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# Phuket Gazette



## Return of the gods

Final preparations underway for Vegetarian Festival

INSIDE TODAY

September 28 - October 4, 2013

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# Permission to function

Work permit crackdown exposes 'catch all' wording of the law; Officers can arrest foreigners for anything

By **Gazette** reporters

THE separate arrests of a German man and a Swiss man at their homes in Chalong last week by Immigration officials sent a chill through the law-abiding expat community in Phuket.

The two men were arrested despite their protests that they were each building a boat for their own private use.

At the time of the arrests, no officers at Phuket Immigration were willing to comment about either case. Instead, officers said Phuket Immigration chief Sunchai Chokkajaykij – who was in Bangkok at the time – was the only officer with the authority to speak about the incident.

By then, however, news of the arrests had spread. A flurry of comments posted on the *Gazette* website highlighted the dangerous...

Continued on Page 2



Lack of prescribed legal intent for laws surrounding 'working' puts expats on alert. Photo: Nick Walker



## Rihanna's Instagram takes toll on image

INSTAGRAM of Rihanna and a slow loris was the tip of the iceberg as Twitter messages of sex shows in Patong put police corruption in media the spotlight.

Full stories on Pages 3 and 8

## Tuk-tuks to be driven by demand

PHUKET Governor Maitri Inthasut puts in motion a plan for increasing the efficiency and the number of tuk-tuks on the island.

Full story on Page 7

## Bay results lack clarity

TEST results released for Patong Bay water quality do not include potential biohazard hot spots.

Full story on Page 6



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## This Week



### Property

Find out which Phuket properties are the best of the best. **Page 16**



### Business

Is the Kingdom moving forward with high-speed rail links? **Page 17**



### Tech

These gadgets are made for wet and wild conditions. **Page 36**



### Entertainment

The best TV shows to watch according to the Emmys. **Page 39**



### History

Sacrificing virgins in the good name of the city. **Page 42**



### Sport

Ben Grimes at it again on the international stage. **Page 48**

Saturday



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# Fatal shooting duo claim self-defense

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

TWO teenagers charged on Monday with shooting dead an 18-year-old man outside a 7-Eleven in Rawai claimed that the gun was fired in self-defense.

Korrawit Sriboonma, a waiter at the popular Salaloy seafood restaurant on the Rawai beachfront, was gunned down with a home-made firearm on the corner of Soi Laem Ka Yai at about 4am on September 22.

Mr Korrawit died from a single wound to the chest.

Charged with the killing and presented to the press at Chalong Police Station were Panuwit "Nice" A-sana, 19, and Jakkapong "Mew" Srisawang, 18.

Both are residents of Rawai.

A third suspect, a 15-year-old male, was released after Mr Panuwit and Mr Jakkapong stated that the juvenile played no part in the death of Mr Korrawit.

"Mr Panuwit confessed that he was the one who shot Mr Korrawit, but he said he did it only



Homicide suspects Jakkapong, 18, (left) and Panuwit, 19.

to protect Mr Jakkapong," Chalong Superintendent Krittapas Daztharasorn told the press.

The suspects claimed that Mr Korrawit had threatened them with a "Sparta blade", a long knife named for its resemblance to the weapon used by ancient Greeks, and popular with local criminals.

Tensions rose again when the teens saw Mr Korrawit outside the 7-Eleven, said Col Krittapas.

"Mr Panuwit said that he shot Mr Korrawit because Mr Korrawit was about to attack Mr Jakkapong," Col Krittapas said.

Mr Panuwit and Mr Jakkapong have been charged with making a gang attack with intent to kill and with the possession of, and carrying of, an illegal firearm in public.

"They both accepted the charges," Col Krittapas said.

## Work permit blitz rattles island expats

From page 1

... "catch all" wording of the law that empowers officers to arrest any foreigner anytime for literally anything.

Yet, Yaowapa Pibulpol, chief of the Phuket Provincial Employment Office, the government office established to specifically regulate and administer employment law, maintained that the wording does not allow officers to apply the law beyond its intended scope.

The Alien Working Act 2551 (2008) explains the definition of work as: *working by physical strength or knowledge whether or not intended for wages or any other benefits.*

"Foreigners cannot perform any work – in the true sense of the word – without a work permit. And they may only perform the work listed in the work permit and only at the place of work



PAPERS, PLEASE: Officers check a foreign couple's papers.

listed in the permit," Ms Yaowapa explained.

"But that doesn't mean they can't cook their own meals, clean their own houses or tend to their own gardens. Of course they can, but as soon as they are hired or profit by doing any of these things, they are 'working'.

"And any foreigners who want to build their own boats for their own personal use are not breaking the law. They can do this, but they

cannot build a boat so they can sell it later on. That would be profiting from the work," she added.

Meanwhile, Capt Angkarn at Phuket Immigration said the raids will continue, especially now that the number of officers at his disposal has been doubled.

"In July, more officers arrived and now we have 40. This has made it easier to be more effective in our work, and this is why people are now hearing about more raids being conducted," he said.

Russians, Chinese and Australians are trending as the most likely to be caught, said Capt Angkarn, but only because there are large numbers of each on the island.

"We are not targeting any particular group of foreigners, but as many people of those nationalities come to Phuket, they are more likely to be subjected to a raid, and therefore more likely to be caught," he said.

## Helmets make the difference

A HELMETLESS driver of a motorbike with sidecar died after a high-speed collision with a big bike in Thalang on September 21.

Police arrived at the u-turn south of Kor En curve, dubbed by locals as "Death Curve", on Thepkasattri Road – notorious for its many accident blackspots – just after 5:30pm.

Witnesses told police that the *saleng* driver, Pradit Portao, 47, had cut across the road to get to the u-turn lane. In doing so, Mr Pradit cut in front of Panya Suksai, 32, who was driving his Kawasaki big bike at high speed.

Unable to brake in time, Mr Panya slammed into Mr Pradit.

Mr Panya, who was wearing a helmet, was found lying near the road median.



Mr Tin's mangled bicycle after he was struck by an unknown driver.

"He had serious shoulder, arm and other injuries," Lt Col Prakob said.

Mr Pradit was taken to Vachira Phuket Hospital and pronounced dead at about 9pm that night.

– *Thawit Bilabdullar*

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# Sex shows in spotlight

## Rihanna tweets go viral, netizens blame corrupt officials

By Saran Mitrarat

PHUKET officials were lambasted across the nation this week after pop star Rihanna posted tweets about sex shows on Patong's renowned Soi Bangla. The tweets went viral, and the news splashed across headlines around the world.

"Either I was phuck wasted last night, or I saw a Thai woman pull a live bird, 2 turtles, razors, shoot darts and ping pong, all out of her pu\$\$y

"And THEN she tried to turn water into coke in her \$!! Uhh yea, all I'm saying is water went in and soda came out! I'm traumatized!!!" Rihanna tweeted.

Rihanna fans and Thai people across the nation rallied behind the global celebrity, many placing the blame of the potential bad image created of Phuket and Thailand in the hands of officials.

The support of Rihanna flies in the face of Thai officials' reaction to a Lady Gaga tweet in May about wanting to buy a fake Rolex in Bangkok, which led to the Commerce Ministry's Intellectual Property Department filing a complaint with the US Embassy.

"We cannot blame her



Rihanna's tweets caused a media firestorm about the sex shows on Patong's Soi Bangla. Photo: Gazette file

[Rihanna]. What she said is true. You can easily find it [sex shows] as you just walk around Silom or Khaosan Road," commented TheE-bOy on popular Thai forum Pantip.

"So now when someone brings the issue up, some people start to get upset. It is not because I do not love my country, but it is because I look at it [sex shows] as

the reality. This problem should be fixed at the root," he added.

Weerawit Kurasombat, president of the Patong Entertainment Business Association (PEBA), agreed with many online comments that the underlying issue was corrupt officials.

"Our members are against sex shows. However, it is possible for

these ping-pong bar shows to continue because police are paid under the table to allow it to happen," Mr Weerawit said.

"Officers refuse to take action against them because of the money they are paid," he said.

See also "Police vow crackdown on 'disgraceful' loris touts" on page 8

## New threat claims from Central Festival taxi drivers, new denials

FIVE taxi drivers at Central Festival Phuket claim they were threatened and suspended from working there by the leaders of the taxi organization that operates at the popular mall.

The drivers said they were verbally threatened and forbidden from working in the Central taxi queue, reported Karn Doonyalit of the Department of Special Investigations (DSI) on September 17.

The claims follow the arrests of the head of the Central Festival taxi group, Pom

Sukkasam and his brother on extortion charges on September 8. Both men have denied the charges and are out on bail.

After the arrests, the taxi group at Central was reorganized under the direct management of the Central Festival administration.

When taxi drivers were asked to choose a representative, they re-



Pom Sukkasam

elected Mr Pom by an overwhelming margin.

Mr Pom said the five drivers in question refused to follow the queue system and rejected passengers who had a 10 per cent discount voucher from the shopping mall.

"In this case, we suspended them for a week, and when they came back to work, they argued and fought with other members of our group. We discussed what to do about it, and decided to suspend them for a month," he said.

— Saran Mitrarat

## In brief...

### New Australian Honorary Consul may take months

PHUKET may be without an Australian Honorary Consul for months after the current consul, Larry Cunningham, retires from the post on September 30.

"I don't know how many people have applied. It's being done through the embassy... It might be a couple of months until they announce somebody," Mr Cunningham told the *Gazette*.

After September 30, Australians in Phuket who require consular assistance must contact the Australian Embassy in Bangkok directly at 02-3446300 (24 hours).

### B200k reward for gunslinger DJ Bee

THE family of a man gunned down in Patong last Sunday are offering 200,000 baht to anyone who can provide information leading to the arrest of Wanchit Sornsaree, a DJ at a popular pub in Patong, where he is known as "DJ Bee".

Mr Wanchit is wanted for shooting Worrawut Thaweepideeserm in the shoulder during an argument over a retail-outlet contract at Jungceylong in Patong.

### Expats deported for visa overstays

THREE expats from Ireland and England face deportation from Thailand after being caught overstaying their visas.

Alex Good, 27, from Ireland, was arrested on September 20. English expat Aaron Liam Quinn, 37, and Paul Wild, 49, were arrested a day earlier.

All three were residents of Cherng Talay.



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## Phone sellers vent over 'overzealous' consumer-protection policing at mall

MOBILE phone operators from Phuket's major shopping malls protested last Saturday at Phuket Provincial Hall over what they see as an overzealous interpretation of consumer protection laws.

About 30 mobile shop operators from Big C, Central Festival and Jungceylon came to file a complaint to Phuket Governor Maitri Inthasut, incensed that Consumer Protection Police Division officers arrested two vendors for not having mobile-phone case packages properly labelled.

"On September 28 officers from Consumer Protection Police Division arrested two mobile-phone shop operators in Jungceylon and seized 38 plastic phone-cases from their shops as evidence," said Thawatchai Kanitwikor, one of the mobile shop operators in Jungceylon.

"The officers said the arrests were made because the mobile phone cases were 'label-controlled goods', and those being sold were not labelled," said Mr Thawatchai.

"Both of the vendors were charged for not labelling controlled goods," he added.

The arrests have caused con-



Mobile phone sellers are anxious about the possibility of another raid.

siderable anxiety among the community of vendors, as vendors don't know what to do, or have any idea of when the officers will strike again, said Taewitcho Hirun, another mobile-phone shop operator in Big C.

"We think the Office of the Consumer Protection Board (OCPB) in Bangkok should warn us before they starting taking such drastic action. We had no idea that this was even an issue," said Mr Taewitcho.

Jaidao Thunthawarak, a mobile-

phone operator in Big C, said that the operators want Gov Maitri to contact the OCPB and request the OCPB at least send warning letters to them as a first step. He also asked that officers be sent out to explain to vendors what can be done to overcome the problem.

"Additionally, we want the OCPB to not make any arrests for the next three months. This will allow us time to address and fix the problem," said Ms Jaidao.

— **Orawin Narabal**

# Raving

**IN A country that markets itself to the world as "fun", the debaucheries of Thailand's full moon parties have stolen the spotlight as concerns mount over the safety of young partygoers seeking to break loose from reality and walk on a moonbeam.**  
The Gazette's Chutharat Plerin reports.

AUSTRALIA'S Honorary Consul in Phuket condemned all full moon parties in Thailand last week, citing them as the catalyst for deaths, rapes and robberies of youthful partygoers.

"I will say to you that every full moon party is dangerous, especially the main one in Koh Pha Ngan. There are some bad people looking to take advantage of the tourist relaxing," Australia's Honorary Consul in Phuket Larry Cunningham told the press.

However, authorities on another island with full moon parties, Phi Phi, deny that there are increased risks during the full moon. They explained that the island actually sees a decrease in the number of revelers during the full moon.

"Phi Phi doesn't have a big party when there is a full moon. Most of the tourists who stay here will go to the party on Koh Pha Ngan, and come back here the day after the party," the head of the Phi Phi Police Station, Danai Niyomdech, told the *Gazette*.

Mr Cunningham's allegations against all full moon parties were made in an attempt to balance the alluring images presented in the Australian press, which recently ran a story by a journalist extolling Thailand's "must experience" once-a-month nightlife.

"An Australian journalist has written in a newspaper that everyone should go to the full moon parties, because they are fantastic. He did not mention any of the dangers," Mr Cunningham said. "All I did was give balance, saying that it is not all good at these parties."

"Nobody wants to stop young people from having fun. Thailand markets itself as a place of fun, but people need to be very careful," Mr Cunningham said.

One major concern cited by Mr Cunningham was the prevalence of illegal drugs at full moon parties. Most notably, cocktails made from leaves of the mild narcotic *kratom* and some chemicals similar to DEET.

"We have Australian undercover agents go to these parties to see what they are like. We have information that at some of them, people poison the drinks and mix something like DEET and *kratom* into the mixer," he said.

Frequent raids of bars in Phi Phi do uncover stashes of *kratom*, *ya bah* (methamphetamine), *ya ice* (crystal methamphetamine) and marijuana, said Lt Col Danai. However, many of the party drugs associated with full moon parties in places such as Koh Pha Ngan are not found on Phi Phi, he said.

"Most drugs we find are sold by hotel staffers, because of our strict penalties against bars found selling drugs," Col Danai said.

If police discover that drugs are being sold from a bar, the entire bar will be closed down, he said.

Phi Phi Hospital Director Duangporn Paothong agreed with Col Danai that Phi Phi full moon parties were not nearly as big as those found on Koh Pha Ngan.

"Bars here offer drink promotions, and encourage dancing on the beach, but it's not anything like Koh Pha Ngan, where the whole beach celebrates together," said Dr Duangporn. "And since the parties are not so well-known here, the number of accidents that send people to the hospital are low."

"On September 20, the day after the Phi Phi full moon party, we had nobody connected with the revelry brought to the hospital," he said.

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Sometimes the best souvenir is just the t-shirt. Photo: Isaac Stone Simonelli



# in full moon light

the safety of full moon partygoers, said Superintendent of the Koh Pha Ngan Police, Prachoom Rueangtong.

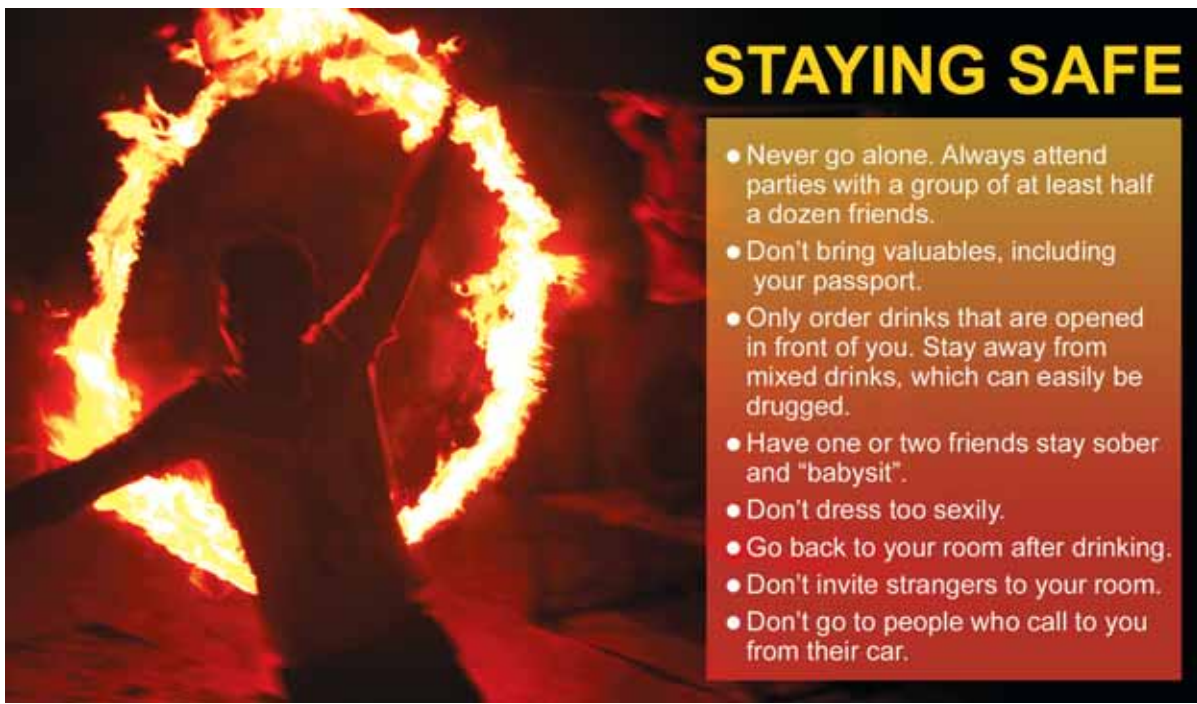
"We have 100 CCTV cameras keeping an eye on the party areas. There are more cameras across the island," explained Col Prachoom. "Right now, we are also finding ways to get more CCTV coverage across the beach."

Most cases that the police deal with concern missing property.

"The majority of injuries during the party are minor, and caused by falls, and we do not keep track of them," said Koh Pha Ngan Public Health Office Prasit Ritthidet.

"Mobile offices in the party area that staff police, rescue workers, health and medical officers and also some volunteers who can speak English are making a big difference to tourist safety," Mr Prasit said.

When speaking about the full moon parties on Koh Phan Ngan, Mr Prasit touched on the subject of drug use.



"I've never heard about DEET being mixed into drinks, but I do know that spurious whiskey and psilocybe mushrooms have been found in the past. However, po-

lice and our officers have become more strict about cracking down on these things," he said.

The Surat Thani Excise Office inspects every bar before the night

of a full moon party to ensure that potentially harmful low-grade alcohol is not being mixed into other bottles, said Mr Prasit.

"This alcohol can harm your

eyes, brain and liver," he said.

Psilocybe mushrooms, which are powerful hallucinogenics, are a popular drug choice at the full moon parties, and offer a high rate of return on investment.

"The cost of the mushrooms is about 8,000 baht per kilogram, but by mixing them into 500-baht drinks, one kilogram could earn a person nearly a million baht. At the moment you can't find them on the island because of police raids," he said.

Three police teams have been established on the island to prevent tourists from smuggling illegal drugs into the party. These teams run checkpoints at the pier and mainland bridge; station undercover police on the paths to the party and officers at the entrance of the party, said Col Prachoom.

"We are constantly fighting to keep drugs off our island, especially mushrooms and marijuana. We conduct raids regularly, but the problem keeps returning every full moon," Col Prachoom said.







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# Patong water quality on last leg

## Released test results dodge untreated wastewater hot spots within Patong Bay

By Irfan Jamdukor

PHUKET Marine Biological Center (PMBC) released the lab results for two out of four water-quality test points along the troubled Patong Beach, but have yet to release results for potential biohazard hot spots at the northern and southern end of the beach.

The news follows experts confirming that untreated wastewater enters Patong Bay via the Pak Bang canal.

Hotels, restaurants and homes release their wastewater untreated and it eventually flows into Patong Bay, said Daroonwan Schwartz, a PMBC oceanographer.

Test results that were released were for two sites in the tourist-dense midsection of the beach, away from the mouths of the two canals that discharge water into the bay.

The testing of Patong Bay water came in the wake of an algae bloom last month and allegations of raw sewage potentially causing a health hazard to beachgoers.

"The tests show that the water on August 23 [four days after the bloom was first reported] would not harm a person swimming in it and would not be dangerous to

marine animals," said Ms Daroonwan.

"However, wastewater released untreated into Patong Bay will have long-term affects on marine resources and water quality if no measures are put in place to control this," Ms Daroonwan said.

PMBC released the full results for test points B2 and B3 conducted on August 23, with particular emphasis on levels of bacteria, nutrients and oxygen.

Bacteria levels should not exceed 1,000 MPN (most probable number) per 100 milliliters, according to the PMBC report. At the first station tested, the level was 980 MPN; and at the second, it was 900 MPN.

"The results show that the bacteria level is very high, but does not exceed the safety standards," said the Director of the PMBC, Ukkit Satapoomin.

Nutrients (ammonia, phosphorous and nitrate), often signs of raw sewage being released, should not be more than .36 moles per liter. The test results showed nutrient levels at only .0025 moles per liter.

If dissolved oxygen (DO) levels are less than 4 milligrams per



Test results for water samples taken near major water outlets into Patong Bay at sites B1 and B4 were not released. The results for sites B2 and B3 fell at the high end of acceptable levels, explained experts.

liter, the water is in bad condition, explained Ms Daroonwan. In Patong Bay on August 23, the DO was 6.98 milligrams per liter.

Other measurements taken that day, for salinity, pH, temperature and clarity, all fell within acceptable levels, Ms Daroonwan said, noting that the results are relevant only for the day in question.

"We tested sites B1 and B4 later in the month, and the results have

yet to be analyzed," said Ms Daroonwan.

Ms Daroonwan also commented on the frequency of water tests in Patong, which are scheduled to be done every two months.

"In other countries, they are done every day," she said. "But we don't have enough staff to do that. We only have 10 people responsible for conducting tests in Phuket, Phang Nga and Krabi."

Ms Daroonwan said the PMBC had contacted Patong Municipality to set measures for managing wastewater treatment in the community.

This water test and future ones will be sent to relevant government organizations, including the Phuket Governor, Phuket Provincial Office of Natural Resources and Environment and Patong municipality, she said.

## Teen drowns at Karon Beach

AMYANMAR teenager swimming in an area clearly marked with red flags drowned at Karon Beach on September 19.

Mr Pannyo, 17, had gone to the beach with two friends around 3pm, said Uten Singsom, head lifeguard at Kata-Karon beaches.

"They were at the beach around low tide. Mr Pannyo's friends stayed close to shore, but he swam out about 30 meters," Mr Uten said. "Lifeguards saw that he was too far out and tried to warn him, but it was too late."

As guards headed toward Mr Pannyo and his friends to warn them, they saw the waves begin



A red flags on Phuket beach.

to drag Mr Pannyo out to sea.

"Five lifeguards jumped into action. Three started searching for him by jet-ski, one swam out and the other took one of our surf boards out," Mr Uten said.

It took lifeguards about 90 minutes to find Mr Pannyo's body.

— Irfan Jamdukor

## Men attack tourist, steal motorbike in Kamala

A NIGERIAN tourist was attacked and robbed at about 6pm on September 19 by two men of Caucasian appearance.

Police found Collins Ugwoeluchukwu, 26, with a bruised face near Phuket Fantasea.

Mr Ugwoeluchukwu was taken to the police station for further questioning.

He told police that while he was riding his motorbike, a truck cut in front of him, and two men got out and attacked him. Then they took his motorbike, said Chamnan Yousuk of the Kamala Police.

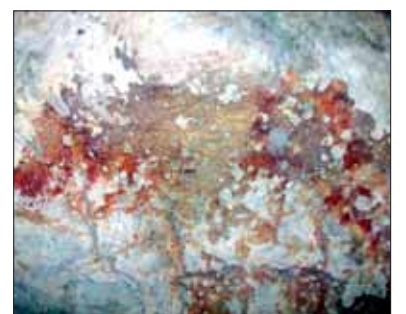
Witnesses at the scene con-

firmed Mr Ugwoeluchukwu's account, said Somnurk Damkaew of the Kamala Police.

"Police questioned witnesses, who said that they saw a black four-door Toyota Vigo pickup truck cut in front of the victim and two white-skinned foreigners get out of the vehicle to attack Mr Ugwoeluchukwu. They also took away his bike," he said.

Mr Ugwoeluchukwu, who is renting a condo in Cherng Talay, told police that he did not know the men and said, "I do not have problems with anybody."

— Thawit Bilabdullar



One of the paintings found.

## Villagers find Millennia-old cave art

ANCIENT drawings and earthenware estimated to be between 2,000 and 3,000 years old have been discovered in Krabi's Ao Luek district.

Local villagers came across the archaeological site while looking for guano to fertilize their crops. On discovery, the villagers notified the Krabi Environmental and Cultural Preservation Committee of their thrilling find.

"We found more than 20 drawings of geometric patterns, boats and fish, all of which look similar in style to drawings found at the nearby Karos Cliff. We also found earthenware," said Committee head Niwat Wattanayomanaporn.

— Kritsada Mueanhawong

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# Tuk-tuks: more and smarter

## Governor proposes plan for increasing efficiency, number of tuk-tuks on island

By Irfan Jamdukor

GOVERNOR Maitri Inthasut proposed an increase to the number of tuk-tuks legally operating in Phuket after he took a walking tour of Patong on September 20.

The number of tuk-tuks allowed to operate on Phuket was capped at 1,200 about 10 years ago. However, there are many illegal tuk-tuks operating on the island, which has caused Sakol Srisompoch to lead a group of legal tuk-tuk drivers to lodge three complaints concerning the issue.

"We do not have enough money to pay the monthly installments on our tuk-tuks and to cover living costs. Our incomes have fallen because many illegal taxis [tuk-tuks] are stealing work from us," said Mr Sakol in late June.

After inspecting the tuk-tuk drivers along Rat Uthit 200 Pee Road and the shopkeepers who regularly come into contact with them, Gov Maitri proposed that a study be undertaken to set up a new system that will better allocate the services of tuk-tuk drivers around the island.

"During the low season, the number of tourists in any given area of the island, be it in Phuket Town or Patong, can be estimated, and drivers and their vehicles could be



Governor Maitri gets behind the wheel of a new plan to increase the number of tuk-tuks in Phuket.

allocated to those areas appropriately, which would be advantageous to both the drivers and the tourists," said Gov Maitri.

The general response from shop owners to Gov Maitri's proposal of increasing the number of tuk-tuks and better distributing their services around the island was a welcome one.

Until the illegal tuk-tuks become legal, however, officials have vowed to take action.

"Already this month we have fined 172 illegal tuk-tuks 2,000 baht each," said Patong Police Superintendent Chiraphat Pochanaphan.

"We set up check-points every day," Col Chiraphat said.

Legal Patong tuk-tuk driver Sutin Sukkeaw believes that there are enough tourists for all the tuk-tuk drivers operating in Phuket to make a living, and welcomed the idea of the government paving the way for legalization.

"There would be no issue in increasing the number of tuk-tuks. Already illegal tuk-tuk drivers

have their own queuing stations, and we have ours – I have never witnessed any passengers being stolen by an illegal tuk-tuk," Mr Sutin said.

"Many tuk-tuk drivers are protesting because they are afraid that an increase in the number of tuk-tuks operating on the island will affect their income. However, I don't see this as an issue, because there are so many tourists visiting Phuket," he said.

Jaturong Kaewkasi of the Phuket Land Transport Office (PLTO) backed Gov Maitri's call for a study of the need for tuk-tuk services before increasing the current ceiling.

"The need for more tuk-tuks by consumers will have to be the key motivation for increasing the number of drivers allowed to operate on the island," Mr Jaturong said.

"In the past, there were a lot of tuk-tuks operating in Phuket, but only a few tourists arriving during the low season. We don't want the drivers to have conflicts with each other and force us to discuss this issue again," he explained.

After concluding his investigation along Rat Uthit Pee 200 Road, Gov Maitri said he would appoint officers to the case and have the issue resolved as soon as possible.



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Mr Chaiwut with the compressor he allegedly stole to pay for drugs for himself, not his son.

## Thieving Dad's quest was for wrong kind of 'medicine'

THE man who claimed he was stealing an air-conditioning compressor to buy medicine for his sick son tested positive for drugs after his arrest on September 12.

The owner of the garage where the bus was parked first told police that he did not want to file a complaint against 28-year-old Chaiwut Kongkhaoriab.

"He told us that he didn't want to press charges because he sympathized with Mr Chaiwut after hearing the story about his sick son," said Witarn Iadnimit of the Phuket City Police.

