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# Phuket Gazette

## Family saved from killer rip

**Lifeguards rescue couple, toddler in red-flag zone**

**INSIDE TODAY**

**August 2 - 8, 2014**

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# Investor cleanout

## Billions lost in Surin Beach knockdown

By **Chutharat Plerin**

INVESTORS are re-thinking opportunities in Phuket as local government officers push to have legally established and modified multi-million-baht venues turned to rubble along Phuket's Surin Beach.

"One-and-a-half years ago I invested 1mn euros in the beach club; I believe that I did everything correctly," an investor, who asked to remain anonymous, told the *Gazette*.

"I talked to local officials and had the necessary permission to build and operate the beach club – and now I am told to pull everything down. Nobody is taking..."

*Continued on Page 8*



Parts of Catch Beach Club on the sand were demolished in June. Now, officials look across the path.

## SPECIAL REPORT

### Gazette guide to ATM skimming signs, security

PHUKET'S constant flow of millions of people on and off the island make it a prime location for skimmers to ply their illicit trade.

With the FBI reporting billions of US dollars being stolen around the world through skimming annually, Thailand's banks are spending millions of baht to improve security features.

Are you taking the extra steps to protect yourself when making withdrawals?

*Full Story Pages 4-5*

### PLTO demands harsh penalties for taxi drivers

THE Phuket Land Transport Office (PLTO) has pushed for harsher penalties starting on August 1 for all illegal taxi drivers. The office has also proposed a slew of changes to create a new fleet of "standard metered taxis" to serve tourists and residents.

*Full Story Page 9*

### Battle to regain island's public land rages on

A FLURRY of activity consumed the island this week as provincial and local officials teamed up with military personnel to clear Phuket's beaches, forests and parks.

*Full Story Page 6*

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## This Week



### Business

Aerial photographers Helicam are flying high in Phuket. **Page 29**



### Property

Avoid the pitfalls and budget blow-outs of home-builds. **Page 31**



### Food

JW Marriott hosts an authentic Japanese-style brunch. **Page 33**



### Entertainment

Australian illusionist Cosentino brings magic to Thailand. **Page 34**



### Explore

See dolphins in the wild during a cruise in the Andaman Sea. **Page 36**



### Sport

Asian players dominate at the ITF Pro Circuit 2014. **Page 38**

Saturday



31 - 24

Sunday



31 - 24

Monday



32 - 24

Tuesday



32 - 24

Wednesday



31 - 24

Thursday



31 - 24

# Island police lose one of their own to suicide

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

THE Phuket City Police were reeling on Tuesday morning after the death of one of their well-liked officers by suicide.

Sen Sgt Maj Sapeewat Kongchim was found in the car park of the police accommodation units behind the Provincial Police headquarters on Yaowarat Road, in Phuket Town, at 7:30am.

He had a single gunshot wound to the head. The weapon used was his .38 service revolver.

"Sgt Sapeewat was rushed to Vachira Phuket Hospital, but was pronounced dead on arrival," said Lt Kraisorn Phakaree, the Phuket City Police officer assigned to investigate the case.

Officers living in the units heard a loud crash at about 4am.

"When they went outside to investigate, they saw Sgt Sapeewat walking around, so they paid no attention," Lt Kraisorn said.

"He went back to his room, and later came back down and sat on the stairs on the ground floor. Nobody thought he was thinking about suicide."

At about 7:30am, officers heard a single gunshot and then found Sgt Sapeewat slumped over a Styrofoam box under a carport



Officers inspect the scene of the suicide on Tuesday morning.

beside the building.

"Sgt Sapeewat lived on the third floor. We believe he jumped from his unit at about 4am, but the carport broke his fall and he landed on a car parked underneath it," Lt Kraisorn explained.

"We believe that since his attempt to die by jumping from the building failed, he used his gun."

Sgt Sapeewat, from Trang province, was known as a friendly man with a wife and one child.

"He was a friendly, fun person,"

said Lt Kraisorn. "He loved hanging out with friends and he helped out at the Phuket 191 emergency call center."

However, Sgt Sapeewat had tuberculosis and recently needed a lot of time off work to see doctors.

"At this stage we believe that he committed suicide because of his disease," Lt Kraisorn said.

"However, we will continue to investigate whether any other factors may have prompted him to commit suicide."

## Cars crushed by tour bus with brake failure

BRAKE failure of a tour bus caused a major pile-up at the Darasamuth Intersection, near Central Festival Phuket, at about 3pm last Saturday.

"In total, 10 vehicles were damaged in the accident. The brakes on a bus failed, causing it to crash into vehicles waiting at the intersection," Wichit Police Deputy Superintendent told the *Gazette*.

"No serious injuries were reported. There were only minor injuries and damage to vehicles."

Motorists were urged to avoid the area while the wrecks were cleared from the scene.



The aftermath. Photo: Supplied

"And please drive carefully, especially in this weather when the road is wet," said Preeyaporn Torwong of the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Phuket office (DDPM-Phuket) after the accident.

— Chutharat Plerin

## Airport van driver facing charges drug-free

POLICE have confirmed that drug and alcohol tests ordered for a Phuket Airport van driver who hit and killed a motorcyclist last week have come back negative.

The driver, Mani Prateep Na Thalung, was saved from a mob of angry witnesses after he hit 23-year-old Jantima Srilertchalalai from behind when she reportedly braked suddenly halfway across a bridge about one kilometer from the British International School Phuket.

Despite the driver's claim that the bike braked suddenly, there were no skid marks at the scene of the accident.

"We tested Mr Mani for drugs and alcohol after the accident. His urine test results came back negative. However, he will still be charged with reckless



Mr Mani under police protection. Photo: Saran Mitratat

driving causing death," Maj Sakol Krainara of the Phuket City Police said.

Suwit Ngerndee, assistant manager of the Phuket Limousine and Business Service Cooperative Ltd (PBC), which operates vans and taxis at Phuket Airport, said that the company would be donating money to help cover funeral costs.

As there were no skid marks from either the bike or the van, and because witnesses had demanded to know how such an accident could have occurred in the absence of drugs or alcohol, the PBC called for an investigation into the state of the driver.

"The results came back negative, so he still works for us. He would have been fired if the results had been positive."

— Woranut Pechdee



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## Tourists on 'walk-in' visa entries to get 30-day extensions

THE chief of the Phuket Immigration Office, Col Sunchai Chokkajaykij, has confirmed that his office has received an order to begin issuing extensions of up to 30 days to foreigners who enter the country on visa-exemption status.

The order is to come into effect from August 29, said Col Sunchai.

"Most foreigners entering Thailand on visa-exemption status are from countries whose nationals are allowed to stay for up to 30 days. Those entering via border crossings from neighboring countries are granted 15 days'

stay in the country," Col Sunchai explained.

"Currently, both these groups of foreigners can apply to extend their stay at any immigration office, but only for a further seven days.

"But from August 29, these foreigners can apply to extend their stay at any immigration office for up to 30 days – giving a maximum possible stay in Thailand of 60 days."

However, Col Sunchai was apprehensive about assuring that the new 30-day extensions will be rolled out.

– Chutharat Plerin



Col Sunchai confirmed that his office had been ordered to issue extensions. Photo: PR Dept



Police raided the house while the suspects were doing their book-keeping.

## Police take down loan shark gang

OFFICERS arrested a Phuket loan shark and his four henchmen in a raid on July 26.

Armed with a search warrant, officers entered a house in Suanluang Chaofa housing project in Soi Sermasab to arrest the 34-year-old alleged gang leader Sakkarin Saleh for running a loan shark operation.

Four other men were also arrested: Abdulloh Jeleh, 29; Muhammad Soming, 23; and Kanawuth Lateh, 20, all from Pattani; and Surin Siboo, 34, from Songkhla.

"Our investigation team learned that Mr Sakkarin and his men had been operating in Phuket for a few months. Mr Sakkarin used to have a loan shark business in Trat," said Maj Roongsak Maichandee of the Region 8 Police Crime Suppression Division.

"Mr Sakkarin told us that the gang had about 30 customers who they charged 20 per cent interest, compounded monthly. The legal maximum rate to be collected on loans is set at 15 per cent."

The men were charged with operating and assisting an illegal loan business and charging illegal interest rates. All four confessed to the charges, said Maj Roongsak.

– Kritsada Mueanhawong

# Rip current close call

## Belgian family saved by fast-acting Surin lifeguards

By Phuket Gazette

SURIN Beach's fatality-free four-year record almost came to a tragic end when four tourists, including a 3-year-old boy, were caught in a flash rip current last Sunday.

"A family of three from Belgium, including their three-year-old son, along with a fourth victim, could have all lost their lives in a space of a few minutes," a Surin Beach lifeguard told the Gazette.

Despite average-looking surf and sunny conditions, all four were caught in the rip current.

"They had ventured into the ocean in the worst possible spot, passing a steady row of red warning flags and multilingual signs, all indicating that it was a no-swimming zone and that dangerous rip currents were present in the area," the lifeguard said.

Lifeguards spotted the four just north of "Elephant Rock" – well outside of the safe swimming area – at about 4:30pm. They were struggling against the current to make it to the shore, while being



The tourists and their lifeguards. Photo: Surin-Bangtao Surf Lifesaving Club

steadily pulled out farther.

"One man was trying to hold a small baby while fighting the fast-moving water," the lifeguard said.

"With the child's mother being swept the farthest out, onlookers watched as three lifeguards dove

into the ocean and began the process of securing them and assisting them back to shore... The lifeguard assisting the man and baby was whistling nearby swimmers out of the water, even as he tended to the two in distress.

"Lifeguards were pounded by the surf and dragged by the current for nearly five minutes as they pulled the victims out of the rip current and back to shore."

Two other full-time lifeguards and a volunteer at the scene assisted the rescue from the beach.

All four victims were safely recovered without serious injury.

"Everyone will make it home safely from Surin today [Sunday], so no matter how difficult the rescue was, it was definitely a good day in the end," one lifeguard said.

A three-minute walk down the beach from where the family entered the water, large red-yellow flags marked an area safe for swimming, the lifeguard noted.

Pressure has been mounting on the Surin Beach lifeguards after their full-time staff numbers were cut from eight last year to only five this year.

"During the rescue, if another victim needed assistance at the south rocks, we just wouldn't have been able to get there in time", one of the rescuers said. "We are stretched fairly thin."



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# New Breed: The ATM crashers

A RECENT ATM skimming attack in Macau in which thieves used a specialized device to install malicious software into a cash machine may be a harbinger of more sophisticated scams to come, reports technology security expert Brian Krebs.

Two Ukrainian men were arrested in Macau on May 30 for installing malware on at least seven ATMs to skim an estimated US\$100,000 (3.1 million baht).

"Local police said the men used a device that was connected to a small laptop, and inserted the device into the card acceptance slot on the ATMs," Mr Krebs reported on his Krebs Security website.

"Armed with this toolset, the authorities said, the men were able to install malware capable of siphoning the customer's card data and PINs. The device appears to be a rigid green circuit board that is approximately four or five times the length of an ATM card."

According to local press reports, the insertion of the circuit board caused the software running on the ATMs to crash,



The men used a custom device to upload the malware. Photos: nhajime

temporarily leaving the cash machine with a black, empty screen. The thieves would then remove the device. Soon after, the machine would reboot and begin recording the card and PINs entered by customers who used the compromised machines.

The Macau Police said that the

Ukrainian men would return a few days after infecting the ATMs to collect the stolen card numbers and PINs. To do this, the thieves would reinsert the specialized chip card to retrieve the stolen data, and then a separate chip card to destroy evidence of the malware. — *Phuket Gazette*

# The Skim:

**BANKS are spending millions of baht upgrading ATMs throughout the country and hope to replace all ATM cards with more secure microchipped versions by the end of next year.**

**The project aims to stem the rising tide of the world's fastest-growing computer crime: skimming. But what are the best ways to protect yourself – and your money – from skimmers?**

**The Gazette's Chutharat Plerin reports.**

THE FBI reports that this latest form of computer-based financial fraud costs banks and their customers around the world billions of dollars annually.

Its presence has been felt in Thailand, though the national police unit tasked with combating ATM skimmers and the national-level Thai Bankers Association (TBA), have both declined to reveal to the *Gazette* any figures defining the extent of harm caused in the Kingdom.

Regardless, the problem of ATM fraud, and specifically skimming, has grown so drastically in Thailand that TBA Secretary-General Twatchai Yongkittikul met with Royal Thai Police Deputy Commissioner Aek Angsanant in June to specifically clarify which police unit would be responsible for crimes involving ATM cards.

Immediately after that meeting, Mr Twatchai announced to the press the launch of a mammoth project: all ATMs in the country are to be upgraded and all ATM cards issued by Thai banks are to be replaced with "smart card" versions fitted with microchips by the end of next year.

"Phuket is a top destination for skimmers," said Chumpon Donlayamahakomtorn, president of the Phuket Banker's Club.

"Millions of tourists from many countries visit Phuket each year, which means a lot of international bank transactions are conducted through ATMs throughout the island each day.

"This makes it much harder to track, as tourists might not realize their card has been skimmed until they go home. This is what exactly makes Phuket so attractive for skimmers; they can take advantage of the large volume of people who come and go."

Mr Chumpon welcomed the huge security upgrade underway.

"All the commercial banks are spending a lot of money to protect their customers," he said.

"Banks are spending millions on the upgrades, even more than the money reported lost by customers being skimmed, but it will protect more customers in the future."

Wassana Nakchainaramit, senior marketing officer for the Bangkok Bank in Phuket, confirmed that all Bangkok Bank ATMs – more than 8,500 nationwide – have been upgraded.

