

# Phuket Gazette

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**INSIDE**

**Exclusive!**



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## Surgeons hit back

**Phuket hospitals defend themselves after Australian Medical Association warning**

**P**HUKET surgeons have rushed to defend the quality of their work after the Australian Medical Association warned against cosmetic surgery tourism to the island.

Following the launch of a Gold Coast business offering surgical holidays on the island, Xinhua news agency reported AMA Vice President Steve Hambleton's response: "holidays and surgery should not mix."

"The cost savings should be weighed up against increased risk and a lack of recourse should something go wrong," he added.

But doctors at the island's two biggest surgery providers, Bangkok Hospital Phuket and Phuket International Hospital (PIH), insisted standards here were as good as those in Australia.

PIH International Service Manager Peter Davison, himself an Australian, was emphatic. "The statements made by the AMA are totally incorrect when it comes to Phuket."

Standards at PIH were the equal of what was available in Australia, he said.

"I think the statement is very similar to the travel advisories that the Australian government gives out, where it is just a very broad open statement for all Australians to reconsider their travel to Thailand, when Phuket has been quite safe," he said.

The main reason Phuket hospitals were able to offer surgery much more cheaply was that "the surgeons are not charging exorbitant and ridiculous fees," he said.

*Continued on page 2*



Photo: Elizabeth Branca

## Golden age in Phuket

**Phuket's center for homeless seniors performs modern-day miracles by feeding its residents on a meager average of just 34 baht a day per person. Full story page 8.**

## Pedophile's trip to Phuket under scrutiny

**T**HE BRITISH Embassy is checking the background of a UK man convicted on child pornography charges and planning to travel to Phuket to marry a Thai girl, the Phuket Immigration chief says.

News that UK national Craig Meehan was planning a trip to Phuket was first reported by the UK's *News Of The World* website.

Mr Meehan is now obsessed with a 24-year-old Thai he met online, the report said. The woman, who lives with her four-year-old twin nieces, is believed to know nothing of his past.

According to the report, the "vile" Mr Meehan was jailed for 20 weeks in 2008 for 11 counts of possessing child porn.

Mr Meehan, 24, is reportedly living in a safe house in the UK to protect him from public anger over his presumed role in the kidnapping of his nine-year-old stepdaughter, Shannon Matthews.

As he is now out on parole, British authorities are powerless to stop Mr Meehan from traveling abroad. His travel plans include marrying the woman in Thailand and eventually returning with her to the UK to live, it was reported.

Phuket Immigration Superintendent Col Panuwat Ruamrak was unaware of the story until contacted by the *Phuket Gazette* for comment on May 31.

Col Panuwat has contacted the British embassy to investigate Mr Meehan through official police channels to see if there are any outstanding warrants on him or if his name is included in any UK or international blacklists.

Immigration will also try to gather information about Mr Meehan's travel plans and intended length of stay, he said.

The decision on whether to allow him to enter the country will

only be made after a thorough review of the information obtained, he said.

Immigration is free to deny entry to the country to anyone appearing at a border checkpoint, even if they are in possession of a valid visa and other travel documents.

Col Panuwat said there were currently no plans to find or inform the woman of Mr Meehan's past.

Her picture was carried in the original report with her eyes digitally obscured with a black rectangle.

— *Atchaa Khamlo*

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# Thief 'nagged into crime'

**A** MAN arrested for stealing a masseuse's bag in Karon told police that his wife's constant complaining drove him to commit the crime.

Chalong Police at 5pm on May 26 arrested Sittha Rattanaphan, 36, at the Andaman Seaview Hotel in Karon, seizing as evidence a Honda motorbike and a brown bag containing 200 baht in cash, a mobile phone, an ATM card and important personal documents.

The items belonged to 49-year-old masseuse Kallaya Muangwichian, an employee of the Family Massage shop.

During questioning, Mr Sittha, from Nakhon Sri Thammarat, told police that he worked helping his wife sell food at a shop next to the Nuanrat Gold Shop in Karon.

Tired of his wife's constant

complaining, he drove off on his motorbike to get a massage, he told police.

He was welcomed at Family Massage by Ms Kallaya, but told her he had to "wait for his wife" before the massage could begin.

When Ms Kallaya's attention was diverted, he grabbed her bag, jumped on his bike and sped off.

Ms Kallaya pursued him on her own motorbike, screaming for assistance.

At the intersection of the beach road and Luang Por Chuan Road in Karon, two young men on another motorbike who had joined the pursuit cut off Mr Sittha and kicked his bike over.

Mr Sittha fled inside the nearby Andaman Seaview Hotel, where he was later caught hiding beneath a staircase in the laundry area.

He later confessed to the



The victim identifies Sittha Rattanaphan at Chalong Police Station.

crime, telling police that his anger over his wife's constant complaining had driven him to commit the crime.

The reaction of Mr Sittha's wife to news of her husband's arrest was not reported.

- Gazette reporter

## Cosmetic surgery

Continued from page 1

Australians made up about 60% of PIH's foreign cosmetic surgery patients, he said.

Mr Davison denied the AMA's claim that when Australian patients returned home from surgery in Phuket there was no support for them.

PIH had doctors in Australia ready to look after patients post-operatively, he said.

Dr Witoon Wisuthseriwong of Bangkok Hospital Phuket said all surgeons offering cosmetic surgery there were fully-certified specialists.

"The cost of plastic surgery is less than abroad because living costs here are cheaper," he said.

A face-lift in Phuket costs about 300,000 baht. The same procedure typically costs from 800,000 to 1 million baht, he said.

"If foreigners come to get plastic surgery here and live in the beautiful resorts for two weeks they still have some money left, compared with their own countries. This point gives us an advantage," he said.

Before going under the knife at Bangkok Hospital for breast augmentation, 40-year-old Australian Shelly Treasure told the Gazette she came to Phuket following word-of-mouth advice.

"You come here, you get treated well, the doctors are lovely and you tell your friends," she said, explaining that she knew many Australian women who had undergone the same treatment at Bangkok Hospital.

"The doctor has explained the procedure and up to this point I feel really good," she said.

"This is the first time I've come to Phuket and it's gorgeous," she said. "I'm loving it because not only am I getting a breast augmentation, I am on a four-day holiday, so it's perfect."

Around 1,000 Australians come for plastic surgery at Bangkok Hospital every year, Dr Witoon said.

As well as the two hospitals, at least 10 clinics in Phuket offer cosmetic surgery.

- Atchaa Khamlo

## Rainy season starts, but drought goes on

**D**ESPITE the onset of the monsoon season, some parts of Phuket continued to face water shortages throughout May.

Sun Jantarawong, who heads the Phuket Office of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM-Phuket), said parts of Thalang including Mai Khao, Sakho, Pa Khlok and Thepkasatri continued to suffer from lack of water last month.

"Luckily local administrations had good water management for their people. I think they will be better off now," he said.

According to Meteorological Department statistics, total rainfall from May 1 to 30 at the Phuket Town monitoring station was down 208.9mm compared to all of May 2009.

May 2009 had total rainfall of 288.5 millimeters, compared to



Levels are low at Bangwad Reservoir in Kathu.

just 79.6mm recorded over the first 30 days of May 2010.

For the 30-year period from 1971-2000, mean monthly rainfall at the Phuket Town station was 282.6mm.

For the same period at

Phuket Airport, mean monthly rainfall was 291.4mm.

As of June 1, year-to-date rainfall amounts at the Phuket Town and Phuket Airport stations were 386.4mm and 520.9mm, respectively.

Of the Meteorological Department's eight monitoring stations along the Andaman Coast, Satun Province has been the rainiest with 735.4mm, while the station on Koh Lanta in Krabi has recorded just 186.0mm.

An officer at the Phuket Town monitoring station who asked to remain anonymous suggested the 'El Nino effect' might be responsible for the late arrival of heavy rains this year.

Storage at the Bangwad Reservoir in Kathu dropped from 2.8 million cubic meters at the end of April to just 1.9 million cubic meters by the end of May, said Phuket Provincial Irrigation Office (PPIO) director Weerawat Aungsupanith.

The current amount is enough to last about one more month without replenishment, he said.

- Sitthipong Nongkaew

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## Princess tours island

HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn paid an official visit to Phuket on May 27. First she presided over the dedication of a monument to the Princess Mother at Chalermprakiat Somdejprasrinarin Phuket School in Saphan Hin. The princess moved on to the nearby offices of the Phuket Red Cross, where she is pictured here, and the Red Cross Regional Blood Bank. She then presided over a seminar on Baba-Peranakan culture at the Royal Phuket City Hotel before flying off by helicopter to continue her tour of the region in Krabi.

# Cops nab former Muay Thai star

**F**ORMER Muay Thai star Chaisiri Boonman, better known by his ring name Kwan-ngen Chokeladda, was one of two men arrested on May 28 for allegedly committing roadside robberies in Phuket.

The arrests were announced by Chalong Police Superintendent Wichit Intorrasorn at a press conference at Chalong Police Station 6:30pm the same day.

At the press conference, police presented Arnon Kongnoon, 21, from Satun, and Mr Chaisiri, 21, from Krabi.

Mr Chaisiri had more than 100 fights against top-level opponents at both Lumpini and Ratchadamnoen stadiums in Bangkok before an injury forced him into an early retirement.

According to police, in performing the robberies, Mr Chaisiri drove a motorbike with Mr Arnon riding pillion and snatching valuables from unsuspecting members of the public, usually women.

The men were arrested after Rattikarn Kahapana reported



**KNOCKED OUT:** Retired Muay Thai star Kwan-ngen Chokeladda (blue shirt) and his accomplice at Chalong Police Station.

to police at 2am on May 28 that her shoulder bag, containing a mobile phone, cash and important personal documents, had been snatched from her by two men on a motorbike near Safari Pub at the southern end of Patong.

Half an hour later, Sudarat Mupila, 25, from Nongkhai, also reported being robbed by two men on a motorbike near the entrance

to Le Meridien resort complex.

When police tried to stop the pair at a checkpoint near Baan Kata School, they refused to pull over and sped off. Police gave chase. The pair were arrested after crashing near Chalong Circle.

Both confessed to committing many robberies in Phuket, police said.

— Gazette reporter

## Number of registered alien workers plummets in Phuket

**P**HUKET is facing a shortage of alien labor after the number of registered alien workers requesting extensions of their permits fell 15,166 this year, according to official figures.

The Phuket Provincial Employment Office (PPEO) said only 49,017 out of 64,183 registered workers from Burma, Laos and Cambodia extended their work permits.

The vast majority of these, 99% or 48,661 people, were Burmese. There were also 326 Lao-tian and 30 Cambodians who extended under the program.

Workers from these three countries are grouped separately from others by the PPEO, as most do not hold passports issued from their home countries.

Official sources estimate there could be as many as 100,000 low-wage workers from neighboring countries working on the island.

In a move to legalize more of them, those who can prove they are from Burma, Laos or Cambodia are able to register as legal workers.

If they do, they are allowed to work for up to two years, but must renew their worker ID cards annually.

The decline in the number seeking work permit extensions shows there may have been problems with workers obtaining identification in their home countries.

Some are believed to have returned home, while others have remained working illegally in Phuket, where trucks packed with Burmese and ethnic Mon workers are a common sight on roads.

Phuket Immigration Superintendent Phanuwat Ruamrak told the Gazette that from October last year, Phuket Immigration deported around 5,000 illegal workers, 90% of whom came from Burma.

Phuket is not the only province in Immigration Police Region 6 to have a problem with unregistered alien workers.

"Our numbers are still lower than Songkhla and Surat Thani provinces," he said.

"I can't tell what happened with the missing numbers; maybe they went home, or perhaps they are still working here. We will continue to search for illegal alien workers."

"I have spoken to employers in Phuket and found that we still need more alien workers, who tend to work hard for less pay than Thai workers. They usually take only one day off a year as well," he said.

Statistics released by the PPEO show that this year 7,472 employers registered with them. They requested 120,000 workers for their businesses.

— Kitima Pornmongkhonwat

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# Phuket planning Expo 2020 bid

**P**HUKET is planning an ambitious bid to host World Expo 2020, though there are questions over whether the island's infrastructure is up to the task.

Speaking at a Phuket Provincial Hall meeting on May 24, Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop assured government officers and private sector representatives that Phuket would make the grade.

"The international convention center, the new Sarasin Bridge, the monorail network and the Patong Tunnel will be complete by the time World Expo 2020 begins for sure," he said.

At the behest of the Thailand Convention and Exhibition Bureau, a public organization dedicated to promoting the country as a host for meetings and conventions, the Interior Ministry is searching for a province to host the 2020 showcase.

Chiang Mai and Pattaya are also understood to be in the running.

Once a province is chosen, a formal bid will be submitted to Bureau International des Expositions (BIE), which manages the World Expo program.

Gov Wichai believes Phuket



An aerial view of Expo 2008 in Zaragoza, Spain. Could Phuket see something similar in 2020?

meets BIE's criteria for hosting a World Expo.

First, the event must take place on an area of between 1,000 and 15,000 rai.

Gov Wichai said there was a lot of spare land in the northern part of the island which was suitable for hosting the event.

Second, the host city must have an international airport or be situated less than 250 kilometers from one.

"We have Phuket International Airport, which will be developed to support up to 12 million tourists per year within five years," Gov Wichai said.

Third, the venue must have modern infrastructure and mass transportation suitable for a large number of visitors.

Fourth, the province has to have enough accommodation, including three-, four-, and five-star hotels, to support tourists coming to the event.

Fifth, the province must be able to become a hub for conventions, exhibitions and international meetings after the event finishes.

"No problem with this rule," said Gov Wichai. "Now many international meetings are held in Phuket. In the next few months a group of Indian entrepreneurs will have their meeting here. That's just an example."

Finally, the host city must have a unique culture and distinctive tourist attractions.

"Phuket is a combination of outstanding Peranakan culture and beautiful marine sites. From Phuket, tourists can go to sites in Phang Nga and Krabi as well, Gov Wichai said.

Patong Deputy Mayor Chairat Sukhaban said he had attended the 2005 World Expo in Aichi, Japan, where they had created a fake forest entirely for the exhibition.

"Phuket has real mangrove forests – no need to mock one up. The forests give Phuket an advantage over other competitors," he said.

The 2010 World Expo is currently underway in Shanghai, China.

– Pimwara Choksakulpan

## Cops probe bypass smash

**P**OLICE are still investigating a hit-and-run accident that left a man dead on the bypass road on May 28.

Phuket City Police duty officer Lt Teerawat Amnatcharoenying identified the victim as Wittaya Sapsong, 35, whose body was found at 7:30pm on the south-bound side of the bypass road in Koh Kaew, between the Bypass Seafood restaurant and the entrance to Premium Outlet Mall.

He had died of massive head trauma.

Lt Teerawat said he did not have any eyewitness accounts of the accident but was studying CCTV footage to establish what sort of vehicle was involved.

A Kusoldharm Foundation

worker said a truck with a leaking fuel line had been parked in the area at the time, but an inspection of the accident site failed to uncover any signs of fuel and there was no way to corroborate the claim, he said.

"I am not sure what kind of vehicle was involved, but given the damage to the motorcycle and the condition of the body. I assumed it must have been big, probably a 10-wheeled truck," he said.

"Had it been a normal passenger car, there would have been fragments of it left behind at the scene from the impact, but that was not the case," he added.

Mr Wittaya's body was taken to Vachira Phuket Hospital.

– Pimwara Choksakulpan

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Pheu Thai MP and red-shirt leader Jatuporn Prompan speaks to the press before a House of Representatives censure debate on May 28.

## Queer News

# Giant bees attack kids

PATHUM THANI: More than 70 schoolchildren and their teachers were injured, six seriously, when they were attacked by a swarm of giant honey bees while performing a ritual to mark Visakha Bucha day.

The group were on the second lap around Wat Suwanchindaram in Latlumkaow District when the swarm engulfed them.

Around 200 kindergarten and primary school students fled the temple chased by the angry insects.

The injured were taken to Pathum Thani Hospital for treatment. Five pupils and one teacher were seriously hurt by the stings.

The stings are potentially fatal and a number of deaths are recorded every year in Thailand.

Khanchit Hiranhat, deputy director of Pathum Thani Education Region 1, said he believed the bees swarmed after their nest was engulfed in smoke from all the incense being burnt at the temple.

Source: Khao Sod

# Snap poll unlikely

BANGKOK: Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva said on May 29 that it would be difficult to hold an election this year because of the destructive riots that climaxed on May 19.

The government needed to restore peace and implement its reconciliation program before holding the poll, Mr Abhisit said.

However, the premier did not give any new timetable for the elections.

Prior to the riots, he offered to dissolve Parliament in the second half of September and call an election on November 14 as part of the reconciliation program.

During a May 29 meeting with Bangkok-based foreign dip-



PM Abhisit Vejjajiva. File Photo

lomats and representatives of international organizations and chambers of commerce, Mr Abhisit said it remained necessary to use the emergency decree to run the country.

However, the government the same day lifted the night curfew in Bangkok and 23 provinces, imposed on May 19.

Officials from the Joint Foreign Chamber of Commerce in Thailand said the recent riots had not hurt the export sector, but new investment projects were hit and it would take time to restore foreign investors' confidence.

International businessmen in Thailand also expressed concerns about the execution of reconciliation plans, as well as the transparency of criminal investigations into those involved in the May 19 riots and arson attacks.

The premier urged foreign diplomats from 76 countries and representatives of international organizations to help restore Thailand's image abroad by clarifying what had happened.

Source: The Nation

# Gunmen steal Bt2.4mn from expat

SURAT THANI: Masked gunmen stole 2.4 million baht in cash from a Russian expat in the early hours of May 29.

Olek Drobisef, 40, said he withdrew the money the previous day to make payment on a house he was buying in the Santi Thani development in Tambon Mae Nam.

Mr Drobisef said two men in black masks burst into his house around 3am. One held a pistol to his head while the other grabbed his laptop bag containing the cash.

The two men then ran out to the car park followed by Mr Drobisef, who called for help from his neighbor, the owner of

the Santi Thani development.

One of the robbers fired a warning shot into the air before escaping in a taxi, Mr Drobisef said.

The taxi looked very similar to the one he had taken to the bank the previous day to withdraw the money, he said.

Source: Khao Sod

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B. Alan Wallace is a dynamic lecturer, progressive scholar, and one of the most prolific writers and translators of Tibetan Buddhism in the West. Alan has taught Buddhist meditation and philosophy worldwide since 1976 and has served as interpreter for numerous Tibetan scholars and contemplatives, including H.H. the Dalai Lama. After earning his undergraduate degree in physics and the philosophy of science at Amherst College in 1987, he went on to earn his Ph.D. in religious studies at Stanford University in 1995. He is the Chairman of the Phuket International Academy Mind Centre (PIAMC) in Phuket, where he leads intensive, eight-week meditation retreats and shorter weekend retreats. Also the Founder and President of the Santa Barbara Institute for Consciousness Studies.



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Gam The Star (back center) and her sister Jinapak Peaklin with three of her fans at Bangkok Hospital Phuket. Photo by Thanasorn Chookate

## Bangkok Hospital Phuket celebrates 15th anniversary

**B**ANGKOK Hospital Phuket is winding up its "Be Healthy Fair" on June 6 as part of their 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations.

Some of the events included a press conference by Hospital Director Dr Kongkiat Kespechara, free blood sugar testing, a ceremony opening by Phuket Vice-Governor Theerayut Eiamtrakool and a fashion show of

yaya, the traditional dress style of ethnic Chinese along the Malay Peninsula.

There was also an opportunity for good samaritans to donate blood to the Red Cross.

Entertainment included a mini-concert by "Gam The Star" and a traditional Thai puppet show. On June 5, there will be a demonstration on new Botox techniques from Korea.

# PCF hands out first grants for projects



PCF Vice-President Alasdair Forbes (left) with other PCF members and some of the lucky recipients of the PCF grants at a handover ceremony in Rawai recently. Photo courtesy of PCF

**P**HUKET Community Foundation (PCF) held its first grant handover ceremony in Rawai on May 22, following the decision to run a small grant program that attracted applications from 28 local businesses looking for a helping hand.

The requested funds added up to over 1.8 million baht to address such needs as making bread, making cloth dolls, renovating a beauty salon and providing foot massage beds for a community massage service.

The ceremony, held at Almanah Saving Group in Rawai, where seven of the projects are located, saw PCF President Assistant Professor Pranee Sakulpipatana and other PCF board members present the grants to the respective project leaders.

The PCF grant committee chose 11 organizations that met the grant criteria, which aims to provide support for projects that

benefit society and that no individual would profit from the grants.

"We were delighted with the quality of most of the applications and very happy to be able to support these projects" said PCF Vice-President Alasdair Forbes.

In most of the cases where funding was denied, the applicants asked for funds to cover ongoing costs, whereas the criteria for the PCF program limits grants to projects that must be completed within a year of the funds being received.

While some projects were granted only partial funding, the PCF is to assist the applicants with sourcing additional funding elsewhere. In some cases, contributions requested were in the form of expertise or advice, or simply a donation of time.

