341618, 086-691 9657.

## 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

## 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.

## BEST DEAL: SALE OR RENT

New apartment of 140sqm: private pool, 2 beds, 2 bathrooms, view, golf, very nice terrace, internet, satellite TV. Price: 7 million baht. Or rent 120sqm for only 25,000 baht per month (long term). Tel: 087-284 4823. Email: beniluxnoi@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at <http://benilux-phuket.com>

## RAWAI HOUSE

2-story, 3-bed, 3-bath house with self contained Bungalow on 720 sq meters of land in a quiet part of Rawai. 6.8 million baht. No agents, please. Tel: 087-628 3673 (Thai), 081-078 1112 (English). Email: islanderbar3@hotmail.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

## 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: 083-180 2143. Email: yaris.vios@gmail.com

## 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

## 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.

## 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.

## 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

## KATA SEAVIEW HOUSE



3 bedroom, 3 bathroom, pool, 2 covered parking, teak kitchen & bath with granite tops, marble & wood floors, teak ceilings. New Hoffman 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

## 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

## APARTMENT IN PATONG

for sale. New condo in Patong, swimming pool, freehold, reduced price. Tel: 089-728 4005. Email: thamad17@yahoo.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 For further details, please see our website at <http://www.phuketlifestyle.com>

## HOUSE SALE OR RENT

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

## 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

## 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

## 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.

## 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.

## 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: nickfrangoudes@gmail.com

## BAAN BAI MAI



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

## PARICHART VILLAGE, CHALONG



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

## TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE OR RENT



In Moobaan Tinawut, Samkong, close to Yada Dental Clinic. 2 connected buildings, 2 floors, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. For rent: 12,000 baht per month, sale: 2.8 million baht. Tel: 081-597 6302, 081-597 9441.

## 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

## 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: piccharly@gmail.com

## SUPER GUESTHOUSE PATONG

Looking for a guesthouse? Call Real Pro, we have it! 19 rooms, elevator, rent 135,000 baht. Great location 86 Nanai Road. Price 2,900,000 baht. Real Pro Co Ltd. Tel: 076-345 238, 084-078 2753 (Frank). Email: info.realpro@gmail.com

## CONDO FOR SALE

The newly built The Royal Place condo opposite Tesco Lotus bypass. 45 sqm. 3 Fl. at the corner with swimming pool view. 2 balconies. 1 bedrm, 1 bathrm, kitchen (microwave, washing machine, refrigerator) living room, 2 air cons, TV flatron, telephone, cable TV. Share pool, restaurant, laundry service, key card with 24 security and car park. Tel: 086-4769612.

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

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# Property Gazette

## Properties For Rent

**CHALONG NEW HOME**  
2-bedroom home with telephone, aircon and cable TV. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-652 1473 (English). Email: anandaestates@yahoo.com

**KAMALA BEACH**  
New apartments and houses, furnished Western style, aircon, cable, internet, quiet, security. 16,000-20,000 baht. Tel: 083-6453 546. Tel: 083-645 3546.

### 15,000 BAHT MONTHLY RENT



Rawai beach. Apart 92 sqm, WiFi, fully furnished. 160,000 baht yearly lease. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

**NEW HOUSE**  
New house for rent in Phuket town. 3 beds, 3 baths, furniture, long term only. Call or e-mail for info. Tel: 089-197 7438, 080-549 7658. Email: olay1@yahoo.com

**HOUSE IN KATHU**  
for rent. 150sqm. 2 bedrooms, security, furniture, garden, kitchen, car park. Price 17,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-411 7842.

**TOP VILLAS RAWAI**  
3 or 4 bedrooms villas with big garden and private pool, beautifully furnished. Great price for rent or sale. Tel: 087-8938 747.

**APARTMENTS**  
The Royal Place, 1 bedroom, kitchen, bathroom and living room, swimming pool, etc. 12,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-539 9612, 087-633 1472.