"All debit cards issued by Bangkok Bank are now 'smart cards', with microchips," Mr Wassana noted. "The old magnetic-stripe cards still work in the machines, but those cards are being phased out."

## SKIMMED ILK

The first thing to do if a person believes his or her card has been skimmed is to contact the respective bank and suspend all transactions, said Col Chainarong Jaroenchainow, a deputy commander of the Economic Crimes Division, the police agency tasked with receiving all complaints related to skimming.

Mr Chumpon agreed, and urged people to keep the call center number for their bank in their phone.

"Call as soon as you think you might have been skimmed. Banks can instantly suspend all transactions related to your account while you're still on the phone," he said.

Col Chainarong was very clear that banks were responsible for filing skimming complaints to police as the banks were the actual victims, not the customers.

"They're the ones whose money has been stolen. They were trusted to keep your money safe," he said.

"If your local bank does not take any action over your case, you must report the skimming to your bank's headquarters in Bangkok. If still nothing is done, then report it to us."

Mr Chumpon, however, said



'This is what makes Phuket so attractive for skimmers; they can take advantage of the large volume of people who come and go.'

— **Chumpon Donlayamahakomtorn, president of the Phuket Banker's Club**



# ATM fraud's new frontier



Thai banks are spending millions on upgrading ATMs nationwide to guard against skimmers. Photo: Reuters

victims must report the crime to the police first.

"You must file a complaint to police, then bring that complaint to us so we can start working with police investigating your case," he said.

"Don't worry, the banks are responsible for losses due to card-skimming crimes. The bank will pay the full amount lost, but only after it has been verified that you lost your money by being skimmed."

Mr Chumpon pointed out that the refund policy for victims of skimming did not apply to people tricked by fake call centers asking victims to voluntarily transfer money to a specific account.

"And anyone caught filing false claims of being skimmed will face criminal charges," he warned.

## TIME BOMB

Col Chainarong noted that most skimmers tend not to use the data they glean from ATM cards straight away.

"People usually think they've been skimmed when they realize money is missing from their account," he said. "But that's not what normally happens. It could be months, or even a year or more, before a victim's money is withdrawn."

"Skimmers have to collect the data before they can use it. It can take time to collect enough information to be able to access enough accounts to make it worthwhile."

"That is why changing your PIN number often is the best defense against skimmers. They might

have data, but once you change your PIN they can't use it to take money from your account."

## ANTI-SKIM TACTICS

In addition to the top-line defence of changing PIN numbers often, wisely choosing which ATM to use is one of the best safeguards against skimming, said Mr Chumpon.

"The best choice is to use ATMs in front of banks. There will be CCTV cameras and the machines will be checked very often to ensure that no skimming devices have been fitted," he said.

Despite an amateur's best efforts, however, telling whether an ATM has been altered is not an easy task.

In May, Patong Police discov-

ered an ATM fitted with a fake cover over the card-insert slot that was nearly identical to the original, factory-made cover.

The ATM was also fitted with a "new" form of card skimmer that local police and bank staff had never seen before.

"Take a moment to check the ATM before using it," advised Col Chainarong. "Check that the card slot and keyboard have not been tampered with or have a fake cover fitted over the top."

"If you see a hole above the keyboard or beside the monitor, don't use the machine."

Another tactic is to have a second bank account linked to the main account.

"Do not keep too much money in the main account. Just make sure there is enough money there to get you through for the time being," explained Mr Chumpon.

"That way, as soon as you suspect your primary account has been skimmed, you can quickly move the remaining balance to the second account, which the skimmers cannot access."

## PAUSE FOR EFFECT

Mr Chumpon revealed a new technique to help prevent ATM cards from being skimmed: when removing the card from the ATM, do not remove it in one swift move.

"Skimming devices need a 'clean swipe' to obtain the data from the magnetic strip," he said.

"So you when you remove your card from the ATM, pause half-way through, then remove the card. You could even reinsert it part-way. Anything that breaks the rhythm of a clean swipe. This should help prevent the card from being skimmed when you remove it from the machine."



Using a card with a microchip is probably the safest way to use an ATM. Photo: Chutharat Plerin

## Tips for using ATMs

- Never allow someone you are not familiar with to guide you through an ATM transaction or process.

- Never hand your ATM card to a stranger for any reason, and be extremely wary of anyone who approaches you when you are using an ATM.

- Shield the key pad with your hand when you enter your PIN so that it cannot be read by secret cameras or strangers.

- Beware extra fittings such as brochure holders, as these may contain secret cameras.

- Use ATMs in places with good lighting that are in very secure or high-traffic areas, such as beside a 24-hour retail outlet or inside a bank.

- Report any ATM that malfunctions or holds your card to the bank immediately.

- Be wary of ATMs with "out of order" signs. It may be a scam to direct you to a nearby ATM that has been tampered with. Use another machine well away from this location.

Source: Bangkok Bank

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The White Box. Photo: Saran Mitrarat

## Popular White Box restaurant told to remove half of facility

THE owners of the White Box restaurant on the Kalim beachfront, north of Patong, have been given seven days to remove more than half of the restaurant – or have the army take it down for them.

The order was delivered on Tuesday morning by Phuket Vice Governor Chamroen Tipayapongtada, who led officials and military to inspect the venue – the second visit in four days.

However, the restaurant was closed and the owner was abroad, explained the only representative present, who introduced himself as “Khun Andy” the caretaker.

A notice by the front door informed the officials that the restaurant was closed, by announcing, “Cause the director of the restaurant it is not in Thailand for clear the situation with the military we decided to close the restaurant until further notice.”

The sign, written in English, was dated July 26 – the date of the first visit by Vice Governor Chamroen and his entourage.

Regardless, V/Gov Chamroen explained to Mr Andy that the owners had exceeded their building permit and had seven days to remove the offending structures.

“The building permit issued by Patong Municipality allows for only a one-storey structure to be built at the site,” he said.

“The 10-by-12-meter terrace and the second floor must be removed. Otherwise, after seven days, the military will come tear it down.”

– Saran Mitrarat

## Investors urged to verify land plots near national park

THE chief of Phuket’s Sirinath National Park, Kitiphat Taraphiban, is urging current and prospective investors and private landowners to verify whether or not plots they have bought – or are thinking of buying – are deemed to be within the park.

The checks can be made at the park’s land verification center, which was established at the order of Nipon Chotibal, the Acting Director-General of the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP), in Phuket on July 8.

“The center is meant to help investors be assured that the property they are buying is

not encroaching on national park land,” Chief Kitiphat explained.

So far, only six people have visited the center to confirm whether or not specific plots were within the park.

“We do not have a detailed map showing the park’s boundaries map available online, but we do have one at the center,” Chief Kitiphat said.

“Please come and inspect it yourself. Any verbal advice from our officers is free.”

Officials will issue written statements confirming whether plots queried are considered within the park or not. – Chutharat Plerin



Sirinath National Park Chief Kitiphat Taraphiban. Photo: Sirinath National Park PR

## Island forest land inspected

### Officials look into encroachment in three major protected forests

By Athip Karndee

THE Royal Forest Department (RFD) is untangling the land title documents that account for 90 per cent of what is supposed to be Bang Khanun protected forest, said RFD Director-General Theerapat Prayurasiddhi on July 26.

The RFD has joined the battle on Phuket against land encroachment, which has seen swaths of public beaches, national parks, protected forests and protected mangroves stolen from the public.

“Local government offices are working together with the Royal Forest Department and other departments to find solutions to land encroachment issues, but I think it will take about six months before we have a clear picture of the problem,” Mr Theerapat said.

Mr Theerapat inspected three key areas for encroachment: the Bang Khanun protected forest, the Kamala Hills and the Nakkerd Hills.

Land-use documents and land-ownership documents account for almost 90 per cent of the 5,000-rai Bang Khanun protected forest.

“A variety of land documents are out there that claim sections of what we believe is part of protected forest land. There are *SorKor 1* and *NorSor 3 Gor* documents, as well as *Chanote* titles,” Mr Theerapat said.



RFD Director-General Theerapat Prayurasiddhi toured three protected forests in Phuket on July 26.

“Right now, we are looking into whether or not these documents were illegally issued.”

Officials also followed up on an investigation into the legality of nine land title deeds for a Phuket luxury resort allegedly being built in a protected forest on Kamala Hill.

“We inspected a luxury resort that is being built on 10 rai of land that is possibly protected forest,”

Mr Theerapat said during his inspection on July 26.

“The project owner had previously shown officials nine *Chanote* titles as proof of his claim to the land.

“However, we could not find evidence of those *Chanote* titles in the Land Department’s records. We also could not verify the existence of any *SorKor 1* documents that might have been

upgraded to *Chanote* titles.”

The investigators are now using aerial photo interpretations of the land to make a drawing that can be compared to an RFD map of the area, Mr Theerapat said.

“We believe the owner is in possession of illegal land titles,” Mr Theerapat

The name of the resort and its owner were withheld by the RFD, as the investigation is ongoing.

## Police complaints shine light on sketchy land title upgrades, transfers

RECENT police complaints have put the spotlight on two Phuket properties, prompting officials to investigate the legality of corresponding title upgrades and transfers.

Sirinath National Park Chief Kitiphat Taraphiban confirmed that his office will not withdraw a police complaint against those suspected of illegally issuing land documents to the operators of the long-defunct Phuket Peninsular Spa & Resort.

“From checking the history of the land title for the resort, we learned that the title originated from a *SorKor 1* [land-use document] covering about two rai,” Thammasak Chana, a deputy director-general of the Land Department said on July 25.

“When the *SorKor 1* was upgraded, the resulting documents were two *NorSor 3 Gor* deeds covering six rai. As the original *SorKor*

*1* was issued before Sirinath National Park was formed in 1963, that means they [the named owners of the land] have the right to legally own the land.”

Mr Thammasak did not explain how a document for two rai could have resulted in a document covering six rai.

“There are actually two *SorKor 1* documents under investigation. Mr Thammasak spoke about only one of them,” Mr Kitiphat told the *Gazette*.

“The two *SorKor 1* documents were for two entirely separate plots, but when the



V/Gov Somkiet on July 23. Photo: Saran Mitrarat

*NorSor 3 Gor* deeds were issued, for some reason it included both of them – and the land in between.”

“We are still investigating how that became possible.”

A few days earlier, a family trying to sell nine rai of land with an estimated value of 60 million baht came under scrutiny for trying to upgrade a *SorKor 1* deed for the site to *Chanote* status.

Phuket Vice Governor Somkiet Sangkaosuttirak led officers to inspect the site on July 23 after receiving an anonymous complaint asking for the Governor’s

Office to intervene in the title upgrade for the plot, which sits in the hills above Kathu with views of Phang Nga Bay.

“The complaint said that the site was located within the boundaries of a protected forest, for which a land title could not be legally issued,” Vice Governor Somkiet told the *Gazette*.

Supanee Ngankheng, 48, presented a copy of the *SorKor 1* her family says supports their right to the land.

Thanyakan Thanopajairat of the Phuket Land Office cautioned that before an application to upgrade the *SorKor 1* can be accepted, it must be cleared of all suspected illegalities.

Officers have yet to confirm whether or not the plot is in a protected forest area.

– Saran Mitrarat / Athip Karndee



# No solutions for vendors displaced after cleanup

By Chutharat Plerin

DOZENS of Phuket beach vendors went toe-to-toe with Patong's mayor on July 24, demanding that she protect them and their livelihoods.

"I thought the beach vendors would have ideas on how we can support them, but they mostly just complained about me not taking care of them and not protecting them," said newly-elected Patong Mayor Chalermluck Kebsab.

"I understand that they are angry that their livelihood has been taken away. Yes, taking care of the people of Patong is my priority, but following the NCPO's [National Council for Peace and Order] order to return the beach to the public is also my responsibility."

Champion for the about 60 angry vendors who attended the meeting was Patong Entertainment Business Association President Weerawit Krueasombut.

"We understand that the order had to be followed. However, Patong Municipality must take responsibility for the vendors who lost their jobs," Mr Weerawit told the *Gazette*.

"Before it was cleared, each vendor cleaned up his or her section of the beach. Now, trash washes up on the sand and nobody manages it. The municipality doesn't have the budget or manpower to



Ms Chalermluck, flanked by military officers, listens to a displaced chair operator on July 9. Photo: Saran Mitratat

take care of that problem."

Mr Weerawit also noted that umbrella and chair rentals were an essential service in the eyes of many tourists.

A vendor, asked to be identified only as Mr Ton, has been working on the beach for decades and agreed wholeheartedly with Mr Weerawit.

"Customers tell us that they want shade and want to sleep in the chairs. They tell us they won't come back to Phuket because we

can't provide such a simple, expected service," Mr Ton said.

"This will definitely affect Phuket's tourism."

Mr Ton pointed out that the vendors had paid fees and were operating on the beach within the legal constraints established by Patong Municipality.

"There are about 60 beach vendors in Patong. Think about it, how many people are affected when you account for the family members that are dependent on

us?" Mr Ton asked.

"Tell us what we can do. We need to earn money."

The meeting on July 24 concluded with no resolutions to the issue.

"I will take this issue to Vice Governor Chamroen Tipayapongtada. I will not abandon Patong residents. We will do our best to ensure beach vendors can make a living, while keeping the beach available for public use," said Ms Chalermluck.



V/Gov Chamroen at the inspection of Tri Trang Beach on Tuesday.

## Final warning for west coast beach vendors

OFFICIALS bolstered by military support have softened their approach in clearing all businesses from Phuket's beaches, but remain firm that all offending structures will be torn down.

First stop on Tuesday was Paradise Beach, where Vice Governor Chamroen Tipayapongtada and accompanying officials last week ordered a family-run business to remove their belongings from the public beach area.

