

# Phuket Gazette

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## Attention Property Market!

NEXT week, the *Phuket Gazette* will bring you the latest happenings in the island's property market in our *Phuket Property Review*.

This 16-page special supplement has been written by a select group of Phuket property insiders dedicated to bringing you the latest news and views affecting the island's property market.

If you want to know what's hot and what's not, what our fair island has to offer regionally and much more about the trends and current status of property in Phuket – then this is one supplement you will want to read.

The *Review* will be inserted into the *Phuket Gazette's* Andaman Edition in stores on May 28. And our media partner, *The Nation*, will carry the supplement nationwide on May 25 and again on May 27.

In those distributions, it will be tucked into *The Nation's* own Property Guide, a quarterly supplement in *The Nation* newspaper.

The distribution includes almost all four and five-star hotels in Thailand and also puts our *Phuket Property Review* on board all Thailand-bound flights of the following airlines: United, THAI, Cathay Pacific, Emirates, Singapore Airlines, China Airlines, Vietnam Airlines, Air France, Delta and Lufthansa.

# Power, corruption and lies in Karon

## Illegal workers, illegal goods and claims of extortion

### SPECIAL REPORT

ALLEGATIONS of corruption, extortion and intimidation in the underworld of illegal-alien worker trafficking and counterfeit goods peddling have torn through Phuket in recent weeks, leaving officials and vendors pointing fingers and fearing for their lives.

Somchai Pandum, a counterfeit goods vendor in Kata Center, along with 50 fellow hawkers, filed a complaint at the Damrongtham Center on May 10.

The complaint alleged that Winai Chidchiew, chief of Karon subdistrict, was intimidating them, stealing their goods and extorting money (see *Gazette online* May 12: *Phuket vendors protest alleged corruption, extortion*).

Mr Somchai and his colleagues argued that they were being unfairly singled out by Kamnan Winai, who was extorting money from them in exchange for police protection.

Mr Somchai readily admits that



The video provided by Kamnan Winai allegedly shows him (pictured right) warning stall vendors in Karon to not pay bribes.

protection money was paid to keep the police from cracking down on employment of illegal aliens and sale of counterfeit goods.

The row became official, however, a day earlier when Kamnan Winai filed his own complaints with the Damrongtham Center, which serves as a provincial ombudsman's office. Kamnan Winai gave the *Phuket Gazette*

exclusive access to the documents along with a video he says is evidence that Chalong Police are the source of corruption and that Mr Somchai is "in on the game".

Kamnan Winai told the *Gazette* that Mr Somchai was paid by Chalong Police to protest and that it was they who were extorting money from vendors in Kata and Karon.

In his official complaint, Kamnan Winai wrote: "On May 4 at 6:45, a souvenir vendor at KT Plaza on Kata Road reported [to me] that a police officer was collecting money from vendors at that shopping area.

"[I] then went to the scene and found a police officer and Mr Somchai Pandum collecting money from the vendors. [I] told them to stop and the police asked [me] to delete a video that I was recording of their actions."

In the video, provided to the *Gazette* by Kamnan Winai, a man he identified as Mr Somchai can be seen walking away from the camera in a shopping area. Another man in the video wearing a white shirt and casually leaning against what appears to be a "reception counter" is a Chalong Police officer, he alleged.

Also featured in the video – which runs for two minutes and 29 seconds – are close-ups of allegedly counterfeit goods being sold in the plaza.

Continued on page 3

# Big turnout expected for local polls

PHUKET Governor Tri Augkaradacha expects about 70 per cent of all eligible voters in Phuket to cast their ballots in the upcoming July 3 national election.

"The candidates contesting seats in Phuket are all from different parties. This choice will encourage more people to cast their votes," he said after a closed-door meeting with the Phuket Provincial Election Commission late last week.

Voter turnout in Phuket for Thailand's previous general election, on December 23, 2007, stood at about 60 per cent, or about 200,000 votes, Gov Tri pointed out.

Governor Tri acts as "president" of the Phuket provincial office of the Election Commission, which is headed by Director Kitipong Thiengkunakarnit.

The governor also announced that registration for party-list

representatives will be accepted at the Thai-Japan Bangkok Youth Center in Bangkok from May 19 to May 23.

Candidates contesting Phuket seats must register with the Phuket Election Commission, which will set up a registration booth at Phuket Community Hall on Narisorn Road in Phuket.

Registrations will be accepted between 8:30am and 4:30pm from May 24 to 29.



Governor Tri Augkaradacha

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## This Week

### Live Wire



Woody weighs up the differences between WiFi and 3G. **Page 12**

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Singapore Yacht Club slings S\$9mn at new development. **Page 16**

### In Focus



Coke's 125 years of soft drinks, Nazis, drugs and jingles. **Page 17**

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### Property



Steep gradient means uphill battle for Kathu shortcut. **Page 29**

### Sport



Phuket swimming stars show soul at Flying Fish International meet. **Page 45**

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Sunday



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Monday



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Tuesday



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Wednesday



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# Police probe into fireball yacht hits the doldrums

By Janpen Upatising

THE police investigation into whether or not any people were trapped inside a 40-foot yacht that burst into flames and sank last Saturday has stalled.

Chalong Police Duty Officer Boonlert Onklang told the *Gazette* on Wednesday that no person had claimed ownership of the yacht, which was identified by a witness to the fire as "Karni".

"I checked with Phuket Immigration and the Marine Office [where all arriving yachts must check-in], but they had no information about who the owner is," Lt Col Boonlert said.

He suspected the owner is a foreigner visiting Phuket as the boat was anchored in Chalong Bay for "many days" before the fire.

"As no one has been reported dead or injured from the fire, we cannot proceed with further action until someone claims to be the yacht's owner," he said.

"And we have yet to determine the cause of the fire," he added.

Lt Col Rittee Paopan of the Phuket Marine Police said, "We



Three explosions were heard as the fire raged. Photo: Yodsak Jarana

received no reports of anyone being injured by the fire, so this case falls under the area of responsibility of Chalong Police.

"The yacht sank in shallow water and is only two kilometers offshore, but we cannot dive to inspect the wreck until we receive a request from Chalong Police," he added.

The fire was first reported at about 10pm. Three explosions were heard as fire engulfed the

vessel, which sank about two hours later.

Emergency rescue officers from the Tourist Rescue Center at Chalong Pier arrived alongside the burning vessel, but could not board to fight the fire as flames erupted from the hull, reported Lt Col Boonlert.

"Officers tried to put out the blaze with chemical fire extinguishers, but were not successful due to the strong wind," he said.

## Phuket remembers Louis Bronner

A FUNERAL service for Louis Bronner, the renowned general manager of The Boathouse restaurant in Kata, will be held at Wat Ladthiwanaram in Chalong on Sunday.

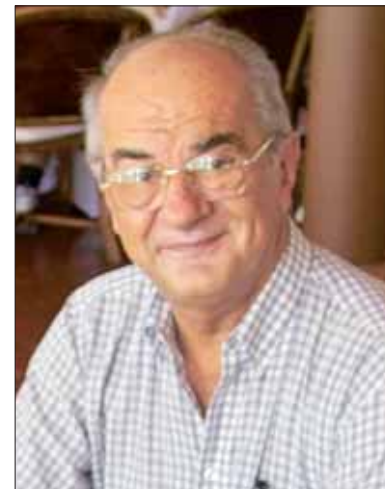
Mr Bronner died on Monday after complications from heart surgery. He was 70 years old.

Although Mr Bronner showed good recovery immediately after the surgery, his condition deteriorated in the following days.

"After Khun Louis' cremation, his ashes will be carried back to Phuket and a Buddhist ceremony will be held at Wat Tai (Ladthiwanaram Temple), according to his wishes," said Boathouse PR executive and friend Lies Sol.

At the service on Sunday, a Buddhist prayer ceremony will begin at 10:30am, followed by an alms offering to monks at 11am.

"Boathouse staff and Khun Louis' friends are all welcome to



Louis Bronner

attend the prayer ceremony at the temple," said Ms Sol.

In the afternoon, family and close friends will scatter his ashes in a private ceremony on Phang Nga Bay, she added.

Mr Bronner first gained his popular reputation on Phuket as

the general manager of the Phuket Yacht Club in Nai Harn, now known as the Puravarna Royal Phuket Yacht Club, which opened in 1987.

After Mom Luang Tri Devakul, better known simply as Mom Tri, opened the Boathouse restaurant in Kata in 1988, he asked Mr Bronner to lead operations there.

"At the Phuket Yacht Club he received guests such as Henry Kissinger, Peter Ustinov and Prince Henrik of Denmark. All these people became friends.

"Louis had something special. He was very personable. He could connect with people. He even received HRH Princess Galyani Vadhana as a guest before she passed away," Ms Sol said.

"He was very much loved by his staff. He was very honest and very just. He was a noble type of boss; always willing to listen," she added.

## Out-of-towners face postal vote farce in upcoming polls

ALL Thais who cast ballots by post in the general election four years ago will have to return to their home provinces to cast regular ballots in the general election on July 3.

Phuket Governor Tri Augkaradacha announced the voting conundrum last week after a closed-door meeting with the Phuket Provincial Election Commission.

"People who submitted a request to cast an absentee ballot in the last election must cancel that request; otherwise, they will not have the right to vote on July 3," Gov Tri explained.

Cancelling the "request" in-

volves travelling in person to the province where the citizen is registered to vote.

No province stands to be more greatly affected than Phuket, where the migrant worker population is thought to equal or even exceed the registered population, even by official estimates.

There may be some light at the end of the tunnel, however.

"The Election Commission in Bangkok is considering allowing people to cancel the request by email," Gov Tri said.

Hopefully, a reasonable solution to the problem will be announced next week, he added.

- Pimwara Choksakulpan



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# B320mn sought for Patong's first high school

PATONG Municipality will spend 320 million baht to renovate and expand the Ban Sainamyen School, establishing it as the busy tourist town's first high school.

Plans have been drawn up and construction is expected to take two years, with the high school slated to open in 2014.

"The [existing] school building is old but clean, though at present it only offers only primary education. There are many students in Patong who need high school education. Ban Sainamyen School needs to be renovated so we can better meet these educational needs," said Pian Keesin, the Mayor of Patong.

The upgrade includes a new school building with 48 classrooms; a three-storey building with a canteen on the first floor,

an 800-seat auditorium on the second floor and a gymnasium with 1,300 spectator seats on the third floor.

Other project facilities will include a 20-room teacher accommodation block, a basement car park for 100 cars, and a football field surrounded by a running track.

Sainamyen School currently provides primary (grades one to six) education only. Current enrollment is 396 students, but



PATONG HIGH: A computer image of the completed school.

when renovations are complete the school will be able to accommodate up to 2,160 students, Mayor Pian said.

"Many high school students living in

Patong have to go over the hill to attend schools in Kathu or Phuket Town – and the population of Patong is still growing. We need to provide high school education for this and coming generations," he said.

Patong Municipality will apply to the Regional Urban Development Fund Office (RUDF) for a 320mn baht loan to finance the project.

A request will be filed with the Phuket Provincial Office to apply to the RUDF on Patong Municipality's behalf, said Mayor Pian. "The loan should be approved within four months," he said.

"Construction could start as early as the end of this year, if the process runs smoothly," he added.

— Pimwara Choksakulpan

# Corruption allegations run rife

From page 1

"Later that same day [someone] reported to [me] that Mr Somchai was selling pirated goods," the complaint continues.

"So [I] went to his shop in Kata Center and arrested him for possession of pirated goods and took him to Chalong Police Station to proceed with legal action," the statement read.

The date of the "arrest" is disputed. Kamnan Winai claims that on May 4 he arrested Mr Somchai.

However, Mr Somchai claims that on May 3 the kamnan arrested him and stole 400,000 baht in merchandise from his shop.

A copy of a Chalong Police report dated May 4 states that Mr Somchai came into the police station on that day and filed a complaint against Kamnan Winai stemming from his "arrest on May 3". Kamnan Winai – not Mr Somchai – gave a copy of the report to the *Gazette*. Its contents corroborate some of Mr Somchai's description of events.

Mr Somchai refuted that the Chalong Police were involved with the protest on May 10.

"No one hired me or anyone to go to the Damrongtham Center and protest. The people there on that day were my family members and others suffering like me," he said.

When presented with Kamnan Winai's video, Mr Somchai said that he did not go to KT Plaza on

that day to collect money from vendors for the police – as the kamnan alleges – but to tell them to stop paying.

"A police officer at Chalong Police Station contacted me, saying there is no longer any need for vendors to pay the bribes. So, I went to KT Plaza to tell the vendors that from now on we don't

need to pay the bribes because Chalong Police would no longer accept them," Mr Somchai said.

It was Kamnan Winai that was [now] collecting the money, not the police, Mr Somchai said.

"He [the kamnan] set up a club, the Kata Karon Shop Traders, with over 500 members, including me.

But about six months after setting it up, he and some people working for him took it over by himself," Mr Somchai alleged.

"He told us that alien workers couldn't do the type of work they were doing for us – retail sales in shops. He said those jobs are reserved for Thai people only.

"So he offered to manage the problem with related government offices, saying we had to pay him. But I don't know who he paid that money to," Mr Somchai said.

"But for the past five months or so, officials from different government organizations have been arresting our workers because Kamnan Winai had some problems with officials," Mr Somchai said.

Mr Somchai said that he will wait 15 days for a response from



Somchai Pandum



ARE YOU SURE? Prapun Kanaprasang (blue shirt), head of the Damrongtham Center, which serves as the provincial ombudsman's office, asks Mr Somchai (seated left) and friend about their allegations.

Phuket Governor Tri Augkara-dacha, to whom the Damrongtham Center is expected to forward the complaint.

"I used to feel scared, but now I will use the law to fight with all my might against Kamnan Winai. I hope that Governor Tri can help give me justice.

"If not, I will go file a complaint about Kamnan Winai's

actions at the Department of Provincial Administration at the Ministry of Interior in Bangkok," he said.

Despite these allegations, Kamnan Winai remained steadfast in his claims that he was not extorting money.

"The Kata Karon vendor group members do rounds once a month in order to pay money to police in

many places, including Chalong.

"After Superintendent Kraithong transferred to Chalong Police Station, he began asking for more money from vendors. But the vendors were badly affected by the increase in the bribe price, so they reported to [me] to help negotiate with the police," the kamnan's complaint read.

The group, officially named Community Enterprise: Kata Karon Tailor and Shop, pay the bribes directly to Chalong Police, with no middle man, such as myself, Kamnan Winai said.

Superintendent Kraithong Junthongbai told the *Gazette* that he is not involved with bribery or money collecting.

"I do not know anyone in this [Chalong] police district. I was just transferred here to be superintendent on April 1 of this year," Col Kraithong said.

"I was assigned to work at Chalong Police Station for only three months to fix problems about illegal drugs. In two months I will be transferred back to Thung Thong Police Station.

"If I can fix the [drugs] problem, there may be consideration for me to stay here longer," Col Kraithong added.



At "Into the Sea", the signature restaurant at the Evason Phuket & Bon Island, chef Thomas Jakobi's Modern Logical Cuisine showcases his latest innovations in the form of new, creative interpretations of a cuisine that has both visual and textural appeal. The taste and focus on fresh, wholesome and local ingredients are paramount.

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# Drinking session ends in gunfire and death

PHUKET police continue to investigate what happened between two "cousins" last seen sitting together drinking in front of a house in Patong last Saturday.

One man was found still at the scene, shot in the head and grasping a 9mm handgun.

At the time this newspaper went to print, the other man was still missing.

Lt Col Chaowalit Neamwadee, duty officer at Patong Police Station, said police received a report about 11:20am on May 14 that a man had shot himself.

Officers arrived at the scene, a house opposite Suwannakiree Temple (Wat Patong) on Phra Barami Road, to find Yodthong Pinjit, 34, from Ratcha Buri, on the ground with a serious head wound.

Officers also found several bullet casings at the scene.

Suneerat Pissadu, the younger sister of Montri Pissadu, a "cousin" of the victim, said Mr Yodthong was last seen in front



Forensic Police investigate the scene of the shooting.

of the house drinking with Montri, 35, when she went out to buy food.

"When I came home, Yodthong was lying on the ground.

"I called my boyfriend to call the police. My brother had gone," Ms Suneerat said.

Sampawat Wannasangkam, a Patong Municipality officer and one of the first to arrive at the scene reported that Yodthong was still breathing when his team arrived at the house.

"He was holding a gun in his right hand," Mr Sampawat said.

"A medical team arrived a few minutes later to rush him to Patong Hospital," he added.

Mr Yodthong was later transferred to Vachira Phuket Hospital in Phuket Town, where he was dead on arrival.

Ampai Pissadu, Mr Montri's mother, was shocked by the incident.

"The two of them were very close. They have never had an argument," she said.

"The gun belongs to my son. He usually shoots it into the sky," she added.

Lt Col Chaowalit said police were continuing their investigation into the incident and had no updates in the case.

— Janpen Upatising

# Rubbish is

**OVERWHELMED** by the stench of excess waste piling up, some Koh Yao Noi residents and business operators are demanding to have a garbage incinerator built — but landowners at seven potential sites on the island have refused to give up land for the project.

The *Phuket Gazette's* Chutarat Plerin reports

ABOUT 30 Koh Yao Noi villagers last Thursday morning handed a letter of complaint to Mayor Somphol Roengsamut at the Koh Yao Noi Municipality offices.

The group said waste management had been a problem for years on the island. Now that the two municipal landfills are filled to capacity, they are demanding new solutions.

Leading the group, Koh Yao Tourism Business Committee President Soonthorn Sagulsan said, "having landfills for dumping waste is not a permanent solution."

Citing the example of Phuket, the residents are convinced that an incinerator is their best solution. However, unlike in Phuket, where the incinerator is located near the

homes, school and workplaces of many people — none of the Koh Yao Noi villagers want to be near it.

The island's two landfills — one behind the Koh Yao District Office on the west side of the island, the other in a mangrove forest named Klong Lo Moon on the east side of the island — were ordered shut down earlier this month.

Many residents believe the closures were the result of the overwhelming stench they emitted, coupled with the considerable fees charged to dump there.

"Koh Yao Noi Municipality sent us a letter informing us of the clo-

sure of the entrance to the landfill behind the District Office, but they didn't cite a reason for it," said Nisanat Tintalae, the municipality's chief administrative officer.

"Koh Yao Noi Municipality told us they couldn't handle the smell and the waste disposal fees were too high," said Mr Soonthorn.

"Five years ago Koh Yao Noi was awarded a budget of 60 million baht under a Royal Patronage project by HRH Princess Maha

Chakri Sirindhorn to implement a permanent waste management solution... but nothing has ever been done," he said.

Frenchman George Cortaz, 51, is director of Koyao Bay Pavilions. An 11-year resident of the island, he said, "For the last three

to four years, the smell has become more and more of a problem. I wish the government would do something about it. When the tide is high, it sucks waste down to the water.

"Koh Yao Noi is well known with a reputation for eco-tourism, but this problem is ruining it," he noted.

Mr Soonthorn said a local degradation in water quality related to the landfill had affected the local community, most of which relies of fishing as the primary occupation.

"Besides this, water in the area causes people to itch upon contact," he complained.



Mayor Somphol Roengsamut

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# piling up on Koh Yao Noi



**STRONG STENCH:** Koh Yao Noi's two landfills were shut down due to bad smells, villagers said, which has left them with nowhere to take their trash. Photo: Naruepon Nakvaschara

Mayor Somphol explained to the villagers in the meeting room that the municipality has been trying to solve the problem — thus far without success.

After surveying seven potential sites to build an incinerator, five in Village 6 and two in Village 7, they could not reach a consensus, he explained.

"Villagers there refused to have an incinerator built on their land, claiming they were not well informed," he said.

"They misunderstood, thinking the incinerator would cause a bad stench like the landfill behind District Office," he added.

Despite this, the municipality was scheduled to meet again this Saturday to discuss the possibility of having a "temporary incinerator" built behind the district office, he said.

The incinerator under consider-

ation would cost about two million baht and have the capacity to burn a tonne of rubbish per day, he said.

"However, it would take up to two months to get the incinerator ready for operation," he noted.



**Protesters at Koh Yao Noi OrBorTor office.** Photo: Chutharat Plerin

"In the meantime, I will chair a meeting with the municipal council and seek to allow villagers to resume disposing of their waste behind Koh Yao District Office," the Mayor added.

In regards to the royally-endorsed project, it was canceled after two years because the municipality was unsuccessful in its attempts to acquire suitable land, he said.

To build a permanent incinerator, the municipality needs two rai, he explained.

"...So if anyone has the land, we would be delighted to accept offers for consideration," he said in closing the meeting.

Mr Soonthorn said the villagers wanted the board meeting to be an open one in order to ensure transparency.

"We are satisfied. The mayor has informed us the board will be meeting to solve the problem. The most important thing is that we are allowed to attend the meeting so we can be fully informed about the decision-making process," he said.



**NO CONSENSUS:** None of the villagers want to live next door to the incinerator planned to be built at Koh Yao Noi. Photo: Chutharat Plerin

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## Top cop to take on boxing legend

THE island's "Top Gun" has challenged Thailand's most legendary boxing champion to a charity bout to raise funds for the families of police officers still suffering from the floods that struck Southern Thailand in March.

Phuket Provincial Police Commander Pekad Tantipong announced at a press conference last Tuesday that he will take on former WBA champion Khaosai Galaxy in a match to be refereed by Governor Tri Aukaradecha.

The bout is just one of many organized by Phuket Provincial Police Office as part of its "Fight Day for Fundraising and Kindness to Flood Disaster Victims".

The main event is scheduled to begin at 8pm on May 24 at the gymnasium at Sapan Hin in Phuket Town.

The Maj Gen will have a tough time gaining an edge over the 54-year-old champ turned media icon, who won 16 of his 19 fights by knockout between 1984 and 1991 and is widely regarded as the best professional boxer Thailand has ever produced.



Maj Gen Pekad (top right) on the fight card to take one WBA champion Khaosai Galaxy (top left).

Leading up to the headline fight will be several other match-ups with Thais and foreigners. The card kicks off at 7pm.

Entry will be free, but spectators will be asked to donate as much as they can to help more than 700 police families living in Krabi, Surat Thani and Nakhon Sri Thammarat.

— Atchaa Khamlo

## Police nab B9mn ya bah shipment bound for Trang

By Pimwara Choksakulpan

A HOTEL worker out on bail from a previous drugs arrest was nabbed last Thursday with 30,000 *ya bah* (methamphetamine) pills stuffed into a Thai Post cardboard box, police said.

The capture of 32-year-old Phakphum "Aod" Ply-ngam from Rassada represents by far the largest bust of a *ya bah* mule in a string of recent arrests.

The estimated street value of the pills is about nine million baht, according to recent police figures.

A special task force set up by Phuket Governor Tri Augkaradacha, acting on tips from an informant, arrested Phakphum at about 8:30am as he was making his way to the bus station on Phang Nga Road in Phuket Town.

Large drug busts in Phuket usually involve mules smuggling contraband onto the island, such as the seizure of six kilograms of cocaine this week at Phuket International Airport.

However, Phakphum was alleg-



Phakphum "Aod" Ply-ngam with some of the *ya bah* seized.

edly on his way to send the drugs off the island to the southern province of Trang, police said.

The informant told police that a Phuket drug dealer named "Aod" would be transporting a shipment of the drug out of Phuket Town.

When police arrived at the given location, on Wichit Songkram Road Soi 1 in Phuket

Town, they spotted a "suspicious" man carrying a plastic bag.

After asking Phakphum's permission, police searched his body and the bag, uncovering the massive haul of *ya bah*.

Phakphum confessed that the drugs were his and that he was on his way to the bus station to send the parcel to Trang.

He told reporters that he was "just a messenger" and that this was the fifth time he had attempted to ship drugs out of Phuket — the others were successful, he said.

He said that each time he made a delivery, he was paid between 30,000 and 50,000 baht.

Each time he received an order by phone, picked up the drugs at a designated location, packed them in a postal box and sent them to their destination by bus, he said.

