Pilot’s on course to fly again

CAIHY Pacific airline pilot Scott McDonald is back on the golf course – and playing better than ever.

Mr McDonald, whose right foot and lower leg were sliced off in a freak motorcycle accident two months ago, had a new prosthetic foot fitted on March 14.

The American has already played six rounds of his favorite sport at the Blue Canyon and Loch Palm courses, amazing friends with the speed his skills have returned.

“I’m playing almost better than I was before,” he said. “I’m certainly more consistent.”

Scott, whose handicap is 17, took up golf around two and a half years ago on Phuket.

“I shot an 89 at Loch Palm and on the back nine I shot a 39 – which is unheard of,” he said.

Bangkok Phuket Hospital’s Swedish prosthetics specialist Dr Bengt Soderberg fitted Scott with his new foot, which has been designed to ensure he can resume his career as an airline pilot.

“My employers continue to be really supportive,” he said.

In around two months’ time Scott will fly to Hong Kong where he will try out Cathay Pacific’s simulator for the first time.

If things go well, he should be back in the air “within a few months”.

Scott is also close to an informal agreement with the young Thai man who hit him in the accident, which happened on Thepkrasattri Road on January 24.

While the details have not been finalized, it is likely there will not be legal action taken by either party.

For more on the work of Dr Bengt, see pages 4 and 5 of this issue.

– Dan Waites

Accused sex charge Australian bailed

A N Australian man accused of sexually assaulting a four-year-old boy at an international school in Phuket was released on bail on March 30.

Andrew Clements, 51, from Tasmania, posted 800,000 baht in bail and was released from Phuket Provincial Prison.

Mr Clements was arrested at his house in Chalong on March 19 after a woman told police Mr Clements abused her son at Phuket International Academy (PIA) last year. The boy only told his mother about what took place recently and was unable to specify the date of the incident.

Mr Clements denies the child abuse charges he faces.

Len Peters, head of the PIA Day School, made the following statement: “We regret to confirm that a former teacher at the Phuket International Academy (PIA) last year. The boy only told his mother about what took place recently and was unable to specify the date of the incident.

Mr Clements denies the child abuse charges he faces.

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O
n Wednesday March 24, Thailand lost one of its most experienced sailors. Boo Meesuk died aged 42 in a hospital in Trengganu, Malaysia. In his teens, Boo was a decorated windsurfer, once sailing from Satapthai in Chonburi Province to Ko Samui. At 23, he set foot on his first sailboat in Nai Harn Bay, where he worked on a charter yacht operating out of the Meridien Phuket Yacht Club. The captain of the Too Too Tanga in Nai Harn took young Boo under his wing, teaching him the ins-and-outs of boat handling, sailing and general maintenance.

That experience sparked an interest in sailing that would see Boo sail on more than 50 yachts over 18 years.

Boo’s extensive sailing career is awash with highlights. He sailed on the famous Stormvogul for over a year as foredeck crew. He also sailed on the well-known Seraph and Kerida.

Boo once flew to Italy to pick up a classic yacht that was in very bad condition, with holes in the decks. After patching it with plywood, he sailed it across the Indian Ocean to Myanmar for a refit.

High-sea adventure abounded on Sofjong, which Boo sailed from Europe to Phuket.

About ten years ago he was offered a permanent job on the racing yacht Hocu Pocu, where he gained two years of invaluable experience in the racing scene. From there he pursued a freelance racing career, holding his own on some of the best racing boats in Asia.

Today, he is regarded as one of the world’s top sailors. He sailed in 14 King’s Cup Regattas, winning in 2009, as well as a number of Raja Muda Regattas, four Phuket Race Weeks, most Phang Nga Bay Regattas, the Straits Regatta, the China Sea Race, the Koh Samui Regatta and the Top of the Gulf and Hong Kong to Vietnam races. Between major events he could be found either racing in the Ao Chalong Yacht Club (ACYC)’s Sunday races or sailing dinghies in Ao Yon.

The ACYC hosted a fundraiser last Friday for Boo’s mother, whom he adored and supported. Around 200 people turned out for the event, which saw donations pour in from 15 different countries.

Boo will be sadly missed by all that knew him as not only a legendary sailor, but as a great friend.

Spate of foreigner deaths marrs end of high season

T
he past fortnight saw an unusually large number of deaths of foreigners in Phuket, with at least six tourists and expats dying naturally or in accidents.

A number of those who died were elderly, prompting speculation the spate may have been related to the very hot weather which coincided with the summer solstice.

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On March 19, Dinu Costa, a 71-year-old tourist from Italy, was found lying unconscious on a 71-year-old tourist from Italy, was found lying unconscious on a sofa, said Lt Angkarn. He then attempted to clean his eye and the floor with a tissue before having a final, fatal convulsion at home, causing him to fall to the floor, resulting in the eyeball injury.

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On March 22, 63-year-old Mr Costa reportedly experienced convulsions earlier in the evening at a friend’s house. Ms Wanphen was discharged from Vachira Phuket Hospital on March 28.

Later the same day, Danish tourist Svend Aage Schwaback, 69, died while eating pizza in a Kata guesthouse. A maid at Tik Place in Kata told police she grew suspicious when Mr Schwaback failed to check out on time. She entered his room and found the Dane lying on the bed with food in his mouth. A partially eaten pizza was found near the body.

Chalong Police Duty Officer Thapanapat Jaturonpan said he suspected the cause of death was cardiac arrest, but was awaiting the results of hospital tests.

On March 28 an elderly Swedish tourist died in Patong Hospital after collapsing in the shallows of Kata Beach. The 80-year-old was pulled from the water around 11:30am with a faint pulse. Local municipal workers took her to Patong Hospital but doctors there were unable to revive her.

Mr. Moo Phuket Co. Ltd.

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### Waste Crisis: Tesco Lotus Goes It Alone

**Phuket Vice Governor Smith Palawatwichai receives a cloth bag at the project opening ceremony on March 30.**

Tesco Lotus on March 30 launched its own answer to Phuket’s long-delayed plastic bag charging scheme.

The UK-based retail chain’s “Green Bag Green Point” initiative rewards customers who reuse old shopping bags with points which can be exchanged for cash coupons.

Customers also receive “green points” when they buy certain environmentally friendly products.

The project launched in Bangkok on March 19 before kicking off in Phuket at the Tesco Lotus superstore in Wichit.

Saofang Ekaluckrujee, Senior Corporate Affairs Manager at Tesco Lotus, said the company felt it had a responsibility to do its part in reducing waste, though every organization had different policies on how to achieve this.

Tesco Lotus believes incentives are most effective, she said.

Under the pre-existing Tesco Lotus Club Card scheme, customers receive one point for every two baht they spend in the company’s stores. Two thousand points can be exchanged for a 10-baht cash coupon.

Under the Green Bag Green Point project, customers will be rewarded with one point every time they use their own bag, rather than a new one.

The scheme will essentially reward customers with one ‘sucking’ for every bag they reuse.

Customers will also receive 25 points when they buy any of 118 environmentally friendly products, which include light bulbs, garbage bags, mosquito repellent, paper, correction fluid and toilet cleaner.

A Tesco spokesman said the chain had gone forward with an incentive scheme rather than plastic bag charging because this was the policy of its UK-based parent company.

“In the UK, green points have been established for many years – and they work. The vast majority of people [in the UK stores] bring their own bags,” he said.

Phuket Vice Governor Smith Palawatwichai, who chaired the project opening ceremony, said Phuket was producing around 600 tonnes of trash every day but had the capacity to incinerate just 260 tonnes.

“Thank you to Tesco Lotus for joining the province in reducing the use of plastic bags by launching the project,” he said.

An island-wide plastic bag charging scheme, ‘Phuket No Shopping Bag’, remains on hold because retailers are refusing to go ahead until Tesco Lotus, Carrefour and 7-Eleven agree to take part.

Chief of Phuket Energy Office, Jirasuk Tummawet, said he still hoped Tesco would sign the MoU promising to charge for plastic bags, despite the launch of its own project.

Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop is writing to the company’s head offices asking for it to participate, Mr Jirasuk said.

Nick Anthony, Managing Director of Indigo Real Estate and one of the driving forces behind ‘Phuket No Shopping Bag’, said he remained positive that Tesco and other hold-outs could be brought on board “within the next few weeks”.

Approaches had been made to Tesco “at multiple levels” with regards to the scheme, he said.

Mr Anthony also suggested individuals who supported the scheme should approach Tesco store managers and make their support for bag charging known.

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Doctors were stumped when Leif Axelsson was rushed to hospital with a dangerously high fever. Unknown to them at the time, Leif had contracted sepsis, a ‘poisoning’ of the blood which is usually fatal if not treated immediately.

Nearly killing him, the illness robbed the father of his lower arms and legs as his body began to shut down its extremities to protect vital organs.

Doctors amputated both Leif’s hands above the wrists and his legs beneath the knees. Leif also sustained web-like scarring all over his body, another typical effect of sepsis.

Nearly a decade on, Leif’s two sons are proud of their active father, whom their school-mates call ‘Robo-man’.

Leif (pronounced ‘life’ in his native Swedish tongue) now walks about on carbon-fiber legs with hydraulic shock absorbers and performs everyday tasks with his artificial hands, which can operate with varying amounts of pressure, enabling him to pick up anything from eggs to cups or to leaf through a book.

Leif’s energy is infectious and he has played a valuable role in helping Bengt and other prosthetists continually adapt and improve artificial limbs. This visit to Phuket was Leif’s first. He promptly engaged Bengt and Moller in a new task: to create flipper attachments for his arms so he could swim. Leif bought a child’s flipper and gave it to Bengt and Moller.

They re-angled the flipper and added Velcro straps which fit around Leif’s forearms.

His prosthetic hands fit snugly over his forearms but he cannot wear them in the shower or when he goes swimming as they contain electronics and are not waterproof.

Leif admitted that he once accidentally short circuited his new hands when he wore them in the shower. That mistake cost him 100,000 Swedish kronor.

New lease on life for man
who lost his arms and legs

Leif Axelsson with Helle Moller and prosthetist Bengt Soderberg.

(445,000 baht) and a long wait for a new pair.

Leif uses muscles in his forearms to control his robotic fingers through sensors inside his prosthetic arms.

“It took a long time to learn how to close the hands slowly and gently,” said Leif.

“I would practice picking up eggs but it was a long time before I could do it without breaking them. In fact, the other day I accidentally crushed a glass.”

Bengt is keen to establish the orthopedic center at Bangkok Hospital Phuket as a regional hub where amputees can get the treatment they need.

In fact, Bengt said the facilities here for amputees or those at risk of losing limbs were in some ways better than treatment that patients can expect in Sweden, especially with this hospital’s hyperbaric chamber; something the Swedish health authorities felt was too expensive to continue supporting.

Bengt has treated amputees all over the world, including in Iraq and Poland, and explained that he’d like to see the same social acceptance of amputees here as he saw come about in Poland.

“When I first went to Poland, there was nothing in place to help amputees. After a few years of fitting people with prosthetics, we saw a complete turnaround in society’s attitude.

One leading light was teenager Jan Mela, a Polish double amputee who lost his limbs in an accident when he was 13 years old.

He became a national hero at 15, in 2004, after skiing to the North and South Poles in under a year. He also broke the record for being the youngest person to reach the North Pole.

Jan Mela’s fame made amputees more socially accepted and the Polish government soon began funding development of prosthetics and making them more accessible to all amputees.

“We have the same goal here: to increase public awareness and national support to make Phuket an Asian hub for prosthetic treatment.

“Many people think that amputation of a limb is the end of treatment. Actually, it’s just the beginning of a long road to recovery.”

There are 3,000 amputees in Sweden. No figures were available on the number of amputees in Thailand.

– Nick Davies

Leif Axelsson with Helle Moller and prosthetist Bengt Soderberg.
Netting Nai Harn jellies

A schyphozoan jellyfish of the type recently found in the waters off Phuket’s Nai Harn Beach.

The Phuket Marine Biological Center (PMBC) has found no evidence of deadly jellyfish off Nai Harn Beach.

After the hospitalization of a four-year-old boy on March 19 due to a jellyfish sting, PMBC researchers sampled the area by sweeping the waters with two nets at depths of 1.1 and 1.4 meters. The operation netted seven jellyfish of the painful but non-life-threatening schyphozoan variety. “The jellyfish found at Nai Harn are not dangerous like the box jellyfish. They are most commonly found during the rainy season (May-October), but nonetheless are present year-round,” said the director of PMBC Wannakiat Tubtimsang. He continued, “It is best to be aware and avoid them while swimming. If you get stung, pouring vinegar on the wound and applying mashed ‘beach morning glory’, which is abundant on the beach, is effective.” – Atchaa Khamlo

Canal poisoning riles up residents

VILLAGERS are complaining that shrimp farms in Ban Tha Rua in Phuket are poisoning the canal their livelihoods depend on.

Ten residents of Bang La village said last month that shrimp farm operators were letting chemical wastewater flood into Klong Pak Ka, killing marine life.

Surasak Wahlum, a 55-year-old fisherman, said, “The wastewater kills shellfish and other marine life in the canal, so we cannot do our jobs.” Wirot Suksamrit, also 55, said wastewater was released into the canal twice a year. “It takes a long time for the water to return to normal and for fish to return to the canal,” he said.

President of Pa Khlok Tambon Administration Organization (TAO) Athipong Kongnarn said the TAO had warned the shrimp farmers about the practice before. “They promised to clean the water before they released it into the canal, but they still do it secretly,” he said.

Mr Athipong said there was nothing much the TAO could do to stop the operators. “The farms are located in Tambon Srisoonthorn and there are no organizations there taking responsibility,” he said.

“We’ll just have to report it to the police,” he added. – Gazette reporter

Immigration closed during Songkran

THERE Phuket Provincial Immigration Office (PPIO) will be closed for a week during the Songkran holiday.