The family had complied by Tuesday. The vice governor then confirmed that the family could continue running its business unless the Land Office finds the *Sor Kor 1* for the land to be illegal.

The Windsurf Shop and Restaurant, on Tri Trang Beach, however, did not receive such good news.

"The building owner could not show any evidence to occupy the beach. She will have to remove the structures as quickly as possible," said V/Gov Chamroen.

The family operating the Tri Trang Restaurant were also ordered to remove all structures from the beach. They were given 10 days. — Saran Mitratat



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## Workers find unexploded artillery shell



The live artillery shell wasn't reported to police for days.

WORKERS at a construction site unearthed an unexploded artillery shell on July 25.

However, Phuket City Police weren't notified of the find at the apartment complex building site in Rassada until Monday.

"Once we realized what it was, we called in the Phuket Provincial Police Explosive Ordinance Disposal (EOD) unit to promptly recover it and dispose of it," said Capt Wichat Kongtawai of the Phuket City Police.

"Experts have confirmed that it was a 105mm artillery shell," another officer at the scene told the *Gazette*.

Sopa Sae-hao, owner of the apartment block under construction, initially thought the ordnance was an old oxygen tank used for welding.

"I told my workers to put it aside while they kept working," she said. "However, while we were cleaning up the site yesterday [Monday], we thought we should call the police."

Ms Sopa was thankful that none of her workers tampered with the live round.

"The results could have been tragic," she said.

In April, seven people died and 20 were injured when workers at a scrapyard in Bangkok attempted to open what they didn't realize was an aerial bomb from World War II.

An unexploded ordnance is a rare find in Phuket, though in May, local fisherman in Krabi discovered a WWII Japanese torpedo with a potential blast radius of one kilometer.

Officers from the Royal Thai Navy ordnance-disposal unit recovered the torpedo and safely disarmed it at a nearby island.

— **Kritsada Mueanhawong**

# Tearing down confidence

From page 1

...any responsibility."

The investor explained that he was baffled and furious that if what he was doing were illegal, it was never brought to his attention, as he said he followed the legal channels to get the necessary permits from local officials.

"If I couldn't do business on the beautiful sand, just tell me. I would not have invested that much money in illegal land," he said.

"How can you do business in Phuket when it's like this? Some of my friends who have millions of euros do not want to invest in Phuket. I love Thailand, but look what happened. I am not considering any further investments here, at least not at the moment."

Staffers at another affected beach club, Zazada, said they were still operating, but given the recent news, were prepared to have the club demolished.

Catch Beach Club manger Ben de Bellis declined to comment. The club was to celebrate its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Surin Beach this year.

The clubs, as well as the restaurants and other business on the east side of the Surin beachfront path were occupying units originally built by the government. However, many of the legal units had been modified, while other structures unassociated with them had been built.

Post-tsunami, the Cherng Talay Tambon Administrative Organization (*OrBorTor*) established 10 buildings on public park land next to the beach, each with two units, and the Phuket Provincial Admin-



Ma-ann Samran has claimed sole responsibility for ordering the businesses along the Surin beachfront path to move. Photo: Saran Mitrat

istration Organization (*OrBorTor*) constructed 16 buildings paid for by the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund of Japan.

Despite some of the buildings being legal and some of the modifications made to them being sanctioned by the local government, *OrBorTor* President Ma-ann Samran would like to see them all demolished.

"I admit that we were the ones who gave them permission to modify the buildings, to make them beautiful and to maintain them," Mr Ma-ann said.

Having already cleared struc-

tures illegally built on the beach, the clubs, restaurants and other businesses have been given about 30 days to close and 60 days to remove all additional structures.

However, they are allowed to continue operating for now.

"I feel sorry for the people who used to have their business on the land, but the situation has changed. I believe they have earned enough to just move on now," he said.

In June, Mr Ma-ann denied English-language reports in Phuket that buildings on the east side of the beachfront path at Surin Beach would be demolished.

Nonetheless, he did say that he would follow all Army orders, so if the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) demanded the structures to be pulled down, he would comply.

However, the recent announcement to remove the businesses east of the pathway was not pushed by the NCPO, Mr Ma-ann said on Wednesday.

"This is my decision and my order to remove all the buildings east of the walkway. The NCPO is only my backup. I want to restore the entire beach to its natural state for everyone."

The only exceptions will be a public stadium and a building that was constructed in honor of a visit by HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej in 1959.

Mr Ma-ann assured that if he is able to have the area cleared, no new structures will be allowed to be built there.

Vice Governor Chamroen Tipayapongtada pointed out that demolishing the government-built properties posed a problem.

"We need to follow the law and examine leases and contracts. Part of that will be looking at who was originally given the non-transferable permission to use the government-built buildings, and who is currently using them under what conditions."

*OrBorTor* officers on Wednesday told the *Gazette* that the contracts for the buildings in question had expired. However, they were unable to produce the previous contract or any documentation concerning usage rights of the buildings.

## Chalong Police to face extortion charges

THREE officers from the Chalong Police are expected to be charged with extortion and abusing their positions of power by the end of August.

Lt Col Wannop Somjintanakul, the Public-sector Anti Corruption Commission (PACC) officer leading the investigation into the alleged extortion of more than 20 dive instructors at Chalong Pier in March, said he would present his findings to the PACC board in Bangkok in the coming weeks.

The case will be handed to the Phuket Public Prosecutor, who will review the evidence and decide whether or not to proceed with prosecution, said Col Wannop, who declined to identify



Lt Col Wannop will present his findings to the PACC board in Bangkok.

the three officers involved.

"Once the PACC board formally presses charges, we can reveal their names," he said.

PACC Secretary-General Pra-

vesana Mulpramook told the *Gazette* in May that, if found guilty, the officers faced 10 years in prison and a dishonorable discharge from the Royal Thai Police.

The impending charges relate to an incident on March 10, when more than 20 dive instructors were rounded up from Chalong Pier and escorted to the Chalong Police Station by Tourist Police and officers from the Chalong Police.

Capt Thada Sodarak of the Chalong Police was on duty at the time, but said he was unaware of more than 20 dive instructors arriving at the station by police pick-up truck.

Chalong Police Superintendent Krittapas Dazintharasorn later denied that his officers were involved in extortion, but within a week he was temporarily removed from his post. He has since been reinstated. — **Chutharat Plerin**

## Woman fined for burying island's new beach treasure: drinks

A VENDOR has been fined 2,000 baht for burying her coolers in the sand in an attempt to carry on selling ice-cold drinks to tourists on Patong Beach.

Officers discovered three large ice boxes buried in the sand across the road from Burger King while patrolling the beachfront road on July 21.

"We asked people in the area who the coolers belonged to, and we soon tracked

down the woman who had buried them," Maj Eakkarat Paidong of the Patong Police said.

The woman, who officers declined to name, confessed to burying the ice chests in the sand. She was fined and released.

"Do not encroach on public land," said Maj Eakkarat. "If you do, we will be charged."

— **Woranut Pechdee**



Police stand next to the buried ice coolers owned by a Patong vendor. Photo: Supplied



# British siblings come face-to-face with Phuket tsunami savior

A PHUKET reunion nearly 10 years in the making came to fruition last night as British siblings Ben and Emily Willgrass surprised their tsunami savior Yupin Sengmuang on the doorstep of her shop in Tri Trang.

The siblings put out a call via Facebook for help in finding Ms

Yupin, as the two were planning to come to Phuket on holiday on July 20. The three were put in contact less than 24 hours later. An *Andaman News* reporter saw the story, posted it on Facebook in Thai and soon received Ms Yupin's phone number. Two weeks later, the reunion became reality.

"Ben and Emily came to my shop at about 6pm. Emily hadn't changed a bit – she is so small, cute and loves to smile. Ben is a big, strong man now," Ms Yupin said on Tuesday.

"Now I've finally met them again, and they are all grown up. They just walked right in with a

few friends and introduced themselves."

Ms Yupin promptly invited them all to stay for dinner.

"It was a wonderful night. I saw in their eyes how happy they were to see me, as I was to see them," she said.

– Woranut Pechdee



Yupin Sengmuang. Photo: PR Dept

# End of days for illegal taxis

By Saran Mitrarat

PHUKET Land Transport Office (PLTO) Chief Terayout Prasertphol has called on all police stations to seek the highest penalty for any illegal taxi drivers caught operating on the island after August 1.

"Police have been just fining and releasing drivers. However, from August 1, if police apprehend any illegal taxi driver, they must send the case directly to court and seek the highest penalty," Mr Terayout said.

"We are now sending notices to every police station on the island to crack down on all illegal taxis."

According to the Land Transportation Act BE 2522, the penalty for an illegal taxi driver is a maximum fine of 100,000 baht, two years imprisonment, or both.

Mr Terayout also announced that the PLTO has opened up registration at its office for anyone wanting to apply to become a legal taxi driver.

"Applicants have until August 31," said Mr Terayout.

"We will be accepting applications for metered taxis. We will not be accepting applications to register 'green plate' taxis, except for drivers who have tourism registration licences issued by the Tourism Authority of Thailand [TAT], use hotel limousines or have a contract to carry passengers from bus terminals, piers and the airport."

The crackdown comes as the PLTO seeks to enact a slew of changes to create a new fleet of "standard metered taxis" to serve tourists and residents throughout the island.



The proposal to the NCPO included a description of what Phuket's fleet of standard metered taxis would look like. Image: PLTO

The proposed changes were handed to Col Somchai Ponatong of the Royal Thai Army's 41st Military Circle on Tuesday. Col Somchai is to pass on the request to the PLTO headquarters and the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) in Bangkok.

Jaturong Kaewkasi, the PLTO's senior policy adviser, explained that the proposal for the new fares and the new look for the taxis is to encourage drivers to become metered-taxi drivers instead of fixed-rate "limousine" drivers preying on passengers

at Phuket International Airport.

"Drivers can make more money carrying a fare back to the airport, rather than having to drive back empty, as is the case now," Mr Jaturong explained.

"We have been trying to raise the standard meter rates for years. If this is approved, it would make it much easier for us to encourage drivers to operate metered taxis instead of becoming 'limousine' drivers."

PLTO chief Terayout last year noted that the Land Transport Department had not

increased the standard fares for Phuket drivers since 2003.

With the proposal to be handed to the NCPO were images of what Phuket's new fleet of standard taxis would look like: white sedans with red-and-yellow stripes and stickers showing the vehicle's taxi registration number and the PLTO complaint hotline number, 1584.

See *PhuketGazette.net* for our poll asking what is a fair fare to pay from the airport to Patong.



The snake was released in a forest.

## Big snake invades Phuket henhouse

A LOCAL resident received a fright on July 25 when she went to investigate what was causing a commotion in her chicken coop near her house in Srisoonthorn, Thalang, in central Phuket.

"I heard my ducks and my chickens panicking, so I went to the henhouse to see what was scaring them," said Wanna Bilabduhar.

That's when she saw the python. "That was scary," Ms Wanna said.

It took Kusoldharm Foundation rescue workers about 30 minutes to capture the constrictor, which measured more than two meters in length.

–Thawit Bilabduhar

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Smoke rises over the Tripoli airport road after heavy fighting between rival militias on July 25. Photo: Reuters

## 1,500 Thais to be moved from war-torn Libya

THAILAND decided on Monday to evacuate all of its nationals in war-torn Libya after the fighting intensified and many countries, including the United States, relocated their citizens and closed their diplomatic missions.

Nuttavudh Pothisar, deputy permanent secretary of the Foreign Ministry, said Gen Prayuth Chan-ocha of the National Council for Peace and Order chaired a meeting of agencies and ordered the return of about 1,500 Thais within 48 hours for their safety.

The first batch of 41, comprising 11 students and 30 Thais living around the Tripoli airport that was closed down because of the fighting, will be moved out in 48 hours because they live in the most risky area, Mr Nuttavudh said. The second group will be 70 Thais living in Al-Bayda city near Benghazi while the last group will comprise 1,500. All of them will be transferred by land out of the country.

They would move to Tunis and Djerba in Tunisia and stay there before travelling back to Thailand due to the deteriorating situation, he said.

Kittipong Na Ranong, the Thai ambassador to Libya, has reported that fighting will continue and grow worse, explained *The Nation*.

A team of four Foreign Ministry officials, two employment officials and two military medics will be sent to take care of the Thais.

The Thai Foreign Ministry will closely evaluate the developments in Libya before shutting the embassy in Tripoli or withdrawing personnel. Some mission staff and families have already left the country.

Last week a Thai worker was killed when a mortar shell landed near where he was staying in Israel. His remains arrived in Thailand on July 28.

# End of Ramadan marked by mayhem in Deep South

INSURGENT violence has continued in the far South after the devastating car-bomb attack in Yala's Betong district on July 25, two days before the end of Ramadan, reported *The Nation*.

It included a roadside bomb attack in Pattani on the night of July 27, the end of the Muslim holy month of fasting, and a gun battle in Narathiwat on Monday that saw the deaths of civilians, security officials and insurgents.

Lt Gen Valit Rojanapakdee, Army Region 4 commander, said an internal investigation was under way to find out where to place the blame for the car bomb in Betong – the area's worst incident in seven years, which killed two and wounded dozens.

Business leaders in the southern border region on July 26, one day after the Yala attack, urged the ruling National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) to come up with clear measures to deal with insurgent violence in the restive region.

Yala Chamber of Commerce chairman Noppong Thiraworn said that with its extensive powers after the coup, the NCPO was in a good position to tackle the violence effectively.

"I believe that the NCPO now has enough information about the insurgency violence over the past decade to come up with concrete measures to solve the problem," Mr Noppong said.