Among those who have had grants approved so far is Sinap Yukuntorn, head of the Cold Compressed Coconut Oil Group.

He requested 9,800 baht to buy a new fridge so he could keep more of the coconut oil they produce in cold storage.

However, the new fridge cost only 9,700 baht, and Mr Sinap, a man of his word, returned the extra 100 baht to the PCF.

The Herbs Drinks Group in Rawai received 8,500 baht to buy equipment to boost productivity, standardize and improve the quality of their products, and to design labels.

Kala Rawai Group are using their 15,000-baht PCF grant to buy an air compressor to speed up the lacquer-drying process in making their products.

They also plan to hold training courses for their own staff to improve the quality of the coconut shell products they produce. A second handover ceremony was held on June 2 in Kamala, where three newly formed occupation groups received their grants.

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# Currying favor with expats

WHEREAS going out for a curry in Great Britain was once considered an ethnic dining experience, here in Phuket, where exotic curries abound, going out for an Indian curry is ironically the equivalent of seeking some comfort food from home.

Indeed since the late 1990s, chicken tikka masala has been referred to as a "true British national dish" and just mentioning mutton vindaloo to a some British subjects will often get a Pavlovian mouth-watering reaction.

This may go a long way to explaining the success of the Navrang Mahal restaurant situated in the Karon Sea Sands Resort & Spa at Karon Beach.

The restaurant is open seven days a week, but recently introduced a Friday curry buffet night to entice Phuket's expats back to eating authentic Indian fare.

General Manager Seemant Raju confirmed that this was their target market when they launched the 'Curry Fridays' idea in May and, as an Indian curry fan myself, I can only concur that it was a good idea.

Priced at only 399 baht net, the buffet consists of some of the finest Indian food I have tasted on the island.

It is no surprise therefore to learn that this Navrang Mahal restaurant is twinned with the popular Navrang Mahal restaurant in Patong that has been serving authentic Indian cuisine, in the Royal Mughal style, since 1994.

Authentic is a word that best describes the food here, as well. The chefs are actually from India and although they specialize in North Indian cuisine, there are dishes from the south, such as the vindaloo, which originates from Goa and although not popular in most of India, is relished in the UK.

Mr Raju was quick to point out that even the vindaloo was authentic and made without potatoes.

"Traditional vindaloos do not actually include potatoes, the discrepancy arises because the word 'aloo' means 'potato' in Hindi," he said.

The only difference here was that the meat chosen was mutton and not pork.

He warned me that it was very spicy and as I tucked into the first cinnamon scented and fiery mouthful, the talented three-piece Filipino band who go under the imaginative name 'Trio Live Band' started playing the Johnny Cash classic *Ring of Fire*. How apt, I thought.

One advantage of a buffet is that one can sample all the food at one sitting. Apart from mutton vindaloo and the ubiquitous chicken tikka masala, there were vegetable or chicken samosas, Murg Malai Kebab, Aloo Chat (yes, potato in that one), Chana Masala, Mattar Paneer, Yellow Dal Tadka, vegetable Jalfreji and salads, Papad, nan bread and basmati rice to soak it all up with.

The buffet was plentiful and was replaced often on account of the well-behaved rugby players at the next table, who were on the island for the 12th Overgaard Phuket International Rugby 10s.

They looked as if they were no strangers to the joys of a fiery curry washed down with beer.

In true British tradition, the best beverage to put out the fire is beer, and here draft Chang sells for only 50 baht net.

There are also wines available at reasonable prices and as much mango or sweet *lassi* as you want.

On the subject of sweet, a special mention should go to the delicious and delicate dessert Rasmalai.

Handmade from soufflé d cottage cheese, pistachio nuts, saffron, cardamon and sweet milk, it was a wonderful end to a wonderful meal that left us satiated and reeking of delicious herbs and spices.

The next morning, I found myself singing *Ring of Fire*.

— Marc Mulloy



Top right: Head Chef Anil Rawat and General Manager Seemant Raju.

Navrang Mahal Indian Restaurant is located in the Karon Sea Sands Resort & Spa on Karon Beach.

It is open every day from 12 pm to 3pm and from 6:30 pm to 11 pm.

Curry Fridays are every second and fourth Friday of the month from 7-11pm.

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IN MAY, 20-year-old student Samart Sensai started his second summer internship at the Social Development and Welfare for Elderly Persons Center (SDWEPC) in Pa Khlok.

Most young university students eye up Phuket summer internships hoping for a spot at a swanky beach resort, but not this third-year public relations major from Bangkok's Sripatum University. Born in Baan Bang Rong, Samart knew he would return to his hometown during the summer to support the SDWEPC and its elderly residents, all of whom he has come to admire.

It is the spirit of *boon khun*, or 'moral obligation', that fuels his commitment.

With family being the cornerstone of Thai culture, *boon khun* plays its part, just as parents are obligated to care for their children, when the parents grow old, the onus is on the younger generation to care for their elders. The assumption being, when a parent is not longer able to work due to age or sickness, the family will provide for their own, responsible for their venerable relatives' welfare.

Sadly, for some of Phuket's aged, there is no-one to provide care for them in their golden years. In 1994, the Social Development and Welfare for Elderly Persons Center, Phuket Province (SDWEP) was opened by the Department of Public Welfare to provide care for homeless and abandoned elderly.

With Thailand's burgeoning economy and a more mobilized workforce, the fear is that younger people are increasingly not concerned about upholding *boon khun* or caring for the elders who once cared for them.

According to Global Action on Aging, people older than 60 accounted for 11% of Thailand's population in 2007. With both a projected increase of elderly to 17% by 2020 and the country's changing social mores, the number of displaced or homeless seniors can be expected to increase even further.

Nichapa Donkumnerd of the Phuket Public Health Office points out that Phuket's elderly, at 14% of the island's population,



## Boon khun

### Phuket's commitment to senior care

**A GOLDEN AGE DESPITE THE ODDS:** At 94, Lamdap Sittikarn (top, left) is the oldest resident at the Social Development and Welfare for Elderly Persons Center in Pa Khlok. Although classified by the government as 'abandoned' and 'homeless', these seniors' smiles convey their dignity. Photos: Elizabeth Branca



is slightly larger than the national average. Mr Nichapa's office handles elderly health issues, serving 24,858 registered citizens 60 years old or older. It is one of three government organizations on the island that handles social welfare programs for the elderly.

Of their yearly budget of five million baht from the government, the SDWEP provides food, health care and shelter for its 74 residents.

Three million baht is allocated to food, providing three meals a day for each resident at the center, which translates to a food budget of 34 baht per day per person. On such a minuscule amount, it is astounding that the

center delivers such an outstanding standard of care.

For many, the connotative meaning of a state-run 'old people's home' stirs images of sorrowful old skeletons shuffling about in a Thorazine malaise. However, residents at the center are anything but wretched.

Once officially recognized as abandoned or homeless, the elderly candidates are welcomed into their new community by the center's 26-strong staff and monitored by on-site nurse, Naruemon Raksawong.

Herself 63 years old, Naruemon had been a registered nurse for over 30 years. She came to the home three years

ago, and remarks, "I am as old as many of the people I care for, so I feel like I work with many old friends."

Nurse Naruemon knows the history of each of her patients and lives on premise to ensure full-time health care.

"We divide the residents into three categories, according to health and mobility. Most of them are very lively and social, participating in a variety of activities available here," she adds.

The few immobilized residents are never far from friends. Each of the seven buildings belonging to the small seaside campus is connected by a hand-railed walkway and

wheelchair accessible ramps.

An airy canteen and kitchen, encapsulated by a sprawling garden, serves as the main building, affording alfresco lunches to be served in style.

The property also houses a conference center, activities sala and four 20-bed sleeping dorms.

Each building's charming Thai-style design gives it a bright, clean feel, replete with a dozen or more well-fed dogs lounging idle around the property.

There are no dark corners, dingy barracks or locked foreboding rooms, but rather a pleasant and welcoming space: itself proof positive in the residents vibrant demeanor. There is no sense of shame or dejection here; their dignity palpable.

Nurse Naruemon, along with the other staff members, enjoys introducing the residents to visitors, discretely sharing parts of their personal stories.

The oldest resident, Lamdap Sittikarn, is 94, but still enjoys paying social visits to prostrate friends throughout the compound.

Banyat Watcharothai, 82, has been at the home for 14 years and is the center's longest-term resident. Both Banyat and her friend 'Mrs Right' speak fluent English. As former teachers, they now enjoy chatting to the occasional western visitor.

To augment their budget, the center often holds fund-raising events, and also accepts donations of food and clothing year-round. Conversation with a visitor is the most prized gift for all the residents, but if you cannot donate your time, a box of cookies or other treats are also appreciated.

The center will be holding a 'fun-raising' event on June 14 with the residents hosting their own karaoke-style singing competition with 500 baht as first prize. Open to the public, all are hopeful Phuket residents will come out to support their talent.

As for Samart, who organized the singing competition, he believes it is a great opportunity for the local community to meet the center's lovely residents and embrace the Thai spirit of *boon khun*.

— Elizabeth Branca and Pimwara Choksakulpan



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**T**WO Swedes who skated almost 5,000 kilometers from Chiang Mai to Singapore rolled into their final destination on May 16, a little tired and sporting cuts and bruises, but elated to have raised thousands of baht for charity.

For the past four months, teachers Jim Petersson, 25, and his girlfriend Maria Larsson, 29, have veered off the edge of highways in northern Thailand, steered clear of violent clashes in the capital, endured heat exhaustion and dodged loitering elephants on their international skate.

The pair skated through 21 Thai provinces after leaving from Chiang Mai on January 16.

They stopped off in Phuket before navigating their way down to Penang on the east coast of Malaysia. It took them less than two months to make it down the length of Malaysia, and they arrived in Singapore two weeks ahead of schedule.

Skating between 30 and 90 kilometers a day, Jim rode a long board skateboard and Maria was strapped into rollerblades.

The longest distance travelled in a day was 100 kilometers from Mersing to Kota Tinggi in Malaysia's South. "We sped through Malaysia as fast as we could," Petersson said.

"We wanted to beat our two month schedule, reach Singapore and then get back to Thailand for a holiday before flying home."

By May 22, they were back in Samui and are currently planning to head home to Sweden on June 11. "We made it and are now taking a well earned holiday," Jim said.

"We have cuts and bruises, our feet are throbbing, and we are exhausted, but we feel relieved to have finished our journey."

The pair, who work with special needs children, took on their epic journey to raise funds for the Swedish Childhood Cancer Foundation.

Although they managed to raise a hefty 100,000 baht, the couple are now planning another skate this summer from Germany to Italy to reach their initial target of 200,000 baht.

Jim said they felt it was their duty to raise awareness and funds for the charity.

"Since the foundation started its research in 1982, three



**SUN SETS ON AN EPIC SKATE:** Jim Petersson with his skateboard on Koh Lanata (above). Jim and his girlfriend Maria Larsson arriving in Singapore on May 22 after completing a 5,000 kilometer journey that began in Chiang Mai (right).



out of four children with cancer have survived. We want to be a part of saving the fourth," he said.

Less than a year ago, Jim had never ridden a skateboard. Today, more than 8,000 Facebook fans follow his skating movements and he is confident he can continue to break even more skating records. This is the first time anyone has skated the Chiang Mai to Singapore route, but it is by no means the longest distance ever skated.

According to the Guinness Book of Records, the World Record for distance skating is held by New Zealander Rob Thomson, who skateboarded 12,000km across the USA, Europe and China.

Jim said his training for the trip involved 100 kilometer skates from his home in Eringsboda to his girlfriend's hometown of Kristianstad in southern Sweden.

With no support vehicle for their journey, the pair had to travel light, carrying only three changes of clothes, a towel, a camera, a laptop and Jim's medications for his allergies to curry, nuts, beans and peas.

Sleeping in guesthouses along the way, the pair said they were indebted to locals who helped find them accommodation in Thailand and Malaysia.

Sponsors from Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore and Sweden helped make the skate possible, by providing flights, some accommodation and equipment.

Phuket sponsors included CC Blooms guesthouse in Kata

and Scuba Cat in Patong.

Highlights of their trip included sipping tea made from 1,800 year-old leaves at a Chinese tea party in Penang, watching a family of wild elephants running down a

highway in northern Malaysia and savoring beer sorbet in Singapore.

For further information, visit [mrjimonlongboard.blogspot.com](http://mrjimonlongboard.blogspot.com) or [www.mrjimonlongboard.com](http://www.mrjimonlongboard.com).

— Fraser Morton

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# Boy George breaks beats in Phuket

**B**RITISH pop icon turned DJ Boy George popped into Phuket last week, spending a couple of days touring the island, and a couple of hours performing at Seduction Discotheque in Patong on Wednesday night. His first time in Thailand, George said he was very much enjoying life in one of the luxury villas at Ayara Hilltops Resort & Spa overlooking Surin Beach, although he admitted to “mostly hiding from the heat”.

“I melt for my art,” he quipped, as beads of perspiration appeared and threatened to ruin his white-powdered face and artistically applied makeup. The cosmetics included a black lightning bolt down the left side of his face, while a neon pink high-top trilby embellished with a red sequin skull and crossbones on the side topped off his appearance.

“This is by an Irish designer called Phillip Treacy. It’s probably the only thing I really spend any money on. Everything else is very threadbare and cheap,” he said.

Boy George’s flamboyant, androgynous style of dress – always topped off with a hat – quickly became his trademark in the 1980s, and he still perpetuates it today.

“I travel with only one hat these days, because the last time I traveled with lots of hats (each in a separate box) they kept getting lost. On the last tour I did, literally, lose my luggage five times. It gets to the point where it’s easier just to bring one and wear it all the time,” he said.

Born George Alan O’Dowd in 1961, the singer-songwriter shot to fame in the ’80s as lead singer of Culture Club with the hit song, *Do you really want to hurt me?*, which reached number one in several countries.

Since his ’80s success and departure from Culture Club to



Eighties pop icon Boy George spun the decks at Seduction Discotheque in Patong in a much anticipated night out on May 26. The ‘Karma Chameleon’ enjoyed his stay in a luxury villa at Ayara Hilltops Resort & Spa, but was quoted admitting he “mostly hid from the heat” while he was here. Photo courtesy of Angel Eyes Image.

follow a solo career, Boy George has become a brand name in its own right, which George has continually worked at keeping alive through a dedicated fan base following his prolific creative career, which includes fashion design and other artistic escapades.

These days, George alternates between singing and being a DJ. After his current DJ tour, George is set to immediately begin another singing tour in Europe.

“I’m lucky that I have a job I enjoy,” he said. “My set tonight is kind of a party set. When you’re playing somewhere hot, it’s good to play things people know, but there will be a few surprises.

“DJing is obviously differ-

ent to singing. With singing you can take people through lots of emotions, but when you’re DJing, people want to have a good time. You can’t really make people cry in a club. It’s more about putting them on a high...

“You have to love music to be a good DJ. You can’t just do it for the sake of doing it. I’ve been doing it for 17 years and I still love it, otherwise I wouldn’t be doing it – I certainly wouldn’t be sitting here in Thailand in full drag if I didn’t really enjoy my job, you know?”

Looking back on how he started his DJ career, he said, “DJing and singing are two careers, really. I just started doing

DJing as a bit of a joke – a bit of fun. I was playing in a chill out room for some friends who wanted someone to play old records. After that, I got more offers of work, so I decided I’d better learn how to DJ. So I’ve been doing it in public for the last 17 years.”

Speaking on the realities of his profession, he added, “I think if you want to maintain a successful career for a long time, you have to keep making compromises. All of my peers, they aren’t necessarily making the records they want to make. They are making the records they have to make, or feel obliged to make. And that’s the difference between them and

me. If something’s a hit, great, but if it isn’t, it doesn’t mean it’s going to stop me from making more records.”

George puts his continued success down to a dedicated fan base, which he keeps in touch with through his website and with regular updates on Twitter.

“I’m really lucky to have a really loyal audience. For example, while I’ve been here, I’ve been emailing this fan for mixes of things I didn’t have.”

With that, George began to make a move to go and entertain the audience waiting patiently at Seduction Discotheque to see what he had in store for his one-night performance.

Despite already being way past fashionably late for his 10pm start at Seduction, George graciously took the time to chat with a few fans, one of whom had managed to dig out one of Boy George’s solo vinyl albums from 1988, *Tense Nervous Headache*, which George happily signed with a big, angular scrawl in black marker pen.

“I’ve loved Culture Club and Boy George since their debut album in 1983. I never thought that I would ever have the chance to meet him, but anything is possible in Phuket. He’s fantastic. A real star,” the fan said.

Boy George is scheduled to perform four pieces of music for a series of Night of the Proms concerts accompanied by a 70-piece symphonic orchestra in Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany from October to December. The star-studded performances will include celebrities such as Sting, Andrea Bocelli, Mike Oldfield, James Brown and Chrissie Hynde.

For the latest updates on the movements of Boy George visit [www.boygeorgeuk.com](http://www.boygeorgeuk.com).

– Nick Davies

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## EXPAT GALLERY

# Muzza Nordstrand & Chantal Fernandes

Muzza and Chantal are a love story made on Phuket. They met on the island in 1999 and married at the Amanpuri in 2001. Today, they are happily married and living near Cherng Talay with their two children, Chiara and Kyle.

Chantal is probably best known for her dynamic personality when she was the Villa Manager at the upscale Amanpuri resort.

"I loved my nine years at the Amanpuri. I began in 1997 in Villa guest services and learned something different all the time. I enjoy dealing with people and solving problems. Of course we had some of the world's most well-traveled and exacting guests, but our motto was 'Every guest must leave happy,' so I worked hard to achieve that."

Chantal spent her years at the Amanpuri making luminaries such as Henry Kissinger comfortable. She was so adept at creating guest satisfaction that she was made Villa Manager, a position she held until 2006, when she decided to move out on her own and become a hospitality consultant.

In the past few years, she's worked on Aman properties in the Turks and Caicos Islands in the Caribbean and at Hoi An in Vietnam. She's also consulted for

Jumeirah, Raimon Land and the Kata Rocks development.

Chantal was born in Uganda, but when she was a young child the family moved to England. After leaving school, she planned to study mathematics and applied physics, but a 1987 tour of India and Southeast Asia inspired a life of adventure rather than academia.

She went to the Red Sea in 1991 and got her PADI open water qualifications, and spent the next six years as a dive instructor and dive master in Egypt, Greece, Venezuela, the Maldives and St Lucia, before coming to work in Phuket as a dive instructor for H2O Sports.

Muzza was born into a family devoted to sailing, in Whangarei, New Zealand. As a child, he was always out on the water, either in a dinghy or a keel boat.

When he left school, he decided to take a four-year apprenticeship learning to fabricate marine covers and sails.

"I spent the next decade sailing and racing yachts. I worked in Perth making sails, raced from Auckland to Fukuoka, and spent the rest of the time delivering yachts to Japan, Tonga and all throughout the Pacific."

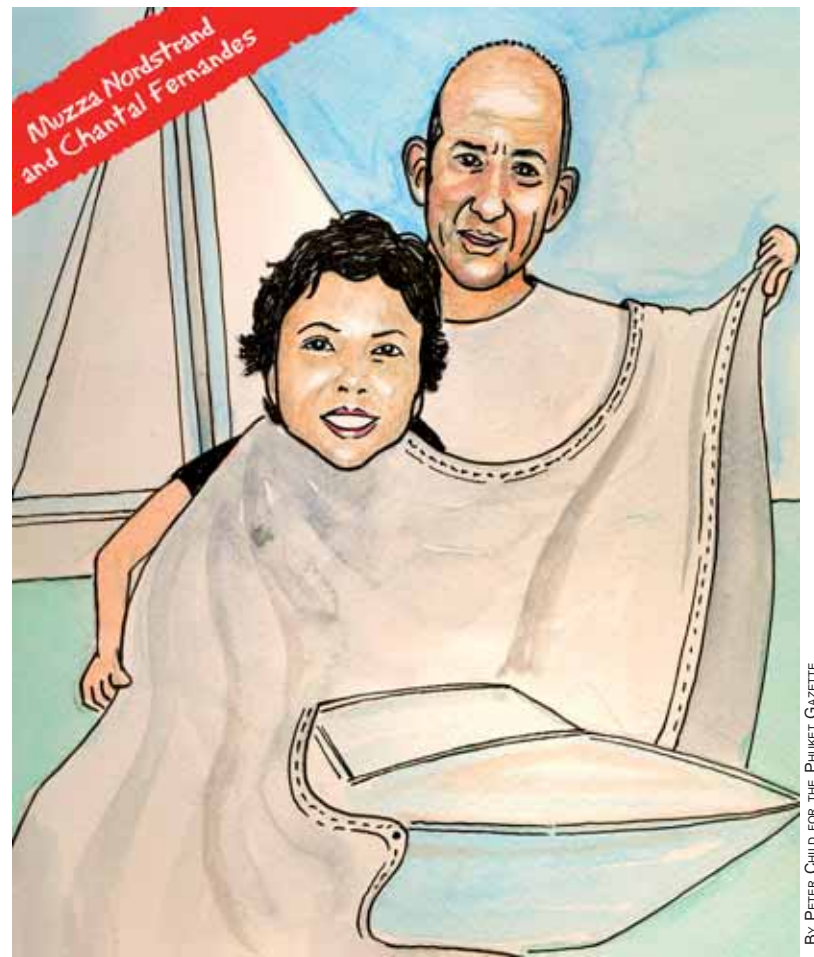
By 1995, Muzza was the skipper of the 80ft yacht *Divine Decadence*, which he brought to Phuket. He decided to stay on the island to explore the dive sites in the region. He joined SE Asia Divers as a skipper on their boats.