The police took Mr Chaiwut to the police station to file their report and administered a urine test for drugs.

"His urine sample turned purple, which strongly indicates drug use," Lt Witarn said.

"We then contacted the suspect's father, and confirmed that Mr Chaiwut's son was indeed sick. However, the father told us that Mr Chaiwut was a drug-user and was trying to get money for drugs for himself rather than medicine or treatment for the sick boy," Lt Witarn said.

Mr Chaiwut was charged with theft, and will be sent to a drug rehabilitation facility.

— **Kritsada Mueanhawong**

## Phuket bus overturns in Surat Thani, kills one

ONE person died and 29 others were injured after a bus from Phuket heading for the Northeastern province of Nong Khai overturned in Surat Thani province on September 19.

"We took 29 people to the hospital," said Sophol Rakthao of the Phanom Police.

"The driver, Anuchit Thongnuapaed, 32, was pinned behind the wheel. Rescue workers managed to free him and he was promptly taken Surat Thani Hospital," he said.

Passenger Khamdee Onkhiao, 54, from Udon Thani, died at the scene.

The bus, which departed Phuket at 11am, was carrying 28

passengers and two bus crew from Phuket.

"The bus overturned at a known accident black spot – a sharp curve on the Phanom-Thappud Road in Khlong Cha-un Sub-district.

"The road was slippery, causing the bus driver to lose control of the vehicle," Capt Sophol said.

"We are waiting for the driver to recover so we can question him about the accident," he added.

The bus driver remains hospitalized in the orthopedic ward, but all of the injured passengers have been discharged, hospital staff confirmed to the *Gazette*.

— **Nattawut Laorsuwan**



Almost everyone was injured when the Nong Khai-bound bus crashed.

## Cleanup aims to make us all 'environment rangers'

By **Irfarn Jamdukor**

PHUKET joined a global campaign to create a better world on September 21 when it launched a four-day cleanup that sought to make everyone "an environment ranger".

Past cleanup campaigns focused on hotels, said Chodchoy Sophonpanich, president of Phuket Magic Eyes, an anti-litter organization. The current campaign aims to involve everyone.

Phuket Governor Maitri Inthasut, on hand at Bang Tao Beach to launch the campaign, agreed.

"Every community, organization, house and person has to help take care of the environment together," he said.

"We want to teach people to care more about the environment in their own area," Ms Chodchoy added.

The cleanup is a joint effort of the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (PPAO) along with Magic Eyes and environmental protection group SEEK (Society Environmental Economy Knowledge).

Cleanup projects across the island began on September 20 and



The cleanup at Bang Tao Beach on September 21 will be followed by another one in November.

continued until September 23.

Natalie Kamolwattanasoontorn, Resident Manager at Dusit Thani Laguna Resort, supported the campaign, saying that the Dusit Thani held Bang Tao Beach cleanups every week.

"Our staff join with local orga-

nizations and local people to do the cleanup," she said.

A big cleanup project is also scheduled for Bang Tao Beach in November, said Ma-ann Samran, president of the Chong Talay Tambon Administration Organization.

"We are cooperating with hotels and communities to do this cleanup and we will also invite tourists to be a part of it," Mr Ma-ann said.

"Environmental awareness is growing on Phuket," said Ms Chodchoy. "A beautiful island is our goal."

## Police vow crackdown on 'disgraceful' loris touts

THE changing faces of touts exploiting the slow loris – a vulnerable and protected species – is a sign that the penalty for the crime is stiff enough, said Patong Police Deputy Superintendent Pratuang Polmana.

Police action and determination to re-apply pressure to the issue of animal touts in Phuket follows global celebrity Rihanna posting photos on Instagram of herself posing with a loris in Patong's Soi Bangla.

"I think the penalty is strong enough because the touts' faces

keep changing – it is not always the same person being arrested, which means many of them are too scared to do it again," Lt Col Pratuang said.

Though the slow loris is considered by many tourists a common sight on Soi Bangla, the touts caught with them claim to have travelled to Bangkok to make their purchase.

"Most of those we have arrested for being in possession of a slow loris said they bought them at the Chatuchak Market in Bangkok," Col Pratuang said.

The day after Rihanna posted the photo of herself with a slow loris, a multi-agency raid swept Patong, catching two touts with the creatures, explained Kathu's District Chief Veera Kerdpirimongkol.

Passakorn Janpakdee, 20, from Nakhon Sri Thammarat, and a 16-year-old youth from Bangkok were charged for the possession of a protected species without a permit.

"The charge carries a penalty of up to 40,000 baht or up to four years imprisonment, or both," Col Pratuang said.

"We will continue this crackdown on loris touts until this disgraceful business is totally eliminated from Phuket," Tawatchai Srimai of the Patong Police said after the arrest.

To do this, however, stronger suppression measures are necessary, said Col Pratuang.

"We have to conduct daily raids," he said. "Once they learn that we are taking serious action, they will stop it – eventually. And this is what our officers are doing right now."

— **Kritsada Mueanhawong**



Rihanna's Instagram photo brought about police action. Photo: Instagram



# Price hike for metered taxis

By Irfan Jamdukor

THE ruling committee for Phuket's public transportation authorities agreed on Tuesday to price hikes of up to 36 per cent for metered taxi fares in Phuket.

Phuket Vice Governor Chamroen Tipayapongtada, who chaired the meeting of the provincial transportation committee, explained that the proposed rises in taxi fares were the same increases proposed at a meeting on August 29.

"The first two kilometers will cost 50 baht per kilometer. Then, up to 15 kilometers, the rate is 12 baht per kilometer. Beyond 15 kilometers, the charge will be 10 baht per kilometer.

"At present, the price for the first two kilometers is set at 50 baht per kilometer. Then, up to 22 kilometers, the rate is seven baht per kilometer. Beyond 22 kilometers, the charge is six baht per kilometer," he said.

Phuket Land Transport Department (PLTO) Chief Terayout Prasertphol pointed out that the proposed fares represented a 36 per cent jump in the rates currently charged by metered taxis.

However, he added, "Even though the new fares will be more expensive than what metered taxis currently charge, the new fares will still be about 30 per cent cheaper than what non-metered taxis in Phuket are



Vice Governor Chamroen Tipayapongtada explained the importance of increasing the fares. charging their passengers."

Mr Terayout also explained that in addition to the price rises, standard fees for picking up passengers will be established.

"Passengers taking taxis from the airport, any piers and Phuket Bus Terminal 2 will have to pay more for hiring a taxi. It will cost 100 baht at the airport, and 50

baht at the pier and the bus terminal," he explained.

"Passengers who call to have a taxi pick them up will be charged a 50-baht fee. This fee will increase to 150 baht for pickups between midnight and 5am," he said.

However, Mr Terayout said that the proposed fare increases must still be approved

by senior officials at the Department of Land Transport headquarters in Bangkok.

"We expect the new fares to come into effect in January," he said.

Asadakorn Seedokbuab, a vice president at the Phuket Chamber of Commerce, voiced his support for the price increase.

"The new fares were calculated by factoring in the current cost of living and the price of fuel. They can help drivers earn enough money," he said.

V/Gov Chamroen highlighted that clearly communicating the standard fares to all potential passengers was of highest importance.

"We have to make sure signs explaining the fares to tourists are posted in important places, such as at the airport, the piers and the bus terminal," he said.

"We also have to continue to have teams of officers taking action against taxi drivers who cheat passengers," he added.

Additionally at the meeting, PLTO Chief Terayout explained that his office was working with officials at Phuket Airport to re-organize taxi service for passengers using Phuket's critical tourism portal.

"Non-metered taxis will be allowed to only drop off passengers at the airport. They will not be allowed not pick up passengers there. We hope this will encourage all taxis to become metered taxis," he explained.

## New court opens: Tourist-visas only

PHUKET's highly anticipated tourist court, the Tourist Protection Section, will only serve those visiting the country on a tourist visa, confirmed Phuket Court Chief Judge Parinya Chaowalittawin.

The opening ceremony on Tuesday, chaired by President of the Supreme Court Pairoj Wayuparb, was held at the Phuket Provincial Court.

The opening makes the court the second tourist court in Thailand; Pattaya's tourist court opened on September 5.

Where the next tourist court will be opened has yet to be revealed. However, a total of five more courts will be opened across the country by year's end. They will be in Koh Samui, Chiang Mai, Krabi and two will be in Bangkok.

"Since Pattaya's tourist court opened on September 5, we have been received a lot of positive feedback," said Secretary-General of the Office of the Judiciary Wirat Chinwinigkul.

The tourist court network will be both interlinked between courts and connected to Suvarnabhumi Airport in Bangkok.

"On September 23, a conference room was opened in Suvarnabhumi Airport so that tourists can use the room to provide testimonies, even if they are about to depart Thailand. This conference room can be used to connect with courts nationwide," Mr Wirat said.

With about 20 million tourist arrivals in Thailand every year and



President of the Supreme Court Pairoj Wayuparb chaired the opening of the new court.

numbers likely to increase, the number of disputes will also increase, pointed out Mr Pairoj.

"The goal of the special courts is to provide advice and information, as well as to expedite the settlement of cases for tourists because they are in Thailand for only a short time," said Mr Pairoj.

"Tourists can either file their complaints to the organized crime center at Phuket Airport and Phuket Town, or they can file it with local police.

"We will provide tourists with information that can help expedite their cases. If they have to leave Thailand, staff will question them and assign officers to follow their cases and notify the tourists of the results once everything is resolved. This is the best way to be fair to everyone under Thai law," Mr Parinya said.

— Chutharat Plerin



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## Central Thailand braces for flood waters, but 'no 2011', says government

MUCH of Thailand is facing severe flooding, though the government insists the crisis is nowhere near as serious as the devastating inundation of 2011.

So far 20 of the Kingdom's 77 provinces have been flooded, leaving industrial estates and households along waterways in Central Thailand bracing themselves.

However, Deputy Prime Minister Plodprasop Suraswadi insisted the situation was under control, *The Nation* reported.

"The situation, so far, is not as worrying as in 2011. It's only that the media is reporting about it so intensely that the public has started panicking," Mr Plodprasop said, adding that this year the level of flood-water is only half of that in 2011.

The deputy PM added that major dams were well below capacity and that rain was mostly falling in areas to the south of the dams.

Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra, in her capacity as Defence Minister, instructed

military units across the country to help flood-affected residents in their vicinity.

Meanwhile, Bangkok Governor Sukhumbhand Paribatra said the amount of rainfall last weekend had been less than predicted.

With upriver provinces such as Ayutthaya inundated, the governor said a close watch was being kept on water levels at major dams, though there were, as yet, no indications of a flood crisis.



Flooding in the north. Photo: The Nation



Protesters fret about the damage to tiger habitat. Photo: The Nation

## Dam protesters roaring back

A MAJOR grassroots campaign is gathering steam to halt the Nakhon Sawan Mae Wong Dam project, which activists claim will inundate 13,000 rai of forest.

This month the Seub Nakhasathien Foundation, which is leading the campaign, marched 388 kilometers from Mae Wong to Bangkok in protest against the project.

The march ended on Sunday, when hundreds of demonstrators arrived in the capital.

The activists claim the flooding of the forest of Mae Wong National Park will destroy the natural habitat of a variety of wildlife, including tigers.

The project was initiated by the Royal Irrigation Department (RID) 30 years ago and is now part of the government's 350-billion-baht water-management and flood-prevention plan.

The dam is aimed at resolving flood and drought problems in areas that deliver water to 291,900 rai of irrigated land in Nakhon Sawan, Kamphaeng Phet and Uthai Thani.

# Domestic elephant battle

## DNP steps into ring and goes toe-to-toe with pachyderm owners

THE Department of Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP) is preparing to face-off against elephant owners over legal efforts to protect Thailand's pachyderms.

The DNP wants to amend the Wildlife Preservation and Protection Act so that it includes domesticated elephants, *The Nation* reported. The law already protects wild elephants, though many so-called "domesticated" elephants have been poached from the wild.

The changes would allow the DNP chief to order the seizure of any animal that was not receiving appropriate care.

"We believe the improved law will lead to better control and care for elephants. It should also reduce problems related to the illegal trade of elephants," Theerapat Prayurasiddhi, the DNP deputy chief, said.

Officials and non-government groups say wildlife traffickers use fake identity papers to claim that elephants caught in the wild are domesticated so they can be used in shows for tourists, and their tusks can be legally sold to make ivory products.

Many elephant owners oppose the changes.

One owner, Netiwin Amornsinsin, said a former DNP chief seized his elephant Tangmo last year on suspicion that she was a wild elephant. But this month, public prosecutors dismissed the case



The DNP believes the law will help prevent illegal ivory from being sold on the domestic market. Photo: The Nation

AROUND THE  
nation

after Mr Netiwin was able to produce documents to show that the beast was domesticated.

"I contacted the Thailand El-

ephant Organization to get my elephant back, but found out that she's dying," Mr Netiwin said. He demanded that the DNP – which has a mixed record of caring for confiscated elephants – give him a new elephant.

The Royal Thai Police recently seized more than a dozen unregistered and illegally imported elephants from camps in Phuket, Krabi, Phang Nga and Trat prov-

inces, the Wildlife Extra website reported.

Investigators believe the animals were smuggled into Thailand from Myanmar or elsewhere before being trained, transferred to the camps and registered by using false identification certificates.

Police have issued several arrest warrants for men believed to be involved in the operation.

## Ancient hornless rhino skull discovered



THE remains of an ancient hornless rhino believed to be over seven million years old have been found in Nakhon Ratchasima, in a sand-mining pit where fossils of two other ancient animals were also discovered. The Rhino, called "*Aceratherium porpani*", has been accepted as a new species by the US Society of Vertebrate Paleontology.

## Three bank heists in a day

IN SEPARATE incidents in Samut Sakhon, Surat Thani and Bangkok on September 24, three banks were robbed and there was an attempted heist at a gold shop.

In Samut Sakhon's Muang district, two gunmen stole 1.35 million baht in cash from a Rama II branch of Kasikorn Bank before fleeing on a motorbike.

In Surat Thani, a man wielding a knife spent less than a minute to rob 850,000 baht from a Government Savings Bank branch, getting away on a motorbike. Police later found the suspect's face-mask, helmet and jacket at a rubber plantation about 8km away.

In Bangkok's Khlong San district, a lone gunman made off with 270,780 baht from a Kasikorn



Almost 2.5 m baht was taken in the three thefts. Photo: The Nation

Bank branch in Thon Buri.

In Bangkok's Bang Phlad, a gunman entered a gold shop on Rajvithee Road at 11:30am but was fought off by the owner's 21-year-old niece, who ended up sustaining a gunshot wound.



# 'Pork barrel' allegations lands scion's mom in jail

Karim Raslan  
and Ni a P. Calleja

OVERSHARING her extravagant lifestyle in the US has made people back in her home country furious. Jeane Lim-Napoles, a young and attractive Filipina living in Southern California, has documented her extravagant lifestyle – on Tumblr, Instagram and Facebook – and inadvertently prompted an intense wave of fury and revulsion in her home country.

As netizens puzzled by the source of the Napoles family's enormous wealth started digging around for the truth, it became clear that Jeane's world – Chanel, Gucci and Prada – was not quite so impeccable.

Her exhibitionism came just as the alleged criminal activities of her mother, controversial businesswoman Janet Lim-Napoles, came to light. Ms Napoles is accused of sustained scamming of Filipino Government funds to amounts of well over US\$228 million.

Images of the svelte 23-year-old being chauffeur-driven to a Hollywood film preview whilst dressed in a skin-tight, baby-pink Herve Leger sheath dress, Chanel pumps and a handbag have turned the young "princess" into a national hate figure.

Jeane's mother's larceny – dubbed the "pork barrel scam" – worked something like this: using a discretionary fund ("pork barrel") set up by former President Cory Aquino in 1990 to enable members of Congress and the Senate to fund small-scale infrastructure projects, Ms Napoles



Jeane Lim-Napoles poses during on a catwalk set up at her lavish 21st birthday party. INSET: Jeane's mom, Janet Lim-Napoles, holds up her arrest card. Photo: Jeane Napoles / Facebook; Manila Police

## AROUND THE region

would create "ghost projects" and a web of fake NGOs or private companies that supposedly used the funds.

Working with various elected representatives to defraud the Filipino exchequer, Ms Napoles allegedly split the ill-gotten gains with her political friends.

Those implicated in the scam,

including both sons of former president's Marcos and Estrada, have strongly denied any involvement in the scam.

After more than three weeks of detention in a police camp, Ms Napoles on Monday appeared in public for the first time to be arraigned on a charge of serious illegal detention of whistle-blower Benhur Luy, her cousin.

Ms Napoles wore a bulletproof vest and a helmet when she arrived at the courtroom. Her hands were also wrapped with a roll of cloth to hide her handcuffs.

As an added precaution, police also cordoned off a portion of the

corridor leading to the courtroom to keep the media away.

Ms Napoles remained silent when asked to enter her plea, and so the court automatically entered a not guilty plea for her, court officials said.

Outside the courtroom, at least 20 uniformed police officers stood guard. Members of the Makati police were also spread out outside the City Hall compound.

Lawyer Lorna Kapunan, Napoles' counsel, said the curtains inside the courtroom were closed for possible snipers.

– The Star / Philippine Daily Inquirer

## In brief...

### Scores killed as typhoon ravages Philippines, China

AT LEAST 16 people were killed and four others were reported missing as severe flooding and landslides brought on by super Typhoon Usagi struck the Philippines last Sunday.

Typhoon Usagi, the strongest storm to hit the Western Pacific this year, packing winds gusts of up to 220kph, hit Hong Kong and the southern China coast on Monday, killing at least 20 people on the mainland, causing flooding and crippling power lines.

### Cambodian king approves poll as Hun Sen hangs on

KING Norodom Sihamoni issued a decree on Monday reappointing Hun Sen as prime minister, giving the royal seal of approval to the results of July's general election.

The move came as opposition lawmakers led by Sam Rainsy boycotted the opening of parliament, threatening a constitutional crisis, after the authorities refused to hold an independent inquiry into alleged vote-rigging by the party of PM Hun Sen.

### Vietnam reveals plan to go nuclear

VIETNAM has reported to the United Nation's International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) that the site investigation and feasibility study for two nuclear plants would be completed and submitted to the government for approval by the end of 2013.

The news came at the annual gathering of the IAEA's 159 member states on September 16-20.

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## In brief...

### Garment workers across Bangladesh strike over pay

OVER 100 Bangladeshi garment factories were forced to shut on Monday as thousands of workers protested to demand a US\$100-a-month minimum wage, and about 50 people were injured in clashes, police and witnesses said.

Garments are a vital sector for Bangladesh and its low wages have helped make it the world's second-largest apparel exporter.

The nation's minimum wage is US\$38, half what Cambodian garment workers earn.

"We work to survive but we can't even cover our basic needs," said a protesting woman worker.

The strikers also demanded higher safety standards.

### Russia reopens rail link to North Korea

RUSSIA re-opened a railway link with North Korea on September 22, holding out the prospect of increased trade for the reclusive nation.

Impoverished and squeezed by sanctions for conducting a series of nuclear and missile tests, Pyongyang has reached out to Moscow and Beijing for help to fill the gap left by the drying up of South Korean and US economic assistance.

The head of Russia's state railway said the 54-kilometer track from the Russian eastern border town of Khasan to the North Korean port of Rajin would export coal and import goods from South Korea and other Asian countries.

### French FM makes central Africa appeal

FRANCE'S foreign minister said on September 23, there was an urgent need to strengthen an African peacekeeping force in the Central African Republic.

Land-locked, mineral-rich Central African Republic – and a former colony of France – has slipped into chaos since Seleka rebels seized the capital Bangui and ousted President Francois Bozize in March.

UN officials and rights groups say both sides appear to have committed war crimes.

## Mopping-up operation taking effect at Nairobi mall

KENYA said its security forces were in control of the Nairobi shopping mall where Islamist fighters killed at least 62 people, and police were doing a final sweep of shops on Tuesday after rescuing the last hostages.

An overnight silence outside the large, up-market Westgate mall was broken at daybreak with a loud burst of gunfire from inside, suggesting the complex had not yet been fully secured. A lone military chopper circled above.

"Our forces are combing the mall floor-by-floor looking for anyone left behind. We believe all hostages have been released," the Ministry of Interior said on Tuesday, adding government forces were "in control" of the building.

US authorities are urgently looking into information from the Kenyan government that residents of Western countries, including the US, may have been among the militants, US security sources said.

– Reuters



Kenyan soldier at Westgate mall. Photo: Reuters

# Iran coming in from the cold as dialogue blossoms

By David Brunnstrom and Arshad Mohammed

IRAN'S new government took its diplomatic charm offensive to the United Nations on Monday and agreed to new talks on its nuclear program with top diplomats from six world powers, including US Secretary of State John Kerry.

The meeting bringing the top US diplomat and new Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif around the same conference table is something of a breakthrough, as the United States has not maintained diplomatic relations with Iran since 1980.

The announcement of the talks planned for this week during the UN General Assembly in New York raised hopes that the annual summit of world leaders could bring a thaw in relations between arch-enemies Iran and the West.

US officials have also said a meeting is possible this week between President Barack Obama and Iran's new president, Hassan Rouhani, who has shown an apparent desire to take a more conciliatory approach towards the West since taking office.

If that meeting were to happen, it would be the first between US and Iranian government heads since before the 1979 Islamic revolution, and could help ease tensions in the Middle East, especially as Iran is a key ally of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

European Union foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton said after talks with Mr Zarif that he would join her and his counterparts from



President Hassan Rouhani is taking Iran on a more conciliatory approach towards the West. Photo: Reuters

## AROUND THE world

the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and Germany at a meeting that has been scheduled for September 26 to discuss Iran's nuclear program.

The West believes Iran has been trying to develop nuclear weapons and is determined to stop this, imposing tough economic sanctions. Iran says it is not trying to

produce a bomb, claiming its nuclear program is purely for energy production.

The EU, led by Ashton, has chaired the talks between Iran and the so-called P5+1 – Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States, as well as Germany – which have made little headway in spite of years of negotiations.

Speaking after his talks with Mr Zarif, British Foreign Secretary William Hague said he welcomed Iran's expressed desire to improve relations with the West, adding action, not just words, were needed.

Mr Hague said some such concrete steps had been taken with the

release of some political prisoners. In a tentative sign that hardline policies are starting to soften following Mr Rouhani's inauguration last month, authorities freed prominent human rights lawyer Nasrin Sotoudeh in recent days.

Speaking before leaving for New York, Mr Rouhani said he would use his visit to the United Nations to present the "true face of Iran" and to pursue talks and cooperation with the West to end the nuclear dispute.

"I and my colleagues will take the opportunity to present the true face of Iran as a cultured and peace-loving country." – Reuters

## Revelation of police database of Roma stirs outrage in liberal Sweden

SWEDISH police have established a database of Roma (also known as Gypsies), the force said on September 23, confirming a newspaper report that a government minister condemned as "unethical, unacceptable and illegal".

Daily *Dagens Nyheter* said the file was in the form of a genealogical tree covering 4,029 Roma, many of who had no criminal record and of whom more than 1,000 are children. An estimated 50,000 Roma live in Sweden.

Police spokesman Lars Forstell said the file did indeed exist, but was drawn up for "special investigations".

Gathering directories based on ethnicity is illegal in Sweden, part of privacy rights that have for decades been enshrined in Swedish law. Police said they were seeking prosecutors' advice on the handling of the issue.

It is the latest incident to tarnish Sweden's reputation

for tolerance of ethnic minorities and comes during a year in which an anti-immigrant party is rising in popularity.

Sweden's minister for European Union affairs, Birgitta Ohlsson, said, "It is frightening, unethical, unacceptable and illegal. If we are to be able to stand up for human rights in Europe, we have to keep a clean house at home. Information of registration of Roma is revolting."

There are an estimated 10 million Roma living across Europe. The Council of Europe, which monitors human rights, says they are also the most discriminated against minority on the continent.

About 15 per cent of Sweden's population is foreign-born. While many are from neighboring Nordic countries, others are drawn by the country's policy of welcoming asylum-seekers from war-torn countries.

– Reuters



The police file has provoked widespread unease in Sweden's famously inclusive society. Photo: Sofia Sabel



# Inroad to Russian property investors

**PROPERTY**  
**Gazette**

WITH the continued influx of Russian visitors and real estate investors to Phuket many local developers are eagerly seeking ways to tap into this burgeoning market. The upcoming DomExpo real estate exposition in Moscow to be held from October 17 to 20 will provide an ideal opportunity for Thailand based developers to get the inside track on their competition and network with Russian and other international industry players.



institutions, multiplexes, banks, entertainment centers, commercial projects, premium residential projects, clubs, food courts, insurance companies, tour and travels, real estate companies, stock and commodities, high tech business space, malls, interior designer services and many more.

The exposition has a clear and logical layout that allows visitors and exhibitors to easily navigate the multitude of stalls and displays on offer. The exhibition is divided on the themed streets which group the various related industry exhibitors attending. These include: Urban Real Estate, Country real estate and the Street of mortgage and credit

But for Thai-based exhibitors participating in the event, the key street will be international real estate, where they can showcase their properties and investment opportunities to throngs of targeted, high-level potential customers.

For more information on attending or exhibiting at DomExpo Moscow 2013 from October 17-20 see: [domexpo.ru](http://domexpo.ru) or contact Nina Serebryakova at [nina@guidesiam.com](mailto:nina@guidesiam.com) or +66(0)88-626 1286 and Natalia Lashkareva at [domexpo3@expo-design.ru](mailto:domexpo3@expo-design.ru) or +7 495 258 87 64



DomExpo is Russia's premier real estate exposition, attracting exhibitors and visitors from around the globe.



## Yangoon hotel demand unmet

INTERNATIONAL-standard hotel supply in Yangon is expected to grow by almost 65% this year, but experts say that the market will continue to be undersupplied. The latest study by Jones Lang LaSalle, a professional services firm specializing in real estate, reveals there are almost 1,000 international-standard hotel rooms that are now under construction and scheduled for completion in Yangon this year. The new supply represents a 65% increase from 2012 and will bring the total stock of international-standard supply to some 2,500 rooms by the year's end.

"The Yangon hotel market has continued to experience a severe shortage of international-standard supply," said Andrew Langdon, Executive Vice President, Hotels and Hospitality Group at Jones Lang LaSalle in Thailand. "Though the growth of new international standard supply in 2013 is substantial, it is from a low base and will fail to fulfill the strong growth of demand for quality ho-

tel rooms in the city. International arrivals to Yangon have increased significantly over the past few years and are likely to rise further," he explained.

International visitor arrivals to Yangon have achieved year-on-year growth rates of 25.9%, 21.7% and 55.7% in 2010, 2011 and 2012, respectively with 2012 witnessing 559,610 visitors.

"Visitor arrivals are expected to remain strong for the remainder of 2013 as many hoteliers in Yangon report bookings at near full capacity for the coming high season during the final quarter of the year," Mr. Langdon said.



On the supply side, statistics from Myanmar's Ministry of Tourism show there are currently slightly over 9,100 hotel rooms in Yangon. Nonetheless, only 1,500-2,000 rooms meet international standards, according to Jones Lang LaSalle's report.

The report also reveals that an additional 4,700 hotel rooms are planned for completion between 2014 and 2017. Out of this number, some 2,100 rooms are in projects that are now under construction.

Shangri-La, which operates the Trader's Hotel, will open a Shangri-La Hotel in 2016, in addition to a Shangri-La Residence which will be opened later this year. Accor will open in the first quarter of 2014 the 366-room Novotel Yangon Max hotel in two towers while Hilton Hotels have signed a management agreement to manage the 300-room Hilton Yangon (in the mixed-use Centerpoint Tower) which is scheduled to open in mid-2014.

- JLL

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| <p><b>3 Laguna Home Land Plot THB 12 M</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>land area 1,054.4 sqm</li> <li>company freehold</li> <li>golf view • quiet location</li> </ul>                            | <p><b>4 Laguna Village Townhome THB 20 M</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 beds 4 baths Townhome</li> <li>lagoon view • fully furnished</li> <li>company freehold</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>5 Banyan Tree Residences USD 3,880,000</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Three-Bedroom Pool Villa</li> <li>tranquil lagoon view • 1.5 rai land</li> <li>Residence Club Membership</li> </ul> |   |

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# Number Twelve: One stop stylish

## Kanyawarat Pramprasert

PHUKET based company Number Twelve is pioneering a new “one stop stylish” approach to creating modern buildings by providing decorating expertise as well as a complete design and construction service to their clients.

The company’s Managing Director, Kittipong Soontornrungron, and Sales and Marketing Manager Sunthorn Areeras, spoke to the *Phuket Gazette* about the company’s philosophy and its new showroom.