The Phuket Town Immigration office will be closed from April 13 until April 18 and any foreigners who need to register with immigration during that period are urged to do so by April 12 or on April 19.

Immigration staff confirmed that if a foreigner’s scheduled visit to the PPIO falls during the public holiday, he or she could visit on the next working day without penalty – “but only on that first day after the holiday.” In this case April 19.

Phuket Immigration is open from 8:30am to 4:30pm, with a one-hour break for lunch starting at 12 noon.

– Gazette reporter
PIWC elects first Thai president

Last month Phuket International Women’s Club (PIWC) members elected their new president for the next two years, Ms Wipa Tanmanatragul, who is the first Thai national to take up the position in the non-profit organization’s 20-year history.

Khun Wipa has played an active role in the PIWC’s scholarship-funding projects for more than 15 years and will lead the charitable social network until 2011.

“I am honored to be the first Thai to be elected president of the PIWC and it is a privilege to carry on the good work of the committee in helping provide education to needy and deserving children,” said Khun Wipa.

Khun Wipa replaces Sue Arnulphy, who is now the club’s treasurer after being president for the past two years.

“I have thoroughly enjoyed my two-year term of office. I have learned so much about Phuket and met so many wonderful people that I will remain on the committee and stay involved.

Khun Wipa will do a wonderful job as president – as she has been doing in the background for many years. She has experience with the schools, colleges and the local community and her participation as president will be very beneficial for the club,” said Ms Arnulphy.

PIWC membership has steadily grown over the past 20 years and so has the number of youngsters leaving school with bright futures thanks to the club’s education sponsorship program.

More than 550 scholarships have been offered to girls, and some boys, at primary, secondary and university level since 1990. The club is currently giving financial assistance to 250 students from kindergarten to university.

For more information visit W:phuketiwc.com or email info@phuketiwc.com.

– Nick Davies

Jazz orchestra hit all the right notes

The Stockholm City Jazz Orchestra have been creating a weekend storm playing two entralling charity concerts in aid of Phuket schools.

Scintillating performances were held at the Adamas Resort and Spa on Nai Yang Beach on March 20 and at the Metropole Hotel in Phuket Town on March 27.

All funds raised from ticket sales and the pre-show silent auctions are set to go to three Phuket schools: Koh Lone School in Rawai, Baan Kohnaka school in Thalang and Koh Maprow school in Koh Kaeo.

Computers and other learning materials will also be donated to each school.

The popular big band orchestra is led by founder and veteran trumpet player Fredrik Noren.

Orchestra members come from Sweden and beyond, creating a musical mélange of international sounds including jazz, swing, flamenco and bebop.

The original members came together more than 20 years ago to form a rehearsal band allowing local freelance jazz musicians a chance to jam.

However, in 1986 the group formalized their bond, making their debut performance at the Skeppsholmen Jazz and Blues Festival in Stockholm.

With nine successful albums to their credit, the band consists of some of the best jazz players in Sweden.

Their repertoire of modern swinging jazz music is rooted in tradition, but their albums highlight a variation of old and new styles with titles like Big Band Flamenco Fusion, Tribute to Jaco Pastorius and Tango.

– Gazette reporter
THE captivating visions of five young Phuket artists went on display recently at the British International School’s (BIS) Visual Arts Exhibition. From March 23 to 26, the International Baccalaureate students, aged between 18 and 20, showcased talent well beyond their years, exhibiting sculptures, sketches and paintings that embodied their dreams and fears of adolescence.

In a dark homage to their inhibitions and aspirations, the young artists drew inspiration from their daily lives. Among those present were the student’s parents, teachers, honorary consulates, and government officials.

Opening the exhibition, Head of Secondary School Nick Botting unveiled the students’ work with Picasso’s famous quote, “One can never learn how to paint”.

The reference was used to capture the essence of the school’s art curriculum. Driven by teacher Anita Pardo, BIS’s art program develops students’ expressionist nature, rather than focusing on artistic techniques. This method allowed the students freedom to explore their thoughts and experiences through their art.

The five young exhibitors succeeded in assembling their innermost feelings on various media.

And the crowds of art enthusiasts who joined the event were not disappointed. No subject was taboo. Works titled, Abortion, Sorrow, Dear God, A Valentine Suicide, Fingers of Society, and Vulnerability all presented a visual tour of the hardships and difficulties of adolescence.

Despite the dark tone of most of the pieces, each artist was full of energy and eager to discuss the source of their artistic inspiration.

Some artworks were a form of social commentary, such as Pimrat Taecharachkiij’s Indian Fusion. Inspired by a trip to India, the piece depicted a wash of bright colors flowing through the dark outline of a mother holding her child. Pimrat said Indian Fusion reflected life amidst the social and cultural variety of the country.

More personal works from Pimrat came in the form of Rotation, a painting of several legs branching from a young girl’s torso. Pimrat said Rotation embodies her personal struggle to find her footing in the world.

Also exhibited was Timana Hossack’s Friday, 4pm. An intricately textured close-up of a mouth, the piece showed authentic twine stitching the lips together at one end. Dark and graphic, the work is a statement on the limitations of free speech Timana has encountered on her adolescent travels.

She is a surprising creator for the piece – animated and articulate, and eager to present the story behind each of her works.

Other work by Timana included several paintings of bruised and battered young faces, which she said shows the consequences of overconfidence and naivety.

A mixed media work titled Suffocation displayed a young girl clenching a globe surrounded by various forms of real trash that Timana collected from traveling with her family. Nostalgia was another subject on display over the three day exhibition, perhaps most vibrantly by Jin Young Park in Blind Contoured Life. As the title suggests, Jin Young created the...
and fears of youthful years

acrylic on canvas piece while blindfolded.

Brightly colored and organized like a page from a comic book, the image depicted memories from Jin Young’s youth: family trips, images from memorable Songkran celebrations, and her Kindergarten birthday.

The dozens of artworks on display were all dramatic and personalized homages to the young artists visions of the world, but for the author, perhaps the most poignant was Dan Bee Choi’s collection.

As she discussed her work, she has an openness and honesty that many seasoned artists struggle to achieve.

Her favorite work is a painting of a girl struggling to reach a bright light floating above a sea of dark figures.

“The graphics present the hopes and dreams of relationships on the top, and the bottom is the sadness and darkness from inside my heart. The person is constantly wondering which way she should go,” she said.

Dan Bee further illustrated her thoughts with works on abortion, medical malpractice, and her relationship with her mother.

Bringing in a bit of digital talent was Philip Northen, whose affinity for Japanese animation was sharply illustrated in a series of characters created entirely on a computer.

His work Pinch Hopper was an assembly of different plastic and metal parts, creating a curious hybrid of sculpture and robot.

— Story and photos by Scott Phillips

Pictured on opposite page, clockwise from top left: Philip Northen and Nega, digital media; Jin Young Park and Blind Contoured Life, acrylic on canvas; Pimrat Taecharachkij’s My Mother was an Activist, acrylic on board and I Dream of Trees II, mixed media.

Pictured above, clockwise from top left: Timana Hossack with Mute, Overconfident, both oil on canvas, and Consequences II & II, both oil and mixed media on canvas; Dan Bee Choi and The Light and The Dark, oil on canvas; and Pimrat with Rotation, oil on canvas.
Despite the captivating beauty of the jewel-encrusted Andaman coast, it is becoming increasingly difficult to find an island that ticks all the boxes.

While neighboring islands parted with their virginity long ago, Koh Yao Yai remains unhurried in its rush to grow up. Located just 30 minutes by speedboat from Phuket, Krabi and Phang Nga and resting in one of Thailand’s most developed bays, the island remains pristine.

Approaching the island, visitors first catch sight of the vast quilt of green which covers the hillside without interruption. At the pier, a handful of thirty-something travelers eye up the verdant topography.

Tucked away on a secluded bay, down a lane meandering through rice paddies and lush forestland, Koh Yao Yai Village Resort is the ultimate island hideaway. If Mother Nature created an island resort, this is how it would look. All elements of design pay utmost respect to the natural landscape. From the layout to the materials used, the resort blends seamlessly with the surrounding environment.

Hidden under the dappled shade of the evergreen canopy, the resort consists of 34 generously spaced bungalows. Despite their spacious 73 square meter dimensions, the tropical modern bungalows make no attempt to dominate the landscape. It is almost as if they sprang up from the forest floor with the rest of the abounding flora.

A myriad of local influences have been woven into each bungalow’s design, including splashes of rural-style sarong fabric in the soft furnishings. The large terrace, with sunloungers and daybed, is the ideal place to spend balmy evenings listening to the soundtrack of the jungle.

Looking out to a 700 square meter infinity pool, the resort’s thatched-roof restaurant enjoys a 180-degree panoramic vista of Phang Nga Bay. Koh Yao Yai’s coast is adorned with gleaming-white, sandy beaches. Within the National Park area, Klong Son is widely considered the island’s most attractive beach. However, Haad Laem is the ultimate paradise. Jutting into the sea, this narrow stretch of coconut grove is fringed with two shores that meet and merge into a perfect arc of sand.

Unlike crowded beaches in Railay and Phuket, Koh Yao Yai’s shores are deserted and footprint free. Visitors can have their own private beach for the day. There are many tours on the island which are personalized and casual, so despite delving deep into island culture, there is no intrusion on locals’ daily lives.

One tour visits a rubber plantation, as well as one of the rickety off shore fish farms nearby. These holding bays for lobster, crabs, white snapper and shrimp, form the backbone of the island’s economy. Although fresh flavored lobster isn’t a major part of the local diet, islanders enjoy the profit made from selling the crustaceans to mainland markets.

Tours also stop at Fisherman’s Village, where a fresh catch of iridescent anchovies glint in the scorching midday rays as they dry.

It’s the simple encounters with nature, such as noticing a fruit-laden cashew nut tree or watching a hermit crab scurrying across the shore under a beautiful shell, that enrich the experience of Koh Yao Yai. Koh Yao Yai is the epitome of ‘sabai’, in Thai, meaning relaxing, comfortable and carefree.

The island ticks all the boxes, and adds a few more that weren’t previously on the list.

– Lesley Chittayanon

Paradise found
Exploring the lonesome isle of Koh Yao Yai
EXPAT GALLERY

Frank Visakay

Frank Visakay is one of Phuket’s most successful published writers. He is known for his collection of short stories and travel guides to Cambodia. He published his first short story, A Perfect Vacation, a tale about marriage and murder, in the Phuket Gazette in 1998.

He was born just outside New York City and worked in Joseph’s Restaurant in his native New Jersey after finishing school. He started as a cook’s assistant and 15 years later became Head Chef. He then decided to move into the big city.

“I really love New York City. So much is always happening. I took a job managing a very popular restaurant, Mary’s Fancy, at 57th and 3rd Avenue near Bloomingdale’s, almost the center of the city’s action. We did over 550 lunches and 500 dinners. Not only did I manage the restaurant, but when the chef would walk out, as he did rather regularly, I’d jump into the kitchen and take over the work there.”

Frank’s skill both behind and in front of the counter gained him such a reputation that he was offered the chance to run his own restaurant.

“The actor Michael Murphy, offed to finance a restaurant for me along with some other investors and we opened Camelback and Central on the Upper East Side in 1981. I spent ten years presenting excellent food with glowing reviews in the New York Times and the Daily News. I was on television programs as our restaurant was popular with celebrities like Liza Minnelli, Robert Redford and Placido Domingo.”

Frank was given the Best Wine List Award by New York Magazine. He built his wine list by carefully studying Wine Spectator magazine and consulting with his suppliers.

“It was a white table cloth restaurant with daily specials like roast duck with black current sauce, and filet of sole steamed in basted parchment paper. Though our food was excellent, what made us so popular was our standard of service.”

When he wasn’t working 20-hour days, Frank would slip off to Europe for holidays. By the early 1990s, he decided to take a long deserved holiday and traveled for two years to Central America, Egypt, India and around Southeast Asia.

“I realized that I could work full time in New York City to support myself or retire in a paradise like Phuket on the dividends from my stock portfolio. I didn’t have to think too long to make the decision to settle on the island.”

He moved to Phuket in 1998 and began his writing career. He met Matt Jacobson who had collected travel data about Cambodia and together they convinced Silkworm Books to publish Adventure Cambodia which became a best seller on that somewhat esoteric country.

Frank then decided to fulfill two lifelong dreams. The first was to buy a Harley Davidson Heritage Classic motorcycle, which he describes as his major hobby. He joined with fellow expat bike enthusiasts and traveled the region. His second dream was to have a German Shepherd, a dog that he had never had the time to care for during the days of his busy restaurant career. He acquired ‘Look Chai’ when he settled on the island and they had each other’s company for twelve years.

“I feel like both of my dreams have come true. Now I travel to Spain every year to watch the bull fights. I love the grandeur and the spectacle of the bull ring.”

His career as a writer is still developing. His collection of non-fiction short stories, Jasmine Nights, was published in Singapore two years ago and is still ‘face out’ or prominently displayed in Phuket’s and other bookstores around Southeast Asia.

When Frank is not writing books, he enjoys floating in his swimming pool and caring for his young Great Dane pup.

— Bruce Stanley
ECO OUTAGE: In observance of Earth Hour, a worldwide event organized by the World Wildlife Fund on March 27, the Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket went dark for the environment. As part of the global event, guests were invited to join a candlelit ‘Lights Out’ cocktail party at the beachfront restaurant.

PIECE DE RESISTANCE: Michelin star guest Chef Gérard Royant and Mom Tri’s Maitre Cuisinier de France Jean-Noël Lumineau are pictured during an evening of fine wine and culinary excellence at Mom Tri’s Kitchen at Villa Royale on March 25. At the Spring Wine Dinner the French duo presented six courses, including a selection of five paired wines.

CARE BEARS: Impiana Resort & Spa Phuket launched their Sunshine Bear Charity to support the Phuket Sunshine Village Foundation. Exclusively designed by the resort, each stuffed bear is priced at 300 baht and is available for purchase at the resort’s sales outlets.