This time, he picked up the drugs behind an apartment on Wirat Hongyok Road, he said.

Phakphum has been charged with possession of *ya bah* with intent to sell, a crime punishable by death.

## Sunnay debuts latest yacht Gladiator 42 S



• Gladitor 42S at Boat Lagoon Marina Phuket

Sunnay has launched a new yacht to welcome 2011 especially for those who love to travel. The yacht was built with precision using engineering science and the elegant interior-exterior decoration was designed to European standards, and to top it all off the yacht is very reasonably priced.

The Gladiator 42S of 2011 is an improvement over the Gladiator 38S of 2007. The interior features a spacious lounge, two staterooms, a toilet and shower. The decoration is designed with the need of yacht lovers in mind. By increasing the beam by 30 cm and reducing the height by 20cm, the yacht has a more sporty feel. Adjustment were made to the front and side windows and pulpit rails as well and more seats were added to heighten relaxation while on deck. The living room is fitted with a new sofa size and furniture while the kitchen emphasizes agronomical design making for easy equipment placement and function. The bedroom is designed for double beds, but can be changed to a single bed

depending on the customer's preference while the increase in the size of the yacht makes the Master State Room larger and allows room to stand upright. The various materials used for the interior and exterior were carefully selected and matched with world-class yacht makers, such as the best vinyl ester resin and high quality fiberglass. Sunnav employed more than 30 craftsmen, including carpenters, fiber, textile and leather workers, whose experience was the key in crating the elegant interior and the attention to every detail, which makes this yacht perfect for on-board living. These was the



• Gladiator 42S : Move from Boatyard Ratchaburi Province to Phuket on 26 April 2011

result of the continuous improvement by Sunnav's Research and Development team and the insights of Mr. Surapon Sanguthai, Sunnav's owner as well as an avid yacht collector and lover of sea travel.

Previously, the company has developed several models such the 72-foot Sunnav 72 FB, the 38-foot Sunnav 38 S and the 39-foot Gladiator 39 HT. Customers can enjoy the services of Sunnav's yachts in Phuket, Samui, and Koh Chang, among other destination. The Gladiator 42S is price at 10 million baht and comes with a five-year warranty.

### Specification



### Details of Gladiator 42S :

Length	42 ft 8 in
Beam	11 ft 11 in
Fuel capacity	1,000 litres
Fresh water capacity	300 litres
Engine	3 x Yamaha 300 HP
Max speed	40-45 knots for the engine

### For more information contact

Tel : 66 0 2429 2877-9 , 66 0 89 476 7443  
Phuket Office  
Tel: 66 0 7623 8976 , 66 0 85 352 1940  
Email: sales@sunnay.com  
www.sunnay.com

## Village dams gain royal recognition

A SMALL project by villagers in Thalang to help them cope with chronic water shortages has landed them in a national competition for the most innovative water resource project in the country.

The project, in Baan Pakrongcheep, Thepkasattri, comprises a 1,500-cubic-meter reservoir near the Klong Phra Taew Dam and a 500-cubic-meter reservoir behind Baan Pakrongcheep School.

The project will be up against similar projects from every province in the South in the regional competition, the winners of which will be considered for the national title.

The project gained momentum in late 2007 after Sopol Rayasakul, who lives in the village, petitioned HM King Bhumibhol Adulyadej to endorse the project.

At the time, residents in the village did not have enough water for daily use in their homes, or to use on their farms in the dry season, Mr Sopol said.

In 2008, he received a letter from the Office of His Majesty's Principal Private Secretary stating that His Majesty had accepted to endorse the Klong Phra Teaw Dam Improvement and Waterworks System Project as a Royal Project.

A year later, the Irrigation Project Phuket Office started construction and both reservoirs were ready for use by October last year.

"Since the project was completed, our lives have become much better. We have now planted



Sombat Puangsombat, director of the Irrigation Project Phuket Office inspects the 5000sqm reservoir.

papaya trees and we have started a rubber plantation on 24 rai of land," said Mr Sopol.

"The main reservoir can also be a place for residents to relax as well as a venue for holding Loy Krathong events," he added.

The nationwide competition, officially called the Small-Scale Water Resources Project Management Competition, is being organized by the Office of Royal Development Projects Board and the Irrigation Department to celebrate HM The King's upcoming 84th birthday.

First prize is 100,000 baht cash to be presented by HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn.

The competition results will be announced on August 31.

There are over 2,000 water-resource Royal Development Projects across the country.

— Janpen Upatiting



# Yingluck: 'I am not vengeful'

Former PM Thaksin's younger sister accepts Pheu Thai nomination to fight for premiership

THAKSIN Shinawatra's youngest sister Yingluck has won the opposition Pheu Thai Party's nomination to fight for the position of prime minister in the upcoming elections.

If she wins, she will become Thailand's first female premier.

Critics claim Mrs Yingluck is merely a puppet who will allow her exiled billionaire brother to rule the country from abroad.

Mrs Yingluck's nomination brings to an end weeks of speculation over who would take on the Democrat Party's candidate for the position, Oxford-educated incumbent Abhisit Vejjajiva.

While Mrs Yingluck has long worked behind the scenes in the Pheu Thai Party, serving as a go-between for Mr Thaksin and the party's MPs, she has no direct political experience.

Nevertheless, the 43-year-old mother-of-one has served as president of Advanced Info Service – the telecoms giant Mr Thaksin founded – and SC Asset, a property development firm.

Mrs Yingluck was selected to be the number-one candidate on Pheu Thai's party list in a unanimous vote on Monday.

Learning of the party's decision,

## AROUND THE nation

she thanked Pheu Thai members for giving her a chance to prove herself.

"I would like to thank the Pheu Thai members for valuing and trusting me. I'll be ready to carry out this duty.

"But I would like all sides to turn to co-operate and stop harbouring grudges," Yingluck said.

Mrs Yingluck said she would not use the position to seek revenge on behalf of her brother Mr Thaksin.

Mr Thaksin lives in self-imposed exile following a graft conviction that he says was politically motivated.

"I am not vengeful but I want to fix the situation.

"Don't worry that I am a woman. I'll use my womanhood to lead the country to reconciliation," she said.

Deputy Prime Minister Suthep Thaugsuban of the Democrat Party said Mrs Yingluck was no



Yingluck Shinawatra attends a Pheu Thai Party meeting on May 16. Photo: AFP

match for her main adversary, Abhisit Vejjajiva, who had proved he could run the country.

"Voters don't know how Yingluck will do her job as she will be listening to her brother's voice

of Parliament, are expected to be tensely contested.

Both the Democrat Party and the Pheu Thai Party have claimed they expect to win, though polls have indicated the race will be tight.

## FAT head to sue British Lord

WORAWI Makudi, head of the Football Association of Thailand (FAT), plans to sue former chairman of the English Football Association Lord Triesman for defamation over bribery allegations.

Lord Triesman accused Mr Worawi of demanding television rights to a Thailand-England friendly match in exchange for supporting England's bid for the 2018 World Cup.

"I deny all accusations. They are wrong," Mr Worawi told reporters at a Bangkok news conference.

Lord Triesman made the accusations at a British parliamentary inquiry into England's failed bid for the World Cup. He said Mr Worawi was one of four FIFA officials who demanded bribes in return for their votes.

Mr Worawi said he intended to file charges in a British court.

The UK's *Guardian* newspaper claimed Mr Worawi "may have difficulties with his legal action, because Triesman's comments were made under parliamentary privilege to a select committee."

The paper noted that evidence given under parliamentary privilege cannot be used in court.

## Eccentric 'sex king' returns to politics

FORMER massage parlor tycoon Chuwit Kamolvisit has returned to politics, once again claiming to hold cheating politicians to account.

Mr Chuwit's Rak Prathet Thai (Love Thailand) Party will field just 10 party-list candidates in the July 3 general elections, and plans to work in opposition.

Mr Chuwit, a former MP and candidate for Bangkok governor, famously posed in campaign advertisements holding a sledgehammer and promising to "smash" corrupt politicians.

Last week Mr Chuwit unveiled his new mascot: a live bull terrier, which he claimed reflected his loyalty to Thailand.

Mr Chuwit used to own several luxurious massage parlors on Bangkok's Ratchadaphisek Road. The parlors were widely known as fronts for prostitution.

In 2003, after he was arrested for allegedly hiring 600 men to throw tenants off a plot of land he owned, Mr Chuwit accused police officers of taking 200 million baht in bribes to allow him to continue operating his parlors.

He also claimed senior policemen had enjoyed the services of his establishments, which was later confirmed following interviews with masseuses.



Mr Chuwit poses with his mascot. Photo: The Nation

Mr Chuwit stood for Bangkok governor in 2004, coming third with 16 per cent of the vote.

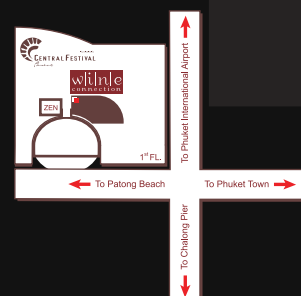
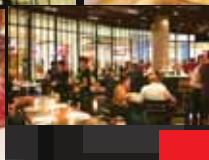
In 2005, he was elected as a member of parliament for the Chart Thai Party, but his position was revoked by the Constitutional Court in 2006 on a legal technicality.

In 2008, he again ran for the governorship of Bangkok, once again placing third. He admitted his campaign may have suffered after he punched and kicked a news anchorman who described him as "unmanly" in a TV interview.



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## Impossible vote

*Re: Gazette online, Election Thailand: Phuket voters face postal vote farce, May 14*

What a great way to manipulate the outcome of the election. The majority of the minimum-wage workers living in Bangkok, Pattaya, Phuket and many other tourist destinations are from Isarn [red shirt territory].

They will not travel home just to vote. Many of them cannot even afford the bus ticket home, not to mention the days off work.

Looks like this election is going to be a sham. More riots ahead.

*The Election Monitor  
Gazette forum*

## Third-rate service

I bought a hard drive for my computer at a well-known electronics store in Phuket and the device stopped working after two weeks.

I also bought a modem from a well-known internet service provider in Phuket that failed after six months.

Both of these devices have one-year warranties, are mass produced and easily available to buy.

They don't warrant a repair, they just need to be replaced.

However, the electronics shop has yet to rouse themselves to address the problem – after three months.

Likewise, the internet provider has said it will take two to three months to supply me with a replacement modem.

What shoddy, third-rate service and what a way to treat a customer.

There can be no excuse for this, but, of course, you always

# Phuket Town a menu for success

## Phuket Gazette

**PLANS** by Phuket City Municipality to apply for listing as a UNESCO "City of Gastronomy" [see page 10] would be one of the more rational overtures put to the United Nations (UN) by Thailand in recent years, but it is premature to conclude that such a listing would result in a wave of "gastro-tourists" coming to the island, fork and spoon in hand, ready to sample the local cuisine.

The *Gazette* agrees that Phuket Town is probably one of the best places on the planet for dining out, especially if variety and cost are taken into account. It is certainly ahead of the rest of the island, as *Gazette* staffers know all too well after moving from the island's gastronomic epicenter in Samkong to a new home where the buffalo roam – and lunchtime options are sadly limited.

A look at the UNESCO website specifies eight criteria for listing. Some of these Phuket Town would pass with flying colors, for example: "a tradition of hosting gastronomic festivals, awards, contests and other broadly-targeted means of recognition." For this, think of annual events such as the Vegetarian Festival and Local Food Fair.

If the judging panel wants to scuttle the application, it would most likely cite the seventh criterion: "respect for the environment and promotion of sustainable local products." A handful of OTOP products would not likely obscure from view

the fact that the island generates over 250 tonnes of solid waste a day and continues to suffer from land encroachment, hillside deforestation and lack of adequate sewage-treatment facilities.

But one never knows. The UN seems to like Thailand, that's for sure. Its massive facility in the heart of Bangkok is home to some 25 different UN agencies, many of which are regional bases.

With so many UN staffers in the capital, Phuket is the perfect getaway for scores of international bureaucrats. One can only wonder whether it was this fact or the actual situation on the ground in Patong that led a UN committee to name the town a "role-model city" for disaster-management planning in October last year.

Cynicism aside, the *Gazette* thinks UNESCO listing would be a positive development for Phuket Town, one that would dovetail well with other developments in the city, such as the burying of electric cables in Old Phuket Town.

But at the end of the day, word of mouth has always been the key to success in any culinary endeavor and Phuket Town's dining scene will continue to attract visitors regardless.

To introduce this service is great, especially as it waves fingers at the tuk-tuk and other transport "mobsters".

My only fear is that these drivers will be victimized, beaten up and threatened.

It has happened before and can happen again.

This a good piece, by the way, and nice to see the *Phuket Gazette* has a pair sometimes and is not scared to write the truth.

*Sceptical John  
Gazette forum*

## Digging for disaster?

*Re: Gazette online, Old Phuket Town to be 'wireless' by November, May 14*

For several years when employed by Caltrans, State of California, I was the coordinator for "underground service alerts".

Any disturbance of the ground more than six feet in depth required you [construction company], under penalty of felony, to contact me with a form to verify the safety of digging in the area.

I expect some major disasters on these streets within a few years.

*Michael M Arvin  
Gazette forum*

## Ghosts of Phuket past

I have read that Boracay in the Philippines is like Phuket in 10 years ago, and Phu Quoc in Vietnam is similar to Phuket of two decades past.

Perhaps Phuket's development woes are a sure sign of just where our Pacific gems are headed.

*Sad Samaritan  
Chalong*

get, "The service center is in Bangkok" as a response.

What a load of rubbish.

*Michael Stephens  
Phuket*

## The price you pay

*Re: Gazette online, Schools reopen: Phuket parents feel the pinch, May 13*

Sadly corruption is endemic

in Thai schools.

I help my Thai partner pay for her younger brother's education in Korat [Nakhon Ratchasima] and "tea money" has to be paid if you want a better school.

The alternative is shockingly poor standards of teaching in classes of more than 50 pupils.

Students at such schools have no chance in later life. But look at the "entry" [registration] fee

paid to international schools in Phuket – eye watering!

*Logic  
Gazette forum*

## Pink buses a risky business?

*Re: Gazette online, Phuket Opinion: Pink buses delivering people, promises and dreams, May 15*

## Issues & Answers...

### Peeved with parking

There is a huge problem in Phuket: traffic.

Most of the traffic jams in Phuket Town and Kathu are created by bad traffic light systems that make no sense [one side goes at a time].

The second biggest cause is people parking in the street. Central Festival is the worst example of this, where people park at the side of the road rather than the parking lots in the mall or at HomeWorks.

Why are people allowed to park on the bypass road in front of the red and white curbs?

Parked cars cut a whole lane out of the bypass road and block your view when leaving Central.

Why don't the police issue tickets to the 30-plus cars parked there every single day between 1pm and 11pm?

Super Cheap also has a very similar problem.

*Max  
Phuket Town*

Send us your queries and we'll ask the right people to respond to them.

Submit your issue at

[www.PhuketGazette.net/IssuesAnswers](http://www.PhuketGazette.net/IssuesAnswers)

### Wilaiporn Pitimana-aree, General Manger of Central Festival Phuket, replies:

There are about 5,000 vehicles coming to Central Festival Phuket per day. There isn't too much of a problem from Monday to Friday, but on the weekends there is an overload of vehicles.

Most of the vehicles parking on the bypass road are not our customers. The owners of those vehicles usually park there and go to work in Patong or the airport in transportation provided by their companies.

Before, they used to park on our property but we asked them not to leave their cars here for so

long, so they moved to the side of the bypass road.

Two months ago, we asked our employees and shop operators to park their vehicles – about 200 in total – at HomeWorks to ease some of the overcrowding at Central.

In the future, if there isn't enough parking space, we may decide to charge a parking fee. But, we think this will be the last option we would choose.

### Lt Col Chalermchai Hernsawat, Deputy Superintendent of Traffic Police at Phuket City Police Station, replied:

The side of the bypass road near Central Festival that is marked with red and white paint is off-limits for parking.

If we find anyone parking vehicles there, we will confiscate their driving licence as well as impose a fine.

If the vehicle owners are nowhere to be seen, we will lock their wheels.

If we don't have enough wheel locks, we will post tickets on the front of the vehicle.

## Phuket Gazette

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# Pulling the cork out of Phuket's court system

## FIRST PERSON

AS OF April 20 this year, there were 3,062 cases pending at Phuket Provincial Court.

There are so many cases here because of the large population [relative to the island's size] and the growing economy here. Phuket is a tourism destination and many people are moving here to work. This leads to disputes and contributes to a rise in crime.

Koh Samui also has a lot of court cases, many of which are about land. Samui is very similar to Phuket in that land is expensive.

As for reducing petty crime, the answer lies in education. People should be taught to be more disciplined in their behavior. Education is the most important factor and learning moral behavior should start at preschool.

To reduce the number of cases pending in Phuket, I plan to change the system for allocating court dates.

In the past, small cases involving loans and consumer disputes were simply added to the queue in our "continuous trial system".

For example, court administrators would simply arrange court dates by the case number and date last heard in court and put them in the queue waiting for trial.

When small cases queue up in this system, it creates a backlog of cases that are pending for a long time. Some of the cases in the system have to wait until August 2013 to begin trial.

Now we are trying to take these



**Prakon Rattanapit**, 48, took the position of Chief Judge at Phuket Provincial Court last month. Before moving to Phuket, he was Chief Judge at Koh Samui Provincial Court for one year. Judge Prakon graduated in law at Ramkhamhaeng University in Bangkok. Here he explains his plan for tackling Phuket Provincial Court's backlog of more than 3,000 cases.

small cases out of the continuous system and clear them quickly.

All new small cases will not be put in the queue. This will help reduce the number of cases pending.

To help expedite cases, judges should also arrange appointments with plaintiffs, defendants and witnesses by themselves.

However, the delay in clearing cases does not depend on the court only. Sometimes litigants ask for their trials to be rescheduled or witnesses don't show up for trials. The court cannot do anything about that. Sometimes witnesses have moved and it's very difficult to find them.

In cases involving land, it is very difficult to negotiate with all parties – especially when there's a conflict of interest among company partners. The litigants do not want to come to an agreement, so the cases cannot be closed easily.

For drugs cases, if the defendant makes a confession, it makes closing the case very easy. However, if the defendant pleads not guilty, the case is moved to the

continuous trial system.

The most important thing is that we are trying to clear cases within six months, as during the trial process defendants are not allowed bail or temporary release from prison.

It is not fair for defendants to have their freedom taken away and to not know when their cases will go to trial. We are trying to clear these cases as fast as we can.

This is not a problem for defendants who the court allows to post bail, but if we let the cases go on too long, witnesses may move to other provinces. As I said before, it's quite difficult to track down witnesses who have moved.

Another problem is that we don't have enough judges and officials to deal with the increasing number of cases.

There are currently 21 judges and only one senior judge. If we had more senior judges, they could assist the chief judge, as senior judges have a lot of experience. However, we only have one here now.

No one wants to take up the position of a senior judge here because of the huge workload.

# Pause for safety on Phuket roads

## Island View

By Samuel Shields

Do you have an opinion to voice?  
Email [Editor@PhuketGazette.net](mailto:Editor@PhuketGazette.net)

HUNDREDS of drivers are affected and many accidents caused daily by the unawareness and arrogance of people that clearly either don't know or don't care about lane positioning when driving.

On a two-lane carriageway, such as the Bypass Road leading from Tesco Lotus to the Heroines' Monument, the outside lane or right-hand lane is for overtaking. It is not the fast lane or just another lane, but the overtaking lane.

Drivers should drive within the speed limit and in the left-hand lane.

Approaching a vehicle in the same lane progressing slower than your own is when use of the overtaking lane should be considered.

Mirrors, signal, manoeuvre, or MSM, as most will remember from their driving instructors, is the next course of action. Once the lane has been checked for clearance the driver should indicate intention to pull out.

I fear indicators are a waste of car mechanics in Thailand. They are rarely used when necessary and always used when unnecessary.

It is heartbreaking to see vehicles pulling onto one way systems with their indicators on, but a minute later watching them swerve across lanes to reach the u-turn slip road without even a glance over their shoulders, let alone a simple flick of the indicator stick.

Having passed the slower vehicle, employ another quick mirror check and once assured the other vehicle hasn't sped up in annoyance at your courtesies, indicate and return to the left hand lane.

I wonder if there are insurance statistics that show the amount of accidents caused directly and indirectly by people "lollygagging" in the overtaking lane with a battalion of irate, horn-blasting, headlight-flashing commuters stretched for kilometers behind.

The lane drama becomes decidedly worse when the bane of my daily driving looms in the distance – the Heroines' Monument.

This is no word of a lie, but I travel around that roundabout everyday and I am forced to use the car horn on every occasion – yes, on every occasion.

To put it plainly, one must drive around a roundabout – not through it. This is why, generally, there are lanes leading to the stop point.

Drivers will choose to use the left lane because of fewer cars even though they must exit at three or even six o'clock. The hammering of brakes and screeching of tyres is inevitable.

Lest we forget, no indicators are used to signal their unorthodox navigation of this wasteful obstacle.

This is the cause of my despair and fear every time I see those two Heroines, who are said to have fought to keep Phuket safe from barbaric invaders only to now witness the same characteristics in the antics of their vehicle-driving descendants.

## ...asking the questions that affect you...

If the owner does not come to the police station and pay the fine, we will send the information to the Phuket Transport Office. So, when the owners go to extend their car registration at that office, they will have to pay the fine first.

We will also coordinate with Central later to get their staff to help us combat illegal parking because there are not enough police officers to take care of this problem.

As for Super Cheap, there is no red and white marking yet. We need to discuss with the Phuket Provincial Highways Office about further plans.

### Is there a 'Super Cheap' bus route to the airport?

Is there any form of reliable public transportation that could take me from the area around Super Cheap in Phuket Town to the airport?

Steve  
Phuket Town

**Warit Wiriyanich, head of the Transport Division of the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (OrBorJor), replies:**

Right now we do not have a route from Super Cheap to the airport, and there are no future plans for the OrBorJor to operate on that route as we did not get the concession for it.

You can use the Airport Bus from Phuket Town Bus Terminal to Phuket International Airport.

To get to the bus terminal from Super Cheap, you can take an OrBorJor *poh thong* (pink bus) as we do operate a route heading into town from Super Cheap.

The OrBorJor currently operates 24 *poh thong*, with eight of them operating on each of our three routes.

On our normal schedule, buses will depart from each stop every 30 minutes.

During "rush hour" [7am to 8am and 3:30pm to 5pm], buses depart every 15 minutes.

The tickets are always the same price – 10 baht for everyone on



Pink buses don't run to the airport, but can connect you to a bus that does.

all routes. However, if students are wearing uniforms, they can travel free-of-charge.

In order to ensure safety and efficiency with or *poh thong*, we have installed GPS devices in all

24 vehicles.

This allows us to monitor speed limits, the maximum of which is 50kmh, and monitor petrol use.

We employ a company that provides drivers for us and if there

are any problems with drivers doing things such as driving too fast or straying from the route, we will make sure the company takes action.

**Pongsak Chuchart, Manager of Phuket Airport Bus, replies:**

There are two options for connecting with our buses from Super Cheap in Phuket Town.

You can take local *songtaew* [pick-up truck buses] to the bus terminal, but I don't know their schedules, or you can take the pink *poh thong* to the bus terminal.

Every Airport Bus will depart from the bus terminal, as it is a main stopping point.

Our buses depart from the Phuket Bus Terminal at 5:30am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10:30am, 12pm, 1pm, 2:30pm, 3:30pm, 5:30pm and 8:30pm from Monday to Friday.

We have a special timetable for public holidays. For more information, visit our website at [airportbusphuket.com](http://airportbusphuket.com).

We have information available in English.



# Phuket push for UN food listing

By Chutharat Plerin and Steven Layne

OFFICIALS are pushing forward with plans to make Phuket a world-renowned dining destination by having Phuket Town listed as an official UNESCO "City of Gastronomy".

Joining the latest effort to drive up tourist arrival figures are Phuket City Municipality and the Ministry of Culture's Office of Contemporary Arts and Culture.