He then joined Palm Marine at Chalong Bay where he returned to making sails and marine covers. By 2000, Muzza was ready to set up his own operation, Canvas Creations, at the Boat Lagoon, where he fabricates marine covers for some of the region's most elegant and luxurious yachts, including the *Queen of Andaman* and the *Yanneke Too*.

"I keep a small staff and focus on quality marine covers for the luxury yacht. This allows me to provide the personalized relationship with the customer that I enjoy. Phuket is attracting larger and more luxurious yachts where the exposed wood and the crew and guests need protection from the elements. Our attractive, customized canvas marine covers provide that function."

Canvas Creations just celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> year of operations. While Muzza is happy to keep his company working with its current volume of business, Chantal, who has been taking a break to spend her time with their two young children, is anticipating a return to her hospitality consulting business where she will produce feasibility studies and help to design luxury projects and hospitality services

— Bruce Stanley



By PETER CHILD FOR THE PHUKET GAZETTE

## ABOUT EXPAT GALLERY

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



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**ZEN AND THE ART OF SAYING GOODBYE:** Well loved Phuket entertainer Ricky Zen hosted a going away party at his Rick 'n' Roll bar in Kata on May 29 before returning to Las Vegas for its coming summer season. He has vowed he will return to Phuket's shores next high season and his bar will remain open. Photo: Marc Mulloy



**FRIENDLY FEAST:** Representatives from TUI Nordic tour company were treated to a welcome dinner at Mom Tri's Kitchen on May 28, hosted by PR Manager Sylvie Yaffe (front right).



**TERRAPIN TROT:** The Mai Khao Marine Turtle Foundation, founded by JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa, held their sixth Mini Marathon & Fun Run on May 23. Over 600 runners competed in the 10.5km run. JW Marriott's General Manager Robert Lohrmann is pictured with the winners from the 3.5 km men's race.



**GROUP GRATIS:** Renaissance Phuket Resort and Spa in Mai Khao recently celebrated its first Associate Appreciation Week from May 17-21. The annual hotel event gives employees the opportunity to have fun and enjoy sporting activities and games.



**SAMBA CELEBRATION:** Managing Director of Events Thailand Jorge De la Torre was happy to pose with two Brazilian dancers at the Latin Carnival party on May 30 at StereoLab in Surin.



**SUMMER STUNNERS:** A 'Hot Chicks Summer Party' was held at Khaolak Diamond Beach Resort & Spa on May 29. The resort's General Manager Chanyanuch Sena is pictured (right) with Baan Yamu Residences Manager Monthanee Na Thalang.



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# Luke pays his soul stoke forward



Luke Remmers at the 'Surf House' on Bang Tao Beach with some of the boys he has taken under his wing. From left: Chalit (14), Luke Remmers, Sirasit (11), Yasan (7) and Sirivat (5). Right: Luke surfing tandem with Yasan (top), Chalit doing a headstand on a moving surfboard as it approaches the shore. It's very common to spot Luke carting kids, boards and dogs around Bang Tao and Surin for some fun in the sun.



ON ANY given day at Bang Tao Beach, a swarm of Thai street kids can be seen carving up the surf under the watchful eye of their American "big brother", Luke Remmers.

Luke, an expat who has been living in Phuket for six years, and his wife Poi, have taken it upon themselves to play their role in making the world a better place by guiding local street kids and orphans down the right track in life through the joys of surfing and skateboarding.

Their approach in helping the children develop positive characteristics can also be seen in the manner in which they interact with mutual respect towards each other.

The kids are extremely well mannered and the smiles on their faces tell all they are quite happy, despite the disadvantages they endure in their daily lives.

They are also very attached to and look up to Luke, following him everywhere and sometimes even waking him up at 7am so he can take them surfing.

Luke explains that all of the

children are from poverty-stricken environments, whilst some also suffer coming from broken or abusive families and some now live in an orphanage.

"A few years ago I noticed these Thai children just hanging out on the beach while I was surfing," he said. "They were kicking the sand around looking frustrated and bored, so I taught a few of them to surf and from there it's just taken a shape of its own," he continues.

"They've come a long way since then," he adds, glancing at the children frolicking and laughing in the surf with the foam boards he bought for them.

Most of the children are aged between five and 13 years old and are at a very volatile stage in their lives. "They've had a rough upbringing," he says. "They used to come to the beach very withdrawn and frustrated after dealing with the troubles at home." Sometimes the smallest things can influence the way children think and their actions and reactions when faced with certain situations, and these same small things can shape them into

the adults they become later in life. It is here that Luke and Poi are doing what they can to lead the children by example. "Manners are caught, not taught," and some adults tend to forget that when they are around children. Luke and Poi don't forget. They are determined to be good examples to the children.

"Sometimes kids are forced to grow up too quickly because of their reaction to the adults in their lives and they don't get to experience their childhood because of this," says Poi. She adds that through surfing and skateboarding, the children get to channel their energies – good or bad – in a constructive manner,

and not a destructive manner such as through drugs or violence. Luke adds that he thinks children need to be physically active, not bound to a Wii or PlayStation, but rather doing stuff that breaks them out of their frustration and lets them be kids again. "This island is so adult oriented that people forget that there is a growing population of kids experiencing life for the first time here and now," he says.

Looking back on his own life, Luke reminisces how he had a "big brother" mentor when he was growing up who had a positive influence on him and showed him the way.

Now Luke wants to pay

that favor forward to other kids in the world. "I grew up surfing, skateboarding, running and swimming all the time. We did everything and it was healthy – Phuket is just a big natural playground," he says.

The inner growth the children are experiencing is the most rewarding aspect to Luke and Poi because they have helped them find their way and brought some joy to their young lives.

"We've taught them that life isn't all about taking and that they're more likely to be happy if they're also giving, so in that respect they have learnt to pay it forward too," he adds.

– Nicky Vermeulen


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# Bringing back the right to write

**H**AS your computer ever denied you access to read and write your own personal files?

Usually caused by malware, hard disks or flash drives with a normal permissions setting – which give the owner read-write (or 'rw') privileges – sometimes become corrupted. In extreme cases, this can make the hard disk unusable.

Attempts to save files are met with error messages that the disk is 'write-protected'. Permission to make changes is denied. Copying any of the corrupted files also transfers their write-protected status.

Quite a bit of the malware that causes these problems is floating around the internet. In one instance a particularly nasty piece created corrupt files totaling 70 gigabytes on my four-gig flash drive. Windows lost recognition of the device. I thought it had burned out; it wouldn't be the first time malware destroyed one of my drives.

After a bit of research, however, I learned what happened. The offending files were really just empty files, meta-tagged to appear gigantic. Actual disk usage

was no greater than before. The files derived from web pages viewed by users of an infected computer, but had corrupted filenames (extra-long, beginning with unaccepted symbols) that triggered write protection in the file systems used by Windows and most commercial flash drives.

Evil stuff, no?

The average user will not even see such malware because its files are prefixed by a dot, and thus 'hidden' by default. Users must change their standard settings in order to view hidden files that would otherwise create too much clutter in folders. Many of those hidden files are unwanted spyware, so it is wise to change the settings.

When doing so, it's also a good idea to show file extensions to know what types of files you're dealing with.

If not, blind to the status of your files, you're likely to copy them en masse to another disk or partition, compounding your problem by again triggering write-protection (which might trigger a severe case of computer paranoia in you).

What can be done?

The problem is that the

disk's file system is corrupted; changes in file permissions and read-write status are mere symptoms. You won't be able to address those till you've got to the root of the problem, which requires restoring the file system status ante malware.

This is really rather easy, and can be done by running a file system check (called *fsck* in the computer world). You can do it from a console ("DOS prompt" in Windows-speak) but I think most users will feel safer using Partition Magic software, which is far more user friendly.

In the case of my corrupted flash drive, *fsck* re-calibrated the disk and restored my read-write permissions and was then able to erase the offending files. Presto! My flash drive was good as new, with files still intact.

The process took roughly two minutes.

Windows users lacking Partition Magic can run a complete file system check at startup. You can also *fsck* via Windows' 'Properties' menu. These alternatives assume that Windows still 'sees' the corrupted disk.

Sometimes malware or a sudden shut-down corrupts the



primary hard drive, making Windows inoperable. You can easily retrieve it just as you would your disappearing flash—by running *fsck* from a Linux-based operating system.

I recommend a system that doesn't occupy too much RAM memory; applications will otherwise be numbingly slow...and you'll still be tearing your hair out!

— **Marque Rome**

## Phuket's 'Tech Talk' lineup set for June

**P**huket Software Park has announced the schedule of weekly activities under its 'Tech Talk' series in June.

The free weekly Tech Talk activities are designed for people interested in building the ICT community in Phuket and putting the latest, most effective computer technology to work on the island.

Organizers are trying to bring together people who want to learn state-of-the-art techniques, with topics that range from explaining new technology to real-life experiences with computer systems here in Phuket.

The classes are expected to appeal to both technology professionals as well as everyday users.

These bilingual activities run every Thursday, from 6pm to 7:30pm, on the third floor of Soft-

ware Park Phuket, on Chao Fah West Road northbound in Wichit, about one kilometer north of Kajonkietsuksa School.

Anyone interested in attending should reserve a seat by email: [training@softwareparkphuket.com](mailto:training@softwareparkphuket.com).

June's schedule is as follows:

**June 10:** Exploring iPhone Usage & Making Money: User Track. Presented by Phuket School.

**June 17:** Exploring iPhone Usage & Making Money: Developer Track. Presented by Phuket School.

**June 24:** Locally-based Services: Service on mobile devices for information and entertainment by making use of the geographical position technology. Presented by Kudos Tech Consulting, a Phuket Software Park incubatee.

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

## Upcoming events on the island

## June 13 – Laguna Phuket International Marathon



The Laguna Phuket International Marathon is the largest and fastest-growing destination marathon in Southeast Asia. Sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette* and PGTV, race day on Sunday will comprise a marathon, a half-marathon, a 10.5km run, a 2km kids' run, and a 5km walk. The marathon's scenic course will start and end at Laguna Phuket and will pass through tropical rain forests, rubber plantations and local villages, will head north towards Nai Yang Beach and finally turn back to Laguna Phuket. A series of events will kick off the event on Friday, June 11, with a two-day expo featuring sponsor booths and a number of activities. For further information contact T: 02-236 2931. W: phuketmarathon.com.

## June 5. Phuket Film Festival Gala Opening

The 2010 Phuket Film Festival kicks off with a gala opening and awards ceremony with plenty of food, drink and fun at Royal Phuket Marina. All are invited to meet the Festival VIP directors, producers and stars. Tickets are 1,500 baht at the Coliseum Cineplex in Phuket Town or at the door. From 9pm to midnight at Royal Phuket Marina Town Square. For further information contact Scott. T: 081-722446. E: info@phuketfilmfestival.asia. W: phuketfilmfestival.asia.

## June 6 – August 8. Belly Dancing Courses

The 10-session course 'Introduction to Baladi' teaches beginner techniques for belly dancers and will be conducted by the famous Malika. Participants will need shorts and a hip scarf to start. Tickets are 600 baht per person, per session. Held Sundays from 12:30pm - 2pm, RPM Health Club. For further information contact Murat Can Sakarya. T: 081-797 3364. E: muratc@royalphuketmarina.com.

## June 6 – July 18. Brazilian Soccer Sundays

The seven-week Brazilian Soccer School course will be held every Sunday with students separated into two age groups: Under-10s, suitable for 7-10-year-olds; and

under-8s, suitable for 5-8-year-olds. Price is 2,450 baht per child per course. For further information contact Martin Hill. T: 085-331 0295. E: muratc@royalphuketmarina.com. W: royalphuketmarina.com.

## June 9. Phuket Amateur Open Golf

The first in a series of 11 monthly tournaments kicks off to find Phuket's 'Best Amateur Golfer'. Players finishing in first or second place in the first 10 tournaments will qualify for the 11th, the Masters Championship in 2011. The first tee-off is at 7:30am; the last is at noon. There are 144 places available and entry forms are available at all courses and driving ranges on Phuket. From 7am - 12:30pm at Laguna Golf Club. For further information call T: 082-280 3486. E: phuketamateurgolfopen@gmail.com. W: phuketamateurgolfopen.com.

## June 11. Curry Fridays

Indian food buffs are invited to enjoy an authentic Indian curry buffet on the second and fourth Friday of each month. Selections include all-time favourite Chicken Tikka Masala, Mutton Vindaloo, juicy kebabs, chickpea curry and more. All you can eat for 399 baht. Draft beer by the glass for 50 baht. From 7pm - 11:30pm at Navrang Mahal, Karon Sea Sands Resort & Spa. For further information contact Seemant Raju. T: 076-286464 ext 4. E: sm@karonseasand.com. W: karonseasand.com.

## June 13. Phuket Yacht Club SW Monsoon Race and Fun Day

All are invited to a fun-filled day of sailing, swimming, cold beers and beach BBQ. Arrive after the marathon for a pleasant and relaxing afternoon, meet new friends and see a different part of the island. Volunteers are also welcome to help with boats and/ or the BBQ. From 10:30am - 4pm at Ao Yon Bay. For more information Contact Donna Stephens. T: 086-120 0752. E: phuketyachtclub@gmail.com. W: phuketyachtclub.info.

## June 18 – 20. Four Immeasurables Retreat at the PIA Mind Center

Phuket International Academy Mind Center (PIAMC) is holding an exclusive meditation retreat titled 'Four Immeasurables' hosted by Dr B Alan Wallace. Presently accepting bookings, this weekend retreat will consist of teachings, guided meditations, and discussions. These practices can be of benefit to any person seeking to explore their own capacity to experience unconditional love and compassion. Registration price starts at 1,800 baht per person, per day. For further information and accommodation options contact the PIA Mind Center. T: 076-376000. E: mtc@phuketinternationalacademy.com. W: phuketinternationalacademy.com.

## June 19 – 20. Passion for Perfume Workshop at The Pavilions

After a successful first workshop, the Pavilion's announces another 'Passion For Perfume' program where guests will be taken on an aromatic journey to indulge in the sensual pleasures of scent. The course will be hosted by the world-renowned Perfumer

Stephen V. Dowthwaite, founder of Perfumers World. 7,000++ baht per person for the two-day program, lunch is included. From 9am - 6pm at The Pavilions, Phuket. For further information contact Sophie or Khun Or. T: 076-317600. E: reservations.phuket@thepavilionsresorts.com. W: thepavilionsresorts.com.

## June 22. Live International Stand-Up Comedy

The Phuket Punchline Comedy Club returns this June with a TV star headliner. American comedian Arj Barker's recent appearance as 'Dave' in the hit HBO comedy 'Flight of the Conchords' has catapulted him to fame around the world. Also featured is musical comedian Rob Deering and genial Irishman Caimh McDonnell. Sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette*. For further information contact Boom. T: 089-646 9278. E: info@phuketcomedy.com. W: www.phuketcomedy.com.

## Free Computer Clinics

Is Windows driving you NUTS? Want to know about the best Internet connections in Phuket? Need help finding a repair shop or a dealer that knows what they're doing? Join For Dummies author and local Windows guru Woody Leonhard in his FREE weekly seminars. Sponsored by Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppes and the *Phuket Gazette*.

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## On The Move *Introducing the island's movers and shakers*

Phuket International Academy (PIA) has appointed **Pansak Leangphibul** as Vice-President of Human Resources (HR). Mr Pansak, from Bangkok, has a degree in hotel and tourism management. Before joining PIA, he was HR Director at JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa and Marriott's Vacation Club Thailand, where he was responsible for HR strategy, recruitment, training and development and community relations for more than seven years.



Courtyard by Marriott Phuket has appointed **Wilaiwan "Aor" Pakkulant** as Cluster Training Manager to oversee all staff training and human resource functions at all three Courtyard hotels in Phuket. Ms Aor has an MBA in hotel and tourism management and has held teaching positions at university level. She has been Training Manager for Tamarind Group, and joined Courtyard after three years at Trisara Resort.



Movenpick Resort & Spa Karon Beach Phuket has appointed **Carlos Sanchez Vizan** from Spain as Director of Food & Beverage (F&B). He has more than 15 years experience in hospitality management and has directed F&B operations in hotels and resorts throughout Europe and Asia, including Thailand. Before joining Movenpick, Mr Vizan was Director of Food and Beverage of Nagaworld Cambodia in Phnom Penh.



## IBAP Legal Eagles to tackle home ownership

THE International Business Association of Phuket (IBAP) on June 11 will hold a special open meeting focusing on alternatives to 30-year leases and house ownership, both issues that have plagued Phuket's burgeoning property industry for more than a decade.

Lead panelist for the discussion will be Sam Fauma, Senior Partner, Director and Adviser at the International Law Office.

"We have yet to settle on a specific topic, but we are looking at discussing alternatives to 30-year leases and forms of legally obtaining house ownership in Phuket," Mr Fauma told the *Phuket Gazette*.

The issues to be discussed are critical for nearly every single person involved in any form of property ownership in Phuket. "These issues are very important for anyone who has invested in

property, or developing property or even just looking to buy property – or thought they owned their own home, which is often not the case," explained Mr Fauma.

After the speaker sessions, the panelists will receive and discuss questions posed by members of the audience.

Although other key panelists have yet to be confirmed, said Mr Fauma, representatives from the likes of Belmont Limcharoen and Tilleke & Gibbins are hoped to take part in the event.

The event, to be held at the Dara Hotel, 100 meters from Central Festival Phuket, is open to the public.

Doors open at 6:15pm, with the program scheduled to run from 7pm to 8:30pm.

Entry costs 400 baht for visitors, 200 baht for members and 100 baht for students.

– *Gazette reporter*

## TrueVisions to launch 40 channels free to air

TRUEVisions in Phuket is soon to start selling set-top decoders so that people in poor television reception areas across the island can watch 40 'free to air' channels. The move follows Supachai Chearavanont, CEO of True Corp, the parent company of TrueVisions, announcing the market push on May 27.

Mr Supachai said the launch is in line with the company's ability to broadcast and earn income from commercials on its cable-TV channels.

The move follows a change in broadcasting regulations that allow local cable-TV operators to run commercials on their channels; a hurdle that former cable and satellite TV provider UBC failed to clear.

"With the new free-to-air service, which will be launched quite soon, we will allow individual customers to enjoy more than 40 TV channels from TrueVisions without any monthly payment. They can either buy or rent our broadcasting equipment, including a set-top-box," he said.

The manager of TrueVisions Phuket branch explained to the *Gazette*, "People prefer satellite reception because some



HD IS HERE: The HD TV display at the TrueVisions office in Phuket Town. Photo by Pimwara Choksakulpan

remote areas cannot receive clear reception through the old antenna system," he added.

Under the launch, the free channels will be incorporated into the main decoder system.

Previously, TrueVisions customers already had access to the free-to-air channels, but had to be signed up for any of the TrueVisions packages to access the satellite-quality reception through the decoder.

From June 1, however, any person can buy the decoder from the TrueVisions office on Phang Nga Rd in Phuket Town for 4,000 baht – but not sign up for any TrueVisions or True Move packages – and watch the 40 channels for free.

The 'new' channels comprise all the regular terrestrial TV channels, such as Channel 7, Channel 9 and Channel 3, as well

as TATV, NBT, the two MCOT channels and some 16 open education channels, among others.

Although it was too early to give numbers of people applying for the new service, the TrueVisions Phuket manager said that expectations were at near-market saturation.

Mr Supachai also announced on May 27 that the company had invested some 50 million baht in the launch of Thailand's first high-definition (HD) TV programs, which will be broadcast on TrueSport HD (Channel 111) and on HBO HD (Channel 112).

This extra-charge service, which will help attract premium Gold and Platinum members to its network, will kick off with the live broadcast of the FIFA World Cup 2010 on June 11.