CERTIFIED HEROES: Lifeguard and first aid training was held March 27–28 at Phuket International Academy (PIA) in collaboration with the Northern Hotel Marketing Committee (NHMC), a group comprising SALA Phuket Resort & Spa, JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa, Anantara Phuket Resort & Spa, Renaissance Phuket Resort & Spa, and the Aleenta Resort & Spa Phang-Nga. Pictured at front is Martin Cote, Assistant Director of the Aquatic Academy at PIA, with certified lifeguard staff from NHMC.

NAVAL RECEPTION: Vice Admiral Choomnoom Ardwong, Royal Thai Navy Commander Third Naval Area Command, welcomed Colonel Cheong Joo Leng Joo PP, PBS, Deputy Fleet Commander Headquarters of the Singapore Navy, on March 22. The navy men took a day to relax while the Singapore Naval ship was docked in Makham Bay.

COAST IS CLEAR: Managers and staff from the Ramada Resort Karon Beach Phuket did their part to keep Karon clean by volunteering to clear trash from the beach on March 24. After collecting bags of trash, it was separated and given over to the Karon Municipality.

NAVAL RECEPTION: Vice Admiral Choomnoom Ardwong, Royal Thai Navy Commander Third Naval Area Command, welcomed Colonel Cheong Joo Leng Joo PP, PBS, Deputy Fleet Commander Headquarters of the Singapore Navy, on March 22. The navy men took a day to relax while the Singapore Naval ship was docked in Makham Bay.

COAST IS CLEAR: Managers and staff from the Ramada Resort Karon Beach Phuket did their part to keep Karon clean by volunteering to clear trash from the beach on March 24. After collecting bags of trash, it was separated and given over to the Karon Municipality.
Summer Fun on the Beach
26 March - 6 April 2010
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  **Terms & Conditions, please contact Promotion Booth at The Port Arena

Summer Fun Beach Events
• Joe Louis traditional Thai Puppet Performance: 2 April, 7:00 p.m., The Port Arena
  Jungceylon proudly presents "The Legend of Traditional Thai Puppet", the Kingdom’s quintessential puppet theatre makes its first appearance in Phuket.
  **Guaranteed by the Best Traditional Performance 10th World Festival of Puppet Art in Prague 2006.
• "Summer of love" Fashion Show by Playboy: 3 April, 7:00 p.m., The Port Arena
  Wow! With super sexy fashion show as exclusive playmates prance around in swimwear and casual wear from Playboy’s latest collection.
• "Spirit of the Sea" Fashion Show with Miss Universe 2005, Natalie Glebova: 4 April, 7:30 p.m., The Port Arena
  Join us in celebrating the beauty and mysteries of the Andaman Sea with an inspiring fashion show from the hottest swimsuit and beach wear collections from Quicksilver & Roxy. Don’t miss the grand finale - Queen of the Andaman
• Happy Easter Day: 4 April, starting at 12:30 p.m., The Port Arena
• 1st Phuket International Tattoo Convention: 6-8 April, 2nd Floor, Sirin Phuket Zone
• 16th Annual Phuket Bike Week: 9-11 April, G Floor
• Songkran Festival: 13 April, Sai 2 Road, Jungceylon

Jungceylon Shopping Complex, Open Daily: 11:00 a.m. - 16:00 p.m.
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Phuket’s tantalum tumult

Tantalum has been mined in Phuket for hundreds of years. Although many industrial processes that were introduced throughout the 20th century proved detrimental to the island’s coastal and marine environment, the tin industry has historically been a source of wealth for locals.

In the process of tin production the separation of tin from its impurities produced quite a lot of slag, or waste products. During the 1970s the Thai-Siam Smelting and Refining Company (THAIASCORO) was allowed to mine tin in Phuket. In time the company’s research yielded a stunning discovery.

It was found that the slag produced during the tin refining process contained a compound called tantalum pentoxide.

Tantalum by itself is a rare and expensive element. It is highly corrosion resistant and because of this, it is often used as a substitute for platinum in high-tech industrial production. Tantalum is often needed in the manufacturing of spacecraft, computers and nuclear components.

It was found that as much as 25 percent of the slag generated from tin refining in Phuket was tantalum compound. Neither the government, nor the locals, knew this precious resource existed on the island at that time.

For a while, THAIASCORO was able to exploit the government’s ignorance and exported tantalum under the pretense that it was low value tin slag. But when demand for the virtually valueless slag grew relentlessly, it drew the attention of local investors and industrialists.

Suddenly the lands around abandoned tin mines, some dating back centuries, became highly sought after because of the huge quantities of tin slag that had collected in these places during years of mining activity.

In 1986 a company called Thai Tantalum Industry Corporation proposed a project to the government asking for industrial sponsorship funds to build a tantalum factory on the island. The proposed site was near Thepkasattri Road, on the outskirts of Phuket Town. The factory project was approved and construction got underway.

But as work progressed on the building of the tantalum factory local fears started to mount. It was said that the factory planned to make use of hydrofluoric acid, a highly poisonous chemical, in its production process.

The Phuket tantalum factory’s completion also coincided with two major industrial disasters abroad which heightened local fears in Phuket.

Two years earlier in 1984, another industrial catastrophe hit global headlines when a pesticide plant in the city of Bhopal, India leaked deadly gases and other toxic chemicals into the air.

The death toll in Bhopal had mounted in the thousands, with over 500,000 people demanding the closing of the plant and threatening to boycott the next election if the petition went unheeded. The government responded by sending a representative to Phuket in order to clarify the matter with the demonstrators.

Then the crowd started moving towards the newly finished Thai Tantalum Industry Corporation’s tantalum factory just outside town.

When they reached the building, the rioters began to set fire to the entire complex. As the government sponsored facility burned, angry rioters staged and prevented any form of police or fire rescue efforts by blocking access to the factory. Some of the fire trucks that tried to break the siege of rioters were overturned and destroyed.

By day’s end, all that was left of Thai Tantalum Industry Corporation’s $25 million tantalum factory was ashes and ruins.

Looking Back
By Anand Singh

TIN has been mined in Phuket for hundreds of years. Although many industrial processes that were introduced throughout the 20th century proved detrimental to the island’s coastal and marine environment, the tin industry has historically been a source of wealth for locals.

Tantalum is a rare and expensive metal used in the production of high-technology machines such as spacecraft and nuclear warheads.

The situation got worse when mob leaders demonstrated to surround the Phuket Merlin hotel where Dr. Chirayu had planned to stay. The mob began hurling things at the hotel, shattering glass and threatening to burn down the hotel. The arson attack was prevented when a negotiator stepped in to quell the crowd.

At the same time another angry mob was moving towards the newly finished Thai Tantalum Industry Corporation’s tantalum factory just outside town.

When they reached the building, the rioters began to set fire to the entire complex. As the government sponsored facility burned, angry rioters staged and prevented any form of police or fire rescue efforts by blocking access to the factory. Some of the fire trucks that tried to break the siege of rioters were overturned and destroyed.

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Anand Singh is an avid Phuket historian. He lived on Phuket from the age of 3 to 21. He is fluent in Thai and is currently completing his degree in economics at the University of Birmingham. Anand can be contacted at: as.pki@hotmail.com.
**Upcoming events on the island**

**April 2 – 8. Day-Night and Day Art Exhibition at Royal Phuket Marina**

Day-Night and Day will feature the works of renowned Vietnamese artist Nguyen Tan Cuong on mixed-media canvas. The theme of time in ‘Day–Night and Day’ contains several moments that continuously run around and mingle, opposing the contradicting aspects of the flow of time. The artist has participated in art exhibitions throughout the world. The exhibition runs from 11am to 7pm on weekdays and from 12pm to 6pm on Sunday at D Gallery, Royal Phuket Marina. For further information contact Watinee (Ann) Kaewket. T: 085-331 0295. E: muratc@royalphuketmarina.com. W: royalphuketmarina.com.

**April 4. Chakri Day – Public Holiday**

Chakri Day commemorates the origins of the Chakri Dynasty, founded by Rama I, who established Bangkok as the nation’s capital. HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej is the ninth monarch of the Chakri dynasty.

**April 8-11. Phuket Oilfield Classic 2010**

The Red Mountain and Loch Palm Golf Courses will welcome all competitors to their 2nd Annual Charity Golf Tournament. This event attracts international golf pros as well as local competitors. Come join in the fun on the weekend before Songkran and see if you can win some of the fantastic prizes available to all contestants. Lucky contestants will bid for a once-in-a-lifetime collectible at the Charity Auction, such as a framed Carlos Santana Guitar or an F1 Checkered Flag signed by all the F1 Drivers. For further information, contact Mark Cameron. T: 081-8882483. E: mark@phuketoilfieldclassic.com. W: phuketoilfieldclassic.com.

**April 13-15. Songkran Festival – Public Holiday**

Songkran, Thailand’s biggest holiday, celebrates the beginning of the Thai New Year. Also known as the Water Festival, Songkran is held during the driest months in Thailand, and is celebrated by Thais throughout the country by pouring (traditionally only a little, but these days a lot) of water on other people to wish them good luck for the New Year. Celebrations will take place throughout the island.

**April 14. Fun Football Day at Royal Phuket Marina**

Join RPM for an afternoon of family football. Test your skills on a penalty shootout, enjoy a demonstration of Futebol de Salão, mixed family-sided games and much more. All proceeds will be used to purchase footballs for a local Thai orphanage. Free admission; parents will receive a 20 percent discount at RPM restaurants from 7pm to 9pm. From 4pm to 7pm at the grass lawn near the tennis courts at RPM. For further information contact Mr Murat Can Sakarya or Mr Martin Hill. T: 085-331 0295. E: muratc@royalphuketmarina.com. W: royalphuketmarina.com.

**April 15. Easter Sunday at Royal Phuket Marina**

Join RPM for an afternoon of family football. Test your skills on a penalty shootout, enjoy a demonstration of Futebol de Salão, mixed family-sided games and much more. All proceeds will be used to purchase footballs for a local Thai orphanage. Free admission; parents will receive a 20 percent discount at RPM restaurants from 7pm to 9pm. From 4pm to 7pm at the grass lawn near the tennis courts at RPM. For further information contact Mr Murat Can Sakarya or Mr Martin Hill. T: 085-331 0295. E: muratc@royalphuketmarina.com. W: royalphuketmarina.com.

**April 21. Phuket Punchline Comedy Club**

The Phuket Punchline team returns with another night of international stand-up comedy. This show welcomes internationally acclaimed novelist and comedian Mark Billingham, author of the hugely successful ‘Inspector Toomey’ books. Joining Mark are two more Brits in the shape of Mike Gunn and Carl Donnoly. From 8pm - 11pm at Holiday Inn Resort Phuket, Patong. For further information contact Boom. T: 089-646 9278 E: info@phuketcomedy.com. W: phuketcomedy.com.

**April 22 – 26. Passion For Perfume Workshop at The Pavilions**

The Pavilions will hold ‘Passion For Perfume’, a unique three-day experiential program designed specifically for guests to indulge in the sensual pleasures of scent. Created to awaken and arouse the senses, the courses will be hosted by world-renowned Perfumer Stephen V. Dowthwaite, founder of Perfumers World. The three-day workshop is 9,000++ baht, and includes morning and afternoon coffee breaks and a three-course set lunch. From 9am - 5pm at The Pavilions, Phuket. For further information contact K. Or, (Front Office Manager). T: 076-317600. E: fom.phuket@thevillageresorts.com. W: thevillageresorts.com.

**April 25. Fun Football Day at Royal Phuket Marina**

Join RPM for an afternoon of family football. Test your skills on a penalty shootout, enjoy a demonstration of Futebol de Salão, mixed family-sided games and much more. All proceeds will be used to purchase footballs for a local Thai orphanage. Free admission; parents will receive a 20 percent discount at RPM restaurants from 7pm to 9pm. From 4pm to 7pm at the grass lawn near the tennis courts at RPM. For further information contact Mr Murat Can Sakarya or Mr Martin Hill. T: 085-331 0295. E: muratc@royalphuketmarina.com. W: royalphuketmarina.com.

**April 28. The Phuket PR Network Free Public Speaking Seminar**

Warning About Public Speaking? Help is at hand. The Phuket PR Network is holding a free seminar on public speaking with author Bjorn Turmann, renowned expert on public speaking. From 4pm - 7pm at Silk Restaurant, Andara Resort, Kamala. For further information contact Alastair Carthew of AC PR Counsel. T: 076-317629, 081-7500448. E: alastair.carthew@staralliance.com.

**April 29. Writer’s Night with Bjorn Turmann**

Don’t miss Writer’s Night at Mom Tri’s, Boat House, Patong. From 8pm - 11pm at Mom Tri’s Boathouse. For further information contact Lisa Sol. T: 076-330015 E: pr@boathousephuket.com W: boathousephuket.com.
Protecting your investments after death

Many expatriates living in Phuket have invested assets in several countries and have retained them as investments. Looking after such a geographically spread-out estate may be manageable during a man’s lifetime; however, what happens when the owner of those assets dies?

Without proper planning, serious problems can arise for a widow, who may not have any understanding of business, or for offsprings, who are still minors. In many cases, expatriates would be better off using an offshore trust to avoid complications.

But what is an offshore trust? And furthermore, what is a trust and how can it be used to protect an investor’s assets after death?

A trust is a legal entity that can hold and manage assets including: companies, property, bank accounts, stocks, shares and anything else an individual may own.

The trust is governed by trustees who may be individuals, banks, accounting firms, legal firms, insurance companies, trust companies, or any of a variety of other entities.

If a trustee is a corporate body, it has a legal obligation to manage assets professionally. If it does not, then it is liable for any costs or losses due to its negligence.

The advantage of a trust is that it is simple. All the assets of the settlor – the person who sets up the trust – are already held in the trust’s name and are not dispersed around the world. Nearly all offshore trusts are situated in tax havens, for example the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man. For non-residents, these are true tax havens and no death duties or tax is paid.