At a May 10 meeting at City Hall, Mayor Somjai Suwansupapana and other city council members agreed that, if successful, the UNESCO listing would bring economic benefits to the whole island.

The move would help diversify the island's tourism industry, which currently relies heavily on its beaches and other natural attractions as its main selling point.

UNESCO listing would also allow Phuketians to better share with the world its unique traditional cuisine, developed with diverse influences over many generations.

"Aside from Phuket's natural resources, we have various mouthwatering dishes unique to our island that can be

promoted. Also, our seafood is fresh," said Mayor Somjai.

There are currently three cities that enjoy UNESCO "City of Gastronomy" listing: Popayan, Colombia; Chengdu, China; and Ostersund, Sweden.

## The UNESCO Creative Cities Network includes 25 cities in other cultural categories:

**Literature:** Edinburgh, Iowa City, Melbourne and Dublin

**Film:** Bradford and Sydney

**Music:** Bologna, Ghent, Glasgow, Seville

**Crafts and Folk Art:** Aswan, Kanazawa, Santa Fe, Icheon

**Design:** Berlin, Buenos Aires, Kobe, Montreal, Nagoya, Shenzhen, Shanghai, Seoul, Saint-Etienne, Graz

**Media Arts:** Lyon

See the Gazette editorial on page 8 for more information on this story.



FOOD DELIGHTS: Phuket people have long treasured the culinary delights of the island.

## Laguna Beach Resort sold to M Residences

LAGUNA Beach Resort, one of the luxury resorts situated within the Laguna Complex at Bang Tao Beach, has been sold to M Residence, a Thai subsidiary of the Singapore-based City Development Company.

According to the hotel's marketing department, the 252-room resort property successfully changed ownership on May 10, 2011 and reports from *The Nation* indicate the deal was worth approximately 1.5 billion baht.

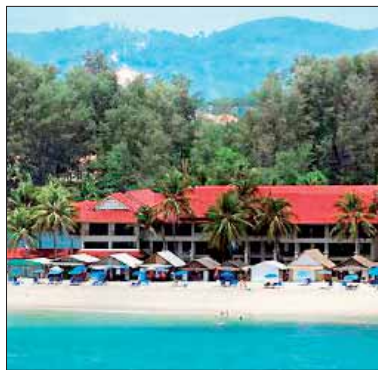
Mr Suchad Chiaranussati, director of M Residence, said that the purchase of Laguna Beach

Resort was part of the parent company's policy to expand its investments in Asia.

City Development has set aside a budget of 18bn baht to develop residential projects and take over hotels and resorts in key destinations within Thailand, Japan, Hong Kong and Singapore.

According to the Laguna Beach Resort marketing department, the resorts management has remained unchanged following the sale of the property and is expected to continue in the same manner as before.

The purchase of Laguna Beach



Laguna Beach Resort.

Resort makes it the second hotel property in Phuket to be owned by M Residence. The company also owns the Millennium Resort, a five-star hotel in Patong, as well as the Grand Millennium Sukhumvit and the Millennium Hilton hotels in Bangkok.

— Anand Singh

## Mushrooms touted as new cash crop

PHUKET officials are promoting mushrooms as a promising new cash crop for the island.

In its latest occupational seminar, experts hired by the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (*OrBorJor*) taught attendees how to cultivate mushrooms from spawn in bags of compost.

The two-day seminar, fifth in a planned series of seven this year, aimed to educate islanders in the fundamentals of mushroom farming and explained how they could expect to benefit from commercial cultivation of selected species. *OrBorJor* President Paiboon Upatising presided over the event, while mycologist Wichai Prutiseub acted as head lecturer.

Thirty interested participants from Srisoonthorn sub-district in Thalang took part.

The training started with a theoretical training at Phuket Community Hall on Thursday morning.

The following day participants put their knowledge to work with

a hands-on crash course at the Mushroom Cultivation Knowledge Center in Baan Khok Tonode in Chalong.

Mr Paiboon said the training was valuable, as mushroom farming has high potential for Phuket.

"Mushroom cultivation doesn't require much space. It is an occupation that can cut down on household expenses and increase domestic income," he said.

People interested in cultivating mushrooms could use the knowledge to grow them as either a primary or supplemental source of income, he added.

"Initial investment is low, the return is good and the product is always in demand in the markets," he added.

Mushrooms that enjoy strong demand in local markets include the *sajor-caju*, *yanagi*, *mitsutake* and fan mushrooms, he said.

— Steven Layne

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## M venpick opens second Thailand property

WITH immediate effect, Swiss hotel company M venpick has assumed management of the Palm Beach Club hotel, rebranding it as the Residences Laguna Beach Phuket to compliment its first resort, M venpick Resort & Spa on Karon Beach, which opened in 2006.

Located on Bang Tao Beach, M venpick Residences Laguna Beach Phuket is a 20 minute drive to the airport and several golf courses.

The new portfolio features 39 residences including penthouses as well as two and three-bedroom suites, blending Thai and contemporary designs.

Guests can choose from a variety of leisure and entertainment facilities, including an expansive swimming pool, tropical gardens, lively dining options, a modern fitness center and the spa.

— *Phuket Gazette*

# Land audits on the up

VOWING to clamp down on tax evasion at popular resort destinations in southern Thailand, the government's "tax watchdogs" will increase the number of audits on recent land transactions in Phuket, Krabi and Koh Samui.

Backed by improved information technology, Revenue Department Area 11 recently announced that they will specifically target cases in which illegal "nominees" were employed to broker land deals.

The agency has jurisdiction over eight provinces in Thailand's Upper South Region, including Phuket.

Nominees are used by tax evaders as a way of lowering the tax burden to the individual rate.

Also, as foreigners can't legally own or develop land in Thailand, a common and popular way around the system is to hire a Thai "nominee" to buy and sell land on their behalf, the report states.

In the event that a Revenue Department audit determines that a nominee was used to evade taxation, a new estimate will be made and action will be taken to ensure all concerned parties pay the correct amount owed, the department affirmed.

The real estate business in the South, particularly in Phuket, Koh Samui and parts of Krabi, has seen land values skyrocket to several



The Revenue Department is going to increase the frequency of audits with regard to land transfers in Phuket.

hundred times what they were worth over the past decade, according to reports.

Demand for land has been led by developers seeking to build hotels, resorts, housing estates and

other real estate projects, all attributed to the expansion of the tourism industry

Many of these developers have foreign backing and cater to foreign clientele, according to

the agency. The report did not mention if criminal charges would be pursued against the nominees or their foreign co-conspirators.

— *Krungthep Thurakij*

## Tax revenue expected to fall in coming months

TOTAL tax revenue from Phuket province in April decreased by 30 per cent month-on-month, having increased by 16 per cent compared to the same time last year.

In April, Phuket generated 607 million baht in tax revenue, down from the bumper figure of 861.6mn baht collected in March, Phuket Provincial Revenue Office data states.

Value added taxation (VAT) contributed the greatest share to the total provincial tax revenue, with 280.5mn baht generated from VAT, up nine per cent from the 256.7mn baht generated in April last year. Considering VAT remained unchanged, such figures point to increased consumer spending in Phuket.

Income tax was the second largest contributor to the total tax figure, yielding a total of 136.4mn baht, although income tax had increased slightly compared to April last year.

Corporate tax in Phuket generated 106.5mn baht for the province in April, up 23 per cent from the 86.4mn baht collected in April last year.

With figures showing a general increase in tax revenue in the past 12 months, it is expected that as Phuket enters its low season, tax revenue will fall over the coming months.

According to data, March saw

one of the highest tax yields in Phuket since May 2009, thanks to the unusually large amount collected as income tax.

Income tax generated 378.8mn baht in March, the highest income tax collected since October 2008, which constitutes an increase of 159 per cent from February.

In April, revenue from corporate tax increased slightly from March while VAT also remained largely unchanged. The Phuket Provincial Revenue Department (PPRD) has collected 2,651.5mn baht in revenue since the start of this year. Last year, the province generated 2,383mn baht in revenue during the same period.

The PPRD Chief admitted that after the general elections, there may be significant changes implemented in the country's tax policies. Democrat MP, Buranaj Smutharak said if re-elected, the Democrat government would propose cutting the corporate tax rate from 30 per cent to par with neighboring countries, who impose rates from 22 to 25 per cent, *The Nation* reported. Such policy changes would help Thai companies compete better with regional firms.

Political parties, in their aim to lure voters ahead of the general election, are also proposing a reduction in VAT from seven to five per cent, as well as offering tax incentives for firms that agree to

hike up their minimum wage by 25 per cent within two years, *The Nation* reported.

Meanwhile the National Revenue Department (NRD) is also paying close attention to the various tax packages that are being proposed by the political parties

in their election campaigns.

"It is good that competing parties are revealing their tax policies, as we can then study all such proposals," explained Satit Rungkasiri, director-general of the NRD

According to Mr Satit, the

Revenue Department is prepared to work with the new government in implementing tax reform after the election. He believes tax revenue collected by the agency this year will exceed the nationwide target of 1.4 trillion baht by 15 per cent.

— *Anand Singh*



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# WiFi versus 3G

MORE than a dozen people have asked me in the past week, "What's the difference between WiFi and 3G?"

I'm sure the interest has nothing to do with learning about technology. Every one of the people is considering an iPad 2 purchase.

They can figure out which color they want, how much memory they want, but they're stuck on deciding whether it's worth the extra 4,000 baht to get 3G, as opposed to WiFi. Fair enough.

## WIFI FROM THE TOP

Almost every laptop these days has a built-in WiFi connection. The cheapest iPads also have WiFi connections. Most smart phones have WiFi connections, and many not-so-smart ones do, too. WiFi is cheap and close to ubiquitous.

WiFi is basically a wireless technology that connects a computer with a base station. The base station, often called a router, is a small box that typically has a rabbit ear or two sticking out the back.

Invariably, the base station gets plugged into the Internet, usually via a telephone line. When you pay an Internet Service Pro-



Live Wire

By Woody Leonhard

vider to put an Internet connection in your house, they'll ask if you want WiFi: "wireless access". If you say yes, they'll usually charge you a little extra, 3,000 baht or so, and set up a base station when they install the Internet connection.

The phone line plugs into the back of the base station. Your desktop PC plugs into the back of the base station, while laptops, iPads, and phones connect via WiFi.

There are many variations on the theme, but by and large laptops connect to the router via WiFi and the router plugs straight into the Internet.

As long as your laptop is within 100 meters or so of the base station, the signal is strong enough, and you can connect from your laptop to the Internet.

If you have more than one computer connected to the base station, either by wire or by WiFi, those computers can generally talk to each other using a network. But enough about WiFi, let's move on.

## THE 3G DIFFERENCE

The basic idea with "3G" is much the same as with WiFi – to get your computer connected to the Internet without wires – but the method is completely different.

3G is a mobile phone technology. 3G uses big towers that look just like mobile phone towers – because they are mobile phone towers. Few computers come with 3G capabilities built-in, although that's changing. If you want to use 3G with your laptop, you usually have to buy a gizmo that hooks into your USB port.

More-expensive iPads can use the 3G signal as do some mobile phones, but for Internet connections only.

To use 3G, you have to be located in an area that has 3G towers. You have to buy a regular SIM card associated with a phone number that supports 3G and you have to go to the phone company and pay to have 3G service. More about that in a moment.

3G signals run directly between your device and a tower. Your 3G device communicates with the tower, which is connected to the Internet. The signal is subject to the same problems as all mobile phone signals: if you aren't close to a tower, the con-



**HARD WORKER:** A workhorse WiFi router, the Linksys WRT54G.

nection drops out. On the other hand, it has all the benefits of a mobile phone connection. For example, it's possible to keep an Internet connection going over 3G while driving in a car – at least in theory.

You can't set up a home or office network over a 3G connection: your PC connects to the phone tower, not to a little box inside your house, and there's no provision in 3G technology to get your PCs to talk directly with each other.

In Phuket, 3G service – more accurately called "HSPA" – is

only available from True, and only on the west coast of the island, roughly from Nai Harn to just north of the airport.

As I reported in earlier columns, the service is surprisingly fast if you live near an antenna. We'll talk about how to get an HSPA connection next week.

*Live Wire is Phuket Gazette columnist Woody Leonhard's weekly snapshot of all things internet in Phuket. Follow him on Twitter: @PhuketPC or visit his free computer clinics at Woody's Sandwich Shoppes.*

# Some funds hold a special place in the heart

AS CHEESY as it sounds, certain funds find a special place in my heart, and probably my favorite overall fund in the world is the AHL program. It is on of the most accessible funds for individuals, with one of the best track records in the business.

AHL is a systematic trend-following fund that trades across all of the major markets: currencies, commodities, equities, interest rates and bonds.

The program began in the early 1980s and had its first "down year" in 2009. It is available for investments via a portfolio bond for as small an initial investment as GBP25,000 (about 1.23 million baht).

It is extremely difficult to find a fund with similar assets under

management, such a long performance of great returns and low volatility for anything less than a minimum investment of US\$ 1mn (about 30mn baht).

How this company started is interesting. They were originally a merchant group dealing in all of the various commodities, with huge warehouses stocked full of coffee, sugar and so on.

As the business grew, they used future contracts to hedge against fluctuations in the prices of the goods they were buying and selling.

As time went on they developed a knack for following the trends they discerned in the financial markets. AHL began profiting so much off from their trading activities that eventually their warehouses be-

## Retirement Years

By David Mayes

came empty and they slowly evolved into making all of their profits in the financial markets.

The systematic program – developed by Adams, Harding, and Lewis "AHL" – is based on the trading principles refined during the company's original growth and experiences in the business.

They have a main emphasis on risk control and run with their winners, exiting any losing positions quickly.

The system tracks 100 markets, with about the same number of PhDs working for the company and tweaking the system to incorporate

the ever-incoming data as the markets move forward year after year.

The system has averaged compound annual rate of returns of about 17 per cent per year since its inception, and its worst ever drawdown was about the same.

AHL's first calendar down year was 2009, after a phenomenal year in 2008. While the markets were crashing in 2008, AHL was protecting its investors from the devastation many experienced.

Unfortunately for many who joined this fund last year, AHL is still recovering from the 2009 drawdown. In fact, this fund over the past 12 months has been at its lowest ever point from peak to trough.

But even for funds that are normally very consistent, successful investors must adhere to the old

Wall Street adage: "Buy low, sell high." This age-old maxim puts AHL squarely in the sights of those looking to gain as the fund rides its way back to the top.

Already the fund's performance is back on track and well up this year – about 17 per cent as of October. It appears that it will not be much longer until the fund is back above its "high water mark" – the highest "net asset value" the fund has ever achieved.

Many studies report that these kinds of funds usually perform their best after their worst drawdowns. I think this fund in particular is poised to perform extremely well for the next few years.

I advise all my clients to hold or increase exposure to this fund, although many are reluctant after last year's performance.

I generally do not advise investing any money into this fund without having at least a five-year time frame for it to achieve its historical average, and it should not be a large percentage of any investor's liquid net worth.

And, as always, consult your adviser to determine whether this fund suits your risk profile and objectives before adding it to your portfolio.

*David Mayes MBA is a resident of Phuket, Thailand, and provides wealth management services to expatriates throughout the region of South East Asia. He can be reached via email at david.m@faramond.com*



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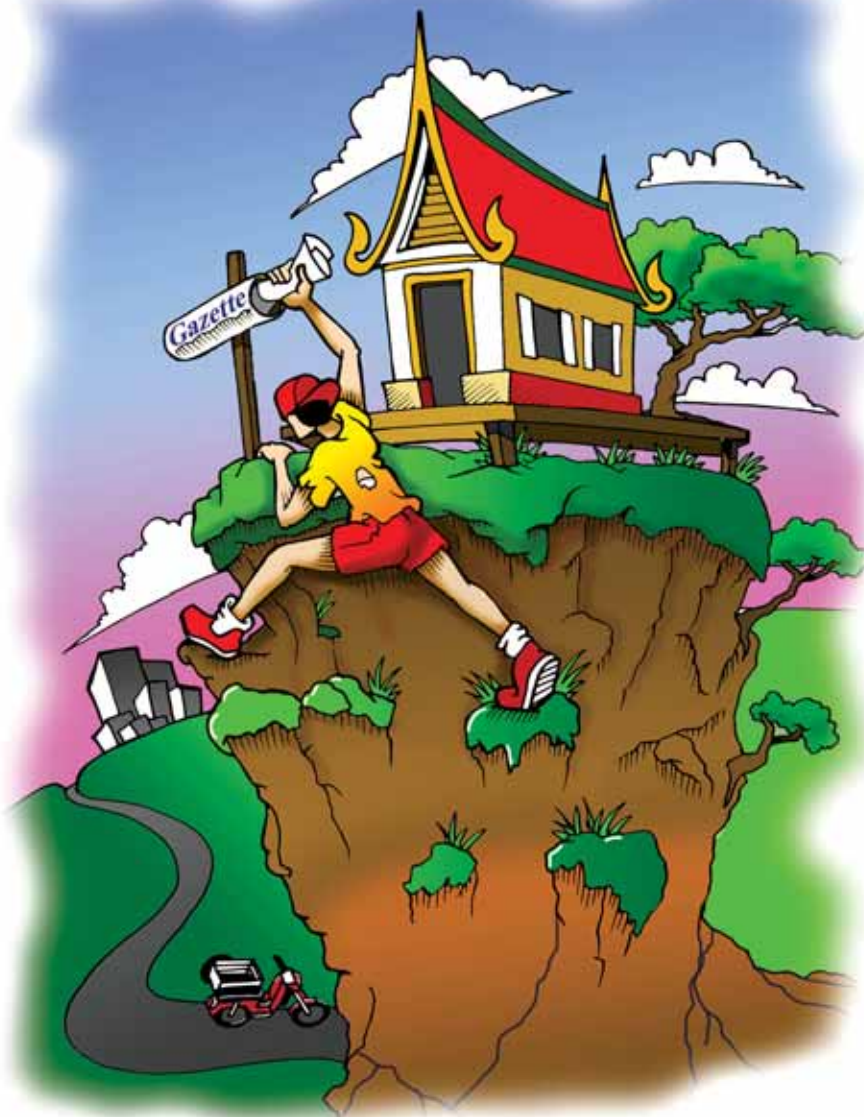


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# Gearing up for season of

**Is low season really such a bad time of year for island dive operators? Well, it's not all bad...**

By Satu Larkiala

THE high season has once again whizzed by with all the amazing things the many tour operators had to offer.

It's nice and calm during these times in Phuket and now that the waters are lonelier than they've been in a long time, you would think the time is ripe for a diving holiday. But it should be remembered that the season can affect our underwater adventures.

"It's certainly one of the best times to dive," says the owner of Raya Divers, Janne Miikkulainen.

"The low season's monsoon winds cause higher waves and traveling to the dive sites can get a bit tricky because of that.

"That's why we've created these summer packages that include hotel nights in Racha Yai so you can skip the daily boat ride from Phuket and dive directly from the island.

"During the low season the winds tend to blow from the west, making popular Phuket dive sites inaccessible.

"Racha Yai, however, always holds a calm side to it, and during the low season one gets

to experience the many beautiful dive sites on the eastern side of the island.

"Raya Divers has had a dive center on the island for over 10 years. In these packages we've tried to find something suitable for everyone's wallet," explained Mr Miikkulainen.

Some dive operators head off on their own adventures for the low season, and open up again around October for the new high season.

That's when one can expect the winds to turn and waves to calm down again, but as nothing ever works as expected with the weather, some easy days

can, and do, occur during the monsoon season too.

But not all dive operators close their doors for the monsoon season, so it's always worth it to ask around to see where you can dive.

Among the many companies that do operate during the low season, trips are usually available upon request only. Pre-bookings are advised and a flexible schedule is necessary, in case of sudden weather changes.

"The dive sites around Racha Yai and Ao Nang are the

Not all dive operators close their doors for the monsoon season, so it's always worth asking around to find out where you can dive.



**DIVING TIMES:** Despite popular opinion, there is still some great diving to be had off Phuket in low season.

only sites one can dive safely and pleasantly year round," says Mr Miikkulainen.

His company keeps three of its five centers, the ones in Phuket, Koh Racha Yai and Krabi, open through the low season with daily activities. The offices in Koh Lanta and Khao Lak close for the season.

"The Similan Islands are closed for the low season. Some operators previously tried to breach this rule, and we can see the results: new wrecks near the islands.

"On a good day, with nice weather, some of the high season local dive sites are safe and nice to dive, and the dive operators are happy to take smaller groups out to enjoy the sites when they are quiet.

Phuket experienced some rough March storms this year,



**DIVING IN:** A team of divers collect debris from the seabed.

but the affects in visibility were luckily only short-term. gray only above the surface on those days.

"The storms mess up the visibility usually for a couple of days," says Theo Sivert from the Orange House Scandinavian Diving Center.

"At the moment we are diving nearly every day, and the local sites around Bang Tao are very diveable with nice visibility."

"Even rainy weather rarely harms divers, as the views are

'The dive sites around Racha Yai and Ao Nang are the only sites one can dive safely and pleasantly year round.'

– J anne Miikkulainen, Raya Divers

or use the nearby local sites when the weather allows," he said.

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# storms with island divers

## What ever happened to the Coral Reef Squadron sunk off Bang Tao?

By Satu Larkiala

TWO-AND-A-HALF years after the sinking of the six Sikorsky S-58T helicopters and four Douglas C-47 Dakota Skytrain planes, better known as the Coral Reef Squadron, it is as if this major undertaking never even took place.

It was planned to become a popular diving destination, and while offering spectacular new underwater views for the divers, this artificial reef was supposed to let the natural reefs have a well-deserved break, or at least cut down on the number of divers visiting them.

However, the dive operators now have nothing new to offer to the keen diver. Where are the aircraft? What happened?

Theo Sivert, owner of the Orange House Scandinavian Dive Center, says that they took the last divers to see the Coral Reef Squadron only 4 or 5 months after the planes and helicopters were sunk.

"I filmed them multiple times while they were still there and watched them come apart. Now all is gone, 10 million baht down the toilet and the aircraft scattered all over the Andaman Sea."

The first low season after the sinking already saw the seabed swept clean. In the opinions of experienced dive operators, the main reasons for this was poor planning, in the form of: lack of information, research and choosing the wrong location. A river empties into the sea near the site, and this causes constant water movement – however,

there was no shelter to protect the aircraft from it.

The aluminum hulls were stripped empty to avoid divers hurting themselves, and at the same time that made them very vulnerable and light-weight.

In the eyes of a diver, the chosen site was also fairly deep, 22-24 meters, which made it an impossible location to dive with inexperienced divers.

On the other hand, the sandy bottom caused issues with visibility, making the squadron an excellent site only for a few days a month even, when it was still intact.

"It was an interesting site to dive when it was still there, but it had its limitations," says Klaus Thumm, the owner of H2O Sportz.

It only took a couple of months for the planes to start falling apart.

"In fact, two helicopters and one plane broke as they were being sunk," adds Mr Sivert.

"I've done a few dives at the site just these last couple of months to explore the area. There's nothing left. Big trawlers have also been seen wiping off everything that comes along. I've heard that some parts of the planes have been found all the way up in Ranong."

Although there may be nothing left to see at this particular site, Mr Thumm insists that the local diving in Bang Tao is very good.

"The dive sites are near, visibility is usually good and the government is still making an effort to create artificial reefs around the area. We're talking about a less flashy artificial reef



**SQUADRON TIMELINE:** In 2008, the last nine aircraft making up the Coral Reef Squadron is sunk off Phuket. The project at the time was pegged to be a major boon for Phuket diving. Just, nine months later, 90 per cent of the Squadron had been swept away by strong currents. Photo: Gazette file

this time, but concrete blocks are being placed down onto the seabed to attract fish and coral.

"Koh Wao attracts divers from further away too, but diving directly from Bang Tao makes these sites easy to access and therefore cheaper, as you can cut down on transportation expenses," says Mr Thumm.

Mr Sivert agrees: "The weather has been quite strange this year, and as a result we're enjoying excellent visibility at the moment. Just last week it was over 40 meters on the Tin Mining wreck!"