Military personnel take to the streets in the Deep South after a spate of insurgent attacks. Photo: The Nation

In a second attack two days after Yala, in Pattani, a roadside bomb planted in Sai Buri district blasted a passing pick-up truck carrying a number of Army paramilitary rangers at about 9:30pm, killing a 10-year-old girl and wounding five other civilians and two rangers. Explosive ordnance disposal personnel said the home-made bomb consisted of 10

kilograms of explosives in a fire-extinguisher tank detonated by two-way radio frequencies.

Then, in Narathiwat at 11:15am on Monday, a gunfight in Rusoh district saw three suspected insurgents killed, two of whom were allegedly senior members, as well as two security officials.

A manhunt went underway shortly thereafter to find other in-

surgents who took part in an ambush that led to the gunfight.

Betong was much quieter than usual on Saturday as many locals remained at home and tourists cancelled trips to the area.

Hundreds of cancellations were made by tourists from Malaysia and Singapore, who were expected to celebrate the Eid ul-Fitr festival at the end of the fasting month.

## B9mn worth of ivory seized at airport



CUSTOMS officials arrested a Chinese woman and a Vietnamese man at Suvarnabhumi Airport in Bangkok after they allegedly tried to smuggle elephant tusks and ivory products with an estimated value of about 9 million baht out of the country, Customs' Deputy Chief Paisarn Chuenjit said on Monday.

The man was identified as Luong Tien Phong, 62, and the woman as Chen Zhiyu, 23. They

were arrested on July 26 with 18 pieces of tusk and 587 ivory products, valued at about 9mn baht in total, found in their suitcases, reported *The Nation*.

Mr Paisarn said the arrest was the result of his department boosting its preventive measures to block the ivory trade in line with the Conference on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES).

The suspects claimed they were paid by an unnamed Asian to smuggle the items from the western African nation of Ivory Coast (Cote d'Ivoire) to Siem Reap in Cambodia via Bangkok. Ms Chen was paid US\$500 (15,900 baht) and Mr Luong was paid US\$300 (9,540 baht).



Officers are working to combat the illegal ivory trade. Photo: The Nation

## Junta-ordered rice audit nearing completion

THE nationwide rice audit ordered by the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) is drawing to a close as scheduled, raising hopes that the state's mounting rice stockpiles can start to be released and the protracted nightmare is ending soon.

The headaches of those involved will soon be gone, said ML Panadda Diskul, permanent secretary of the Prime Minister's Office and head of the committee for examining the state's rice inventory.

"They would like the bad dreams to end. What-

ever the outcome will be, they will be a loser one way or the other," he said on his Facebook.

Gen Prayuth Chan-ocha, director of the NCPO, has said the regime was committed to inspecting the quality and quantity of rice stored at government granaries nationwide, as well as bringing charges against anyone found involved in fraud or non-transparent activity, reported *The Nation*.

The Commerce Ministry is preparing to resume selling rice from its stocks in early August.

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# To lounge or not to lounge

THE complete removal of beach lounge and umbrella sets from Phuket's beaches is a drastic yet necessary step to completely rid the sand of illegal encroachment.

It may be a bitter pill to swallow, especially for those who have lost their jobs, but we need to start from ground zero in order to set the stage for a new Phuket: one in which the term "sustainable tourism" is more than just another buzzword bandied about by so many corrupt bureaucrats.

Nonetheless, the argument to eventually allow some beach loungers back on the sands does have considerable merit.

Unlike most residents, many tourists visiting the island want, and expect, to be able to rent out a beach lounge and umbrella for a reasonable fee. After all, nobody in their right mind would expose their skin to the sun all day without some sort of protection, and a parasol is far more effective and comfortable than using sunscreen – although we of course recommend using both.

Payment for rental of a lounge set does, of course, come with the expectation that certain services will be provided: that the beach boys (or girls) will adjust the umbrellas to ensure that the loungers provide shade at all times, clean up debris, provide protection from potential threats ranging from theft and assault to rip currents and tsunamis. For the most part, the workers do a good job in this respect.

Unfortunately, the beach lounge brigade is somewhat like *pak bung talay*, that impressive creeping plant with the beautiful purple flower that is usually the first to colonize the sand: they are inevitably followed by other, less attractive, varieties.

So the question is: if a certain controlled number of loungers are allowed back, how long will it take before the beaches are once again recolonized by an astonishing array of other vendors and all the gear and contraptions needed to run their operations?

It is impossible not to feel sorry for honest, hard-working beach vendors who provide the aforementioned services; we appreciate that many long-term vendors have established a sizeable number of devoted customers who return year after year.

However, the argument that "we are just poor local people" is tenuous, at best. As most long-term residents know, almost all of those that actually work on the beach are not from the area, but from other provinces.

If allowed back, we would like to see this profession restricted to a limited number of operators who can prove that they have been doing it for a long time, all with Phuket house registrations.

In the meantime, let's all enjoy this precious time when what is left of Phuket's beaches' natural beauty is on full display – because it is impossible to know how long it will last.

## Dolphinarium no better than animal touts

Re: Gazette online, *Phuket progress backslides with Dolphinarium*, July 27

It's interesting that slow lorises and iguanas are banned on Bangla, but tigers and dolphins are OK as it's big business. A real disgrace in my humble opinion.

Mister Ree  
Phuket Forum

## ...but lots of tourist destinations have one

Re: Gazette online, *Phuket progress backslides with Dolphinarium*, July 27

America's top tourist destinations have them: Hawaii, Disney World, Miami, Key West, San Diego, San Francisco, Monterey and Los Angeles. And in Las Vegas, Nevada. The various types of "marinelands" are always busy and the children love them. They take excellent care of dolphins, porpoises and whales. They have to because their success depends on it. They're all inspected. A Marineland Phuket could be beneficial for all.

Jim  
Phuket Forum

## Force taxis from the streets for a few days

Re: Gazette online, *Phuket taxi call center on hold, ranks wait for green light*, July 24

I don't see how a problem setting up the call center prevents them from clearing the streets. Get rid of all the taxis for a few days. Inconvenient for sure, but most hotels offer their own transport anyway. Guests can ring their hotel to be picked up, or go into another hotel and ask to use theirs. In the meantime, if the taxis want to continue operating, have them set up their own call center.

CaptainJack  
Phuket Forum

## Letters to the Editor

Do you have an opinion to voice?  
Email Editor@PhuketGazette.net

### Accident epidemic

Re: Gazette online, *Phuket tour bus plows into cars at busy junction*, July 28

Just simply amazing how many buses and other vehicles lose their brakes on Phuket. There seems to be some kind of epidemic here that removes the operation of brakes. Maybe it's the same mystery that adversely affects the loss of handling around curves, and causes many vehicles to slam into the people in front of them. Strange place, this Thailand.

Ed Sanders  
Phuket Forum

### Rules should not be open to interpretation

Re: Gazette online, *Tourists on 'walk-in' visa-exemption entries to get 30-day extensions*, July 24

I hope the officers on the front desk have been properly informed, and aren't allowed to make up their own interpretations of the changes.

Agogohome Agogohome  
Facebook

### Three cheers for the university professor

Re: Gazette online, *What university techies can give back to Phuket*, July 26

This all sounds great! So give the man some authority, a budget, the support he needs, and why not a cigar? Let's get this show on the road.

Joe  
Phuket Forum

### Patong looks beautiful

Re: Gazette online, *No answers for outraged Phuket beach vendors*, July 25

My wife and I have been travelling to Patong for over 20 years. We have recently returned home and both agree that the beach is the best we have ever seen. Twenty years ago vendors would walk along the beach asking if you wanted drinks or something to eat. They would go away and come back with whatever you wanted. Same idea could work now.

Brett Foster  
Facebook

### Bring your own drinks

Re: Gazette online, *Phuket beach vendor fined for burying coolers in sand*, July 24

You want something to drink... bring it from home in a cooler. Glad to see clean beaches for a change. Too long have people been stealing from tourists who are using public land.

CH Wü  
Facebook

### File complaints about tuk-tuk tour guides

Re: Gazette online, *Phuket Opinion: Service matters*, July 26

What I do not understand is why tourism and guide associations do not lodge official complaints to the National Council for Peace and Order and the Damrongtham office about all tuk-tuk and taxi drivers working illegally as touts and guides. To be an official guide, it takes two years' study in university and those thugs are getting up to 60 per cent commissions from every place they bring tourists and do it without a TAT licence.

Asterix  
Phuket Forum

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# Playing the role of manager and mum

## FIRST PERSON

I BELIEVE there are many people out there that think that women should not be able to hold management positions, and are not as good at making decisions as men. I disagree. Women are sensitive and emotional, two aspects of our personalities which can sometimes make us weak, but these characteristics also make for very successful managers.

I believe these emotions can allow us a higher level of sensibility and empathy, which enables us to connect with people. I, for one, believe that embracing my sensitivity empowers me to empathize with my co-workers, and also with my hotel guests. This connection leads to a more satisfying work experience for our staff and more satisfying stay for our guests.

I feel that maintaining an understanding, transparent relationship with my staff brings us together and closer to success. Instead of walking one step ahead of them, I walk beside them. I let them use their best judgment when making decisions and ask them for suggestions about how we can make things better. If one of my colleagues has an issue that they are struggling with, we work together to resolve it.

In order to make customers feel happy, we must feel happy ourselves. A positive attitude goes a long way, and if customers feel that staff members are sensitive to their needs, they will be satisfied. I work hard to keep my staff happy so they will love their jobs. If you love what you do, you will give it your best shot and the re-

If you love what you do, you will give it your best shot and the result will be fantastic.



**Sumontha Urvois**, 37, from Suphan Buri, is the Executive Assistant Manager of the Grand Mercure Phuket Patong. She has a master's degree in hospitality management and more than 14 years' experience in the industry with the Accor Group. Before coming to Phuket, she worked for two years as Rooms Division Manager at the

Novotel Bangkok on Siam Square.

Here, she talks about being a woman in a leadership position, balancing work and family, and leaving the world a better place.

sults will be fantastic.

While I constantly give my all to my work, I also have responsibilities at home: my son and my family. Sometimes it is hard to balance everything, but I try my best. I make a great effort to get home in time to tuck my son into bed at night, and on my days off I commit all my time and energy to him and plan fun activities for us to do together.

In today's world, we must acknowledge that a good life cannot be easily achieved without a job, but we must also remember the importance of family.

Besides committing myself to my work and my family, I also commit myself to programs that can leave the world a better place for our children, grandchildren and future generations to come.

My company that has a lot of programs focused on giving back to the community and supporting women in the workplace.

One program is called Yim Kids

Thailand. The project was established in 2009 with the slogan of "Children are the future of any country". Sadly, many children in Thailand are victims of poverty and denied access to education, basic nutrition and a safe place to call home.

Accor's network of hotels and resorts, including our local team, work together to improve the beautiful children of Thailand's future by funding sustainable projects that improve educational opportunities and children's health.

In December of 2012, the Accor group launched a program called Women at Accor Generation that aims to achieve gender equality on an international level, in the workplace and in life. Through training classes, mentoring and events, women and men join together to banish stereotypes and promote greater access for women to managerial positions in the workplace.

I truly believe that if everyone works together and shares their experiences and skills, our society and our quality of life will improve every day.



A happy sight for frustrated Western shoppers. Photo: Ahmad Ziyad Maricar

## Fat as an expat

### Island View

By Mauri Grant

Do you have an opinion to voice?  
Email Editor@PhuketGazette.net

LIVING in Phuket as a Western-born woman could prove dicey for the faint of heart, even more so for those who suffer from the occasional lack of self-confidence.

Once you settle into life on the island, it doesn't take long to tune in to the stark differences in cultural norms, especially when it comes to discussing body weight. Making a few Thai friends can serve as a healthy catalyst to this eye-opening and sometimes confidence-shattering realization.

It took me about five months before I became fully aware of how differently Thais and Westerners approach this sensitive – or not so sensitive – topic.

One night, I went to dinner with my Thai friend and her cousin. When we arrived, my friend ran over to hug her cousin. After they had time to say hello, I stepped forward to be introduced.

It went like this: "Mauri, this is my cousin, she used to be so thin, but now she is fat."

There was no way I could have disguised the look of pure shock on my face. I said hello nervously and had no idea what else to say, so my friend quickly recovered the moment with an explanation of how her cousin had never been able to banish her pregnancy pounds from a few years before.

What is a girl to do in that situation? I had no idea, and I probably caused offence with my reaction, but in my 23 years I never underwent training to prepare for a moment like that.

I was also not prepared for the internal battle one inevitably faces

when shopping in Thailand. At stores geared toward Westerners, like H&M, I manage to survive with a reasonable level of self-esteem intact. However, stores targeted at Thai people are a totally different story.

A recent shopping experience at a traditional Thai dress store was everything I thought it would be – a bit mortifying and a bit fun.

I went with some coworkers, as we had to find traditional garb to wear to an event. The dresses there were gorgeous, but no doubt made to fit Thai-sized women.

I ran into a major issue when trying to pull a dress over my American-sized bum. It wasn't going to happen. After busting out a few compromising positions to try to make it fit, I gave up and looked for a skirt that could be altered to contain my caboose.

If I hadn't braced myself for the possibility that my backside would cause me extreme stress, I might have walked out of the shop with a pretty negative memory of the experience. But, I ended up with a beautiful outfit and a funny story to tell.

I, and many of my Western friends, have learned to roll with the punches of blunt comments and frustrating shopping experiences. Life among the tiny Thais is much easier that way.

## Issues & Answers... ...asking the questions that affect you...

### Will the visa crackdown affect me?

I am married to a Thai and we have two children. I am about to take up work in Vietnam, but I will travel to Phuket weekly as we live here. Will I have a problems entering Thailand each time on a 30-day visa? Or I should obtain another type of visa?