Choosing the right trustee is important with estate planning. I recently heard a good tale that illustrates this point.

A Thai lady with two young children had lost her husband. The deceased husband was originally a Hong Kong resident. He owned property and a business, as well as additional property in Britain. The husband left a will that put all his assets into a trust after his death. He had wanted all but one of these properties sold by his trustees and the capital invested in a trust that would provide sufficient income for his widow and children.

Although he was an attorney, he had made a terrible mistake. He gave absolute power over his estate to friends whom he had appointed as trustees.

The dead man owned a nice house in Phuket, but with a large mortgage. The trustees decided his widow must rent out this house in Thailand and move to one of the houses in Britain. The trustees were deaf to her pleas. He had never been to Britain in his life and couldn’t speak very good English. Neither she nor her late husband had ever intended to stay in the UK.

The lesson here is that appointing individuals as trustees is dangerous. Apart from anything else, there is a possibility of fraud. If our attorney had appointed a corporate body as trustees, his wishes would have been carried out faithfully. Apart from any other considerations, where individuals have been appointed as trustees there is always the potential problem of death or severe illness interrupting their ability to serve as trustees. Some security may be found in the use of a protector. The protector has veto rights over the trustees. Therefore, trustees must obtain the protector’s signed confirmation for their every action.

The drawback is that this can add unnecessary delays. I dealt with one case where the trustees were unable to act for six weeks because the protector was traveling in the US and nobody knew his itinerary.

One of the cheapest ways to form an offshore trust is by using the services of a trust company that is owned by an offshore insurance company.

This reduces the cost of establishing and maintaining a trust by a very substantial amount, allowing for smaller amounts to be placed into a trust.

Most corporate trustees will otherwise refuse to accept assets worth less than about 250,000 pounds – about 17 million baht. I recently came across a well known international bank who will not manage a trust unless the underlying assets exceed US$3 million, which is about 100 million baht.

Apart from the advantages, trusts can be very useful instruments to protect assets in the case of divorce.

With an offshore trust, you retain control of the assets, including the right to withdraw all the funds from the trust.

There are many different types of trusts, but most expats will select an offshore discretionary trust which is the most flexible. However, as with all aspects of personal financial planning, it all depends on the individual situation.

One of the advantages of an offshore discretionary trust is that the trustees are guided by a Letter of Wishes. During the lifetime of the settlor, this document can be changed at anytime, to include or exclude beneficiaries or the terms on which they can benefit. It is not necessary to have this document drafted in legal terminology since trustees simply want clear instructions.
Get your brain in gear with the

MONSTER QUIZ

1. A dwarf goby is the smallest species of what?
2. King Zog ruled which eastern European country from 1928-1939?
3. Where in the body is the patella located?
4. In 1971, Denis Gabor of Hungary won the Nobel Prize in Physics for what invention?
5. Who donated their land to the UN so they could build their headquarters?
6. What spirit is mixed with ginger beer to make a Moscow mule?
7. What’s the oldest monotheistic religion?
8. An aubade is a type of song from the Middle Ages about what?
9. In the Bible, who betrayed Jesus to the Romans?
10. How many colored rings are found on the Olympic flag?
11. The term ‘cyber space’ was coined by which science fiction novelist in 1984?
12. In Greek mythology Demeter was the Goddess of what?
13. What American film won the Best Picture Award at the Oscars in 1943?
14. How many feet are there in a fathom?
15. Who wrote the classic American novel Gone With The Wind in 1936?
16. What was the title of Ian Fleming’s first James Bond book?
17. What British composer wrote The Planets orchestral suite?
18. What type of animal is a lurcher?
19. In the NATO phonetic alphabet which word is used for U?
20. Who was known as the King of Swing?

Answers below

Puzzle Solutions

Wonderword Solution: Battleship
Solution to this week’s crossword:

1. Fish
2. Albania
3. Knee
4. Holograms
5. John D Rockefeller
6. Vodka
7. Zoroastrianism
8. Lovers separating at dawn
9. Judas
10. Five
11. William Gibson
12. Harvest
13. Casablanca
14. Six
15. Margaret Mitchell
16. Casino Royale
17. Gustav Holst
18. Dog
19. Uniform
20. Benny Goodman

WHATZIT? solutions

1. Fish
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3. Knee
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14. Six
15. Margaret Mitchell
16. Casino Royale
17. Gustav Holst
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Hidato: How to play

1. Brute force.
2. Under a cloud.
3. Positive attitude.


Do we really need rebranding?

By S. TSOW

A recent news article reports that a New York advertising man named Peter Arnell wants to rebrand Thailand.

According to the article, Arnell has an impressive record of designing makeovers for existing products. He invented a new design that’s now used on all Pepsi cans. For this little favor he reportedly charged a mere ten million dollars.

If that’s the same can I see in supermarkets, Pepsi ought to demand its money back.

It looks as if its designer was high on powerful psychedelic substances.

Like many foreigners, Arnell claims to have fallen in love with Thailand. He’s full of gratitude and wants to give something back. To that end, he wants to rebrand Thailand, and has devised a promotional plan to present to the government.

We should be so lucky. Let’s hope this act of love doesn’t cost the government ten million dollars. True love should give a discount.

“Thailand is not the place of wacky bars or crazy nightlife that most people think it is,” Arnell declares. It is a sensible, harmonious, calm, peaceful and respectful country driven by humanity and a soulfulness, unlike any other place in the world.

He lost me at “sensible.” If you were asked to think of one adjective that describes Thailand, I bet the first word to pop into your head would not be “sensible.” And…harmonious, calm, peaceful, respectful? Tell it to the red shirts, the yellow shirts and the southern insurgents. Humanity and soulfulness?

Tell it to the Burmese laborers, the Hmong refugees, and the Rohingya boat people.

Arnell lamented that Thailand lacks a national symbol. He wants to devise one – something like the Swiss cross or the Canadian maple leaf. But he wants to base it on “the distinctive temple spires of [Thailand’s] classic architecture.”

Is this a little behind the times? Contemporary Thailand is more fixated on shopping malls than temple spires. He doesn’t seem to realize that Thailand already has a national symbol – any one of which could be promoted to national status. Thai Airways International used to have a Thai classical dancer as its logo, and that might fit the bill.

A few years ago somebody designed a cute little elephant named Chaiyo. But he wanted to promote the Asean games. Like the Thai dancer, Chaiyo could easily be resurrected as a symbol of the nation. He won’t cost ten million dollars, either. If you want something more classical, there’s the three-headed Erawan elephant.

If you want an iconic structure as a symbol, we’ve got at least two. France has the Eiffel Tower, England has Big Ben, America has the Statue of Liberty. We’ve got Wat Arun and the Giant Swing.

If you want a symbol that embodies the hopes, dreams, and aspirations of the Thai people, how about a mobile phone? That is a quintessentially Thai symbol: everybody’s got one. To emphasize its “Thai-ness,” imprint it with a Thai flag.

Instead of rebranding Thailand as an exciting carnival of wacky bars and crazy nightlife, or as a boring Utopia oozing harmony, calm, peace, and respect, Arnell would do better to reach back into the recent past and focus on what Thailand used to be famous for: Thailand used to be a fun place.

Now it is less so. This may be because of the erosion of the laid-back rural values of yesteryear and the creeping takeover by tight-assed urban middle-class values, partly influenced by the Western nations.

This trend was exacerbated by the Calvinistic reign of former Interior Minister Purachai Pluensonboon, during which Bangkok night life was stumped into the ground by a series of draconian restrictions and left writhing in its death throes. There were times in those days of horror when one could easily have imagined that one was living in the late unlimated Soviet Union.

Limiting liquor sales, closing the bars early, and trying to stamp out smoking in restaurants and social control policies that are still with us – are hardly conducive to a fun-filled society.

So let’s bring back the fun, dear readers, and then we won’t have to rebrand anything. To attract tourists, I suggest a new motto: “Thailand Da Fun!” As a logo, a huge, toothy smile set against an idyllic backdrop of beaches and palm trees. With a wacky bar set off in a corner.

S. Tsow can be flamed at s.tsow@ymail.com, except when he’s in a wacky bar waiting for Da Fun to begin.

Horoscopes

ARIES (March 21-April 20): Your skills at analyzing problems make contact with interesting news. Those who are prepared to take a gamble should be better than ever, but hooking something up with another water sign for a second time should be avoided.

CANCER (June 22-July 23): The stars suggest that this week, with emphasis on a debt dispute being resolved.

LEO (July 24-August 22): A Cancerian could show their love for Librans this week. An earth sign colleague is forecast to come in useful this week, with emphasis on a debt dispute being resolved.

SCORPIO (October 23-November 21): With the wind in your sails, life is trouble-free during April; however, personal relationships could take more over-cautious. Romance with Leo is forecast to become suddenly more serious when a snap decision has to be made this weekend. Thursday is the most auspicious day for signing agreements relating to finances.

LIBRA (September 24-October 23): A new romance could be rekindled soon. If an earth sign colleague is certain to alienate some Librans this week. An earth sign colleague is forecast to achieve more satisfaction.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23-December 21): Something that has been a long time coming literally takes shape this week. Your business outlook is mostly sunny during April; however, personal relationships could take more over-cautious. Romance with Leo is forecast to become suddenly more serious when a snap decision has to be made this weekend. Thursday is the most auspicious day for signing agreements relating to finances.

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 20): It may seem to be a long time coming literally takes shape this week. Your business outlook is mostly sunny during April; however, personal relationships could take more over-cautious. Romance with Leo is forecast to become suddenly more serious when a snap decision has to be made this weekend. Thursday is the most auspicious day for signing agreements relating to finances.

PISCES (February 19-March 20): Those born under Pisces should learn something satisfactory this week. The stars suggest that our hard work last month was not the waste of time you suspected. Where love is concerned, a short-term relationship last year could be rekindled soon. If an earth sign is involved, communication will be better than ever. Hooking up with another water sign for a second time should be avoided.

Horoscope for April 3, 2010: Phuket Gazette
The carrot or the stick?

What works best: the carrot or the stick?

It’s an age-old question, and one brought to the fore here in Phuket with the launch this week of Tesco Lotus’s Green Bag Green Point scheme (see page 3).

The retailer will reward shoppers who reuse bags – instead of using new plastic ones – with points exchangeable for store coupons. So it’s clear what Tesco thinks: dangling the carrot of cash is preferable to trying to confound the cynics. Nevertheless, the Tesco Lotus ‘carrot’ approach has its merits.

And plastic bag charges have succeeded where they have been trialled. UK retailer Marks and Spencer said bag use at its stores fell 80 percent within one year of the introduction of a charge.

But where does this leave Phuket No Shopping Bag? The retailer will reward shoppers who reuse bags – instead of using new plastic ones – with points exchangeable for store coupons. So it’s clear what Tesco thinks: dangling the carrot of cash is preferable to trying to confound the cynics.

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Nevertheless, the Tesco Lotus ‘carrot’ approach has its merits. And plastic bag charges have succeeded where they have been trialled. UK retailer Marks and Spencer said bag use at its stores fell 80 percent within one year of the introduction of a charge.

Tesco’s incentive scheme will more easily confound the cynics, even if the company is paying customers just one satang per reused plastic bag.

And the retailer says incentive schemes have worked in other counties. “The vast majority” of Tesco’s customers now reuse their plastic bags, according to a spokesman. We hope the scheme has the same effect in Phuket and the rest of Thailand.

Protect your brain

I have been coming to Thailand as a tourist since 1994 and have lived here for nearly three years as a retired expat.

I chose to live here as a part of the Thai community. My hope is that the number of tragic road accidents, especially involving motorbikes, can be reduced.

I worked in my home country of Norway for 35 years in the Motorbike and Traffic Police, specializing in motor accidents for the last 10.

I am very happy to see that the Thai Police have traffic checkpoints in place to inspect for safety belts and motorbike helmets.

But I am sad to say that many of the helmets which are sold are made of very cheap thin plastic, and they will break in a serious collision.

I have myself witnessed three bodies lying on the road with the helmets in pieces, each time just a thin plastic helmet.

I also ask myself if the skills of the motorbike police are better than those of drivers.

I often see whole families on motorbikes, with up to four people and a little baby standing between grandmother and mother, all without helmets.

Why don’t they change the law so that all passengers must wear helmets – and real helmets, not the thin plastic ones that half the riders seem to use.

I think this must have something to do with the skills required to get a license. They must focus more on safety, like they do in Europe.

My wife is not allowed on my bike as a passenger without a helmet, and she always wears one herself. I think many people just wear helmets so they don’t have to pay fines. The police often have checkpoints in Patong, but when drivers have passed them, the helmets come off again.

They should use the helmet to protect the most important part of their body: their brain.

Rune Hyll Krantz
Patong

Does anyone care?

Every day I spend about one hour driving to work and back home again.

Looking through my window I wonder if anybody on this island really cares about ecological issues.

All those piles of rubbish, construction debris and plastic packaging definitely contradicts the well-known saying that Phuket is the Pearl of the Andaman.

Apparently it used to be a pearl, but nowadays the island is gradually turning into an enormous dumpling ground.

Just look around some time and you will notice rubbish everywhere, literally: drains clogged with things tossed out of car windows or from motorbikes, hawk heaps of household waste, construction debris, even food.

It’s time local authorities took some practical action to clean the island and prevent littering, and I would go further and suggest that new legislation should be implemented as well.

I understand that, in theory, the problem of littering is something everybody is aware of, but nothing has been done so far to actually solve it.

Perhaps my plea and internal revolt will remain mine only but I hope that somebody will eventually pay attention to the contamination issue, and at least attempt to do something I wish I could drive my car one day and enjoy the pristine nature of Phuket, instead of what I see now.

Julie Phuket

Airfares soar

It seems that the local response to loss of business – “Oh, I have fewer customers; I must charge more money from the ones we have” – is infecting Thai Airways as well [Gazette online, Phuket threatened as airfares soar, March 31].