– *Pimwara Choksakulpan*

# LIVE INTERNATIONAL STAND-UP COMEDY

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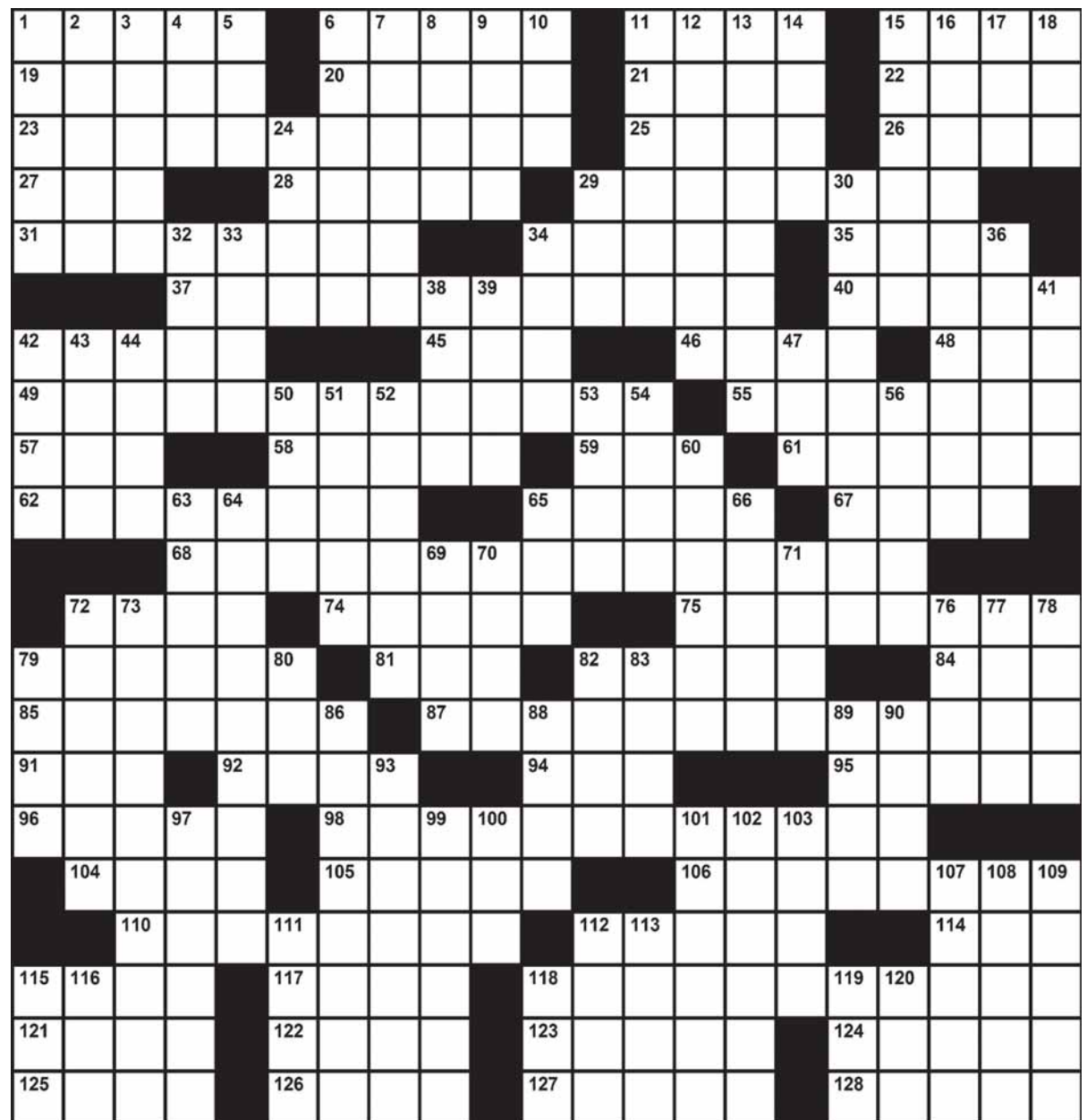


# PUZZLES

## Spot the Difference



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



### ACROSS

- 1 \_\_\_ as a house  
6 "Weird Al" Yankovic's "\_\_\_ on Jeopardy"  
11 Aberdeen miss  
15 Cheese coated in red wax  
19 Kind of park or restaurant  
20 Occupied, as a desk  
21 Scoreless score, written out  
22 Big name in little blocks  
23 Vegetarian's delight, perhaps  
25 West Virginia export  
26 Word in an Alka-Seltzer ad  
27 Dinner plate scraping  
28 Bottomless gulf  
29 Lecter in "The Silence of the Lambs"  
31 Abated  
34 Cobble  
35 Mama bears, in Barcelona  
37 Salsa ingredients  
40 Sarah Ferguson's duchy and a Pennsylvania city  
42 Motherless calf, in the Old West  
45 Yale supporter  
46 Pink-elephant sightings  
48 \_\_\_ Claire, Wisc.  
49 Soft, slightly wrinkled fabric  
55 Do a gland's job  
57 Diesel on a set  
58 Gets ready for surgery  
59 Notes above dos  
61 Creaks and squeaks  
62 Balance organ  
65 Where Leonardo was born  
67 Various functions  
68 Vegetarian's delight, perhaps  
72 Chimney deposit  
74 Onion byproducts

- 75 Cluttered place  
79 Youngsters, legally  
81 Cross-referencing directive  
82 Warfare tactic  
84 Interlaken's river  
85 Most humble  
87 Motto of New Hampshire  
91 Treebeard of "The Lord of the Rings," e.g.  
92 Penlight batteries  
94 Put before a jury  
95 Fine cotton thread  
96 Nose-in-the-air type  
98 Vegetarian's delight, perhaps  
104 First-class  
105 Indo-European speaker  
106 Positions under pressure  
110 Winning Olympian, for one  
112 Model and volleyball star Gabrielle  
114 West of old Hollywood  
115 Party for men only  
117 Garment that might be checked  
118 Vegetarian's delight, perhaps  
121 \_\_\_ Kong, China  
122 Writer Lindbergh  
123 Follow as a consequence  
124 E.C. Bentley's detective Philip  
125 States  
126 Bat on "The Munsters"  
127 Brag  
128 Pastry shop choices

### DOWN

- 1 Playwright  
2 Sandcastle setting  
3 Lahr and Lance  
4 Sends a short note online  
5 Command to a horse  
6 Actress Sanford of "The Jeffersons"  
7 New royal of 1981  
8 "The Andy Griffith Show" tippler  
9 Impertinence  
10 Alternative to MWF, in college course scheduling  
11 Story setting  
12 Former sinners  
13 Blankety-blank ones  
14 Performances by one person (Var.)  
15 City on the western tip of Texas  
16 "Touched by an Angel" actress  
17 Years \_\_\_ (in the past)  
18 Janitor's tool  
24 Indian princess  
29 "Sock" or "bunny" follower  
30 Good deed group  
32 Biol. and chem., e.g.  
33 Interrogative utterances  
34 Slacker, in England  
36 Hans Brinker's footwear  
38 Chick's chirp  
39 Pipes with right-angle bends  
41 Hauls into court  
42 606  
43 "Mourning Becomes Electra" role  
44 "Peter \_\_\_" of classic TV  
47 X, on some dials  
50 Weapon with a bell-shaped guard  
51 Rough sketch  
52 Biblical passages  
53 "CHiPs" star  
54 Abode to have a stake in?  
56 1990s NFL wide receiver Andre  
60 One who puts up points  
63 Amazon download

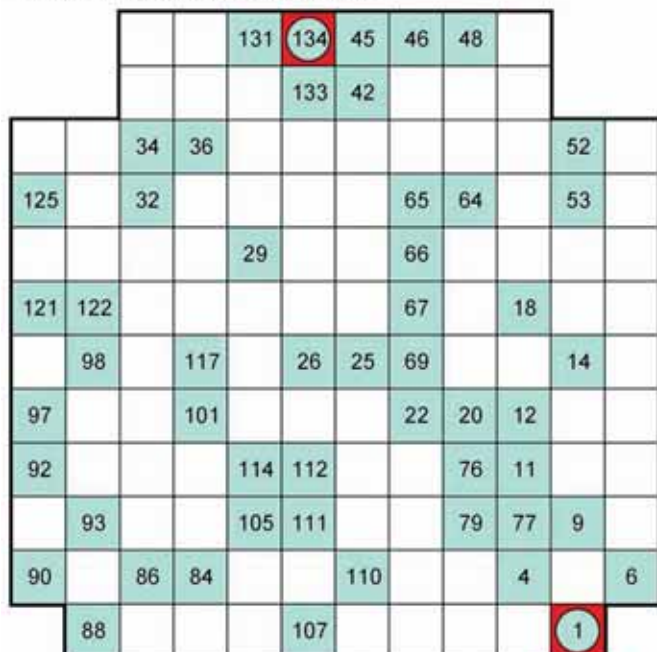
- 64 Backpedaled  
65 \_\_\_ in Victor  
66 "\_\_\_ is everything!"  
69 East Asian weight unit  
70 "... saw Elba"  
71 Suit to \_\_\_  
72 Yellow-brown pigment  
73 Drinker's excess  
76 "CSI" actor  
77 Compete in a regatta  
78 "A \_\_\_ Grows in Brooklyn"  
79 Sras., in France  
80 Govt. service for retirees  
82 Balkan War participant  
83 "And \_\_\_ walk contrary unto me ..." (Leviticus 26:21)  
86 Come too  
88 Dodge Viper engine  
89 Bullfight cheers  
90 "All \_\_\_!" (bailiff's command)  
93 Alfonso of the Cubs  
97 Where hens sit  
99 Seafood in a shell  
100 Stood no more  
101 Space-traveling monkey species  
102 Bishop's garment  
103 Road in Rome  
107 "... for \_\_\_ waves of grain"  
108 Corrupt morally  
109 Small paving stones  
111 Exotic berry in some fruit drinks  
112 Nevada gambling mecca  
113 Lioness in "Born Free"  
115 Librarians' admonitions  
116 Burnt \_\_\_ crisp  
118 Where to find a browser  
119 ABA figure  
120 Certain undergarment

Solutions on next page

## HIDATO

FIND THE PATH - SOLVE THE PUZZLE

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



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Dif. ★★★★★

1/3

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dealing

## Get your brain in gear with the

**MONSTER QUIZ**

1. Where did Hazel, Fiver and Bigwig, amongst others, move to from Sandleford Warren?

2. Richard Hannay appears in a series of novels by which writer?

3. The interminable lawsuit of Jarndyce v Jarndyce appears in which Dickens novel?

4. Which novel is set in the Greek island of Cephalonia at the time of the Italian invasion?

5. "Well, I'm back" is the last line of dialog in which epic novel trilogy?

6. Albert II is the current monarch of which country?

7. Elin Nordegren apparently used at last one of

her husband's tools when dealing with a late-night car crash involving him. Who is her husband?

8. Leslie Pope and John Wagner were arrested in a Pennsylvania restaurant as a result of refusing to do what?

9. From which martial art do Judo and Aikido derive?

10. What was Harry Beck's lasting contribution to traveling in London?

11. What name is given to the dried sap of several types of trees found in Yemen, Somalia, Ethiopia and Jordan?

12. Which South American country is bordered by Guyana, Brazil and French Guiana?

13. What is the fifth book of the New Testament?

14. Which federation was known as the Trucial States until 1971?

15. In which TV series might Lieutenant Green say "Spectrum is green"?

16. Who is the leader of the UK Green Party?

17. The Green Bay Packers play which sport?

18. Eva Green played Bond girl Vesper Lynd in which film?

19. *Green Green Grass Of Home* was a UK number one hit single for which singer?20. In the TV show *Camberwick Green*, who lived in Colly's Mill?

Answers below



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## Puzzle Solutions

## WHATZIT? solutions

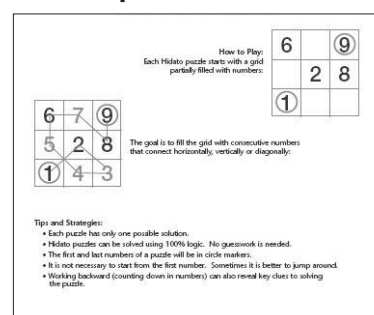
1. Broken hearted. 2. Handshake.
- 
3. Insider dealing.

Solution to this week's  
Spot the Difference

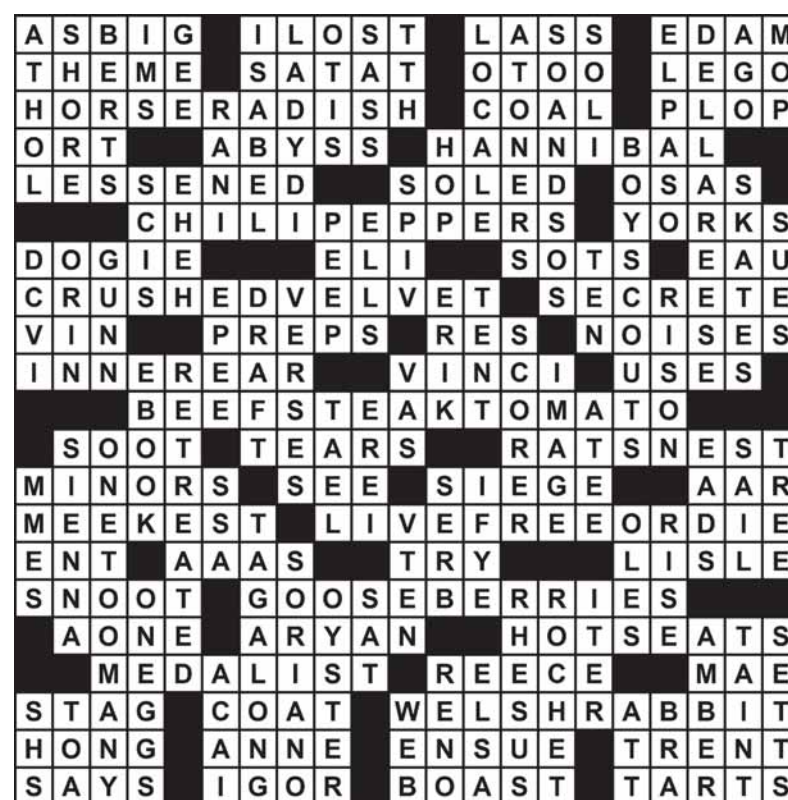
## Monster Quiz Answers

1. Watership Down
- 
2. John Buchan
- 
3. Bleak House
- 
- 4.
- Captain Corelli's Mandolin*
- 
- 5.
- The Lord of the Rings*
- by JRR Tolkien
- 
6. Belgium
- 
7. Tiger Woods
- 
8. Leave a tip
- 
9. Jujitsu
- 
10. The London Underground Map
- 
11. Myrrh
- 
12. Suriname
- 
13. The Book of Acts
- 
14. United Arab Emirates
- 
15. Captain Scarlet
- 
16. Caroline Lucas
- 
17. American football
- 
18. Casino Royale
- 
19. Tom Jones
- 
20. Windy Miller

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



## Solution to this week's crossword





# Karr's swell to sober salvation



## Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt

MILLIONS of people are in love with Mary Karr, and it is easy to understand why. When the memoir of her feisty hellion childhood, set in a Texan oil refinery town, was published in 1995 it stayed on *The New York Times* bestseller list for a year and was translated around the world.

The wild success of *The Liar's Club* started a new trend in memoir writing. Though her friend and mentor Tobias Wolfe had published his own memoir *This Boy's Life* a few years before, Mary Karr had definitely started a major literary trend.

She followed up in 2000 with

another memoir, *Cherry*, about her hilarious, hard-drinking, pot-smoking teenage years. Again she immortalized both her bourbon-swilling oil worker father, who taught her how to fish and shoot pool, and her half-mad mother, who passed on her love of painting and poetry.

Now she has published the third of a trilogy, *Lit* (HarperCollins, New York, 2009, 386pp). This covers the period from 1972, when she was 17, to the present, now the divorced mother of her grown son, Dev.

Her prolog dedicated to him strikes a different tone from the other books: introspective, somewhat weepy, ravaged by the regrets of her former alcoholism. This tone shifts abruptly as readers get into the book proper in the first chapter, called "Lost in the Golden State".

"Age seventeen, stringy-haired and halter-topped, weighing in the high double digits and unhindered by a high school diploma, I showed up at the Pacific Ocean, ready to seek my fortune with a truck full of extremely stoned surfers. My



family, I thought them to be, for such was my quest a family I could stand alongside pondering the sea. We stood as the blue water surged toward us in six-foot coils."

And readers are back to the rollicking narrative voice they love so well.

Mary Karr has published four highly acclaimed books of poetry and her precision of language is uncanny. Hitchhiking was all the rage in her

youth and when she is picked up in California by a deranged redneck, she opens all the stops in describing her terror:

"He smiled, showing the pointy incisors of a gerbil. Which change hit my adrenal system like jumper cable voltage. He was suddenly trying to be charming. For the first time, I could see how wildly high he was. I must have had heatstroke to miss it. His eyes were tar pits, his body slick with sweat. This wasn't cannabis high, nor heroin nod-off high, nor John Lennon's imagine-all-the-people-living-in-one-world high. This was eyeball-boiling, grind-your-teeth-to-bloody-stubs high. In short, crystal meth high."

Upon her escape, she flees back home to Texas, then to a university in Minnesota and finally to Harvard, where she meets her husband, a fellow poet, kindly, handsome and rich.

Karr writes an hysterical set piece on his incongruous mansion and Wasp family. They have a son and settle down to genteel academic poverty. But Karr falls victim to alcoholism and depression.

She remembers how her father gave her first sip of whiskey: "The warm silk flowered in my mouth and down my gullet, after which a little blue flame of pleasure roared back up my spine. A poof of sequins went sparkling through my middle."

Now prone to blackouts and vomiting hangovers, she starts drifting away from her perfect husband.

The therapy chapters drag. Karr has a personal shrink, a marriage counselor, an alcoholics group and a women's meditation group. She makes frequent visits to a halfway house for alcoholics and drug addicts and finally, suicidal, she consigns herself to a full-fledged mental institution.

It's no wonder that she had scant time for her husband.

Still, she redeems herself with a great, thumping, triumphant final chapter that vindicates her conversion to Catholicism.

I should also mention that in telling the tale of her rise and fall and rise again, she is often screamingly funny. This is an edifying memoir, yes, but also a hugely entertaining one.

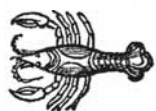
## Horoscopes



Isla Star



**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): Do not believe everything you hear this week. A fire sign is foretold to spin a very convincing story, but involvement will cost more than you can afford to lose. Family is more important until the middle of the month, with a reunion strongly highlighted. Those with a birthday this week will enjoy a more relaxing lifestyle in the coming year.



**CANCER** (June 22-July 23): Your charisma sparkles in the days ahead and you will attract many new friends. Romance is well starred, so expect a meeting with an earth sign to enhance your weekend. There are signs that doors will start opening regarding employment and you'll have interesting offers to consider by the end of this month. Wear the color gold to encourage better financial luck.



**LEO** (July 24-August 22): Leos are in the limelight this week. Attention is really focused on your achievements at work and a water sign is particularly impressed with your performance. Schedule job interviews for mid-week as that's when you will

know exactly what to say. There could be some uncomfortable moments this weekend when an ex-partner shows they can still be very jealous. The number nine is lucky on Thursday.



**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23): You will be active behind the scenes this week. After a busy start to June, your energy levels are forecast to drop. Catching up on overdue personal matters will help you to plan for the rest of this month. In romance, try not to misinterpret a gesture by a water sign this weekend. Wear indigo to encourage mental clarity.



**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23): You have no trouble keeping your cool this week, even though friends would like to involve you in their stressful lives. Monetary gain will make your day on Monday or Tuesday. Be pleased with a spontaneous gesture by your partner this weekend. If you are single and ready to meet a soul mate, an earth sign is keen to introduce you to someone suitable.



**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22): Taking a very roundabout approach to a straightforward problem could land you in more trouble than

is necessary this week. Wednesday is the most auspicious day for direct action. Where romance is concerned, make sure to get straight to the heart of what is bothering you. A wind of change is forecast to have a positive effect on your work situation by mid-month.



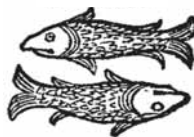
**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): Turning over a new leaf will be on your mind this week. The stars suggest that an expensive lifestyle has been causing financial stress. Those with a partner are forecast to have a heated discussion relating to spending this weekend. If you are single and hoping to impress a water sign, a creative approach will have the best result. Wear a piece of turquoise to help connect with your spiritual side.



**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20): Capricorns will continue to thrive under auspicious astral conditions this week. Someone's forgetfulness could be the key to your success in business and maintaining contact with old colleagues will lead to more opportunities. There could be a slight downside mid-week, when technical problems are highlighted, so follow up on communications. Sunday and Monday are likely to be the luckiest days for romance.



**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19): Your ability to remain as cool as a cucumber under stress is useful this week. The stars predict that deadlines will be subject to last-minute changes and this could involve burning some midnight oil. A fire sign can be relied on, but Pisces has other fish to fry. Your luck in romance picks up and flirting with a Leo has the desired romantic effect this weekend.



**PISCES** (February 20-March 20): If you have been weighed down with problems lately, you will be buoyed by events this week. The stars forecast a generous gesture will blow your way and finances are set to improve as June progresses. In romance, flirting from an air sign boosts your confidence this weekend, but understanding what makes this person tick will be challenging. Wear olive green to strongly encourage stress-free thoughts.