“We built on the success of our previous construction and design company the Roof Ltd. But while working for this company, we felt that too many of our projects were stuck in the warehouse, instead of being open to the public. That’s why we decided to build a showroom on the bypass road, a place where many construction and decoration companies are also relocating. The goal of the showroom is to get new customers: property owners, designers, people from the hospitality business and also walk-in customers in need of new furniture,” said Mr Kittipong.

“With our ‘one stop stylish’ concept we offer full service, which includes a turn-key service, feasibility study and project analysis, programing, master planning, architectural design, interior design, real estate investment consulting, project management, construction administration and 3D visualizations. This all-in-one, one-stop service is unique and that’s what makes us different from our competitors,” he added.

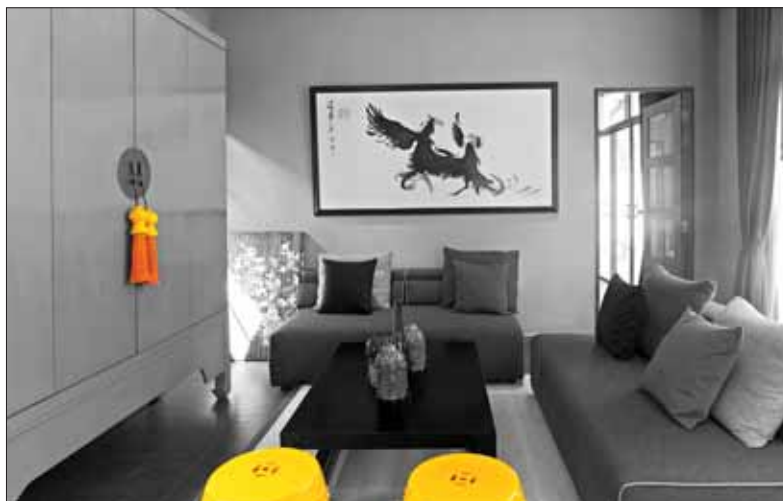
Mr Sunthorn continued: “Our products are designed to satisfy the needs of fans of both classic

oriental design and modern Asian-style design. We put the emphasis on sustainability, not only to satisfy our customers but to protect our cultural heritage and environment. We don’t want to end at just selling furniture. We help our customers with creating beautiful, stylish interior designs with an inviting atmosphere,” he added.

Number Twelve was involved in such successful projects as Malaiwana, Villa Onyx, the Wings, The Pixel condominium, Saiyuan Estate and Foto hotel. The company created its new showroom to promote Asian culture and art and to present some world-class design to its potential and existing customers in Phuket. Number Twelve has worked with over 100 clients to design projects throughout Southeast Asia. The company has over a decade of experience, and combined with its strong client focus and in-depth knowledge of the local market, it strives to stay on top of emerging trends and deliver world-class quality design.



From left: Mr Kittipong Soontornrungron, Managing Director; Mr Sunthorn Areeras, Sales and Marketing Manager.



The living area of Saiyuan Estate with the oriental style decorations highlighted in yellow. Photo: Number Twelve company



Number Twelve mixes classical oriental style with modern asian design elements to create an inviting ambiance. Photo: Number Twelve company

## NSG

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## Banks to see slower condo supply

SIAM Commercial Bank, the largest mortgage lender of the commercial banks, says the lower supply of new condominiums this year might have an impact on new housing loans in 2015.

Pikul Srimahunt, first executive vice president of SCB, said the condo supply this year was expected to grow by only 10% compared with 50% in 2012. The new supply is mostly in mid-to-low-end projects.

The construction of condominium projects requires about two years, so the impact on mortgages from this slower growth should be seen in 2015, she said.

The transfer of condominiums to home-buyers remains strong thanks to the massive development of new projects in the past two years, and this momentum will continue to support lending growth into next year.

SCB is aggressively focusing on the condominium market by targeting a loan proportion from this segment at 30%. The bank projects outstanding loans of 420

billion baht this year.

Kasikorn Bank executive vice president Chatchai Payuhanaveechai said the supply of new condominiums would drop significantly when construction of the mass-transit system in the outskirts of Bangkok is completed.

KBank is among the main mortgage lenders in the condo market because the rate of non-performing loans in this segment is lower than for low-rise projects such as townhouses and detached homes.

Mr Chatchai said new housing projects were slowing steadily, especially in the second half, when KBank anticipates 50,000 new units, down from 60,000 in the first half. There will be a total of 110,000 new units this year, down from 120,000 last year.

“Developers have scaled down unit sizes in order to offer lower prices to attract buyers. We found that the average unit price this year had dropped to 2.7 million baht from 2.9 million baht last year,” he said. – *The Nation*





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**laGuna**  
PROPERTY



# Best of the best 2013

## A handful of Phuket properties make the cut at Thailand Property Awards

THAILAND'S real estate industry came together on Thursday, September 19 to acknowledge the best of the best at the 2013 Thailand Property Awards gala dinner and awards presentation ceremony held at the Centara Grand & Bangkok Convention Center at CentralWorld.

In total, 33 awards were on offer, including regional awards for best condominiums and villa developments in Phuket, Hua Hin, Samui, Chiang Mai and on the Eastern Seaboard, as well as arguably the two most sought after awards: Best Developer Thailand and Best Boutique Developer Thailand.

Among the highlights for Phuket property was the recognition of Jones Lang Lasalle (JLL) for "Best Agency Deal" for the sale of Laguna Phuket Beach Resort.

In addition to this, JLL took home four more trophies in the Real Estate Services categories, having also won Best Commercial Agent; Best Property Management Company (Bangkok) and Best Property Management Company (Resort).

As for Phuket's Best Villa Development, honors went to Anchan Villas by Pearl Island Property Co Ltd, while The Royal Villa by Royal Phuket Marina Co Ltd was "Highly Commended" in the category.

Kata Rocks by Kata Rocks Co Ltd was winner in the Best Condo Development (Phuket) category, while Zcape Condominium by Tri Property Co Ltd was highly commended.

Two Phuket properties were recognized in the Best Shared Ownership Development category, with the Anantara Vacation Club, Phuket by Samui Beach Club Owner Ltd named winner, and Absolute Twin Sands Resort & Spa by Absolute World Group of Companies, highly commended.

As for Phuket's Best Residential Agent, Exotiq Property – Phuket was named winner, while Indigo Real Estate Co Ltd was highly commended.

Also making a name for Phuket property was the Anantara Vacation Club by SODA (Thailand) Co Ltd, for Samui Beach Club Owner Co Ltd, which was highly commended, along with Khao Lak's Casa de La Flora by Phuket VaSLab Architecture Co Ltd in the Best Hotel Architectural Design category.

Winner of this category was the W Hotel Bangkok by SODA (Thailand) Co Ltd, which shared the honors with the Istithmar World – Dubai by Golden Land Property Development PLC.



Angus MacLachlan, Managing Director of Exotiq Property.



AND THE WINNERS ARE: Line-up of all the 2013 Thailand Property Awards winners at a recent gala in Bangkok.

Now in its eighth year, the awards organizers welcomed a new Chairman to the Judging Panel this year, Khun Sunchai Nuengsit, managing director of Buildersmart Public Company Limited, and recognizing the evolving nature of the industry, introduced four new awards: Best Residential Development (Khao Yai), Best Villa Rental Agent, Best Villa Architectural Design and Best Villa Interior Design.

For the third consecutive year Kalara Developments was crowned Best Boutique Developer Thailand.

Sansiri Public Company Limited scooped the prestigious Best Developer Thailand award, and acknowledging Sansiri's success, the judging panel stated: "With 257 projects since 1984, Thailand's Sansiri has introduced numerous innovations and advancements in the luxury villa and condominium sector, with customer satisfaction and lifestyle always at the core of the company's impressive achievements."

"The quality of nominations and entries this year was exceptional and have pushed the bar ever higher,

showing the growth and diversity of Thailand's robust real estate industry," said Terry Blackburn, CEO, Ensign Media Co. Ltd, organizers of the awards.

A thorough and rigorous judging process by an independent panel of judges, with oversight by BDO Advisory, evaluated a record number of nominations and entries this year. Those

ing process is independent is paramount for us and has been the cornerstone to success for the awards since their inception eight years ago. BDO Advisory have again overseen the entire process from start to finish ensuring the judging process was undertaken fairly, without bias or favor," added Blackburn.

The only award not to follow the same procedure is Real Estate Personality of the Year, which is decided upon by the editorial team at Property Report Magazine, who this year recognized Khun Sorapoj Techakraisri, CEO, PACE Development Corporation for his bold and contemporary vision of modern Bangkok encapsulated in the iconic MahaNakhon development.

– Phuket Gazette



Representatives of Kata Rocks receive the award for Phuket's Best Condo Development.

developments short-listed were then subject to site inspections before the judging panel submitted their list of Winners and Highly Commended developments and businesses to BDO Advisory for safe keeping.

"That the judges and the judg-

For more information, and a full list of all the winners, visit [thailandpropertyawards.com](http://thailandpropertyawards.com).

Phuket Today was a media sponsor of the Thailand Property Awards. Be sure to tune in this Friday evening - on Truevisions ch85 and ch59 and local cable for full coverage of this major Bangkok event. A full PGTV broadcast schedule can be found on page 35.

## Zcape Condo concept commended

NEW Phuket residence Zcape Condominium was "highly commended" in the "Best Condo Development" (Phuket) category at the 2013 Thailand Property Awards gala dinner held in Bangkok on September 19.

Located in Cherg Talay, Zcape Condominium was a sell-out success when sales of the brand new compact urban living concept of one- and two-bedroom spaces with built-in "Flip & Slide" furniture and partitions was launched in August 2012. All 198 of the stylishly furnished units in the seven-storey residential project

sold out within just a few weeks.

Tri Property CEO Adisorn Vivakanond put the success of the Zcape concept down to affordability for local residents in a prime location, as well as business-resort style facilities.

"Being awarded 'Best Condo Development' for Zcape Condominium in Cherg Talay is testament to the Zcape concept being perfect for Phuket, and the lifestyles of the locals and expats that live and work on the island," said Mr Vivakanond.

Asked about the significance of the award and what it meant for the future of the Zcape concept in



Tri Property CEO Adisorn Vivakanond (right) and CFO Chaiwat Tuntiwat.

Phuket, Mr Vivakanond said Tri Property was looking forward to playing a significant role in bringing more innovation to the residential property market in Phuket.

– Phuket Gazette

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# From planes to trains and back to automobiles

**Last Call**  
By Bill Barnett

OVER the past few weeks, political debates in Thailand have often been centered on the government's national high-speed railway project. Punches, counter punches and even the kitchen sink have been thrown into the arena. Who the heck needs to run with the bulls when you can get gored by an out-of-control locomotive?

During the same period, I was able to sit through a presentation by the Thai Transport Ministry and in clear terms, a very literate gentlemen explained the plan. First of all, we were off to a flying start because there actually was a plan. At least there is a power point presentation and handouts were promised.

In a nutshell, the massive 2.2 trillion baht infrastructure project is meant to connect up all the loose ends of the Kingdom and usher in the modern age. According to the spokesman, the Thai planning method early-on had followed an American type scheme, which was later abandoned for a UK model.

Yes, in case you skipped over

this paragraph, this was not lowly millions or billions, but the trifecta of supersizing – trillions. My mind has stalled for a moment with all of these zeros.

Back from the brain freeze, the entire through process of returning from planes to trains is that Bangkok has reached the boiling point and the process of decentralizing the clash of the titans in the City of Angels is an absolute must. Hence, while the rest of the world is largely urbanizing, Thailand is deemed to be better – it's de-urbanizing. And if two ends must meet, leave the cars at home as the vehicle of choice is going to be a train.

I did question the thought process here, as without a doubt, every other Asian nation is seeing their gateway urban areas continue to multiply faster than sheep. Was it logical to assume that corporate offices would now relocate from Bangkok's Sathorn district to sunny Roi Et, or lets say the booming metropolis of Phitsanulok? There was no clear retort.

What caused me further confusion is the current government's new car initiative for first time buyers, – didn't this run contrary to the edict of get on the train? Or

else... Of course it did, but Thai politics are not unlike those everywhere in the world, a deeply confusing web of incomprehensible wheeling and dealing. Call in the Ministry of Silly Works? Seems they have gone home for the day.

I've had a look at the numbers and while Bangkok has more than 8 million residents, in China this would not even make any list – it's a very small market. Go beyond Bangkok to smaller areas that rely on manufacturing, tourism or agriculture; this is the land of Isuzu pick-up trucks. Are these people going to be crossing the country on high speed trains on a whim? Probably not.

Wisely though, the transportation representative threw tourism into the pot, citing Europe as an example of visitors zooming from Venice to Bruges at the drop of a hat. Yet, what would become of the charter flights and low-cost airlines? Was this meant to supplement them or else compete and simply divide rather than conquer?

Frankly speaking, the power point presentation was damned impressive but the one underlying question remained – who was going to pay for this? Of course the answer was that the country would



**TREKKING THE WAY FORWARD:** Is Thailand ready to take on another massive debt, this time to the tune of trillions? Photo: woodleywonderworks



**It remains to be seen whether Bangkok's central business district of Sathorn will become less important with 'de-urbanization'.** Photo: Argenberg

take on massive levels of debt. This remains the contentious cage fighting scenario being played out between the ruling Pheu Thai party and the opposition Democrats.

There is little doubt what a vision of the future Bangkok's skytrain has been. Yet I struggle on poorly executed projects like the Makkasan in-town check in at the airport express. This is failure at its worst. How would Phuket fare in the world of bullet trains between the island and Surat

Thani? Can there really be enough traffic to make any economic sense? I'm taking the easy route and throwing that one back at readers. As for me, I can see urban transit, but give me a choice between a plane or a train and I'm on the plane every time... unless it's AirAsia, but let's not even start on that one.

*Bill Barnett is the Managing Director of C9 Hotelworks and can be contacted through [C9hotelworks.com](http://C9hotelworks.com).*

## Kamala cable co offers optical, digital coverage

GOOD news for residents on the island's north who want to keep up with the world's top footballing action, but don't fancy spending their late nights in some hole-in-the-wall leagues away from home.

Owner of Kamala Digital Cable TV (KDTV), Niruj Sariya, recently announced new upgrades and plans to continually increase and improve cable TV services in the Kamala area.

Since August, KDTV offers 142 channels from subscription-based TV operator, CTH, which includes regular English Premier Football coverage of the top four clubs.

All inclusive packages start at 960 baht per month, while basic digital cable package (120 channels) start from only 300 baht per month.

"In the coming one to three months, we will start offering cable TV through modern optical fiber cable technology. This application will increase [our offer of] television channels up to more than 100 channels – with a high signal quality, including the full scope of the

English Football Premier League with more than 300 matches," said Mr Niruj.

Initially, KDTV offered only analog TV for local channels, and later expanded their business, joining up with Phuket Cable TV. Now KDTV

is available in both analog and digital formats – 120 channels in digital and 86 in analogue formats. In the future, the company plans to offer only digital channels, Mr Niruj said.

He added that most of the current channels are focused on re-



**Owner of Kamala Digital Cable TV (KDTV), Niruj Sariya.**

ligious programming since many of its customers are Muslims. Currently, there are only a few entertainment channels available, he concluded.

– **Kanyawarat Pramprasert**

For more information contact the KCTV office on 089-6461862, 076-385236, 095-4181716, as well as via email: [tcsresents-pk@hotmail.com](mailto:tcsresents-pk@hotmail.com)



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# 'Tis the season to crackdown

A RECENT crackdown on westerners working illegally in the marine leisure industry (see News pages) has generated a great deal of comment from readers, yet the debate focused almost solely on Thailand's notoriously vague definition of what constitutes work, while missing out on some fundamental aspects of the issue.

Comments posted on the *Gazette* website failed to reference the fact that arrests of foreigners for labor and immigration law violations seem to cluster in the low season.

Before we explore that issue further, it needs to be understood that Thai authorities have two quite different definitions – legally and linguistically – of what constitutes “foreign labor”.

The first involves *rang ngan tang daow* (alien workers), the term for low-wage migrant workers from neighboring countries, most typically Myanmar nationals. It is widely understood that they make up the vast majority of illegal workers on the island. Those among them who work here legally do so under a completely different regulatory structure than other foreigners.

At the other end fall *rang ngan tang chart* (international workers), who are most commonly nationals of important tourist source markets. Here we are referencing the latter and not the former, whose troubles while toiling in Thailand have already been the subject of much futile editorializing in this space. All we can say on that topic is that, fortunately, the number of those posing as officers of the law in order to extort illegal Myanmar nationals and their employers seems to have decreased.

Back to the issue: *rang ngan tang chart* crackdowns. Given the highly seasonal nature of tourism in Phuket, it should come as little or no surprise that crackdowns come with the southwestern monsoon winds – the low season for tourism.

During the high season, authorities involved in tracking the movements and activities of *rang ngan tang chart* have a more complex task at hand than raiding a sprawling labor camp and asking to see some papers. These agencies are forced to deal with an overwhelming flow of foreigners seeking extensions, notifications, proof of residency documents and so on.

During the low season, officers have far more time for other activities, such as investigations and public relations. So to dispense some practical low-season advice to those who claim to worry about being arrested and deported for taking part in a volunteer beach cleanup or opening a beer without a work permit: worry less about the letter of the law and more about how to function by making a humble, positive contribution to Thai society. It's an exercise in fuzzy logic; anything can happen to anyone anytime, but those who follow that rule are unlikely to run into trouble with the Thai authorities, even during “crackdown season”.



## Tuk-tuks stop tourists from spending

Re: *Gazette online, Phuket Governor proposes more tuk-tuks for the island, September 20*

We recently returned from our annual trip to Phuket. During our stay we moved around the island, staying a few days at a time in different places.

What we noticed were very large numbers of empty tuk-tuks parked on the roadside and that familiar call every few steps “tuk-tuk, tuk-tuk”.

This certainly did not look like a situation where there was any shortage. This leaves me wondering why the Phuket Governor is recommending more.

We don't commute around the island because the cost of the tuk-tuks is just too much. 400-500 baht for a 15-minute trip from Kata to Patong and the same back again. It is just far too expensive. For that price in Bangkok, we can go from the center of Sukhumvit to either the domestic or international airports and have money left over and that is after giving the driver a 50 to 100-baht tip.

It is my opinion that the lack of good public transport and sensibly priced tuk-tuks and taxis is detrimental to the overall prosperity of Phuket as the tourists just don't move around the island as much as they could – and that does not facilitate spending.

Peter Jones  
Auckland, New Zealand

## Get rid of the water

Phuket dengue numbers critical, says public health chief, September 17

Singapore combats dengue by having government health inspectors visit construction sites as well as private gardens on a regular basis and fine the owners where stagnant water is found. Nobody is too interested here. Most construction sites have large puddles of stagnant water.

Near my house in Kata Noi

## Letters to the Editor

there is a pool the size of a tennis court filled with stagnant water which is never drained.

Is it any wonder that my daughter, wife and I have all been hospitalized with dengue this year?

Having “2,000 cans of mosquito spray to distribute” and “handing out mosquito lotion” just doesn't cut it. The authorities need to get tough with people who permit stagnant water on their premises.

Once Bitten  
Gazette Forum

## Can I repair my own motorbike?

Re: *Gazette online, Phuket Immigration cracks down on yachting, marine industry, September 20*

This is so wrong. Why is the Phuket Immigration calling this “work”? I would call it a hobby.

Am I allowed to plant my own flowers in my own garden now, or will I be arrested also?

*Gazette*, please make a story about this and interview Phuket Immigration chief Sunchai Chokkajaykij to clarify what a foreigner can and cannot do, as this can affect expats the same as tourists. [Ed: See p1] Now I am afraid to clean or repair my own motorbike.

Frank Heise  
Gazette forum

## Hobbies are cultural

Re: *Gazette online, Phuket Immigration cracks down on yachting, marine industry, September 20*

The Thais I know don't have hobbies. On their day off, if they have one, they clean house, eat, watch TV or *pai tiao*. It's not hard to imagine that for people whose

focus is on earning money, the concept of building a boat for fun is a foreign one.

In the west, hobbies are almost a virtue – a productive use of time. At least, for a previous generation. When was the last time you asked someone what their hobby was?

This hobby-work brouhaha is likely to simmer down of its own accord – future retirees will be surfing the web, not building boats.

Estella  
Bang Tao

## How to get garbage off the beach

Re: *Gazette online, Phuket mass cleanup underway, aims to include everyone, September 21*

What we need is to hire full-time beach cleaners and add bins to each beach, both sponsored by the local government, hotels and businesses.

This will not only make our beaches look more attractive, but it will get the floating garbage where it collects instead of letting the next high tide carry it back out to sea where turtles, dolphins and whales can be killed when they eat it.

Nomad Joe  
Gazette forum

## Don't solve the little bitty problems first

Re: *Gazette online, Phuket mobile phone operators vent over 'overzealous' consumer-protection policing, September 21*

The Consumer Protection Police look a bit small and silly for wasting their time on such a trifling little “problem”, particularly in the context of all the violent crime, road mayhem, scams, frauds and other major issues currently facing the island. Why focus on a leaking tap when your house is burning down?

Elmer Tanning  
Gazette forum

## Phuket Gazette

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# Out of the house, into a brave new world

## FIRST PERSON

MY PASSION is to help women develop themselves, especially housewives. Traditionally, Thai women – especially rural women – believed that after they married they should stay home and take care of their husband and children.

Nowadays, though, attitudes have changed, and more and more women are working, especially in Bangkok. Phuket is still a little behind Bangkok in this regard, with more women staying at home here.

In my opinion, staying at home is not the best option for women because it leads some of them to play cards, gamble, indulge in illegal lotteries, and in general, not use their time productively.

The goal of my organization is to encourage women to develop themselves, to let them know that work opportunities are available to them outside the home, and to provide them with low-interest loans and training to start their own businesses.

We've been in operation for only a year, but we've already loaned out 20 million baht and helped women start about a 100 businesses.

We were given 70 million baht by the Thai government for this program. We use 80 per cent, or 55 million baht, for loans and 20 per cent for training and administrative costs. Whatever we spend on training will be replaced by the government every year.

We do not loan money to individual women, but to groups of five or more. The women must form a business, and we give the loan to the business. We can loan up to 200,000 baht for a two-year



Here she talks about why women shouldn't stay home and how she helps women start their own businesses

The Chief of the Phuket Women's Development Fund is 52-year-old **Natthaporn Phanitpichatewon**. A Chiang Mai native, she has lived in Phuket for 30 years. She is a realtor and board member of the Phuket Red Cross and the Juvenile Observation and Protection Center.

period. The interest is low, 0.25 per cent per month, or 3 per cent a year.

We loan to groups for two reasons: it makes it easier for the women to run a business if they have partners, and it makes it easier for them to pay back the loans. They don't have to assume the whole financial burden alone.

The loans are available to women who have lived in Phuket for at least six months. They need to be able to prove this by showing their *tabian baan* and getting a statement from the *Kamnam*, the village or subdistrict chief, or *Phu Yai Baan* where they live. The group taking out the loan should all live in the same area.

When they fill out the loan application, they need to specify exactly what they need the money for – each item they will spend the money on. After the business opens, we will inspect to make sure the money was spent as they said it would be.

Women we've made loans to have started a range of businesses, including laundries, bakeries, mushroom nurseries, fish ponds, vegetable farms, hair salons and batik painting shops.

We guide women when they are

selecting a business to open. For example, if they want to open a laundry, I check to make sure that there isn't already one in their sub-district. While demand for laundries in Phuket is high, we believe that each subdistrict can only support one laundry.

Once a business is selected, we can provide training in every aspect of running it.

With laundries, for example, we teach the women how to register the shop, how to manage their money and how to set prices. We teach them marketing so they know how to find customers. And we bring in experts to tell them what they need to know to produce clothes that look professionally cleaned, including how to iron them and how to fold them.

Probably the best business to open right now is a vegetable farm or fish pond. Demand is high and the products can also be sent out of province to be sold.

Our team checks up on the businesses randomly each month. So far, everything is going well. All of the businesses are still in operation, and all of the businesses have kept up with their monthly loan repayments.



Use mosquito-eating fish as an alternative to chemicals. Photo: Nick Walker

## No pesticides please

IN THE wake of the latest surge in dengue fever cases in Phuket and Thailand as a whole, the Public Health Ministry is once again stepping up its efforts to reduce if not eliminate the looming threat.

At the core of the officials' latest reactive strategy (now that's an oxymoron!) is the so-called "3-3-1" campaign that in more words or less, will see neighborhoods sprayed with poison on mass.

Mosquito larvae has been declared Public Enemy *numero uno*, and even the slightest suspicion is enough to warrant a neighborhood-wide genocide – of those pesky little insects, of course.

Not to worry, these deadly chemicals (that you and I ultimately paid for with our taxes) are for our own good, they insist.

Now where have we heard that one before?

Was it a century ago, when industry-funded research happened to "discover" that sodium fluoride (an industrial by-product that once-upon-a-time was an expensive and tedious waste to dispose of) might, just might slow down tooth decay if added to public drinking water?

Or perhaps it was when chemical companies first convinced farmers that using pesticides was the key to "improving" quality... errr, quantity of their yields.

I don't know about you, but I'm suspicious anytime someone

## Island View

By Steven Layne

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

insists that poisonous chemicals are for my own good. I don't want them – not in my water, salad or in my neighborhood!

As far as dengue fever goes, I do agree that eliminating breeding grounds for mosquito larvae would help, but I don't think that using chemicals is the most effective, let alone most responsible way to combat the disease.

Here's a classic alternative solution: For those living in houses – get a fish pond or two full of guppies or mosquito fish (of *poecilia* genus). And if you're in an apartment or condo like I am, a small open-lid fish aquarium or large clay jar filled with these inexpensive mosquito-eating fish will also effectively eliminate the chance of mosquito larvae thriving in the immediate area.

This solution is easily applied on a community/neighborhood scale with public fountains, ponds and even canals. If at home, though, be sure to remember the classic rule of thumb: You should allocate no more than one centimeter of fish per liter of water. This is about five full-sized guppies in a 15-liter aquarium.

## Issues & Answers...

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

### Where can I cremate my pet in Phuket?

Are there any animal cremation facilities in Phuket?

I understand there are some temples that cremate animals, but I cannot find out which ones. Surely this information would be very useful to any pet owner.

Erwin Hardy  
Phuket

### A Chalong temple monk replies:

Foreigners have asked me many times if we cremate animals, but the answer is no. Crematories in temples are only for humans.

Buddhists believe that animals and people are on different spiritual levels.

Animals are lower than people and so cannot be cremated in the same place.

### Dr Suchon Jittanon, Veterinarian, replies:

Temples officially do not agree to cremate animals. However, sometimes if you walk in and ask them directly, they will oblige.



No crematories for pets. Photo: Fae

## Passport for motherless daughter

My wife abandoned me and our child over a year ago. Now the Thai passport of our child is about to expire and I can't renew it without the mother.

Is there any way that I can renew it without the child's mother being present?

Amazing Thailand  
Thailand

### Sujirat Rattanawong, Officer at the Phuket Passport Office, replies:

There is only one case in which a father can renew a child's passport on his own: if he has sole custody of the child and the legal documents to prove it.

If you could not renew your child's passport alone, chances are you do not have custody of the child or you have joint custody.

If a couple is not married, the

mother has full custody of the child. In this case, only the mother can renew the passport.

If the couple is married, both parents must be present to renew the passport.

If the couple is divorced, we will check the divorce document to see who has custody of the child.

When the father does not have sole custody, he has two options:

He can apply to a juvenile court asking for custody of the child. This process takes time because the court will need to find the mother first to confirm that she is willing to give the father custody. The court will look for the child's mother wherever she registered her residence and if they don't find her there, they will contact her immediate family.

If the mother does not respond to court requests or the court can-

not find her, they have the authority to give custody to the father.

This whole process depends a great deal on the circumstances of the case and the discretion of the judge involved. There is no guarantee that the father will win the case.

The other option is to wait until the child reaches the age of 20. At that point the child can apply for a Thai passport on her own.

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)



## YOUR Phuket

## 'CLEAN UP THE WORLD'



Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket together with Bang Tao Green Club also organized the 'Bang Tao Beach – South Cleaning' and it was an honor to have Phuket Governor Maitri Inthasut (in green shirt) give an opening speech last Friday to all volunteers.



Students from Growing Minds, Rawai's new international kindergarten and primary homeschool, helping to clean up Naiharn Beach.