Instead of offering more attractive prices to get more customers, they actually put higher fares into effect. This will mostly affect tourists and potential tourists from abroad since Thai people and resident foreigners will probably opt for the much cheaper competition.

Another blow for the tourist industry, this time inflicted by the national airline. Maybe the government needs a new and more honest motto: “We do only what the Thai community expects.”

George Yamamoto
Gazette Forum

Proud of the town

I’ve never heard a single person “locally”, Thai or foreign, ever call it anything but Phuket Town [Gazette online, In defense of Phuket Town, March 30].

The only place I’ve ever seen it ever called Phuket City is on a few online maps of the area probably drawn by someone in Bangkok.

I think locals know what they prefer to call their home regardless what some numerical statistic categorizes it as.

John Gazette Forum
Witness the death of deference

For many reasons, Red March has been very, very disturbing. It hasn’t conformed to expectations. It hasn’t confirmed prejudices. It has been new and different.

For a start it has been unsettling. Many people because it was simply so big. The crowd did not approach the demonstration promise of a million people, but as the sun-baked BBC correspondent breathlessly exclaimed, it was the biggest gathering of red shirted people in Thailand for over three decades. This was no small feat given the obstructions. It’s not so difficult to stage a rally when attendees only have to change their shirt and take a short taxi hop from the office. The logistics are a lot more difficult and expensive when the rally site is hundreds of kilometers away. Provincial governors were ordered to obstruct the movement of people. Police set up countless checkpoints.

Pro-Newin elements in the north-east on entertainment and issued threats to deter people from leaving for the capital. The media carried reports about money distributed to protesters to move. None carried reports about the money spent to prevent them moving. Despite all these efforts, downtown Bangkok was a sea of red. The 10-kilometer column from Rajdamnoen to Phaholyothin broke records.

Red March was unsettling also because, so far, it has truly been non-violent. The laborious police searches of buses and columns of pick-ups began arriving. The protesters were supposed to be the downtown trodden. And the thing about the downtrodden is that they are trodden down into resignation, passivity, deferen. They can usually be ignored or easily managed. But these were the aggrieved with assets. Of course many foot soldiers of the movement do count among the least well off. But the social range of the protesters is much wider than the simple analysis of the poor against the privileged. In the far north and the northeast, it is not just the poor who support the red shirts just about everybody.

Most of all, Red March was disturbing because of the enormous show of local support in Bangkok. From the moment the column of pick-ups began arriving in the city, people gathered on the pavement to clap and cheer and wave in welcome. Some of these fans were taxi drivers and motorcycle taxi riders, the movement’s staunch allies. But others were true-blue Bangkokians. All along the route to Phaholyothin people came out of shops and offices to line the street and cheer. Chang Noi happened on the column after it had left Abhisit’s house in Sukhumvit. It was like being at carnival. Jolly luk thung music was blaring from loudspeakers, augmented with a lot of extra ching-chap, enchanting, and cheering. On the trucks, people were waving, singing, and giving the thumbs-up. Not one unsmiling face. Alongside, people had come to windows, or onto office balconies, or out from shops onto the pavement. Most had snatched up anything red to wave along – a tie, a towel, a hat, a piece of paper. The press and the pundits have played the conflict as the provinces against the city. But how does that analysis fit with these pavement scenes?

In Chang Noi’s neighborhood, there’s a worker community. They used to be pro-Democrat because the local Democrat politicians helped them to get residence rights and basic services. They served as Democrat canvassers in several elections. They are now deep red. In the evenings, the kids come out to play on the street. For a year now, one of their favorite games has been “street protest”. They march up and down and wave flags. They shout “No more double standards”, “Down with amat”, and “Abhisit out”. They are not in any hurry to move off the road to allow a car to pass. Their average age is around 10.

A decade ago, Chang Noi predicted that the city folk would have to build a wall around Bangkok, or float the city away into the Gulf of Thailand, a bit like Singapore. Of course, that has not happened. Instead they have tended to brick up their own eyes and their ears. While this extraordinary event was unfolding in the city, the mainstream media made heroic efforts to ignore it. No vox pops. No atmospheric scene painting. Few pictures. Only when the blood campaign caught the eye of the foreign media (and had an implied element of violence) did the coverage get more enthusiastic.

Instead of reportage we got endless predictions of a bad ending. The numbers are increasing, so it will turn violent. The numbers are dropping, so it will turn non-violent. The temperature is high, so tempers will snap.

Red March has been disturbing because it has messages so striking that they slip through the walls. Despite government efforts using taxpayers’ money, it was huge. Despite the chaotic state of the red movement’s leadership, it held together through fellow feeling. Despite the conventional analyses, the support spreads far beyond the rural poor. Hard to ignore despite those bricks.

The Phuket Gazette

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Issues & Answers

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

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Do we have to pay income tax to sell our house?

We bought a house five years ago for 4,500,000 baht. We spent 500,000 baht on the garden and decorating the house.

We’re now selling the house for 5,000,000 baht but are set to lose a lot of money in the process. The new owners have told us that we have to pay income tax for the house.

I had never heard of this. I would like to know if this is true and how they calculate it.

Raymond Lukassen

Chalong

An officer at the Phuket Revenue Department replies:

Yes, you have to pay income tax, transfer fees (0.1%) and stamp duty, but you don’t have to pay special business tax.

The income tax depends on many things, such as how many years you have owned the house, the selling price and so on. They have to see all the paperwork to calculate how much you have to pay.

For more information contact the Phuket Revenue Department:

23 Narisorn Road, T. Taladyai, Muang, Phuket 83000. T: 076-211280, 076-214950 51.

Is it legal to ride big bikes without using red plates?

Many bike dealers selling large cc bikes in Bangkok no longer issue a red plate while the white plate is being issued. They claim it is legal to ride the bike in Thailand with only the purchase invoice, and that a plate is not needed.

Yet the policy of the Phuket police seems to be that no plate means a fine, no excuses. Is it legal to ride on the road with an unplated bike while paperwork is being processed?

Selton Hanley

Kathu

A motorcycle registration officer at Phuket Provincial Land Transport Office replies:

The Provincial Land Transport Office does not provide buyers with red plates. The dealer has to provide plate itself.

It is illegal to drive without a red plate while you are waiting for the white plate. Please ask the dealer to get one for you.

For more information contact Phuket Provincial Land Transport Office:

42/4 Rattanakosin 200 Ph Road, T. Taladneua, Muang, Phuket 83000. T: 076-211019 ext 13, 076-220792, 076-214930. E: info@phuketlandtransport.th.org
**Youth cricketers take on Thailand**

FOLLOWING some spirited games in this season’s Island Furniture Senior Cricket League, an under 19s representative team was selected by the Phuket Cricket Group and sent to the National Youth Games in Petchaboon.

Teams from each Sports Association in Thailand were competing, some with many years of youth development experience behind them.

The Phuket team was drawn in a pool with Bangkok and Khon Kaen, one of the gun sides in the country. After a superb bowling performance in game one, Khon Kaen proved too strong for the Phuket team and won the game by nine wickets.

Chonburi were next and after some fine bowling to restrict Chonburi to 107 runs, Somrat and Kitanet from the Phuket team dominated in the bat to easily reach the total of 108 runs for the loss of only one wicket.

In the final game against Bangkok – a playoff for third place in the tournament – Nattapat managed an impressive 34 runs from 44 balls to help the side reach a strong score of 89 runs.

It was then up to the Phuket bowlers, who didn’t disappoint with good line and length bowling, managing to restrict the opposition to only 57 runs. Arthid was the stand out with figures of two for 23.

The playoff for first and second was between Khon Kaen and Chiang Mai, with Chiang Mai eventually winning by 14 runs. Arthid was the stand out with figures of two for 23.

For more information on youth cricket in Phuket visit: W: phuketcricket.com.

– Ian Lenton

**Judo star pins a win**

THE second annual NeverTap Asia submission grappling competition took place in Chalong last Saturday, giving competitors from all over the world a chance to test their groundfighting skills against one another.

Participants were given up to three rounds to ‘submit’ their opponent. A submission involves putting an opponent in a position where they are forced to submit, either verbally or through a tap (the name of the game).

If neither fighter submits after three rounds, the winner is decided by a panel of judges. Competitors are judged according to their aggressiveness, ability to take the opponent to the ground, resistance to being taken down, and ability to create and take advantage of dominant positions.

Among the competitors who travelled in from all over east Asia was Phuket’s very own Sophie Cox, Cox, a teacher at the Phuket International Academy, once represented Great Britain in Judo at the Olympics. She is making her Judo comeback in the Thailand National Open this month. Preparing in the build-up to the competition, she was the winner of the women’s section of the competition.

Judo differs significantly from Western grappling in that in Judo you can win by throwing your opponent or pinning them to the ground.

In the Judo competition, the rules of these techniques might impress the judges in a submission grappling match, the only way to win conclusively is to force your opponent to ‘tap’ in an actual submission.

Cox was up against Kitty Teppo from Finland in the final. Teppo has a blue belt in Brazilian Jiujitsu, widely regarded as the most effective techniques in submission grappling.

From the outset, Cox showed her superior strength, pinning her opponent to the floor and keeping her there for the entire first round.

The second round followed a similar pattern with Cox picking Teppo up and slamming her to the floor. Teppo showed her groundfighting experience by reversing the position and grappling Cox’s back, but she was unable to take advantage and Sophie slipped out. With the round coming to an end, Cox secured an armbar, hyper extending Teppo’s arm and forcing her to tap.

Afterwards Cox admitted to being surprised by how effective her Judo skills had proved to be.

“It was my first time competing in a tournament, so I knew I would have to do well, although it is difficult to get a complete picture from just one tournament. I am happy to win and it is a great confidence boost going into the Thailand Judo Open.

In the men’s division the winners were as follows: Niti Tchottiasne (Featherweight), Ryuma Kaise (lightweight), Krzysztof Hajtalowicz (welterweight), Martin Lavin (middleweight), Pedro “BB” Schmall (light heavyweight), Javier Rodriguez (heavyweight), Zach Thumb (Superheavyweight) and Chris Cape (open).

For more information visit: W: nevertap.asia.

– James Goyder
**Charity race raises millions**

**RACING FOR A CAUSE:** Competitors in the Accor Race to Survive raised over Bt6 million by covering nearly 85km of land and sea over a four day period.

**OVER four days of scorching heat, participants of the Accor Race to Survive Phuket 2010 scaled land and water to help raise over US$206,000 (Bt6 million) to benefit the Yim Kids Foundation.**

The Phuket-based event was held from March 22-25 with racers running, swimming, cycling and canoeing around the island.

The competitors started at the Novotel Phuket Resort in Patong and spent their first day running 5km north before riding 20km south to the All Seasons Hotel in Nai Harn.

The following days included a mix of running, bike riding, canoeing and swimming.

Athletes covered a total of 84km when the race finished at Novotel on the fourth day.

Accor’s Yim Kids charity was established to fund sustainable projects throughout Thailand with the goal of improving educational opportunities and child health.

The challenge has attracted strong support from leading travel companies around the Asia Pacific region, including V Australia airlines.

V Australia spokesperson Amanda Bolger said, “It’s important for companies to be mindful that these efforts are for the long term. It’s great to see the Yim Kids Foundation expand its outstanding charity work for the underprivileged children of Thailand.”

Although the race has drawn to close, the hard work has just begun for event sponsors and participants. Accor and its partners will now take their fund raising efforts to communities in need.
Am I my brother’s keeper?

For expats, life in Phuket is sometimes not as ideal as we once imagined. One particular problem – addiction – seems to be frequently left unspoken by those who are in a position to help.

For that reason, my column will stray away from property this week and talk about a responsibility that I think all expats in Phuket share.

Many people think that moving to a tropical island like Phuket will give them a blissful taste of heaven. Unfortunately, Phuket will give them a blissful reality all too often takes a turn towards the exact opposite, and for some, this place becomes a one-way ticket to paradise’s lost souls when he wrote, “he passed in retreat into the dark.”

Here I am reminded of a telling exchange between the two lead characters in the classic film Leaving Las Vegas: “Is drinking a way of killing yourself?” and the response, “or is killing myself a way of drinking?”

Robert Louis Stevenson might have envisioned one of paradise’s lost souls when he wrote, “I passed in retreat among the islands.”

Some Venetian’s novel “The Moon and Sixpence” was a loose interpretation of artist Paul Gauguin’s intrepid self-destruction in Tahiti.

Addiction is a problem that affects many Phuket expats and, unfortunately, is often not addressed by those in a position to help. Photo: AlcoholRehab247

Sometimes the acquaintance is simply someone you see walking by on the street, clearly troubled and far too inebriated to be ignored. Of course you never make eye contact, but the image burns long and hard some nights; into the dark.

Perhaps we’ve gone a bit too far down the hole and need to come up for air.

Living in Thailand, where the art of sabai and sanook go hand in hand, the fact remains that cheap booze, pills, and all manner of magic dust and powder are easily found and, for most of us, quite affordable. It would be almost unimaginable to get into a casual chat with anyone here who hasn’t been exposed to booze, drugs and all manner of magic dust and powder. It proves a fleeting novelty for most, but for others it comes in the form of addiction, alcohol being the most common culprit. It seems to be frequently left unspoken by those who are in a position to help. Silence has no friends. Acting with courage is what takes you to the conclusion that certain words need to be spoken; and acting with courage is what counts. Silence has no friends.

Perhaps we’ve grown up in wild times – exposed to booze, drugs and more dawns then most people. Look back, it’s hard to imagine how I even made it through my teens and twenties.

It may seem odd, but perhaps one of my divine saving graces is that ATM machines where not common then. Access to fast cash in the midst of a binge can only bring a bad kind of cra-ziness. There are more of those cash dispensing monsters here now the image comes to symbolize a growing unwillingness for people to take responsibility for their fellow citizens.