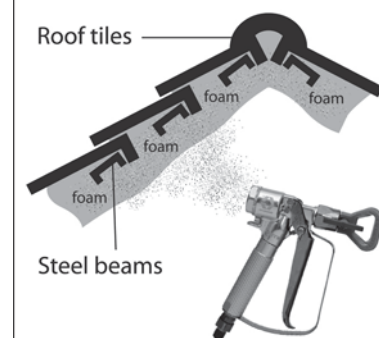
**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): You will see that the truth lies in a grain of sand this week. A situation that seemed complicated turns out to be simple to solve, though this realization could send you back to square one where a business idea is concerned. However, the

stars suggest that you will work out a viable plan with help from a friendly water sign later this month. The number three can be lucky this weekend.



**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): Accepting a spur-of-the-moment invitation will let you have a memorable weekend. The stars predict an active week, with emphasis on socializing and job satisfaction. Catching up with old friends could lead to romance. A fire sign has been waiting to meeting you. News of improved finances is in the pipeline. Wear the color lavender to be more relaxed.

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**The Phuket Gazette**

- Since 1994 -

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## Expo dream to spell end of transport nightmare?

The prospect of Phuket hosting World Expo 2020 is an exciting one, but there are huge hurdles to overcome if the island is to be made ready for the task (see 'Phuket planning Expo 2020 bid', page 4).

The island easily satisfies most of the criteria needed to be a World Expo host.

As Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop correctly pointed out at a recent meeting to discuss the bid, Phuket has plenty of space to host the event, as well as an international airport, sufficient high-quality accommodation and a unique culture to show visitors.

The major stumbling block is a familiar one to readers of this space: transport.

Shanghai Expo 2010, which runs from May 1 to October 1 this year, had more than eight million visitors in its first month alone.

The idea that Phuket could accommodate so many visitors in such a short period of time is, to put it lightly, risible. Tuk-tuks, airport limousines and the meager fleet of public buses are not up to the job.

Gov Wichai nevertheless remains optimistic that needed infrastructure – including an international convention center, new Sarasin Bridge, monorail network and the Patong Tunnel – will be in place by 2020.

While it's not difficult to believe the convention center and new bridge to the mainland will be ready in 10 years, delivery by that time of the controversial Patong Tunnel and a mass transit system are far from assured.

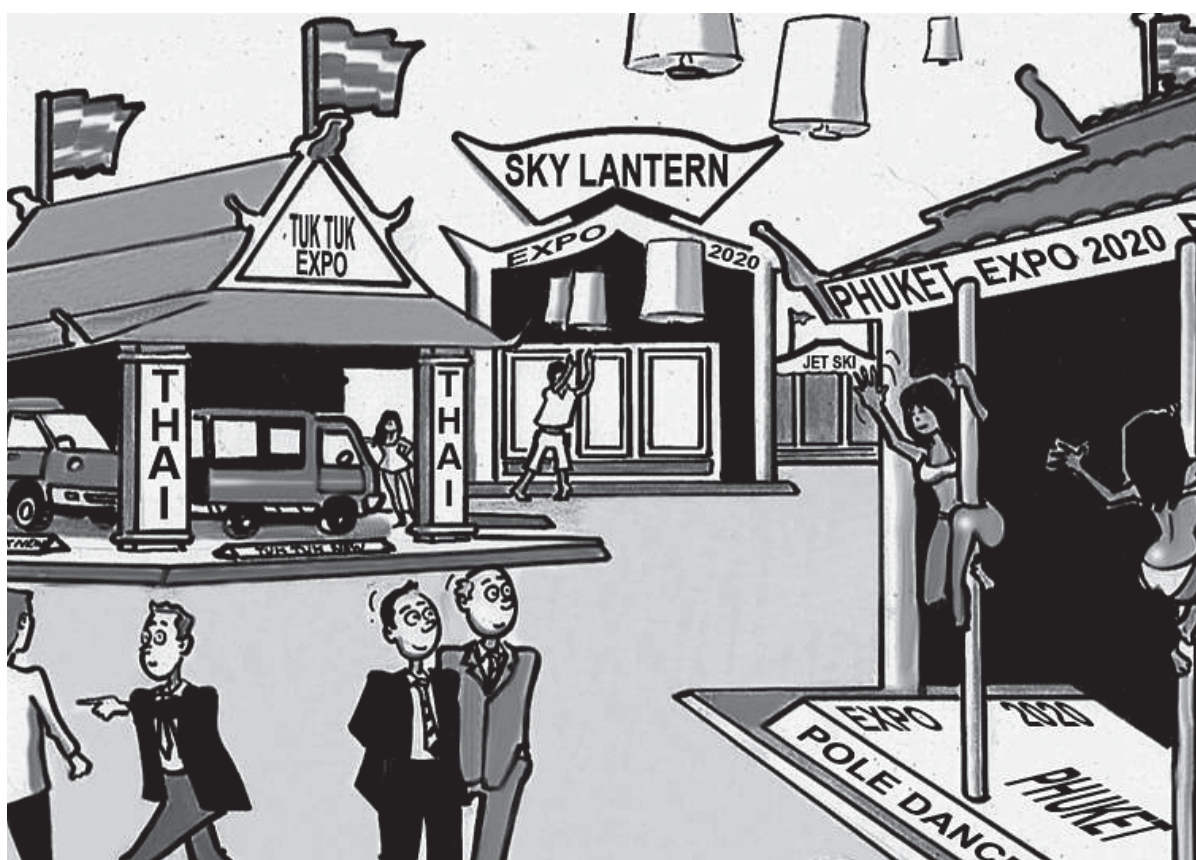
Gov Wichai has been a force for positive change since he took office, but his term is likely to end this year. Whether his successors will share his ability to get things done or enjoy so much backing from Bangkok is far from certain.

Any sort of mass transit system – whether monorail, light rail or bus network – will face strong opposition from those vested interests who continue to profit from today's abysmal transport status quo, at the expense of every other tourism industry sector.

Costs for both the Patong Tunnel and a mass transit system would run into the billions, but funding issues have yet to be seriously addressed.

With both a new indoor market and bus terminal standing empty due to administrative wrangling, the island's record on project delivery is not exactly a shining one.

But perhaps the prospect of having the eyes of the world trained on Phuket for a major event is exactly the impetus needed: if a mass transit system were part of a successful bid for World Expo 2020, the government would have no choice but to provide one.



## Letters

The *Gazette* is pleased to receive mail from readers. Please write to us at 79/94 Moo 4, Thepkasattri Rd, T. Koh Kaew, A. Muang, Phuket 83000, fax: 076-615240 or email: to editor@phuketgazette.net

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

### Dream on

*Re: Phuket Gazette, Only red lights at the end of the tunnel, May 29*

Good article, well written, but sadly a pipe dream. I have lived in or visited Phuket for 15 years and heard the same story often repeated.

Governors have stated that tenders are available for anyone to run a public transport system many times. But anyone who attempts to do that will risk assassination. I have even read about one governor saying, "They know where my children go to school."

That sums it up. Until the power of the tuk-tuk mafia is removed, credible public transport will never happen. Removing the power of the tuk-tuks would require considerable willpower, and that is sadly absent.

You would need to put police on every bus, a job they would probably relish as they seem fond of sitting around doing little.

**Name and address supplied**

### A legendary read

Finally something of interest in the pages of the *Phuket Gazette*, and it wasn't a murder or car accident. The story in last week's issue about Chinese legend playing a role in the development of new infrastructure was not only a good read, but relevant [*Phuket Gazette, Enter the dragon: feng shui concerns over Patong Tunnel, May 29*].

The story outlined plans for a new project that will likely have an effect on the majority of readers, and at the same time educated us about Phuket's cultural heritage. That's a recipe for entertaining and informative reading.

We don't really see enough

of that in the *Phuket Gazette*. I for one would like to see more articles about the rich history, culture and society of this island we visit and live on.

It seems that all too often, crime, murder and misfortune dominate the news pages. It's nice to see that the folks at the *Gazette* are not just sitting around waiting for something bad to happen, but going out, researching, speaking to people and producing quality work for the benefit of everyone in Phuket.

**George Mayhew  
Kata**

### Clearing the smoke

*Re: Phuket Gazette, Phuket air traffic control dismisses 'chemtrail' video, May 29*

For those interested in doing some further research on the topic, there is more than enough information out there to conclude that this project has been going on for over a decade, most notably over the skies of America and Europe.

I have witnessed spraying over the state of Alaska, where I watched for over 30 minutes while a jet flew back and forth until I could count 14 horizontal lines in the sky.

Some will continue to throw all these types of stories into the conspiracy bin. However, if one chooses to move beyond denial, the realities of chemtrails, HAARP (High frequency Active Auroral Research Program), and H1N1, to name a few, are well documented and waiting for you to discover.

The ways of the world are not as we think and some of those assigned to protect us have other interests in mind. Do the world a favor and educate yourself.

**Jim Welch  
Phuket**

### Alien blues

*Re: Gazette online, Alien worker scheme flops in Phuket, June 1*

It's no surprise that the plan to legalize alien workers in Thailand is proving a challenge. Not only does the process rely on the efficient functioning of the Thai government in verifying workers' documents and issuing work permits, but it also depends on neighboring countries cooperating at a degree that seems highly unlikely.

For example, in order for a Burmese worker to get a Thai work permit under this "scheme", the worker must first obtain an identification document issued by the Burmese government. No small task.

There have been countless stories of migrant workers leaving Thailand for Burma in an effort to get proper identification, only to be extorted along the way by not only the Burmese police and higher ranking Burmese officials involved in the national identification process, but by companies in Thailand offering to assist them.

The workers, upon returning to their homeland, are often viewed as being "wealthy" in comparison to their fellow Burmese citizens because they have been working in Thailand. They are therefore vulnerable to extortion in Burma, which is rife with corruption.

In fact, their wages in Thailand are often barely enough to survive, and what savings they have are eaten up by costs associated with legalizing themselves.

So, let's learn to live with the fact that it will take a long, long time to legalize and protect migrant workers in Thailand.

**James Gregory  
Bang Tao**

**The Phuket Gazette**

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

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# Keeping public health in check



## FIRST PERSON

Ang Thong native Dr Narinrach Pichayakamin, 48, took the helm at the Phuket Provincial Health Office (PPHO) in February. The father of one graduated from the Faculty of Medicine at Mahidol University and before coming to Phuket had been the director of Sawaengha Hospital in Ang Thong from 2005. Dr Narinrach talks to the *Gazette* about the challenges he now faces, the threat of infectious diseases such as dengue fever and HIV/AIDS, and his thoughts on improving public health in Phuket. **Compiled by Sitthipong Nongkaew.**

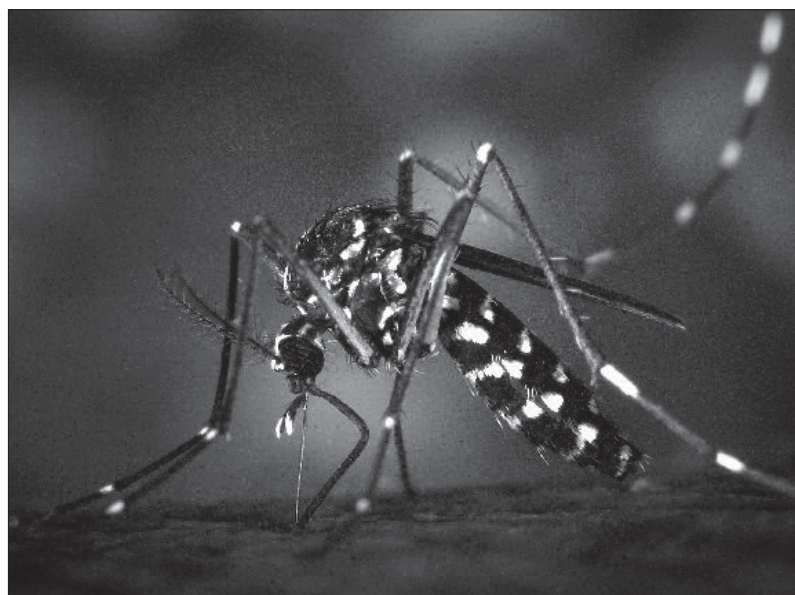
ONE of the PPHO's projects is to extend our primary service network by providing basic treatment for people and conducting awareness campaigns about disease prevention, as currently there are not many public health centers – not enough to cover the island and provide care for all the people.

We also don't have enough public health volunteers. There are only about 1,600 volunteers with each one taking care of about 70 households. Actually each volunteer should be taking care of 20 households. This makes it difficult for people to access our services.

All of our volunteers are trained in basic health care and disease recognition and prevention in order to assist public health officers in educating the public and keeping them informed about our services.

We cannot increase the number of volunteers we have because we don't have the budget to pay them the 600 baht per month service reward that we give our volunteers. It takes time to get any response on budget requests to the government.

We also encourage people to volunteer out of the kindness of their hearts (without pay), and so we cooperate with local communities to help health centers raise awareness on health issues.



The *Aedes aegypti* mosquito is the vector for diseases such as dengue and chikungunya fevers, which are common in Phuket.

There are 21 health centers in Phuket, each one responsible for more than 10,000 people. Some even cover 30,000 to 40,000 people, so it's not easy for the workers to get to everyone.

One problem with Phuket is that its population is growing rapidly, which creates an imbalance in the public health sector in terms of budget and population. Health education is not able to keep up with population growth, therefore fewer people have knowledge of health issues.

More of the provincial budget goes toward basic infrastructure development such as construction and transportation

projects than to healthcare.

Many may think there are only wealthy people in Phuket, but that's not true. The more well-to-do may be able to access medical treatment in hospitals or clinics, but the poor still need help from local public health centers.

There are many alien workers in Phuket whose back-and-forth travel could bring diseases that are not normally found in Thailand, such as malaria, cholera and even typhoid, elephantiasis and tuberculosis.

In order to keep these diseases in check if they appear in Thailand, people must be aware of them and health services must

be able to quickly provide assistance.

One of the main goals of the PPHO is to educate people on how to stay healthy and about infectious diseases and how to prevent their spread.

One disease that affects Phuket is dengue fever, which recurs every rainy season and is transmitted by mosquitoes. Prevention of this disease is all about human behavior; people need to know how to take care of their homes and make sure there aren't things like water containers lying around where mosquitoes can lay their eggs.

It is important to know that anyone can be vulnerable to dengue fever, not only children.

Another concern is HIV. It is quite hard to analyze the situation and get accurate numbers because of the transient nature of some of the at-risk population, such as sex workers. They often move, for example, briefly staying in Phuket and then going somewhere else such as Chiang Mai, Udorn Thani or Bangkok.

What is very worrying is the HIV rate is at its highest among Phuket's homosexual population: currently 16%.

According to the latest PPHO report from 1989 to this month, there are 6,902 people in Phuket infected with HIV.

I'm also worried about the sexual behavior of teenagers, as

they seem to have many partners and do not use condoms. That really increases the risk of HIV infection.

Compared to teenagers, adults and tourists who use prostitutes – another at-risk population – are more likely to take preventative measures and use condoms.

The PPHO promotes the use of condoms and we have free condoms at our office. We also work with various organizations to visit local schools and promote safe sex to students.

Phuket is more diverse than Ang Thong province, where I used to work, and thus more complicated. Ang Thong is not a large community, and so if for example there were an outbreak of disease, it would be much easier to control.

Phuket has rich people, who can remain safe from these problems, but it also has poor people, who have to keep working and don't have time to take care of themselves or learn how to live healthier lives.

The challenge for me is finding more allies in improving public health, such as volunteers and private and local government organizations, because public health officers alone are not enough to look after the whole population of Phuket, including all the registered and unregistered people living here.

## Issues & ANSWERS

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

The Phuket Gazette  
79/ 94 Moo 4, Thepkasattri Rd, T. Koh Kaew, A. Muang, Phuket 83000. Fax 076-615240, or submit your issue at [www.phuketgazette.net](http://www.phuketgazette.net)

## Is burning garbage at home against the law?

Are there any laws regarding burning garbage? For example, what kind of garbage can be burned, how much and so on? Are there any fines involved? If so, how much? Who can one turn to if they have a complaint?

**Horst Lakits  
Rawai**

**An officer at the Public Health and Environment Section of Rawai Municipality replies:**

No, there are no laws prohibiting people from burning their garbage, but you can file a complaint with the Public Health and Environment Section of your local municipality, in your case Rawai Municipality. Write to us outlining the details of your complaint, including precisely where the garbage is being burnt, then we can go and talk to the people and determine what type of garbage they are burning and if they are burning materials that are prohibited.

We can also suggest that they pay Rawai Municipality to simply come and collect the garbage from them.

For more information contact Rawai Municipality: Wiset Road, Moo 6, T. Rawai, A. Muang, Phuket 83130. T: 076-613801 F: 076-289055. E: [info@rawai.go.th](mailto:info@rawai.go.th)

## How to stop erection of workers camp?

I live in Kamala and drive every day to Phuket Town via Kalim. I see they are busy building a new workers camp right on the beach next to the White Box restaurant. Is this legal?

There is no sanitation or water system there and it will be a complete eyesore for visitors to see a workers camp right on the main road on the beach. This is being built in an area that used to be a park. Surely there must be zoning laws against this. Can the authorities not see this is bad for tourism?

**Richard Reitman  
Kamala**

**An officer at Patong Municipality replies:**

If the camp is being illegally built, we will not allow them to continue. Please go to the local municipality office covering the area where the construction is taking place, in this case Patong Municipality, and fill out a complaint form including the address of the construction site. Our staff will check the area and speak with those responsible. The processing time is about a week.

For more information contact Patong Municipality: 12/ 3 Ratchapathanusorn Road, T. Patong, A. Kathu, Phuket 83120. T: 076-344275, 076-344255, W: [patongcity.go.th/index.php](http://patongcity.go.th/index.php)



# Phuket kids play own World Cup

WHILE international football teams are making their final preparations for the real FIFA World Cup in South Africa, youngsters from Phuket had the opportunity to compete in a World Cup of their own last weekend.

More than 80 players aged between eight and 15 competed in a tournament organized by Brazilian Soccer Schools and held at Phuket International Academy (PIA). The children were all assigned to teams who have qualified for the actual World Cup.

On the morning of May 29, the under-10s tournament got underway with four teams: Japan, Chile, Holland and Nigeria.

Japan finished first and Chile second, with both teams comprised of children from British International School (BIS). The Holland team, consisting of children from QSI-Phuket, finished third, while Nigeria, featuring parents and coaches, finished fourth.

The under-13s played the following morning, also under the auspicious monikers of Japan, Chile, Holland and Nigeria.

In the first playoff, Chile, comprised of students from Phuket International Academy (PIA), beat the QSI pupils of the



Children playing for their own 'World Cup' at PIA. Photo: James Goyder

Japan team by 4-3 with a golden goal in extra time.

In the other playoff, the Holland team from Headstart were drawing 2-2 with Nigeria, comprised of kids from the Youth Football Home (YFH), but Holland grabbed the decisive goal in extra time to progress to the final.

The final was a little less tense as Holland ran out 4-1 winners against Chile.

The under-15s competition

took place on May 30 and featured two teams from YFH and one from BIS.

Some of the BIS boys had played in a rugby match earlier that day and in the end a YFH team, Nigeria, walked off the pitch as the winning team.

The win required a golden goal to settle the race for second place, but YFH's Chile squad consigned the BIS Japan team to third and final place.

— James Goyder

## FC Phuket eyes new striker

LOCAL football team FC Phuket have been taking advantage of the mid-season break to have a look at some prospective new signings.

Adisak Kraisorn and Chakrit Rawanprakorn are both in the Thailand under-19s squad and are likely to miss out several games in the second half of the season due to international commitments.

Securing another striker is a priority for FC Phuket manager Arjan Songsamsub, and Tawin Butrasombat from Chaiphum United seems likely to be the first arrival. He has had a prolific goal-scoring season so far.

There have also been a couple of foreign players training with FC Phuket. Sohn Jung, a Phuket-based Korean, and David Low, an experienced professional footballer from Singapore, have both been taking part in training sessions at the FIFA pitch at Cape Panwa, where the team is based.

Low has played professional football in Hungary and Switzerland as well as in the S-League in Singapore. He is hoping that his versatility in being able to play as a full back or as a winger will be enough to convince Songsamsub that he is worthy of playing for FC Phuket.

"I am now a free agent, and I have played against Asian Champions League and AFC Cup teams before. I always give my best and train and play with professionalism. I have heard that the Thai league is very different from the S-League, but I know I have got what it takes to play at this level," he said.

One potential obstacle in signing Low is that FC Phuket already have three foreign players: Nene Bi, Diarra Ali and Camara. League rules state that only three foreign players can be on the pitch at any one time.

— Gazette reporter

## Lions roar at BIS



Singapore won their first BIS mini-tourney on May 22. Photo: James Goyder

FIVE football teams from throughout Southeast Asia gathered at British International School for a mini-football tournament on May 22.