There is yet much more to be done to protect our reefs. Luckily there are still unprompted pursuers with clear minds and unique ideas, but the government's active support is badly needed to get these plans in action.

See [PhuketGazette.net](http://PhuketGazette.net) for updates on the Coral Reef Squadron



Marine life inside one of the sunken aircraft in 2008.

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# Seeking serious superyachts

AFTER a year and a half of planning, the Asia-Pacific Superyacht Association (APSA) was officially launched with a press conference at The Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club on May 6.

"After a significant amount of discussion with industry professionals and much behind the scenes work we hope that we have created an association that will serve the needs of superyachts that wish to visit the region, inform those who did not know about the fantastic cruising and services we have to offer and assist regional owners to further enjoy our amazing coastlines," said APSA Chairman Colin Dawson.

"We've been delighted with the support we have received so far from both the industry and the media. There is, without a doubt, significant interest from owners and captains who do not know the region and are keen to explore cruising grounds beyond the more traditional cruising grounds in the Mediterranean and the Caribbean.

"With the growth in ownership of large yachts and their increasing ability to explore more remote areas, this is an exciting time for both the superyacht industry and the Asia-Pacific region," he added.

On the founding committee is Gareth Twist, managing director of Phuket-based Yacht Solutions.

"APSA has already received many inquiries from superyacht-related businesses based in Phuket and the surrounding region. Phuket is undoubtedly one of the key superyacht hubs in the Asia-Pacific, offering both stunning and uncrowded cruising grounds plus international-standard superyacht services," he said.

"APSA aims to work on behalf of Phuket and the rest of the region by increasing global awareness of what these areas have to offer. We are aiming to promote the Asia-Pacific region at key yacht shows such as [those held in] Monaco and Fort Lauderdale as well as regional events.

"We are also working towards having a members' lounge. This will be the hub of information for the Asia-Pacific region as well as an invaluable resource for members at these events," he added.

APSA members will be able to use the lounge as a base to network, have meetings and hold events.

"Many companies in Phuket do not have the budget to have their own stands at large shows, so



The 74-meter 'Silver Zwei', the world's fastest conventionally powered motor yacht, in Phuket for the Asia Superyacht Rendezvous in December. The new association aims to bring more superyachts to Phuket. Photo: ASR

APSA can act as a showcase on behalf of all its members in promoting the superyachts products, facilities and services offered in the area," Mr Twist explained.

On a local level, APSA aims to act as a representative body for the superyacht industry in liaison and consultation with government, public agencies or regulators involved in the formulation of

legislative policies that may affect the industry.

"We intend to work with governments to assist in streamlining and improving regulations and facilities such as charter laws, clearance and crew regulations and the need for more berthing," said Mr Twist.

"APSA would also like to be involved in more superyacht

events in Phuket and hopes to encourage networking events and conferences to take place all around the region.

These will help to raise the profile of the Asia Pacific region.

"Since 2008 there has been a rise of over 300 per cent in resident superyachts in Asia which is obviously good for the Phuket region.

— Phuket Gazette

## Singapore yacht club gets S\$9mn upgrade

THE oldest yacht club in Asia, the Republic of Singapore Yacht Club (RSYC), has broken ground on the construction of a five-story vertical dry stack, a central part of RSYC's ongoing US\$ 9 million (218.6mn baht) expansion project.

The dry stack will triple the club's dry berth facilities from the current 110 boats to some 300 boats. This will be in addition to the marina's 127 existing wet berths

The dry stack, expected to be completed by the end of the year, will accommodate boats up to 35 feet long.

As well as upgrading the berthing facilities, the plan also calls for the doubling of its accommodation rooms, from the current 32 suites and rooms to around 60, in a four-story adjoining new wing



An artist's impression of the Singapore Yacht Club after the makeover.

that will also provide members with additional facilities.

Work on the new accommodation wing should be completed by the middle of next year.

years. In June last year, the membership gave the Main Committee the mandate to expand, a plan conceived two years ago by the RSYC Committee, which includes plans to upgrade the existing clubhouse.

As part of the club's strategic plan a membership drive was launched in March this year. The RSYC currently has about 2,400 members, many of whom have requested berthing facilities for their boats.

To cater to new members wanting to use the new dry berthing facilities, an additional 150 Ordinary Memberships will be offered with guaranteed berths for their boats, subject to availability based on the size of their yacht.

Ordinary individual club membership is currently pegged at US\$ 15,000 (about 364,500 baht).

## One month amnesty to register boats

THE Marine Office in Phuket is calling for all boat owners to register their boats – or face a 10,000 baht fine.

"Owners of boats who have allowed their boat registration to expire must contact the Marine Office and renew the boat registration immediately," said Puripat Teeraphisut, Head of Marine Office 5 (Phuket branch).

Owners of boats that have never been registered and boats with registration that expired more than three years ago have one month to register their boats before his office will start penalizing offenders, he said.

"After the one month, the Marine Office will erase from our records details of boats whose registration has expired. We will then start punishing offenders as and when we find them," he said.

Mr Puripat explained that the move is line with Transportation Ministry announcing its policy to boost water safety this year.

Last year, owners of 1,170 boats renewed their registration and 597 new boats were registered, said Mr Puripat.

From January 1 to April 30 this year, 512 registrations were renewed and 67 new boats were registered, he added.

For more information, call the Marine Office 5 Phuket Branch at 076-391174.



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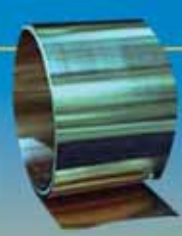
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# Coca-Cola's 125 years in the making

Coca-Cola has come a long way since its humble beginnings as an alternative to morphine

By Neil Quail

COCA-COLA'S slogan for 2011 is "life begins here," and after 125 years in business, the global soft drinks phenomenon clearly has no intention of resting on its laurels.

John Pemberton developed the closely guarded recipe over a century ago in Atlanta, US, originally to help cure himself of morphine dependency. His addiction followed excessive use of the painkiller after he was wounded during a battle in the American Civil War, while fighting for the Confederates.

Pemberton invented the tonic which was made of wine and cocaine. The French Wine Coca was apparently inspired by Vin Mariani, and endorsed by influential figures such as Queen Victoria and Pope Leo XIII.

However, legislation in 1886 obliged him to produce a non-alcoholic variation of his drug-laced beverage.

A recipe was eventually formulated and an alliterative name was applied that referred to the two main ingredients, cocaine and the caffeine-containing kola nut.

In these early days of Coca-Cola, it was used as a cure for headaches, to calm nerves, relieve

exhaustion and as a "valuable brain tonic".

Pemberton's bookkeeper Frank Mason Robinson penned the Coca-Cola name in his handwriting, a style popular with his profession at that time known as Spencerian script.

Little did he know his simple written reference would become the world's most well-known brand name.

After a century-and-a-quarter in business, there are still many myths and rumors surrounding Coca-Cola. This is hardly surprising given their exceptional growth, going from producing nine drinks a day in 1886 to 1.7 billion a day now.

And to quote the infamous Col Hans Landy of Quentin Tarantino's *Inglourious Basterds*: "I love rumors! Facts can be so misleading, where rumors, true or false, are often revealing."

Although the company has tried in the past to dispel the idea that cocaine was ever used in the recipe, Coca-Cola did indeed contain about nine milligrams of the narcotic per glass.

In 1904, a restructuring of the soft drink's recipe included extracts from "spent" coca leaves for flavoring, and still does today.

Coca-Cola first became involved with the Olympics held in

Amsterdam in 1928, and controversially sponsored the Berlin Olympics in 1938. By 1940, Coke was helping Allied troops on their march to free occupied Europe, but was also advertising in the Nazi press and building bottling plants in occupied territories.

In 1941, Coca-Cola GmbH (Germany) could not import the syrup necessary to make Coke and so began producing a soft drink with the ingredients they had to hand, albeit outstretched in salute to Hitler, they called it Fanta.

The name Fanta came about when Max Keith, manager of Coke's operations in Germany during that time, asked his staff to come up with a name by using their imagination, or "fantasie" in German. Joe Knipp imaginatively suggested removing the last three characters, and so Fanta fizzed for the Fuhrer's finest.

The company was also subject to the biggest racial discrimination payout in history (US\$ 200 million) back in 2000, when black employees were found to be paid less



THE REAL THING: Coca-Cola is hugely popular in Thailand. Photo: Dean Noble

than their white counterparts.

To be fair, Coca-Cola has brought positives. After all, who can forget songs like "I'd like to buy the world a Coke," "Can't beat the feeling," and the Christmas, "Tis the season, Always Coca-Cola".

Of course if it weren't for Coca-Cola we may not have that iconic image of Santa Claus as a jolly fat man with perfect-white beard and red suit. It seems our modern interpretation of Saint Nicholas is a combination of Coke's first foray into print media advertising, leading into the Christmas period of 1921, using

the works of Civil War cartoonist Thomas Nast, who depicted St Nick as a Union supporter up until the mid-1890s.

Catchy jingles, beautiful women, chiseled men, cute kids, polar bears and Coke delivery trucks whispering their arrival on Christmas Eve are all very clever marketing ploys, but marketing doesn't make Coke taste good – and taste good it does.

Pemberton got his original marketing mantra correct when he touted his drink as delicious and refreshing; it certainly is the real thing.



SANTA LOVES COCA-COLA: The company's Christmas marketing.

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Phuket lucky license plate auction raises more than 8123mm  
PHUKET: The sixth annual "Lucky License Plate Auction" held in Phuket Town over the weekend raised 23,504,500 baht. Kanok Siriparichokorn, chief of the Phuket Land Transport Office (PLTO), has told the Phuket Gazette. "I am very happy with the revenue raised – it's five million baht more than last year," he said...  
Phuket Mining Museum now open  
PHUKET: Governor Tri Augkaradacha stepped up to buy the first entrance ticket to the Phuket Mining Museum yesterday to mark the official opening of the 180-million-baht attraction. The museum showcases Phuket's in mining history and the lives of the Chinese miners of the era through indoor and outdoor exhibits in both...  
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Mar 19 20:30 - 10:30 FREE Computer Clinic - Chalong  
Mar 20 10:00 - 12:00 FREE Computer Clinic - Laguna  
Mar 25 18:30 - 23:30 SIX of the Best in Phuket  
Mar 26 - 27 08:00 - 17:00 Phuket Youth Sailing Squadron Island Regatta  
Mar 26 - 31 11:30 - 23:30 Bacon and Stone Vase! Arts Exhibition  
Mar 26 18:30 - 06:00 St. Patrick's Ball 2011 at Movenpick Karon Beach  
Mar 27 10:00 - 12:00 FREE Computer Clinic - Chalong  
Mar 27 19:00 - 23:30 Curry Fridays  
Apr 1 10:00 - 12:00 FREE Computer Clinic - Patong  
Apr 3 10:00 - 12:00 Chalong Memorial Day - Public Holiday  
Apr 5 18:30 - 20:00 Stock Market Investing for Beginners (FREE)  
Apr 7 10:00 - 12:00 FREE Computer Clinic - Laguna  
Apr 10 Songkran Festival - Public Holidays  
Apr 13 - 15 Curry Fridays  
Apr 15 19:00 - 23:30 FREE Computer Clinic - Chalong  
Apr 17 10:00 - 12:00 PHASIC InsurKids Phuket Triathlon  
Apr 23 07:00 - 12:00 FREE Computer Clinic - Chalong  
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# Sensing what humans can't

DOGS inherited their keen senses from wolf ancestors, and it's these attributes that enable dogs to play a massive part in our lives. With their phenomenal sense of smell, dogs are being used to sniff out illegal narcotics, explosives and even pirated DVDs. Their sight and hearing capabilities help assist the blind and deaf to live more independent lives, while their strength and stamina make them ideal for both water and mountain search and rescue operations.



**CATCH A WHIFF:** With their superior senses, dogs are trained to sniff out illegal contraband in many countries around the world.

## SNIFFING STUFF

A DOG'S world is almost entirely oriented by smell. Their incredible scent-detecting powers are so superior to ours that it's almost incomprehensible. Dogs are able to detect scents at such low levels that even computers can't detect. Humans have around 5 million scent receptor cells in our noses, compared to around 300 million in dogs. Additionally, due to the structure of their noses, they can breathe in a scent and keep it in their nose – while still managing to breathe in and out.

Dogs' noses are also famously



**Dog Whisperer**

By Russell D Russell

wet, and with good reason. Numerous tear ducts run all the way down to the end of their noses as a wet nose allows them to detect the direction of the wind and thus sniff out scents carried in the breeze. The moisture also helps to dissolve scent molecules so receptor cells located in the nose can identify specific odors. This is why dogs are able to pick out the tiniest trace of contraband in amongst a host of "decoy" scents such as coffee beans.

DOGS hear far better than humans. They hear sounds over a greater range of frequencies, they hear sounds from much further away and can pinpoint the origins of these sounds with exceptional accuracy. For example, a sound we hear at 20 meters, a dog can detect at 200m. Dogs also have movable ears, which enables them

to localize sounds accurately and quickly – in about one 600<sup>th</sup> of a second to be precise. To ensure the dog knows from which direction and where a sound is coming from, there are more than 18 separate muscles in their ears which pivot, tilt, elevate or lower the ear.

Dogs can detect sounds as low as 67 Hz – the equivalent of thun-

der rumbling in the distance – much the same as we can. However, their high frequency hearing is far superior and extends as far as 45,000 Hz, which is 10 times higher than the highest C note a Soprano can sing. Such sensitive hearing means that while dogs are sleeping, they are able to detect sounds inaudible to us.

## SEEING IS BELIEVING

A DOG'S sense of sight is very different to our own. Our vision is binocular and forward directed, whereas a dog's is more monocular and peripheral, allowing them to detect the slightest movements, even when they're coming from behind.

Humans' eyes are located at the front of our heads, giving us a field of vision just over 180 degrees but we have to turn our heads if we want to see things to the side or behind us. With dogs, the having eyes positioned on the side of their heads gives them a field of vision in the range of 260 degrees.

A dogs vision in dim light excels, to the point that a dog can see an object at a light threshold six times lower than a human would need to see the same thing.



**CASH HOUND:** Dogs can see better than most people think.

While dogs are not color blind, they don't have such an acute sense of color as us and find it difficult to differentiate between red and green.

## Bite-size tips

### To shave or not?

SOME people shave their dogs believing it will help keep them cool in the heat. But in fact, while dogs use their coats to keep warm, they also use them to keep cool.

For long-haired dogs, a trim is usually all that's necessary. Shaving fur off your dog makes them prone to skin irritations.

### Exercise your dog

THIS means put him on a leash and go for a walk. Simply allowing him to run around the garden is not enough.

Dogs need mental stimulation as well as physical and being out and about in new places, with new sights, sounds and smells is far better exercise than being in the same garden all day every day.



Singapore MediaCorp Artiste, Joanne Peh

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# Let the kids play while you soak in Yamu

By Alastair Carthew

PUT Aside the marketing spiel and dig beneath the surface for a minute. If you are one of those parents who has at some point wanted to shout "take the kids!" at the top of your lungs, then this place is for you.

Club Yamu by Twinpalms manages to be both toddler-friendly and a chic, chill-out-in-utter-privacy honeymoon spot.

The resort is isolated 20 minutes from the airport at the end of a road in Pa Khlok, Thalang. It's like an up-market Club Med, but without the organized games and frenetic frivolity.

For children there's a 50-meter swimming pool big enough for an aquatic carnival. There are also villas spacious enough to allow kids to roam around without knocking over some precious vase or painting off the wall. The grounds are also large enough for a mini Tour de France course on the complementary bicycles provided.

Twinpalms, which manages the hotel and residences, introduced the family-stay concept to the Martin Palleros designed resort early this year with emphasis on security, education and fun – three hospitality elements



The exterior at the resort in Pa Khlok.

attractive to all nationalities.

The kids club (for ages one to 17 years) offers video games, kiddies-pool, books and organized activities such as greeting card creation, handbag making, kids yoga, a pilates treasure hunt and much more,

every day of the week.

Previously the resort was more for residents as most of the units are privately owned.

Rattichai Suchaiyah, Residences Host Manager, said: "We are driving the concept to be a luxury family resort."



HAVING A BALL: Children can be left to their own devices at Club Yamu while parents relax.



HANGING OUT: Children enjoy the play facilities at Club Yamu.

The design is modern, contemporary and quite unique.

So now Club Yamu is a party, honeymoon and family place. You can take your pick.

It's also big. If you wanted to accommodate the entire von Trapp family in your villa and throw in Julie Andrews as well, without the neighbors being aware, you could as long as they refrained from singing.

At the end of the day, its the little things make a big difference in recommending a luxury resort, such as: Do staff respond quickly to anything that may go wrong? Do the gardeners and maids say *Sawadee Ka/Krap* when you pass by? And so forth.

The resort essentially passes these tests. Artesian fresh Twinpalms-branded water bottles abound. There's a stand-alone tub and great showers, quick retrieval and delivery of a bag left in the restaurant, and yes, raking of the volleyball court!

The staff are also well trained, fluent in English and have an understated respect for your privacy.

The food at the single restaurant

is excellent from a limited, but well appointed, menu.

Pricing is per head, not per room, rising in price according to the type of villa you want. You can chose between two and three bedroom Garden Residences, Garden Pool Villas and a Penthouse.

They are all equipped with the type of ultra-modern facilities you would expect from a resort of this calibre.

Of course Cape Yamu is also a residence, with villas priced between 12 million and 30mn baht.

The resort also won the 2010 Asia Pacific Residential Property Award for Best Architecture in Thailand.

All accommodation comes with breakfast and lunch, and some, depending on the price, include dinner. A wise decision given Club Yamu's isolated location.

A few little niggles: The Wi-Fi was a bit cantankerous and one or two things didn't quite work properly at first in the unit.

But to complain would be a little churlish given the overall package.



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# Patrick Cotter

PATRICK Cotter is best known on Phuket for his work in developing island rugby into a major annual tournament that draws teams from as far away as South Africa, Australia and the Middle East.

"We had our first international rugby event in 1995 when we put together our local players who challenged that year's Sri Lanka championship team Kandy. We were overwhelmed and soundly beaten, but it was the beginning of our local team, the Vagabonds. The *Phuket Gazette* was the early sponsor whose support allowed the team to develop."

The Vagabonds stayed together after their first game and went on to play eight to 10 games a year, mostly against visiting navy teams.

Patrick first arrived on Phuket in 1990 to manage the Hideaway Spa on Nanai Rd in the jungles of Patong.

"I had managed Goldfingers Bar in Bangkok for a few years. We put a rugby team together then and started playing out of the BKK British Club. By 1990, I needed a break from the city and did a three-month tour around Thailand, then took advantage of the Phuket work offer."

Patrick was born in Cumbria, England, and took a three-year apprenticeship as a bricklayer where he learned the essentials of construction. When he finished his training, he headed to Europe where he spent most of his 20s working and

## EXPAT gallery

By Bruce Stanley

traveling around Spain, Portugal and Holland.

He managed a cafe in Benidorm on Spain's Costa del Sol for a couple of years and worked on oil and gas exploration sites in The Netherlands. He arrived in Bangkok on what was to have been a brief holiday in 1987.

"When I discovered the pleasures of living in a warm climate, I decided to change course and move to Thailand. I traveled around the southern islands for a few months before being offered the job at Goldfingers in Bangkok."

But Patrick found living on Phuket much more to his liking for its community life. After two years managing the Hideaway Spa, he opened his own guesthouse, bar and restaurant in Patong on Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Road.

He called the new venture the Dive Inn and it attracted travelers, rugby players and divers. He added Asian Adventures in 1994 as his own dive operation, offering day trips.

The Dive Shop and Patrick's rugby ventures developed. He held his first rugby 15s at Phuket Town's

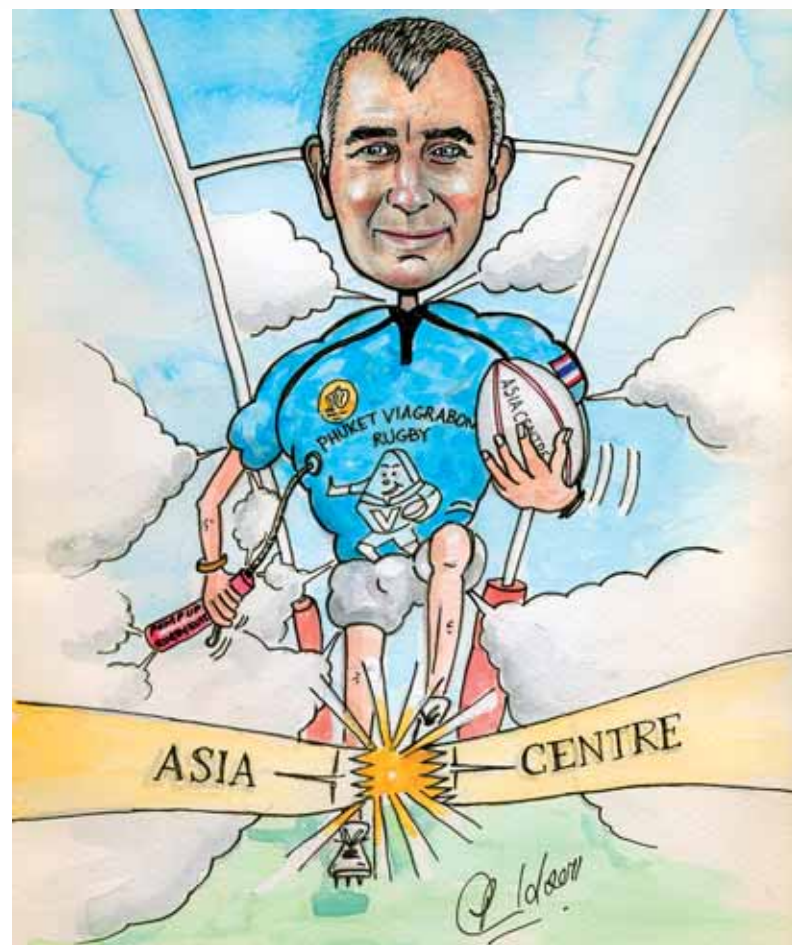
Sirikul Stadium, but in 1998 he moved to a more favorable rugby 10s tournament which has grown from five teams in its first year to the 32 teams that will compete in this year's Phuket 10s competition next week, from May 26 to 29 at Karon Stadium.

Patrick closed the Dive Inn in 2002 and moved his diving operations to Khao Lak. He wanted his business closer to the Similan Islands and the Mergui Archipelago in Myanmar, both of which were more accessible for his fleet of boats, which included a liveaboard.

"I open Siam Adventure Divers for six months a year and then spend the remaining six months based on Phuket training the Phuket Lomas, a squad of school age players, many of whom come from the Asia Center Foundation, a local non-profit agency that supports children who come from low-income families or who are orphans."

His fund-raising work with the Asia Center has raised enough money to support the education of 96 children. He shared the IRB Spirit of Rugby Award with Roelien Muller in 2008 for their work supporting children through rugby. Each year's rugby tournament supports the scholarship fund.

"I invite everyone to come watch the games and join in the fun each night at the Aussie Bar or the Factory Bar for the Tour Virgin Beauty Pageant on May 28."



BY PETER CHILD FOR THE PHUKET GAZETTE

### About Expat Gallery

The individuals profiled in "Expat Gallery" are chosen on the basis of their contributions to Phuket, and for having made those contributions in successful partnerships with Thais. For many, the contributions have entailed significant investment, often in the mid-80s and 90s when the rules of business were, ahh, not always clear. Some are not in business at all, 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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LOOKING GOOD: The English-speaking, presentable staff are professional and friendly at Two Chefs.



NORDIC NOSH: Salmon cooked to perfection.

# Two Chefs cook up a Swede feast

Quality food, a great location and a multi-lingual menu are some of the reasons why Two Chefs is still in trend

By Sam Wilko

WHEN told that I was to review a Swedish restaurant, a frightening percentage of my Anglo-Saxon friends commented: "Oh that'll be nice" nudge-nudge-wink-wink. "Swedish girls are stunners, eh?". But there's more to Swedes than meets the eye.