That is a callous attempt at vindication. When I take a long hard look in the mirror I’ve come to the conclusion that certain words need to be spoken; and acting with courage is what counts. Silence has no friends.

So next time you come to the crossroad, and think if you should offer help, take the next step, as it may make all the difference in the world. If someone needs help, I hope I can be my brother’s keeper, and that someone would do the same for me.

If you or someone you know needs help, Phuket has numerous local groups and people that can help.

Final stages of construction are set to begin on a long awaited road connecting the bypass road near HomeWorks to Ekwahtit Road behind Surakul stadium. Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop swung the project into action by helping demolish a wall with a sledgehammer on March 24.

The 550-meter-long road, running behind Darasamuth School, was expected to have been finished long ago. However, a family squatting on land needed for the road held up completion of the last 65 meters. A meeting was held last December in which Wichit Municipality agreed on building two new houses on adjacent land for Chamnan Rungklin and his family.

Construction of the houses was made possible through donations from private and public organizations, including the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (PPAO).

"I’m happy with the houses. Although they are a bit smaller [than our previous house], they are more comfortable and look nicer," Mr. Chamnan told the Gazette, after moving into the new houses recently. Wichit Municipality Mayor Kreetar Saetan said the Bt4.8-million initial project was completed last June, and the PPAO will now move forward with the final stretch, costing an additional 800,000 baht.

The mayor also thanked all who helped relocate the Rungklin family. Governor Wichai said he expects to see the road completed before the Songkran festival this month.

– Sitthipong Nongkaew

A backhoe destroys houses which were holding up construction of the new Phuket road. Meanwhile, local residents look on.
I was recently asked to recommend some unusual plants for a lady just starting a garden in Phuket; “something really exotic”, to use her phrase.

I was temporarily lost for words, if only because one is so spoilt for choice, especially if you are used to gardening in Europe or, as she was, in North America. But it made me think about plants that are totally different from ones grown in temperate climes: shrubs that stand out on account of their large size, brilliant coloration or extraordinary shape. So here goes.

The first one that came to mind was the so-called ‘cup of gold’. At the time I did not know its botanical name – since identified as Solandra longiflora – but I did have a couple growing in my own garden, where the plants had produced several enormous trumpet-shaped cream flowers with contrasting dark veins inside the blooms. Very exotic…

There is also a yellow variety [grun-diflora] which is golden in color, but without the interior markings that characterize the creamy cultivar. While my specimens have not bloomed profusely, solandra will obligé in the right conditions, a fact borne out by one mature specimen I have spotted adorning a wall on the road to Ao Makham. A veritable mass of blooms (like the oft-praised allamanda, to which it is surprisingly not related), the cup of gold is a spectacular display. There is also the heliconia, or ‘bird of paradise’ plant.

Already mentioned in dispatches, I will bypass the allamanda, though it would certainly figure in my personal taxonomy of exotic tropical shrubs, especially the large variety [cathartica] which flowers almost continuously and seems to do particularly well in Phuket. If its blooms are not quite as spectacular as those of solandra, they are produced in greater profusion.

A plant which I have neglected in these columns, and which certainly deserves the epithet ‘exotic’, is the heliconia, or more properly heliconias. This is a huge group of ornamental plants that range from the common or garden variety [stricta or dwarf Jamaican] which has either orange or yellow and red bracts, to medium sized cultivars such as psittacorum [golden torch], or really exotic and often massive varieties such as rostrata. The latter has deep red, yellow-edged bracts which hang down in spectacular displays. There is also the chart-tacco [‘sexy pink’] which, as its name implies, has unusual pink and pale blue inflorescences. There are literally hundreds of varieties, and there is even a Heliconia International Society. The pity is that all too often in Phuket, we see only the dwarf variety, dragged into unwilling service as a border plant.

The best way to show off heliconias – and do choose the exciting cultivars – is to plant them in large island beds, closely grouped together where their foliage and blooms can be utilized for dramatic effect.

A word of warning: Heliconias are gross feeders. As denizens of tropical jungles, this means they require plenty of nutrients, and moist soil conditions. And, like canna lilies, they only flower once, which means that they should be cut back to ground level once they have bloomed. Since they are rhizomatous, this draconian treatment will not harm them; the tubers will spread underground and, like the phoenix, the plants will rise again.

Heliconias belong to an even larger genus of plants – the zingiberales – a group which also includes the gingers, the strelitzias and available as a cut tuber on so many market stalls, is the only variety. But there are numerous exotic flowering forms, of which the torch ginger [etlingera] is the most spectacular.

Sometimes sold as a cut flower in local markets, torch ginger possesses huge, fleshy stems at the end of which are large, waxy-looking red or pink and densely packed bracts. When growing, the stems sprout from the ground separately from the huge leaves. Like all the gingers, it will need plenty of rich, moist soil if it is to thrive.

I recently read a piece on exotic plants by Normita Thongtham, gardening correspondent of the Bangkok Post. I can’t help but note that I have not mentioned any of her recommendations. Not bloody mindedness on my part – just a realization that there are so many plants that qualify for the title. A true ‘embarrass de richesse exotique’.

On the debit side, the plants are fairly hard to come by at relatively expensive. Moreover, strelitzias are very slow-growing and may take as much as seven years to bloom. They require rich, well-drained soil and prefer filtered sunlight.

The best specimens I have seen in Thailand were being cultivated on the cool slopes of Doi Inthanon; indeed, I know of only a couple of gardens in Phuket where they are really at home. In the case of my own specimen, I am certainly going to have to wait a few more years for it to flower. And what about the gingers? Many people assume that the edible ginger (officinale), so widely used in Thai cuisine and available as a cut tuber on so many market stalls, is the only variety. But there are numerous exotic flowering forms, of which the torch ginger [etlingera] is the most spectacular.

The amazing world of extravagant ornamentals
Up and coming concept in Koh Kaew

Construction is set to begin in June on Phumundra The Condo project in Koh Kaew.

Winpro Engineers Company Limited, developers in Phuket for the last nine years, are the project managers with the ISO group heading the architecture for the project.

Blue Planet Design International Limited are serving as the landscape designers.

Construction on the resort-style project is due to be completed in January 2012.

Located behind the Premium Outlet on the bypass road, Phumundra is five minutes drive from the Heroines' Monument and Tesco Lotus, Sam Kong.

Set back from the bypass road on Phumundra Hill, The Condo is set in 138 rai of lush gardens. Communal swimming pools, Wi-Fi, parking, 24 hour security, CCTV and well appointed gardens are some of the services included with purchase of a condo. Starting price for a one bedroom is Bt2.29 million.

Nine condominiums are housed within the 15, three story buildings in the project. Buyers have two condominium options to choose from, one or two bedrooms.

Phumundra’s developers hope to attract a mix of expat and Thai professionals who work nearby.

For more information please contact T: 076-239-959 or visit W: phumundra.com

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* These prices include air-conditioners, wall paper, kitchen and garden
* 1-year free use of the club facilities except spa and restaurant
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Location Map
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2-3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 111sqm. Start 4.5 million baht. Mustsee. Tel: 086-589 7308. For further details, please see our website at www.phukethouseagency.com.

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3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms with swimming pool fully furnished 9.5 million. Tel: 081-737 1678 (English & Thai). Email: supotpac@phuket.ksc.co.th

APARTMENT IN NAHARN
Palm Residence, 102sqm. Tel: 081-891 3678 (English). Email: info@allaboutwebdesign.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 TEAK HOUSE
2 bedrooms, 2 baths, 84/ 460sqm, terrace + pool! From 9.9 million baht. Land plot near Boat Lagoon. Construction time: 3 months! Tel: 076-325085, 086-2128 346 (English). Email: ts-teak@conplex.phuket.com

LAND AT PATONG BEACH
Cheap land for sale at north end of Patong Beach. Has access road, good water supply, and underground utilities. Very quiet, natural location, 2 minutes to beach. Landplots range from 500sqm to 1,400sqm. Part of an existing small development. Tel: 081-891 3466 (English), Fax: 076-296160. Email: antc@phuket.ksc.co.th

RESORT AT NAI YANG
Approx land size: 6 rai, 71 Sq m. Nor Sor Sam. Please call for more details. Tel: 086-279 8800. Email: taan_ty@hotmail.com

BAAN BAI MAI
1 bedroom, long lease hold apartment with pool, balcony and nice views. 1,75 million baht or 38,000 Euro. Tel: 086-684 5368. Email: bisbiz@yahoocom.au

SAEVIEW 4/5 BED, PATONG
1-year-old, nice view over sea and town, 4/5 bedrooms/ offices, 3.4 bathrooms (2 ensuite + 1 separate toilet), 5 aircon units and fans. Laundry, European-style timber kitchen, large balcony off living room to seat 8. Quiet area, 2 levels = flat top (135sqm) for outdoor. Ready for Jacuzzi and garden. 1 car + motorbike. Space covered under. Possible to separate into 2 living areas with own entrance = 1 or 2 bedrooms + kitchen and bathroom. Priced at 12.5 million baht (negoti able). Tel: 081-272 1326. Email: jeannaesw@yahoo.com.au

TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE OR RENT
In Mooibaan Tanieut, 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.

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 scenery. Tel: 081- 649 5657 (English). Email: ken@phuketlifestyle.com. For further details, please see our website at www.phuketlifestyle.com

NAHARN CONDO, SALE/ RENT
In a lovely residence of 8 units, 85 sqm, 2 bed, 2 bath with jacuzzi, spacious living area with western kitchen, full aircon, partially furnished, cable TV, DVD. Nice terrace overlooking landscaped garden and swimming pool, parking, walking distance to beach and all facilities. 3.5 million baht or 18,000 baht per month (long term). Tel: 087-281 5795 (English). Email: chaussery@syndby.com.

PARICHART VILLAGE, CHALONG
3520 Sq1. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, some furniture, 50sq wah, garden. For sale or long term rent. Must see. Contact Nina. Tel: 087-688 9679. Email: tasuwon@hotmail.com

WESTERN STYLE HOUSE
3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1 powder room, hot water, 4 aircon units, telephone, ADSL, cable TV, washer, dryer, western kitchen, 40" LCD TV & entertainment. 160 m2. For rent or sale. Tel: 02-860 2354, 081-400 0796, 087-895 3555. Email: popeyepsc@hotmail.com

KAMALA BEACH
New apartments and houses, furnished Western style, aircon, cable, internet, quiet, security. 6 million baht. Tel: 036-645 3546.

BEAUTIFUL NAI YANG LAND
For sale. Live in 1 and rent the other or sold separately. 5.1 million baht each, fully furnished, well kept, 2 bedroom, 3 bathrooms, Westen kitchen. Contact of Patong. 2 minutes to Jungceylon. Contact owner at Tel: 087-2721317 www.phukethouse.com.

Property Gazette
BEAUTIFUL LUXURY VILLAS
with private pool, 3 to 4 bedroom, fully furnished. For rent or sale. Tel: 087-893 8747.

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

MODERN HOUSE NEAR BANGTAO BEACH
Fully furnished, 2 bedroom, 2 bathrooms, 3 airco, hot water, washing machine, ADSL, WiFi, tel, garden. 10 minutes to Bang Tao beach. Price 16,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-795 6363. Email: sara supernatural@yahoo.co.th

450,000 BAHT YEARLY LEASE
Rawai pool guesthouse, 6 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, 4 motorbikes, WIFI, cable TV. 300m from sea, brand new. Tel: 086-640 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

SEA VIEW CONDO RAWAI
2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, views to Phi Phi. 50,000 baht per month. Includes water & electric. Tel: 081- 091 1805. Email: roydr捺ian@hotmail.com

NEW HOUSE
2 storey house in Topland Estate. Fully furnished, equipped, 2 bedrooms with ensuite bathrooms, fully airconditioned, cable TV, internet, fenced garden, covered parking space, 5 mins from Tesco Lotus / Central Festival. Tel: 085- 690 1955 (English & Thai). Email: mpomel@yahoo.fr

NEW APARTMENT KATA BEACH
for rent - 1 bedroom, full furnished, jacuzzi, kitchen, internet. Tel: 066-595 8512. For more details please email: nalumanain2000@yahoo.com

PHUKET VILLA DAORUNG
House for rent, 50sq wah, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, no phone line, unfurnished. 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-270 9053.

FULLY FURNISHED HOUSE
2 bedroom, 2 aircon, hot shower, free internet, cable TV. 12,000 baht per month. Near Chalong Bay, Patai. Tel: 081-8924 311.

NEW SERVICE CONDO
The Point, central location, one bedroom, lounge, bathroom, near Phuket International Hospital, many facilities. Contact for more details. Tel: 081-8920 048.

NAIHARN BIG 1 BEDROOM CONDO
Pool, ADSL, UBC, maid, quiet. 15,000 baht per month. Short/long term rental. Tel: 084-684 5369. Contact for more details: bis05@yahoo.co.uk
PROPERTY WANTED

KATHU GOLF CONDO 62SQM
1 bedroom, 1 bath, living room, Western kitchen, balcony, nice view, fully furnished. For long or short term rental; also for sale. Tel: 076-293149, 081-824 1385 (English). Fax: 076-293149. Email: jwaoi@csloxinfo.com

 PATONG SEA VIEW CONDO
Studio, 50sqm, Western kitchen. WiFi, 11th floor, nice sea view. Resort pool, long or short term rental. Also for sale. Tel: 076-293149, 081-824 1385. Fax: 076-293149. Email: jwaoi@csloxinfo.com

HOMES & VILLA REPAIRS & RENOVATIONS

UK BUILDER
+ management, design + allservices29@gmail.com Contact: 087-270 9093 (Thai), 087-689 9679.

PHUKET HOME MAINTENANCE
renovate your existing villa. And build new villas or apartments. All services. Tel: 089-668 3639 (English). Email: perhe.willig@gmail.com

UK BUILDERS
Fully qualified all works construction refurb. Tel: 083-175 0485.