### BEST DEAL: SALE OR RENT

New apartment of 140sqm: private pool, 2 beds, 2 bathrooms, view, golf, very nice terrace, internet, satellite TV. Price: 7 million baht. Or rent 120sqm for only 25,000 baht per month (long term). Tel: 087-284 4823. Email: beniluxnoi@hotmail.com

**KAMALA HOUSE RENT**  
2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, nice private garden, aircon, private, secure parking, large kitchen, non-smoking house, fully furnished, cable TV, UBC satellite, WiFi, etc. Short term monthly rent: 30,000 baht. Long term monthly rent: 25,000 baht. Tel: 087-883 6625, 089-867 5122. Email: sales@eldsat.com

**SURIN BEACH**  
Superb MODERN 2 bedroom apartments to rent, short and long term. Tel: 085-888 2022. Email: stewartlees@gmail.com For further details, please see our website at www.PhuketWest.com

### SHOP IN PRIME PATONG

15 meters from the beach. 5 min walk to Bangla. 33,333 baht per month. Can be used as shop or office. Tel: 083-646 9906, 087-470 9426 (Thai). Email: tsabest@gmail.com

**RAWAI HOUSE**  
for rent. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 aircon, pool, furnished. 30,000 baht per month. Tel: 083-102 8681.

### 2 NICE HOUSES IN SAMKONG

for rent. Near Bangkok Phuket Hospital & Tesco Lotus. 2 floors, aircons, nice place, well kept, parking. Good for home office or residential unit. 22,000 baht per month/each. Contact owner. Tel: 081-797 3138 (Thai), 083-551 8855 (Eng).

### KAMALA LARGE 4 BEDROOMS

Villa set in beautiful gardens, private pool, ample parking. Tel: 080-697 7729.

### NAI HARN, 2 BEDROOMS HOUSE



for rent. Low season price 18,000 baht. Computer, pool. From 1 April to 30 Oct 2010. Tel: 083-388 8036.

### KAMALA BEACHFRONT VILLAS



3 bedrooms, fully furnished, full services, for short or long term. Tel: 084-843 6837. Email: suchada\_villas@hotmail.com

### MODERN HOUSE NEAR BANGTAO BEACH



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

### 2 BEDROOM VILLA 5

2 bathrooms, fully furnished, 2 aircon. 11,000 baht per month, 2 month advance. Contact for more details, tel: 076-286056, 089-292 6200.

### PHUKET VILLA DAORUNG



House for rent, 55sq wah, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, no phone line, unfurnished. 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-270 9093.

### SERVICED CONDOMINIUM

2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, lounge. Tel: 081-892 0038. Visit our web site at www.orchidkathuheights-phuket.com

### PATONG TOWER

Modern 1 bedroom condo for long-term rent on beach road. Tel: 084-8473 304. See our website at www.selectphuket.com

### HOUSE FOR RENT IN PATONG



- 1.5km from Patong Beach and 15 minutes to Phuket Town.  
- 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 1 living room, 1 aircon, fully furnished  
- Rent: 20,000 baht per month.  
- Please contact Khun Somboon at: 081-677 5136, 076 - 274382 (English & Thai).

### KATA CONDO



2 and 3 bedroom, 2 bath room, with sea view. 115sqm inside with a huge 50sqm terrace, teak kitchen, furnished, long term preferred, 25,000/month. Tel: 084-840 1262. Or email: north8east98@yahoo.com

### HOUSE FOR RENT IN PATONG

- 1.5km from Patong Beach and 15 minutes to Phuket Town.  
- 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, 1 living room, fully furnished  
- Rent: 7,000 baht per month.  
- Please contact Khun Somboon at: 081-677 5136, 076 - 274382 (English & Thai).

### NEW SERVICED CONDO

The Point, central location, one bedroom, lounge, bathroom, near Phuket International Hospital, many facilities. Tel: 081-8920 038.