Kata and Karon host predominantly Scandinavian visitors and the Two Chefs restaurant, run by Swedish friends Billy and Henrik, was one of the first to have the business acumen to tap into this blond-haired goldmine.

Eleven years on, Two Chefs is

now a chain of restaurants with one in Kata and two more branches in Karon.

We knew that Two Chefs offer good dining at decidedly tourist prices, but in spite of this, we were looking forward to eating at their original restaurant, situated diagonally opposite the soon-to-be renovated Boathouse. Could the Swedish restaurant stand up to its illustrious neighbor?

Two Chefs is an L-shaped establishment with cooling roof fans, almost imperceptible background music, friendly English-speaking black-uniformed staff and an overall romantic feel.

However, for all its romance, the eatery is an out-and-out family destination during high season and it's a savvy tactic to sample its charms in low season.

The wine choice for the evening is an absolute no-brainer with a Californian-French rose (1,950 baht) being the highlight of the 50-label list.

We order forest mushroom soup (195 baht) with the excellently baked-on-the-day house bread along with foie gras served with figs in red wine and raspberries (a cheeky 495 baht).

The soup – a Swedish recipe – is excellent while the *foie gras* has



Try the steak gorgonzola and you'll be glad you did.

to be nothing short of delicious at that price. Having said that, anyone who imports food into Thailand deserves a medal for courage and patience, to get around the Byzantine-like Thai custom system.

Wisely side-stepping customs and taxes we take two versions of local red snapper for mains: a grilled fillet with crayfish sauce and potato spring rolls (545 baht) along with a Thai version of the dish (395 baht).

The fish is excellent but the deep-fried potato spring rolls prove themselves to be definitely an acquired taste for someone who likes to avoid excessive calories.

The dish is probably perfect in Northern Europe as an energy kick for digging a Saab car out of a snowdrift, but a bit heavy and for the tropics, where lighter is best.

The Thai red snapper dish fares a little better in a coconut and

vegetable sauce accompanied by steamed rice. But the nicest surprise of the evening is to discover in a Phuket restaurant – at long last – a multi-language menu that includes a Thai-language section.

How a multitude of restaurants here in Thailand can offer menus in German, French and English without having a Thai-language list of dishes is beyond comprehension. Well done Two Chefs for making my wife's evening and other Thai diners' lives a lot easier.

In summary, with several unusual side dishes (deep-fried rocket salad anyone?) and a good line in Scandinavian dishes at above-normal prices, but nothing that will put you on the breadline, Two Chefs is one of the better dining options in the Kata-Karon area.

Two Chefs Kata – opposite the Boathouse. 229 Kottanod Road T:076-284155. Open daily.





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# Dylan in black and white

BOOKSHELVES may groan under the weight of books written about Bob Dylan, but Sean Wilentz's *Bob Dylan in America* (The Bodley Head, London, 2010) is different.

It's written by a historian of American politics whose last book was *The Age of Reagan: A History, 1974-2008*, which maintained that Ronald Reagan's influence lasted far beyond his two terms as president.

Wilentz approaches the phenomenon of Bob Dylan from two angles: as a historian and as a fan.

His father and uncle owned the famous 8th Street Bookstore, right in the middle of the old Greenwich Village of the 1960s.

In fact, it was at his uncle's apartment on the top floor of the bookstore that Dylan first met poet Allen Ginsberg. He was a painfully awkward 13-year-old fan when the 23-year-old Dylan performed his historic concert in New York's Philharmonic Hall on October 31, 1964 – the place where he began to introduce a whole new kind of song.

Among the many photos in the book is Dylan grinning in triumph that night, a long way from the coffee shops on MacDougal Street.

As a historian, Wilentz puts Dylan in the context of the many varieties of American music.

Toward the end of the book, he sums

up Dylan's achievement.

"For more than half a century, Bob Dylan has been absorbing, transmuting, renewing and improving American art forms long thought to be trapped in formal conventions.

"He took traditional folk music, the blues, rock and roll, country and western, black gospel, Tin Pan Alley, Tex-Mex borderlands music, Irish outlaw ballads and more and bent them to his own poetic muse."

Wilentz is also an astute music critic. He devotes an entire chapter to the recording of *Blond on Blond* in Nashville, between October 1965 and March 1966, covering everything from the musicians involved and the evolution of each song to how they were inspired. He has this to say about what Dylan and his bandmates were in search of:

"*Blond on Blond* borrows from several musical styles, including 1940s Memphis and Chicago blues, turn-of-the-century vintage New Orleans processions, contemporary pop, and blast-furnace rock and roll. Dylan moved closer to a style of his own. Years later, he famously commended some of the album's tracks for 'that thin, that wild mercury sound', which he had begun to capture on his previous albums *Bringing It All Back Home* and *Highway 61 Revisited* – a sound achieved from whorls of harmonica, organ and guitar."

Dylan exploded into an amazing burst of



DYLAN ROCKS: Read it. Photo: Chris Hakken

creativity between 1963 and 1966. His later years, with exceptions like *Blood on the Tracks* and *Time Out of Mind*, were not as fertile, but Dylan kept on trucking.

Wilentz covers his *Rolling Thunder*

*Revue* in 1975, the return concert at the Newport Folk Festival after a quarter of a century, his movies and his three-year career as a radio DJ on Theme Time Radio Hour with Your Host Bob Dylan.

Wilentz also indulges in a huge amount of literary explanation into the sources of Dylan's poetry. He devotes an entire chapter to the development of one of the great masterpieces of his later career – *Blind Willie McTell* – including a complete biography of the Georgian blues singer who inspired the song.

A lot of this research, alas, becomes tiresome and pedantic. Like any academic, Wilentz is overly fond of his own voice and displaying the breadth of his knowledge.

Along with a host of bloggers, he tracks down the sources of Dylan's late album *Love and Theft*, as well as his books *Chronicles*, finding that passages from the likes of Mark Twain, Vergil and a Japanese yakuza thriller-writer turned up in Dylan's writing.

Hip-hop artists would call this "sampling". Others would call it plagiarism. Wilentz fails to resolve the issue.

But the Dylan that is revealed in the process is one of protean tastes and voracious reading. He is a great student of the American Civil War, for example, and a great fan of Bing Crosby.

It's positive proof that Dylan can't be put in a box, and merits his consistent resistance to every attempt to force him into one. For fans of Dylan, this is essential reading.

## Pondering the finer points of Buddhism

THE provocatively titled book *Confession of a Buddhist Atheist* By Stephen Batchelor (Spiegel & Grau, 2011) seems intended to ride the coattails of the recent fad for memoirs and books on atheism. It will be of great interest to students of Eastern religions, but Orthodox Buddhists probably won't like it. Atheists might want to give it a miss, because atheism is only incidental to its main themes.

It's a fascinating book on several levels. It traces Stephen Batchelor's religious odyssey from his youthful commitment to Tibetan Buddhism, through a tran-

sition to Korean Zen, through a study of the Pali canon, to a final transition to what he calls secular Buddhism and his return to lay life.

It's also a "quest for the historical Buddha" that tries to reconstruct the life and times of the Buddha through the Pali texts.

Finally, it questions several aspects of Buddhism, manages to achieve a synthesis between Buddhist and Western thought, and illustrates a problem that often confronts Westerners who turn to Eastern religions.

After disrobing at 31, Batchelor and his wife Martine joined a Bud-

dhist community in England for 15 years, then moved to France.

They are still active in international Buddhist affairs, leading retreats, attending conferences, writing and teaching.

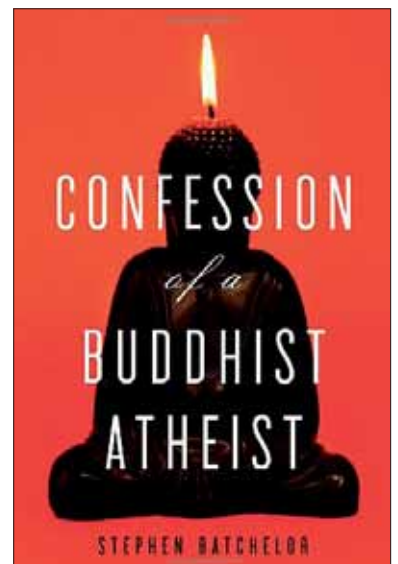
Batchelor has written an impressive number of books. He retains "an abiding passion for the ideas and practices of the Dhamma", but is reluctant to describe himself as religious.

While rejecting some of the beliefs of orthodox Buddhism, he has fused elements of Buddhist and Western thought into what might be called a Buddhist existentialism.

Batchelor's saga illustrates a dilemma often faced by Westerners who embrace Eastern faiths. Because of their cultural conditioning, sooner or later they are bound to encounter beliefs and practices that they're unable to accept. At that point, they have to decide whether to jump ship or stay on board.

In the true Buddhist spirit, Batchelor has forged a middle way between the two extremes that works for him. Whether the Buddha would have endorsed it is something only the Buddha can say.

– *The Nation*



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- ◆ Essays must be written by the student and should not be edited by others
- ◆ The submission must be 800-1,200 words long
- ◆ Submissions will be accepted from June 1, 2011 until August 15, 2011
- ◆ The names of the winners will be announced at the Awards Presentation Ceremony on September 1 in Phuket and the authors will be asked to read their submission

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

## PRIZES

- 1 The Winning Author in each region will earn 10,000 baht and there are two Merit Awards per region of 5,000 baht each.
- 2 The Overall National Winner will receive 50,000 baht in cash.

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THE NATION



## WHAT'S ON in Phuket

### May 6 -26 . Big clearance sale at the Outlet Factory

End of season sale at the Outlet Factory from 10am to 8pm at Nai Yang Beach. Big discounts on Home Design items (chairs, rocking chairs, poufs, bathroom baskets, table mats, etc.) and Fashion Accessories (hand bags, beach bags). Contact Marine Bethegnies at T:085-4786494 E: customerservice@bayokcreation.com

### May 17 -23. HomeWorks Home Paradise

First home decor exhibition in Phuket. You are invited to view home and garden designs, trends, ideas, solutions, tips and best products – all at the best prices for real estate companies. There is nothing homeowners cannot find or learn in this exhibition from 10.30am to 10pm. Don't miss it! Grand Hall, Level 1, HomeWorks Phuket. Contact Siromanee at T:076-291111 E:KoSiromanee@central.co.th.

### May 21 and 28 . Saturday brunch at Two Chefs

Every Saturday Two Chefs proudly presents their Saturday brunch with a Scandinavian touch from noon to 3pm. Eat all you can for only 395 baht. Add only another 300 baht and you can drink as much as you want from our wide choice of free-flowing beverages. During each brunch, MJ & Megan provide the entertainment with their lovely voices. Contact Two Chefs in Kata Restaurant at T:076-330065

## May 22, 28. Top DJs at Indochine Surin



**May 22 from 9:30pm to 2:30am at Indochine Beach Club, Surin Beach**

DJ Norman Jay MBE (Member of the British Empire) of West Indian parents born in London, brings his eclectic mix of jazz, blue beat, ska, rock, reggae and R&B.

**May 28 , from 9.30pm to 2.30am at Indochine Beach Club, Surin Beach.**

DJ Frank Richards from Las Vegas will take to the decks. He has been a mainstay of house music in his hometown since 1992 and a major force in the Vegas nightlife. DJ Frank has played around the world, including Bangkok's Q Bar.

**Contact Giuseppe Viva at T:07 6 -38 08 00 E:pepe@indochinephuket.com or visit us at W:indochine-group.com.**

E:katacenter@twochefs.com or visit W:twochefs.com.

T:084-0517455, or Mr Murat, Events & Group Manager at T:081-7973364 E: muratc@royalphuketmarina.com or visit W:royalphuketmarina.com

### May 22. Mai Khao Turtle Mini Marathon

JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa with the Mai Khao Marine Turtle Foundation will hold the 7<sup>th</sup> Mai Khao Turtle Mini Marathon from 4.30am to 10am at Pru Jeh Sun Lake, Mai Khao Beach, to raise funds for its annual contribution to the Phuket Marine Biological Center's Marine Animal Stranding Rescue Project. Registrations start at 4:30am and the race starts at 6:00am. Race fees are 250 baht for 10.5km and 200 baht for 3.5km. Fees include a T-shirt and a chance to win trophies, medals and lucky draw prizes. Contact Aim at T:086-6892230 E:info@maikhaoturtlefoundation.com or visit W:maikhaoturtlefoundation.com.

**May 22. BIS Tennis Plus Doubles Tennis Tournament**  
Social tennis tournament. Ladies' and men's doubles at 900 baht per team, lunch included. All teams will get at least two matches. Contact Dianne at T:089-4698100 E:didee51@yahoo.com.au.

**May 22. Charity brunch at The Evason for Soi Dog Foundation**  
Come along and show support for the ongoing efforts of the Soi Dog Foundation and join us for a fabulous brunch at Evason's Into the Beach. Tickets are 2,000 baht and all proceeds go directly to the charity. There will be free-flow drinks, delicious cuisine, plenty of entertainment, great company and all for a worthy cause. Contact Cristy at T:084-0544367 E: suaysiam@gmail.com or visit W:soidog.org.

### May 25 and June 8 . Tex Mex Wednesday at Two Chefs

Welcome to Tex Mex at Two Chefs Karon. For only 495 baht you can enjoy however much you want from our big Tex Mex buffet, which is probably the biggest

Tex Mex buffet in Phuket, from 6pm to 2am. We also have live music and good prices on drinks. Yes, that's right – only 495 baht. Contact Two Chefs in Karon at T:076-286479 E:karon@twochefs.com or visit W:twochefs.com.

### May 26 -31. ICC Megasale

ICC International Company Limited with a new men's apparel collection of many leading brands for you at the CDIS activities. May 26 through June 8, on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor Grand Hall, Central Festival Phuket from 10:30am to 10pm. Contact Siromanee at T:076-291111 E:KoSiromanee@central.co.th.

### May 30. Cotes du Rhone Wine Dinner

Walk along the Rhone Valley Wine Dinner at Mom Tri's Kitchen in Kata Noi. Five-course dinner featuring five different wines. Main course is: coffee & herb crusted rack of lamb, sweet potato dauphinoise, sauteed chanterelle and local mushrooms. Price: 1,800 baht + + per guest (exclusive of tax and service charge). From 7pm to 10:30pm at Mom Tri's Kitchen at Villa Royale. Contact Sylvie Y at T:076-333569 E:pr@villaroyalephuket.com or visit W:villaroyalephuket.com/ cr.html.

### June 3 and 17 . Curry Fridays

Curry Friday is held every fortnight. Here is your chance to enjoy a lavish Indian curry buffet. Selections include all-time favorites chicken tikka masala, very hot mutton vindaloo, juicy kebabs, goan fish curry, chickpea curry and much more. Served with nan bread and basmati rice. All you can eat for only 449 baht nett. Draught by the glass just 50 baht nett. Special discount on beverages. Venue: Navrang Mahal India Restaurant at Karon Sea Sands Resort & Spa. Time: 7pm to 11:30pm. Contact call: 076-286464, ext 4.

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# Blue Elephant dazzles guests

STARWOOD Hotels and Resorts World-wide's top salespeople were on Phuket in early May as part of the "Dazzling Thailand 2011" incentive trip.

The Starwood once-in-a-lifetime incentive trip was part of the company's annual reward program for sales people exceeding their targets last year.

Accompanied by their partners, the hot-shot salespeople arrived on Phuket May 3, and bedded down for their first night at The Westin Siray Bay Resort & Spa Phuket.

The next day, the group enjoyed a range of fun activities around island – from tearing around on ATVs to relaxing on Phuket's beaches.

But it was on May 4 when the group were really treated to a magical Phuket time. They headed to the Blue Elephant restaurant in Phuket Town.

There, the group took part in the Japan Charity Dinner, raising money for survivors following the massive earthquake and ensuing tsunami which struck the country in March.

The Starwood Incentive trip was

originally set down for Japan, but was moved to Phuket at the last minute after the quake struck.

Greg Findlay, general manager at The Westin Siray Bay, said the trip was not only good for the sales personnel, but also for the local Phuket economy.

"The tour group spent a lot of money around the island on their trip. These are salespeople who are keen to drive the local economy in the destinations they promote," said Mr Findlay.

"It was also good for the salespeople to see Phuket Town and now they can recommend areas, and the Blue Elephant, to their clients," he added.

At the extravagant Blue Elephant function, there was plenty for the guests to enjoy: Muay Thai demonstrations, setting off lanterns, silent auctions and much more.

The final tally raised at the Japan Charity Dinner was 262,000 baht.

The salespeople left Phuket on May 5 bound for Bangkok, where they spent two nights before returning to their home countries.

Photos: Christian Mouchet



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WITH THANKS: Accepting the award on behalf of Image Asia, Karen Leung of international architects Aedas.

## Best in Asia

SIX SENSES Phuket Raceweek, now in its eighth year, was recently voted Best Asian Regatta of the Year in the Asia Boating Awards 2011. The awards recognize the cream of Asia's marine industry across 23 categories, from boat builders to marinas and regattas. The awards ceremony was held at the Gold Coast Yacht & Country Club in Hong Kong on May 6.

Phuket Raceweek is only the second regatta in Thailand to win this prestigious award.

"We're delighted with the accolade, which reflects what our participants have been telling us for the past several years," said Grenville Fordham, MD of regatta rights owners Image Asia.

Six Senses Phuket Raceweek 2011 will be held from July 20-24 at the Evason Phuket & Bon Island on Phuket's Southeast coast.

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For more information, see  
W:[phuketraceweek.com](http://phuketraceweek.com) or  
E:[raceweek@imageasia.com](mailto:raceweek@imageasia.com)

## Bronze for BIS swimmers



FIGHTING FIT: The Flying Fish swim team, representing the British International School, placed third overall at the international meet last weekend. For more on how all the teams fared, see our sports report on page 45.

## The big 50<sup>th</sup> birthday



HOUSE WARMING: Katia Canonica (center, blonde hair) celebrated her 50<sup>th</sup> birthday with her husband Adriano (below Katia) family and close friends at the couples new home at Laguna Cove recently.



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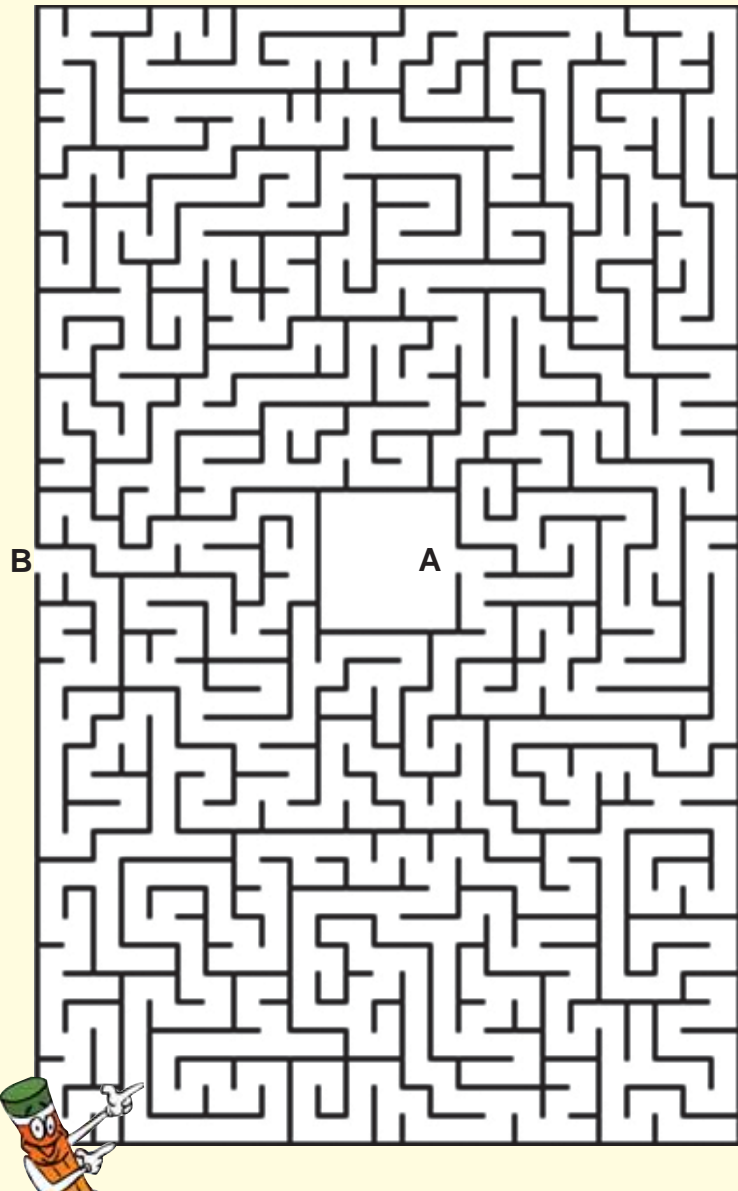


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A *Gazette* staff member completed this maze in 20 seconds. Can you beat their time? Make your way out of the maze.

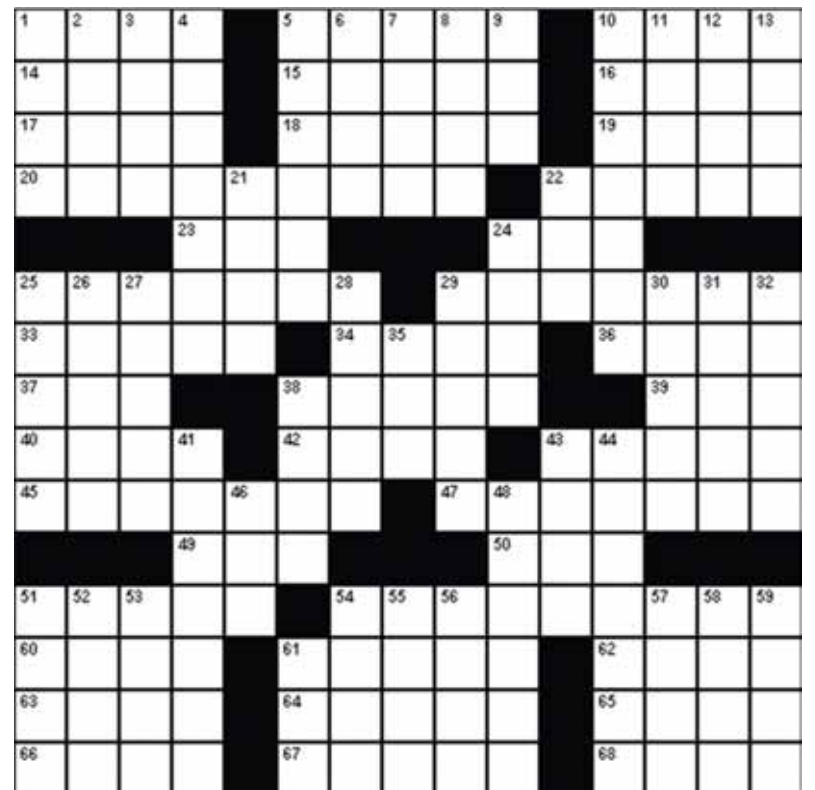


#### Across

1. Scheme
5. Camera setting
10. Muslim elder and prayer-leader
14. Pro \_ \_ \_
15. Nicholas Gage book
16. Church center
17. Getting \_ \_ \_ years
18. Actress Sophia
19. Agitated state
20. Inflammation of the stomach
22. Chopin composition
23. Play on words
24. English cathedral city
25. Diameter of the bore of a gun
29. Pertaining to an armpit
33. Accumulate
34. Della's creator
36. Green land
37. Automobile
38. Satisfies
39. \_ \_ \_ the season...
40. VCR alternative
42. Biblical garden
43. \_ \_ \_ Grows in Brooklyn
45. Silliness
47. Most strange
49. Pothook shape
50. It may be picked
51. Anatomical cavity
54. Shaved
60. Bunches
61. Renounce
62. Author Dinesen
63. Hint
64. Spud state
65. California wine region
66. Tombstone lawman
67. Imply
68. Essence

#### Down

1. Type of rock, briefly
2. Actress Turner
3. Elevator man
4. So much the worse
5. Catlike
6. Narrow opening
7. Actress Hatcher
8. Addition column



9. Slender metal fastener
10. Fashionable
11. Hindu lawgiver
12. Ardent
13. Allot
21. Applies friction to
22. Actor Wallach
24. Former spouses
25. Desert bloomers
26. At full speed
27. Insect stage
28. Not hesitant
29. Coeur d' \_ \_ \_
30. Brit's bottle measure

31. Sign of spring
32. Adjust to zero
35. Hwy.
38. Goes down
41. Ragtime dance
43. Desert-like
44. Naming
46. This \_ \_ \_ stickup!
48. Implant deeply
51. Confront
52. Earthen pot
53. Tart
54. Portend
55. Part of Q.E.D.
56. Turkish honorific
57. Morals of "NYPD Blue"
58. Enervates
59. Three-handed card game
61. Cookie fruit

Provided by BestCrosswords.com.  
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Puzzle solutions on page 42

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): The stars advise Taureans to tone down their self-importance this week as there are signs that others could find you rather over-powering. Your luck with money remains stable until the end of May, but caution should be the keyword when considering new investments. In the realm of romance, chasing an Arian becomes too much trouble, but words from a water sign are music to your ears this weekend.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): An illuminating week lies ahead for those born under the sign of Gemini. The stars predict that you will be busy shedding unnecessary baggage and ready to start the month of June with a clean slate. Those with a birthday in the week ahead should be able to hold onto their money more easily in the coming year. Red hot days for romance are Tuesday and Wednesday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 23): Your luck continues to be strong until the end of May. Cancerians who recently embarked on a new career gain confidence when an earth sign provides support. The stars forecast you will see positive results concerning unpaid

debts midweek. Those who are single could be romantically tongue tied this weekend.