Ant,  
Phuket

**Col Sunchai Chokkajaykij**, chief of the Phuket Immigration Office, replies:

First, please make sure you are from one of the countries whose nationals Thailand grants 30-days' stay in the country on visa-exemption status.



Official visa. Photo: Chutharat Plerin

If you are, then you will be allowed to enter Thailand on 30-day visa-exemption stays, but be prepared to be questioned each time you fly back to Thailand.

If you do decide to fly back each week on 30-day "walk-in" visas, carry with you at least some evidence that you have family here. This would include copies

of your marriage certificate, your children's birth certificates and photos of you with your family.

This should help with any immigration officer who stops and questions you, but there is no guarantee that the officer will be convinced and he or she may refuse you entry.

To avoid all this, I strongly suggest that you visit a Royal Thai Embassy or consulate and obtain a non-immigrant O visa on the basis that you are married to a Thai.

Make sure that the non-immigrant O visa is marked as "multiple entry", and you should have no problem returning each week to see your family.

### Traffic lights seem to be keeping time

I pass by the yet-to-open Dibuk Hospital every day and can't help noticing that the new traffic lights there seem to be synchronized with those in front of Phuket Villa 5, near the Kajonkietsuksa School. Are they synchronized?

If they are, are they first in Phuket? I can't think of any other sets of traffic lights on the island being synchronized.

In Sync  
Chalong

**Samak Luedwonghad**, chief of the Phuket Highways Office, replies:

Yes, the new traffic lights on

Chao Fa West Road are synchronized. They are the second pair of traffic lights to be synchronized in Phuket.

The first set are the ones in front of Phuket Bus Terminal 2 on Thepkasattri Road in Rassada and the lights in front of the PPEA substation down the road.

Send us your queries and we'll ask the right people to respond to them.  
Submit your issue at  
[www.PuketGazette.net/IssuesAnswers](http://www.PuketGazette.net/IssuesAnswers)



## WHAT'S ON in Phuket

### Until August 28, 2-4:30pm. Kidz Activities by Quest

During July and August, kids and parents are invited to visit Canal Village every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon to take part in the kids' activities program of the day, which include treasure hunt, wacky games, bbq chefs, and kids vs. wild, all taking turn for an afternoon of kids' entertainment.

"Kidz Activities by Quest" is the highlight activity during Laguna Phuket's Summer Family Promotion, a trove of extra benefits and added value for all Laguna hotel guests which include free dining for kids, free kids' golf, free Laguna Tours Excursions and extra beds (terms and conditions apply).

For more information call 076-362300 or visit: [lagunaphuket.com/events/family-festival](http://lagunaphuket.com/events/family-festival)

### August 12. Her Majesty The Queen's Birthday

HM Queen Sirikit Kitiyakara's Birthday, also celebrated as Mother's Day in the Kingdom.

### August 21, 11:30am-2 pm. Phuket International Women's Club August Lunch

The August lunch will be at Hyatt Regency Kamala. Early booking is recommended as seats are limited. All are welcome. Members 600 baht, guests 750 baht. Contact Carole at: [info@piwc-phuket.com](mailto:info@piwc-phuket.com)

### August 22, 6-11:30pm. Scandinavian Crayfish Party at Two Chefs Kata

Two Chefs are serving a large crayfish and seafood buffet, including imported crayfish boiled the traditional Scandinavian way, smoked salmon from our smoke

house, and freshly baked breads and pastries from our bakery. All you can eat for only 795 baht, children 395 baht.

The Two Chefs' house band will entertain you until the late hours, and we'll have happy hours on selected drinks all night. For more info, log onto our website [twochefs.com](http://twochefs.com), or follow us at: [facebook.com/TwoChefsThailand](https://facebook.com/TwoChefsThailand). Come for the food and stay for the fun! For more information call 076-330065 or email: [katacenter@twochefs.com](mailto:katacenter@twochefs.com)

### September 18, 11:30am-2pm. Phuket International Women's Club September Lunch

The September lunch will be at Bollywood, Phuket Town. Early booking is recommended as seats are limited. All are welcome. Members 600 baht, guests 750 baht. Contact Carole at: [info@piwc-phuket.com](mailto:info@piwc-phuket.com) or call 086-594 1758

### October 16, 11:30am-2pm. Phuket International Women's Club October Lunch

The October lunch will be at Divino, Cherng Talay. Early booking is recommended as seats are limited. All are welcome. Members 600 baht, guests 750 baht. Contact Carole at [info@piwc-phuket.com](mailto:info@piwc-phuket.com) or call 086-594 1758.

### October 23. Chulalongkorn Memorial Day

Chulalongkorn Day commemorates the reign of Rama V, who abolished slavery in Thailand.

### November 4, 9am-4pm. PIWC presents The Melbourne Cup

The PIWC presents The Melbourne Cup, "The Race That Stops a Nation". For more information contact Carole Dux on 066-763 1671, email [info@piwc-phuket.com](mailto:info@piwc-phuket.com) or visit [piwc-phuket.com](http://piwc-phuket.com)

The *Phuket Gazette* and PGTV's 'Phuket Today' show, the island's only nationally broadcast television program (aired daily on True Visions channels 79 and

# Kidz Activities by Quest

## Until August 28 2-4:30pm

107), are proud to sponsor this annual charity event.

### November 6. Loy Krathong Festival

One of the most beautiful festivals in Thailand. It is traditionally performed on the full moon night of the 12<sup>th</sup> lunar month, which usually falls in November. A krathong is a banana-leaf cup containing flowers, a candle and incense sticks which will be floated away in a canal or river. The idea is to worship the River Goddess and at the same time to float away any bad luck. Loy Krathong is not a public holiday

### November 7-8. 2014 BISP International Football Tournament

British International School Phuket (BISP) in Thailand is proud to host for the thirteenth consecutive year, the seven-a-side Football Tournament. Well over 1,000 young players from all over Asia are expected at this exciting competition.

For more information email BISP Athletics Director Jeff LaMantia at [jlamantia@bisphuket.ac.th](mailto:jlamantia@bisphuket.ac.th)

The *Phuket Gazette* and PGTV's 'Phuket Today' show, the island's only nationally broadcast television program (aired daily on True Visions

channels 79 [HD] and 107 [SD]), are proud to sponsor this event.

### December 5. HM The King's Birthday.

His Majesty the King's Birthday is also marked as Father's Day in Thailand.

### Dec 10. Constitution Day

This day commemorates the signing of Thailand's permanent constitution by King Prajadhibok (Rama VII) in 1932, which marked the beginning of Thailand's transition from an absolute monarchy into a constitutional democracy.





**Produced by PGTV, the show is designed to promote Phuket to tourists and the international community in Thailand.**

LOCAL COVERAGE	NATIONAL COVERAGE	INTERNATIONAL COVERAGE
<p><b>Phuket Cable</b> Coverage: All of Phuket Channel: 1 Monday-Friday: 10.30am, 6pm, 9pm Saturday-Sunday: 10.30am, 9pm</p> <p><b>Rawai Cable</b> Coverage: Rawai, Kata, Karon Channel: 1 Monday-Friday: 10am, 1pm, 7pm, 10pm</p> <p><b>KDTV</b> Coverage: Phuket's West Coast from Patong to Cherng Talay Channel: 10 Daily: 8.30am, 2.30pm</p>	<p><b>MCOT World</b> Tuesday: 12.05pm &amp; 7pm Wednesday: 6pm Thursday: 1pm &amp; 8pm Friday: 9am Saturday: 1pm Sunday: 6am</p> <p><b>Truevisions HD</b> Channel: 79 <b>Truevisions SD</b> Channel: 107 <b>PSI TRUE TV</b> Channel: 37 <b>GMMZ</b> Channel: 103</p>	<p>Broadcast to China, the Philippines, Southeast Asia, India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Turkey, UAE, and many other countries around Asia and beyond.</p> <p><b>Thaicom 5 Sat 3520H</b> Tuesday: 12.05pm &amp; 7pm Wednesday: 6pm Thursday: 1pm &amp; 8pm Friday: 9am Saturday: 1pm Sunday: 6am</p>

**Online:** [www.phuketgazette.net/tv](http://www.phuketgazette.net/tv) | [www.youtube.com/PGTVPhuket](http://www.youtube.com/PGTVPhuket)

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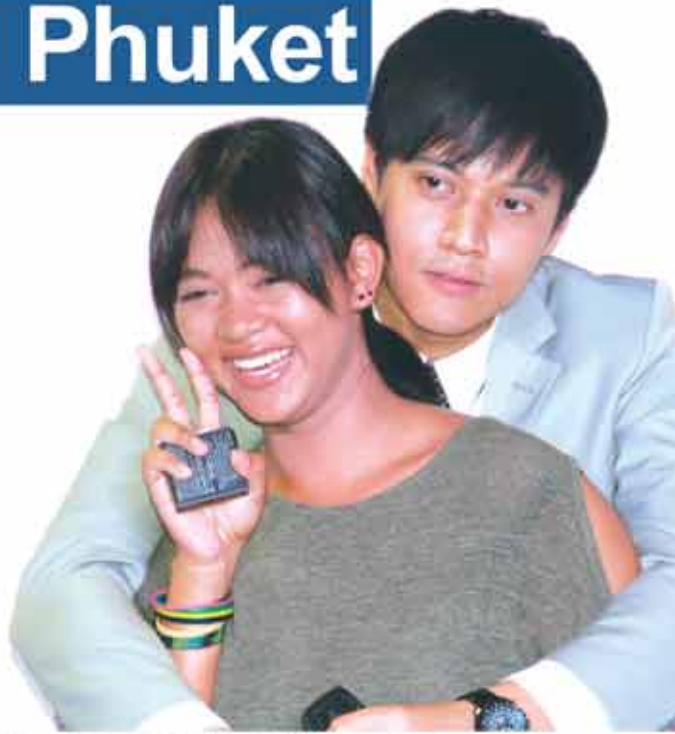
*And local cable networks across Thailand*



## YOUR Phuket

### Advance Code Booster VIP Event

Advance Code Booster recently hosted a thank you event for its customers from Elisees, Pan Dermacare and Pan Cosmetic at Robinsons Ocean department store in Phuket Town.



Actor Suthee Siangwaan hugs a customer at the event.



From left: Actor Funden Junyathanakorn, Marketing Manager of Pan Rajdhevee Group Narisa Chaiyasoun, Marketing Division Manager of Robinson Ocean Phuket Kanthida Khawthong, Sales manager of Robinson Ocean Phuket Oranong Keanson and Actor Suthee Siangwaan.

### Region 8 Labour Court welcomes new mediation officers



President of the Phuket Chamber of Commerce Kriangsak Suksomboon welcomed the new mediation officers.



Staff of the Region 8 Labour Court held a social event to welcome their new mediation officers, whose role it is to negotiate disputes and reduce the caseload of the court.

### Amari Phuket welcomes new AGM



Amari Phuket, led by Ms Tipaporn Koonphol – Deputy General Manager (front row, fourth from the left) and the rest of the management team, recently welcomed their newest team member, Pierre-Andre Pelletier (front row, third from the left). Mr Pelletier was recently appointed as Amari's Vice President – Area General Manager for South Thailand.



The Phuket Gazette's weekly


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

PROPERTY of the week



**SUGAR PALM RESIDENCE**

See page 16

PROPERTY SERVICES of the week




See page 19

JOB of the week



See page 21

BOAT of the week



See page 25

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[Anna@PhuketGazette.Net](mailto:Anna@PhuketGazette.Net)







## Properties For Sale

## LAND FOR SALE

Back of Loch Palm, 510sqm, part of a small gated community of 2 villas, next to small lake. Chanote title and, if interested, complete house plans provided for free. 6 million baht, negotiable. For more information, please call 087-266 4583 (English), 082-440 6884 (Thai).

## LUXURY VILLA

Just 3 minutes from BIS, 900sqm land, 350sqm building, 3 bedrooms + maid room, 4 bathrooms, studio, 14x4m swimming pool, fish ponds. 15 million baht. Contact Alex. Tel: 089-651 3250.

SEAFRONT LAND  
KAMALA FOR SALE

6 rai, Chanote, seafront 66m. Tel: 089-897 2141.

LAND AND HOUSE  
PARK

3-bedrooms, 2-bathrooms, 2-storey house for sale. 200 sqm land, for photos. Tel: 084-845 4743. Email: attivaphuket@yahoo.co.uk

FOR SALE / RENT  
SEA VIEW

1-bedroom apartment at Eden Resort Karon. Only 15 apartments in complex. Fully furnished, gym and 20x5m swimming pool. Please call 087-882 9604. Email: artlpmj@yahoo.com

## VILLA WITH POOL

4-bedrooms, pool villa for sale, fully furnished, 12.5 million baht or rent long term: 75,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-729 2989. Email: tabppg@gmail.com

TOWNHOUSE  
PHUKET TOWN  
FOR SALE / RENT

In Supalai City Hill estate. Very quiet, safe, convenient. 3 years old, 2 storeys, furnished, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, WiFi, decorated, shady garden, well-maintained by original owner. For sale: 2.8 million baht on. For more information, please call 089-874 00 61. Email: stephenfein@gmail.com

## LAND FOR SALE

Close to the beach in Mai Khao. 4,136 sqm. Chanote title 16.9 million baht. Negotiable price. Contact Khun Tik. Tel: 085-784 7218 (English & Thai). Email: khrutphuketproperty@gmail.com

TITLE CONDO 2BR  
REDUCED

Rawaii: 66 sqm, 6.5 million baht if closed within in 30 days. Tel: 089-772 7136 (English). Email: tedleefisher@hotmail.com

PRIME  
BEACHFRONT  
LAND

Beachfront land on Rawai / Chalong beach. Also connects directly to Vised Road. Adjacent to Serenity Terraces, so really prime! Over 4 rai at 180 million baht. Tel: 080-124 1245. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

LUXURY  
POOL VILLA

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LARGE SEAVIEW  
HOUSE AT LAYAN

3 rai, Chanote. Price: 54 million baht. Tel: 081-787 4383. Email: ruggdan@gmail.com

LAND & HOUSE  
FOR SALE

Location: Phanom District, Surat Thani, near Khao Sok National Park. - Land: 120 rai + rubber plantation, 8 years old. 6 million baht.