### 2 BED POOL VILLA RAWAI

2 bed, 2 bath, A/C. Phone, Internet, Cable TV, fully furnished. 26,000 baht per month. Tel: 080-533 7669 (English), 085-632 4880 (English & Thai). Email: gregors@ttmaxnet.com

### 3 BEDROOM VILLA CHALONG

With clubhouse access. 211sqm. Land 476sqm, fully furnished with taste. 34,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-555 7828. Contact for more details. at email: contactme2090@gmail.com

### GOLF VIEW VILLA ON PRIVATE HILL

For rent, 2 and 3 bedrooms, big pool, overlooking lake and Loch Palm Golf Course. Quiet, furnished, WiFi, long-term. 30,000 and 65,000 baht per month. 1 month free. Call Noi. Tel: 087-269 8492.

**2 BEDROOMS & POOL**  
for rent. House with private pool in Naiharn. Internet, cable, aircon. 38,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-478 0201.

**3 BEDROOM HOUSE**  
for rent. Land & House (Chalong), fully furnished, internet, cable, garden, privacy area and clubhouse. Tel: 086-478 0201.

### 2 BED POOL VILLA SAI YUAN

2 baths, A/C, Internet phone line, Cable TV, fully furnished. 26,000 baht per month. Tel: 080-533 7669 (English), 085-632 4880 (English & Thai). Email: gregors@ttmaxnet.com

### KATA HILL HOUSE

2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, living, fully furnished, good view, car park. 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-367 0991.

### HOME OFFICE

for rent. Rawai beach on the main road, good location, 3.5 floors, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, kitchen. For further details, Tel: 081-788 6968. Please see our website at www.asia-bars-phuket.com

### TRIPLEX SEA VIEW RAWAI

290 sqm. Triplex 4 rooms/ bathrooms. Seaview. Swimming pool on the last floor. Rawai near Nai Harn Beach. Long term (6 month min) 50,000 baht per month (about 1,100 euros per month). Tel: 089-873 1312 (English). Or email: dp1102@gmail.com

## Classified Advertisements

Please use this form to write your classified advertisement.  
Then hand it to any of our agents.

(heading)

Classified ads are charged per line. Each line is 120 baht, with a minimum of 4 lines (heading included) per ad.

All advertising must be paid for in advance.

Deadline for Property Gazette page: Friday 3 pm.

Deadline for all other ads: Saturday 12 noon.

**Live in Rawai?**  
**Place your GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS at 'The Network' property office**

**Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it with Khun Anna (089-729 1391)**

**GAZETTE CLASSADS - they work because they're PAID!**  
Hundreds of new ads in print every week, all published simultaneously - and **FREE** - in the **Gazette Online!**

**The Gazette Online is always on top in Google!**











# Island Job Mart

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](mailto:hr@ablearchitects.com)

**Able Architects Co.,Ltd.**  
38/5 moo 5, T.Vichit, Mueng, Phuket 83000

**GOLDEN TULIP MANGOSTEEN RESORT AND SPA IS LOOKING FOR**

**Senior Accountant  
Executive Secretary  
Technical Manager  
Guest Service Agent**

With nearly 50 years experience as hotel operators, **Golden Tulip Hospitality Group** is a worldwide hospitality company offering services in the mid-upper-and luxury scales to over 230 hotels in more than 40 countries. Our group operates globally and enhances the objective of "International standards, local flavours".

The Golden Tulip Mangosteen Resort & Spa is the first Golden Tulip property in South East Asia with 40 properties to follow over the next 4 years.

Please send your resume and recent photo to: [rose@mangosteen-phuket.com](mailto:rose@mangosteen-phuket.com)

99/4 Moo 7 T. Rawai, A. Muang, Phuket 83130



International standards, local flavours

**D GALLERY CO., LTD.** is a leading art gallery in Phuket. We are seeking a motivated professional to join us in the position of: Gallery Sales Executive

**Gallery Sales Executive**

- Thai female age 25-35 years old
- Bachelor's degree with experience in sales
- Strong communication skills with clients
- Strong English language skills essential
- Strong computer skills (MS word, Excel, Outlook)
- Good personality, creative presentation and organization skills
- Must be prepared to work six days a week
- Friendly working hours, pleasant working environment

Please send CV with recent photo and expected salary to [info@dgallery.co.th](mailto:info@dgallery.co.th)