**LEO** (July 24-August 22): Leos appear to be finding it hard to move on at the moment. The stars suggest that your outlook will improve as soon as you stop crying over spilled milk. A missed business opportunity was probably not the key to success that you believed it would be. Stay close to friends who have a calm approach to having fun this weekend and you should be ready to start the month of June with renewed energy.

**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23): The stars encourage Virgoans to put their priorities in order during the remainder of May. This will enable you to start June on a more balanced footing. Paying attention to your dreams this week can give guidance, particularly relating to a personal matter. The most auspicious days for discussions with colleagues are Wednesday and Thursday. Romance with an earth sign goes your way this weekend.

**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23): Librans are advised that it's better to postpone appointments they

## YOUR horoscope

By Isla Star

are not well prepared for. The stars indicate that rushing employment issues will have negative results this week. Personal relationships are highlighted towards the end of May – you are forecast to learn which friends can be counted on. An incident this weekend reminds you that your problems are a drop in the ocean.

**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22): A slip of the tongue could cause Scorpions wasted time next week. The stars advise you think carefully before speaking when communicating with bureaucracy. As May draws to a close, your charisma is powerful – expect to make a strong romantic impression on another water sign this weekend. Those already committed are inspired by their partner to add some spice to the relationship.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): Improved financial circumstances are good

reason for Sagittarians to spoil themselves this week. The world is your oyster and you could start thinking about travel to distant shores. Where romance is concerned, the answer to a dilemma becomes crystal clear after you have spoken to a close friend this weekend. The stars are shining on a relationship with an earth sign, but getting closer to another fire sign becomes less appealing.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20): An unexpected visit from another earth sign comes at the perfect moment for those Capricorns who have been suffering from boredom. The stars predict that you are about to be presented with several choices regarding the direction of your life. Keep these simmering until June when further information could affect your final decision. Sparkling days for romance this week are Sunday and Monday. Money matters are best dealt with after Wednesday.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19): The stars predict that Aquarians should be feeling as right as rain after a strenuous time lately. The astral atmosphere helps you to make the right moves this week and your progress is ob-

served by someone who can speed up your progress in the world of work. A windfall received towards the end of this month helps you to start June in a healthier financial position.

**PISCES** (February 20-March 20): Pisceans are advised to pay more attention to their health this week. The stars suggest that you may have been ignoring subtle signs that burning the candle at both ends is having a negative effect on your well-being. A meeting with another water sign this weekend could inspire you to start turning a secret dream into reality. Finances are subject to cloudy conditions mid-week, so monitor monetary transactions closely.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): Some Arians are forecast to dig their heels in about being sent on a guilt trip, possibly not for the first time. If the person doing this is a family member air sign, the stars suggest enlisting the support of another relative. A proposed work project is worth more consideration as it is forecast to be more stimulating than you anticipate. Your charismatic energy attracts a new romantic interest this weekend.



# PROPERTY Gazette

News | Construction | Gardening | For sale | For rent | Classifieds

## Hillside slope stalls Kathu shortcut plan

By Pimwara Choksakulpan

WORK is underway on a new road joining Kathu and Wichit, but the road plans are being reviewed as the main hill the road is to pass over has proved too steep to pave.

Teeraporn Jirattanakorn, director of the Department of Rural Roads office in Phuket, told the *Phuket Gazette* the completed 1.5-kilometer road will connect Wichit Songkram Road in Kathu with Chaofa Thani Road in Wichit.

The roadwork is being carried out under an 11 million baht budget for fiscal 2011.

Built on land donated by six private owners, the road will be a typical rural

road with two 3.5-meter-wide lanes running in opposite directions and no median strip.

The road will start at Soi Luang Chana Thongtan on Wichit Songkham Road, near the Kuan Lim San community, and connect with Chaofa Thani Road, about halfway between Prince of Songkhla University and the Honda Anuphas showroom on Chao Fa West Road.

Once completed, the road is expected to save considerable time for motorists looking to bypass the congested section of Chao Fa East Road from Kajon-kietuksa School to Darasamuth School junction.

Work clearing the land is underway and the office hopes to sign a contract

this month to build a 650-meter stretch extending from Wichit Songkham Road and a 400-meter stretch extending Chaofa Thani Road.

The two "spur roads" are scheduled for completion by September 30.

However, Mr Teeraporn explained the hill is too steep to safely build a road over.

"Landslides could occur, so we need to revise the road plan. We may excavate the hilltop, but the budget required will increase to 30 million baht," he said. An alternative route around the hill is also being considered, he added.

Funding for any extra work is expected to become available in fiscal 2012, which starts on October 1, 2011, Mr Teeraporn added.



HIGH IN THE HILLS: The route originally designated for the Kathu-Wichit cut-through is too steep to pave.



TIME SAVER: A map showing the new route.

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# Hooray for Koh Sireh as property prices rise



FOR THOSE of a certain age, the never-ending, tortuously-lingering melody of the song "Que Sera, Sera" ignites thoughts of waterboarding at Guantanamo. It's like the nerve-screaming act of sawing a frozen turkey with a violin bow.

For most of us, commercials and advertising jingles stuck in our subconscious outnumber memories of more profound events in our lives. Anyone who has ever woken up in the middle of the night humming the *Macarena* can attest to that.

If only Sigmund Freud were online to accept my Facebook friend request.

But let's not go off on a tangent here – oops, way too late for that.

There is an island off of Phuket Town called Koh Sireh, or is it Siray?

Bruised and battered, I break into the chorus of "tomato, tomahto, potato, potahto, let's call the whole thing off".

The island, Koh Sireh, is connected to Phuket by a bridge that's so short it's nearly a causeway.

Maybe it's just a mental block, but the destination is so close, yet seems so far to many of us. Most local expats have never visited or even know about it.

However, the opening last year



**IN DEMAND:** Land on Koh Sireh is becoming more popular thanks to developments such as the Westin Resort.

of the upscale, internationally-branded Westin Siray Bay Resort and Spa has piqued interest from both afar and nearby.

And with plans for a Centara Grand Siray Resort's, as well as a soon-to-be-launched luxury hotel on the northern tip of the island on the agenda, that interest is growing.

On the property development front, a Thai firm has launched the oceanfront Nchantra@Sirey Beach project with eight Bali-style private pool villas and four penthouses. Prices start at 15 million baht.

The same developer, Nchantra,

has sold out branded projects in Rawai, Palai and Nai Harn. On Sireh, construction is well underway and sales are brisk for those looking for views of Phang Nga Bay.

With a land area of about 20 square kilometers, Koh Sireh is never going to be a mass market, it's reminiscent of Cape Panwa a number of years ago. Though with a resurgence of Phuket Town and hopefully a UNESCO acknowledgement of its culinary delights and architecture, this could all change very quickly.

For visitors to Koh Sireh, a hilltop monastery, sea gypsy community and mangroves where monkeys are plentiful add charm and culture to the location.

Yes, there are white-sand beaches and mangroves with ocean views, and a wide variety of alternatives.

Land speculation and pricing has already started to increase, with new real estate projects looming on the horizon. As more hotels come, expect more property offerings alongside these demand generators.

Another facility on the island is the Phuket International Dog School, a well-established academy known to many for its quality canine teaching and spacious boarding for pets.

The owner, Wichai Chidchio, reminds me of the sensei in *The Karate Kid*.

Diversity remains the spice of Phuket life and hotel and residential markets remain moving targets. Next time you have some time on your hands, take a trip east and get to know Koh Sireh.

Bill Barnett is Managing Director of C9 Hotelworks and can be contacted through [www.c9hotelworks.com](http://www.c9hotelworks.com).

## In brief...

### Stalled projects go on the market

THE HANGOVER from the global financial crises is causing some Phuket developers to fail to complete projects, and instead look at exiting real estate investments.

Two recent examples of properties entering the market are the Baan Talay and Miora Resort developments.

Located in Layan, across the road from the stalled Shangri-La site, the 48 rai Baan Talay estate – which was planned to be mixed-use villas and commercial development – has been put up for sale.

In Kalim, what was to have been Miora, operated by an international hotel company, is also seeking buyers.

Some infrastructure exists for both, but in reality these are greenfield sites. The tables have been turned on the island in favor of Thai groups who have access to equity and debt.

Smaller foreign investment groups who looked at financing projects though pre-sales have seen this model founded over recent years.

Expect more "For Sale" signs to pop up this year as the residential market looks for equilibrium.

### Phuket to get new zoning laws in near future

NEW ZONING regulations for Phuket are expected to be issued in the near future.

From C9 Hotelwork's discussions with local officials and a sneak preview of the updated zoning program, it appears that the revision will be more advantageous to developers.

One highlighted area is Mai Khao, where officials seem to be anticipating a transformation into a higher density semi-urban area, particularly in the allowable residential and commercial areas.

For those anticipating more zoning controls over the island like those in Phang Nga last year, there may be some disappointment.

Bill Barnett is Managing Director of C9 Hotelworks and can be contacted through [www.c9hotelworks.com](http://www.c9hotelworks.com).

## LAGUNA

PROPERTY RESALE

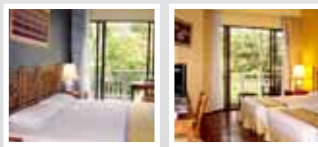
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# Kathu residents left in the dark over electricity

By Chutharat Plerin

RESIDENTS at Niramit Hill Village housing estate in Kathu are trying to figure out how to keep the power switched on in their neighborhood without having to foot the bill for “mysterious” power consumption – or pay for the installation of an entire new network of power cables.

The residents were sparked into action when the Phuket Provincial Electricity Authority (PEA) shut down supply to the housing estate last month after the communal power bill went unpaid.

Confused, the residents asked the PEA why the power supply was cut off when all of them had paid their individual bills. Each home in the development has its own meter.

A team of PEA engineers soon discovered that the main power supply to the housing estate was channeled through an underground system which, for reasons unknown, was “losing” power.

The PEA restored power supply, but only after residents pooled together and paid the outstanding amount.

“We had no idea why the electricity was cut off until we met the manager of the

PEA Phuket office a month ago,” said Sonthaya Maneechote.

“We found out that the project’s main electricity meter, which is underground, had not passed PEA standards,” he added.

“If it was a few hundred baht it would be okay, but it was more than 10,000 baht. We do not want to keep on paying for electricity that we’re not using,” Mr Sonthaya said.

Unsatisfied, the residents filed a complaint with the Damrongtham Center against project developers King and Joy Business Co Ltd.

In response to the complaint, Phuket Vice Governor Somkiet Sangkaosuttirak chaired a meeting on May 9 to discuss how to resolve the problem.

At the meeting were representatives of the PEA Phuket office and the Phuket Land Department.

Vijam Chuayplod, Chief of Customer Service at Phuket Provincial Electricity Authority, said, “The only solution I can think of for now is to remove the underground system and replace it with above ground cables.

“We have inspected the underground main meter. We approximate the cost of installing overhead cables at about 1.2 million baht,” he said.



**ELECTRICITY WOES:** Niramit Hill Village housing estate, where villagers are overpaying for electricity. Inset is Chareeporn Punudom, Phuket Land Department representative.


Chareeporn Punudom, the officer representing the Phuket Land Department, offered the utility guarantee deposit paid by King & Joy Co Ltd to the Land Department.

The deposit was a legally required condition before construction was permitted to begin, she explained.

“There is the 796,325 baht utility guarantee from the project at the Land Department the residents would be able to use,” she said.


“But we will need to meet again to discuss this further,” she added.


Who exactly will pay the remaining 400,000 baht to install the overhead cables remained the focus of discussions at the meeting. As of going to press, the issue remained unresolved and a date for the next meeting had yet to be set. With no firm conclusions made at the meeting, V/ Gov Somkiet assigned Ms Chareeporn to take charge of resolving the issue.



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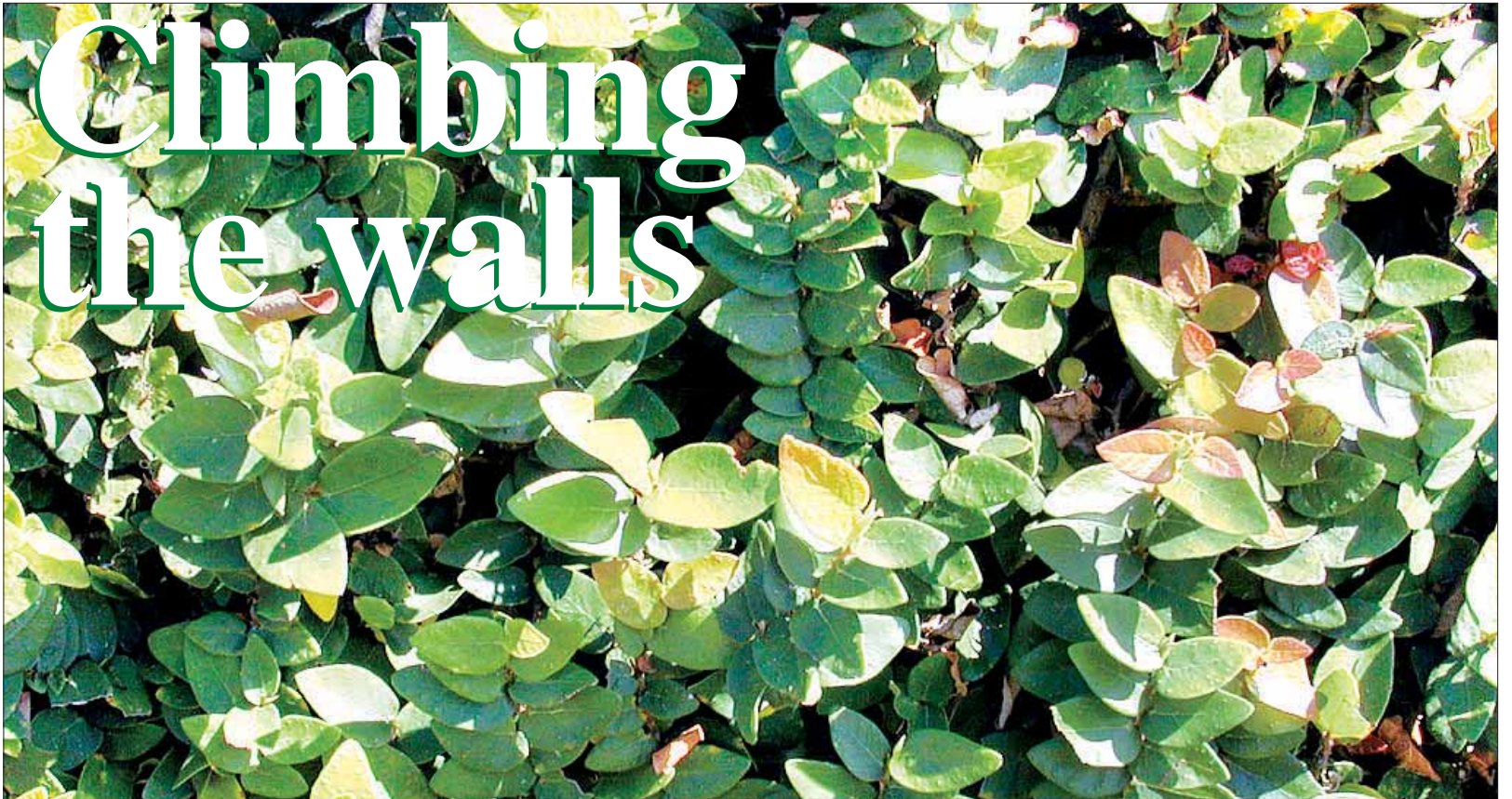
For the most part they are beautiful – until a year or two of tropical rain leaves them looking discolored and plain shabby. Of course, they can be repainted, but this is not as easy as it sounds when you have to manipulate your brush or roller behind rows of shrubs or climbing vines.

A better solution may well be to cover your walls with a creeping plant that looks good and stays permanently green. Yes, you read that correctly – that's creeping, not climbing.

Climbers such as the Allamanda, the Rangoon Creeper, or Chalice Vine may look magnificent when in full bloom, but they are top-heavy plants, and since they do not produce tendrils, they will need to be attached to sticks, fencing or a trellis to keep them from keeling over.

Moreover, they tend to reach up towards the overhead sun, and end up covering the top half of a wall rather than enveloping the whole structure.

Even climbers with tendrils have a hard time attaching them-



ON THE WALL: The Creeping Fig is the closest thing to ivy that grows and thrives in Phuket. Photos: Bri Weldon

Thick foliage in the form of creepers and climbers are a good way to hide unsightly garden walls. But there are only a few that grow well in Phuket's climate

selves to flat, smooth walls. On brick walls or tree trunks, there are always crevices which they

can anchor themselves to – but not on these walls.

Ivy could probably manage it, but there is no ivy in Phuket – it's just too hot for a plant with tiny rootlets that can, in cooler conditions, adhere to the flattest of surfaces.

The nearest equivalent to ivy is in fact a variety of fig commonly called creeping fig (*Ficus pumila*). This will cling, in a leech-like manner, to even the most pristine of surfaces.

On Chao Fa East Road, there is a school with high perimeter walls. And on a wall at one side of the school, leading to Villa 5, you will find a fine example of creeping fig.

It has covered all – save one small section – of a 150-meter-long wall with its shiny, green leaves. The discolored bit of wall that is not covered in green foliage is a stark reminder that nature often provides the best solutions.

The creeping fig, known in Thai as *teen took kai*, has neat, heart-shaped leaves and once es-

tablished will grow remorselessly.

Propagation is best done by cuttings which should be planted in an acid soil with plenty of nutrients.

Another variety called "snowflake" is also available. But be careful, the old growth will have thicker stems and may produce pale-green, inedible fruits.

Since this mature growth also has larger leaves and branches which tend to hang down, it will need to be pruned away from time to time.

In this way, you stimulate the creation of young and desirable foliage. A bit of effort required here, but still a lot less hassle than turning to your paint pot.

The trumpet vine (*Thunbergia grandiflora*) is not as efficient as the creeping fig at attaching itself to walls. But nonetheless, it will cover large areas, hanging down in long floral clusters that easily reach the ground.

The Trumpet Vine has the advantage of being extremely fast off the mark, and has masses of trumpet-shaped, mauve or white flowers. The leaves are slightly rough to the touch and heart-shaped. It likes moist soil and though it will tolerate full sun, it prefers some shade.



The trumpet vine is a flowering variety of creeper.

Two other rampant blanketers of man-made structures are the garlic vine, and the Honolulu Creeper or coral vine. There will be a report on both of these climbers in due course.

If you have a garden that you would like to be featured on this page, please email: [pcampbell45@gmail.com](mailto:pcampbell45@gmail.com)

## Tip of the week

### What's in a name?

ALTHOUGH learning plant names is a bit of a bore for many gardeners, it often helps to establish a relationship between the visual image of the plant and its name.

For example, *Fragrans* or *Odorata* denotes sweet-smelling blooms, *Floribunda* means an abundance of flowers. *Siamea* indicates that the plant comes from this country, and *Japonica* that it hails from Japan.

Some names indicate the plants preferred environment or conditions, such as morning

glory, sunflower, or flame of the forest.

Many common names give a quick visual indication of a shrub's appearance.

Thus *Brugmansia* is known as Angel's Trumpet, *Jatropha Podagrica* as the bottle plant, *Hamelia* as the fire bush, *Euphorbia* as the Crown of Thorns and *Cassia Surattensis* as scrambled eggs.

The word *Macrocarpa* in the botanical name tells you straightaway that it produces a large seed.

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### TWO SEAVIEW PLOTS



Reduced to 4.95 million baht each. Near Surin and Bang Tao Beaches. Fantastic 180-degree views. Exclusive. Hill-side Development with executive homes already built. All utilities available. Land area: 540sqm and 545sqm (adjoining). Chanote titles: Leasehold or freehold. Tel: 084-744 2240. Email: ross@funboatcruises.com

### LAND FOR SALE



In Chermg Talay. 15 rai. Price: 10 million baht per rai. Contact K. Sunit. Tel: 081-787 9021.

### 2.95M RAWAI HOUSE 50M TO BEACH

Totally renovated house, 50m from Rawai Beach in quiet, safe street. Comes furnished. Tel: 088-451 5540. Email: ben@boomingbox.com More info on this website: www.bbx3.be

### BANGLA SHOPHOUSES

Four shophouses in Bangla for sale or rent. Opposite Rico Hotel. 16.5sq wah each, 4 floors each. Tel: 081-825 8961 (English & Thai), 081-825 8969. Email: amom21@gmail.com

### HOUSE IN PHUKET VILLA 5

Home and business in Phuket Villa 5. One living room, a dining room, 5 bedrooms, 1 office, 4 shower/WC, 1 business room, 1 storage room, 1 kitchen. Plot over 500sqm. Price: 7.7 million baht. Tel: 086-479 6685 (Thai), 086-682 4356 (English & Thai). Email: sian@gmx.net www.thai-swiss.ch/Immobilien.immobiliien.0.html

### FRONT SEAVIEW FOR SALE

Mountain view at the back. 288sqm of land (Nor Sor 3 Kor), Ao Por Marina. Price: 2.3 million baht. Tel: 081-979 1761.

### PATONG TOWER FOR SALE

Modern, 1-bedroom 70sqm condo, refitted and furnished. Price: 4.95 million baht. Tel: 081-088 8099.

### BUNGALOW FOR SALE, CHALONG



3-bedroom on 65sq wah, with western kitchen and bathroom. Price: 3.95 million baht. Tel: 089-922 2800. Email: simonchinner@yahoo.com

### 3 RAI LAND IN TRANG



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

### 30 RAI IN TOWN

Flat land near Dowroong School in Phuket Town. Tel: 081-691 2526.

### BEACHFRONT CONDO

2 bedrooms on top floor. Freehold. North Patong. Price: 9.7 million baht. Also available for rent. Tel: 086-276 5117. For photos please email to jihshand@gmail.com

### LAND AT CHERNG TALAY

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

### Loch Palm Pool View - Resort B16.9mn

Located in the quiet neighborhood southwest of "Loch Palm" golf course, the property is 800sqm (20x40 m = 0.5 rai). Built in 1995, Villa 1 has two apartments that are furnished 4-room/85sqm.; built 2000, Villa 2 - ground floor - has three furnished 3-room/58sqm apartments.; on the first floor, one 174sqm 5-room apartment. 3 car ports & fully equipped workshop available. The garden-pool - (& possibly spa-) area size 380sqm. Well-equipped, up to US, ADSL & good maintenance standards, this estate generates an annual income of 925,000 baht, from a solid tenant clients-stock renting long term. Suitable for an investor with interests and experience in new facility management. Asking price: 16.9 million baht



### Villa 2 & Carport, North-view, 4 apts - 348sqm



Email: golfandview@gmx.de, Mobile: 089-875 2856, 081-891 6632 & 082-415 9930 (English, Thai, German)

### HOUSE & FURNITURE

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

### 3-BEDROOM HOUSE

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

### BRAND NEW CONDO



Mid Town, Royal Place Project, 2nd floor, 37sqm. Studio condo, fully furnished, reasonable price. Tel: 086-476 9612.