- House: 1-rai area, furnished, 2 bedrooms, 2 aircons. 1.9 million baht. Please call 081-667 1637, 082-539 6433.

## 2-STOREY HOUSE

Close to the Heroines' Monument. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Email: Pktthai1@gmail.com

## URGENT SALE

Anuphas Kathu, refurbished, 2-storey, 3-bedroom villa 4 sale. 081-968 4314 (English). Email: johnhideaway@hotmail.com

NEW SEAVIEW  
FREEHOLD CONDO

Brand-new freehold condos from 2.3 million baht, includes furniture, plus seaview condos, 3.5 million baht. Tel: 080-124 1245. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

FREEHOLD  
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From 1.1 million baht. 800m from Nai Harn Beach. For more information, please call 080-124 1245. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

ZCAPE  
1-BEDROOM CONDO  
LAGUNA

Brand-new, semi-furnished, two 1-bedroom condos (27.7sqm & 29.41sqm), adjacent units on 6th floor in Zcape development, ready now. Near Laguna, Boat Avenue and beaches. Thai or foreign ownership ok. Both priced at under 2 million baht. Tel: 085-235 1532 (English & Thai). Email: thanasak.nk@gmail.com

ENTERTAINMENT  
PALACE

Magnificent penthouse in Karon with panoramic sea view apartment. Reduced by 10 million baht for quick sale, includes an additional two-bedroom apartment. Now 46 million baht. Freehold. Please call 080-124 1245. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

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2-bed, 2-bath. Sugar Palm Condo. Right at Suan Luang Park with direct access to superb park, lake and ocean views. 10<sup>th</sup> floor, corner unit, 90 sqm. 10 min to Central shopping center, 20-30 minutes to beaches. 65,000 baht per sqm. Call Noi 087- 269 8492.

3-BEDROOMS  
2-BATHROOMS  
IN COMPOUND

Villa in good compound with sport club. Furnished, opposite Laem Hin Seafood & Maeju, near PIADS. For more information, please call 081-719 0014. Email: nacky2u@hotmail.com

LAND WITH SEA VIEW  
FOR SALE

200sqm with a beautiful view. Located on 50 Pee Road, Patong. 4.9 million baht. Tel: 098-386 6408 (English), 087-268 2396 (Thai). Email: jasonsfriday6@gmail.com

## LAND - PATONG BEACH

Opposite White Box restaurant. Sea View & beach front. 48 million baht/rai. Plots of 22 rai, 10 rai, and 4 rai Tel: 084-847 9977 (English & Thai), 084-058 8892 (English & Thai). Email: info@pacificlighthotel.com

## LAND FOR SALE

1.5 rai land: 30 minutes from Bang Tao Beach, for hotel & condominium. 2 rai land: Soi Pasak 4. 100m from Pasak Road, for housing condominium. Tel: 076-340559, 081-937 8152.

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## PALM BREEZE CONDO

Nai Harn, 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, fully furnished. Urgent sale US\$199,000. No agents! For more information, please call 081-956 1077.

NICE STUDIO APT, B 1.5  
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LAND FOR SALE IN  
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59 rai: 150,000 baht per rai. Beautiful land, perfect for resort living. Many big trees and a creek, very peaceful mountain views. Next to a national park. Power, water, easy access. 15 minutes from airport. Beautiful part of Thailand. Contact Nisa 086-211 1599. (English & Thai). Email: moon\_nisa@hotmail.com

APARTMENT FOR SALE  
IN BOAT LAGOON

2-bedroom, marina apartment for sale in Boat Lagoon, north of Phuket Town, in a residential maritime township surrounded by commercial plaza and sporting facilities. Fully furnished, private carport, large swimming pool available for residents. Living area: 198sqm. Freehold. Price: 11 million baht. Tel: 080-789 4500 (English & French). Email: Chris tophe.soula@hotmail.fr

CHEAP LAND &  
HOUSE FOR SALE

Land of 35 rai and a house with aircon, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and kitchen at Tambon Bornok, Prachuap Khiri Khan, 20km from Prachuap Khiri Khan Town. The land is 1.3km from Petchkasem Road. Price is only 10 million baht. Nor Sor 3 title deed. Please call 086-615 9719.

LAND & HOUSES 88  
NEW

Chalong, only pool villa, 75sq wah, 3 bedrooms, exclusive modern interior design, corner house. Urgent sale: 9.75 million baht. Contact Thilo. Tel: 089-874 3376.



## Properties For Rent

## CHALONG HOUSE

Fully furnished, 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 aircons. Tel: 087-266 7191.

2-BED APTS,  
BEACH 3 MIN WALK

160sqm, kitchen, terrace, large shared pool, gardens, Nai Harn Beach 3 min walk, 45K pm + utilities, until Nov. Email: resortgm@gmail.com

## ZCAPE CHERNGTALAY

Studio apartment. Fully furnished. Large Flat screen TV. Fridge. Microwave. Email: Pkthai1@gmail.com

MODERN SEAVIEW  
APARTMENT

Kata, quiet location, 2-bdrm, from 1,900 per night (1-year contract). Tel: 086-281 9311. Email: bao200@gmail.com

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MODERN  
POOL VILLA

Brand New Modern Pool Villas (2 & 3 beds). Fully furnished. Free WiFi, Satellite TV, Pool & Garden Maintenance. Between Cape Yamu & Ao Po Marina. Tel: 081-893 5270, 093-014 5072. Email: srdupouy@gmail.com, www.tropical-house.net

## HOUSE FOR RENT



3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 aircon. Fully furnished with small garden, quiet area. Rent 15,000 baht / month. Tel: 086-690 0626. Email: bcarrent@hotmail.com

PATONG 1 & 2  
BEDROOM UNITS

Modern kitchens, large pool, free WiFi, maid, cable, parking, gym. For more information, please call 080-052 8082 (English & Thai). Email: phv condo@aol.com

FOR RENT,  
RAWAI / NAI HARN

Vassana Residence and Palm Breeze resort. Starting at 30,000 baht per month for long-term rent. Sea view rooftop deck and bar overlooking the Andaman Sea. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. LCD TV in every room, swimming pool, washing machine in every apartment. 160sqm in size, free WiFi. Tel: 087-882 9604. Email: artlpmj@yahoo.com, www.premierpropertiesphuket.com

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PER MONTH

1-bedroom house, furnished, WiFi + cable TV, quiet area. For more information, please call 081-892 4311. <http://panwagreen.weebly.com>

FULLY FURNISHED  
HOUSE

3-bedrooms, 400sqm, free WiFi and cable TV. 25,000 baht per month. For more information, please call 081-892 4311. <http://palaigreen.weebly.com>

KATHU GOLF AND  
VALLEY VIEW VILLA

1, 2 and 3 bed Kathu golf and valley view villa. For rent, big pool, 4 km to BIS. Quiet, on top of a private hill. Fully furnished. Maid, WiFi, security. Long-term 35,000, 38,000 and 75,000 baht per month. For more information, please call 087-269 8492.

## CONDO IN LAGUNA

ZCape condo, one bed. Next to Boat Avenue, 6th floor. Nice view, changed from original design. Great kitchen, 30 sqm, gym, pool. 18,000 baht per month, long term. Call Tao. For more information please call 083-185 9487 (English & Thai), 081-273 4212 (English). Email: phuketcondo1@gmail.com

LUXURY 1 BED  
PATONG

100 sqm, pool, Fully furnished, WiFi. Price: 18,000 baht per month. For more information please call 081-271 7092. Email: bricothermal@hotmail.com

4-BED, 3-BATH  
NEAR LAGUNA

4-bed, 3-bath with private pool, landscaped garden, and only a few minutes drive to Villa Market and Laguna. Short and long term. Available now. Call: 089-655 7480. Email: suppamas@live.com

KATA BUNGALOW  
SOI 4

Fully furnished, 1 bedroom, kitchen, bathroom, terrace, WiFi and cable TV. Price: 9,000 baht per month. For more information, please call 081-606 2827 (English & Thai). Email: nij017@hotmail.com

VILLA FOR RENT  
NAI YANG

3-bed, Fully furnished. Long time rental. 21,000 baht per month. Please call 084-847 4377 (English), 084-842 6147 (English & Thai). Email: info@thaidreams.se

CONDO AT  
ROYAL PLACE

Phuket city, bypass road, opposite Tesco Lotus. 45sqm, 3 Fi 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 088-4769612. Email: annanoit@hotmail.com

HOUSE NEAR  
BANG TAO BEACH

2 storeys, fully furnished, near big Thalang Tesco-Lotus. 10 minutes to many beaches. Price: 12,000-15,000 baht per month. Please call 090-924 5838. Email: vicky\_grc@hotmail.com

HOLIDAY HOUSE AND  
VILLA RENTAL

Private pool villa Rawai, 2 beds, 2 baths, short term only. For more information please call 085-787 3046 (English). Email: patrickmeo@gmail.com

200SQM  
WAREHOUSE

Near Chalong circle, modern lockup. Price: 25,000 baht per month. Please call 081-082 5707.

CONDO FOR RENT  
IN TOWN

Furnished condo with aircon, TV, fridge. Gym and pool. 7,500 baht per month until September. For more information please call 081-978 1558. Email: keng.na.ranong@hotmail.com

BANG TAO  
LUXURY POOL VILLA

For rent 100,000 baht per month. 500m to Bang Tao beach. 3 bed / 3 bath plus maid's room. Available 1 July 2014. Please call 076-325986, 089-867 7154.

KARON OCEANFRONT  
LUXURY APT

Five-star, one-bedroom apartment with pool in a quiet area. For sale 24,000 baht per month. Available now. Call Daniele Fenocchio. Tel: 087-531 1124 (English & Thai). Email: dfenocchio@hotmail.com, www.karonhill.altervista.org

2-SHOPHOUSES  
FOR RENT

One minute walk to beach. Ideal for restaurant, bar, massage. 2nd fl furnished as 2-bedroom apartment w/2 baths and kitchen. Please call 084-189 7696 (English & Thai). Email: janum0012@hotmail.com

## HOUSE FOR RENT



Near BIS single house. 3 bedrooms, fully furnished, airconditioners, furniture, kitchen. 28,000baht per month. For more information please call 081-892 1732. Email: ann@siammileage.com

3-BEDROOM VILLA  
LONG TERM

Nice villa, Central Phuket, 3 beds, 2 baths, GT, 200sqm, fair rent. Gated, quiet, unfurnished. Available from August 2014. Take over aircon. Price for sale 60,000 baht per month. For more information, please call 086-281 1264. Email: info@contextphuket.com

Let us take your ad to the top of Google with a 20% discount!



Your key to fast-track placement and easy payment for ads at Thailand's LARGEST classifieds marketplace. Hundreds of new ads every week! Like to have one?

Mail: AdPower@PhuketGazette.Net

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

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

The Gazette Online is always on top in Google!



## Household Items

Thailand's Leading Property Site  
**DDproperty**  
.com

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



# Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

## REPORTER

- ▶ Thai national (able to read, write, speak fluent Thai)
- ▶ Ability to communicate clearly in English
- ▶ Clear thinking in order to identify what makes a good news story
- ▶ Initiative and enthusiasm to track down a story
- ▶ Photography skills
- ▶ Able to manage own time effectively
- ▶ Knowledge of Burmese an advantage
- ▶ Driver's license

Good salary for the right candidate.

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV by email to Um@PhuketGazette.net

## The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

79/94 Moo 4, Thepkasattri Rd, Koh Kaew  
A. Muang, Phuket 83000  
Tel: 076-273555 Ext.402 Fax: 076-615240

## DETOX CONSULTANT WANTED

English speaking Thai National with previous detox or nurse experience. Good salary + benefits! Tel: 081-270 9772. Email: liam@phuketfit.com

## P.A. / COMPANY SECRETARY

Managing Director of multiple companies is looking for a Phuket-based, native English-speaking foreigner or a Thai national with native English speaking capabilities. • Company Secretary experience is a must. • Experience as an Executive Assistant with strong organizational/detail-oriented administrative skills. Must possess excellent business e-mail correspondence skills. Must also possess excellent note-taking skills and be very computer savvy and proficient with Microsoft Office. Tel: 090-9163460 (English). Email: securecomm@yahoo.com

## FINANCE MANAGER 30K+

LivePhuket is the fastest growing holiday rental & real estate platform based in Kamala, Phuket. Must have 5+ years finance experience and speak and write excellent English. Tel: 092-474 6157. Send CVs to Paul@livephuket.com For further details, please see our website at www.livephuket.com

## MARKETING STAFF

Fast-growing real estate company is looking for marketing executives to join our property booth in Patong. Female / Thai national - Friendly personality and outgoing communication skills, fluent in English, multilingual is a plus. Good salary and attractive commission. Send your CV with recent photo to helena@phuketabc.com. Tel: 076-613680, 087-2673747 (English). Fax: 076-613680. Email: helena@phuketabc.com

## COPY WRITER

Siam Real Estate require an English speaking freelance copy writer with experience in real estate copy. Flexible working-times; own hours. Good rate per copy. Tel: 076-288908. Send CV to jobs@siamrealestate.com. NO calls.