## SKAL NIGHT OUT



Skal Dinner on September 19, 2013 at Regent Phuket Cape Panwa hosted by Brice Borin and his fabulous F&B Team

## LADY KATHRYN MEET RIHANNA



Rihanna and the Lady Kathryn crew during the singer's stopover in Phuket last weekend.

## THE SERENITY TEAM HIT THE TOWN!

It's that time of year again...the Serenity Staff Party! To celebrate another successful year, the Serenity team hit the town and enjoyed a wonderful evening of live entertainment, delicious food and plenty of drinks!





The Phuket Gazette's weekly

# ISLAND TRADER

Phuket's **LARGEST CLASSIFIEDS** Marketplace – in Print and Online\*

September 28 - October 4, 2013 | [PhuketGazette.Net](http://PhuketGazette.Net)

\*The Gazette is the top-ranked Website for Phuket. (Google Analytics)

## BOAT of the week



See page 31

## PROPERTY of the week



Now's your chance to own a property in  
Phuket's best condominium development.



**MANDALA**  
VILLAS & CONDOMINIUMS

See page 23

## JOB of the week

# TRISARA

See page 27

## WHEELS & MOTORS of the week

### HONDA CRV 2.0 4WD



See page 30

All Property, Boat and Business Ads are **PAID!**

– your assurance that whatever's advertised here is seriously for sale.  
**Gazette Classifieds** – they work! Because they're **REAL**.



## Properties For Sale

**QUALITY  
3-BEDROOM  
POOL VILLAS**

7.9 million baht. Rental yield above 8% easily achievable. One left! Tel: 081-077 1765. Email: kez\_turn@hotmail.com

**LAND AT  
CHERNG TALAY**

1 ngan, nice flat land, quiet area, Chanote. In Pasak Soi 5. Price: 2 million baht. For more information, please call 089-472 9118.

**D CONDO 1, KATHU**

-29.94sqm, mountain view, price 1,278,000 baht.  
-29.70sqm, mountain view, price 1,280,000 baht.  
-29.79sqm, pool view, price 1,330,000 baht.  
-29.70sqm, pool view, price 1,365,000 baht.  
Contact Vutdy. Tel: 081-892 3709.

**CONDO AT  
RATCHAPORN PLACE**

In Kathu for sale or rent. Near Phuket Country Club Golf Course. 36sqm furnished, aircon. 1 bedroom. Sale: 1.75 million baht. Rent: 13,000 baht per month with 1-year contract and common area included. Tel: 089-472 9118.

**READY TO MOVE IN!  
5.5 MILLION BAHT**

Beautiful, quiet, 3-bedroom house in Bang Jo. Many features! Please contact for more details. Tel: 081-968 6051 (English), 081-737 1881 (English & Thai). Email: bluebeyond@me.com

**PROFITABLE  
BUSINESS**

For sale. Karon 20-room small hotel. 7 years old, 1 owner. Good reason for selling. Swimming pool. Full Chanote title. No lease. 39 million baht. Tel: 080-124 1245 (English). Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

**HABITIA KOH KAEW**

Modern style, Sino-Portuguese, area: 36.50sq wah with 118sqm living space approx. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 car park. Sale down payment 500,000 baht. Tel: 087-270 9093.

**LAND NEAR KATA  
CENTER**

Great location, road access, 5 minutes to Kata Beach and main road, 1,450sqm with title deed. Contact Lychee. Tel: 081-891 3048 (English & German).

**HOUSE FOR SALE IN  
BAAN PROMPHAN**

2.5 floors, 5 mins to town, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Good for stay! 2.85 million baht. Tel: 083-506 9155. Email: sumitra.saetan@gmail.com

**KATA OCEAN VIEW  
CONDO**

Last unobstructed sea view unit in phase 6 for sale by owner. 1 bedroom, 45sqm. Please contact by email: quin1@yahoo.com

**Condo in Patong  
for Sale/Rent**

87 sqm. beautiful condo with 2 bedrooms 2 bathrooms, fully furnished complete with kitchen utensils, microwave, coffee machine, toaster etc., bed sheets, towels for 4 people, internet, TV etc. available from Nov 2013; 50K baht for 1 month, 35K baht/month for 6 months and 28K baht/month for 1 year contract. CALL: 081-891 5602 or 081-432 6587

**30 RAI IN TOWN**

Flat land near Dowroong School in Phuket Town. Tel: 081-691 2526.

**NEW HOUSE FOR  
SALE, CHEAP PRICE**

2-storey twin house in Palm Villa, Pa Khlok, 5km from the Heroines Monument. Price: 2.2 million baht. 35.2sq wah, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, car park for 2 cars. Cheaper than the developer's. Ready to move in October 2013. Contact owner. Tel: 089-615 9719. Email: nana1225@gmail.com

**PRIME LAND!**

2.5 rai land. Ready to build. Good price for location. 19.5 million baht. Full Chanote! Please call 080-124 1245 (English). Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

**HOUSE &  
FURNITURE**

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

**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. Please call 081-891 5932, 089-035 6702.

**HOUSE IN  
VILLA DOWROONG**

Phuket Town. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 47sq wah. For more information, please call 089-909 2771.

**HABITOWN,  
KOH KAEW**

115sqm, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 aircons, includes built-in furniture, 2 floors. Resale down 130,000 baht. Tel: 089-772 7012. Email: gyb\_giff@yahoo.com

**LAND FOR SALE**

Kata land plot. 444sqm, part of sea view-plans, 4-bedroom villa and pool. 5.5 million baht. Tel: 086-593 3434 (Thai), 089-290 5594 (English).

**PATONG SEAVIEW  
BUILDING LAND**

A large (1,048sqm) building plot on the Andaman Mountain, overlooking Patong Beach. Concrete road, electricity and water. Only 8 million baht. Contact Ron Crane at +44-788-948 8091. Email: craneprop@hotmail.co.uk

**CONDO IN  
SUPALAI PARK**

For sale. Near Sengho Bookstore in Phuket Town. Studio, 30sqm, floor 15, sea view, aircon, furnished. Price: 1.55 million baht. Ready to move in. For more info call 089-472 9118.

**Baan Yamu Residences**

**Condominium available for sale**

**PHUKET'S EXCLUSIVE RESIDENTIAL HIDEAWAY**

- Award-winning design
- Luxurious lifestyle facilities
- Secure residential and investment opportunity

Please contact: 091-034 9909 or 089-729 8126  
E-mail: info@baanyamu.com  
Tel: 076-310507

**NEW COTTAGE ON  
COCONUT ISLAND**

50sqm cottage, 319sqm land, beachfront, solar system, ready to move in. Tel: 089-873 6533 (English & Thai). Email: suwatchana@icloud.com

**SINGLE HOUSE  
FOR SALE/ RENT**

In Thanapa Park View Village in Koh Kaew. 57sq wah, with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, a kitchen, a carpark and a garden. Sale: 2.25 million baht. Rent: 11,000 baht per month. Contact owner directly. Tel: 089-615 9719. Email: nana1225@gmail.com

**LAND, SALE BY  
OWNER**

Thalang and Mai Khao plots. Tel: 089-723 4278. Email: chalit9999@gmail.com

**HOUSE FOR SALE  
IN KATA**

3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished, 500m from the beach. 5 million baht. Contact Amorn. Tel: 081-569 6030.

**HOUSE IN PHUKET  
VILLA 5 FOR SALE**

46sq wah, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 aircons, furnished, car park. Only 3.5 million baht. Tel: 081-787 7675.

**Live in Cherg Talay?**  
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Deadline for all other ads: Saturday 12 noon.



## Properties For Rent

### SALE / RENT LAND APTS

House, pool villas. Email: nokandjorentalservice@hotmail.com

### APARTMENTS PATONG

Nicely furnished in a quiet location. Access to pool and parking. Only long term. Tel: 081-892 1621.

### FINEST SEA VIEWS!

Luxury furnished, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, pool villa, Cape Yamu, 15 minutes to PIA/BIS Schools. Long-term: 40,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-279 6283.

### 4-BEDROOM POOL VILLA

4 bedrooms, all en-suite, 5 bathrooms, 10m x 5m private pool, fully furnished with entertainment systems in every room, WiFi, cable TV and large Western style fully fitted and equipped kitchen. Tel: 081-397 6921 (English), 081-956 1433 (Thai). Email: terryleetuck@hotmail.com

### SINGLE HOUSE FOR RENT/ SALE



In Thanapa Park View village in Koh Kaew. 57sq wah, with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, a kitchen, a carpark and a garden. Rent: 11,000 baht per month. Sale: 2.25 million baht. Contact owner. Tel: 089-615 9719. Email: nana1225@gmail.com

### KAMALA

Pool 14m. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, furnished. Rent: 30,000. Sale: 12.2 million baht. Tel: 087-382 3058. Email: kradanresort@gmail.com

### KATA OCEAN VIEW CONDO

Fully furnished, seaview and non-seaview apartments, available for long-term rental. From 19,000 to 40,000 baht per month. Located on Kata Hill. Tel: 076-330641. For further details, please see our website at www.oceanic-global.com

### HOUSE AT PRIME PLACE VILLAGE



Near Heroines' Monument. Furnished, aircon, 3 bedrooms, cable TV, kitchen. 25,000 baht per month with 30,000 baht deposit. Tel: 086-607 7493.

### CONDO AT RATCHAPORN PLACE



In Kathu for rent or sale. Near Phuket Country Club Golf Course. 36sqm, furnished, aircon. 1 bedroom. Rent: 13,000 baht per month with 1-year contract and common area included. Sale: 1.75 million baht. Tel: 089-472 9118.

### HOUSE



Near BIS, Koh Kaew. Detached house, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished, garden & car park. For long-term rent: 35,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-894 9042, 081-970 1499.

### LUXURY POOL VILLA

Big saving on 1 year lease. Only 25,000 baht per month. Has all, near Laguna. Tel: 089-594 4067.

### KAMALA POOL VILLA, 3 BEDS / 2 BATHS

A private 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom villa. Short-term and long term lease available now. Also have other properties in Kamala for rent and sale. Tel: 084-446 8965 (English), 085-917 1046 (Thai). Email: haroldmccarthy@gmail.com http://phuketrenthouse.com/6341/kamala-villa-house-near-beach-3-bedrooms-furnished

### CONDO IN KATHU FOR RENT



Short or long-term rent, fully furnished, swimming pool, fitness center, quiet and secure. 12,000 baht per month. Please call. Tel: 093-742 6801. Email: thaidoodee1@gmail.com



### CONDO AT ROYAL PLACE



Phuket city, bypass road, opposite Tesco Lotus. 45sqm, 3 Fl at the corner with swimming pool view. 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, kitchen, fully furnished (2 aircons, hot water, washing machine, refrigerator, TV, microwave, 24 security and internet provided). PLS contact 086-4769612. Email: annanot1@hotmail.com

### FOR RENT



Vassana Residence. 3 exclusive luxury apartment in Rawai. Each apartment comprises of 2 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, large Western style kitchen and living room, large balconies back and front with sweeping views over Rawai and Andaman Sea, LCD TV, WiFi. Ground-floor swimming pool and a rooftop whirlpool where you can relax and take in the sea and mountain views. Each apartment also has its own private whirlpool. Tel: 087-882 9604. Email: artlpmj@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at www.premierpropertiesphuket.com

### MAIKHAO DREAM PROPERTY

For rent or sale. 20 rai of land with Chanote title. Located on Thepkasattri Road (main road). 12km from airport. Tel: 081-738 7099.

### 5-BEDROOM POOL HOUSE

Western kitchen, sun decks, 4 bathrooms, pool, jacuzzi, 1 rai. Long-term: 45,000 baht per month. Tel: 092-323 7087. Email: phuketrentals@yahoo.com

### NAI HARN BEACH 2-BED CONDOS

Spacious, with large shared pool, gardens, great beach only 3 minutes walk. Email: resortgm@gmail.com

### CONDOS IN PATONG

Both at Phuket Palace and Patong Tower. Long term only, newly renovated and well furnished. Tel: 081-892 1621.

### PHUKET VILLA 5 VILLAGE



For sale. Price: 4.2 million baht. No agents! Not furnished, with 4 aircons, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen and car park. Behind Kajonkiet International School on Chao Fa West Road, 5 minutes to Central Festival. For short or long-term rent, 16,000 baht per month. Call to see 087-270 9093.

### NAI YANG BEACH HOUSE

3 air-conditioned bedrooms, kitchen and furnished, near beach and Phuket airport. Tel: 076-241594, 089-652 1751 (English & Thai). Email: yui ruangsri@yahoo.com

### NEWLY MODERN TOWNHOUSE

18,000 baht/month. Fully furnished 3bed, kitchen, aircon, fridge, bedding, sofa, hot water. Available now. Tel: 085-055 9576, 089-892 6174. Email: intira.boonsith@gmail.com



houseinphuket.com

Rent or buy a house on my island? Maybe I can help you. My name is Wellta

### LAND FOR RENT

400sqm in Soi Pasak: 9,500 baht per month. 800sqm in BanJo: 11,000 baht per month. Contact Porn. Tel: 087-274 0680. Email: noega briele@hotmail.com

### 600,000 BAHT YEARLY RENT-RAWAI

Rawai Beach. Siam BB Resort. 9 rooms, bar+shop, reservation online with Agoda, Booking.com, Asiarooms.com. 60m to beach. Tel: 084-242 8914. Email: rawai4@yahoo.com

### FULLY FURNISHED HOUSE

1-3 bedrooms, Chalong area + Panwa area. Start from 10,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-892 4311, http://palaigreen.weebly.com

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



Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it with  
**Khun Anna: 076-388144, 086-4780201, 088-1685032**

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The Gazette Online is always on top in Google!







**FOREIGNER SECRETARY WANTED**

Looking for a foreign national secretary who has a driver's licence and can speak very good English. Email: web@bayshoreprojects.com

**RECEPTION WORK**

Thai female for hotel, Nanai Road, English and computer skills required, good wage and commission paid, holidays. Call for more details. Tel: 088-444 7801.

**ACCOUNTANT**

Thai or foreigner, start immediately. English is a must, Thai an advantage. Full or part time. Tel: 087-897 0501 (English). Email: aleksa@thai-evagroup.com

**PROMOTERS WANTED**

Popular bar for young "Farangs" looking for dynamic people to do promotion. Residents and travellers welcome to apply. Tel: 081-958 5394 (English). Email: collinniemi@gmail.com

**REAL ESTATE STAFF WANTED**

We are looking for many staff to work with us in the progressing and increasing branches at Rawai and Patong.

1. Secretary/Receptionist: Thai female.

2. Sale/Rental Manager: Thai or foreign national, male or female.

Both positions require: good personality and outgoing communication skills, enthusiasm, fluent written and spoken English, good basic computer skills, own car is an advantages for Sale/Rental Manager position. Good salary and commission! Tel: 076-388444. Please send resume and recent photo to: info@harvest-property.com

**COOK WANTED**

For Bar&Restaurant in Karon. Basic food. Training provided. 085-655 9008.

**MARKETING STAFF**

Motivated, English speaking. Thai national only. Salary, commission, bonus. 4 staff + leader. Tel: 076-376186, 088-450 1833 (English). Email: hr@dvcpropery.com

**MAID / HOUSEKEEPER**

Expat (American) requires an experienced housekeeper/maid with good English and Thai-speaking ability. Cooking experience a plus and can be live in or live out. Experience letters and recommendations from previous employers are a must. Top notch salary will be paid for the right person! Contact Robert. Tel: 089-765 3126.

**OFFICE ASSISTANT WANTED**

To aid in graphic design and administrative work. Thai national, able to communicate clearly in English. Computer skills required. Marketing and design skills preferred. Willingness to learn. Basic administrative skills (email, Word, Excel) Please send your resume to info@apr-pfleiderer.com.

**ASSISTANT MANAGER**

What we are looking for is a great all-rounder as this job has multiple roles. You will need excellent computer skills to manage operations and you will be assisting with the sales and marketing activities of the company. Thai nationality 30 years old with an excellent command of English. University degree or proven experience. People management skills. Outgoing, committed and energetic. Prepared to work in Patong & travel across the island. Email: info@newspaperdirect-phuket.com Find out about us on www.newspaperdirect.com



Brumaba GmbH, an operating table manufacturer, founded in 1978 and based in Germany is present all over the world.

To meet the increasing demand for our products and services, we are looking for professional candidates to fill the following position at our new subsidiary Brumaba Asia/Pacific in Phuket, Thailand.

**International Coordinator Brumaba Asia/Pacific: Junior Position****Job description:**

- (a) Promote and market the products to, and gather feedback on products from, all product dealers and distributors, dental and medical schools, private and public dental and medical clinics and government facilities located in Asia/Pacific
- (b) Coordinate the promotion and display of products at all conventions and exhibitions in the territory where Brumaba Asia/Pacific attends
- (c) Review and verify customer complaints
- (d) Handle all dealer returns and credits with the assistance and approval of Brumaba Asia/Pacific
- (e) Perform any other administrative functions and responsibilities requested by Brumaba Asia/Pacific

**Preferred candidates are expected to be:**

- (a) Thai Nationality with excellent knowledge of written and spoken English and Thai
- (b) University graduates in Marketing or Engineering, handling sales and marketing function
- (c) Ability to work in an international and multicultural environment
- (d) Fluency in PC skills, negotiation, communication, interpersonal, coordination and presentation skills
- (e) Dynamic, assertive, with positive attitude
- (f) Target-oriented, with flexible approach without losing principles of work

How to apply: Interested Thai Nationalities, please apply with sending your application to, [brumaba@truemail.co.th](mailto:brumaba@truemail.co.th) (MS. POONIKA)

Applications, treated in strictest confidence, shall include a personal letter, CV, names of referees, photo and current package.

**NATIVE ENGLISH TEACHER**

Need experienced preschool teacher 10-14 children, start immediately, Chalong, 40hr week, send resume to phuket teacher@yahoo.com

**DRIVER 16,000 +, COOK 15,000 +**

Private villa. Thailand area. Thai national only. Basic English. Contact Todd. Tel: 089-005 0700. Email: toddplay@hotmail.com

**SALESPERSON WANTED**

Must live permanently in Thailand and organise own residency status. Must speak fluent Thai and English. Must have experience selling food/alcohol to executive chefs and purchasing managers. Experienced in food service. Must have own car. Only people meeting all above criteria need apply. Please send resume to george\_d@jagota.com

**THAI NURSE**

Thai nurse. Will be trained in detox. must speak English. Thai national. Good salary! Email: Info@phuketfit.com

**Villa Manager – Kamala**

A Villa Manager is required to manage a 6-bedroom private holiday rental villa in Kamala.

- Responsible for managing an in-house team for maintenance
- Housekeeping and F&B
- Operate the villa in a 5-star manner for both owners and guests
- Welcome/service guests in villa
- Work with villa staff in HK, F&B, all services types
- Summary report of cash reimbursement
- Support villa staff provided

Applicants need to have strong leadership skills, a good command of English, Hotel/Hospitality work experience, have own car and driving license.

Salary THB15000 plus food allowance and bonus night.

Please send CV's to: [blackfinslover@gmail.com](mailto:blackfinslover@gmail.com)

**Phuket Gazette**

*The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:*

**WEB PROGRAMMER**

- Degree in Computer engineering, Computer Science or IT related field
- Minimum of 2 years experience in web programming and web development
- Experience in: PHP, asp, asp.net, OOP, Java Script, HTML5, CSS, JSON, AJAX, JQuery
- Expert in use of database tools and in SQL command (MS-SQL, MySQL)
- Experience in php frameworks would be a plus
- Ability in spoken and written English
- Ability to work with team
- Ability to work under pressure and time constraints

Good salary for the right candidate.

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV by email to [big@phuketgazette.net](mailto:big@phuketgazette.net)

**The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd**

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A. Muang, Phuket 83000

Tel: 076-273555 Ext. 303 Fax: 076-615240

**Authorized Agents for Classified Advertising:****CHALONG**

- Julapan Stationery (Chaofa East Rd)
- KL Mart (Patak Rd, Chalong Circle)
- Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppe (Fisherman's Way Business Center, Chaofa East Rd)

Tel: 076-282254

Tel: 076-280400

Tel: 076-282403

**PATONG**

- Taurus Travel (Aroonsom Plaza)
- Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppe (Aroonsom Plaza)
- Deli Supermarket (Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd)

Tel: 076-344521-2

Tel: 076-290468

Tel: 076-342275

**PHUKET CITY**

- Earth Language Training Centre School (Phang Nga Rd)
- Sin & Lee (Thalang Rd)
- iTree complete printing service (Tesco Lotus Phuket Town) bank zone

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Tel: 076-258369

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**CHERNG TALAY**

- Chaba Supermarket (at the Laguna gateway)

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**RAWAI**

- The Network property office (Saiyuan Rd)

Tel: 076-388144

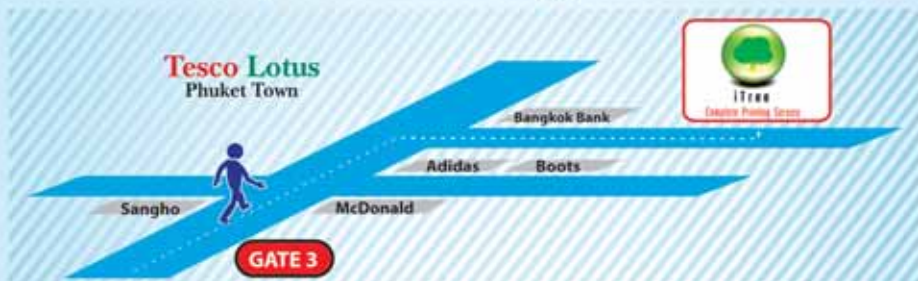
**KARON**

- EuroStyle Tailors (Luang Por Chuan Rd)

Tel: 076-396911

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**Gazette Online Classifieds – 10,000 readers every day!**



## NEED LADY DRIVERS

Three experienced motor-bike and car drivers, based in Patong, go all around Phuket. Tel: 093-768 4939.

## FITNESS TRAINER WANTED

Experience required. Please send CV to be considered at info@phuketfit.com Check out our website: www.phuketfit.com

## OFFICE ASSISTANT

For property and car rental. Required: good English, driving license, work independent, flexible, Thai national. Office at Boat Lagoon. Send CV to Claudio at claudstrey@gmail.com

## OFFICE MANAGER

Needed for apartment rental company. Must be Thai, honest and have booking skills, people friendly. 080-052 8082 (English & Thai). Email: phvcondo@aol.com

## CALL CENTER.

Want native English speakers only for call center (U.S. Bus Hrs.) sales positions and tel reception pos avail. Full and part time. Call for details. Tel: 093-779-5224 (English). Email: steve.8888.johnson@gmail.com

## GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Senior Arts/Creative/Graphics designer Experience with Adobe CS Suite, Photoshop, Illustrator, Dreamweaver required. Fluency in English required. Tel: 093-779-5224 (English). Email: steve.8888.johnson@gmail.com

## BONDI AUSSIE BAR & GRILL @ JUNGCEYLON

### STAFF WANTED

In October 2013, Bondi Aussie Bar & Grill is opening in Phuket after 4 successful years with 2 Restaurants / Pubs in Koh Samui. We are looking for qualified, honest and hardworking staff members to join our Bondi Team @ Jungceylon Phuket!

**Positions:** Chef / Supervisor x 2 / Bartenders / Service Staff / Line Cooks



- Thai national only!!
- 5 day work week!!
- Good salary!!
- No early morning or late night shifts!!
- Established company!!

Contact **Kirk** Tel: 081-895 1186.

Email: [kirkstucker@bondisamui.com](mailto:kirkstucker@bondisamui.com)

[www.bondisamui.com](http://www.bondisamui.com)

177/30 Moo 4, Srisoonthorn, Phuket 83110  
[www.pinnaclegastro.com](http://www.pinnaclegastro.com)



PINNACLE GASTRO

We currently have 2 openings for:

- Sales Admin
- Senior Sales Executive

These positions are based in Phuket to service our existing HORECA customers in the Southern region. Computer and English language skills are a must!

Interested candidate please forward CV to [hr@pinnaclegastro.com](mailto:hr@pinnaclegastro.com)

## OFFICE MANAGER

Thai male wanted, in Patong, know English and have computer skills. Tel: 081-088 1451.

## SHOP MANAGER

Urgent need shop manager for boutique shop in Surin, fluent in English. Send CV to [bliss@online.com.kh](mailto:bliss@online.com.kh)

## CLEANER WANTED

Located on Surin Beach. Fluent spoken English, cleaning and helping in the villa. Contact Jariya. Tel: 081-367 7965 (English & Thai). Email: [mayphu@hotmail.com](mailto:mayphu@hotmail.com)

## 2 WAITRESSES WANTED

Good salary. Speak English. Thai national only. Tel: 085-783 0141. Email: [liam@phuketfit.com](mailto:liam@phuketfit.com)

# TRISARA

Trisara, Phuket's most luxurious resort, is now searching for a number of exceptional people to fill various positions at our award-winning hotel, Residential Villas, and in our new Corporate Office located at Trisara.

## CORPORATE ROLES

- Corporate Director of E-business
- Office Manager / PA
- Corporate Director of Sales (Foreigner or Thai)
- Hotel & Villa Market Analyst
- Real Estate Sales Manager (2)

## RESORT

### FRONT OFFICE

- Trisara Host (Reception / Guest Relations)
- Bellman / Driver

### FINANCE

- Income Auditor
- Shop Attendant

### HOUSEKEEPING

- Assistant Housekeeping Manager
- Housekeeping Attendant

### FOOD AND BEVERAGE

- Restaurant Hostess
- F&B Supervisor
- F&B Attendant

### KITCHEN

- Western Chef
- Commis Bakery
- Commis Western
- Steward Supervisor

### RECREATION

- Sports Coordinator

### ENGINEERING

- Pool Attendant

### SPA

- Spa Trainer
- Beauty Salon Supervisor

## RESIDENTIAL VILLAS

- Villa Supervisor
- Villa Housekeeping Attendant

- Villa Chefs
- Gardener



If you are an energetic, organized and result-driven team player who is looking for a challenge at the highest level of standards, apply in person or submit an application with complete résumé to:

## Human Resources Department

Trisara - 60/1 Moo 6, Srisoonthorn Road, Thalang, Phuket 83110  
Tel: 076-310-354 Fax: 076-310-299 Email: [hr@trisara.com](mailto:hr@trisara.com) | [www.trisara.com](http://www.trisara.com)

## CUSTOMER RELATIONS REP

Must speak and write English. Thai national. Good Salary. Email: [info@phuketfit.com](mailto:info@phuketfit.com)

## DETOX / CLEANSE CONSULTANT

Experience working in detox, cleanse or spa. Must speak English. Thai national only. Good salary. Email: [info@phuketfit.com](mailto:info@phuketfit.com) Check out PhuketFit website for more [www.phuketfit.com](http://www.phuketfit.com)

## PERSONAL ASSISTANT

Tropical Properties real estate is urgently looking for Personal Assistant/Office Manager. Must have very good knowledge of spoken and written English, and basic accounting and good computer skills are essential. Must be able to organize and work independently and be in a position to start work almost immediately. Thai national only! Tel: 087-882 2856. Email: [luc@phuket-tropical-realestate.com](mailto:luc@phuket-tropical-realestate.com)

## LISTING REPRESENTATIVE

Tropical Properties is expanding its business and is urgently requires a listing representative. Candidates must have good knowledge of English, written and spoken. Must also be able to work with computer (Microsoft Office) and have own transportation. Tel: 087-882 2856 (English). Email: [luc@phuket-tropical-realestate.com](mailto:luc@phuket-tropical-realestate.com)

## SEEKING A SALES MANAGER

We are a foreign company specialized in manufacturing fashionable natural-fibers tote bags. We would like to develop our business in Thailand and are looking for a Sales Manager / Sales Representative. Job Description: Finding and contacting potential clients. Taking orders and managing payment. Arranging product deliveries. Position Requirements: Living in Phuket. English speaking. Prospecting and sale skills. If you are interested, please send resume to [factory@kaloes.com](mailto:factory@kaloes.com)

## FRONT OFFICE / ADMIN

Thai national office manager. Must speak & write English. Good salary + benefits. Send CV. Email: [info@phuketfit.com](mailto:info@phuketfit.com)

## PIZZERIA STAFF WANTED

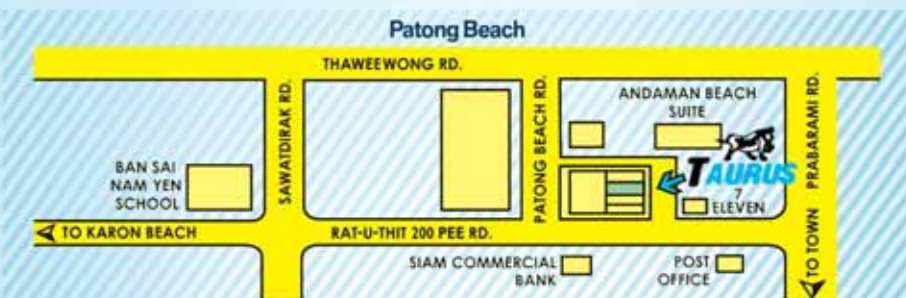
Pizzaiolo Patong Beach. cooks, waitress, bartender. speak English, Thai national only, good salary. Contact Mathias. Tel: 084-322 4816.