STRUCTION SERVICES
Construction, supervision + management, design and build new villas or renovate your existing villa. Contact 2 home. Tel: 081-255 7003 Email: stagiee21@gmail.com

APARTMENT AT CHAO PHRAYA RIVER VIEW
Fully equipped room with kitchen appliances @ Baan Chaopraya Condo. Oriental decor! Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-261025, 089-668 3039 (English). Fax: 076-261025. Email: zuhu@junkison.com

APARTMENT & ROOM IN PATONG
Apartment for long term rent. 8,000-20,000 baht per month. Room from 800-2,000 baht per night. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-512151, 089-290 9567. Email: info@brommatathouse.com For further details, please see our website at www.aazonetel.com

BUNGALOW FOR RENT IN KARON
Great deal for long term. Fully furnished, WiFi, aircon, near beach. Tel: 018-196 5212. Email: scottkip@hotmail.com

ONE BEDROOM APART fully furnished, wifi, pool and parking quiet location in Patong 22,000 baht/month. Please contact for more information. Tel: 061-892 1621.

EDEN RESORT IN KARON
Sale or Rent. 1 bedroom with separate kitchen and dining room, fully furnished, ADSL and satellite TV. Stunning sea views and large swimming pool with access to gymnasium. Sale 5.6 million baht or rent for 30,000 baht per month. Small complex with big views. Tel: 087-882 9604. Email: artjnym@yahoo.com

GUESTHOUSE AT CHALONG
aircondition, hot water, Cable TV, free internet, ADSL, new building. Price 5,000 per month or 400 baht per day. Tel: 085-888 5144.

SEA VIEW KATA APARTMENTS
Quality monthly 1-bedroom apartments with pool, kitchen, cable TV and internet – from 14,000 baht per month (min: 6 months). For more info. Tel: 081-270 5374. Email: oceola@phuketksc.com

STUDIO W/P OOL, KAMALA
45sqm, kitchen, swimming pool, available from 1 April. Tel: 085-158 7638 (English). Email: pierre@husiphk.net For further details, please see our website at www.husiphk.net

WE NEED VILLAS NOW!
Thai Land Homes, after 7 years of successful Villa rentals in Pattaya with stock excess. If you need to sell/rent your villas in Phuket. Sales only or full management services offered. Leading website generating over 15,000 visits/month. Interested? Please forward contact details and our local manager will contact you. Tel: 085-0891966 (English & Thai). Fax: 038-233010. Email: sales@thailandinholidayhomes.co.uk Please visit our website at: www.thailandholidayhomes.co.uk

STUDIO FOR RENT
fully furnished, swimming pool. Daily - Monthly. Tel: 076-728 4005. Email: thamad17@yahoo.com

ONE BEDROOM APART
fully furnished, wifi, pool and parking quiet location in Patong 22,000 baht/month. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-892 1621.

TABLE OF SERVICES

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

Building Products & Services

Aluminium Doors and Windows
Want to change your facade? German Aluminium Doors and Windows - Top Quality - fair prices! Get a free quote! Special offer for projects! Tel: 068-281 1264, Fax: 076-252056. Email: info@csloxinfo.com

QUALITY BUILDING SERVICES
- Built-in
- Architecture, construction, renovations
- Carpentry, real wood, parquet
- Painting
- Tiles
- Sump wash
- Teakwood furniture
- Teakwood saia And
- Trailer car delivery services
- "Fair prices and free estimates given!"
- "Made over!"
Contact: 087-270 9093 (Thai), 087-889 9679 (English). Email: allservices29@gmail.com

Holiday Homes & Villa Rentals

WE NEED VILLAS NOW!
Thai Land Homes, after 7 years of successful Villa rentals in Pattaya with stock excess. If you need to sell/rent your villas in Phuket. Sales only or full management services offered. Leading website generating over 15,000 visits/month. Interested? Please forward contact details and our local manager will contact you. Tel: 085-0891966 (English & Thai). Fax: 038-233010. Email: sales@thailandinholidayhomes.co.uk Please visit our website at: www.thailandholidayhomes.co.uk

TEAK HOUSE
Complete new Teak houses for sale from 25 to 138 sqm (without land)! Showhouse available! Tel: 076-261025.

Building Products & Services

INDEX OFFICE BARGAIN PRICE
Good 3-seat index sofa. Was 30,000 baht new. In good condition. Will take 7,500 baht. Tel: 089-289 9717. Or send email: andygee21@gmail.com

INDEX COFFEE TABLE
Frosted glass top coffee table. Was 5,000 baht new. Will take 1,250 baht now. Please contact for more information. Tel: 082-829 8701 (English). Email: andygee21@gmail.com

ELECTRIC LAWN MOWER!
Black & Decker brand. Collect the cut grass. Very effective and inexpensive to use. A new one costs over 7,000 baht. Will sell for 4,500 – and with home delivery in the Chalong Rawai area. Please contact for more information. Tel: 082-271 3177. Email: perhe.willig@gmail.com

MOVING SALE!
Cozy, quilted Western-style mattress. 1 year old. Queen-sized, 9,000 baht or best offer.

Outdoor lounge chair: 800 baht or best offer. Please contact for further information. Tel: 083-551 6349 (English). Email: beckersteph@msn.com

PHUKET HOME MAINTENANCE
renovate your existing villa. And build new villas or apartments. All services. Tel: 089-668 3639 (English). Email: perhe.willig@gmail.com

UK BUILDERS
Fully qualified all works construction refurb. Tel: 083-175 0485.

Construction Services
Construction, supervision + management, design and build new villas or renovate your existing villa. Contact 2 home. Tel: 081-255 7003 Email: stagiee21@gmail.com

BARGAIN PRICE
20 years of successful Villa rentals in Pattaya with stock excess. If you need to sell/rent your villas in Phuket. Sales only or full management services offered. Leading website generating over 15,000 visits/month. Interested? Please forward contact details and our local manager will contact you. Tel: 085-0891966 (English & Thai). Fax: 038-233010. Email: sales@thailandinholidayhomes.co.uk Please visit our website at: www.thailandholidayhomes.co.uk

Looking for land to buy?
See more classified ads at www.phuketgazette.net
20M POWER CATAMARAN
6 double cabins, 1,055sqm sails, 40HP, 2009 in composite, 1.6 million baht. Contact for more details. Tel: 087-461 8089.

GIBSEA 43’ 2001
Big volume family cruising yacht, 10 berths, Euros 120,000. For further details, please see our website at www.boatshedphuket.com

MAXIM 640 POWER CAT 2007
20.5m, 12 berths, would make up market live aboard dive boat or private yacht full a/c US$1,300,000. For further details, please see our website at www.boatshedphuket.com

MUMBY 48’ 2003
Aluminium, catamaran, cruise, charter or win regatta’s AU$449,000. For further details, please see our website at www.boatshedphuket.com

MARGOT 43’ 1989
No nonsense blue water steel yacht, full refit 2007. For further details, please see our website www.boatshedphuket.com

56 FOOT CRUISING CATAMARAN
6 double cabins, 105sqm sails, 40HP, 2009 in composite, 1.6 million baht. Contact for more details. Tel: 087-461 8089.

5.8M RIB FOR SALE
115hp Mercury salt water, bimini, trailer, great condition, extras. 580,000 baht or offer. Tel: 076-383785, 089-474 5629 (English), 081-537 1704  (Thai). Email: dgsworld@gmail.com

FOR SALE SUNNAV NEW 16 FT
1 outboard engine Yamaha 85hp, 28 knots complete with highest quality Trailer. Price only 450,000 baht. For future details Tel: 089-4764743. Email: sales@sunnav.com See our web site at www.sunnav.com

LEEMARINE.COM

SHIPSHARE IN 74FT MOTORBOAT
5 shareholders, each 20% ownership. Usage 2 months a year. Tel: 080-522 4089 (English). Email: kamala@phuket.ksc.co.th
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Marriott Vacation Club, Asia Pacific, a leader in the global vacation ownership business, is looking for competent individuals and active professionals to join our team in the following positions:

- RECEPTIONIST
- SALES EXECUTIVE (German)
- MARKETING EXECUTIVE
- ENGLISH TEACHER/MICROSOFT WINDOWS TRAINER (EXCEL, WORD, OUTLOOK)
- ADMIN OFFICER

Positions are based in Phuket. Require self-motivated, pro-active and confident people with excellent interpersonal skills. An intermediate degree of proficiency in English is necessary. Candidates with the above qualifications should submit a resume with a recent photograph to: t eerawit.koonlachat@vacationclub.com or fax 076-543564 or mail to:

MVIC. Asia Pacific
234 Moo 3, Maikao, Talang
Phuket 83110, Thailand
Or Apply in person on Monday - Friday at 10.00 am – 3.00 pm

PA TO MD / EXECUTIVE ASSIST

- Must have experience as executive assistant / PA to MD for at least 3 years.
- Must be fluent in English and Thai.
- Female aged 27-35.
- Must own and drive a car.
- Must have excellent skills with computers and the internet.
- Experience in dealing with high end luxury products/yachts.
Tel: 081-979 9911. Email: vit@boatlagoonyachting.co.th
Please visit our website at www.boatlagoonyachting.co.th

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- Experience as broker for luxury motoryacht sales (new/used) of over 3 years.
- Fluent in English.
- Knowledge of motoryachts, and ability to handle boats would be helpful.
- Good at computer and internet experience working in sales.
- Driven environment.
Tel: 081-979 9911. Email: vit@boatlagoonyachting.co th

A SMART HOME COMPANY

requires audio/visual technicians, electricians, design engineers, an office manager, a purchasing manager and a personal assistant. All nationalities considered. Fax CV with photo. Email: d aragh @ technology-projects.com

THE GALLEY

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Joining Restaurant "The Galley" at Boat Lagoon with great opportunities. We are seeking candidates for the following positions:

- Accounting Manager
- Restaurant Manager
- Chef
- Captain
- Waiter/Waitress

Please send your resume and recent photo to thegalley_yph@hotmail.com
Tel: 061-298 8869 Contact Manas Suttavarn

KITCHEN CULTURES

Kitchen Cultures by Advance Asia Furniture Co., Ltd. has long been associated with high quality kitchen cabinetry, wardrobes, walk-in closets and vanity systems. We are looking for professional, energetic and self-motivated persons for following positions

1. Sales & Marketing Manager 1 position
2. Sales Representative 2 positions
3. Customer Service Manager 1 position
4. Product Design & Development Supervisor 1 position
5. Administrative Officer 1 position
6. Purchasing Officer 1 position
7. Accountant 1 position
8. Draftman 1 position
9. Technician 2 positions

English communication capability will be more beneficial.

VOLUNTEER ENGLISH TEACHER

English speaking teachers to volunteer teaching kindergarten and grade 1-6 in Klok Kloy, Phang Nga. 1-4 days a week. Expenses paid, 2,000 baht a day from Phuket. Call Principal Vinai Visarn at 086-470 5337.

A NANNY NEEDED

Experienced Nanny to take care of 2 kids between ages 4 and 7. Good English skills and driving license. Live in, from Monday to Friday or whole week. Recommendation letters from previous employers needed. Good salary. Tel: 189 3070

LOOKING FOR NANNY

To take care of my 18 month old son. Must love kids. Tel: 089-874 6170.

CAREGIVER FOR ELDERLY WOMAN

Must speak English. 10,000 baht per month and room provided in Kamala. Thai national. Tel: 080-699 2436 (English). Email: kokakat@gmail.com

VOLUNTEER ENGLISH TEACHER

We are recruiting for the following positions:

1. Bartender 2 Positions
2. Coffee Shop Attendant 1 Position
3. Water Waiters 3 Positions
4. Restaurant Captain 2 Positions
5. Spa Manager 1 Position
6. Spa Supervisor 1 Position
7. Spa Therapist 1 Position
8. Front Office Manager 1 Position
9. Receptionist 1 Position
10. Reservationist 1 Position

The Galley

27 Moo 8, Srddei Road, Phuket 83000
Tel: 076-391123 Fax: 076-391177
E-mail: Gale many@phuket erosion.com
www.the galley.com

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Experienced Nanny to take care of 2 kids between ages 4 and 7. Good English skills and driving license. Live in, from Monday to Friday or whole week. Recommendation letters from previous employers needed. Good salary. Tel: 189 3070

NEED A MAID?

Employment Wanted

A maid agency has maids available. Fulltime, live-in/live-out or for periodic cleaning. English speaking. Contact Anong. Tel: 089-442 8032 (Thai) or Fon. Tel: 088-442 8027 (Eng).

Please do not hesitate to contact us, if you have any questions or need more information.

Aava Resort and Spa is located in a peaceful tropical beachfront

Looking for 5 star boutique hotel service standards with the appropriate quality facilities, such as 25 luxurious villas, pool, pool bar, gourmet restaurant & bar, pizzaria, lounge bar, business center and conference/meeting room.

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Volunteer Teaching

English speaking teachers to volunteer teaching kindergarten and grade 1-6 in Klok Kloy, Phang Nga. 1-4 days a week. Expenses paid, 2,000 baht a day from Phuket. Call Principal Vinai Visarn at 086-470 5337.

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Must speak English. 10,000 baht per month and room provided in Kamala. Thai national. Tel: 080-699 2436 (English). Email: kokakat@gmail.com

OFFICE MANAGER

for a dentists office - Thai national with reasonable English. Please contact for further information. Tel: 067-277 5014 (English). Email: info@dentalsea.com

A EXPERIENCED NANNY Thai, 35 years, 10 years as nanny, good care, clean references, have driver's license. For more information. Email to: meaw_phuket@hotmail.com

E-mail: g foamers@phuketerosion.com
www.the galley.com

Cape Panwa Hotel & SPA
Phuket, Thailand

The Cape Panwa Hotel and Spa embodies tropical luxury in one of the world’s most desirable destinations. Lurked away in a quiet corner of south-east Phuket, the hotel is renowned for its excellent service, stylish rooms and exclusive beach. We are looking for the following positions:

- Restaurant Manager
- Supervisor
- Waiters / Waitresses
- Bartenders
- Chefs
- Kitchen Helpers

Hotel Benefits:

- Uniform and meals on duty
- Job Career opportunity
- Nursery/Creche

Please do not hesitate to contact us, if you have any questions or need more information.