### NICE AND SPACIOUS HOUSE



In Heritage project, Kathu. 2 floors, fully furnished, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 1 maid room. 234sq wah. 18 million baht. Tel: 081-892 0190 (Warit), 089-646 4823 (Rattana). Email: prayoon\_jp@hotmail.com

### 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.

### BEST BUY / PURI ANDA POOL VILLAS

500m to Rawai Beach. 2-3 bedrooms, with built-in furniture and kitchen. Private pool, sala, garden. Pre-sale price: 7.5 million baht. High yield investment returns. Contact Kris. Tel: 081-691 3029. Email: kris\_silanachai@yahoo.com

### SEAVIEW LAND FOR SALE

Near Supalai Resort on the east coast of Phuket slope. A 3-rai plot with road and electricity access. Price: 3.6 million baht per rai. No agents please. Tel: 080-520 2989. Email: pakaporns@yahoo.com

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**PHUKET VILLA  
CONDO PATONG**

New condo. 1km to beach, near Bangla Rd and Jungceylon, 1 bed, 1 bath, fully furnished. 3.9 million baht for 42sqm and 3.8 million baht for 44.5sqm. Tel: 081-541 2025. Email: c.junlarat@gmail.com

**LAND FOR SALE**

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

**LAND AT PAKLOK**

1 rai 13.6sq wah with Chanote. Located on Tha Ruea-Pa Khlok-Muang Mai Rd 11km from Heroines' Monument, near Mission Hills. Price: 3.9 million baht. Tel: 089-472 9118.

**PRIVATE SALE OF  
HALF A RAI**

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

**SURIN BEACH**

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

**2-STORY HOUSE  
IN PATONG**

sea view. 50 Pi Road, 49sq wah. 4 bedrooms with balconies, 2 bathroom, aircon, fully furnished. Chanote. Price 17 million baht ono. Tel: 087-270 9093. Email: a.pueng@gmail.com

**BEST PRICE  
POOL VILLA**

Thai-Balinese style with L-shaped design. 2 garden view bedrooms with open plan living and modern kitchen, 2 en-suite bathrooms. Located near BIS. Premium quality. Land size 144sqm. Price from 3.7 million baht. Tel: 084-293 7923, 080-648 9622 (English). Must visit us: www.phuket-aurasia.com

**TWO  
TOWNHOUSES**

For sale. 2-storey house, 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom. Good location and atmosphere. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-956 2406. Email: phatsara@gmail.com

**KAMALA LAND**

1,745sqm land for 9.8 million baht. Tel: 089-291 7733. See more details at www.phuket.ag/for\_sale/

**HOUSE FOR SALE  
IN KATHU**

3 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms, with a swimming pool, a garden and 2 car parks. Price: 12 million baht. Tel: 081-925 1730.

**LAKESIDE LAND PLOT**

Lakeside land plot on Loch Palm Golf Course. Great views and peaceful location. Price: 15 million baht for 388sq wah. Tel: 081-273 6959 (English). Email: bobyapp@mac.com

**KAMALA RESORT**

5,000sqm land with 7 villas. Price: 49 million baht. Tel: 089-291 7733. See more details at www.phuket.ag/sale/

**GOLF VILLA FOR SALE**

3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 10m pool, stunning views. Tel: 081-537 9684. For further details, please see our website at www.vistaphuket.com

**PATONG APT**

2-bedroom apartment for rent or sale. 87sqm unit on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor with sea view. Fully furnished. Tel: 081-891 6502. Email: andrea.capucci@gmail.com

**3 BEDROOM HOME  
CLOSE TO PIA**

Large 3 bedroom home with large rear garden, including some furniture. Communal pool and fitness club. Only 3.5 million baht. Tel: 083-968 8938. Email: alwyn@phuket-landandhomes.com

**12 RAI LAND  
IN NAI HARN AREA**

12 rai, with Chanote title, 178 meters of road frontage, priced to sell at 6.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-649 3557. Email: ken@phuketlifestyle.com For further details, please see our website at www.phuketlifestyle.com

**SALE CONDO KATHU**

1 bedroom 25sqm, with balcony, 1 bathroom, full furniture, freehold, Price 400,000 baht. Tel: 081-367 0991.

**POOL VILLA FOR SALE**

2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, located in secure estate in Rawai. Price: 5 million baht. Tel: 083-641 9327. Email: rawaipoolvillas@hotmail.com

**BAAN SAIYUAN  
VILLA**

Detached house in Rawai 98sqm, 3 bedrooms. Price: 9.5 million baht. Tel: 087-270 9093. Email: a.pueng@gmail.com

**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: 087-689 9679, 081-270 0875. Email: tasuwan@hotmail.com

**3-BEDROOM  
HOUSE**

3-bedroom house (53 sq wah) near the Heroines' Monument. 2 bathrooms, 3 aircons, telephone & internet, curtains, kitchen and full landscaping. Price: 2.95 million baht (negotiable). Contact owner. Tel: 080-520 2989. Email: pakaporns@yahoo.com

**NICE PLOT**

Urgent sale. Behind Layan Hill Estate (Manik-Bangjo Area). 1,364sqm. Original price: 7.2 million baht. Now: 6.9 million baht. Tel: 080-520 2989.

**SEAVIEW LAND PLOTS  
BANG TAO**

Amazing views, private community, underground utilities, 3 phase electricity. Ready to build. Plots starting 4 million baht. Tel: 089-590 3665, 086-267 0157. Fax: 076-325294. Email: ban nuaton@yahoo.com

**2-STOREY HOUSE**

At Dusitburi, behind Rajabhat University. 51sq wah, with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished. Tel: 081-970 5009.

**KOH YAO YAI  
LAND FOR SALE**

A small plot of land for sale: 3 rai and 22sq wah (4,888sqm) near Klong Son Beach. Asking Price: 4.5 million baht. Nor Sor Sam Gor access document included. Tel: 087-887 7133, 084-848 7474. Email: kasina\_navamachiti@yahoo.com

Completed Development Move in this Season!

**PHUKET'S ALL POOL CONDOMINIUMS**  
Actual photo taken September 2010

**MANDALA CONDOMINIUMS**  
BANG TAO BEACH, PHUKET, THAILAND

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**PHUKET'S ALL POOL CONDOMINIUMS**

Enjoy risk free tropical living in a completed Mandala Condominium located near Bang Tao Beach in Phuket's popular west coast Laguna area.

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Several apartments, including two penthouses, are still available for purchase in the gated community. Attractive financing options are available.

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Mandala was "Highly Commended" at the recent Thailand Property Awards 2010 in the "Best Condominium Development in Phuket" category.

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**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.

**TWO POOL VILLAS**

In Chalong, quiet hillside, modern 3 & 4 bedroom. Keen vendor. Price: 6 and 8.9 million baht. Tel: 086-281 7605. Email: nigellennard1@gmail.com http://webspawner.com/users/phuketvilla

**KATHU LAND 1.2 RAI**

Hillside lake view, offered as a whole with 2 separate Chanote titles. Price: 8.5 million baht. Tel: 087-900 8445.

**GUEST HOUSE PATONG**

For sale. 6 units, with partial oceanview. Fully furnished, in great condition. Call for details. Tel: 084-898 1358.

**PHUKET NEW HOME**

If you are looking for a single house or townhouse or condominium in Phuket: Tel: 081-677 7773. Email: phuketnewhome2010@hotmail.com Visit our website at www.phuketnewhome.com

**HOUSE FOR SALE  
IN KATA**

Price 5.4 million baht. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished. Tel: 081-476 4476.

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## Household Items

Serviced studio apartments now available. Rates from 9,000 baht/month. Includes maid services, internet, TV, full furnishings, and a rooftop pool. Great location near Big Buddha. Please contact for more information. Tel: 086-282 6221. Email: [info@chalongaapartment.com](mailto:info@chalongaapartment.com) Website: [www.chalongapartment.com](http://www.chalongapartment.com)

Looking for accommodation in Phuket for 2 weeks from around 9 August (4 adults and 3 children - 4 bedrooms). Ideally a villa with pool. Send with info, photos and prices. Email: [lallenthai@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lallenthai@yahoo.co.uk)

Samsung AS18 of 18,778 BTU and a Samsung AS13 of 12,672 BTU. Quick sale. Contact Patrick. Tel: 076-384258, 088-446 6658. Email: [patrickfellen@gmail.com](mailto:patrickfellen@gmail.com)

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Please send the resume to [assisthrmgrphuket@wineconnection.co.th](mailto:assisthrmgrphuket@wineconnection.co.th)  
or call 076-282411 for further information



## Phuket Gazette

**As part of its continued expansion, the Phuket Gazette seeks two advertising sales representatives.**

### Advertising Sales

- ▶ Thai, age at least 26, with an outgoing personality
- ▶ Bachelor's degree in marketing or related fields
- ▶ Experience in sales and marketing
- ▶ Good command of spoken and written English
- ▶ Must have own transportation and driver's license
- ▶ Alert, self motivated and goal driven

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV and writing sample by email to [Anna@phuketgazette.net](mailto:Anna@phuketgazette.net)

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**Qualifications**

- A successful record of consistent achievement as a senior HR specialist, ideally a mix of hotel or timeshare background
- Degree level, and management qualification [MBA] desirable
- Professional HRD qualifications, preferably internationally recognised desirable
- Accustomed to working at a senior level and as part of a wider team who is used to managing a demanding workload
- Excellent communication skills (written and oral) and possessing a coaching qualification would also be beneficial
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- Proven track record in the effective leadership of staff – inspiring, motivating, performance managing and developing

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To deliver a proactive and customer focussed HR service across Thailand with particular emphasis on creating a centre of excellence through the development and implementation of HR strategy, policy and practices to support the delivery of Absolute's strategic aims and objectives incorporating:

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Paralegal services. Qualifications:

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Club Asia Fitness requires Sales Consultants. Thai national – English speaking an advantage. Earn 20,000 baht ++. Tel: 076-354027, 087-275 3614 (English). Email: [info@clubasiaphuket.com](mailto:info@clubasiaphuket.com) For further details, please see our website at [www.clubasia.phuket.com](http://www.clubasia.phuket.com)

#### MAID AND GARDENER (THAI)

Wanted, with hotel experience for farang-owned house in Rawai. Tel: 081-797 7898.

#### TEACHER WANTED

QSI Phuket has a vacancy for the position of teacher. For children 5-6 years old. Requirements: native English speaker with BA in education, proper certification and experience. This is not an ESL position. Write to [alan-siporin@qsi.org](mailto:alan-siporin@qsi.org) and [lbhaber@aol.com](mailto:lbhaber@aol.com)

#### MARKETING JOB

Looking to recruit English speaking Thais for our marketing company in Chiang Mai. Tel: 053-282079, 085-473 4207 (English). Email: [sastravelmarketing@gmail.com](mailto:sastravelmarketing@gmail.com)

#### VIDEO PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS

Travel video production assistants wanted by Internet Travel TV station based on Phuket. Open training opportunities for beginners with knowledge of photoshop or basic video cutting softwares. Flexible working hours and a good learning attitude is important for the internet multi-media work. Tel: 082-323 9315 (English), 082-784 7271 (Thai). Email: [andre@web62.com](mailto:andre@web62.com) For further details, please see our website at [www.web62.com](http://www.web62.com)



**Mövenpick Hotel & Resort**

**Mövenpick Resort & Spa Karon Beach Phuket**  
**Mövenpick Residences Laguna Beach Phuket**

**Mövenpick Hotels & Resorts**, an international hotel chain of Swiss origin, is expanding its portfolio in Asia. With the constant growth, we created a demand for professional, creative and proactive employees and are looking for you to grow with our dedicated and progressive team.

**Mövenpick Resort & Spa Karon Beach Phuket**, centrally located on Karon Beach, features 359 rooms and villas.

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**Spa Manager (Karon based)**

- Holding a spa management certificate.
- At least 3 years experience in similar position in a 5 star hotel.
- Excellent English communication skills.
- Thai national, aged between 30 – 45.

**Executive Chef (Bangtao based)**

- At least 3 years experience in a 5 star hotel in same capacity.
- Creative, innovative and can deliver high quality product.
- Good command of English.

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- At least 3 years experience in 5 star hotel properties in same capacity.
- Good command of English communication skills.
- Thai national, aged 35-45.

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#### TEACHER AT PSU IN HAAD YAI

Prince of Songkhla University, International College, Hat Yai Campus is looking to fill English-speaking lecturer position in social science. Please email cover letter and resume to [mark.v@psu.ac.th](mailto:mark.v@psu.ac.th)

#### SHOP ASSISTANT WANTED

For our bicycle shop at Kata Beach. Thai female or male, English speaking (not fluent is acceptable) for sales and rentals services. Good salary with commission. Immediate start. Tel: 089-730 7520.

**MAID/NANNY WANTED**  
required for live in-job near boat lagoon. Great salary. Tel: 080-208 7454.

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One maid for cleaning and one motorbike mechanic/repairman. Experience needed. Tel: 083-634 5772 (English & Thai). Email: [info@husiphuket.se](mailto:info@husiphuket.se)

#### LOOKING FOR NANNY

Thai family is seeking a nanny who can speaks Chinese to our kids. Full- or part-time. Live out. Good salary. Tel: 089-159 3239.

#### NATIVE ENGLISH TEACHER

Female caucasian to teach class of 10,12 and 3-5 years old children in Chalong. Mon-Fri, 8am-4pm. Tel: 080-624 7060. Email: [buds.span@yahoo.com](mailto:buds.span@yahoo.com)

#### MEMBERSHIP CONSULTANT

Phuket's Premier Health Club requires a self motivated and organized female Thai national with excellent English, and with previous experience in sales, membership role. Salary plus commission. Tel: 076-360885, 089-926 5543 (English). Fax: 076-360887. For further details, please see our website at [www.rpmhealthclub.com](http://www.rpmhealthclub.com) email your CV and covering letter to the GM at [darren@rpmhealthclub.com](mailto:darren@rpmhealthclub.com)

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### Sales Executive – Luxury Boats

Simpson Marine is the leading boat brokerage company in Asia, based in Hong Kong. Currently operating in 6 countries, the business has experienced significant growth over the past 2-3 years, and now has 60+ staff throughout Asia.

Our Phuket office is looking for a Sales Executive to boost the sales team. Selling both new and used, power and sailing boats, you will work within a small sales team. We require someone who is highly motivated, customer oriented and results driven. You will have either previous marine sales experience, or strong sales results from another industry – perhaps even selling luxury products.

**You will be based in Phuket and will be paid a base salary, uncapped commission, as well as paid annual leave and medical insurance.**

#### Candidate Requirements

- An interest in, or current strong knowledge, of the marine industry.
- More than 3 years of direct sales experience, with the ability to close sales.
- Good negotiator.
- Computer literate.
- Very well organized, able to work in a fast pace environment and multi task.
- Ability to work without supervision or guidance.

Interested candidates should email their resume (English) in MSWord format/PDF to [hr@simpsonmarine.com](mailto:hr@simpsonmarine.com).

Only short-listed candidates will be notified. Applicants not invited for an interview within 2 weeks, should consider their applications unsuccessful.

All information received will be kept in strictly confidential and only for employment-related purposes.



### VACANT POSITIONS

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A member of the SLH Hotels and Resorts invites candidates to apply for the following positions:

- Human Resources Manager
- Chief Engineer
- Front Office Manager

#### Profile:

- ▶ At least vocational certificate to bachelor degree level
- ▶ At least 3-5 years' experience in the field
- ▶ Strong result oriented, people management, and leadership skills
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- ▶ Strong in analytical, problem solving skills, and execution of work

#### Fringe Benefits:

- ▶ Good Salary + Sharing Service Charge
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- ▶ Accommodation as per your position category at resort

An exciting career awaits creative professionals along with a competitive benefits package. Please send application together with a detailed resume, transcripts, current and expected salaries to:

#### Human Resources Department

Resort: 11 Moo 8 Laem Tong, Koh Phi Phi, Ao Nang, Muang, Krabi 81000 Thailand  
Tel. 075-627000 ext. 1400 or 1401 Fax. 075-627025 E-mail: [hr@zeavola.com](mailto:hr@zeavola.com) & [pa@zeavola.com](mailto:pa@zeavola.com)

## Construction Project Manager

Successful luxury villa developer in Cherrng Talay, Phuket urgently seeks a Project Manager to start immediately

#### Candidate Background

- Thai national
- Bachelor's Degree in an engineering discipline
- At least 7 years in project a management role
- At least 10 years construction industry experience
- Good command of English, PC literacy & some knowledge of CAD
- Pro-active, highly responsible, organised & able to work under pressure

#### The Role

- Ensure high quality, on-time delivery of villas
- Manage team of 2 Project Engineers
- Coordinate between Owners & Contractors
- Measure monthly progress & approve contractor claims
- Use & adapt current paperwork systems to ensure proper audit trail

**Competitive salary for the right candidate!  
Immediate start**

Interested Parties are invited to submit their resume together with current & expected salary to [cherngtalaydevelopment@gmail.com](mailto:cherngtalaydevelopment@gmail.com)

### DETOX WELLNESS MANAGER

Seked by Samui detox resort.

Tel: 088-491 1462 (English). Please send CV via email: [fasthealing@yahoo.com](mailto:fasthealing@yahoo.com)

### YACHT SALES EXECUTIVE

Requirements: Experience as luxury motoryacht sales executive of over 3 years, fluent in English, and any other languages, excellent computer and communication skills, knowledge about luxury motoryachts, engineerings, maintenance, etc. Tel: 081-9799911. Email: [vrit@boatlagoonyachting.co.th](mailto:vrit@boatlagoonyachting.co.th) For further details, please see our website at [www.boatlagoonyachting.co.th](http://www.boatlagoonyachting.co.th)

### BOAT TECHNICIAN WANTED

for new catamaran. Responsible for all maintenance. Must be able to sail, swim, dive and drive dinghy. Will be a long time out of Thailand. English necessary. Starting September. Email: [sh@vetliner.com](mailto:sh@vetliner.com)

### OFFICE ASSISTANT & PROPERTY RENTALS

Wanted. Outgoing and polite, with excellent work ethics and good English. Full training provided for real estate activities. Experience in Office systems, filing and emailing is a must. Own transport required with driving license. Office outside Laguna. Good benefits and work environment. Email: [info@phuketrealty.net](mailto:info@phuketrealty.net)

### TEACHER WANTED

QSI Phuket has a vacancy for an experienced and qualified PE teacher/sports coach. Schedule: 9am - 5.15pm and occasional weekends. Requirements: native English teacher with BA, certification, experience and demonstrable abilities to motivate students and work with other schools in Phuket. Write to [alan-siporin@qsi.org](mailto:alan-siporin@qsi.org) and [lbfhaber@aol.com](mailto:lbfhaber@aol.com)

### ADMIN STAFF WANTED

Admin staff required by real estate agent in the Laguna area. Must be Thai national, female and have some experience in admin and accounts. Must also live locally. Good salary and immediate start. Tel: 076-271315, 081-895 6267 (English). Email: [info@phuket-landandhomes.com](mailto:info@phuket-landandhomes.com)

### PHP PROGRAMMER

Wanted for full-time position in Chalong. Good salary. Tel: 084-628 2629. Send resume to [gianni@ictned.eu](mailto:gianni@ictned.eu)

### ADMIN CHERNG TALAY

Young Thai female, good English. Must be able to do with-hold fax forms & use Microsoft Office. 3-month trial period. Salary 12,500 baht per month. Send CV & pic by email. Email: [patsypalm@hotmail.com](mailto:patsypalm@hotmail.com)

### CUSTOMER SUPPORT WANTED

We are the leading travel agency in Phuket. We currently want to fill 2 positions for customer support. Starting salary ranging from 12,000-15,000 baht. Please contact for more additional details. Tel: 076-367120, 086-950 6945. Or send email: [korphong@hotmail.com](mailto:korphong@hotmail.com)

### KINDERGARTEN TEACHER NEEDED

Female teacher needed to teach 3-5 year olds. Native speakers only. Love for children and dedication is a must. Tel: 076-521550, 084-847 0732. Email: [intlicense@yahoo.com](mailto:intlicense@yahoo.com)

### OFFICE SECRETARY

We are seeking an energetic and proactive full-time office secretary/administrative assistant. Candidates must have good English and computer skills. Tel: 086-004 3008. Email: [angius@villasuksan.com](mailto:angius@villasuksan.com)

### ADMIN + LITTLE ACCOUNTS

Young Thai female, good at English. Must be able to do with-hold fax forms and use Micro-soft office. Three months trial period. Salary 12,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-271315, 081-895 6267. Fax: 076-271316. Email CV and photo to [joinourcompany@gmail.com](mailto:joinourcompany@gmail.com)

### SALES EXECUTIVE NEEDED

Sales Executive needed urgently in Phuket Town. Qualifications: Aged between 25-45 years, male or female. Good command of written and spoken English. Minimum 2 years experience as sales officer, any construction experience will be considered favorably. Salary: 8,500-12,000 baht not including commission. Email: [phuketimperial@yahoo.com](mailto:phuketimperial@yahoo.com) [www.phuket-stainless-service.com](http://www.phuket-stainless-service.com)

### TELEPHONE SERVICE

We are seeking to hire a Thai woman for our phone customer service. High salary. Send resume to [vorike3@gmail.com](mailto:vorike3@gmail.com)

### OFFICE SECRETARY

Real estate agency requires an office secretary. Experience is a plus. Tel: 076-384664, 087-898 8647 (English). Fax: 076-384665. Email: [mundo@ayudhya.net](mailto:mundo@ayudhya.net)

### COOK / CHEF WANTED

Cook wanted for a private house in Surin. Must have good spoken English and a driving license. Good salary and benefits. Please contact Chitchamon for more information. Tel: 086-282 9449 (English & Thai). Send email: [ct.trakarn@gmail.com](mailto:ct.trakarn@gmail.com)

### HOTEL POSITIONS AVAILABLE

#### - Engineer

Salary 9,000 to 10,000 baht per month plus service charge. Working hours from 8am to 8pm - Work 5 days with 2 days off - Must be skilled in electrical, plumbing systems & wood work - Position available now. Must be a Thai national, fluent in English.

#### - Bartender/Receptionist

Salary 8,000 to 9,000 baht per month plus service charge & commission. Must have front desk experience - Shifts alter from morning, afternoon and evening. Must have knowledge in making drinks & bar beverages, and be friendly and outgoing with guests. Must speak and understand English. Position available.

**Tel: 076-333222. Or send email: [sales@ccblosshotel.com](mailto:sales@ccblosshotel.com)**

### BARISTA & CHEF PASTRY

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- Start immediately

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### DRIVER AND OFFICE STAFF

Jobs available for minivan drivers and office staff. Thai nationals only. Tel: 076-282506, 088-080 3820 (English). Email: [peter@orientalphuket.com](mailto:peter@orientalphuket.com)

### FUN IN THE SUN

Marketing promoters wanted for Patong Beach. Earn 20,000 baht a week. English speakers only. Work permit+ visa provided. Call Jonny. Tel: 086-596 7322. Email: [jonnythailand69@hotmail.com](mailto:jonnythailand69@hotmail.com)

### DETOX / YOGA CONSULTANT

Atsumi healing are looking for a Thai national to work full time in our detox department and teach yoga. Must have excellent verbal and written English skills. Degree and yoga certification an advantage. Tel: 084-051 7455, 086-905 2947 (Thai). Email resume to [shell@atsumihealing.com](mailto:shell@atsumihealing.com)



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For sale baby chair. Tel: 085-069 0938. Email: nnorthwo@hotmail.com

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**WASHING MACHINE 2,000 BAHT**

Washing machine: 5kg, front loader, hot water, 6 years old, for 2,000 baht. It works. Call me from 1pm to 6pm. You can see it in Phuket Town and I have pickup for delivery. Tel: 083-525 8914 (English & Thai). Email: adihousedj@hotmail.com

**SECONDHAND TREADMILL**

Secondhand treadmill for 10,000 baht. Please call Gary. Tel: 087-889 9064. Email: jholden@hotmail.com

**JACUZZI FOR SALE**

Mobile spa in good condition, used only for 1 year. Price: 70,000 baht. Tel: 081-667 1637 (English & Thai).