## SECONDARY EP VACANCY

ELT Phuket is looking to appoint a qualified, enthusiastic and experienced teacher of English (M1-4) to start at PPAO Ban Taladnua School, as soon as possible. Applicants must have a minimum of a bachelor's degree plus a recognised teaching certificate (TEFL). Please email a letter of application and CV. Email: [bantaladnuaep@gmail.com](mailto:bantaladnuaep@gmail.com)

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## Bar & Restaurant Equipment

### COLD ROOM FOR SALE

Ready to work. Maintained every 3 months. For more information, please call 080-538 4735 (English & Thai). Email: momo\_f@hotmail.com

### COFFEE MACHINE FOR SALE

As-new coffee machine, all attachment, grinder etc. 1-door fridge for sale also. For more information, please call 085-655 9008.

## Bulletins

### 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. Contact Carol. Please call 087-417 8860 or contact Sue. Tel: 087-277 6948. For more information please email us at info@phuketiwc.com

### BOUTIQUE MASSAGE SHOP FOR SALE

Patong. Located Nanai Road. 7 beds. Fully stocked. Equipped with high end furniture. Well presented. Rent: 20,000 baht per month. Reluctant sale: 400,000 baht. Please call 087-073 4233 or send email for more information to judgedread73@hotmail.com

### GUESTHOUSE CENTER OF PATONG

15 rooms guesthouse for sale in center of Patong. 5 minutes walk from beach, 15 minutes walk from nightlife. Have 1 apartment with 1 bedroom, kitchen and living room for accommodation, also 2 shops for rent at the ground floor. Very good opportunity. Tel: 076-290496, 083-526 4485 (English). Email: yohan\_n@hotmail.com

### FITNESS CENTER FOR SALE

Club Asia Fitness, Phuket's Leading Fitness Center. For sale: 8 million baht or nearest offer. Tel: 089-126 5671, 087-275 3614 (English), 080-698 5021 (English & Thai). Email: coco\_ivy@hotmail.com www.clubasiaphuket.com

**MAY PLAZA, SOI TA-IAD**  
9x4sqm commercial space. Start from 10,000 baht per month. 1 year payment in advance. Tel: 095-759 5323.

### KATA NIGHT PLAZA

Southern Fried Rice, the popular guesthouse with 40-seat restaurant and 8 rooms, 5 minutes from Kata Beach. For sale or rent. Trip Advisor Winner 2013. Tel: 081-894 8446. Email: sfr\_kata37@gmail.com, www.southernfriedrice.com

### OCEAN VIEW HOTEL FOR SALE

1km from the beach, 3 stars hotel. 10 apartments and 14 rooms, 1,200sqm, pool, bar. For more information, please call 080-528 1536 (English & Thai). Email: nc.residence@gmail.com

### MASSAGE BUSINESSES

Patong main road. 1.5 million baht and 2 million baht. Must sell both. Tel: 081-303 2202.

### URGENT SALE OF RESTAURANT

Taina Road, Kata. Tel: 090-176 7364 or send email to dhanbirwaiba@hotmail.com

## HOTELS IN PHUKET FOR SALE

Contact: realestate.luxuryphuketholidays.com

## Business Opportunities

### HOTEL + RESTAURANT FOR SALE IN PATONG

Chanote title, central position, new building, 4 years old, 20 rooms, reception and restaurant fully furnished, lift. 32 million baht negotiable. Contact Stefano. Tel: 086-279 8175 (English/Italian). Contact Ning. Tel: 084-840 1566 (Thai).

### ESTABLISHED BUSINESS FOR SALE

For native English speaker includes premises stock and training. Contact by email only. Email: jina949@gmail.com

### SOLID CASH FLOW 34 ROOMS

Buy the business and take 8-year lease for this 34-room guesthouse in Patong, Phuket. Plus the large restaurant on sub lease pays you 175,000 baht per month! Please call Real Pro. Tel: 076-346875, 084-078 2753. Email: info.realpro@gmail.com Please see our website at www.realprophuket.com

### GUESTHOUSE / BAR / RESTAURANT

Six rooms, all tenanted; prime location – 2 minutes to Jungceylon and 10 minutes to Bangla Road. Lease: 3+3, nothing to spend. Bar takings excellent, net 30,000 to 50,000 baht a month. Price: 1.6 million baht. Please call 087-896 5219 (English), 084-053 4365 (English). Email: striker\_1957@hotmail.com

### LONG-TERM RENTAL SPACE

750sqm area for food center and souvenir sales. Tel: 087-026 1362. Please contact by email: chalongmarket@hotmail.com

### RESORT FOR LEASE



In the heart of Patong. 20 rooms well furnished, fully operational with very good occupancy rates. 6-year lease for 6 million baht + rental fee 150,000 baht per month. Tel: 088-765 0165.

### SPORTS BAR KARON

Newly renovated, trendy sports bar in Karon, Phuket. This bar comes fully equip-ped with three large plasma TVs, pool table, two bedrooms and website. Please call +44-20-8688-4544. Email: nm.windowcleaning@hotmail.co.uk

### LAUNDRY KATHU 975,000 BAHT

High capacity machines only two years old. Wash, dry, iron, roll iron. Automatic soap dosing. Reason for selling is expansion. Shophouse with 4 bedrooms. Rent: 22,000 baht per month. Possible cooperation for the right buyer. Ready to take over. Please call 089-882 0894 (English), 089-652 0975 (Thai). Email: peter@conceptfeeling.com

### RESTAURANT

Urgent sale. Indoor-outdoor, in Chalong area, equipped. 14 months on lease. Rent: 5,000 baht per month. Contact Eye. Tel: 082-807 9312.

### CHALONG

3-storey shophouse, restaurant or bar and living quarters, near pier. Sale: 3.5 million baht. Rent: 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-892 0299. Email: colona@loxinfo.co.th

### NO-NONSENSE OPPORTUNITY

30 rifle laser tag system, complete. High potential income. Low overheads. Team Building, tourist attraction and local business. Cash purchase 300,000 baht. Please call 089-071 0169 (English). Email: nigelburt51@gmail.com, www.youtube.com/watch?v=08xcTTGHYU0

### BANGLA BAR CHEAP!

Absolute stunner! Cheap. Airon, 2 floors, 160sqm, contact for photos. Only 1.8 million baht, full fitout. Good rent option. Bargain! Please call 087-881 7600. Email: cocodiorster@gmail.com

### BEAUTY SALON QUICK SALE

Fully furnished beauty salon, 75sqm for quick sale. 300,000 baht. Foreign clients. Busy area. Tel: 090-154 6115. Email: aselia8989@mail.ru

### HOTEL WITH 24HR RESTAURANT

Top location at Kata Center, inside entertainment zone, for rent. 19 air-conditioned rooms. Email: yongyut.bauer@gmail.com

### PROFITABLE BAR & GRILL



Profit making Sports Bar & Grill in Nai Yang Beach. Everything included. Buy today, be open tomorrow. First come bargain price, 950,000 baht. For more information, please call 084-852 4257 (English). Email: bobcoppage@yahoo.com

### HOUSE + BUSINESS ON 24 RAI



For sale. Tried of the traffic and high prices of Phuket? Or just want a weekend getaway? I have built in Farang spec and style, a beautiful retreat, a main house with 2 big garages, a guesthouse with garage, a bungalow and a 900sqm exercise gym. It all rests on 24 rai and is currently a working shrimp farm, but could be used for many purposes, located 2 hours north of the island. Price: 12 million baht, this price will not last long, the houses are worth more than 12 million baht. Please call 081-728 8269 or email to jrp@loxinfo.co.th

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To ensure clarity,  
please airmail.  
Do not Fax!

### VERY POPULAR RESTAURANT

Top restaurant in Kamala Beach for sale. Please search by Google for "Grill Bill Kamala". Tel: 081-089 0543 (English) or send email to iii\_sunny\_iii@yahoo.com

### INVESTOR NEEDED: MOBILE APP

Zom Ammara, a famous Thai celebrity, is raising 6 million baht from investors to promote and monetize on lady safety mobile app project called "GuardMe". We will gain US\$4 million profit within 3 years with celebrity marketing strategy. Please contact 02-673 9280, 081-381 5111.

### STEAKHOUSE NEAR BEACH

Texas Steakhouse for sale. Lease on 4.5 years. Rent: 40,000 baht per month. Staff and equipment, Thai company included. Turnkey. 2.5 million baht for quick sale. Please call 085-215 8660. Email: fstailslide@hotmail.com



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**Accepting children 3 months old - 4 years old. 7am-7pm.**

- Experienced nannies.
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- Reasonable rates.
- Outdoor activities.
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081-868 7676 (English).

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### TRICK ROPING LESSONS

Showing and teaching the art of western cowboy rope tricks. For more information, please call 084-447 5257.

### WHEATGRASS JUICE

Lumpoons Coffee House. At Chalong. Please call 081-476 5808.

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Our two-tank slush machines are great value for the money. We offer you the cheapest rate in Thailand for both the machine and the mix. A fantastic product which will give you an even better return. Inquire now or call us 087-139 9225. Email: info@funfoodthailand.com

### FREE ITALIAN ESPRESSO MACHINE

Coffee capsules machine on loan, good organic Italian coffee, fair prices, 6 blends available, direct import into Phuket. Tel: 076-374760, 088-768 1260 (English & Thai). Email: fepigada@yahoo.it

## Club Memberships Available

### BALI KUTA GOLF MEMBERSHIP

1 share ACC x 3 golf courses. Life swap / Phuket golf course. Phuket Country / Laguna / Blue Canyon. Please call 085-994 0364.

### PHUKET COUNTRY CLUB

Family lifetime membership, transfer fee and this year's subscription. Price: 570,000 baht. Tel: 076-283 288, 081-273 7326. Fax: 076-283288. Email: keithmarshall747@gmail.com

### BAND IS LOOKING FOR MUSICIAN



We are looking for a guitarist, drummer and keyboard player. This is a band for high quality/big events. Genre: pop, rock, motown, little bit jazz/blues. Available for 2 practice sessions per week, for 6 weeks, to prepare a show in a unique venue for every Thursday. Besides that we will be booked for big events, festivals and weddings. We also have a recording studio to produce/record our own music. Keywords: serious about practice; open to all music styles, dedicated, team spirit, fun, humor, enthusiastic, energetic. Our motto: It is not about what you perform but how you perform it. If you are interested, please contact Brigitta. Tel: 082-257 7102.

## Education

### TEACHER FOR TUITION

Mathematic Senior Classes. Please call 089-729 8852 or send email to mamoonbutt44@yahoo.com

### TEACHER LOOKING FOR JOB

American native English speaker looking for long-term employment in international school - Bachelor's degree & TEFL & Lifeguard Instructor. Private lessons available: Young children or business professionals. Please call 092-371 4898 (English & Thai). Email: mayfieldlm@gmail.com

## Personal Services

### QISMI MARIJOSSAN

Has everything that you want at Baan Kanika. www.facebook.com/qismi.marijossan

### MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR

Experienced licensed (US), mental health counseling for children, adolescents and adults now available in Phuket. Email: parwgk@aol.com

## Personals

### BACKGAMMON

Players wanted. For more details, please call 081-577 8443. Email: phuketconnection@yahoo.com

## Pets

### MAINE COON KITTENS

Kittens from champion available. Please call. Tel: 080-146 9270. www.mainecoonspalace.com



**I'M LOOKING FOR A NEW HOME!**

At Doggie Heaven we have several rescue dogs who are looking for loving homes. All are healthy, well behaved and groomed. For more photos view at [www.doggieheaven.net](http://www.doggieheaven.net) or contact [Sherin.peace@gmail.com](mailto:Sherin.peace@gmail.com) All vaccinated & sterilised

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## Shop Equipment

### COLD ROOM FOR SALE

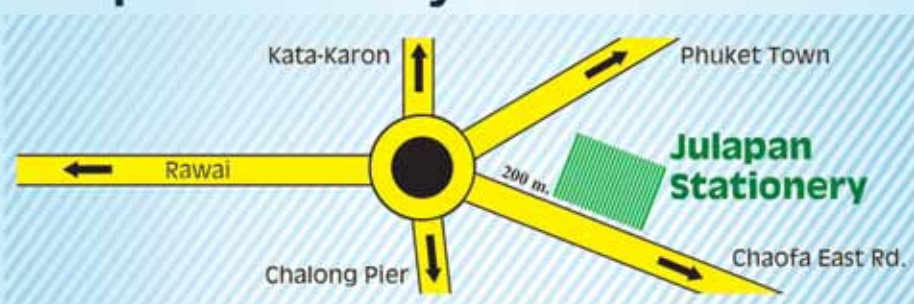
Cold room for sale. Maintain every 3 months. Ready to work. Tel: 080-538 4735 (English & Thai). Email: momo\_f@hotmail.com

## Television Sets

### SATELLITE TV THAILAND HD

Satellite TV Thailand. We provide all sorts of satellite TV, including HD satellite service. You can order on line. We ship cash on delivery anywhere in Thailand. We also accept Paypal for international orders. Tel: 080-694 0663 (English & Thai), 089-821 3772. Email: sales@thailandproperty.com

## Live in Chalong? Place your GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS at Julapan Stationery



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**SIMPSON MARINE BROKERAGE**



**2007 Azimut 55 - EUR 595,000**



**2007 Grady White 225 Tournament**  
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- Auto Pilot
- Air Conditioning
- Watermaker
- GPS
- Onan Generator
- Furuno Radar
- Carbon rig

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<p><b>Azimut 43S (2008)</b> <b>368,000 Euro</b></p> <p><b>NEW LISTING</b></p> 	<p><b>Sea Ray Sundancer 355 (2005)</b> <b>\$159,000 USD</b></p> <p><b>PRICE REDUCTION</b></p> 	<p><b>Bakricone 59 Catamaran</b> <b>13,000,000 THB</b></p> <p><b>PRICE REDUCTION</b></p> 	<p><b>Grand Banks 42 (1987)</b> <b>\$180,000 USD</b></p> 
<p><b>Swan 65 (1975)</b> <b>400,000 Euro</b></p> 	<p><b>Schionning 1480 (2008)</b> <b>\$449,000 USD</b></p> 	<p><b>Beneteau Oceanis 46 (2011)</b> <b>\$295,000 USD</b></p> 	<p><b>Catana 471 (1999)</b> <b>399,000 Euro</b></p> <p><b>NEW LISTING</b></p> 

<p><b>Martin Holmes</b> Mobile: 081 891 7057 Email: martin@leemarine.com</p>	<p><b>Marcus Overman</b> Mobile: 081 968 1437 Email: marcus@leemarine.com</p>	<p><b>Jim Poulsen</b> Mobile: 081 891 3237 Email: jim@leemarine.com</p>	<p><b>Mark Heath</b> Mobile: 081 787 9408 Email: mark@leemarine.com</p>
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**leemarine.com**

## FOR SALE

Aluminum dinghy, 3.5m, Yamaha 6hp outboarder, 12L tank, good condition. 50,000 baht. Tel: 082-415 1918 (English). Email: pilotsparadise@gmx.net

## TAYANA 55 (1985)

Perkins 135hp diesel. Many recent upgrades. US\$295,000. For details contact Alan Giles. Andaman Boat Sales. Tel: 084-842 6146. Email: alangiles@boatshedphuket.com

## THAI WOODEN BOAT

36ft, Isuzu 110hp, radio, Furuno Fish Finder. 300,000 baht. Tel: 083-102 7801.

## OUTBOARDER FOR SALE

Yamaha 20hp, 4 stroke, transom height L (22.2 inch), brand-new (app 300 hours). 90,000 baht. Served as replacement on a transfer from Borneo, perfect condition. Tel: 082-415 1918. Email: pilotsparadise@gmx.net

## PRINCESS 36 FEET "RIVIERA"

2 Volvo Penta 306hp, diesel, fully equipped includes trailer. Sale: 2.9 million baht. Call for appointment. Tel: 089-871 2940. Email: info@villea.com

## BOAT FOR SALE

Semi-rigid 150hp, 2-stroke, trailer, 100 liter aluminium tank, GPS, Sonar. Price: 650,000 baht. Tel: 089-289 8628 (English), 080-144 6022 (Thai).

## 63FT PINISI KETCH FOR SALE

Well equipped, looks great, good condition. Must sell, only 2.5 million baht. Tel: 086-690 0444 (English & Thai). Email: ricosta@gmail.com

## RIVA HULL

10 meters long, marine plywood hull (not completed) for sale. Tel: 081-968 3118 (English & Thai). Email: info@pro carpentering.com

## TASAR DINGHY

For quick sale. Two sets sails. Launch and road trailer. Asking price: 130,000 baht. Email: Sailingalone2001-mail@yahoo.com

**Looking for a boat?**  
See more classified ads  
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## SELLING YOUR BOAT?

With high season just around the corner, now is the right time to get her listed. Boatshedphuket.com are always looking for new listings, big or small, power or sail, to meet the demand for quality boats. Contact Alan Giles. Tel: 084-842 6146. Email: alangiles@boatshedphuket.com

## MASON 43 CUTTER (1982)

Perkins 4108 diesel. Reduced to AU\$79,000. For details contact Alan Giles. Tel: 084-842 6146. Email: alangiles@boatshedphuket.com www.boatshedphuket.com

## SEAHORSE MARINE 36' TRAWLER

2007. Cummins 270hp diesel, aircon, generator. Great little boat! US\$99,950. For details contact Alan Giles. Tel: 084-842 6146. Boatshedphuket.com Email: alangiles@boatshedphuket.com

## ONAN 12KVA MARINE GENERATOR

Fully operational generator with full sound shield and wet muffler exhaust. Model number 12 MDL3P, 1996 model, only 4,000 running hours. Tel: 081-375 2590 (English). Email: stuart.winters@hotmail.com

## LIVE-ABOARD SALE



Custom built for diving, compressors available, tanks included. Tel: 087-891 8912. Email: joe@similan-diving-safaris.com

**THE SOLUTION TO THIS WEEK'S**

**Cryptic Crossword**

**COFFEE**

**break**





# Aircraft For Sale

## YOUR HELICOPTER

Flying and owning your own helicopter has just become possible. Free complete flight instruction course with your purchase. Email: [pat@aeropromgr.com](mailto:pat@aeropromgr.com)

## AIRPLAY ALTIS MICROLIGHT

Superb trike with Konig radial engine. Great economical fun. Little used. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-111 6457 (English & Thai), 081-397 7598 (English & Thai). Email: kajoda1954@yahoo.co.uk

## HAVE A PASSION FOR AVIATION?

If you have an aircraft for sale or an interest in aviation and wish to learn how to fly or buy an aircraft or arrange a private flight, etc. Website: [www.aeropromgr.com/newsletter](http://www.aeropromgr.com/newsletter)

## TECNAM P-92

- Price: 1.5 million baht
- Registration: U-B08
- Year of Manufacture: 2002
- Equipment: Full standard equipment
- Engine: Rotax 912-80HP 350hrs.

Please contact for more information. Aircraft is based at Klong 15. Tel: 081-840 8418.



**Notice from Thai Flying Club:** There is a very nice Piper Cherokee airplane at the Thai Flying Club (TFC) in Bang Phra. It has fallen into disrepair. Someone took out the seats and some other parts... and then went away.

Owner Wichai Pettongkam loves this airplane and wants to get it back in the air. If you like flying and might want to be a partner in the plane, please come to the TFC to have a look, or contact **Khun Tom** (email [tom@thaiflyingclub.com](mailto:tom@thaiflyingclub.com), Tel: 089-092 2711). Or talk to **Khun Wichai** directly on 081-633 7082.

Khun Wichai does not want to sell the plane, but would welcome a partner who can help to get it flying again. This could be a very good opportunity for someone to get a share in a nice airplane for a very good price. All negotiable.

## Rockwell Commander 114 HS-AWS



**Built: 1976**

Registration: HS-AWS  
(in Thailand for the last 6 years)  
Previous Registrations:  
N4798W – USA  
N479GE – USA  
I-ECCE – Italy  
G-BVNL – UK



Lycoming IO-540-T4B5D (1,300 hours, 700 hours to TBO). Prop: B3D32C419/82NHA-5. Overhauled Feb 2011 (7 years to TBO). C of A Due 11th November 2011. New 5-year Permit. 100 hour check completed 19 Feb 2011.

### Specs:

Horsepower: 260	Gross Weight: 3140 lbs
Top Speed: 166 kts	Empty Weight: 2094 lbs
Cruise Speed: 157 kts	Fuel Capacity: 68.00 gal Usable
Stall Speed (dirty): 55 kts	Range: 700 nm
Rate Of Climb: 1088 fpm	Fuel Av Gas 100LL
Ceiling: 17,400 ft	1 crew plus 3 passengers

Radio and Navigation Configuration: Fully IFR equipped. 2 Garmin GNS430 VHF/COMM/NAV/GPS/TERRAIN. Garmin GI-106A VOR/LOC/GS/GPS CDI. King KN64 DME. Garmin GTX 320/327 Transponder with Mode C via Ameri-King AK350-30 Height Encoder. Garmin GMA 340 Audio Panel. Bendix King KR-87 ADF. Sandel SN 3308 EHSI. Century IIb Autopilot Dual Axis and S-Tec Altitude Hold. WX-500 Stormscope.

**Price:** 3.75 million baht. Located at Thai Flying Club, Bang Phra.

**Contact Tony Scragg** at 081-906 3250, or email [tony\\_scragg@hotmail.com](mailto:tony_scragg@hotmail.com)



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- Flying Lessons

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[illegible]

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All advertising must be paid for in advance.

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**(076 - 280403)**

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## ICE WHITE PARTY AT CENTRAL FESTIVAL



Guests enjoying the Ice White themed Russian Tour Agencies and Guides Thank You Party hosted by Tablespoon Cafe. The evening featured a cabaret show, live music, giveaways and fabulous food.



One fortunate party-goer took home the lucky draw prize.

## THE 9TH ANNIVERSARY

Twinpalms Phuket celebrated its 9<sup>th</sup> anniversary at Catch Beach Club on Surin Beach last Saturday.



(From left): Miguel Kirjon; Carl Gustaf Langenskiold; Olivier Gibaud; Sovorod Gibaud; Ala Cohen.

## MAVERICK WINE DINNER AT ANDARA



(From left): Daniel Meury, General Manager Andara; Jirawat Lohsiriphat, Manager Ambrose; Ronald Brown, Owner Maverick Wines; Somphon Charumilinda, Managing Director Ambrose; Pascal Frei – Resident Manager Andara

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A new life of comfort and convenience begins now at inizio Koh Kaew Phuket, the newest project. Modern-style single detached houses feature distinctive designs, fully equipped with quality amenities, shady green surroundings, swimming pool and 24-hour security. Quality and happiness from Land and Houses has never been easier to own.

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Koh Kaew Phuket

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# The Smartphone Wars

By Don Freeman

THE big decision these days is what smartphone to buy. It seems everyone has an opinion on which one is the best. The other day, my wife asked me which one I thought was the best. She's torn between getting a Samsung or an iPhone. I told her she should also consider BlackBerry or Nokia. Let's see how they all compare and also see how their stocks look as investments.

Apple and Samsung dominate the smartphone industry, combined they have a market share of 52 per cent. Apple uses its iOS operating system, while Samsung uses Google's Android operating system. Nokia utilizes the Windows operating system while BlackBerry has its own operating system. Together, Nokia and BlackBerry have a 12 per cent marketshare.

Apple and Samsung have the biggest rivalry in the smartphone wars – because they both make wonderful products. Samsung's flagship phone is the Galaxy S4, while Apple's top phone is the iPhone 5. The main difference that users will first notice between the two is screen size. Samsung offers a much larger five-inch screen. Some users prefer the larger screen, while others don't want to be encumbered by such a large device in their pocket and prefer the iPhone. Chances are that if you watch a lot of videos on your phone or play games, then you'll like the Samsung much better.

The other big difference besides screen size is the operating system (OS). The S4 is equipped with the latest Android OS – 4.2.2 Jelly Bean and has Samsung's TouchWiz Nature interface on top; which customizes the whole

experience and adds numerous unique features like Smart Stay, Dual Shot, Air View and many more, some of which useful, others – not so much. The GS4 runs smoothly and is highly customizable. The main virtue of its software is that you can do whatever you wish with it.

Samsung and Apple represent the high-end of the current smartphone offerings. Here in Thailand they'll each set you back about 24,000 baht, maybe a little less – depending on your negotiation skills! If those two phones are out of your budget, you would want to consider Nokia's Lumia or BlackBerry's 10. Both phones have different operating systems and offer a cheaper alternative.

The biggest difference between

these two phones is the operating system. The BlackBerry uses its new BlackBerry 10 operating system. It's fast, slick and intuitive to use. As with anything new, it takes a little while to get used to the layout of BlackBerry 10, but once you're familiar with it, it becomes very natural. The BlackBerry Hub lets you peek at all your messages and notifications from all apps with the slightest flick of the thumb. Nokia's Lumia 920 runs the latest Microsoft mobile OS – Windows Phone 8. As you are probably aware, Windows Phone 8 places a lot of emphasis on its "Tiles" layout, which lets you customize the Lumia 920's home screen to suit your wants and needs.

The Lumia's software is incredibly easy to use and the animations that take you from the home screen to an app deserve lots

Exchange. It trades in the US on the OTC market, but the volume is very low.

That pretty much leaves me to decide between Apple, Nokia and BlackBerry. All are value plays instead of growth plays. Apple's growth in my opinion has peaked and it is no longer a growth stock. Investors have to look at the stock from a valuation perspective. In that regard, it is an incredibly cheap stock. Take into account that the company has US\$137 billion in cash and growing every day. Last year the company's net income was \$41.75 billion! For any company making that amount of money with a price/earnings ratio (P/E) of less than 10, it's safe to say I'm interested. Plus the stock is down 35 per cent in the last year. I like buying good quality companies on pullbacks.

BlackBerry or Research In Motion stock has been in a free fall for the past five years. The stock peaked in 2008 above \$140 and traded under \$10 for much of 2012. However, the stock has rebounded this year on optimism for the new BlackBerry 10.

BlackBerry's patents are estimated to be worth \$2.25 billion. The company right now has a market cap of about \$7.57 billion at \$14.69 a share. The company also has \$2.65 billion in cash and no debt. If the patents are worth \$2.25 billion and there's \$2.65 billion in cash, that means your getting a business that had revenues of \$11.07 billion for only \$2.67 billion.

Nokia, like BlackBerry, has a valuable patent portfolio and has been working to monetize that portfolio. Nokia actually sued BlackBerry for patent infringement and received a one-time payment of \$65 million plus recurring royalty payments. Nokia is further aided in the patent wars with its 15 year patent licensing agreement with Qualcomm. It is estimated that out of Nokia's \$39.07 billion in revenue, \$600 million comes from patent royalty income. This makes Nokia's patent

portfolio worth more than BlackBerry's.

In terms of valuation, Nokia has \$13.13 billion in cash and debt of \$7.25 billion. That leaves \$5.88 billion plus an estimated \$4 billion for the patents and that gives you \$9.88 billion. At \$3.52 per share, Nokia has a market cap of \$13.06 billion, you're getting a company with \$39.07 billion in revenues for only \$3.18 billion.

In the end Apple's brand makes it probably the best long-term investment for investors. But at \$430 a share, it is a pricey

investment.

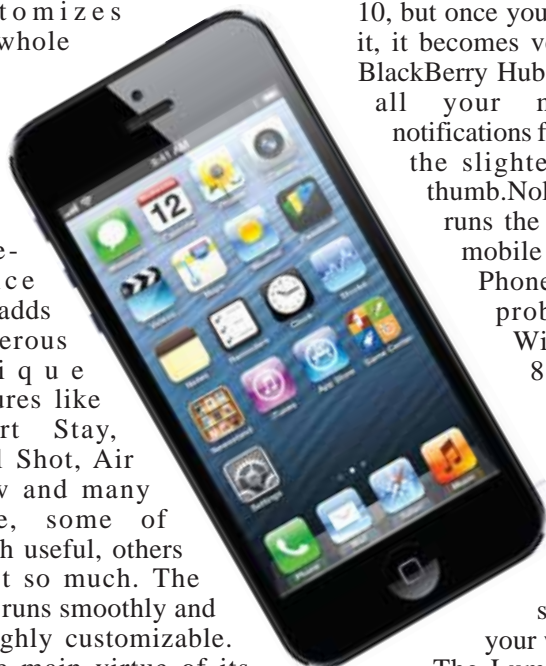
For investors that are looking to take more of a gamble, Nokia and BlackBerry present an attractive opportunity. Their stock performance will depend on who emerges and becomes the number three smartphone in the market. Right now BlackBerry and Nokia are battling it out with their new phones and a winner has yet to be declared.