Local teams Phuket Academicals and Phuket Wanderers were joined by Singapore St Andrews, Singapore Lions and Hong Kong Strollers.

The teams played each

other in a round-robin format, producing a winner-takes-all final between Singapore Lions and Hong Kong Strollers.

The Lions won 1-0 win to the delight of manager Mac McGolpin. "We have been playing in this tournament for 10 years, but this is the first time we have ever won it outright," he said.

— Gazette reporter

## Up the creek

WICHIT Municipality will hold its annual canoeing competition at Klong Mudong on June 6. Class 1 is for youngsters under 12. Entry is limited to 18 teams with two children per team who will race over 200 meters. Class 2, for teenagers from 13 to 16 years old, is also limited to 18 teams of two children per team who will race over 200 meters. Class 3 is open to all, with no limit on the number of entries. As with the other two classes, paddlers will compete in pairs, but will race over 400 meters. To enter, contact Wichit Municipality at T: 076-525100 ext 170 or F: 076-525101 or W: phuket-wichit.go.th.



Paddlers at last year's races. Photo: Wichit Municipality

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## Race on for new futsal league champion

THE low season futsal league is underway with four matches scheduled to take place every Thursday night on the artificial futsal pitch at Phuket International Academy (PIA).

Although Phuket Wanderers won comfortably last season, they have now lost many players and it seems likely a new champion will be crowned at the conclusion of the current campaign.

Island Boys, who finished third last season, are currently league leaders with two wins from two matches.

They defeated defending champs Phuket Wanderers 7-1 in their opening game, with Mark Lightfoot scoring a league record

six goals, including a spectacular individual effort that is an early contender for goal of the season.

Lightfoot set a new record only a week later when he scored seven goals against SGS B.

With last season's top goalscorer Cyril Lugnier back in his native France, Lightfoot is already a prime candidate to take top goalscoring honors at the end of the season.

Thalang Tigers are currently second in the league, with two wins out of two. The team has the best defensive record in the league, thanks largely to former professional goalkeeper Martin Ware, who has let in only one goal so far this season.

New to the league are

Phuket Morning Star, led by Karl Ward. They have had an instant impact on the league, winning their opening two games and scoring 14 goals in the process.

The second of the two wins was against last season's runners-up Portrait FC, and Phuket Morning Star are confident they can win the competition at the very first attempt.

The All Stars and the Wanderers are at the bottom of the table, but have played a game less than all the other sides after the fixture between the two teams was postponed.

Mark Lightfoot saluted the efforts of PIA and organizer Martin Hill in setting up the league.

"It has been the best tournament since I have been in Phuket: well organized, very competitive and very fair. You know going into each game that you are going to have to play well to win and that makes it all the more enjoyable. I also think it is a good standard of football," he said.

Lightfoot has enjoyed making the transition from regular football to futsal, which is played with a smaller, harder ball.

"I think both games are essentially the same: you need a good touch, skill, pace and awareness of the players around you. The main difference for me would be the fitness; futsal is very intense with no place to hide."

— Gazette Reporter



# Roosters crow at Rugby 10s

**T**HE Phuket International Rugby 10s returned to its spiritual home in Karon for a three-day rugby festival last week. Teams from around the world traveled to Phuket for the eagerly anticipated tournament, the brainchild of local rugby player Pat Cotter.

As well as the highly entertaining rugby on offer, the tournament brought with it a huge influx of visitors, mainly staying in nearby Patong, who provided a much needed boost to Phuket's tourist-based economy in the height of the low season.

But it was not just the bars and discos whose coffers were bolstered by the influx of rugby players. Every year, the Rugby 10s raises money for the Asia Centre Foundation. This year, although the full tally has yet to be counted, more than 400,000 baht is likely to be donated to the center.

The action got underway on

May 28 with the Coffin Dodgers competition for players aged 35 and over. Despite their aging limbs, the teams played solid rugby, with the highlight of the day being a local derby between the Phuket Viagrabonds and Bangkok Bangers.

The two teams meet every year to contest the Weasel Cup and enjoy a fierce-but-friendly rivalry. Off the pitch, the Bangers have been instrumental in raising funds for the Asia Centre Foundation. Peter Burgess, Bob Pearson and Jean Francois Klentzi all cycled from Bangkok to Phuket earlier this year, raising 300,000 baht for the children's charity.

On the pitch, however, there is no love lost and the Bangers have won this fixture for the past three years. With a partisan crowd behind them, the Viagrabonds surged to a 19-0 first-half lead, but the Bangers battled back in the second half, scoring



**Moorabbin Rams defenders (in black) race to give support to a teammate crunched in a tackle by the Kriel Roosters in the Phuket Rugby 10s Cup final on May 30. The Roosters won 31-0. Photo: Chris Husted**

two tries to reduce the deficit to 19-14.

The Bangers pressed on in search of the elusive third try, but the Viagrabonds rear guard stood firm for a historic victory.

As well as claiming the Weasel Cup, the Viagrabonds won their group to advance to the semi-finals of the Cup competition, an impressive feat given the limited pool of rugby players to choose from in Phuket.

They were up against the formidable Cottesloe Gulls, one of two outstanding sides in the Coffin Dodgers competition, the other

being last year's winners the Moorabbin Rams Vets. The Gulls scored a try almost straight from the kick-off, but the Phuket veterans battled back to score a try of their own through scrum half Michael Whippy.

Hopes of an upset win were dispelled when the Viagrabonds failed to clear their lines and the Gulls ran in a second try. After that, it was one-way traffic as the Gulls ran in another try. Final score: Gulls 17, Viagrabonds 7.

In the Coffin Dodgers final, the Gulls were up against the Moorabbin Rams, from Mel-

bourne, Australia, who were looking to become the first team to win both the main and the Coffin Dodgers competitions. The Rams proved too strong, defeating the Gulls 17-10 to win the Coffin Dodgers competition for the second successive year.

Last year, the Moorabbin Rams were beaten in the final of the main competition by the Kukri Badgers.

This year, they fell again at the final hurdle, losing 31-0 to the Kriel Roosters from South Africa.

— James Goyder



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Refuting arguments that the hotel market is struggling, the Novotel Phuket Beach Resort recently sold for above market value.



# Hotel sales market heats up

**N**EWs of hotels being sold because they are in great financial distress is indeed part myth, just like Bigfoot and the Loch Ness Monster, and – in part – the 1997 Asian contagion. Two years ago, the global financial crisis spurred yet more tabloid-like reports of more than 100 hotels in Thailand being offloaded.

It's time once again to brace ourselves. The captain has turned on the seat belt sign and we're to return to our seats in anticipation of severe turbulence. As the entire country collectively prepares for a tumultuous period, with some people maybe even retracting into the "Brace! Brace! Brace!" position, we now await the coming storm.

Unlike 1997 and 2008, many industry experts expect significantly high levels of transaction activity during the latter half of 2010. Already this year, two high-profile Lehman's-related hotel assets, the Baan Taling Ngam on Resort & Spa on Koh Samui and

the Novotel Phuket Beach Resort Panwa in Phuket, have been put on the market.

The latter in fact traded for 870 million baht, which was above market value.

As this article goes to print, and although yet to be announced, the buzz through the property market is that the Samui property was traded to the group that owns the Bangkok InterContinental for a reported 750 million baht.

Despite private equity vulture funds circling the sky and stress fractures appearing in tourism numbers, there remain no cheap deals.

What is apparent, though, is that investors with liquidity in Asia – including Thailand – are now looking at the fairly on-going stabilized yields of hospitality products and diversifying into the sector.

At the same time, some developers and firms are looking to create capital, and two high-profile operating hotels will be com-



## PROPERTY WATCH

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

ing into play over the next few months. This news is already creating a buzz in the investment community.

While the current market situation is fine for hotels that are up and running, what does it mean for those in the building phase? Jumeriah Private Island has yet

to commence construction, The Yamu has stalled as a half-complete site, Taj Exotica has yet to be realized as investors have favored staying on the sidelines, and the Shangri-La remains long delayed in Bang Tao.

These developments are largely based on "mixed use", which means they're essentially hotels with managed residences. As mixed-use commercial properties, they need a healthy property investment market with sales returned to any semblance of trading.

This leaves owners looking to both the debt and equity markets, which clearly have taken a beating by the hour from Bangkok's 'red shirt' breaking news mega-series.

For now, underwriting hotel green field investments through the use of real estate sales seems to be mothballed, and capital-formation exercises require cashed-up developers who have access to Thai bank financing. It's a

home field advantage for now and as such, it's the listed firms or conglomerates that are creating the most market activity.

At the same time, the property funds listed on the Thai Stock Exchange (SET) continue to carry large chunks of change on their balance sheets, and as land prices rise in Bangkok along with political concerns (which look to go on for some time), shifting risk to a Phuket hotel asset makes considerable sense.

While it's doubtful that a great hotel fire sale will ensue, there remains little doubt that for the rest of this year, hotel transaction activity is going to see a marked rise in Phuket.

I think I may unbuckle my seat belt for a moment though and ask the flight attendant for a drink. Flying high above the earth looks to be the last peaceful place, though you have to be ready for those jolts and mid-air hi-jinks now and again. It certainly beats driving.

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# Do I really own my Phuket villa?

**M**ANY foreigners who buy property in Thailand opt for a villa either in a managed estate or on a single plot instead of an apartment or condominium, as the latter usually do not provide the individuality and the privacy that villas do.

Due to legal restrictions in Thailand that prohibit land ownership by foreigners, it is common for foreigners buying villas to enter into two main legal agreements: one, a villa sale and purchase agreement; and two, a land lease agreement. These together provide the foreigner with ownership rights to the building and lease rights to the underlying land.

Often, as part of the process of a foreigner buying a villa off-plan, a construction agreement may be used in addition to a land lease agreement.

Unfortunately, the Land Department in Thailand does not issue title deeds expressly for buildings as it does for land. However, a government policy has been established that considers certain documents as relevant and acceptable when determining whether or not someone legally owns a building, which includes private villas.

Among the documents the

Land Department considers as relevant in determining ownership is a valid construction permit that refers to a specific building and mentions the buyer as the owner of the building for which permission to build has been granted.

Another document is the building sale and purchase agreement recognized by Land Department when the transfer of a building from the seller to the buyer is registered.

That said, sometimes developers or sellers do not register the transfer of ownership of a building from a seller to a buyer with the Land Department because of tax reasons.

In such cases, the only document the Land Department can generally accept as evidence of ownership to a building is the construction permit. This is often where the problem starts.

Typically, construction permits are issued in the name of the developer or the builder. The party named in the permit is legally considered to be the owner of the building.

If the person or company named as the building's owner in the construction permit does *not* apply with the relevant authorities for the name on the permit to be changed to the name of the buyer upon completion, then the builder



**New home buyers are often surprised when the Land Department refuses to recognize them as the legal owner.** Photo: Wikimedia

remains the legal owner.

This stands regardless of whether the buyer has entered into a construction agreement, paid for the construction and moved into the completed building.

Other issues may arise when a single construction permit has been issued for several buildings, but those buildings have been sold to different buyers.

In this case, changing the owner's name on the constr-

uction permit to one of the new owners ultimately provides just *one* of the buyers with rights to *all* of the buildings, which obviously does not reflect the intentions and interest of all the people involved.

Unfortunately, buyers of residential buildings often live in their new homes for years without knowing that the Land Department may not recognize them as the legal owners of

their homes. Such "home owners" become aware of the fact only after they put their new homes up for sale and a potential buyer's lawyer performs due diligence to verify the ownership rights of the seller, and discovers that seller doesn't actually own the property.

This can often prompt drastic consequences for the seller. His potential buyer may lose confidence in the deal and subsequently walk away.

In summary, it is critical to understand that ownership rights to a building must be secured and demonstrated, especially to safeguard against a third party challenging the claim and seeking for the ownership rights to be transferred, as in connection with a sale or inheritance of a property.

It is strongly recommended consulting a lawyer to determine which options are available in securing ownership rights to a property before making any payments or signing any sales agreements.

*This article was written by the International Law Office Patong Beach Co Ltd. Contact Consultant Michael Greth. T: 076-222191-5. E: michael@ilo-phuket.com.*



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# Creepy crawlies and bio-controls



**A**ROUND this time of the year, local gardeners exhibit a fair amount of interest in cockchafers. If you don't know what they are, don't be put off by a name that sounds like something from a porn movie. Cockchafers are large brown beetles in Europe and are relatives to the African scarab beetle, but in Thailand they are green-gray in color.

On a collective impulse, the pupae turned imago emerges from the ground. The adult bugs then mate, lay their eggs in the soil, fly around for a while, then roll over and die.

During this *danse macabre*, insect-loving Thais go on beetle sorties, collect them in plastic bags, and cook them.

The cockchafer, also known as a "May bug", used to be a huge pest in Europe, responsible for the wholesale destruction of crops, but is now less common, thanks to pesticides.

In pre-industrial Europe, the main method of controlling their numbers was to collect and kill the adult beetles, thereby interrupting the cycle. The bugs

were once very abundant: in 1911, more than 20 million May bugs were collected in 18 square kilometers of forest.

Collecting adults was only moderately successful. Pest control was rare in the Middle Ages, and people had no effective means to protect their harvest. This gave rise to events that seem bizarre from a modern perspective.

In 1320, for instance, cockchafers were brought to court in Avignon and sentenced to withdraw to a designated area within three days, otherwise they would be outlawed. Subsequently, as the bugs failed to comply, they were collected and killed.

Today, the bug's population is bio-controlled, as so much of the wildlife is these days, by the eating habits of *Homo sapiens*.

What has this got to do with gardening? Well, the cockchafer is a gardener's number one enemy.

The villain of the piece, however, is not the adult, but rather the larvae. Large, cream-colored grubs, with orange heads and mouth parts, who live in the ground for up to three years and voraciously munch their way through any roots in the vicinity.

Put a container plant, with its newly exposed and tender roots, out in the garden and any neighborhood grub will unerringly find its way there.

They are partial to grass roots, just like the European Leatherjacket, also known as crane fly larva.

So get rid of any found in the garden.



At the top of a gardeners most wanted list for plant destruction are the centipede (above), the cockchafer (right) and the millipede (top right). Photos from Wikimedia open source.



The second most-common insect in the Phuket yard is the millipede. Tropical millipedes, like tropical centipedes, are huge; and in Phuket can grow up to five inches long. They have cylindrical, jointed exo-skeletons, are dark brown or black, and live beneath stones and leaf litter. They are particularly common in lime-rich soils.

Like most millipedes, they are relatively slow-moving and will coil up like a watch spring if disturbed. Don't touch them, though, as they can emit noxious chemicals including chlorine and hydrogen cyanide. As a detritivore, they feed mainly on decaying organic matter, but one school of thought maintains that they eat roots and stems as well.

In the other direction of the food chain, they are food for frogs and toads and even mynah birds. Gardeners might want to add themselves to that list of predators, even if not for eating them. Centipedes, orange-brown, fast-moving and with flattened, segmented bodies, predate a range of garden pests and even earthworms. Since their bite is extremely painful, let them be.

Much smaller is the whitefly

– miniscule, moth-like flies that suck sap from the undersides of the leaves and further weaken plants with their toxic saliva. If disturbed, they fly up in a cloud, as those familiar with greenhouses know only too well.

A good dousing with washing up liquid may get rid of them. If not, systemic pesticides, watered into the roots of affected plants, should sort out the problem. There are also chemical sprays such as permethrin and bifentherin. Whiteflies also excrete sugary honeydew, which encourages black fungal mold to grow on the weakened plant and attracts ants. Ants, certainly not the gardener's friend, often protect whitefly from would-be predators so they can feed off the high-energy honeydew.

Aphids, or "green fly", also secrete sweet, sap-based liquid, and are farmed by ants in the same way. If plants are infested with either white or green fly, examine the stems; where ants will almost certainly be seen scuttling around. Short of importing bio-controls such as lacewing larvae or ladybirds, reach for the spray gun.

May bug grubs do more

damage. They resent anyone touching a shrub where they happen to be, and will immediately drop kamikaze-like onto any exposed flesh, dig in their jaws and squirt formic acid into the skin. That's not good for anyone allergic to their sting.

Not only do they encourage green and white fly and all their attendant ills, they are fond of making nests in broad-leaved shrubs and trees, among roots and beneath lawns to the consequent detriment of the surrounding grass. All in all, not good news.

Ask a European gardener to name his worst garden pest, and he would probably say slugs and snails – in that order.

Not in Phuket. They exist all right, including tramp snails, which often appear on walls and a giant species with a wheel-shaped, conical shell that inhabits long grass, but they seem to do only little damage. The odd chewed leaf is just as likely to have been munched on by a grasshopper or a caterpillar.

Maybe it is not consistently damp enough for slugs; maybe the skinks, lizards and toads are doing a good job. If so, then three cheers for bio-controls.

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## Construction Update

## Kata Noi



Impiana Private Villas in Kata Noi opened in April and is arguably one of the most luxurious accommodation options on the island.



# Impiana's six stars shine in Kata Noi

**T**HE six-star Impiana Private Villas in Kata Noi finished its high-end fit-out and opened its doors in early April and has since been well received.

Developers Haad Sai Ngen acquired three and a half rai that cascades down the Kata Noi hillside overlooking the Andaman Sea in 2008. Construction then began on the

boutique resort in January 2009.

The resort hosts four private villas and seven luxury suites, each with a private pool, 24-hour butler service and high-end finishings such as large LCD televisions, personal espresso machines, oversized baths and rain showers, to name a few.

The grandeur of the Royal Villas offers indulgence with two oversized bedrooms, private

jacuzzis and sprawl an impressive 260 square meters. Plush modern furnishings accentuated with sophisticated classic style fill each villa.

Commanding cr   me de la cr   me seaviews with the entire sea-facing wall made of glass, the Royal Villa is also endowed with its own infinity pool and an outdoor deck.

The classic villas and suites

are set out in sizes ranging from 60 to 170 square meters and are characterized with respective design concepts. According to the villas' manager, Jeanette Kelly, Impiana's target market is vast – and seasonal.

“As a boutique resort which prides itself on luxury and exclusivity, we appeal mostly to couples looking for a private getaway and those who

enjoy the finer things in life,” she says.

Incorporated as a key element in the resort's design is the lawn, which Ms Kelly explains that due its location, size and positioning, is aimed at attracting weddings, celebrations, product launches and company incentives, for which the whole property can be rented.

– Nicky Vermeulen

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Construction commences Q2 2010 and Completion during Q2 2012



# Property Gazette

## Properties For Sale

### LAYAN LAND



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

### BEAUTIFUL SEAVIEW

For sale. At Surin Beach. No agent. Call K Sawa for more details at 080-695 2944.

### LAND 1/ 2 RAI NEAR LAGUNA

In Bang Jo, nice quiet area, near beaches. Price: 2.5 million baht. Tel: 081-078 0014 (English). Email: homeinphuket@live.com

### 3-BEDROOM HOUSE

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

### PAY IN 6 YEARS, NO INTEREST



Sale price: 12 million baht. 648sqm of land, bar/hotel, 9 bedrooms, 9 bathrooms, furnished, WiFi. Location: Rawai Beach. Contact. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

### 3-BED VILLA AND POOL KAMALA

Located on the hill behind Phuket Fantasea with nice seaview. For sale for only 8.95 million baht. Would consider long-term rental. Tel: 089-729 1403 (English & Thai). Email: imconnac@aol.com For further details and lots of pics, see my website at www.villakamala.com

### 1/ 2 RAI HILLTOP LAND

Walled & gated, near Laguna. Low price: 24 million baht. Tel: 086-470 5806, 080-695 9665.

### LAND FOR SALE

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

### BRAND-NEW CONDO

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

### VERY SPACIOUS EUROPEAN



Villa in quiet area in Rawai. Quality building by Dutch constructor. Large living area and huge terrace. 3 bedrooms with aircon, 3 en-suite bathrooms, 1 separate guest toilet. Western kitchen, garage, beautiful garden, laundry, True Visions TV. 650sqm plot with Chanote title. Price: 9.8 million baht. Please contact Paula. Tel: 084-844 1486. Email: meeuwissen paula@hotmail.com

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### PAY IN 5 YEARS, NO INTEREST



92sqm apartment, furnished, ADSL, CATV+CCTV. 30-year lease. Price: 2 million baht. Location: Rawai Beach. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

### SEAVIEW LAND IN AO POR



For sale. 2 rai, 90sq wah with Chanote title. In Laem Thong, Ao Por. Sale price: 6 million baht. No agent! Tel: 087-270 9093.

### LAYAN: 3/ 4 RAI (1200SQM)

for sale. Public road, electricity, water, lake view and country side, very quiet, private area. Price: 3,750,000 baht. Tel: 081-787 4383. Email: ruggdan@gmail.com

### RAWAI SEAVIEW

42sq wah of land with Chanote title. Two stories with Chalong Bay view or mountain view. Tel: 086-951 6505.