**D GALLERY CO., LTD.**

63/501, Moo 2, Thepkasatri Rd, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83200  
T. +66 (0) 76 360867 F. +66 (0) 76 360 868  
Email: [info@dgallery.co.th](mailto:info@dgallery.co.th)  
[www.dgallery.co.th](http://www.dgallery.co.th)

**SALES EXECUTIVES**

- Male/Female, 22-30 years
- Bachelor's degree in any related field
- New graduates are welcome to apply
- Must have outgoing personality
- Must have excellent command of English written and spoken
- Must have own transportation (car or motorcycle)
- Must have good knowledge of Phuket and surrounding provinces an advantage
- Computer literate (Excel, Word, Power Point, Outlook Express)
- Positive attitude and pleasant personality
- Competitive attitude towards reaching targets

Contact us now! Tel: 081-823 4627. Email: [ying@phuketpooltables.com](mailto:ying@phuketpooltables.com)

**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)

**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>

**CLEANING LADY**

Thai national, full-time and live in. 081-537 6866.

**MARKETING & SALES STAFF**

Thai national, able to speak English, full-time. Tel: 081-537 6866.

**SALES EXECUTIVE-ADVERTISING**

for a publishing company's Phuket office. Thai National with a minimum of 1 year's sales experience. Must be organized and able to take charge. Should have reasonable English language skills and a driver's license. Tel: 076-222856, 086-8664023, 086-866 4012 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-210893. Email: [info@artandcultureasia.com](mailto:info@artandcultureasia.com)

**ELECTRICAL MARINE CO LTD**

1. Secretary 1 position  
2. Accounting 1 position  
Tel: 076-239112, 081-597 6912.  
Email: [niny@electrical-marine.com](mailto:niny@electrical-marine.com)

**FULL-TIME ASSISTANT WANTED**

To work for a small charity in Khao Lak, Phang Nga. Duties include basic admin and document/meeting translations. Must have a good standard of English and basic computer skills. Tel: 089-875 1995. Email: [samanna29@hotmail.com](mailto:samanna29@hotmail.com)

**PERSONAL ASSISTANT**

A restaurant business background would be an advantage. Good command of English. Handle all office organization, email, work permits, visas and social security. Tel: 076-680410. Email: [brandyblackcherry@gmail.com](mailto:brandyblackcherry@gmail.com)

**HOME NURSING CARE SERVICE**

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

**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)

**MAID WANTED NOW**

male/female, full/part time, live in, live out, experience only. Contact Fon. Tel: 088-442 8027.

**HOUSEMAID NEEDED**

4 times a week ( Mon, Wed, Fri and Sat) 0900-13.00hrs. House cleaning and around. Laundry. Salary for discussion. A little bit of English is a must. Tel: 081-085 5765 (English), 081-083 4967 (Thai). Email: [beat19@loxinfo.co.th](mailto:beat19@loxinfo.co.th)

**EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT**

Attractive woman age between 28 and 38 must be at least 5.5ft. to 5.7ft. Good command of business English, computer literate, must have own transportation. Able to travel domestic and foreign, single. The salary will commensurate with the experience sought for early consideration. Send by email bio/resume covering last 15 years including 2 recent photos. Email: [jbs@hammerint.com](mailto:jbs@hammerint.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 Chalemphrakiat 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.

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



# Island Job Mart

**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**

**BLUE ELEPHANT**  
GOVERNOR MANSION PHUKET  
Cooking School and Restaurant

**Requires experienced team members to join us immediately for the following positions:**

• Restaurant Manager	• Supervisor	• Captain
• Receptionist	• Waiters / Waitresses	• Bartenders
• Chefs	• Kitchen Helpers	• Secretary

Please send your resume to: [recruitment.phuket@blueelephant.com](mailto:recruitment.phuket@blueelephant.com) or contact 076-354 355 & 084-734 8899

## 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)

#### The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

367/2 Yaowarat Rd, T. Taladyai, A. Muang  
Phuket 83000 Tel: 076-236555

### 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)

### SALE STAFF WANTED

Full- or part-time. Thai nationality with English speaking skills. Tel: 081-537 6866.