I have held off for years buying a smart phone but last month took the plunge and I am very impressed with the Samsung Galaxy S4. I call it a phone but it is really a small powerful computer that is making my life easier to connect with friends and clients.

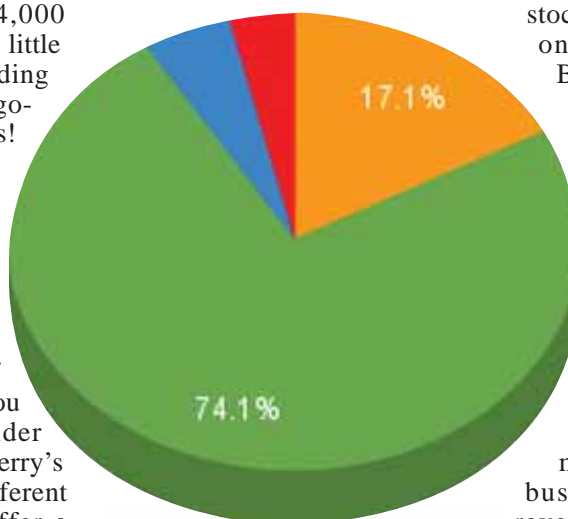
If you would like to discuss smartphones or investing in the space, feel free to give me a call, email or Skype.

I'm available anytime to discuss this article and an investment strategy.

Don Freeman is president of Freeman Capital Management, a Registered Investment Advisor with the US Securities Exchange Commission (SEC), based in Phuket, Thailand. He has over 15 years experience and provides personal financial planning and wealth management to expatriates. Specializing in UK and US pension transfers. Call 089-970-5795 or email: freemancapital@gmail.com.



Q2-2013 Global smart phone sales (roughly extrapolated)



■ iPhone  
■ Android  
■ Windows Phone  
■ BlackBerry

of credit for style.

Both smartphone's OSs are looking to take a chunk out of the Android and iOS market share, but both lack one key ingredient – and that is apps. BlackBerry 10 and Windows Phone 8 lack the incredible breadth and depth of the Android and iOS app catalogs and this is a big issue for the average smartphone owner.

Now for me, since I'm in the investment business, it's also important to look at each as a possible investment. Samsung is a little harder to invest in because it trades on the Korean Stock





## WHAT'S ON in Phuket

**Sep 28, 2013, 6pm-12am, Retro 70s & 80s night** Retro Night at Two Chefs Karon. Large buffet with old classics. The band will be playing old favorites from the 70s and 80s. Dress up "retro style" and get a chance to win a Two Chefs gift voucher of 5,000 baht. For more information, visit website [twochefs.com](http://twochefs.com), or just give us a call on 076-286479

**Sep 29, 2013, 6:30pm-11pm, Sunday Italian Buffet Dinner** Have a splendid Sunday with family and friends! Savor our special Italian buffet spread with a variety of choices of antipasti, salads, pastas and pizzas, and a wide range of irresistible desserts at our award winning Italian restaurant, La Trattoria. Priced at 1,090++ baht per person, with 50% off for children aged 6-12 years. For more information visit website [dusit.com](http://dusit.com) or contact on food and beverage team call 076-362999

**Oct 6, 2013, 8am-5pm, Superkids tennis junior cup #5**

This is the last tournament of the Superkids Tennis junior cup, which will be held on October 6. This is good for junior tennis ages from 8 to 18 years old. The winner will receive a trophy and there will be prizes for the runners-up. Top 3 in overall ranking from the 6 superkids series will be qualified for a trip for training with the Thai National coach in Bangkok. Interested juniors, please apply in person at the club until Oct 3. For more information visit website [thanyapura.co.th](http://thanyapura.co.th), or contact Mr. Virapol Cholvibul on 081-490 9814

**Oct 5-13, 2013, Phuket Vegetarian Festival.**

This festival is an annual event held during the ninth lunar



month of the Chinese calendar. Though the origins of the festival are unclear, it celebrates the Chinese community's belief that a strict diet of vegetables will purify mind and body and constitute merit-making. Sacred rituals are performed at all Chinese temples in Phuket. The processions from each temple show strict vegetarians, known as devotees, ostensibly possessed by gods, piercing their tongues, cheeks and other parts of the anatomy with sharp implements. The devotees apparently feel no pain and show no sign of real injury.

**Oct 17, 2013, 11:30am-2pm, Phuket International Women's Club at Cape Panwa Hotel.**

Another new and fascinating location for our October lunch: the historic Panwa House at the Cape Panwa Hotel. As usual, booking is required but all are welcome. Members: 500 baht; non members and guests: 650 baht. Register at [info@phuketiwcc.com](mailto:info@phuketiwcc.com) or contact

Carole Dux on 076-316711.

**Oct 21 - 26, 2013, 9:30am-4:30 pm, PYSC Phuket Youth Week & Sailing Regatta**

Phuket Youth Week offers young people the opportunity to learn to sail and hone crucial skills in the sport, including starting and finishing techniques, mark rounding, boat speed and general tactical skills essential to racing. Training will be offered through Topper Sail Phuket, RYA Training School and Thai National Coaches. The week will finish with a 2-day Regatta on October 25 and 26 with divisions for the Optimist, Topper, Topaz and Laser. We are also holding a beginners course on October 19 and 20. Limited places, so book now to confirm your place. For more information contact Katy Gooch on 085-215 9185

**Oct 24, 2013, 6-10:30pm, Wine List of the Year Thailand Awards 2013 – Bangkok.**

The Wine List of the Year Thailand

Awards is a National competition recognizing the efforts and expertise among the hotels, restaurants, cafes and wine bars in the development of wine culture in Thailand. The competition is open to all food and beverage establishments with wine lists. The online registration opens in May 2013 and culminates in the announcement of Thailand best wine list at the Awards ceremony in October. Contact directly to Jon Hyams on 080-4718713

**Oct 26, 2013, 8pm-11:30 pm, Margaritaville-Parrot Head Party at Underwood Art Factory.**

Support the Navy League's Phuket's Community Service Projects. 1,500 baht in advance, or 2,000 baht at the door. Call 087-266 7514 for reservations.

**Nov 5, 2013, 9am-4pm, PIWC presents The Melbourne Cup**

Once again the PIWC presents The Melbourne Cup, "The Race That Stops a Nation". A day of fun, fashions on the field and entertainment, featuring PJ Stanley. Tickets are 2,000 baht which includes all of this plus lunch and three drinks. Check out our Facebook Melbourne Cup page to see a list of sponsors and prizes. For more information contact Carole Dux on 085-782 1332

**Nov 13-16, 2013, 5am-6pm, Phuket International Sport Fishing Tournament 2013**

Registration will be on November 13 from 5pm onwards. Fishing days are November 13-16. Prize giving party on the 16<sup>th</sup>. For more information about the tournament, please see our website: [phuket-international-sportfishing-tournament.com](http://phuket-international-sportfishing-tournament.com) or contact Khun Uwe Schitteck on 076-282036 or email [uweschitteck@yahoo.com](mailto:uweschitteck@yahoo.com). This event is sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette*, PGTV and the nationally televised 'Phuket Today' show.

**THE SPONSORSHIP EXPERTS**  
[WWW.PAULPOOLE.CO.TH](http://WWW.PAULPOOLE.CO.TH)

## KHUN WOODY'S COMPUTER CLINIC

To celebrate the re-opening, re-furbishing and re-dedication of Sandwich Shoppe Patong, Khun Woody will emerge from quasi-retirement to put on a full Computer Clinic, Sunday morning, September 29, 10am to noon.

**Topics:** Windows 8.1 – the future of Windows and Microsoft and why Woody's next machine will be a MacBook Pro. (YIKES!) After a short informal presentation, we'll throw the floor open to any questions about anything at all. (XP? Internet? Roku? Kindle? Chromecast? Galaxy? iPhone 5s? Pirate software?)

It's a chance to pick up where the Computer Clinics left off more than a year ago. Drop by and meet many of the best and brightest computer geeks on the island. Bring your questions, comments and tales of woe. Together we just might come up with some answers.

Mark your calendar and get there early if you want a seat – 10am Sunday September 29 at the newly updated, still fabulous, Sandwich Shoppe Patong. One day only, so don't miss it.

*Sponsored by the Sandwich Shoppes and the Phuket Gazette.*

**Phuket today**  
Phuket Gazette

Phuket Today is a 30-minute lifestyle show about Phuket. The show features resorts, villas, restaurants, yachts, private aircraft, nightlife, sports, leisure activities and events. Produced by PGTV, the television arm of the Phuket Gazette, the show is designed to promote Phuket to tourists and the international community resident in Thailand.

**Catch the show at these times**

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# Let's get wet!



**Sony Xperia Z1** – 2.2GHz processor, 20.7 megapixels camera, 5 inch, full HD screen. We've seen it all. But this one you can take to a swimming pool for a ride to 7Eleven in a torrential rain. It can survive 30 minutes, 1.5m underwater.

You keep your gadgets locked up in a drawer waiting for the end of the monsoon? Right, water and electronics simply don't work together. Wrong! Just check out these toys. Most of them are splash proof, some of them 100 per cent water proof – perfect for a rainy season in Phuket.



**Olympus Tough TG-2** – Now that's a tough nut to crack. Even a whale crashing it deep in the cool ocean won't break it! The 12 Megapixels, F2.0-4.9, 25-100mm camera with image stabilization and built-in GPS is crash-proof to a force of 100kg, shockproof, freeze-proof to -10 C and waterproof to a depth of 15m.



**Logitech K310** – Never mind water. But imagine spilling coffee, juice or other sticky substances on your keyboard! Tragedy? Not anymore. K310 is 100 per cent washable meaning you can put it under running water or even completely submerge it, wash it and go straight back to updating your facebook, writing a novel... or whatever got your keyboard wet in the first place.



**Garmin Fenix** – It's not a smart watch, it's multitasking outdoor tool. GPS, altimeter, barometer, compass, thermometer and more. It will make sure you won't get lost in the rain as it can be submerged up to 50 meters under water.



**GoPro Hero 3** - A camera you can wear, in any conditions. With the included waterproof housing, you can take it diving, as deep as 60 meters. It takes full HD videos and depending on the edition (White, Silver or Black) it takes 5MP, 11MP or 12 MP pictures, respectively. GoPro is synonymous with modern sport and action photo and videography and a perfect excuse to get out of the house, despite the rainy weather.



# The secret life of the Lone Ranger



I SEE that they've made a new movie about the Lone Ranger. Everything I've read about it suggests that they've taken considerable liberties in portraying the original character, a major icon of my youth.

I first encountered the Lone Ranger in a comic book and radio series back in the late 1940s. He was the lone survivor of a group of Texas Rangers who had been massacred in an ambush. Subsequently he donned a mask and dedicated his life to bringing criminals to justice, aided by his faithful Indian companion Tonto and his magnificent white stallion Silver.

Each radio episode began with the William Tell Overture and ended with somebody asking, "Who was that masked man?" Somebody else would answer, "Why, that's the Lone Ranger," as the Lone Ranger rode off into the sunset uttering his signature cry, "Hi-yo, Silver! Awaay!"

My prepubescent friends and I

wondered what "hi-yo" meant. Tonto never got to utter such thrilling lines. He spoke broken English, always played second banana to the Lone Ranger, and rode a horse named Scout. All he ever got to say was "Gittum up, Scout!" As I grew up, I noticed some flaws in this scenario. In the comic book, the Lone Ranger always wore the same red shirt. Did he own only one shirt? If so, you never saw him wash it. He and Tonto must have got very sweaty, riding



The original Lone Ranger – Clayton Moore. Photo: Fay Foto

around in the desert heat. Yet they were always immaculately clean.

I imagined that the Ranger must have a secret support system – a hidden home on the range, with slaves to wash his laundry, clean him up, and give him an occasional neck rub. He probably had an entire wardrobe of red shirts. And he had to have somebody to mine the silver bullets he used.

When the movie "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" came out, the answer hit me. The seven dwarfs go off to work every morning singing, "Hi-ho, hi-ho, it's off to work we go!" And they work in a mine!

Of course! The Lone Ranger had stolen the dwarfs' theme song and adapted it into his signature cry. He had hired them to mine the silver and hired Snow White to boss the slaves. Perhaps she occasionally provided intimate personal services undreamed of by the legions of prepubescent boys who constituted the Ranger's fan base. I pictured him and Tonto riding to his secret hideaway in the evenings to wash up, kick back, and have a few beers while Snow White prepared dinner and the dwarfs provided comic entertainment.



The latest incarnation of the Lone Ranger is played by Armie Hammer alongside Johnny Depp as Tonto. Photo: The Jiff

Contrary to such blasphemous speculations, the real Lone Ranger was the original straight arrow. He didn't smoke, drink, or cuss. He never shot to kill, but always shot the gun out of the villain's hand. There were no romantic entanglements in his austere life. But I bet he could have used somebody like Snow White to mellow him out in the evenings.

Coming up in two weeks: Ye Olde Curmudgeon's review of the new movie version.

Ye Olde Curmudgeon can be flamed at [oldcurm@gmail.com](mailto:oldcurm@gmail.com) as soon as he gets his head out of his arse. That may take some time.



The original Lone Ranger and his sidekick Tonto. Photo: Lapoinsettia2



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# Pure, natural ingredients



**ANCIENT RECIPE:** Long ago, plants such as dandelions (left) and burdock (right) were used as flavoring agents in beer, nowadays hops are used. Photos: Roberto Verzo and Peter aka anemoneprojectors

THOUGH it is a 19<sup>th</sup> century Bavarian concept, there are plenty of beer gardens or *biergarten* around Phuket. Some

really are gardens in delightful sylvan settings under mature tamarind or flame trees. Think Nikita's in Rawai, or the row of hostelryes along the hilly road from Nai Harn to Rawai.

But I am more interested in a different kind of beer/ botanical nexus – namely the permanent link between the amber fluid and the vegetative world. As commercial brewers love to tell us, beer, and its cousin lager, are made entirely from natural ingredients. The basic one is of course water. Obvious enough, but in less hygienic times, beer was often safer to drink than water, because the process of fermentation had already destroyed harmful organisms. There's a ready-made excuse for you!

But before water comes into the equation, the basic ingredient, usually a cereal, either barley or wheat, is malted – that is to say the grain is germinated by soaking it in water, a process which modifies the grains starches into sugars. This process takes about six weeks; the grains are then placed in a kettle

wort, is then drained off and hops are added both to impart that special bitter taste and to act as a preservative.

Yeast, which digests sugar, is then added to the mix, which is left to ferment. Over a period of weeks, the yeast converts the sugar into ethanol (a form of alcohol) and during the process gives off carbon dioxide which adds natural bubbles to the final product.

When the yeast ferments at higher temperatures and stays at the surface, it produces a beer; when it ferments more slowly and at lower temperatures, it usually ends up as lager. Most bottled beers in your local Phuket bar – Leo, Chang, Singha and Tiger as well as imported

or copper and are mixed with hot water, creating a steamy mash, a mushy, oatmeal-like concoction. The sugary liquid, called

Carlsberg and Heineken – are in fact bottom-fermented lagers

In the Middle Ages, and before the use of hops as a preservative was introduced, local brews, which probably lacked bite and were prone to go off, were known as ale.

Plants were added to give the drink a bit more character: first burdock, dandelion, marigold, heather or even ivy, and then and definitively, hops. In fact, it became common practice to plant fields of barley conveniently next to hop gardens.

Hops are interesting. Their sticky green female flowers have no other commercial use except for flavoring beer. The bitterness of these cone-like flowers not only counteracts the sweetness of the malt, but, depending on the variety, also adds subtle fragrances of citrus, grass,

spice, pine or flowers. Botanically speaking, hops are climbing herbaceous perennials. In my native Worcestershire, where hops grew

in yards or gardens, they cling on to strings hanging from sturdy wooden frames. Oddly one of their closest relatives is the cannabis plant, but there is no evidence that hops, *per se*, have any hallucinogenic properties. It's the ethyl alcohol that gives you the fix.

Hops are dried before use, which means they can be used world-wide, even in countries such as Thailand which is unsuitable for hop cultivation. In fact, Germany, which produces hops high in aromatics and low in bitterness, is by far the largest grower, though countries such as the USA (cascade) and the UK (fuggles) tend to use their own pet cultivars.

You may think that is the end of the story of pure natural ingredients. Barley, malt, hops, yeast, yes they are all natural products. But the resurgence in interest in small boutique breweries and cask-conditioned ale has meant a return to oak casks, which can add still further as with wine, sherry or whisky, to the complexity of your tippie. Savor, don't glug...

If you have a question or a garden that you would like featured you can email me anytime at: [drpaccampbell@gmail.com](mailto:drpaccampbell@gmail.com)



## Gardening

By Patrick Campbell



**Barley is the main ingredient of beer.** Photo: Lucash



**Hops are cultivated for their ability to give beer its distinct bitter flavor, the flowers of the plant are dried and added during the brewing process.** Photo: Hagen Graebner

## Tip of the week

### Trees: When they have to go

I AM a great believer in keeping a tree whenever possible. Sadly, there are some garden situations when action has to be taken and your only choice is to remove it. First, where one has been put too close to a building or wall or where its roots will damage paved areas.

Second, where a dead or dying tree could spread disease to other trees or shrubs. Third, where young trees were planted too close together, resulting in over-



**Dead trees may spread disease to nearby plants.** Photo: Ian Yarham

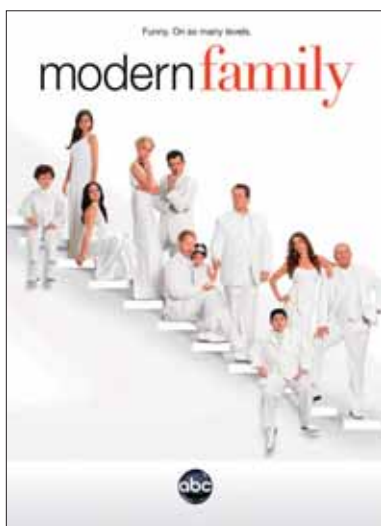
crowding. Fourth, where your view is blocked or obstructed by trees that are just too big. Fifth, where the shade is too dense to allow grass or other shrubs to co-exist underneath.

Trees grow much faster here than in temperate zones, and often exceed the height given in gardening books. Where possible go for evergreen trees (most are in the tropics) that will not outgrow their situation, or require constant removal of leaves.



# Emmys – TV at its best

Forget the Oscars – it's the Emmys Awards that reveal what's really hot in the show business and what will keep you on the edge of your sofa (or rolling with laughter on the carpet) for the foreseeable future. Here are some of this year's winners, the television shows you simply have to see. Warning, most are addictive.



## MODERN FAMILY

*Best comedy; Best directing, comedy: Gail Mancuso.*

A documentary style comedy presenting the story of three families, all different yet all related. There are some culture clashes, a few misunderstandings, but also plenty of sweet victories along the way. "Every actor is fantastic, every family is interesting, and unlike many shows, there isn't a weak link," exclaimed *BuddyTV*.



## BREAKING BAD

*Best drama; Best supporting actress, drama: Anna Gunn.*

What would you do if you had nothing to lose? Walter White (Bryan Cranston), chemistry teacher diagnosed with cancer decided to cook and sell the world's purest crystal meth and with the help of his ex-student, he becomes a major player in the drug underworld. Called "one of television's finest dramatic accomplishments," by critics.



## HOUSE OF CARDS

*Best directing - David Fincher.*

Congressman Frank Underwood (Kevin Spacey) is ambitious and ready for anything to move his political career to the next level. Lies, betrayal, revenge, in other words, politics at its dirtiest. The series has been praised by critics both for the level of acting and directing. *People Weekly* described the first episodes as "cinematically rich, full of sleek, oily pools of darkness."



## BEHIND THE CANDELABRA

*Best miniseries; best director, miniseries: Steven Soderbergh; best lead actor, miniseries or movie: Michael Douglas.*

A romantic relationship between an entertainment giant, American pianist Liberace and a much younger, bisexual man, Scott Thorson is not a pretty one but never a boring one either. "Very stylish and effective, and Damon and Douglas give supremely entertaining performances," said *The Guardian*.



17.6 million people watched the 65<sup>th</sup> Emmy Awards gala on CBS last Sunday, four million more than in the previous year. Photo: itupictures



## THE BIG C – HEREAFTER

*Best Lead Actress, miniseries – Laura Linney.*

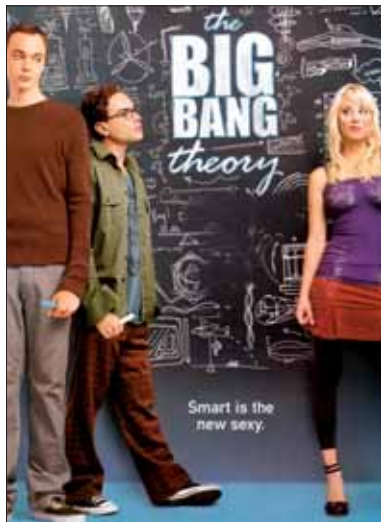
If *Breaking Bad* pictures a man gone bad in the face of cancer, for *Big C*'s Cathy Jamison, a suburban mom and wife, the disease opens a door to new ways to express herself. She begins to live a real life for the first time in her adult life. "Scalpel-sharp writing and even keener performances" make it worthwhile according to *the Washington Post*.



## HOMELAND

*Best lead actress, drama: Claire Danes; Best writing, drama: Henry Bromell.*

CIA's Carrie Mathison is the only one who suspects that a Marine war hero Nicolas Brody has been turned and is working with terrorists. This nerve wrecking drama was praised by *TV Guide*, *The Washington Post* and *Entertainment Weekly* critics...as well as president Barack Obama who is a fan of the show.



## BIG BANG THEORY

*Best lead actor, comedy: Jim Parsons; Best guest actor, comedy: Bob Newhart*

A TV series about a bunch of friends who like...TV series. And comic books, computer games, *Star Trek* and *Star Wars*. In other words, geeks. Oh, and they are acclaimed scientists too. "More intelligent than most sitcoms in recent memory," said *IGN* and the show scored 91/100 in the *Entertainment Weekly*

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# A walk in the (bird) park

By Maciek Klimowicz

I'M BY no means a bird aficionado. Sure, I enjoy the chirping of birds in the morning and I was pretty stunned to see a tiny little, humming-bird-sized sun-bird feeding on some flowers in front of my house the other day but you won't find me crawling through a bush with a pair of binoculars in search of a Great-billed Heron or a Red-crested Pochard. Still, I welcomed an invitation to the recently opened Phuket Bird Park, if not for the birds then...for the walking.

Yes, walking. If there's one thing I miss in Thailand, that's it. I used to walk everywhere, to the shop, to the office, to visit my friends. But not here. The lack of sidewalks, the scorching sun, the insane drivers racing on Phuket's roads make walking next to impossible. So I don't. Remember how Forrest Gump used to run whenever he walked? Well, wherever I walk, I drive. If your experience is similar, Phuket Bird Park is here to help. Its 12 acres of lush green space is filled with curvy walkways waiting for you to wander around, inhale the overabundance of oxygen and soak in the symphony of birdsong.

To be precise, there are 1,000 birds from 80 different species and 60 per cent of them are local Asian and Thai species. You can watch them in their cages, read brief information about each species (sadly, only in Thai) and for an extra fee, take a picture with some of the birds including parrots, horn-bills or eagles. There's also a cafe selling snacks and refreshments and if you feel like feeding not only yourself but also the birds, you can buy a package of special bird feed. You probably won't find any hungry birds here though, as 1,200 baht a day is spent to provide the residents of the park with fresh fruits like banana and guava and some pork and chicken for the carnivores but a greedy bird waiting for an extra helping shouldn't be too hard to come by.

The park currently employs about 40 people, including office staff, a university educated veterinarian and several trainers responsible for the bird show. Yes, a bird show. If gazing at and taking pictures with the uber-colorful parrots and mighty horn bills isn't enough, there's the three-times-a-day show which demonstrates the skills of the

birds (or their trainers). Just take a seat in the spacy amphitheater and prepare to be amazed. Because if parrots racing bicycles to the tune of Star Wars' Imperial March or an eagle diving for spectators' baseball cap accompanied by the Indiana Jones theme song isn't amazing, then I don't know what is.

Tickets are 500 per adult and 300 baht per kid. And kids will love it... and maybe not only them. In the evening on the day



Great Hornbill – one of 80 species of birds in the park. Photo: Maciek Klimowicz

I visited the park, I found myself getting sucked into the internet resources on Thailand's bird species (almost one thou-

sand of them!) and bird watching activities in and around Phuket. I might be getting that pair of binoculars after all.



Bird Park guests have a chance to get closer with the birds. Photo: Maciek Klimowicz



There's plenty of space in the park's amphitheatre. Photo: Maciek Klimowicz

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For an extra fee you can take a picture with some of the birds in the park. Photo: Maciek Klimowicz



# Myanmar's Saffron Revolution

## Why forgiving shouldn't mean forgetting

By Nyeinchan Win  
and Thet Mon Htun

FOR the people of Myanmar, September 2007 was one of the most difficult periods in their history under military dictatorship. Defying the generals under whose rule they had suffered for more than two decades, they came out on to the streets and the scent of revolution and uprising was once again in the air. Tragically, in the space of a few days, it was all over.

Without a doubt, many innocent people – from students and monks to ordinary citizens – gave up their blood and their lives that month in a pro-democracy uprising that was, as in 1988, brutally crushed by Tatmadaw forces. Although the movement was short-lived, it has burned into the collective consciousness as the Saffron Revolution.

Recently, a commemoration ceremony marking the sixth anniversary of the Saffron Revolution was held at Thardu Monastery in Yangon. Aside from remembering those who died, the ceremony mainly focused on the prevention of religious and racial violence, the regaining of internal peace, national reconciliation and the full expression of fundamental democratic human rights.

September 18 is not only the sixth anniversary of the Saffron Revolution but also the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the military coup that established the State Law and Order Restoration Council, or SLORC, later renamed the State Peace and Development Council (SPDC) until its dissolution following the 2010 election.

Those elections marked the end of nearly half a century of military dictatorships, a dark period in the country's history that began in 1962 when General Ne Win launched a military coup and took over the country. Since 2010, the country has reopened its doors to the world and is working together with the international community to usher in a new era of democratic governance under the quasi-civilian administration of President Thein Sein.

Like never before and as demonstrated during last month's anniversary events for 8-8-88, Myanmar people can now freely use such public commemoration events to celebrate the will to live in a democracy. Those ceremonies were held with the purpose of not forgetting what happened in the past, but of learning to forgive; of abandoning the hatred and letting go of resentment for how the military regime responded.

The Saffron Revolution of September 2007 was the last democracy uprising Myanmar has seen. It was not an ordinary uprising, in that it was led by Buddhist monks who could not stand to see the public suffer any further from the skyrocketing



Buddhist monks protest during Myanmar's pro-democracy Saffron Revolution in 2007. Photo: Racoles

costs of fuel and daily consumer goods, but it was deadly: although no official number was ever released, approximately 100 people, including monks and students, were killed. Another casualty was Japanese photojournalist Kenji Nagai, who was shot dead at point-blank range near Sule Pagoda, in downtown Yangon.

The Saffron Revolution was sparked by a public, violent attack on two young Buddhist monks by soldiers in Pakkoku Township in early September 2007. Due to increased fuel and commodity prices, monks in Pakkoku had taken to the streets of the town for prayers and chants of metta (loving kindness). The two young monks, who had participated in the activity, were tied to a light pole with rope and beaten by the soldiers.

For that action, monks from the entire country demanded an apology from the SPDC government. When the government failed to respond, monks in Yangon began reciting prayers for the people suffering. Their mantra was simple: "May all be in peace and good health". The movement then spread to other towns like Mandalay and Sagaing.

In the later days of the revolution, a variety of people from different classes including university students, writers, social activists, and even some movie stars supported the movement.

"Because of high fuel prices, there weren't enough school buses to provide the university students' transportation, and that only inspired students to participate in the revolution. Travel costs were unaffordable with our



Aung San Suu Kyi is a key pro-democracy figure in Myanmar. Photo: Htoo Tay Zar

pocket money," recalls D Nyein Lynn, a student leader during the Saffron Revolution.