### 3-BEDROOM HOUSE

for sale or rent. 312sqm, 2 bathrooms. Fully furnished, 24-hour protection. 5 minutes to Chalong Bay, 10 minutes to Nai Harn Beach, 20 minutes to Patong Beach and 15 minutes to Phuket Town. Price: sale: 6.5 million baht. Rent: 45,000 baht per month. Please contact Khun Sam (English/Thai) 085-1106449. For further details, please see our website at <http://ipdproperty.com/30-chalong-villa/30-chalong-villa.html>

### CHEAP LAND FOR SALE

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

### HOUSE IN KAMALA



for sale. 2 houses on land. 1 Ngan 89sq wah. Chanote title, near mountain, peace and safe, 10 minutes from the beach. 7.8 million baht direct from owner. Tel: 083-180 2143. Email: yaris.vios@gmail.com

### PATONG BAR

Urgent bar sale at very special rate. Price Starting 2 million baht only. Fully equipped, ready to open. Tel: 089-730 2229 (English & Thai). Email: asia.intech@gmail.com

### HOUSE & FURNITURE

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

### PERFECT LAND

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

### LAND AT PA KHLOK



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

### NICE HOUSE 88 SQ WAH



4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 aircons, sofa, cable TV. Near Jomthong Village on Khwang Rd. 6.5 million baht. Tel: 086-774 2034. Email: hataimata@hotmail.com

### COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

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

### PRIVATE SALE OF HALF A RAI

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

### ROYAL PLACE CONDO

New 37sqm one bedroom condo for sale at Royal Place, near the Tesco Lotus intersection on the bypass road. Comes fully furnished including all electrical appliances. Ready to move in August. Complex has pool, gym, restaurant etc. 1.85 million baht. Tel: 083-982 3768. Email: drbeamshaw@gmail.com

### LAND AT PA KHLOK

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

### THAI-STYLE VILLA IN CHALONG



Luxurious, lakeside, Thai-style villa in Chalong. Has 8 rooms and a swimming pool. Price: 38 million baht. Tel: 081-892 8740.

### 2-STORY HOUSE IN PATONG



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

### TOWNHOUSE 2 STORIES



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

### LAND AT CHERNG TALAY

390sqm, nice flat land, quiet area, chanote. In Pasak Soi 5 near Laguna Home. Price: 6 million baht. Tel: 089-472 9118, 086-709-2933.

### CHEAP HOUSE FOR SALE

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

### 30 RAI IN TOWN

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

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# Property Gazette

## PAY IN 2 YEARS, NO INTEREST



2 condos in Rawai. Price: 1.7 million baht for 54sqm. 1 million baht for 27sqm. Located 200 metres from the pier. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

## NEW DETACHED HOUSE



for sale in Phanason 3, Thalang. 253.25sqm, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, double garage, furnished and landscaped garden. 2.95 million baht. Contact Phing. Tel: 087-278-0067. Email: sweetpinkylive.co.uk

## CHEAP PATONG POOL

Villa with a seaview, 6 rooms, 3 bathrooms, 4 aircons, 2 kitchens. Quick sale. Price: 6.4 million baht only, sold before at 12 million baht. Tel: 087-053 6016.

## 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 mins to beach. Land plots 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

## POOL VILLAS

For sale. 2 to 4 bedrooms, near Bang Tao beach, full furnished, sat TV and ADSL. Price: 3.2 million baht. Tel: 084-851 6121.

## LAND ON ISLAND

1 rai on Koh Phayam, Ranong. 300 meters from the beach, beautiful island ready for business. Price: 7.5 million baht. Tel: 089-021 9504. For further details, please see our website at [www.kkaowyairesort.com](http://www.kkaowyairesort.com)

## KRABI, AO-NANG POOL VILLAS

Land area 320sqm, 2 bedrooms. 6-7 million baht. Second home with strong rental income. Tel: 087-8977380. Email: mrxelmay@gmail.com

## PANORAMIC SEAVIEWS

Seaviews from every window. Located in Nai Ham/Rawai. Long leasehold, 150sqm, 2 bed apt, pool, 50sqm private roof terrace. Price: 4.8 million baht or 105,000 Euros. Tel: 086-684 5368. Email: bisop5@yahoo.co.uk

## NAI YANG GARDEN VILLA

Land 1 rai with 4 houses, 7 bedrooms and bathrooms, swimming pool, fully furnished, 2km to beach, 5km to airport. Sale price only 9.5 million baht. Tel: 081-691 9346. Email: sumon@ridethailand.com

## BAAN BAI MAI



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

## PARICHART VILLAGE, CHALONG



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

## CONDO IN RESORT

Patong-Kalim, on the beach, 64sqm for 2/4 persons, freehold, luxury, good investment or rental return, all services available. Tel: 089-290 8854 (English & Thai). Email: verhaeghefranc@hotmail.com

## PATONG LUXURY SEAVIEW VILLA

Villa in Patong with stunning sea view. Ready to move in, Chanote title. Price: 23 Million baht. Tel: 086-982 2888 (English & Thai). Fax: 02-960 7051. Email: prim\_purdue@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at [www.awphuket.com](http://www.awphuket.com)

## PIECE OF LAND - CHALONG

Nice piece of land with golf view in Chalong! 77 rai. Chanote. Price: 7.5 million baht/rai. Straight from first owner! Tel: 089-592 1869. Email: sara@futuregraphics.be

## 300M BEHIND MAIN STREET

Phisitkorane Sai Namyen Village, Patong. Quiet, natural area. 2 fir house with beautiful garden, 380sqw. Tel: 086-949 3021, 087-509 4936.

## THE ROYAL PLACE

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

## NEW HOUSE KAMALA BEACH

Western style, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, fully furnished, aircon, phone, ADSL, quiet. Mountain view, close to beach. 6 million baht. Tel: 083-645 3546.

## 48 RAI KHAO LAK / BANG SAK

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

## NEW TOWNHOUSE



2 stories, 100sqm, corner position with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Quiet location, 2 carparks, 2 minutes to Super Cheap. Price: 2.5 million baht. No agents! Tel: 087-270 9093.

## VERY NICE SEAVIEW LAND



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

## RAWAI HOUSE

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

## POOL VILLAS

for sale. 6 houses, 2-4 bedrooms with big pool. Tel: 085-674 6786. For further details, please see our website at [www.phukethome.ws](http://www.phukethome.ws)

## SALE & RENT VILLA

7 bedrooms, 7 bathrooms, kitchen, garden top floor, swimming pool. For sale: 19 million baht. For rent: 70,000 baht. Tel: 087-267 7281 (Italian) or 085-243 3878 (Thai).

## SURIN BEACH

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

## POOL VILLA URGENT SALE

350sqm villa. 4 floors in the mountain above Amari Coral Beach Resort, Patong. Garden of 800sqm with 10x5m pool. Carport, huge aquarium. Sea-view from 3rd and 4th floors. Urgent sale required. Reasonable bids will be considered. Tel: 076-292214, 081-979 3860. Email: steen8jansen@gmail.com

## LAND FOR SALE

5 rai in Kathu, plus 90 wah on Nanai Road, Patong, with stunning mountain view. Tel: 087-883 1756.

## 90 WAH LAND NANAI ROAD

For sale. Mountain and ocean views. Tel: 076-296326, 087-883 1756.

## SHOPHOUSE AT SURIN BEACH

3 storey. Good location. Price 17 million baht. Call Khun Nantana. Tel: 084-261 1161.

## HEAVEN ON EARTH



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

## BEAUTIFUL HOUSE, FULLY FURNISHED



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

## PAY IN 5 YEARS, NO INTEREST



Rawai beach. For lease or sale. Land and villa, 400sqm. 6 beds, 6 baths, fully furnished. Sale price: 7.5 million baht. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

## NEW TOWNHOUSE



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

## HOUSE

### 2.6 MILLION BAHT

for sale. 2 bedrooms, furniture, car park. Location: Kamala beach. Contact: K. Natalie. Tel: 089-472 5162.

## NICE HOUSE IN KATHU

For sale. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, private swimming pool and garden. Price: 12 million baht. Contact: K. Pla. Tel: 081-925 1730.

## NICE PLOT BEHIND LAYAN HILL ESTATE



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

## SHOWROOM / COMMERCIAL BLDG

1.5 rai, 2,800-sqm showroom on bypass rd near Thanachart Bank. For lease or sale. Tel: 081-787 2201. 081-597 8315. for more info, please e-mail [phuket1988@hotmail.com](mailto:phuket1988@hotmail.com)

## SINGLE HOUSE

for sale in Supalai Hill, near Heroines Monument. 55sqm, 3 beds, 2 baths. Call K. Aree for more info. Tel: 083-649 1218.

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# Property Gazette

## 3 RAI LAND IN TRANG



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

## 17 RAI WITH PALM TREES

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

## PHUKET HOUSE & OFFICE

Living room, 5 bedrooms, 1 Office, 4 WCs with shower, 1 business room, 1 store, 1 garden house. Asking price: 13 million baht. Email: khonkaener@hotmail.ch <http://www.thai-swiss.ch/immobilien.immobiliens.0.html?L=0>

## LAND NEAR GOLF COURSE IN KATHU

Near Loch Palm, 600 sq.m. with Nor Sor 3 Kor. Price: 2.6 million baht. 076-321445, 089-7247211. Email: info@botanvillage.com

## KOH YAO YAI LAND

Beautiful land set among the tropical jungle of the island. While this property is classed as inland, it is positioned a mere 500 metre walk to beautiful sandy beach (Klong Son Bay) of Phang Nga Bay. Nor Sor Sam Kor 5,033 rai of land. Ask price 9.5 MB, includes one (Dusita) Thai house. Tel: 076-289122, 084-8487474 (English & Thai). Email: kasina\_navamachiti@yahoo.com

## LUXURY CONDO REF'B

No.4 sets D'Glazed. Sliding doors. Granite worktop kitchen. No.2 bathrooms, glass shower unit. Tel: 085-788 7352 (English & Thai).

## APARTMENT IN NAI HARN

for sale. Palm Beach Resort, 102sqm, private owner free hold, new top floor, 2 bedrooms, swimming pool, fitness, mini tennis club house, security in Nai Harn, minutes to beach. 5.7 million baht. Tel: 089-593 6815. Email: shmaen2006@hotmail.it

## NEW HOUSE FOR SALE/ RENT



In Srisuchart Grandville 3, not far from Tesco Lotus. 3 bedrooms 2 bathrooms, 1 car park and little garden. Very nice house contact to come see at 087-277 0978 or koyangle99@hotmail.com

## NEW HOUSE IN THE BANYAN VILLA



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

## 2 RAI IN AO MAKHAM



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

## SINGLE HOUSE

for sale in Supalai Hill, near Heroines Monument. 55sqm, 3 beds, 2 baths. Call K. Aree for more info. Tel: 083-649 1218.

## 1/ 2 RAI CHANOTE LAND

Hill top, near Laguna. For quick sale. Price: 2.4 million baht. Tel: 086-470 5809, 080-695 9665.

## KATA OCEAN VIEW 4.9 MTB

Luxury, 90sqm. Click link below for more details. Tel: +1-408-627 5793. Email: maurick1@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at <http://oceanviewkata.shutterfly.com>

## PORNSAWAN CONDO

Studio condo. 1.35 million baht. 63.72sqm, 1 bedroom, 2 bathroom, living room, 2 aircons, kitchen, furniture built in. Tel: 081-676 4195.

## NEW CONDO PATONG

Brand-new, fully furnished, 1-bedroom condo. Freehold. Email: jgkg24@hotmail.com

## 1 RAI IN PASAK

Chanote title, 3 phase power. Land located in Pasak Soi 8. Email: jgkg24@hotmail.com

## HOUSE & BUSINESS RAWAI

Land and house with 2 successful businesses (Laundry and Coffee Shop) for sale. Good location between Nai Harn and Rawai in developing area. Price: 6.5 million baht. Tel: 076-388484, 081-891 3264 (English & Thai). Email: bergman.brittmarie@telia.com

## FIRE SALE

Top quality. 63sqm, 1 bedroom, pool side condominium in the center of Patong. Includes quality furniture. Previously for sale at 5.2 million baht. Now 3.9 million baht or nearest offer. Tel: 087-887 9070.

## TWIN VILLAS AT NAI YANG



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

## BEAUTIFUL NAI YANG LAND



9.5 rai, beachfront. 5 minutes to Phuket airport. Asking price: 120 million baht. Chanote. Must see. No agents. Please contact via by email: allservices29@gmail.com

## TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE OR RENT



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

## NEW HOUSE IN NAI HARN-RAWAI



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

## 5-STAR CONDO

for sale. The Height Phuket, ocean, pool and mountain view. Price 19.5 million baht. Best offer. Tel: 086-883 9815.

## PATONG TOWNHOUSE

in Baan Benjamas for sale. Corner position, with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, it is neat, light and airy. Quiet location with garden and undercover carpark in a maintained estate. Central location. Price: 6.7 million baht. Tel: 087-257 2289, 087-900 8445.

## PIECE OF LAND - RAWAI

Nice piece of land in Rawai. 5 rai. Chanote. Price: 7 million baht/rai. Straight from first owner! Tel: 089-592 1869. Email: sara@futuregraphics.be

## POOLSIDE APT, RAWAI

Nai Harn. Big 1 bed apartment with balcony: 1.75 million baht. Or 2 beds, 2 baths in a penthouse with, roof terrace and stunning seaviews: 4.9 million baht. Finance available. Tel: 086-684 5368. Email: bisop5@yahoo.co.uk

## LAND ON NANAI ROAD

for sale. 90 wah, Mountain and Ocean views. Tel: 076-296326, 087-883 1756 for more details.

## 3 DOUBLE BEDROOMS HOUSE

or sale. Preusachart Lakeview, Land and Houses Park. Beautiful, peaceful setting on the lagoon. Fully furnished with quality new and antique pieces, 3 double bedrooms, 1 ensuite with jacuzzi. Maid room and covered washing area. Email for full details and pictures to: lowprofile@mail.com

## ALERT: SPACIOUS 4 BED VILLA

Cherng Talay, fully furnished, landscaped. Best offer over 6.1 million baht. Tel: 089-216 7220 (English). Email: julianburgess@myway.com

## KATHU LUXURY GOLFVIEW VILLA



State-of-the-art villa, 484 sq.m., built on 1/2 rai land, 12 mins from Patong, Price: 20 million baht. Contact Julien. Tel: 076-321445, 089-724 7211. For further details, please see our website at <http://www.botanvillage.com>

## HOUSE IN ANUPHAS GOLF VILLE



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

## NAI HARN APARTMENT

1 bedroom apartment, 58sqm. Super location, very modern, with a seaview and pool. Price: 2.5 million baht. Tel: 084-844 6476. Email: dildalarge@yahoo.co.uk

## FREEHOLD FINISHED CONDO

2 bed, 1 bath, 105 sqm furnished condo. Asking 8.49 million baht or nearest offer. Tel: 087-077 8454 (English), 081-137 1001 (Thai). Email: solitude001@aol.com

## BEACH LAND KHAO LAK 5 RAI

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

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

TO: The Phuket Co Ltd, 79/94 Moo 4, Thepkasattri Rd  
T. Koh Kaew, A. Muang, Phuket 83000

YES, I want to receive the PHUKET GAZETTE for a full year - 52 issues!

I hereby authorize payment against my Visa ☐ / Mastercard ☐

☐ Thai Baht 1,560 for Phuket Special Delivery (Phuket Island only!)

☐ Thai Baht 2,800 for a domestic subscription (outside Phuket)

☐ Thai Baht 9,000 for an overseas subscription (any country outside Thailand)

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please airmail.  
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**Deadline for all other ads: Saturday 12 noon.**







# Boats & Marine

THAILAND'S LEADING BROKERAGE & NEW YACHT DEALERSHIP

**LEE MARINE**  
International Marine Brokerage

Please visit our website for more listings

► **Sunseeker Portofino 53 (2005)**

- Professionally managed since new
- Twin Caterpillar C12 715hp engines with shaft drive
- New Kohler (2009) 7kw generator
- New tender and outboard (2009)
- 3 cabin layout in excellent condition

\$550,000 USD

► **Yamaha 55 (1990)**

250,000 GBP

► **Kanter 54 (1994)**

NEW LISTING

\$550,000 USD

► **Beneteau Flyer (2006)**

220,000 Euro

► **Crownline 220LS (2008)**

1,700,000 THB

**leemarine.com**

Dealership Office  
The Boat Lagoon Marina Phuket  
Contact: Martin Holmes  
tel: 076 238 803  
fax: 076 273 319  
email: info@leemarine.com

Brokerage Office  
The Boat Lagoon Marina Phuket  
Contact: Andrew de Bruin / Marcus Overman  
Mobile: 081 894 1530 / 081 968 1437  
tel/fax: 076 239 729  
email: andrew@leemarine.net

Yacht Haven Marina Office  
The Yacht Haven Marina Phuket  
Contact: Jim Poulsen  
Mobile: 081 891 3237  
tel/fax: 076 206 260  
email: jim@leemarine.net

Pattaya Office  
Ocean Marina Jomtien Beach  
Contact: Mark Heath  
Mobile: 081 767 9408  
tel: 038 235 061 fax: 038 235 062  
Email: mark@leemarine.net

## 21' FIBERGLASS SPEEDBOAT

With secondhand 200Hp Yamaha & trailer. Thai registered, built 2009. Price: 650,000 baht. Tel: 086-281 4815 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-234614. Email: bkk@email.com

## PRIVATE BOAT

37ft, launched October 2006, 2 x 250Hp, HK Mercury (240hrs). Includes navigator, GPS, fish finder, separate toilet, freshwater shower, VHF Radio, fenders, Volvo QL trim flaps, electric anchor, all safety equipment, trailer and Thai registration. Sale price: 2 million baht. Tel: 038-720519, 085-237 9615. Fax: 038-720219. Email: michael.floeth@glolo.co.uk

## 33 FT STEPPA BOAT

for sale. 33ft Steppa Flyerbridge 2x200 Yamaha. Price: 1.2 million baht. Tel: 076-270379, 081-894 2124 (English). Fax: 076-270563. Email: klaus@h2o sportzphuket.com

## SEA RAY SUNDANCER 310

31ft, launched 10/02, 2 X Mercruiser 350 (250hrs). Includes radar, GPS, Panasonic TV, Clarion marine radio, Bose sound system, electric anchor, aircon, 24,000BTU, trailer and Thai registration. For sale at 3.3 million baht. Tel: 038-720519, 085-237 9615. Fax: 038-720219. Email: michael.floeth@glolo.co.uk

## FISHING BOAT

15 x 3.75m, Hino diesel, 185Hp, HYD gears. Toilet with 2 showers, kitchen and 4 bed places. Price: 1.2 million baht. Tel: 087-881 7221 (English), 086-873 3589 (Thai).

## OUTBOARD ENGINE 15 & 25Hp

Mariner 25Hp short shaft & Yamaha 15Hp longshaft fully serviced. Price: 30,000 baht each. Tel: 076-289656, 081-895 1826 (English). Email: info@far-away.net

## MOTORSAILER



Neptunian 33. Bluewater cruiser. New paint and varnish, inside and outside. Sailed single handed from UK. Tel: 081-968 1437 (English). Email: bobedward1@hotmail.com

## 60' MOTOR YACHT

60' motor yacht for sale. The boat was built as a passenger vessel and is ideal for day trips and dive trips. 2 x 380 hp engines. Licensed for 40 passengers, plus crew. Tel: 083-395 8198 (English & Thai). Email: frank@krabibiz.com

## URGENT IMMEDIATE SALE



Urgent immediate sale to highest bidder (need some repairs). Contact 084-712 7451 for inspection and bid.

## SEADOO JETBOAT 215Hp FAST

2005 Seadoo Jetboat. 1500cc, trailer + tower, condition 90%. can reach 60 Mph. Special price: 670,000 baht. Tel: 081-754 7599. Email: csutivas@hotmail.com

## NEW SEADOO RXTX 255Hp

New 2008 Seadoo Rxt-x 255Hp. Special price: only 485,000 baht. Can do 70mph. 2 units left. Tel: 081-754 7599. Email: csutivas@hotmail.com

## SEALINE 260

Economical single diesel, end of season. Bargain at only 1.2 million baht. Website: www.boatshedphuket.com

## PESCOTT 11.8m (2000)

Fast cruising catamaran reduced to AUS\$185,000. For further details. See www.boatshedphuket.com

## 14FT SAILING DINGHY

For a couple or family, will be racing at Ao Yon. 2/3 sets of sails, uses no fuel as air is free. Price: 135,000 baht. Tel: 081-539 9560.

## 55-FOOT CRUISING CATAMARAN

6 double cabins, 105sqm sails, 2009 in composite, not finished. Price: 1.5 million baht. Contact for more details. Tel: 087-461 8089.

## NEW 15Hp YAMAHA

15Hp Yamaha outboard, never been on the water. Quick sale! Price: 45,000 baht. Tel: 081-892 4804.