## SALES REPRESENTATIVES

English speaking TO and Sales Reps needed. Experience in timeshare only. Start immediately. Tel: 076-342794, 088-450 1833. Email: hr@davidvacationclub.com

## ENGLISH TEACHERS NEEDED

ELT Phuket is looking for teachers. Competitive salary and bonuses. Apply within. Tel: 084-847 3033. Email: maxbeardsley@gmail.com

## LIVE-IN HOUSEKEEPER

Live-in housekeeper wanted for small family in Kathu. Duties include cleaning, laundry, some childcare and cooking. Excellent salary. Tel: 094-593 0729 (English). Email: ritalouisedobson@hotmail.com

## HOST FOR TOUR GROUP

Looking for part time host / guest attendant in Phuket. English speaking. High pay. Email us. Tel: 098-487 4168 (English). Email: aarenlee@ilike-phuket.com

## REAL ESTATE STAFF WANTED

We are looking for staff to work with us in the progressing and increasing branches at Rawai-Phuket. Secretary/Receptionist: Thai female. Required: Good personality and outgoing communication skills, enthusiastic, fluent written and spoken English, good basic computer skills. Good Salary and Commission! Tel: 076-388801. Please send resume and recent photo to contact@harvest-property.com

## BOAT CREW

Two positions available on the Chalong-based premier power catamaran Blue World – a Chinese Speaking Tour Guide and a qualified Boat Engineer. Both vacancies are for Thai Nationals. Excellent conditions and rates of pay. Please send photo and CV to Mike. Tel: 085-475 0447 (English). Email: blueworldsafaris@gmail.com

## EUROPEAN CHEFS

We are hiring Sous Chef and Executive Chef. We want both full-time. Good salary and work permit for the right candidate. Tel: 081-905 8353. Email: hrbangtao@oceanresortgroup.net

## STAFF AT TIGER MAUY THAI AN MMA

1. Senior Accountant Salary 40,000 + month (1 position) Must possess good written and spoken English. Should be versed in Microsoft Word, Excel. Should have knowledge of social security, VAT, payroll, balance sheet and financial reports.
2. Accounting assistant Salary 12,000-18,000 + month (based on experience) (2 positions) Must be versed in Microsoft Word, Excel. Basic accounting, good written English.
3. Personal Assistant to the Director Salary 20,000-30,000 + (based on experience) (1 position) Excellent written and spoken English. Able to use Microsoft Word and Excel. Ability to work in a fast-paced environment. Qualified candidates please send CV to will@tigermauythai.com

myclip studios

VS ASIA

## Career Opportunity : Sales & Marketing Executive (Asia)

We're looking for a new generation responsible for the Asian Market, especially for Hong Kong and China. Our available position is Sales & Marketing Executive. Any interested candidate must be experienced and skilled at sales and marketing for the international market, including online + offline businesses.

Position: Sales & Marketing Executive (Asia)

### Job Description :

- ▶ Search potential customer lists and develop to make sales
- ▶ Introduce and present our services to potential customers
- ▶ Maintain and develop responsive business strategies for Asia; especially Hong Kong and China
- ▶ Implement a knowledge of online marketing, online channels, fashion trends and shopping online

### Job Qualifications:

- ▶ F/M, Thai or Chinese Nationality
- ▶ Good communication in Chinese and English skills, good presentation skills,
- ▶ Min 2 year experience as Sales Executive (any sales skills will be an advantage).
- ▶ Able to work full time at local or overseas country (Hong Kong-China)
- ▶ Interested in fashion / photography / creative design / online shopping

### Salary & Welfare:

Salary, work permit & visa, social security insurance, tax, food, etc. Commission and yearly bonus (upon reaching a sales target)

Any interested candidate please apply in person or send your current resume or CV listing complete employment experience, a recent photograph, references and salary expectations to info@myclip.asia / info@vsdma.com / or call 076-380600

Our Contact Info:

## MyClip Asia by VS Asia Co., Ltd.

40 and 42 Moo3 Palai Soi 2, Chaofa Rd., Chalong, Muang, Phuket 83130 Thailand

Tel. 076-380-600 Fax. 076-380605  
email: info@myclip.asia email: info@vsdma.com

## ASSISTANT SALES MANAGER

Looking: TO min 2 yrs exp. Com+spiff+monthly bonus. WP+SS. Tel: 076-342794, 088-450 1833. Contact: hr@davidvacationclub.com

## THAI TEACHER NEEDED

I'm looking for a private teacher of Thai language for a six-year-old boy. Mobile: 090-957 1687 (English). Email: zaz.anna18@gmail.com

## Authorized Agents for Classified Advertising:

### CHALONG

- ▶ Julapan Stationery (Chaofa East Rd) Tel: 076-282254
- ▶ KL Mart (Patak Rd, Chalong Circle) Tel: 076-280400
- ▶ Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppe Tel: 076-282403  
(Fisherman's Way Business Center, Chaofa East Rd)

### PATONG

- NEW Andy's Real Estate Agency (Opp. Savoey Seafood) Tel: 076-341644
- ▶ Taurus Travel (Aroonsom Plaza) Tel: 076-344521-2
- ▶ Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppe (Aroonsom Plaza) Tel: 076-290468

### PHUKET CITY

- ▶ Earth Language Training Centre School (Phang Nga Rd) Tel: 076-232398
- ▶ Sin & Lee (Thalang Rd) Tel: 076-258369
- ▶ iTree complete printing service Tel: 076-255425  
(Tesco Lotus Phuket Town) bank zone

### CHERNG TALAY

- ▶ Chaba Supermarket (at the Laguna gateway) Tel: 076-325586

### RAWAI

- ▶ The Network property office (Saiyuan Rd) Tel: 076-388144

### KARON

- ▶ EuroStyle Tailors (Luang Por Chuan Rd) Tel: 076-396911

## Live in Patong?

Place your **GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS** at Andy's Real Estate Agency (AREA)



Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it with Khun Andy: (076-341644)

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

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

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



**Staff urgently required for all service / kitchen positions**

- Thai applicants only, permanent residents of Phuket. Must have excellent written and spoken English skills and restaurant experience.
- Benefits: High salary.

**Khun Eddie Tel : 081-187 7242,  
076-346271**

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV to:  
Email: [whitebox@ugolinigroup.com](mailto:whitebox@ugolinigroup.com)

 **โรงพยาบาลศิริโรจน์**  
**Phuket International Hospital**

Phuket International Hospital, 44  
Chalermprakiat Rd 9 Rd, Phuket 83000  
Tel: +66 (0) 76249400  
Fax: +66 (0) 76361800

**Phuket International Hospital is looking to recruit:**

- Scandinavian Coordinator
- German Coordinator

- The successful Scandinavian Coordinator candidate be fluent in one or more Scandinavian languages  
- The successful German Coordinator candidate be fluent in German  
- Other language skills are a strong advantage

Clinical, nursing or relevant healthcare skills or experience, proven ability in promoting marketing strategies, and experience in accountancy are also highly desirable

Please send your CV by email to:  
**james@phuketinternationalhospital.com**  
**[www.phuketinternationalhospital.com](http://www.phuketinternationalhospital.com)**



**SALES / OFFICE REPRESENTATIVE**

Starting in August for 6 months at the Yacht Haven Phuket. Good computer / English skills. Yacht charter company, open to foreigners. Tel: 081-270 2449 (English), 081-978 6086. Fax: 076-273476. Email: [mel@phuket-yachts.com](mailto:mel@phuket-yachts.com)

**SALES ASSISTANT WANTED**

Native English speaker to work as telephone sales assistant. Basic salary + apartment + commissions! Contact us now for more details. Tel: 081-270 9772. Email: [liam@phuketfit.com](mailto:liam@phuketfit.com)

**RUSSIAN SALES REP. WANTED**

Russian lady sales needed for real estate. Highest commission in Phuket. Located on Patong Beach, Phuket. Tel: 081-968 5963 (English). Email: [c@bay-shoreprojects.com](mailto:c@bay-shoreprojects.com)

**SALESPERSON**

Sales person wanted for smart home systems integration company. Please email CV. Tel: 084-443 9863 (English). Email: [daragh@techworx.asia](mailto:daragh@techworx.asia)

**GERMAN TEACHER NEEDED**

We are looking for a German teacher for a 10-year-old child from 22-28 Dec 2014 and for 1 Jan 2015 - every morning for two hours in Patong. (41) 079-369 6535. Email: [bharati.schneider@gmail.com](mailto:bharati.schneider@gmail.com)

**REAL ESTATE SALES - 150K+**

LivePhuket is growing fast and requires a talented person to join its property sales team. You must have excellent English reading and writing skills, enjoy making money and have experience in sales/customer service. Thais Only. Send CVs to [paul@livephuket.com](mailto:paul@livephuket.com) www.livephuket.com

**OFFICE ADMIN MANAGER 30K+**

Live Phuket is the No.1 holiday rentals and sales company in Phuket. We now requires an office manager to join our young and growing team. You must be well organized, have experience working as an office admin / manager, and be good at Microsoft Excel and Word. You must also speak and write excellent English. This is a Thai-only position. Send CV to [paul@livephuket.com](mailto:paul@livephuket.com) for an immediate reply. [www.livephuket.com](http://www.livephuket.com)

**HOUSEKEEPER NEEDED**

To manage and ensure the cleanliness of our operation. Must be a dynamic team worker with a pleasant personality. Contact us. Tel: 076-281227, 081-893 5492 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-281227. Email: [jtissier@aqua-master.net](mailto:jtissier@aqua-master.net)

**Jetstar International – Cabin Crew Opportunities: Based in Phuket**

Jetstar Airways, a Qantas Group Airline from Australia, is continuing to expand its Thailand Base. We currently fly from a number of Australia cities to destinations in the Asian region and beyond, including Japan, Thailand, USA, Indonesia and Singapore. With our continuous growth, we'd love you to become part of the team. Jetstar is continuing to engage the respected Thai company Tour East (T.E.T) Ltd to recruit and employ Thai nationals for cabin crew positions based in Thailand. Further details below. As a value-based airline, Jetstar offers business and economy class service for its international flights. The cabin crew are responsible for meeting the customer service and comfort needs of our passengers. Crew will be rostered to be away from home base for multiple nights, flying to various destinations in the international Jetstar network.

**Successful applicants will be offered:**

- A competitive salary with additional allowances when away from home
- A career in aviation within a growing international airline
- The opportunity to make new friends, have fun and enjoy job satisfaction
- Generous travel benefits and the opportunity to fly away on your days off

**Minimum requirements are :**

- Thai nationality with university degree
- Able to swim at least 50 meters nonstop
- Customer Service experience
- Comfortable in a sales role
- Proficiency in written and spoken English language – a certificate showing a minimum TOEIC level of 700 achieved within the past 2 years (photocopy required)
- Valid passport with at least 24 months validity (photocopy required)
- Personal e-mail address
- Comfortably reach vertical target of 210cm and horizontal target of 130cm
- An excellent level of health and fitness
- Japanese language will be advantageous

**Note :** Male applicants will also need to provide a record of exemption from military service  
**Please send your applications by 08 August 2014 to the following address:**

**Tour East (T.E.T) LTD Cabin Crew Recruitment** 68/86 Moo 5, Tumbon Rachadhewa, Kingkaew Road, Bangplee, Samutprakarn 10540 Thailand

Please include photocopies of the following documentation with your application:

- Transcript of record of exemption from military service (men only)
- House registration certificate
- Identification card
- Passport
- Result of TOEIC, university degree (Transcript)
- CV and recent passport photo
- Japanese Language Proficiency Test result

Please be advised that **Tour East (T.E.T) LTD** reserves the right to invite only the qualified persons to progress to the next stage of the recruitment process

**AD SALES REPRESENTATIVE**

We are currently seeking trusted, fluent in English, professional candidates for the position of advertising sales representative in Phuket. Level/salary range: up to 40,000 baht (first-full year earnings potentials). The position is open for Thai and foreigners (work permit required). Kindly send your resume by email. Email: [info@phuketitaly.com](mailto:info@phuketitaly.com)

**CHINESE REAL ESTATE SALES**

Siam Real Estate require experienced Chinese speaking sales person with good English and computer literacy. Tel: 076-288908. Send CV to [jobs@siamrealestate.com](mailto:jobs@siamrealestate.com) or see [www.siamrealestate.com](http://www.siamrealestate.com)

**ASSISTANT SALES MANAGER**

Looking: TO min 2 yrs exp. Com+spiff+monthly bonus. WP+SS. Tel: 076-342794, 088-450 1833. Contact: [hr@davidvacationclub.com](mailto:hr@davidvacationclub.com)

**SALES & HOST PERSON**

Lotus Medical International seeks to hire people both to host our clients coming to Thailand for surgery and for sales. Fluent English speaking and IT skills are essential, as well as a friendly personality and a high level of empathy, customer service and motivation. Good salary available, please send your CV to [info@lotusmedicalinternational.com](mailto:info@lotusmedicalinternational.com) <http://lotusmedicalinternational.com>

**OPC MANAGER**

David Vacation Club is looking for an OPC Manager with experience in timeshare. Work permit, free accommodation, social security. Call and ask for George. Tel: 076-342794, 088-450 1833 (English). Email: [george@davidvacationclub.com](mailto:george@davidvacationclub.com)

**EUROPEAN CHEFS**

We are hiring Sous Chef and Executive Chef. We want both full-time. Good salary and work permit for the right candidate. Tel: 081-905 8353. Email: [hrrangtao@oceanresortgroup.net](mailto:hrrangtao@oceanresortgroup.net)

**RENTALS CONSULTANT 100K+**

LivePhuket.com is the Number 1 holiday rentals platform in Phuket. We require a talented and smart Rentals Consultant. You have the opportunity to easily earn over 100,000 baht every month! Must be a Thai national and have excellent English, written and spoken. Tel: 092-474 6157. (English) Email: [paul@livephuket.com](mailto:paul@livephuket.com)

**ADMIN ASSISTANT WANTED**

English speaking Thai National with admin experience. Good salary + benefits! Tel: 081-270 9772. Email: [liam@phuketfit.com](mailto:liam@phuketfit.com)

**LICENSED BOAT CAPTAIN SAMUI**

For wooden boat under 20 tons at Koh Samui for snorkeling day tours. Tel: 077-961911, 081-737 1984 (English & Thai), 081-396 8383 (English & Thai). Email: [tk@tourskohsamui.com](mailto:tk@tourskohsamui.com)

**Live in Town?**  
**Place your GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS at**  
**iTree Complete Printing Service**



Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it with  
**Khun Nan: (076-255425)**

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

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

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



## Business Opportunities

## RESORT

67/18 Moo 4 Soi Sermasuk. 2 rai. Chanote. 8 bungalows, 22 rooms, restaurant, pool, well, company, reduced to 26mn. Tel: 076-381934, 086-940 1860. Fax: 076-381934. Email: bigasail@samart.co.th, www.bigasailing.com

## BAR FOR RENT

On Bangla Road. Great location, fully equipped, near road. Contract until January 2015. Price: 590,000 baht only. Contact Khun Robert Tel: 082-829 4106 (English).