About 20 university students were arrested and sentenced to at least six years in prison for their contributions to the revolution, according to D Nyein Lynn.

The SPDC government's brutal crackdown on the Saffron Revolution badly tarnished the national image of Myanmar in the eyes of the international community. The army had violated Buddhist principles by attacking monks who had been demonstrating peacefully. The SPDC began its aggressive crushing of the movement on September 26 when it started rounding up participants, monks included, in the dead of night.

A significant violation was the invasion of the Buddhist monastery Ngwe Kyar Yan. In a midnight raid on the Yangon monastery, soldiers beat and arrested several monks. In the morning, pools of blood told the story. Monks from Ngwe Kyar Yan were, in fact, leading the revolution.

"In my opinion, bad experiences of a country should not be forgotten, but they must be forgiven if the nation is to have a better future," says Buddhist monk Shin Agga Dhamma, one of the leaders during the Saffron Revolution. Shin Agga, who was arrested and spent four years and three months in jail for his participation in the events, says that national reconciliation depends on the willingness of all Myanmar citizens to cooperate in trust-building exercises such as events like the recent commemorations.

Shin Agga says he has begun to see changes under this civilian government. He hopes that a move toward more trans-

parency between the government and the people will produce a more democratic nation in the future. And he believes that the spirit behind the commemoration events will help build the country's peace and unity. Former movie star Kyaw Thu has a similar view. Kyaw Thu, who supported the monks during the

Saffron Revolution by offering them meals, points out that there have been so many significant events that Myanmar could hold memorial days all year long to commemorate the pro-democracy movement. The point, he says, is to learn from these events and move on.

"To move forward, we need to work together in a spirit of mercy and mutual understanding," he says.

Kyaw Thu adds that changing a political system cannot be a one-sided, either-or process. "This means we need to change our ways of thinking about the meaning of dialogue," he says.

"Dialogue between the government and the opposition parties or ethnic armed groups is not just about building trust and reconciliation. It's also to produce a strong foundation for the nation to move forward."

Three or four soldiers who participated in the 2007 events and continue to serve in the army spoke to Eleven Myanmar with great reluctance and on condition of anonymity. Without exception, each recalled feeling sadness and fear at the prospect of confronting the monks, Buddhists like themselves, with force. All insisted that they followed orders on fear of grave punishment not only to themselves but also to their family and friends. Meanwhile, there has been no word from the key government players.

An attempt to contact the chief minister of the Yangon Region government, Myint Swe, who was the SPDC's commander for Yangon Region during the Saffron Revolution produced no fruit. His deputy director, Aung Kyaw Soe, would only say that the chief minister could not comment.

Even today, the public record continues to lack the perspective of key government actors in the Saffron Revolution. Inquiring minds want to know what they think of these past events. But more importantly, the public deserves to know their thoughts on how to solve political differences and cooperate with monks, students and all citizens for the sake of national reconciliation and a better future.

– *The Nation*

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# The spirits that guard the city

By Anand Singh

WHEN building towns and cities, ancient Thais adhered to several deeply rooted practices for hundreds of years. One such belief is the construction of shrines that would house the “city pillars”. Thais believed that the city pillars would be the resting place of spirits that would guard their city from natural disasters, diseases, enemies and any other malevolence that could befall them. City pillars are usually made out of the strongest wood available.

Phuket has four city pillar shrines in different locations on the island. The first one, called “Sarn-Lak Muang Mai”, or the new city pillar shrine, was built in the year 1809, during the reign of King Rama III. Today, this shrine is located in Baan-Muang-Mai near Thepkasattri Road. The pillar that can be seen today however, is a new pillar installed in 1985, to commemorate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the battle of Thalang and the heroic deeds of Lady Chan and Khun Mook. This shrine faces towards the west.

The second city pillar shrine in Phuket is located in the old seaside village of Baan Tha Rua. At this shrine, visitors will find a small boat with a single oar. Legend has it that a long time ago, the spirit that resided in this city pillar once visited the dream of a local villager and asked for a boat so that she will be able to travel the nearby canals and sea as she pleases. After that,

the villagers of Baan Tha Rua constructed a small boat and offered it to the guardian spirit at the shrine. The Baan Tha Rua city pillar shrine faces towards the east, out to sea.

The third city pillar shrine in Phuket is located in Wat Rang Pa Sak temple, on the Cherg Talay-Baan Don Road in Thalang district. Near the entrance to the temple, visitors will find this city pillar shrine. This particular shrine faces north and it is said that in the old days, the location of this shrine was infamous for the number of dangerous animals that lived in the nearby surroundings.

The fourth city pillar shrine in Phuket is situated near the

Banyan Tree Resort near Le-Pang beach in Cherg Talay. This shrine is surrounded by a beautiful garden. The guardian spirit of this shrine is often referred to as “Chao-Mae Kesinee” and is revered by the locals.

Judging from their locations and the directions they face, the four city pillar shrines in Phuket were likely constructed to protect Thalang, the main town center of Phuket Island in the old days. Although there is good motive for the construction of city pillars, there is an ancient and sinister tradition that has been practiced for hundreds of years when raising city pillars. According to ancient Thai superstition, the

construction of a city pillar requires a human being to be buried under the wooden pillar when it is erected. The ancients believed that the spirit of the sacrificed person will stay on and live inside the city pillar, guarding the ruler of the city and its people against disasters, diseases and foreign enemies.

The ritual is known to have been practiced in the past. According to historical sources, the victim who is to be sacrificed must have certain auspicious names given to them at birth. During the auspicious hour, priests will travel around the villages yelling these auspicious names out loud. Whoever responded to the names being called was seized.

The date and time for erecting the city pillar was chosen carefully by



The Thalang Pasak City Pillar Shrine in Cherg Talay



This city pillar shrine near Banyan Tree resort has a plaque saying that a virgin was sacrificed and her spirit now guards the city. Photo: Steven Layne



Many locals pray and make offerings to the guardian spirits that are believed to reside in the pillars. Photo: S Layne



The hundreds of used incense sticks, candles and figurines at the Thalang Pasak City Pillar Shrine are testament to the ongoing role it plays in the spiritual lives of Phuket residents. Photo: Mark Knowles

astrologers. Prior to erecting the city pillar, the “chosen ones” were treated to the finest food and pampering. At the site of the city pillar, a deep hole was dug and a large piece of fine wood was hung just above it. On the chosen day when the pillar was ready to be put in its place, crowds were invited to witness the event along with the King, prince or governor and all their high ranking officials. As the fateful hour approached, the ruler of the city called upon the human sacrifices to guard the city in their death.

They were then pushed into the hole. After that the ropes restraining the city pillar was cut, letting the heavy piece of wood fall into its final resting place and in doing so, crushing and burying alive the unfortunate victim along with it.

Much of the accounts about the tradition of burying humans alive beneath city pillars have simply been passed down through the generations. Not much has been written down and few historical evidence related to the ritual have been found. For this reason, historians cannot be sure about the extent to which these rituals were actually practiced, or if humans were really sacrificed at all.

According to local legend in Phuket, when Thao Thepkasattri (Lady Chan) passed away, the governor of Thalang decided to rebuild the town in 1809, which he named “Baan Muang Mai”,

or the ‘New Town’. According to the stories, he made preparations to erect a new city pillar. He invited 32 monks to chant prayers for seven days and seven nights, after which he commissioned one of the town administrators to go into the villages and call out the chosen names that will lead them to find a human sacrifice to be

buried with the city pillar and forever be made to guard Thalang Town. From here on the line between fact and fiction becomes increasingly blurred. According to legend, a young girl who at that time was eight months pregnant, returned the call of her name and was immediately seized. She was later buried alive with the city pillar in Baan Muang Mai.

Perhaps the only way to separate legend from historical fact may be to excavate the site where the city pillars sit, but for some who truly believe in the story, that would only disturb the benevolent spirits that have been guarding Thalang Town for generations since.



The pillars themselves are wrapped in colorful cloth and surrounded by offerings. Photo: Mark Knowles



# This week in history

## SEPTEMBER 28

- 1066 The Norman conquest of England begun.
- 1791 France became the first European country to emancipate the Jews.
- 1924 First round-the-world flight was completed.
- 1928 The UK Parliament passed the Dangerous Drugs Act outlawing cannabis.
- 1928 Penicillin was discovered.
- 1971 United Kingdom banned the medicinal use of cannabis.
- 2008 SpaceX launched the first private spacecraft, the Falcon 1 into orbit.
- 1994 The car ferry MS Estonia sunk in Baltic Sea, killing 852 people.



MAFALDA 1964 Photo: LVVY

## SEPTEMBER 29

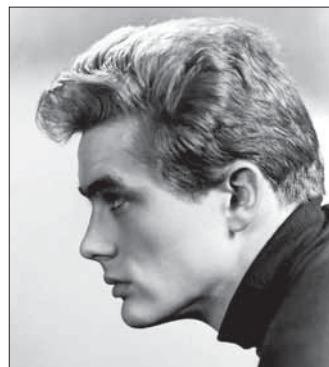
- 1789 First regular US army was established.
- 1911 Italy declared war on the Ottoman Empire.
- 1962 Alouette 1, the first Canadian satellite, was launched.
- 1964 First Argentinian comic strip Mafalda was published.



BANNED 1971 Photo: Laurie Avocado

## SEPTEMBER 30

- 1791 The first performance of The Magic Flute, the last opera by Mozart.
- 1938 The League of Nations outlawed bombings of civilian populations.
- 1955 James Dean died in a road accident at the age of 24.
- 1968 The Boeing 747 was shown to the public for the first time.
- 1994 Aldwych station of the London Underground closed after 88 years.
- 2004 The first images of a live giant squid in its natural habitat were taken.



LEGEND 1955 Photo: erjk prunczyk

## OCTOBER 1

- 1928 The Soviet Union introduced its first Five-Year Plan.
- 1946 Nazi leaders were sentenced at the Nuremberg Trials.
- 1949 The People's Republic of China was established by Mao Zedong.
- 1957 First appearance of In God We Trust on US paper currency.
- 1958 NASA was created to replace NACA.
- 1969 Concorde broke the sound barrier for the first time.
- 1992 Cartoon Network begun broadcasting.



SPACE 2008 Photo: NASA

## OCTOBER 2

- 1925 The first test of a working television system.
- 1928 Opus Dei was founded by Saint Josemaría Escrivá.
- 1944 German troops ended the Warsaw Uprising.
- 1950 Peanuts by Charles M. Schulz was first published.
- 2001 NATO backed US military strikes following 9/11.



PEANUTS 1950 Photo: Roger Higgins

## OCTOBER 3

- 1778 British Captain James Cook anchored in Alaska.
- 1789 The first Thanksgiving Day.
- 1932 Iraq gained independence from the United Kingdom.
- 1952 The UK became the world's third nuclear power.
- 1985 The Space Shuttle Atlantis made its maiden flight.



EXPLORERS 1958

## OCTOBER 4

- 1535 The first complete English-language Bible was printed.
- 1824 Mexico adopted a new constitution and became a federal republic.
- 1830 The Kingdom of Belgium was created after separation from the Netherlands.
- 1883 First run of the Orient Express.
- 1957 Sputnik I, the first artificial satellite to orbit the Earth was launched.
- 1963 Hurricane Flora killed 6,000 in Cuba and Haiti.

# Hurry up and win!

## 40+ beauty contest

THAILAND'S fabulous 40+ photo contest is looking for ladies: fit, fabulous and 40+. The Tourism Authority of Thailand contest is an opportunity for women over 40 to show off their health and beauty and win a prize-packed three-day Find Your Fabulous holiday in Bangkok. The contest invites women from around the world to submit images showing off their fabulous form. To participate, become a fan of ThailandMedTourism on Facebook and the Find Your Fabulous campaign, submit your photos — with your name, age range (40+, 45+, 50+), current location, and a photo description. The picture with the most "likes" wins, followed by the first and second runners-up.

In addition to a full medical checkup, dermatology treatments, and a spa package, the grand prize also includes two roundtrip air tickets and a deluxe two-night stay at the stylish 5-star Sofitel So Bangkok, with daily breakfast. The first runner-up will receive the health and wellness packages for two as well as accommodation, while the second runner-up will receive the health and wellness packages for herself and a friend. All the awards — three awards for two persons each — bring the total value of the prizes to over US\$30,000.

The submission deadline is September 30, the winners will be announced on Facebook on October 3.

For more information, please visit [facebook.com/thailandmedtourismfanpage](https://facebook.com/thailandmedtourismfanpage)

## Book making contest

FOR a chance to help children with learning disabilities and to win 150,000 baht take part in the bookmaking contest "LD Kids year 2".

The goal of the contest is to improve reading skills and knowledge retention of children with learning disabilities, as to help them at school.

Books for the contest — both in physical and electronic form, can be submitted until September 30. The winners will be announced 15 days later.

For more information visit [happyreading.in.th](http://happyreading.in.th) or [motherandcare.in.th](http://motherandcare.in.th) or contact 02-241-8000 ext 321.

JUST LIKE HOME...

Sandwich Shoppe

...BUT WITH STAY-ALL-DAY COZY CHAIRS







The Phuket Vegetarian Festival is probably best known for the gruesome displays of ritual piercing performed by possessed Ma-song. Photos: Dean Noble

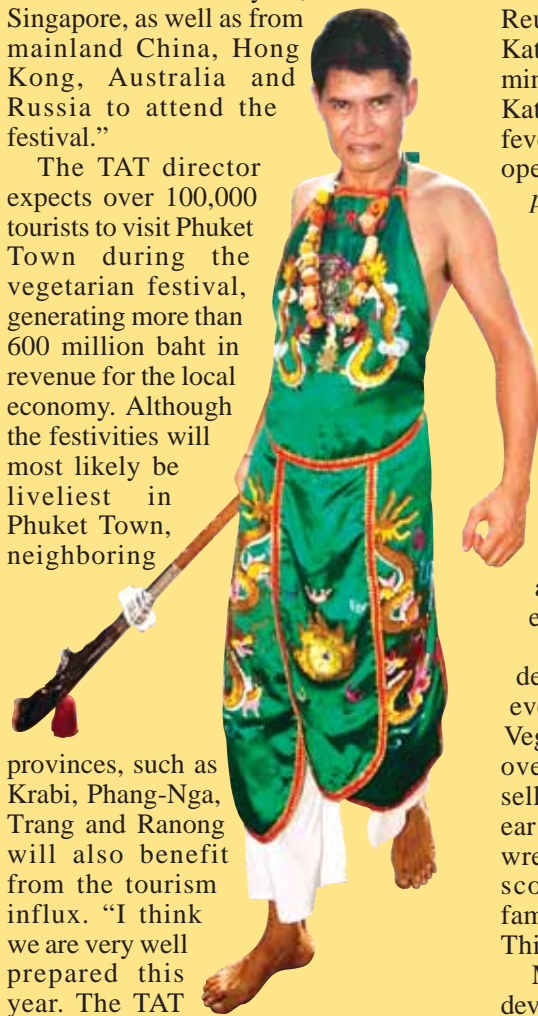
# Phuket Vegetarian Festival

By Anand Singh

FINAL preparations are underway as the annual Phuket Vegetarian Festival draws closer. This year the festival will start on October 5. According to tradition, it will continue for nine days and draw to a close on October 13.

Director of the Tourism Authority of Thailand Phuket Office, Mr Chanchai Doungjit said: "This year we expect an influx of tourists from neighboring countries like Malaysia, Singapore, as well as from mainland China, Hong Kong, Australia and Russia to attend the festival."

The TAT director expects over 100,000 tourists to visit Phuket Town during the vegetarian festival, generating more than 600 million baht in revenue for the local economy. Although the festivities will most likely be liveliest in Phuket Town, neighboring



provinces, such as Krabi, Phang-Nga, Trang and Ranong will also benefit from the tourism influx. "I think we are very well prepared this year. The TAT has worked really hard to promote the event within the country and abroad, several months in advance," Mr Chanchai said.

"Different government organizations, such as the Phuket City Municipality and the provincial police will also work together to ensure the safety of all participants. Although there is no definite budget that we set each year for the Phuket Vegetarian Festival, all relevant government organizations will combine their

efforts to ensure food hygiene and crowd safety. The provincial police will also be vigilant against illegal fireworks,

"Over 20 Chinese temples will be involved in the festival this year. And the TAT has a guide book for this festival which includes full details of the events, which you can get at the TAT office in Phuket Town," he added.

Phuket Vegetarian Festival, or "jia chai" in local Hokkien Chinese, began in 1825, when the governor of Thalang, Praya Jerm, moved the island's principal town from Ta Reua in Thalang District to Get-Hoe in Kathu District, where there was many tin mines and Chinese miners working them. Kathu was then still covered by jungle and fever was rife. It happened that a traveling opera company (called *ngiu* in Thai or *pua-hee* in Hokkien dialect) came from China to perform for the miners.

When the whole company grew sick from an unnamed malady, they kept to a vegetarian diet to honor two of the emperor gods *Kiew Ong Tai Teh* and *Yok Ong Sone Teh*. The sickness afflicting the opera troupe then disappeared. This greatly interested the people of Kathu, who asked how it was done. The answer came that ritual vegetarianism with its attendant ceremonies had been the remedy, and as a result, people embraced the faith enthusiastically.

Over the years, the simple practice of devotion grew into a vibrant festival held every year in Phuket. Today the Phuket Vegetarian Festival draws visitors from all over the world. The multitude of stalls selling vegan food, the lively parades, the ear shattering fireworks, as well as the gut wrenching self-mutilation performed by scores of possessed Ma-song are all familiar sights of the vegetarian festival. This year will most likely be no different.

Ma Song, or entranced horses, are devotees whom the gods enter during the fest. They manifest supernatural powers and perform self-torture in order to shift evil from individuals onto themselves, and to bring the community good luck. Ma Song fall into two categories: those who, having had an intimation of impending doom, want to extend their lives; and people specially chosen by the gods for their moral qualities.

Throughout the festival, fireworks and drums are sounded, especially during ceremonies. It is believed that the louder they are the better, because the noise

drives away evil spirits.

Participants in the festival keep to a strict vegan diet for a varying number of days, usually no less than three. This they do to make themselves strong in mind and body; they refrain from all vice, eating animal flesh, and killing animals. The festival thus promotes good hygiene, brightness and inner peace.

Additional reporting by K Pramprasert

For more on the Vegetarian Festival see PGTV's *Phuket Today* this week, broadcast locally on PC, RC and KDTV cable networks, nationally on TrueVisions 85 and 59, GMMZ and PSI, and internationally to over 100 countries around the region. For full schedule see page 35



NO PAIN NO GAIN: Participants believe that piercing their bodies is an act of penitence to the gods for eating meat throughout the rest of the year. Photo: Dean Noble

## 10 Rules for the vegetarian festival

1. Maintain clean bodies during the festival.
2. Clean kitchen utensils and use them separately from others who do not participate in the festival.
3. Wear white during the festival.
4. Behave physically and mentally.
5. Do not eat meat or other animal-based products.
6. Abstain from sexual activities.
7. Do not consume alcoholic beverages.
8. People in a mourning state should not partake in the festival.
9. Pregnant ladies should not watch any of the rituals.
10. Ladies having their period should not attend the ritual.

## Schedule for street processions of Chinese Shrines

Mon	October 07, 2013	Sapam Shrine
Tue	October 08, 2013	Samkong Shrine
Wed	October 09, 2013	Ban Tha Rve Shrine
Thu	October 10, 2013	Bang Neow Shrine
		Cherng Thalay Shrine
Fri	October 11, 2013	Jui Tui Shrine
Sat	October 12, 2013	Kathu Shrine
		Yokkekeng Shrine
Sun	October 13, 2013	Sui Boon Tong Shrine



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Phuket Gazette

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#### PHUKET CABLE COMPANY

3 times a day on channel 1

#### RAWAI CABLE

5 times a day on channels 1 and 43

#### KDTV

3 times a day on channel 1

Broadcasting to Kamala, Kalim, Patong, Surin and Bangtao

### BROADCAST AROUND ASIA

#### THAICOM 5 C-BAND

Daily on channel 88

#### THAICOM 5 SAT 3520H

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8	4						7	5
		5				3		
		1	4		5	6		

**SUDOKU:** Each row, column and 3x3 sub-grid must contain the number 1-9 once only. Kevin Stone (brainbashers.com)

9								2
		3	2		9	7		
	7		3		8		4	
	2	7				1	8	
	4	1				5	9	
	8		7		1		3	
		5	4		2	8		
7								6

**Your weekly pith:**

“Behind every successful man is a surprised woman.”  
– Maryon Pearson

“Everybody repeat after me, we are all individuals.”  
– Unknown

This quote was taken from Ian Hewitt's book  
‘QUOTES for PROSPERITY’

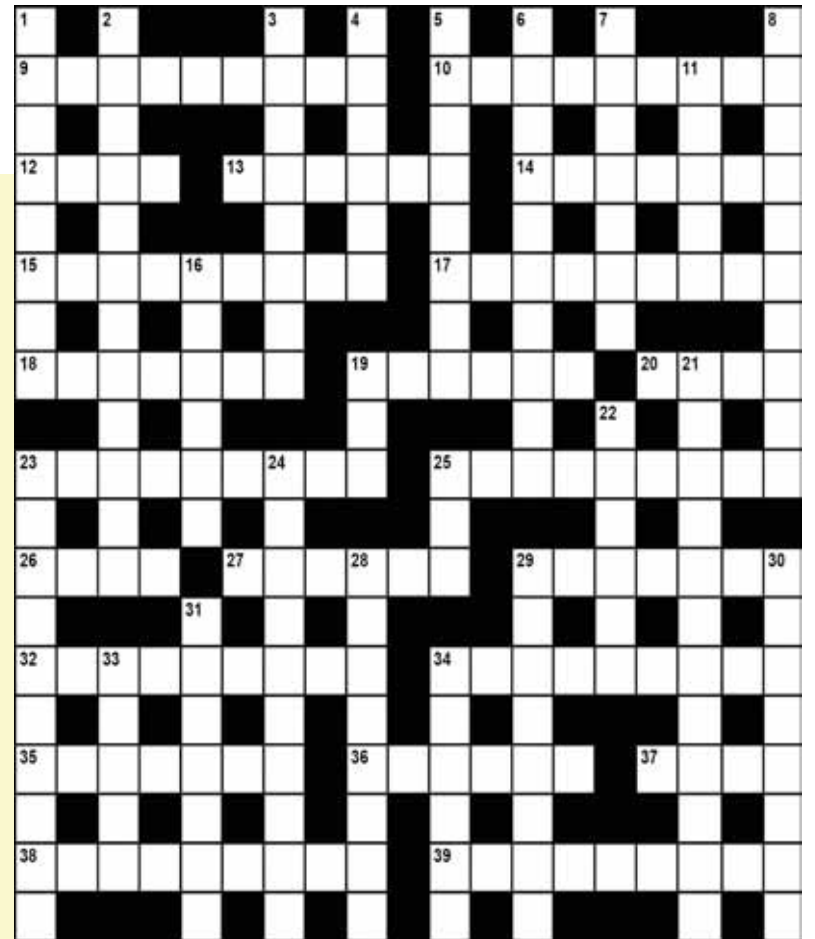
## COFFEE break

**Across:**

9. Of course, I could be very fierce (9)
10. Adjudicate it, barter a settlement (9)
12. Singular round house in part of London or New York (4)
13. Were of the same mind, a rapacity (6)
14. Detains the trainees (7)
15. Idiot, first worker is a helper (9)
17. An ideal do arranged for one with a throat problem (9)
18. Surprisingly mature outright mistake in writing (7)
19. Local furniture material could be tartan! (6)
20. Return short traditional light javelin (4)
23. Possibly boots harm the lavatories (9)
25. Put forward now, editor (9)
26. Right, I'd echo, get on your bike! (4)
27. Standing in the street a time ourselves (6)
29. Aha! Rain troubled a Phuket beach (3,4)
32. Having no hope inspired a breakdown (2,7)
34. Unconventional Election Commission based on the center (9)
35. Ingratiated oneself, do a diet circumspectly (7)
36. Means come in openly (6)
37. Issue in time out (4)
38. Hears about real practice (9)
39. Carry out little Diana's load (9)

**Down:**

1. Behind the scenes staff go out East (3,5)
2. Arranged to trade torches perhaps (12)
3. More rang about a hotel in



- Thailand (8)
4. Leave as dispatched (6)
5. And chart out a basic means of conveyance (4,4)
6. Obscure Old Boy, scholarly (10)
7. It's at no different position (7)
8. Made of blocks untidily set, lasted out East (10)
11. Dear, I could have been broadcast (5)
16. Maybe artiste has no time for ridicule (6)
19. About singular judicial thing (3)
21. Wide of the mark, observe, a slip of the tongue (1,5,6)
22. Support one on a large number (6)
23. Barter, Sir! Unusual for Q.C.'s (10)

24. Far out, I shout 'Land!' stupidly (10)
25. Viscid matter turns up second (3)
28. Outright awful tribe, the French! Dreadful! (8)
29. New in charge, seems managed to make a load of trouble (4,4)
30. Subtleties in pleasant connections (8)
31. Lives at hazard, appearing in summer (7)
33. Passing on dearth not right (5)
34. Once out of French, convert into a cypher (6)

**Cyptic crossword compiled by Patong Bill. Solution on page 31.**

**LIBRA (Sept 24-Oct 23):**



This is an auspicious week to make contact with people who have been elusive. The stars are ready to support your attempts to finalize agreements and put matters to rest generally, but trying to go it alone can cause too much frustration. Those who are celebrating a birthday in the days ahead should see more financial gain in the coming year. The number seven attracts good luck to Librans this week.

**SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22):**



The end of September is a good time to move where the mood takes you. A feeling of more freedom is forecast to motivate Scorpions to leave their comfort zones. Other water sign friends can have influence on this different outlook, with possible romance highlighted to encourage you to behave differently. Money matters are well starred on Monday. Scorpions can see that number two is fortunate this week.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21):**



There are hints that some Sagittarians could land in hot water when they try too hard to impress somebody. In the world of work, your achievements should speak for themselves; where affairs of the

heart are concerned, an earth sign is only interested in the real you. Finances can be subject to disagreements – this is not a good time for borrowing or lending. The stars show that number one is important this week.

**CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20):**



A steadier astral atmosphere gives Capricorns opportunity to sit back and assess their progress this week. There are hints that you will realize your position is stronger than you thought and the end of September is an auspicious time to capitalize on this. As October commences, travel opportunities connected with work open up. Romance is hot on Sunday and Monday. Number eight can bring good fortune this week.

**AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19):**



Your willingness to take new ideas on board leads to exciting developments at the start of October. The key will be having the willpower to follow things through – prioritizing is the way for this to happen. An ongoing romantically related dilemma with another air sign can be solved after confiding in a trusted friend this weekend. An affair with a water sign is well starred. Aquarians' lucky number this week is four.

## YOUR horoscope

By Isla Star

**PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20):**



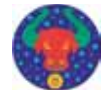
Jealousy can play a part in the world of work for Pisceans this week. There are indications that your success has been noticed by an air sign who could try to steal your thunder. The stars suggest that this is not the right time for modesty. Property matters can be tricky at the beginning of October; signing contracts is best delayed until more facts are known. Your lucky number this week is five.

**ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20):**



Your mind should be clearer as this month ends and Arians are forecast to start October with renewed energy and optimism. Those who have recently gone through a romantic break-up can be consoled by an earth sign this weekend. Even if you're not keen to get into anything serious, this person appears happy to settle for friendship in the meantime. Number three can bring some good fortune this week.

**TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21):**



The spotlight falls on going out and having more fun at the end of September. Your lively energy is appreciated by most people this weekend, but the stars show that a water sign partner may prefer to keep a low profile. Where work is concerned, your way with words gives Taureans the edge at the start of October – this is an auspicious time to discuss promotion. Number nine shines this week.

**GEMINI (May 22-June 21):**



A possible extra source of income starts to look more appealing than it did when you first heard of it. October will be a month to tap into skills that have not been used for some time, with focus on another air sign helping you to get ahead. Those who are still waiting for an overdue payment should receive good news. Money matters are well starred this week. Your lucky number is one.

**CANCER (June 22-July 23):**



Actions speak louder than words at the end of September. Your heart may be in the right place, but the stars recommend finding a way to show how you really feel. In your personal

zone, a fire sign will appreciate this. A stroke of fortune is forecast to help Cancerians end the month on a positive note, with money matters looking good during October. The number six can be fortunate this week.

**LEO (July 24-Aug 22):**



There may never be the perfect moment to take care of an issue that has been bothering you for a while. However, the cosmic climate this week should enable Leos to think more clearly about what they need to do. Wednesday and Thursday are auspicious days to talk about sensitive subjects. Finances should be easier to manage once October commences. Number four stands out for Leos this week.