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Equipment**COFFEE MAKER**

Suitable for restaurant or bar. Recently spent 5,000 baht on it in overhaul. Price: 15,000 baht. Tel: 089-867 4872.

## Bulletins

**LIVE MUSIC**

Rock and Thai music every night at Free Bird bar on Saiyuan Road. At 3 Ways Junction in Naiham with road to Kata-Naiham Beach. 2x50TV for sports. Call Nok at 087-244 1322 or Chris at 087-884 8972.

**SKIPPERS PUB QUIZ**

At Royal Phuket Marina. Last Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm. Happy hour and prizes. Tel: 076-360890-3.

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**

For Phuket info (English) call 081-8912895, 081-8954763 or email: phuketaa@yahoo.com

English Speaking Meetings  
Mission Hospital - Phuket City  
Wed and Sun 7 PM

Bangkok Hospital - Phuket City  
Fri 7 PM

Patong Hospital - Patong  
Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun 17 PM

Green Man Restaurant - Chalong  
Tue 1 PM

Stereo Lab Restaurant - Surin Beachfront  
Mon and Thur 9:30 AM

Scandinavian Meeting - Karon  
Tue and Sat 7 PM (Nov-April)  
Tel: 086-9440460 Sae, 085-4647450 Sae

For info on other Thailand AA meetings inquire @ 02-23118300 (for Thai language press 3) www.aathailand.org or email: info@aathailand.org

**SPONSOR A CHILD**

The Phuket International Women's Club is a volunteer organization raising funds for educational scholarships. We rely on the goodwill of donors and sponsors - small and large. If you would like to put something back into the community in which you live, contact us to find out more about giving a prize or being a sponsor. Please call K. Carol (Tel: 087-417 8860) or K. Sue (Tel: 087-277 6948). Or email: info@phuketiwcc.com

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Pasta n Noodles restaurant in Karon up for immediate sale. Seats 60. Tel: 076-344922, 081-978 4982. Email: jctailor@loxinfo.co.th Please see our website at: www.bluewaterphuket.com

**EASY MONEY**

A fully established Phuket-based business for sale. Very profitable, easy to manage, non-tourism related. High expansion potential. Interested? Email: db1@europe.com

**FREE BIRD BAR FOR SALE**

Seating for 70 people. Aircon stage and dance floor. 2x50 TV sets, 1-bedroom suite-tower. Restaurant fully equipped, with seats for 40. Parking spaces. Price: 3.5 million baht. Call Nok at 087-244 1322 or Chris at 087-884 8972.

**BAR/RESTAURANT IN PATONG**

Bar/restaurant for sale on Bangla Road, Patong, Phuket. Rare opportunity, best location on Bangla Road, Soi Patong Resort, a fashionable bar/restaurant on two floors with a large terrace which can serve up to 80 customers. The kitchen is fully-fitted and the place fully-equipped, ready to start the business. Price: 4.2 million baht. Rent: 60,000 baht per month. Lease contract 8 years. Tel: 087-818 2098 (English), 084-758 7468 (English). Email: caponnetor@hotmail.com

**COLTD FOR SALE**

Capital: 2 million, founded in June 2010. 15,000 baht. Cash register (RTECH, PBM WD-1) 10,000 baht. Tel: 087-892 2335. Email: moritz111@hotmail.com

**OFFICE FOR RENT**

Included tour c/t. Good location in Patong at low rent. Ready to start business right away. Already decorated. Tel: 087-626 6214.

**RESTAURANT BAR**

Located on main road Nai Yang. Full kitchen, pizza oven, seat 65, unique decor, owner leaving country, Price for quick sale. Tel: 087-891 2384.

**BAR FOR SALE**

Under Bangla boxing stadium, very cheap, fully furnished, TV, cable, fridge, good situation. Price: 500,000 baht. Tel: 082-256 5386. Email: fasa6075@hotmail.fr

**INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY**

Brand new restaurant in Patong, professional set up and design. Seat 100, closed to popular tourist attraction, rent 120,000 baht/month. Lease 3+3. Running hotel central location Patong rent 120,000 baht/month, lease 3+3+3. Price: 8 million baht. Tel: 080-474 0444.

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**CHALONG**

- Julapan Stationery (Chao Fa East Rd) Tel: 076-282254
- KL Mart (Patak Rd, Chalong Circle) Tel: 076-280400
- Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppe (Fisherman's Way Business Center, Chaofa East Rd) Tel: 076-282403

**PATONG**

- Taurus Travel (Aroonsom Plaza) Tel: 076-344521-2
- Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppe (Aroonsom Plaza) Tel: 076-290468
- Deli Supermarket (Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd) Tel: 076-342275

**PHUKET CITY**

- Earth Language Training Centre School (Phang Nga Rd) Tel: 076-232398
- Sin & Lee (Thalang Rd) Tel: 076-258369

**CHERNG TALAY**

- Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppe (main entrance road to Laguna Phuket) Tel: 076-324313
- Chaba Supermarket (at the Laguna gateway) Tel: 076-325586

**RAWAI**

- The Network property office (Saiyuan Rd) Tel: 076-613173



**BAR BANGLA ROAD**

Soi Tiger. 1.6 million baht. Tel: 082-810 9670.

**COFFEE SHOP FOR RENT**

In Soi Patong gym in front of the entrance of the Bel Air Patong Hotel. For long-term lease. 100sqm with 65 seats. New business with fine decoration and lounge shisha serving coffee, bagels etc. Rent on 3-year lease: 45,800 baht per month. Key money: 1.5 million baht. Tel: 082-284 8293. Email: opinkphuket@hotmail.com

**BAR & RESTAURANT FOR SALE**

On Nanai Road (Soi 8), next to Seeka Resort. Four-year lease, all remaining stock included, 4 rooms 3 bathrooms, kitchen with all appliances, staff optional, pool league optional. Monthly rental: 20,000 baht. Price: 800,000 baht. Tel: 076-512441, 086-267 5798, 083-593 3768 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-512441. Email: appletrip.s@gmail.com

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**SHOP FOR SALE**

Patong Beach Road. 55sqm. 2 storeys. 2.5 million baht. Tel: 081-956 1042. Website: [www.fish-spa-phuket.com](http://www.fish-spa-phuket.com)

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Busy Chalong restaurant. Well equipped and fully-furnished. Price 280,000 baht. No key money. Tel: 087-852 2057 (English & Thai). Email: palmbua.siam@live.ca

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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

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**BEAUTY & MASSAGE SHOP**

Large, fully-equipped. Shop behind Jungceylon on Patong. Must see. Tel: 086-281 8883.

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**PATONG BAR & RESTAURANT**

For sale. 231 Nanai Road. Includes a small bedroom and a bathroom with hot shower. Fully-furnished. Sale: 250,000 baht. Rent: 19,000 baht per month. Tel: 085-477 5935.

**NEW MASSAGE AND BEAUTY SHOP**

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**TRENDY RESTAURANT FOR SALE**

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**BAR ON BANGLA RD**

Bar at front of Soi Gonzo. Key money paid, 4-year lease. Rent at 10,000 baht per month. Tel: 088-440 9324 (English), 087-769 6229 (Thai). Email: nightrelaxbar@hotmail.com

**BIG KAMALA RESTAURANT / BAR**

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# Windsor notches eight gold medals

By Neil Quail

BRITISH International School (BIS) hosted 382 young athletes for its impressive third Flying Fish International Swimming Invitational held last weekend and witnessed the emergence of a future star from Phuket.

Twenty-one teams represented seven countries from around the region including Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, China, the Philippines and Pakistan. The vast number of boys and girls were organized by age, ranging from 8 and under to 15 and over, with three other age categories between.

Seeing the huge number of participants, it would seem difficult for one swimmer to make a mark, but young Raymond Windsor of BIS Phuket Flying Fish (FF) did just that – emulating the medal tally of Michael Phelps' Olympic record with an incredible eight golds.

The comparison ends there, for Phelps anyway, as Raymond not

only took first place and posted personal best times in six events (200 meter Free, 50m Free, 50m Breaststroke, 50m Backstroke and 200m individual medley), but also set a new Meet record of 1:02.80 for the 100m Free.

Not surprisingly, Raymond's stunning performances earned him first place overall in both his age group (11-12 years) and as the Meet's highest scoring individual swimmer, with a perfect score of 120 points.

Head Coach for the FF Cyrus Crews was thrilled with Raymond's stunning results.

"Raymond Windsor has the heart of a champion. In my humble opinion, he is one of the best, if not the best male athlete this school [BIS] has.

"He was the only Flying Fish to make the top three in any of the age groups. It is a really worthy result and he deserves huge kudos for his efforts," he said.

Cyrus could not have asked for

a better tribute to his team's hard work over the past few years or a more fitting send-off for someone so instrumental to the organization of the FF's International event.

"Cyrus will be leaving Phuket this August. He was the one who has made Flying Fish very strong again in the past two years.

"He will be sadly missed as he brought so much to BIS Phuket and the Flying Fish," said Christophe Espouy, Marketing and Communications Executive at BIS.

Other Phuket swimmers to steal the remaining limelight were Areena Raksanit who came away with a haul of four gold medals in the 8 and under category and Matina Sangiamkul who bagged a hat-trick in the 11-12 age group. Both swimmers are from Phuket Country Home (PCH).

Enquiries should be directed to Head Coach Cyrus Crews at E:ccrews@bisphuket.ac.th



THE NEXT PHELPS: Raymond Windsor with Head Coach Cyrus Crews.

## Swimming gold medallists

With nearly 400 competitors and several competitions at each age group, it is impossible to include all Phuket medal winners. Below are the gold medal winners.

### Boys 11-12: 200m Freestyle

Raymond Windsor, 12, BIS FF - Phuket

Tim Schwab, 10, BIS FF - Phuket

### Boys 8 & Under: 100m Breaststroke

Natapol Wannakitti, 8, PCH

### Boys 11-12: 200m Medley Relay

BIS FF - Phuket

Jedi Pijak Thomrongkialkul, Raymond Windsor, Joseph Mahler, Jakkrin Street

### Girls 9-10: 100m Breaststroke

Emily Matsui, 9, BIS FF - Phuket

### Girls 11-12: 100m Butterfly

Matina Sangiamkul, 12, PCH

### Girls 11-12: 100m Breaststroke

Matina Sangiamkul, 12, PCH

### Boys 11-12: 100m Butterfly

Kittipong Cheepsata, 12, PCH

### Girls 11-12: 100m Breaststroke

Rebecca Preen, 11, BIS FF - Phuket

### Girls 8 & Under: 50m Breaststroke

Areena Raksanit, 8, PCH

### Boys 11-12: 100m Breaststroke

George Taffs, 12, BIS FF - Phuket

### Girls 11-12: 50m Breaststroke

Matina Sangiamkul, 12, PCH

### Girls 8 & Under: 50m Freestyle

Isabella Hosking, 8, BIS FF - Phuket

### Girls 15 & Over: 50m Breaststroke

Bianca Goetz, 16, BIS FF - Phuket

### Boys 8 & Under: 50m Freestyle

Krivit Musikapala, 7, PCH

### Girls 8 & Under: 100m Freestyle

Areena Raksanit, 8, PCH

### Boys 9-10: 50m Freestyle

Sukul Kunapuech, 9, PCH

### Boys 9-10: 100m Freestyle

Miccael Walter, 10, PCH

### Girls 9-10: 50m Butterfly

Sineephat Sangngai, 9, PCH

### Boys 11-12: 200m Freestyle Relay

BIS FF - Phuket

Jakkrin Street, Jedi Pijak Thomrongkialkul, Wingphinit Sakolthavat, Joseph Mahler

### Girls 8 & Under: 100m Backstroke

Areena Raksanit, 8, PCH

### Girls 8 & Under: 50m Backstroke

Areena Raksanit, 8, PCH

### Boys 9-10: 50m Backstroke

### Team Rankings - Team Scores

1. Orchid Country Club Orchid Country Club 1,529
2. Isb-Dragons Isb-Dragons 10,071
3. BIS FF - Phuket BIS FF - 950

## INTERNATIONAL RUGBY

# Lager than life 10s sponsors

PHUKET International Rugby 10s organizers have announced Heineken Thai Asia Pacific Brewery Co Ltd as title sponsors for this year's tournament.

A second important development also heralded the inclusion of a junior competition at Thanyapura Sports and Leisure Center (TSLC) on May 28.

Four teams including Phuket Lomas, Bangkok Lions, Centaurs Singapore and Krabi will compete on TSLC's new synthetic rugby pitch in a round-robin format, with the top two vying for Cup honors and runners-up going for the Plate.

Both Under 15 Cup and Plate finals will be played as a curtain raiser for the senior finals on Sunday 29 at Karon Stadium.

Pat Cotter, chairman of Phuket Rugby and organizer of the 10s,

is delighted with the recent developments.

"We are very excited to have Heineken Thailand on board and look forward to many years of their involvement with the 10s. Hopefully there will also be good support for the youth tournament and we want to encourage spectators to be especially vocal for the U-15 finals," Pat said.

The 10s social events have also been announced and run as follows: May 26 – The Coffin Dodgers welcome party will be at the Aussie Bar on Soi Bangla. There will be a buffet available from 8.30pm. All are welcome.

May 27 – The main competition party will also be at the Aussie Bar. There will be a buffet available from 8.30pm, again all are welcome.

May 28 – The Tour Virgin

Beauty Pageant will be at The Factory Bar on Soi Bangla from 8pm. Buffet and fun. After the pageant a bikini fashion show will be held. All are welcome.

May 29 – End of tournament party at Seduction night club on Soi Bangla. All welcome.

The rugby 10s events will also help raise funds for the Children's Scholarship Program in association with the Asia Center Foundation.

For more information visit W: phuketrugby10s.com

–Neil Quail

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## Sport

# Laguna marathon on track for 5,000

By Neil Quail

PARTICIPANT numbers for the sixth Laguna Phuket International Marathon are nearing the 4,000 mark, organizers Go Adventure Asia announced this week.

"We believe that this year's event will definitely be a success. 3,243 runners have signed up for the marathon, a figure 10 per cent higher than what we had at this time last year, and registration will be open for another four weeks. We are confident that the number of participants on June 12 will be beyond our target of 5,000," said Roman Floesser, General Manager of Go Adventure Asia.

Singapore currently tops the list of countries with most international participants, followed by Japan, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Australia, the United States and Laos. Expats and athletes from Thailand account for roughly half of the current total.

"We are delighted to see such an excellent reception for the 2011 Laguna Phuket International Marathon. Positive reaction to the marathon reflects well on the tourism industry and the activities of



Peachy preparing for the marathon.

recreational athletes the world over," added Mr Floesser.

Six contestants from The Biggest Loser Asia (TBLA) TV reality show will also lend their celebrity status to the event. With a combined weight loss of 314kg – equivalent to the weight of an adult Tiger – this distance run will certainly challenge their new fitness lifestyles.

The starter's pistol report will see season two contestants: winner Raj Devaraj of Singapore;

runner-up Atikom Laksanapanai (Nai) from Bangkok; and third placed Genghis Enrique of the Philippines in a rekindling of their first competitive meeting.

Also on the team from Series 2 are Scott Hanna and Picharatch Phuntawornawin (Peachy) of Bangkok.

Phuket-based TBLA Season 1 contestant Garry Holden has helped reunite the group. Garry transformed his life on the show and successfully completed last year's half marathon, as well as the Laguna Phuket Triathlon and Ironman 70.3 Asia-Pacific Championship last year.

Garry will this year attempt the full 42km marathon and lead the team on their individual challenges. All but Genghis, who has opted for the half marathon, will take on the full distance with Garry.

"Each one is an inspiration and this event will be a fantastic experience for them as they develop their new lifestyles," said Garry.

Peachy, who includes gym training as part of the preparations for her first-ever marathon attempt, said: "This is an exciting challenge for me and I'm thrilled to be taking



TAKING THE LINE: Charkrit Boonkong, winner of last year's marathon.

my life to another stage at such a fantastic event."

Christopher Hogan will again be the artist-in-residence at this year's Laguna Phuket Summer Family Festival, which is run in conjunction with the marathon. The internationally renowned Australian artist will certainly be a draw for families offering a program of daily art classes and tutorials.

Fun activities and sponsor booths will also stoke the carnival atmosphere over two days, as participants gather to promote their

own charities or Laguna's community initiative for local schools.

The Laguna Phuket International Marathon will begin on the morning of June 12. Runners can sign up online while on-site registration will also be available from June 10 and 11, but a late-entry surcharge of 300 baht will apply. Hotel specials at all Laguna Phuket resorts and hotels are available for instant booking on the event website.

For more information or to register visit: [W:phuketmarathon.com](http://W:phuketmarathon.com).

## Thailand champions place fifth in South Africa

PHUKET'S golfing duo Michael Weinstein and Kenth Fredin returned last week from a successful – if somewhat saturated – World Corporate Golf Challenge (WCGC) Finals held in the Eden district of South Africa.

Victory in Bangkok at the qualifying tournament in March this year, awarded Michael and Kenth the opportunity to represent Thailand at the 36-hole challenge final. Played on the Jack Nicklaus designed Simola course in Knysna, the resort hosted the Danish football team for last year's World Cup.

Having played themselves into a good position after the first round in fine conditions, Michael and Kenth arrived for the second day's play after an overnight downpour.

"We were certainly playing well after 18, but we learned that 117mm of rain had fallen overnight which made the course almost unplayable. In the end, we managed only



Thailand representatives Michael Weinstein and Kenth Fredin at the WCGC in South Africa

eight more holes before the tournament was called off," Michael said.

"Teams such as India and Northern Ire-

land were very strong up to that point, so I doubt we could have won, but to finish equal fifth out of 20 international teams wasn't a bad performance," he added.

One incident that did not sit well with Michael, the organizers and the competitors, was when a member of the Mexican team was found to have falsified his handicap.

"We were sitting with the player when tournament organizers confronted him after an investigation into his playing background. He had claimed to have a handicap of 20, but in fact was playing off 8.6 in Mexico. He was immediately ejected from the competition. They take their golf very seriously in South Africa," Michael said.

"The experience was just fantastic. Challenging golf courses, outstanding hospitality and even though you meet a group of strangers, there's an instant bond because

of golf," Michael remarked.

Former US Open winners Retief Goosen and Tony Jacklin were also in attendance. Goosen owns a vineyard in the area and helped sponsor the event through his award winning wine label The Goose.

Jacklin gave an after-dinner speech offering advice and golfing anecdotes to the competitors and all at the function observed a minute's silence for the passing, and in tribute to, the great Severiano "Seve" Ballesteros Sota.

The WCGC began in the UK in 1993 and has grown to include 30 countries and over 150,000 participants. Organized by the Golf and Events divisions of Diethelm Travel, the Asian section hopes to expand into new markets throughout the region for upcoming events next year and in 2013.

– Neil Quail

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## Sport

# FC Phuket miss out

By Steven Layne

FC PHUKET suffered their first home defeat of the season last Saturday night, going down 0-2 to the Saraburi FC Warlords.

Cheered on by about 200 red-shirted supporters, the Warlords controlled the game from the start in last Saturday evening's match.

Injury-stricken FC Phuket looked lackluster and disorganized, especially without key midfielders Sarach Yooyen, out with the flu, and Abdoul Coulibaly, who didn't come off the bench until the 74<sup>th</sup> minute.

FC Phuket had few opportunities in the first half, seeing several wishful long balls to Kone Adama, who was unable to break through Saraburi's defense. Silence descended over Surakul Stadium in the 30<sup>th</sup> minute when a promising red shirt charge penetrated FC Phuket's staggering back line.

The subsequent shot by Panuwat Promyen was deflected wide off the foot of Phuket captain Viratroj Chanteng to Saraburi's Ivory Coast



**MISSED OPPORTUNITY: FC Phuket were outclassed.** Photo: Apinun Saithong

star Valery Djomon, positioned near the left post.

With two touches, Djomon struck a shot into the far corner to put his side up 0-1.

The final goal came in the second minute of added time at the end of the first half, when a sloppy Phuket defense was unable to stop Djomon gaining possession in the penalty area and slotting home his second goal past FC Phuket goal-

keeper Theerawat Pinpradub.

In the second half Phuket played more attacking football, and used substitutes Brazilian Paolo Renato, Ivory Coast player Abdoul Coulibaly and Thai player Watcharapong Jun-ngam.

Saraburi goalkeeper Jakkarin Boonmee, made several top-class saves to deny the Southern Sea Kirin through to the final whistle.

Falling to 8<sup>th</sup> spot in Division 1,

Team	P	Pts
BBCU	13	33
Buriram	13	30
Chainat	13	23
BUFC	13	22
Saraburi	13	21
Songkhla	12	20
Rajapracha	13	20
Phuket	11	18
PTT Rayong	12	17
AFUTD	12	16

FC Phuket will face 14<sup>th</sup> placed Chantaburi FC next Saturday, when they will again try to record their first away victory this season.

The next home game, scheduled for May 29 will be against Buriram FC, currently ranked second in the 18-team Division 1. Both games will kick off at 6pm.

## Legends update



THANYAPURA Sports and Leisure Center (TSLC) wish to inform *Gazette* readers of new ticketing information for the Liverpool Legends exhibition match at TSLC.

Tickets can now be purchased at HomePro outlets in Phuket or online from W:totalreservation.com

From June 10, tickets will also be available for purchase from TSLC.

For more information visit W:thanyapura.com

## Multihull regatta adds Corsair Cup

THREE years on and South East Asia (SEA) Properties fourth annual Multihull Challenge is again set to impress with an exciting array of some 25 to 30 yachts taking to start lines from July 15 to 17.

Asia's biggest Multihull regatta, hosted by Ao Chalong Yacht Club (ACYC), offers superlative racing conditions on the tropical waters surrounding Phuket.

Since its inception in 2008 the event has seen an astounding 30 per cent growth each year. This year's event will have two new classes plus the national championship competition for the Corsair Cup.

Due to popular demand organizers have added a Cruising Class and a Classic Class to the event. The extremely competitive Firefly yachting race continues to be Asia's largest and more than 12 yachts are included for the Ocean Multihull Class.

Director of Racing Peter Dyer is eager to again showcase Phuket and welcome crews to ACYC from around the globe for this spectacular regatta.

"The SEA Properties Multihull Challenge is appealing for many reasons. The waters off Phuket are perfect for this type of racing. And everything is happening from ACYC, requiring minimum effort on the part of crews and the entrance fee is very reasonable at only 7,000 baht per boat.

"The regatta itself is always packed full of surprises due to the unpredictable July weather making it a pretty open race, although



The Multihull Challenge starts in July.

yachts to watch this year are Andaman Cabriolet's *Side-winder*, Corsair Marine's *Miss Saigon* and of course *Voodoo Child* in the Firefly class.

"If you've never raced in a Multihull, but always wanted to have a go, then why not come over and join in," Peter said.

Principle sponsors for the event are Corsair Marine, Derani Yachts and Sea Bees, who will each sponsor a post-race party. ACYC, Andaman Cabriolet and Image Sponsor form the lineup of co-sponsors that will also sponsor one of the four celebrations at which great food and prizes are assured.

Registration takes place on July 14. This is followed by a program of five races, two on Friday, two on Saturday and one on Sunday.

— Neil Quail

For details contact Peter Dyer at race@sea-property.com T:081 892 3111 or visit W:acyc-phuket.com.

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