Aava Resort and Spa 283/3 Moo. 8, T. Karon, A. Karon, Nakhon Si Thammarat 86130
Tel: 089-1388872 Fax: 076-391 312 Email: arman@avaversort.com

A EXPERIENCED NANNY

Thai, 35 years, 10 years as nanny, good care, clean references, have driver’s license. For more information. Email to: meaw_phuket@hotmail.com

E-mail: g foamers@phuketerosion.com
www.the galley.com

Cape Panwa Hotel & SPA
Phuket, Thailand

The Cape Panwa Hotel and Spa embodies tropical luxury in one of the world’s most desirable destinations. Lurked away in a quiet corner of south-east Phuket, the hotel is renowned for its excellent service, stylish rooms and exclusive beach. We are looking for the following positions:

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Tel: 089-1388872 Fax: 076-391 312 Email: arman@avaversort.com

A EXPERIENCED NANNY

Thai, 35 years, 10 years as nanny, good care, clean references, have driver’s license. For more information. Email to: meaw_phuket@hotmail.com

E-mail: g foamers@phuketerosion.com
www.the galley.com
**Articles For Sale**

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Need to move back home. Selling everything. Good price. Call now! Tel: 081-294 5441.

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50% off selected items. Prices start from 1,000 baht. Tel: 085-326 2473 (English & Thai). Email: sudeckh@web.de

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Must go before 13/11/10.
– Room fan: 36 cm, 390 baht when new. Now 200 baht
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**36 PHUKET GAZETTE April 3 - 9, 2010**

**For Sale**

**Articles**

**FRIDGE AND AIRCON**
3 Sanyo fridges 12,000 BTU. 2,000 baht. Tel: 086-828 7505.

**MULTI STATION**
For sale. A 6 station tower spartan, universal gym. Email: chilligarden@hotmail.com

**FOR YOUR RESTAURANT**
For sale: two under-counter fridges, one electric pizza oven (for 8 pies), and one glass washer. In excellent condition. Tel: 076-319409, 067-518 8637 (English & Thai). Email: peterwinner@hotmail.com

**BAR & RESTAURANT EQUIPMENT**

**E-CONCRETE MIXER**
Mixita Jackhammer. Includes 3 buckets, all well kept. Used on one job. Tel: 084-185 8536.

**POOL PUMP**
1.5hp Pentair Whisperflow. Handly used. 12,000 baht o.n.o. Tel: 086-683 1946. Email: franklee200@hotmail.com

**BAGLESS VACUUM CLEANER**
Electrolux zac6, 6,707 warranty till 11/06/2010. New. 6,000 baht, now 2,500 baht for colour: red/white. Tel: 076-319560, 084-441 3871 (English & Thai). Email: sawasdee-khrap@hotmail.com

**HARDWOOD BENCH SEAT**
Beautiful hardwood bench seat. Good for inside or outside. Tel: 082-678 0392 (English & Thai). Email: olay1@yahoo.com

**WEBER BARBECUE**
22.5 inch in diameter 57cm. "New", comes with cover. Tel: 081-776 1490.

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**ARC WELDER WELPLO**

**NEW SALON FOR SALE**
Promenade plaza, Naiharn Rd, fully equipped, everything new 199,000 baht. Rent 9,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-475 3220.

**WEBSITE FOR SALE**
For sale. Included 7 motorbikes and spa products. There are many repeat customers. Excellent write up in the Lonely Planet Encounter’s Guide. Good location near major hotels, long lease, 44,000 baht per month rent on 4 story building, no key money. Price 2,300,000 baht. Tel: 089-475 3220.

**BANZAAN MARKET**
Selling everything. Good price. Need to move back home. Tel: 085 787 1515.

**JACUZZI (NEW)**
Sapphire Jacuzzi ‘Palm Island’ Diamond). 5 seats with total of 65 jets and 2-speed blowers. Dimensions: 1900 x 1990 x 850mm. Dry weight: 225kg. Operating capacity: 1,000 litres. Price: 545,000 baht. SPECIAL: 345,000 baht. Tel: 076-878 0392 (English & Thai). Email: alkan@hush.com

**WEBER BBQ GRILL**
65 jets and 2-speed blower. "New", comes with cover. Tel: 081-895-7727 (English). Email: info@axiominvestments.com

**SHOP**
Massage shop for sale, Soi 22 Phuket, 10,500 baht. Tel: 084-845 1200.

**FOR SALE**
Articles

**MUSIC COLLECTION**
MP3 collection, over 30,000 tracks tagged. Comes on 250GB, USB drive. 31,000 baht. Tracks tagged. Comes on MP3 collection, over 30,000

**MUSIC COLLECTION**
For sale. Included 7 motorbikes and spa products. There are many repeat customers. Excellent write up in the Lonely Planet Encounter’s Guide. Good location near major hotels, long lease, 44,000 baht per month rent on 4 story building, no key money. Price 2,300,000 baht. Tel: 089-475 3220.

**NEW SALON FOR SALE**
Promenade plaza, Naiharn Rd, fully equipped, everything new 199,000 baht. Rent 9,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-828 7505.

**FOR SALE**
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TO LET

RESTAURANT IN PHUKET TOWN
Nice restaurant for rent, top location. Fresh renovation, 2 hotels in front, many other hotels nearby, 2 years left on contract. Rent 15,000 baht per month. Sale 700,000 baht. Everything stays inside; you just start your business! Tel: 080-2270144 (English), 087-0317068 (English & Thai). Email: sunanta@live.de

GUESTHOUSE KARON
12 rooms, furnished to a high standard, spacious bar/restau- rant area seating for 45. Well situated on main road. Freehold sale or long lease available. Tel: 081-891 9461.

INVESTOR WANTED
Unique opportunity, online business, live cars in Phuket. Tel: 080-5232867 (English & Thai). Email: nu.ruchign@yahoo.com

NEED INV. 3.8MB MOBILE BIZ
A mobile software (LBS) company needs investment capital for 3.8 million baht trading with its equity. We have a complete product and secured first customer (from Media industry). Tel: 02-2581733, 085-1564495 (English). Email: krish@dg.com.vn Website: http://dg.com.vn

FOR SALE

KATHU STORE
IN BUSY NEW PLAZA, LARGE PATIO.

CHALONG CAFE
In busy new plaza, large patio. Rent paid to 2011. 560,000 baht. Tel: 081-894 7273.

BANG KAEW BAR
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: 081-530 2954, inquiries over info@ holiday-4you.com

HOTEL 22 ROOM PATONG CITY
Hotel 3 unit 4 floor 800 sqm, building and 400 sqm, free hold land very good location after new main road only 1,000 meters from shopping center “Jungceylon”. Only 45 million baht from owner direct. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-290 9567. Email: lars.micksater@conhnm.com Website: at www.brommaithaihouse.com

FOR FIRST TIME INVESTORS!
NAVEEN...CLASSIC—A beautiful name, a beautiful brand, and a beautiful opportunity. We are right now seeking investors for the NAVEEEN...CLA S S I C 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 5 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: charlie@naveen development.eu For further details, please see our website at http://www.naveendevelopment.eu

BUSINESS FOR SALE
Rawai beach road. Restaurant with 2-bedroom house, very good location. Tel: 089-646 7176.

ROOFTOP RESTAURANT FOR RENT
on the top floor of Sihnamee 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

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.

RESTAURANT IN KARON BEACH
Front hotel, 11 rooms+restaurant pizzeria. All furnished, 4 year contract. Price 1.7 million baht. Tel: 081-694 7273.

FOR SALE PHUKET KARON BEACH
Small shops in Kamala Beach Plaza, 25m from the beach. Very good opportunity. Low key money at 140,000 baht, 6,000 baht per month. 20 shops total, a first lease. First come, first serve. Tel: 085-158 7383 (English). Email: pierre_hammar@yahoo.se

NEAR BY

LOOKING FOR ACTIVE PARTNER
For restaurant in Kamala, prefer Swedish or German nationality. Call Thomas. Tel: 081-538 5285.

STAFF READY

FREEHOLD KARON BEACH
Located next to a Queen-Air Tour Agency and 7-eleven (opening soon). Rent: 13,000 baht per month plus key money. Email: komkamon22@yahoo.com

MONTHLY (Koh lanta)
Convenient location only 26,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-646 7176. Good location. Tel: 089-646 7176.

BAR FOR SALE
Good location. Tel: 089-646 7176.

FOR SALE PATONG
town. 12,500 baht per month. 240 Rata Road. Tel: 083-250 6521. Email: mk@patong-tours.com Website: development.eu For further information, please see our website at view-talay.com

FOR LEASE
Karon Beach Plaza, 25m from the beach. Very good opportunity. Low key money at 140,000 baht, 6,000 baht per month. 20 shops total, a first lease. First come, first serve. Tel: 085-158 7383 (English). Email: pierre_hammar@yahoo.se

FOR SALE
Khanti local food location & bar for sale or lease, cheap deal want quick sale. Tel: 086-974 3085. Email: kohlanti@hotmail.com

NIGHT-BAR IN NA HARN
For sale Open-air bar/discotheque in Na Harn. Capacity 90 seats. Fully furnished and decorated. Good potential. 3 staff already trained. Satellite TV. Excellent SOUND and LIGHT system for parties - DJ Deck equipped with a Dell Computer 17.4”, a mixing console Yamaha MG82cx 5 channels, Subwoofer Bose Acoustimass. Main Ampli 2 X 250W 3 year guarantee. Excellent location with full view of the Laguna, behind Na Harn Beach. Barbecue corner fully equipped, capacity 40 seats. Open-air bar/discotheque for relaxing but also for weddings or birthday parties, or special request on request. All licences; alcohol, cigarettes, music Thai and foreign. Contract 3 years renewable. Make offer. Tel: 076-283004, 081-163 8166, 086-742 3437. Fax: 076-283004. Email: mar cduncan@hotmail.com

RESTAURANT FOR SALE
Kohlanta in Nai Harn. Tel: 089-646 7176. Business with great sea view for sale or rent. 4 floors, 4 aircon. Rental 60,000 baht. Tel: 080-706 1350.

For a new lifestyle in Phuket? For a small investment of 3 million baht you can own your own bar & restaurant, 5 minutes from the beach! At the main junction of Kata, Rawai, Na Harn. Outside garden, parking area, 2 extra shops to alfresco tables, 3 internal offices, 3 staff for bar, big kitchen completely furnished, 50 seats, bar lighting, dining area, terrace, etc. Tel: 089-725694 (English), 086-745 3359. Email: delatorrejorge@hotmail.com

Library

PLUG IN PHUKET
Prime location, fully furnished bar outside eating, good conditions. Tel: 081-124 8051 Email: mingrestaurant@hotmail.com

OFFICE IN PATONG
A beautiful name, a beautiful brand, and a beautiful opportunity. We are right now seeking investors for the NAVEEEN...CLA S S I C 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 5 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: charlie@naveen development.eu For further details, please see our website at http://www.naveendevelopment.eu

www.phuketvisa.com

WE OFFER CONSULTANT SERVICES TO COMPANY REGISTRATIONS, WORK PERMITS, VISAS, ACCOUNTING, LEGAL ADVICE, etc.

HOTEL FOR LEASE
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PHUKET VISA & BUSINESS

NEED HELP FINDING A LAWYER?
Try PhuketGazette.Net
Wheels & Motors

Saloon Cars

TOYOTA YARIS 2009
* 1 model, automatic, power everything, alarm, CD, mp3 port, spoiler. Only 10,000km, like new. Price 519,000 baht. Tel: 085-614 1641. Email: scubabuddha@hotmail.com

TOYOTA MR2 CABRIOLET 2005
In pristine condition, only 60,000km. Firestone or cash, 1,570,000 baht. Tel: 089-932 5175(English). Email: wojdicow@b.com

HONDA CITY SEDAN
VTEC engine of 2005. In good condition. Quick sale for 440,000 baht. Tel: 076-610407. Email: zhu@junkseilon.com

HONDA ACCORD 2005
2.4-L VTEC. Top model with full options, Honda service, 97,000 km. One expat owner. Price 890,000 baht. Tel: 089-996 2692. Email: ajholivinspt@ gmail.com

BMW 325I
For sale.

Mercedes-Benz

TRONIT GTR
3.2 GLS Limited. 48,000km, green, fully serviced, one owner. Price 575,000 baht. Tel: 081-397 1835.

TOYOTA AVANZA
Automatic, “mini SUV”, registered for 7 people, backed by radar, 74,000km, silver with silver windows, good condition, tax & insurance paid until October 2010. Price: 359,000 baht. Tel: 083-892 9092 (English). Email: mrmralama@hotmail.com

MERCEDES MUSSO
500 Limited. 74,500km. Fully serviced, silver, Price 16,000 baht. Call for more details. Tel: 081-397 1835.

Motorbikes

BMW R1200RT
2009 model, 6,000km. Silver-grey, excellent condition. Comes complete with BMW helmet and personalized number plate (Phuket 1). New 1.2 million baht. Tel: 081-891 3196. Email: mjoneilluk@yahoo.co.uk

CONTRIBUTORS

WANTED

LOOKING TO BUY

HONDA XR OR AX-1
WANTED
Or similar 250cc dirt bike in decent running condition. Cash buyer for reasonably priced bike under 60,000 baht. Tel: 081-894 1994. Email: tom.tekele@gmail.com

MOTORCYCLE TRAILER
Can carry 1 to 3 bikes. Exc. Condition. Contact Mike. Tel: 081-787 1752. Email: mjoeneluk@yahoo.co.uk

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.

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