## PEARSON COUNTESS (1970)

Reduced to only US\$89,000. For further details, please see our website at www.boatshedphuket.com

## MOTORSAILER

33' Neptunian. Recent paint/varnish, inside and outside. Many new parts. Bluewater cruiser. Sailed single-handed from UK. Excellent condition. Tel: 081-968 1437 (English). Email: bobedward1@hotmail.com

## SCHIONNING POWER CAT 42'

Twin diesel inboards, 4 double berths. Excellent condition. Price: US\$329,000. Website: www.boatshedphuket.com

## OUTBOARD WANTED

25-50Hp outboard motor wanted. Tel: 081-892 4804. Email: gordon\_asia@hotmail.com

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

TO: The Phuket Co Ltd, 79/94 Moo 4, Thepkasattri Rd  
T. Koh Kaew, A. Muang, Phuket 83000

YES, I want to receive the PHUKET GAZETTE for a full year - 52 issues!

I hereby authorize payment against my Visa ☐ / Mastercard ☐

☐ Thai Baht 1,560 for Phuket Special Delivery (Phuket Island only!)

☐ Thai Baht 2,800 for a domestic subscription (outside Phuket)

☐ Thai Baht 9,000 for an overseas subscription (any country outside Thailand)

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# Island Job Mart

**SALES STAFF WANTED**  
Full time, Thai national. English is a plus. Tel: 081-537 6866.

**APARTMENT MANAGER WANTED**  
Thai national, able to speak & write English, Multi tasking and dependable. Start on 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-288 8696 (English & Thai). Email: solitude001@aol.com

**SURVEYORS WANTED**  
Male or female wanted to assist with survey's. Must understand basic English. Good basic salary plus commission. Contact Jay. Tel: 084-851 7529. Email: jamerward@yahoo.co.uk

**LOOKING FOR A CHALLENGE**  
Dynamic, mobile, sales and marketing professional required to develop our private holiday villa rental portfolio in Phuket. High business ethics, sound commercial understanding with great presentation & interpersonal skills essential. Superb earning potential with retainer & expenses paid. Work permit available for the right person. Contact Paul by email sales@thailandholidayhomes.co.uk For further details, please see our website at www.thailandholidayhomes.co.uk

**FARANG LIVING IN PHUKET**  
is looking for part-time secretary with computer knowledge Thai-English. if possible with driving license. Email: maurice.phuket@gmail.com

**THAI MAID WANTED**  
to work in house in Hong Kong. Required Sept 2010 to work for mature couple in Clear Water Bay, Hong Kong. Must be fond of dogs and cooking. Only basic English required. Excellent conditions. Interview can be arranged in Phuket. Tel: +001-852-9468 6499. Fax: +001-852-2849 8448. Email: jdye@netvigator.com

**NURSERY TEACHER**  
Native English, teach 3-7-year-old kids in Rawai. Tel: 084-714 4104. Email: motherandchild.rawai@yahoo.com

**GRAPHIC/ FASHION DESIGNER**  
Must have good command of English and computer skills. Salary: 25,000 baht per month. Email: boxergirl@boxergirl.net Website: www.boXXerworld.com

  
**PhuketProperty.com**  
Phuket's No. 1 property website

**Sales Executive**

We are looking for a Thai national to join Phuket's fastest growing and most exciting internet based property company.

**Benefits include:**

- A great career opportunity,
- an annual salary in excess of 400,000 baht, plus potential commissions of over 1,000,000 baht,
- a company car.

**The ideal candidate will:**

- Have 3 - 5 years experience in Phuket's property industry working in sales,
- communicate well, take initiative, act quickly to close the sale,
- have excellent English skills,
- be an outgoing person, a team player and fun to be around,
- be PC literate.

Please send your CV to [info@phuketproperty.com](mailto:info@phuketproperty.com)

**CLX ASIA**

Our client, CLX Group, is one of the world's leading prepress companies from Europe. The group maintains a strong international position in color management and image retouching for the prepress production of catalogs, magazines, and advertising campaigns.

With over 35 years of experience, CLX has witnessed numerous technological developments. It combines its deep knowledge of the business with cutting-edge technologies and provides organizational and technological solutions to optimize media production processes. The Phuket operations have been well established and are growing well.

With the recent expansion plan, our client would like to fill the following positions to support their Phuket operation:

**Production Supervisor (1 position)**

Responsible for quality control and managing the assigned production team in Phuket to ensure projects are delivered to clients within timescales and to the quality expected.

**Requirements:**

- English and Thai language skills are a must.
- At least 3 years of experience in managing a small retouch team. Good QC experience is a must.
- Strong attention to detail and ability to provide quality control.
- Must have good interpersonal, people management and communication skills.

**Assistant Production Supervisor (5 positions)**

Responsible for proofing and maintaining the quality of images and data. Work closely with the production team in Asia and Europe to ensure projects are delivered to clients within timescales and to the quality expected.

**Requirements:**

- English is a plus, but not necessary.
- At least 5 years of experience in photo retouching within the prepress industry. Good QC experience is a plus.
- Strong attention to detail and ability to provide quality control.

**Retouch Operator (15 positions)**

Responsible for image retouching, color correction, or compositing on assigned projects. Duties also include production support related projects. Work with the management and production team to achieve desired results.

**Requirements:**

- English is a plus, but not necessary.
- At least 2 years of experience in photo retouching within the prepress industry.
- Strong attention to detail.

**Requirements for all positions:**

- Thai nationality only.
- Must have a solid understanding of color and image retouching and demonstrate extensive knowledge in Photoshop (Mac) and be comfortable working in a very multi-functional, hands-on role.
- Must have a proven ability to organize and manage multiple projects simultaneously.
- Highly self-motivated and willing to work towards tight deadlines.
- Proactive and assertive to work with the team. Must also fit in with the CLX Asia's culture – an energetic, fast paced, youthful and people oriented approach.

CLX Asia offers excellent benefits including highly competitive salary and a very supportive work environment. If you are enthusiastic about a prepress profession and desire a working environment where your skills can be developed and supported, please state which role you are interested in and email your CV and a covering letter to: [resumes@premediajobs.com](mailto:resumes@premediajobs.com)

For more information, please visit [www.premediajobs.com](http://www.premediajobs.com)

**Premedia JOBS**



Sai Taan is a fast growing property developer based in Phuket. Due to continued expansion we are looking for an ambitious, hard working finance manager/controller.

**Key Responsibilities:**

- Responsible for the financial operations of the company
- Work with management team to develop tax planning
- Develop and monitor cashflow plans & company budgets
- Provide weekly and monthly financial reports
- Manage current book keeping staff.

**Key Qualifications:**

- degree from recognised, leading university
- excellent spoken & written English is a must
- at least 6 years experience
- willing and able to learn necessary accounting regulations related to property business
- hard working & ambitious
- able to take initiative and work independently
- ideally some experience with a real estate development company.

We are looking for someone capable and ambitious to join our small team. This is an opportunity to join a small team and make a real contribution, while learning the details of the property development business. Competitive salary for the right candidate.

Please email to [info@sai-taan-phuket.com](mailto:info@sai-taan-phuket.com) enclosing a resume, recent photo and details of your current salary.

**Sai Taan Villas Co., Ltd.**  
3/14, Moo 5, T. Cherngtalay, A. Thalang, Phuket 83110  
Tel 076-271257-8, Fax 076-271256  
[www.sai-taan-phuket.com](http://www.sai-taan-phuket.com)

**ACCOUNTING**  
Permanent position. Experience with all facets of accounting including sales, purchases and tax required. Salary: 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-331615. Fax: 076-331616. Email: [inq@sailing-thailand.com](mailto:inq@sailing-thailand.com)

**MARKETING**  
Permanent position - Work with our website, agent and direct marketing. Good spoken and written English, and computer skills are required. Salary: 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-331615. Fax: 076-331616. Email: [inq@sailing-thailand.com](mailto:inq@sailing-thailand.com)

**KOELBL & LEHMANN CO LTD**  
Staff wanted.  
1) Quality controller  
2) Security  
3) Office administration with good English and experience  
4) Thai sales with food experience and car  
5) Driver  
Tel: 076-246621

**BEAUTY THERAPISTS WANTED**  
Position open for Thai nationals with excellent English and sales skills and with at least 1 year experience in luxury resort. Send your resume with recent photo to: [sparecruit@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sparecruit@hotmail.co.uk)

**MALE MASSEUSES WANTED**  
Earn good extra many with our outcall massage service for couples. No need to be qualified, training can be provided. Please email: [massagephuket@gmail.com](mailto:massagephuket@gmail.com) for more details.

**LINUX PROGRAMMERS NEEDED**  
American company seeking Linux programmers in Patong. English language required. Experience with C language or Perl required. Device driver experience and kernel level programming, or user interface programming with Perl and knowledge of Linux administration. Please send resume and salary requirements to Michael Anderson. Email: [manderson@streamscale.com](mailto:manderson@streamscale.com)

**TELE MARKETING JOB**  
Native English speaker, top rates. Working in Patong. For more information. Tel: 086-479 4027.

**NEW INT'L PRIMARY SCHOOL IN RAWAI**  
The IPC is seeking to appoint a head teacher. Must have PGCD and minimum 5 years experience. Be a leader with passion to inspire and motivate both staff and pupils. Please send your CV to: [careers@palmhouseprimaryschool.com](mailto:careers@palmhouseprimaryschool.com)

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



# Island Job Mart

## VOLUNTEER ENGLISH TEACHERS

Non-profit organization Xin Xay Neo Foundation is looking for volunteer retired English teachers whose first language is English and love to help kindergarten and grades 1-6 students speak English in public schools in Klong Koi, Phang Nga. 1-3 days a week. Expenses paid. Call Khun Tawat. Tel: 084-059 5957.

## WANTED

housemaid and gardener for farang home. Must have experience. Please contact Khun Ya. Tel: 081-797 7898.

## ENGLISH TEACHER (THAI ONLY)

SGS/Guard force center in Thalang looking for full-time English Teacher. Thai national only. Tel: 076-336084, 081-607 6637. Fax: 076-336085. Email: greatdeal94@gmail.com

## NANNY IN FRANCE

French family, 3 children need a nanny/maid for their return to France in July. Good English necessary. 1 month trial in Phuket. Email: nanny\_france@yahoo.com

## CONDO MANAGER REQUIRED

To manage 35 unit condo in Rawai. Must be experienced, reliable, fluent in Thai and English. Can do rentals & sales, etc. Tel: 087-077 8454 (English). Email: solitude001@aol.com

## HOUSEMAID WANTED

Looking for a house-maid to help with cleaning, washing, ironing, cooking, cutting the grass, cleaning the pool etc. Needs to speak English and own a vehicle. 9 hrs/day. 6 days/week. Payment: 10,000 baht/month. Tel: 081-956 9903. Email: office@sunbeam-management.com

## THAI SALESPERSON

Experienced, must speak English fluently. Salary + Commission. Call K. Fon. Tel: 088-442 8027.

## PART-TIME ASSISTANT

Must be fluent in English, needed for finding and buying materials for a boat that is being built. Contact Gunner. Tel: 089-287 4007.

## SALES POSITION IN RAWAI

looking for staff with sales skills for furniture and gift shop, English requested. Please send your CV to: asiamed@gmail.com

## EARN 40,000 BAHT PER MONTH

Young outgoing English speakers required, work permit + visa, assistant given + full training. Email: podgetto@hotmail.co.uk

## LOOKING FOR NANNY

To take care of my 18 month old son. Must love kids. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-874 6170.



Laguna Holiday Club, the fastest-growing Vacation Club in Asia, is urgently seeking to immediately employ the following:

### Central Marketing Manager (Bkk)

Fluent in English, Command of further Asian and /or European Languages Experience in Vacation Ownership Industry Preferred

### Sales Manager (Hua Hin) Sales Representative (Hua Hin)

Native Thai Speakers  
Experience in Vacation Ownership Industry Preferred

Salary, benefits, generous commissions and bonuses, and easy hours

Call... 076-362400 Ext.4404-4405  
careerwithlhc@lagunaholidayclub.com



## Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem Project



### SEEKING EXPERIENCED CANDIDATES FOR COMMUNICATION LIAISON POSITION

Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand are working together through the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) Project to improve the lives of coastal populations through better management of the Bay of Bengal environment and its fisheries.

The BOBLME Project will soon be based in Phuket. We want to establish a local presence, encourage a sense of ownership among stakeholders in the eight participating countries; promote BOBLME as a major source of information and advice; and communicate the results and progress of the project to stakeholders, especially to people in the coastal communities. One of the major tasks in 2010 will be to set up of media liaison outlets in each of the countries partnered with the project. These outlets will convey the project messages in appropriate language, and actively seek communication opportunities locally.

We are looking for an individual or company to take a leading role in the implementation of our communications strategy over the next four years.

For more information on the role and responsibilities, please see our website; [www.boblme.org](http://www.boblme.org).

Interested individuals or companies should send a CV or company profile together with a covering letter outlining your professional competence to the Regional Coordinator Dr Chris O'Brien on [chris.obrien@fao.org](mailto:chris.obrien@fao.org) by June 11, 2010. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.



The Bell Pool Villa Resort in Kamala, Phuket is an all pool villa resort that concentrates on providing 5 star service to all its guests. Ultimate luxury combined with complete privacy are the principles that The Bell Pool Villa Resort strives to achieve every day, ensuring that each guest has a memorable experience that cannot be matched.

The Bell is currently looking for the following professionals:

#### Front Office

- Front Office Manager
- Guest Service Agent Supervisor
- Guest Service Agent
- Bell Boy & Driver

#### Kitchen

- Executive Chef
- Commis I
- Commis II
- Steward

#### Administration

- Sales
- Housekeeping
- Housekeeping Clerk
- Room Attendant

#### Butler

- Butler

Please forward your CV or contact our Human Resources Dept.  
Contact details below:

The Bell Pool Villa Resort,  
41/31 Moo 5, Baan Hua Khuan,  
Soi Bell, Kamala, Kathu, Phuket 83120

Tel: + 66 (0) 76-279914 Fax: + 66 (0) 76-279412  
E-mail: [hr@TheBellphuket.com](mailto:hr@TheBellphuket.com)  
Web: [www.TheBellPhuket.com](http://www.TheBellPhuket.com)



### ONLINE JOB APPLICATION

HOTEL - ACTING - SALES - IT - WEB DESIGN - F&B  
[www.KARON-PHUKET-HOTELS.com/JOB.htm](http://www.KARON-PHUKET-HOTELS.com/JOB.htm)

## SALES ASSOCIATE

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- University graduate with Bachelor Degree or higher
- Experience in Phuket real estate is a plus
- Minimum two years experience in dealing with high end luxury condominium sales
- Able to work in a fast track environment
- Good command of English
- Job location in Patong, Phuket

## SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- University graduate with Bachelor Degree or higher in accounting or finance
- Two years experience at supervisor level
- Good command of English
- Handle daily accounting operations (i.e. A/P, A/R, GL)
- Submission of monthly withholding and VAT
- Liaison with accounting firm
- Job location in Patong, Phuket

Interested candidates, please send your resume and picture to: [sotorn.dansirikul@gmail.com](mailto:sotorn.dansirikul@gmail.com)

## EXPAT CHEF DE CUISINE

Impiana Hotel KLCC, Malaysia is looking for an Expat Chef de Cuisine (Western cuisine). Attractive package & benefits. For further details, please contact. Tel: +60-3-2147 1008. Or send email to: [sunita.kaur@impiana.com](mailto:sunita.kaur@impiana.com)

## KRABI ENGLISH SPEAKERS NEED

- Project Manager  
- Site Foreman  
- Reception Manager  
- Housekeeper Supervisor  
Tel: 081-375 6234. Email: [pbs@tharaheights.net](mailto:pbs@tharaheights.net)

## Employment Wanted

## EXPAT ENGINEER

Looking for employment in Phuket, male, various experiences, management, commissioning etc. For further details, please contact at tel: 088-399 5073 (English). Or email: [job-phuket@hotmail.com](mailto:job-phuket@hotmail.com)



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# Tout, Trader & Trumpet

## Business Opportunities

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 Tel: 086-268-6090  
 Email: ference@tsba.info  
 www.tsba.info

### NANAI ROAD SHOP

No key money, good location, double units, underneath hotel. Price: 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-597 5474.

### KARON BEACH BAR

For rent. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, good location. Fully furnished, ready to move in. No key money. No utilities. Tel: 081-893 8324.

### MASSAGE PARLOR

For sale. In Patong, 120sqm, B. Salon, 6 massage rooms, 5 massage chairs. Tel: 081-495 4761.

### BAR FOR SALE

Soi Eric, 37 months, 50% share option with installment for payment offers invited. Must see! Tel: 087-883 1756, 087-894 7406.

### RESTAURANT FOR LEASE

Next to a 520 room resort, with high traffic. Reason for sale is relocation. Tel: 076-344922, 081-892 6829. Email: jctailor@loxinfo.co.th For further details, please see our website at: www.bluewaterphuket.com

### LOCATION LOCATION LOCATION

turnkey Krabi! Investment opportunity, fit-out specialists. Selling latest completed "Ready to Go", shophouse, hotel and restaurant near New Marina. Price: 7 million baht. Tel: 081-375 6234.



## Hair and Beauty Salon for Rent

A unique opportunity exists to set-up a professional Hair and Beauty Salon at Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket. This 23sqm salon in a prime location within the Shopping precinct of the Resort, offers prime exposure to resort guests.

For further information or to arrange a time to come and inspect the premises, please contact Khun Karuna on 076 324 101.

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### INTERNET CAFE FOR SALE

Near Prince of Songkla University. Shop with small built-in bedroom. Only 250,000 baht. Call for more details at the number: 080-698 0873.

### HOTEL FOR RENT

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### BAR IN SOI TIGER

Very well-known bar for sale, on Bangla Road, Patong. Prime location. Tel: 089-908 8856.

### BEE MASSAGE

For sale. Excellent location in Saiyuan Rd, Rawai. 2 air cons, 2 foot-chairs and equipment included. Price: 702,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 082-284 5682.

### NEW SALON FOR SALE

Promenade Plaza on Nanai Road. Fully equipped, new everything. Sale price: 179,000 baht. Rent price: 9,000 baht per month. Please call. Tel: 086-828 7505.

### SHOP IN KATA

65sqm, 5 months left on contract. Price: 6,000 baht per month, or 70,000 baht for sale. Tel: 080-148 3034.

### 150 MILLION BAHT PROJECT

in Nai Harn, seek 50% partner with 25 million baht. Tel: 085-792 0908.

### BEAUTY SHOP PATONG

Nail & beauty shop sale. Banzan Rd. Equipment included. Tel: 089-504 8882.

### SHOP UNITS

For rent. 5/6 single and double shop units. One of the double units has kitchen attached. In Patong Inn Plaza on Patong beach front. 128 Thaweewong Road, between Banana Disco and Patong Seafood. Tel: 076-292545 (Thai or English) for more info or to view.

### BEAUTY SALON AND MASSAGE



for rent, Patong beach. Key money 500,000 baht. Rent 25,000 baht per month, 3-year contract. Contact Mr Ben. Tel: 081-958 6741.

### POOL BAR/ RESTAURANT

For sale. Location: Patong. Foreign free hold. Price: 2.9 million baht. 1 million with no agents included. Tel: 083-172 2973.

### NEW SALON FOR SALE

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### ROOFTOP RESTAURANT FOR RENT

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

### FURNITURE SHOP

270sqm. Price: 2.5 million baht. Very nice opportunity. Tel: 082-803 0356.

### FOR SALE PHUKET KARON BEACH

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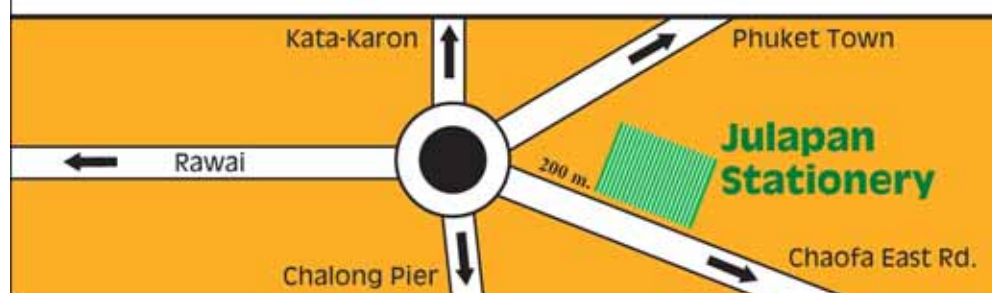
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<p><b>5 Laguna Village Residence I THB 33 M</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 beds 3 baths Residence</li> <li>separate storage room</li> <li>rental pool</li> <li>lagoon view</li> </ul>	<p>For more information on these and other properties, please call: <b>+66 (0) 76 362 333</b> or email: <a href="mailto:resale@lagunaresale.com">resale@lagunaresale.com</a> <a href="http://www.lagunaresale.com">www.lagunaresale.com</a></p>