### Employment Wanted

### NEED A MAID?

1, 2 or 7 days a week. We can help. Call Anong. Tel: 088-442 8032.

### LOOKING FOR A JOB

Experienced, self motivated, creative (gastro/events). German, sms 084-630 7484.

### EXPERIENCED PROJECT MANAGER

5 years experience in Thailand, now seeking contracts in Phuket for resorts, apartment blocks, and single houses. Tel: 086-948 6368 (Jurgen), 089-288 7294 (Alan).

### GUIDE WANTS TO WORK

Can speak good English and understand Swedish. I worked for 4 years as a tourist guide in Phuket. Tel: 080-535 5200. Email: [su\\_kongrit@hotmail.com](mailto:su_kongrit@hotmail.com)

## Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

### Reporter

The successful candidate will be a Thai national with initiative, an outgoing personality and plenty of experience about the world and how it works. Also essential are the ability to communicate in English, both spoken and written, and a car. Knowledge of Burmese is an advantage.

Good salary for the right candidate.

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV by email to [Ann@PhuketGazette.Net](mailto:Ann@PhuketGazette.Net). Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

#### The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

367/2 Yaowarat Rd, T. Taladyai, A. Muang  
Phuket 83000 Tel: 076-236555

### 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)

### RECEPTIONIST IN KARON

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

### STAFF WANTED

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



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)

### 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). Or send email: [angus@exotiquealestate.com](mailto:angus@exotiquealestate.com)

### LIMITLESS DISCOVERY AWAITS

Le Meridien 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: [manit.pimparien@lemeridien.com](mailto:manit.pimparien@lemeridien.com)

LE MERIDIEN  
PHUKET BEACH RESORT  
29 Soi Karon Nua, Karon, Muang Phuket 83100, Thailand  
T +66 76 370 100 F +66 76 340 479  
[lemeridien.com/phuketbeachresort](http://lemeridien.com/phuketbeachresort)

Le MERIDIEN

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CULTURED  
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 Email: ference@tsba.info  
 www.tsba.info

## BAR FOR SALE

Aussie Bar, under Bangla Boxing Stadium. Tel: 084-661 9902. Email: stockholmbar@yahoo.com, bot-mot@hotmail.com

## OFFICE IN PATONG

for rent or to share, fully equipped, 3 years. 25,000/12,500 baht per month. 240 Rat-U-Thit 200 Pee Road. Tel: 083-173 6521. Email: mk@patong-view-talay.com

## SPORTS BAR FOR SALE

Great location in Patong, seats 70. 6x42" TVs plus big screen. 2 pool tables. 9 year lease. Contact Andy. Tel: 087-890 5633. Email: patongbar@hotmail.com

## ENTRANCE TO LAGUNA STORE

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

## ROOFTOP RESTAURANT FOR RENT

on the top floor of Sinthavee Hotel, Phuket Town. Convenient for a restaurant or bar. Also, a discotheque on the 2nd floor (with license). Tel: 087-270 9093. Email: a.pueng@gmail.com

## RESTAURANT FOR LEASE

Nate 2 Thai Food Restaurant. 89/15 Moo 6, Soi Yanui, Rawai. 2 bedrooms, full furniture. 500,000 baht. Tel: 087-282 7466.

## Liquidation Sale Don's Mall Rawai

Bakery, Restaurant, Kitchen, Dining, Bar, Minimart, Butcher shop, store fixtures, furniture, fans, lights, doors, windows and many other things.

### Don's Mall

48/5 Soi Yuan Road, Rawai  
 076-289314

**TSBA** *We sell going concerns*  
**Guesthouse with Double Shop Unit Chalong Pier 6 rooms**  
**Large Bar & Restaurant area 1,500,000 baht**

**Busy Restaurant Pizzeria with Bar Patong Beach 6,490,000 baht**  
**Guesthouses, Restaurants, Bars & Many more businesses available**

Tel: 086-268-6090  
 Email: ference@tsba.info  
 please visit our website for more details at www.tsba.info

## BUSINESS FOR SALE

Cheap, no key money! Bar at Soi Bangla, rent is paid already for 1 year with staff and all licences. Only 500,000 baht. Tel: 087-2708894 (Eng/German).