**VIRGO (Aug 23-Sep 23):**



The stars suggest that exposure to different cultures and ways of thinking can be beneficial. Your usual routine may be comfortable, but this is an ideal time for those born under the sign of Virgo to venture into unknown territory. In the realm of romance, confessions are highlighted to make you wonder whether a relationship with a water sign is what you really want. Virgoans' lucky number this week is three.



## International Sport

## Epic comeback in America's Cup



Members of Oracle Team USA wave to spectators after victory. Photo: Reuters



Oracle founder and CEO Larry Ellison (C) watches Oracle Team USA. Photo: Reuters

By Jonathan Weber, Alden Bentley

ORACLE Team USA won two more races against Emirates Team New Zealand to even up the America's Cup finals on Tuesday, continuing an epic comeback in a regatta that once looked like a Kiwi cakewalk and will now be decided by a single winner-take-all showdown.

The deciding race in what will be the longest America's Cup in its 162-year history is scheduled for Wednesday.

The stunning recovery for the team backed by Oracle co-founder Larry Ellison continued on every front in perfect sailing conditions Tuesday. The US boat came from behind to win the second race easily and has now has seven straight victories, another Cup milestone.

New Zealand dominated that start for the first time in recent races, but then committed several tactical errors and Oracle stormed to a lead of nearly a minute at the finish.

In the first race the reeling Kiwi team drew a double-penalty as the two boats crossed the starting line, which allowed Oracle to jump to an insurmountable lead.

New Zealand once led the competition 8-1, and numerous Kiwi fans in San Francisco and back home in New Zealand were ready to celebrate victory in a gruelling two-year-long Cup campaign. The New Zealand government contributed about US\$30 million to the effort to bring the Cup back to the sailing-crazed nation.

But boat improvements, superior tactics and sharper

sailing by Oracle have turned its fortunes around, evidenced in the second race Tuesday when the team appeared to show more speed on every leg of the race.

"We've been doing a lot of work at night with design engineering technicians," Oracle skipper Jimmy Spithill said after the first race. "The boat is just going faster and faster and the boys are really starting to believe."

New Zealand skipper Dean Barker acknowledged in comments after the races that Oracle was now faster on the upwind legs in heavier winds. New Zealand pioneered the so-called "foiling" in which the big boats lift almost completely out of the water and sail on small horizontal wings attached to their daggerboards and rudders, but Oracle is now doing it more effectively on the critical upwind leg.

"It's the first time we've seen conditions where we were not as good as we needed to be," said Barker.

Spithill had put on a brave face through the early losses, insisting that the event was "far from over" even when his team needed an implausible nine straight wins to keep the oldest trophy in sports. His bravado, backed by consistently shrewd manoeuvres at the start, has now been vindicated.

"There's a huge wave of momentum we've been riding and it just builds and builds and builds," Spithill said after Tuesday's victories.

Barker sailed nearly flawlessly for much the summer as the Kiwis trounced Italian and Swedish challengers for the right to race Oracle. His dominance

continued in the early races of the final as the Kiwis showed better speed upwind and much smoother tacking.

But the team has appeared to come apart in the face of the Oracle comeback and a run of bad luck that saw two races in which it was leading called off due to wind conditions.

The start of Tuesday's first race featured classic match-racing drama. New Zealand miscalculated and bumped Oracle, which had the right of way, as it manoeuvred to block its rival on the approach to the line.

The two 72-foot catamarans made contact again as they drifted across the line. A second foul was called on the Kiwis, which had stopped dead in the water as Oracle sped off to a large lead

— Reuters

## Cilic cited injury at Wimbledon to hide failed test

By Alan Baldwi, Martyn Herman

MARIN Cilic cited a knee injury at Wimbledon this year to hide the fact he had failed a dope test, the International Tennis Federation (ITF) has revealed after handing the Croatian a nine-month suspension.

The forer world number nine, banned last week after testing positive for the banned stimulant nikethamide, has said he never knowingly took any prohibited substance and plans to appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

The ITF, in a full decision of its independent anti-doping tribunal published on its website (www.itftennis.com), said the player was charged with a doping offence in a letter dated June 10 after a positive result in Munich on May 1.

Cilic received the letter on June 11 in London before his first match at the Queen's Club pre-Wimbledon tournament.

The Croat lost the final at Queen's to Andy Murray and, after instructing lawyers, played and won his first-round match at Wimbledon on June 24.

"On 26 June his lawyers in Brussels responded on his behalf, voluntarily accepting a provisional suspension until a decision in the case, and waiving his right to analysis of the B sample," the ITF decision said.

"He withdrew from Wimbledon, citing a knee injury to avoid adverse publicity."

A spokesman for the ITF said Cilic had been within his rights to cite an injury for his withdrawal from Wimbledon and that, under its own anti-doping rules, the ITF were not allowed to make the real reason public at the time.

The full findings of the case revealed that Cilic had asked his mother Koviljka to buy glucose powder from a pharmacy in Monte Carlo because he had run out of his usual supply which he took to help his body ingest the legal supplement creatine.

The tribunal heard that a leaflet inside the packet of Coramine glucose tablets she bought, printed in French, contained a warning that they could lead to a positive test.

"Anyone reading the side of the packet or the leaflet, even with only a very limited knowledge of French, would easily have identified the danger for an athlete with anti-doping responsibilities," the findings stated, adding that a quick internet search would have confirmed that Coramine is nikethamide and would result in a positive test.

However, it accepted that Cilic had inadvertently ingested nikethamide and "did not intend to enhance his performance in doing so". The tribunal also heard that Cilic claimed to be under stress at the time of taking the tab-

lets because his parents and his coach were not getting on well.

The tribunal said the offence was "not at the most serious end of the scale" but still warranted a nine-month ban.

When Cilic withdrew from

Wimbledon, on a day marked by a spate of injuries which raised concerns about the safety of the grasscourts, he was quoted as saying it was "a very black day".

— Reuters



Marin Cilic of Croatia was banned for nine months for doping. Photo: Reuters



# Grimes eyes New Orleans

## Brotherly love ensures Thailand will have rep in Rotax Grand Finals

AFTER returning from their holiday back in the UK, the Grimes boys (Ben and Sam Grimes) got back into action at the penultimate round of the 2013 Asia Max Challenge at the Sepang International Kart Circuit in Malaysia.

The junior category boasted a fierce field of 35 drivers and Sam started the weekend well by out-qualifying his elder brother Ben in 19<sup>th</sup> place. Ben's weekend started disastrously however, as he

suffered his worst qualifying all year by only posting the 25<sup>th</sup> quickest lap.

Massively disappointed by his performance, Ben was on a mission and started heat one superbly, getting to 12<sup>th</sup> place after the opening five laps and was fighting for 9<sup>th</sup> place but a massive shunt at almost top-speed (120kph) between the five drivers put them all out of the race instantly. Sam however, went on to finish the heat in 10<sup>th</sup>, his best finish in AMC up to now.

A more cautious approach was adopted by the 15 year old for the second heat and went on to finish 16<sup>th</sup> place. Sam suffered a bad second heat and limped to the checkered flag in 29<sup>th</sup> after a first corner collision but persevered until the end of the race with a bent axle.

Both started the pre-final outside of the top 20, and 3 laps into the race the rain came down with a vengeance which resulted in a red-flag so all karts could be fitted with rain tyres. Ben and Sam started in their original positions and the first corner was absolute mayhem, with the pair having to take to the grass to avoid spinning karts. Ben dropped to last and made his way up the order but spun whilst making a move on another driver, dropping him back down to last and he could only recover back to 22<sup>nd</sup>, although he set the 8<sup>th</sup> fastest lap of the race; Sam finished right behind his brother in 23<sup>rd</sup> place.

Starting the finals in 22<sup>nd</sup>

and 23<sup>rd</sup> places, Ben was off to a flier and was up to 13<sup>th</sup> by lap one and climbing, but his hopes of recovering were dashed when he lunged two karts into one corner; the move seemingly sticking until he found the rear right tyre of another kart ahead, the pair collided and Ben's race was ended on the spot. Sam had an unfortunate race, he was moving up the order but was hit from behind by another driver which dropped him down and ultimately ended up finishing 24<sup>th</sup> after receiving a 10 second penalty for overtaking under yellow-flags, the penalty typifying a disappointing weekend for the pair.

A few weeks afterwards, the Grimes brothers headed back to Pattaya for the penultimate round of the Thailand Rotax Max Challenge with Ben sitting at the top of the championship standings with a tally of 328 points, with his nearest competitor a further 2 points behind, with Sam sitting in 7<sup>th</sup> place. The goal was simple: to just finish – as the 2<sup>nd</sup> placed competitor was under-aged, and Sam voluntarily played a supporting role to help Ben secure his seat to the Rotax Grand Finals (which is given to the provisional leader of the standings prior to the final round of the championship).

The weekend started on a good note, with Ben qualifying in 4<sup>th</sup> place and Sam qualifying in 6<sup>th</sup> out of the 11-driver field.

The first heat saw Ben secure a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish and a 4<sup>th</sup> place finish in the second heat/pre-final and Sam followed up with two 5<sup>th</sup> place finishes, both showing strong pace with Ben two-tenths off the fastest lap and Sam four-tenths off the fastest lap.



Ben is ready to race in New Orleans. Photos: Supplied

The results in the heats led to a Grimes lock out of row 2 for the final, with Ben starting 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sam starting 4<sup>th</sup>. Ben got a good start and was up to 2<sup>nd</sup> and in hot pursuit of the leader for half of the first lap before the leader slowed down right in front of Ben (due to the leader's fuel pipe dislodging) as a result Ben slowed and fell to 3<sup>rd</sup>, before his engine's performance dropped off, Ben dropped to 5<sup>th</sup>, with Sam very close behind; and it stayed like that until the checkered flag.

Sam clearly was going quicker; but voluntarily held station – ultimately helping Ben to secure his seat in the 2013 Rotax Grand Finals which takes place this year in New Orleans, on November 13-16. Ben will be the only driver representing Thailand in his class, along with another driver in the senior category.

– *Phuket Gazette*

For more information, follow Ben and Sam on Twitter @grimes\_ben and @samuel\_grimes and like their Facebook page. facebook.com/BenGrimesOfficial and facebook.com/samgrimeskarting



GOOD SPORT: Ben's brother Sam helped him qualify.

# Outrigger T20 Championship

THE semi-finals of the Outrigger T20 league took place on Sunday September 22 at the Alan Cooke Ground (ACG) with ICC taking on Patong in the morning and Village versus Laguna in the afternoon. In the morning match, ICC batted first to set a competitive total of 139-7 from their 20 overs but in the end were comfortably chased down by Patong who reached 141-2 in the 17<sup>th</sup> over. In the afternoon match, the Village felt the pressure of the situation managing 118-7 from their 20 overs, and succumbed to Laguna who reached 121-5 in reply during the 19<sup>th</sup> over. Patong and Laguna will now play for the championship next weekend on Sunday September 29.

In match # 1, ICC won the toss and elected to bat. They lost one of their most consistent openers all season, Shah Ullah (3), in only the 2<sup>nd</sup> over. Big-hitting Ali Khan (14) also failed to make an impact being bowled by Richard Desmond in the 4<sup>th</sup> over. ICC then lost a further two batsmen cheaply and were heading to the 10 over drinks break with 4 wickets down. Thankfully, opener Arif Mushtaq (46) anchored the innings and he was well supported by Surender Kumar (14) and Vikrant Sharma (21 not out) to guide the innings to a defendable 139-7 by

the end of the 20 overs.

Patong, who had been struggling for form much of the season, got off to a shaky start losing opener Paddy Morton for a golden duck in the 1<sup>st</sup> over. However, that's where the shakiness stopped as Imtiyaz Mushtaq (46) and Seemant Raju (61 not out) combined for an outstanding 126 run partnership to easily guide their side home in the 17<sup>th</sup> over to secure a second consecutive finals spot to play off for the title next weekend.

The afternoon match saw the undefeated Village and Laguna square off again in what was anticipated to be another closely fought contest. In their previous two meetings during the round robin stage, the Village has managed to secure wins against the Laguna side, the most recent being the previous week. However, they knew it would not be easy as both previous matches had gone down to the wire. After winning the toss, the Village had no hesitation in batting but got off to an uncharacteristically poor start losing opener Roshan Jayasuriya (7) in the 3<sup>rd</sup> over. However, Craig Murphy (30) and Simon Wetherell (30) then combined for a 54 run partnership before Murphy was

bowled in the 13<sup>th</sup> over with the score on 64-2. Martin Foster (16) and Wetherell put on a further 32 runs before Wetherell met his demise. This was followed by the run out of Foster the very next ball. Diwan Mydeen (10) and Mark Ashman (4) added a further 15 runs together but Laguna clamped down in the final overs to restrict the Village to 118-7.

Laguna got off to a shaky start losing their best batsman of the series Manish Sadarangani (4) in the 2<sup>nd</sup> over. The top order struggled to find the middle of the bat and at the 10 over drinks break Laguna looked in trouble with 41-4. They needed one of their batsmen to take the game away from the Village and Pir Sami (18) and Sameer Khan (36 not out) did just that with a valuable 50 run partner-



Sameer Khan (Laguna) lines up a ball from Olly Wingate (Village).

ship from just 34 balls to take the score to 91-5 and with Laguna requiring 28 runs from the remaining 32 balls the balance of the match had swung to them. Suhail Rehman (18 not out) then combined with Khan to guide Laguna to victory with 121-5 from 18.3 overs.

Next Sunday September 22 sees Village and ICC play off for 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the morning at 10:00 am while the title match will take place at 2:30 pm between Laguna and Patong.

– *Phuket Gazette*



# Thais conquer Japan to win title

THAILAND'S women volleyball players made the country proud last Sunday night in Korat with a stunning victory over world No 3 Japan to reign supreme in the 17<sup>th</sup> Asian Senior Women's Championship, for only the second time.

Thailand's team, who are now ranked 10<sup>th</sup> in the world, included six of the starting line-up that won their historic Asian crown in 2009 in Hanoi. These included powerful attacker Onuma Sittirak, as well as Wilavan Apinyapong and Pleumjit Thinkaow.

Japan, silver medalists at the London Games and former three-time Asian winners, fielded star spikers Saori Kimura and Miyu Nagaoka.

With more than 6,000 home fans cheering them, the Thai ladies performed beyond expectation. They took the first two sets 25-22 25-18 and continued their exceptional form to capture the third 25-17. After the win, the Thai players thanked spectators by giving them a "wai" while

prostrating on the floor. They ran to hug one another and all, including coaches, made a circle and danced. Some had tears in their eyes.

For the victory, ThaiBev gave the team one million baht as a bonus, and politician Suwat Liptapanlop gave another 500,000 baht.

Noosara Tomkom won the Best Setter award while Korat-born Wilavan Apinyapong captured the Most Valuable Player prize.

It was the second Asian title the Thai team had won. Last year, they captured the AVC Cup.

Thailand have already made their mark in this biennial competition, which drew a record 16 teams including debutantes Mongolia and Myanmar, following their stunning 3-2 victory over mighty China, the defending and 12-time winners, in the semifinals on Friday.

About 5,200 home fans thronged into the Chatchai Hall in Nakhom Ratchasima to witness the team's resounding success. As a result, demand for



Volleyball Champions Thailand stand on the winners podium.



CHAMPS OF ASIA: Thailand Women's Volleyball team celebrate their victory over Japan in the 17<sup>th</sup> Asian Senior Women's Volleyball Championship. Photos: FIVB

tickets to watch the Thai spikers yesterday soared. Only 4,800 tickets for seats plus 400 for people to stand could be sold.

Some locals were so desperate to ensure they would get tickets that they arrived at Chatchai Hall at 2am. By 5am, around 2,000 fans were there, queuing in the rain, before tickets went

on sale at 9am.

Just half an hour after the booth opened, all tickets were sold out, leaving several thousand fans having waited for nothing. Upset, they thronged at the iron gate in front of the venue, shouting to officials in charge to release more tickets, but to no avail.

Despite tight security with police and guards, some fans were moody and tried to break down the gate. But after a talk with provincial officials, they agreed to move to the media room to watch a live broadcast on a big screen. About 400 fans had to draw lots to get standing tickets.

— *The Nation*

## World's top beach v-ball teams hit Karon

AFTER a one year sojourn, the FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour is returning to Karon beach. The Phuket Thailand Open, powered by PTT, is the largest annual beach sporting event in SouthEast Asia and draws the top beach volleyball teams from around the world to the island.

Staged over six days of competition from October 29 to November 3, the tournament has in the past proven to be one of the most popular events on the World Tour as it is held on a natural beach – which is something of a rarity these days. There will be US\$75,000 of prize money up for grabs, plus a bonus pool, which takes the total prize pool available to the players to more than US\$100,000.

With over 500 players, teams, officials and media making their way to Phuket to participate in the tournament, the Phuket Thailand Open powered by PTT will also make a significant contribution to the local economy.

Due to some gaps in the competition calendar this year, all the top women's teams are expected to compete in Phuket. The powerhouses of beach volleyball have traditionally been Brazil, China, Germany and the USA.

This year a change in the competition format from a double elimination to pool play, plus

single elimination in the latter stages of the competition, has seen other nations beginning to exert their influence on the sport, such as Spain, Austria, Italy and Australia.

To date, the top six teams in the world rankings have committed to play in the Phuket Thailand Open. Heading the line-up is the number one team in the world rankings – the Brazilian pair, Lima and Talita. Playing together for the first time this year, they have taken the sport by storm, winning no less than five Grand Slam tournaments to date, in Shanghai, the Hague, Rome, Long Beach and Berlin. The German team of Holtwick and Semmler, who are ranked number two in the world, have also entered and so far this year they have recorded four podium finishes.

Another Brazilian team, the Solgado sisters, Marie Clara and Carol, who are ranked at number three in the world, are back on the tour after taking a year off and have been in scintillating form in the latter part of the season, recently winning the Grand Slam in Moscow.

Ranked number four in the world and regular visitors to Thailand are the Spanish pair of Liliana and Baquerizo. They have been on the podium three times this year. A third Brazilian team are holding down 5<sup>th</sup>

spot in the world rankings, Lilli and Seixas were also medal winners on three occasions in 2013. The number six team in the world rankings is another pair of sisters, Doris and Stefanie Schwaiger from Austria.

Local Thai beach volleyball fans will be able to see at least three Thai teams in the main draw of the event, as the host nation gets two automatic spots, and in addition, one wild card place.

Admission to the tournament is free and a large sponsor zone on-site, with activities and games, will further enhance the spectators' experience.

PTT Public Company Limited, Chang and Mazda all have extensive display areas at the venue and supporting events as the PTT Schools Cup tournament will add further variety to the program.

For beach volleyball fans who are unable to travel to Phuket, the semifinals on Saturday, November 2 and the finals on Sunday, November 3 will be televised in Thailand on both free TV and cable channels. The tournament will also be broadcast to audiences around the world.

— *Phuket Gazette*

The *Phuket Gazette* and PGTV's "Phuket Today" are proud sponsors of this event.



FIVB Beach Volleyball action at Karon in a previous edition. Photo: FIVB

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**SPORTATHLON**





**BATTLE OF THE ISLANDS:** A young Samui United player delivers the ball towards the penalty box in a match against Phuket Soccer Schools' Under-12 team. Photos: Supplied

# Regional youth tourney a kick

By Phuket Soccer Schools

A FOOTBALL extravaganza took place at Phuket's Thanyapura last weekend, which featured 28 youth teams from Phuket, Bangkok, Pattaya and Samui.

Close to 500 people attended the event over two days.

Under 8s (5v5) to U14's (7v7) competed in the Phuket Soccer Schools (PSS) 1<sup>st</sup> Regional tournament as players from four age groups battled it out for trophies, medals and of course some regional pride.

The tournament comprised 10 hours of football in mostly cloudy conditions on four age-appropriate purpose-built football fields.

PSS entered six teams in all and all 45 PSS Academy players had a chance to express themselves against quality opposition. The format was firstly a league structure where each team played the other and points were

awarded as follows: 4 points for a win, 2 for a draw and 1 point for a loss. Then the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> placed teams played for the Cup; 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> played for the bronze medal.

The two-day event was a huge success with all travelling teams wanting to come back same time next year to compete again. PSS would like to thank the 10 senior school volunteers from Quality School International Phuket, who helped with field marshalling and field co-ordinating.

The organizers give special thanks to Phuket FC and their players, Sukree Etae, Alef Poh-Ji and Sylvestre Nenebi Tra, who viewed the final games on Sunday and helped complete the players' weekend with the Cup and medal presentations.

Samui United were both the U8 and U10 winners, while the Youth Football Home Phuket were U12 winners and the i-Play Bangkok team were U14 winners.



Phuket Soccer Schools' Head Coach Martin Hill (center) gives a pep talk to players.

PSS Head Coach Martin Hill was delighted with how the tournament panned out and wanted to thank everyone involved who helped make an enjoyable and professionally-run event. Thanyapura as a facility is many a child's dream, as players from all over Thailand had the chance to play on an all weather astro turf surface which is surrounded by a 1,500 capacity grandstand and full floodlights.

The four football pitches used had age

appropriate dimensions as were the goal frame dimensions; size three, four and five footballs were used.

PSS academy program continues this Saturday afternoon, with coaches and players looking forward to the 4th International Tournament in February next year. The PSS Academy Program is by invite / trial only. Please contact [info@phuketsoccerschools.com](mailto:info@phuketsoccerschools.com) for more info.

# Training tips: recovery and mixing it up

FOR those of you training for the Laguna triathlon in November, the next 8-10 weeks are going to be a crucial time for your performance. This is the time in your training plans where you will start to push your body to new limits that you may not have reached before.

Being a triathlon, there are a number of things that you need to work



Recovery should be part of a regimen.

## Fitness

on, mainly the three events within the triathlon: swimming, cycling and running. However, one of the most important and often forgotten aspects of training is recovery and regeneration sessions which are vital in order to achieve maximum performance.

The long term development of an athlete is in large part a function of the athlete's ability to recovery and adapt to the training stimulus.

Today's athlete typically trains year round; they might take a small break here or there but for the most part are doing some form of training most of the year. This can cause certain muscles and joints to be overloaded and overworked which increases the occurrence of injuries, both acute and chronic.

Recovery can be broken down into two main categories, passive recovery and active recovery. Passive recovery is just that, it is passive. This type of recovery happens when an athlete finishes a

training sessions and does nothing. It is not as effective as active recovery but still has some benefits to it. Sleep for instance is a form of passive recovery.

Active recovery on the other hand is much more beneficial for helping an athlete recovery and be ready to go for their next training session. There are a number of types of active recovery but most are categorized within the following: massage (foam rolling, massage therapy), hydrotherapy, static or PNF stretching and nutrition.

So the next time you have a hard training session, make sure you leave time for the recovery part of it too, it only takes about 15-20 minutes but can make a huge difference in the long run, after all we all start training for sport or for fitness because we want to change something. That change is only going to happen when the body is able to recover!

*This tip was provided by Thanyapura's Operation Manager, Brian Finniss; Email: [tslc@thanyapura.com](mailto:tslc@thanyapura.com)*

ARE you running regularly? Do you feel you have reached a plateau and are not getting any faster?

If so, then it's time to mix it up and put some spice into your running workouts!

A well structured running schedule includes: tempo runs; interval sessions; hill repeats; drills and strides; long runs and run off the bike (for triathletes). These methods will improve your aerobic fitness, speed, technique, strength and mental focus. Follow a training schedule that is designed for your individual needs and goals.

If you plan to do a marathon, you need to increase the volume and do more long runs. If your goal is a new Personal Best on 1,500m intervals, then tempo runs should be implemented more often.

At Thanyapura we offer Running Sessions on Mondays, 4pm (30-40min trail run); Tuesdays, 8:20pm run off the bike with speed and recovery; Wednesdays, 5pm track session (intervals between 200m and 1000m); Thursdays, 9am run off the bike steady (7.5km) and Fridays, 4:30pm long run 7.5 – 22.5km in different pace groups.

Running in a group means learning from others. You'll get inspired and experience the fun of running! See you on the track, trails or on the road!



Group running is more beneficial than solo.

## Triathlon

*This tip was written by Thanyapura's Triathlon Senior Head Coach, Jurgen Zack. Inquiries can be emailed to [triathlon@thanyapura.com](mailto:triathlon@thanyapura.com)*



# Phuket in stalemate with Trat



**TOOTH AND NAIL:** Ludovick Takam was defended closely by Trat's Trairong Kaejun. Photos: Steven Layne

By Steven Layne

SOME 1,653 fans who turned out for the Islanders' Yamaha League One (YL1) match against Trat FC on Saturday evening in Phuket Town, were given little to cheer about, the match ending in a 0-0 stalemate.

Indeed, the crowd, representing Phuket FC's poorest turn-out all season, found more entertainment in the pre-game cheerleader show, as well as the half time showcase of "Mizsy Phuket" finalists, featuring a lineup of blossoming Phuket students vying to be chosen as an official club presenter for next season.

As for action on the pitch, or lack thereof, both sides mildly threatened their opponent's defensive line in only a handful of chances, but neither side proved deserving of three points.

Speaking to the *Gazette* after the match, the Islanders' Brazilian Head Coach, Stefano "Teco" Rodrigues attributed his side's lackluster performance to a lack of confidence and motivation.

"Although we trained real hard for this match, we can all see that game-day performance was unimpressive. Even though we had the better scoring chances, we could not prevail and frankly, both teams did not perform well tonight.

"Now that we're not going to [get promoted to] the Thai league, many players have lost motivation and confidence to play good football and this is no good. We must give 100 per cent until the last game. This is our biggest issue right now."

As a result, both teams retained their YL1 table standings – Phuket in 9<sup>th</sup> and Trat in 10<sup>th</sup> place of the 18-team league.

Both teams have 36 points after 29 of 34 matches – Phuket have an even goal difference while Trat have a seven goal deficit.

After a days rest, the Islanders resumed training on Monday and look ahead to their next match this



Ludovick proved to be a considerable threat but could not finish.

Saturday, on the road against 11<sup>th</sup> placed Krabi FC, the "Andaman Eagles", who have 35 points.

Coming off a 4-1 home win over 17<sup>th</sup> placed Rayong FC last Sunday, Krabi are blood thirsty and look to avenge their loss to the Islanders earlier this season, which was the only Phuket victory over Krabi in the last three years.

The Southern derby will likely be a standing room only affair, though it remains to be seen how many Phuket fans will dare to make the trek to Krabi on Saturday.

In the two sides' YL1 meeting in Krabi last season, dozens of Phuket fans were held hostage in the stadium well into the night after the two sides drew 0-0 and some unruly Krabi fans had difficulty in swallowing the result.

Saturday's match will kickoff at 6pm at Krabi Provincial Stadium.

	TEAM	P	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Air Force	29	41	22	17	59
2	PTT Rayong	29	35	18	15	56
3	Port Lions	29	50	31	17	53
4	Bangkok	29	59	46	12	52
5	Korat	29	38	27	9	45
6	Saraburi	29	41	31	7	41
7	Nakhon Pathom	29	40	33	3	38
8	BBCU FC	29	28	37	-7	38
9	Phuket	29	32	32	0	36
10	Trat FC	29	45	52	-7	36
11	Krabi	29	38	43	-3	35
12	TTM FC	29	28	39	-7	34
13	Sriracha	29	44	40	-1	33
14	Royal Navy	29	37	34	-6	33
15	Khon Kaen	29	33	40	-10	31
16	Ayutthaya	29	30	35	-8	29
17	Rayong FC	29	35	48	-17	26
18	Rayong Utd.	29	30	42	-14	23



**AWAY**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

**KRABI FC**

**VS**

**PHUKET**



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**HOME, OCTOBER 6**

**PHUKET VS SARABURI**

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**AWAY, OCTOBER 19**

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**AWAY, NOVEMBER 2**

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## SPORT



**GO TEAM GO!**

**HUNDREDS** of fans were captivated by the vibrant action on the pitch at Phuket's Surakul Stadium last Saturday evening – but it wasn't necessarily the scoreless football match (see story inside on page 51) holding the crowds' attention. The "crowd-pleasers" of the evening came just before kickoff and again at the half-time break; a pre-game cheerleader show, featuring a finely-choreographed act by students from Phuket Technology College, was complemented by a heart-throbbing half-time introduction to this year's Mizsy Phuket finalists looking to catch the attention of fans in hopes of being chosen as next season's official club presenter.

For more info about Mizsy Phuket, see [facebook.com/republicphuket](https://facebook.com/republicphuket)

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