## FOR FIRST TIME INVESTORS!

NAVEEN...CLASSIC - a beautiful name, a beautiful brand, a beautiful opportunity. We are right now seeking investors for the NAVEEN...CLASSIC PROJECT in the Rawai area of Phuket. This project is suitable for first time investors or investors who want to try investing in the development business. Option to join our European team. Investment required = a minimum of 3 million baht. A substantial return on investment is envisioned. Join now, but no payments are required before all investors are in! Please contact us for further information. Tel: 089-971 0928 (English). Email: dir@naveendevelopment.eu For further details, please see our website at http://www.naveendevopment.eu

## BAR FOR SALE

"Aussie Bar" at golden location. Now contract free 1 year, under Bangla boxing stadium at Patong beach Phuket. Boxing concost and Pub Discoteque nearby, hotel under construction will be complete in 3-4 months. Email: bot-mot@hotmail.com

## PATONG GUESTHOUSE

for sale. 8 rooms, bar and small restaurant, 200m. from beach. Well established customer base. Takeover money 1.6 million baht, no rent for 1 year. Tel: 081-536 2954. Inquiries under info@holiday-4you.com

## INTERNET AND TRAVEL SHOP

New business. Tel: 089-544 3555. Email: farfar1979@hotmail.com

## STEAKHOUSE / SPORTS BAR

Naiham beach road, steakhouse/sports bar attached to a boxing club for sale. 50 seating capacity, large bar with open kitchen. All new top equipment, great design. Running business with good existing clientele. Great opportunity. Price: 3 million baht. 9 year lease! Rent: 20,000 baht/month. Tel: 083-316 7589 (English). Email: cap.tony@yahoo.com

## BAR AT NEW TIGER

Front bar 4 year contract. 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-544 3555. Email: farfar1979@hotmail.com

## GUEST HOUSE BEACH ROAD

Patong. Very rare lease. Have 100% full year, long gross income 2009, 6 million baht. 21 rooms 7 years term, rent 173,000 baht per month. Yours for 4,950,000 baht. Call Real Pro Co Ltd. Tel: 084-078 2753. Email: info.realpro@gmail.com

## QUICK SALE SHOP/ OFFICE

Good Location at Nanai Road, Patong. 4.50x9 meters. Call for more details. Tel: 081-537 7137 (English & Thai). Email: sunisadia@hotmail.com

## BAR & MASSAGE FOR SALE

includes apt upstairs for live or rent out. Big screen Tv, pooltable, 5 massage beds. 800,000 baht. Tel: 083-394 3301 (English). Email: gustrading@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at http://www.freewheelbar.com

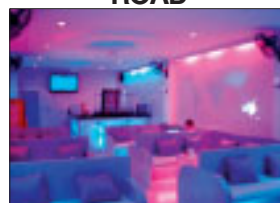
## INTERNET SHOP

Soi Tan, 8 months old, 10 computers. Rent 10,000 baht. Quick sale. Tel: 086-177 9097.

## BAR, GOOD DEAL

Bar for sale, Nanai, Patong, 35 seats, contract: 2 and half years. 1,100,000 baht. Email: therealmed@hotmail.com

## BAR SALE NANAI ROAD



Everything new. Tel: 085-697 2484, 089-544 3555. Email: farfar1979@hotmail.com

## Business Products & Services

**VISA RUN KOTA BHARU**  
 Organized since 1997 for all types of visa  
 The earlier you book, the cheaper your flight.

Start Narathiwat - return from Narathiwat (Day trip)	3,000 pp	ABF+join basis
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Fly to KB - return from KB (2D/1N)	5,000 pp	hotel+transfer

Flight: Phuket-Hatyai: 0W 1,800 -2,500 (www.happyairway.com)  
 Flight: KB-KL-Phuket (www.airasia.com)

For more information, please contact Natini 086-9621500, 073-511027, 085-899 4137. Email: banburong@yahoo.com for detailed packages.

Weekend visa run package 2D/1N 6,500 baht. Hotel+ Transportation by VIP van Departure Phuket Saturday morning, return on Sunday. Please book directly Amber Visa Run 076-296304-5, 081-7298522, 081-8959430.

## SOMETHING DIFFERENT?

Cartoon pictures for special occasions by  
**Phuket Gazette Expat Gallery artist**  
**Peter Child**  
 (As seen in the Gazette every week)

Framed original water colour and ink cartoon pictures of your associates, friends, loved ones or family.  
 Quick turnaround with emailed photo and information.

Great personal, original gifts!

Contact Peter on 084-349 2325 or ppsignsuk@aol.com

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6,500.-	To Kota Bharu, Malaysia to apply 1-3 Year Visa Includes 3 Star Hotel, Food & Drink. Single Room. By VIP Van ( Day time)				
Trip To Malaysia	Day	Jan.'10	Feb.'10	Mar.'10	Free pick up around Island
	Wed.	6, 13, 20, 27	3, 10, 17	3, 10, 17, 24, 31	
	Sun.	3, 10, 17, 24, 31	7, 21	7, 14, 21, 28	

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64/46 Moo 1, Chao Fa Road, Tambon Vichit, Muang Phuket District, Phuket 83000. Email: phuketvisa@hotmail.com  
 Tel: 076-263475, 076-264476. Fax: 076-374563 Mobile: 081-8929960

## A.B. INTERNATIONAL LAW OFFICE

A.B. Международная юридическая компания



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## Notice



The Phuket Gazette would like to apologize to Miss Siriporn 'Kat' Saenpap for any public misunderstanding or loss of reputation related to the inclusion of an online news photo of her with her former husband, Mr Yvon Van Eyseren, who was arrested by Phuket City Police on February 17 this year.

Miss Siriporn has presented the Gazette with documentary evidence showing that she legally divorced Mr Van Eyseren in 2007. In addition, a suspect questioning report issued by case holder Pol Capt Amporn Musikphan of the Phuket City Police confirms that Miss Siriporn, as a former board member of Easy Fitness Center, was in no way responsible for her ex-husband's actions. She presented herself to police as required and all charges against her have been dropped by the Public Prosecutor's Office.

News Editor

Contact Dave at  
[www.davecartoons.com](http://www.davecartoons.com)  
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Retired Businessman looking for Backgammon Players in Phuket. Tel: 081-577 8443.

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## FORD FOCUS

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**VW BEETLE 1974**  
Runs good, no aircon, dark green. 83,000 baht. Tel: 085-795 9160.

**MIRA MINT 2001**  
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### URGENT SALE

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### ISUZU CAB 4 YEAR 2000

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## 4 x 4s

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2004 Model CRV, 97,000km, 12 months tax & 1st class insurance, GREAT condition! Price 575,000 baht. Tel: 081-844 9345 (English). Email: travelinswells@gmail.com

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Toyota Fortuner Auto engine 2.7, bronze color, good condition and regular service. 800,000 baht plus car insurance. Contact owner for more additional details. Tel: 081-538 7050.

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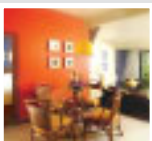
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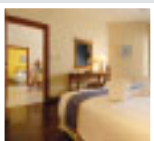
Properties for sale within Laguna Phuket

### 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



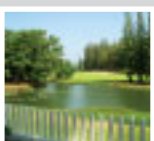
- 2 beds 2 baths fully furnished
- rental pool
- golf course view

### 3 Laguna Village Villa THB 14.9 M



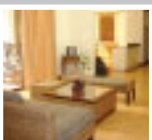
- 2-storey Villa
- 2 beds 3 baths
- fully furnished
- mountain view

### 4 Laguna Townhome THB 23 M



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

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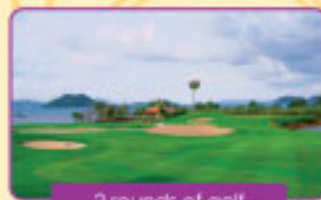
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