## GUESTHOUSE + RESTAURANT SALE

Small guesthouse + restaurant for takeover. Contact for details. Tel: 082-270 6385 (English & Thai), 081-891 4019. Email: tkoschig2000@hotmail.com

## BAR &amp; RESTAURANT

Bar, commercial kitchen and restaurant. 2 storeys, 3 bathrooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 decks, includes furniture. In good location. For sale 580,000 baht. Rent only 20,000 baht per month. For more information please call 085-348 51 37 (Thai), 081-086 3812 (English). Email: matthew.wilson@xtra.co.nz

## Good profitable company for sale in Kata

**Owner retiring**

You can buy a Thai Ltd. Company 8 years in business (with a large many sub-businesses)

Now its main activities are in maintenance and apartment rental services  
Present income minimum 1.5 million baht yearly

**The company is also owner of:**

No-1 Building and Chanote  
No-2 A new restaurant with professional kitchen (can do catering)  
No-3 Sauna-pool and parking area

For serious and motivated entrepreneurs, a good and safe profit situation  
Price for the total, including the company:

**8.5 million Baht**

For information:  
SMS Maurice: 081-788 8280.  
Email: maurice.phuket@gmail.com

## LIST OF BUSINESSES FOR SALE

Buy a Business in Phuket!  
Email: thaiblazo@gmail.com, www.phuketadvertising.com/business

## GUESTHOUSE FOR SALE / RENT

Rawai. Too much to list. For more information please contact 081-808 1804. Email: ttpitstop@hotmail.com

## GM TOP ECO-RESORT KHAO SOK

Ideal candidate should speak Thai, be keen on environment, strong in web marketing, hospitality business experience. Farang with Thai partner welcome. Compensation 1.2 - 3 million baht per year depending on experience. Work permit, housing and meals provided. For more information, please call 02-863 3180, 081-850 3632 (English). Email: dicksandl@gmail.com

## B10MN MORTGAGE WANTED

Will pay 6% interest annually, interest only quarterly in advance, 50% of property value. Email: gordon\_asia@hotmail.com

## KARON GUESTHOUSE



2 mins walk to beach, located on the tourist road, 5 storeys, 7 furnished bedrooms. 13 million baht. Tel: 081-171 9705.

## 2 SHOPHOUSES FOR RENT

One minute walk to beach. Ideal for restaurant, bar, massage. 2<sup>nd</sup> fl furnished as 2-bedroom apartment w/2 baths and kitchen. For more information, please call 084-189 7696 (English & Thai). Email: janum0012@hotmail.com

## UNIQUE STRETCH LIMO BUSINESS

Only stretch limousine in Thailand. Turnkey business with website and many customers. Just start and make money! 2.8 million baht. For more information please call 089-932 5175 (English & Thai). Email: wojidkwbengt@hotmail.com

## BUSINESS FOR SALE

Looking for a business? Since 2005, Business Brokers in Phuket have been finding the best opportunities and prices. Please call 081-278 7117 (English). Email: unicolli@gmail.com, www.phuket-island-property.com

## PATONG MESSAGE SHOP NANAI

8-beds, 5 chairs, staff accommodation. Wide shop front, rear access. Quick sale needed. 350,000 baht or best offer. Email: roy\_baldman@yahoo.com

## Bar &amp; Restaurant Equipment

## GUESTHOUSE CLOSING

Many items for sale. Call or send email to receive a list, photos and prices. Tel: 085-159 7400 (English). Email: dshumny@yahoo.com

## Bulletins

## Alcoholics Anonymous

If you want to drink that is your business

If you want to stop that is ours

Daily Meetings

Patong, Phuket Town, Chalong, Surin, Karon

081-895 4763  
084-307 7408

Email: phuketaa@yahoo.com

Google AA Phuket

## Phuket Gazette

## CLASSIFIED AD ORDER FORM

STANDARD AD (Text only): 140 baht/line

## OPTIONS (NEWSPAPER ONLY - NOT WEB):

Special font / layout	250 baht	<input type="checkbox"/>
Box	250 baht	<input type="checkbox"/>
Box with red headline	350 baht	<input type="checkbox"/>
Box with black background	350 baht	<input type="checkbox"/>
Box with color background	500 baht	<input type="checkbox"/>
Photo	650 baht	<input type="checkbox"/>

NUMBER OF INSERTIONS: ..... issue(s)

## ONLINE OPTIONS:

Web link	350 baht	<input type="checkbox"/>
Photo	500 baht	<input type="checkbox"/>

All ads in the newspaper run online automatically and free charge.

## TELEVISION OPTION:

Your ad with photo displayed by PGTV on 3 cable networks, 70 times a week 350 baht ☐

Total cost of your classified ..... baht

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Phone Mr Reece  
(02) 668-1268

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.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	560 Baht
.....	700 Baht
.....	840 Baht
.....	980 Baht
.....	1,120 Baht
.....	1,260 Baht
.....	1,400 Baht

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For sale: secondhand sea container 40ft. I can send a photo. For more information Please call 084-744 4648 (English). Email: vb331@hotmail.com



Accepting children 3 months old - 5 years old. 7am-7pm.

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One third of corporate membership for sale. All fees paid up to date. Deceased estate. 500,000 baht. Tel: 081-892 3694 (English & Thai), 041-849 7348 (English). Email: webbjo10@bigpond.com

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2 years old, complete with printer. 18-inch screen. Price: 12,000 baht ONO. Tel: 084-818 6045.

## IMAC

21.5" / 13,000 baht. 4GB RAM / 500GB HD. Wireless keyboard & mouse. For more information please call 076-510143.

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Licensed US Counselor. Individual, children, couples. For more information, please call 086-271 8153 (English). Email: parwkg@aol.com

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- Musical instrument. Jazz guitar. Price: 35,000 baht.
- Orange amplifier. Price: 40,000 baht.
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- Showcase. Price: 180,000 baht.

Please contact 081-667 1637 (Thai), Khun JP 082-539 6433 (English)

## Dive Gear

CHEAP DIVE  
COMPRESSORS

Bauer Mariner 250, year 2006. Price for sale 140,000 baht. L&W 245 year 2002 + another L&W 245 as spare parts. Total 70,000 baht. Both in working condition. Located in Chalong. For more information, please call 081-370 3376 (English), 081-970 7480 (Thai). Fax: 076-280 074. Email: janne@rayadivers.com

PATIO SET,  
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Many quality furnishings, decor. Facebook/4581Sell for pics and prices. For more information, please call 084-842 4581(English). Email: christy.ksweet@gmail.com

## Golf Stuff

CALLAWAY  
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Big Bertha, 3 woods, 9 irons, putter and bag, 5 years old. For more information, please call 084-818 6045.



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Phuket Gazette

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Now available in 4,222 premium hotel rooms around the island, all day every day.

- Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket: 254 rooms
- Le Meridien Phuket Beach Resort: 470 rooms
- Kata Beach Resort & Spa: 275 rooms
- Outrigger Laguna Phuket Resort & Villas: 77 rooms
- Centara Grand Beach Resort Phuket: 262 rooms
- Millennium Resort: 418 rooms
- Holiday Inn Resort & Spa: 405 rooms
- Movenpick Resort & Spa Karon Beach: 364 rooms
- Karon Beach Resort & Spa: 80 rooms
- Andara Beach Resort & Spa: 62 rooms
- Amari Coral Beach: 197 rooms
- Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort & Spa: 664 rooms
- Destination Patong: 390 rooms
- Serenity Terraces Resort: 68 rooms
- Dewa Naiyang Phuket: 96 rooms
- Regent Phuket Cape Panwa: 210 rooms

**More Info?** Please call 076-273555. Email: Kookai@phuketgazette.net or Gift@phuketgazette.net

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#### NORTHSHORE 46 (1987)

Well-maintained lifting keel sloop, 56hp Yanmar 4JH Diesel (2005), just reduced to 95,000 AU\$. For details contact Alan Giles. Tel 084- 842 6146. [www.Boatshedphuket.com](http://www.Boatshedphuket.com)

#### BERTRAM 35 FLYBRIDGE (1982)

2 x 215hp Cummins Diesels, an inexpensive example of these quality sport fishers. Reduced to only 77,000 US\$. For details contact Alan Giles. Tel 084- 842 6146. [www.Boatshedphuket.com](http://www.Boatshedphuket.com)

#### VOLVO PENTA 380HP



Marine engines for sale: Volvo Penta TAMD71B, 6 cylinder, 380hp, 2500 rpm, turbo charged. 1) Engine number 2071124065, with reverse gear box Twin Disc MG-507, 198:1, 5M74752. 2) Engine number 2071124064 with reverse gear box Twin Disc MG-507, 198:1, number 5M7 474. Net Weight: 850kg per engine. Two silencers: MGS IN /OUT 5', 45°. Price: 1 million baht per engine. Tel: 081-306 1150 (English & Thai). Email: rm2@food comthailand.com

#### CLASSIC S & S SWAN 57 KETCH

The last of the Sparkman & Stevens Swans, a beautifully presented, elegant yacht with many recent upgrades. Only US\$349,000, will buy this top quality head turner. For details contact Alan Giles. Boatshed phuket.com. Tel 084-842 6146. Email: alangiles@boatshedphuket.com

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Deep V Hull, Hydraulic steering, Bimini & marine heads. Full factory warranty special low season price 799,950 THB inc VAT. Now in stock at our Boat Lagoon Showroom. For details contact Alan Giles. Andaman Boat Sales. Tel 084-842 6146. Email: boats@andamanboat sales.com

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4.8 meter Rigid Inflatable Boat with center console. Fiberglass hull. Low hours on 40 HP Yamaha engine. Steel trailer. Just serviced and ready to get on the water. 160,000 baht o.n.o. Tel: 080-432 4772 (English & Thai). Email: mounne@westnet.com.au

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

#### HOBIE CAT 16'

New main, beach wheels, mast float, cover, life jackets. 155,000 baht. Chalong. Tel: 087-976 0066 (English). Email: peter fb999@yahoo.co.uk

#### SEARAY 280 SUNDANCER

2 new engines 300hp fitted 2013, includes trailer and covers. Price: 4,250,000 baht. Tel: 081-968 3118. Email: info@procarpentering.com

#### CAPELLI RIB FOR SALE

Capelli RIB, 8m. 250hp Yamaha 4-stroke outboard motor with 361 hours. Garmin GPS with Blue chart for Southeast Asia. 860,000 baht. Tel: 076-348134, 084-6264969 (English) Fax: 076-348134. Email: neef@wana doo.fr

#### HARD TO FIND TEAK BOAT



This 80-year-old solid teak boat is ideal for a Phang Nga Bay live aboard, or a land-based guest house. 1.5 million baht. Call John on 090-798 5605. Email: johne mango@yahoo.com For current pictures and finish out options, [www.facebook.com/TeakBoatPhuket](http://www.facebook.com/TeakBoatPhuket)

#### BAYLINER 190

115hp Mercury 4-stroke. 15hp auxiliary 4-stroke, new 300W stereo, GPS, trailer, Thai registered, 2009, price: 590,000 baht. Tel: 084-584 6795 (English). Email: hanspaessler@me.com

#### JEANNEAU SO 37 (2002)

Yanmar 3 cyl diesel, never chartered and in very good condition, competitively priced at US\$ 69,950. For details, contact Alan Giles. Boatshedphuket.com. Tel: 084-842 6146. Email: alangiles@boatshedphuket.com

#### A STEAL FOR A QUICK SALE



2007. Italian demo yacht. Cranchi 47ft. Hard top. Fully loaded with tropical aircon, genset, electrical winches, garage, roof. Ray Marine premium navy, BBQ, ice maker, 3 fridges, Bose sound, neon light. Twin 570hp with reliable shaft drive, under 300hrs. Brand-new condition. Price: 335,000 euros. Tel: 089-971 0278. Email: eddyelan@yahoo.com

#### DECK HAND

For 31m motor yacht. Yacht Haven Marina. To handle lines and anchor, clean inside and out. Live aboard. Thai National. 30,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-417 8715 (English).

#### FOR SALE: HOBIE BRAVO 12'

Fantastic little Hobie Catamaran. Great for kids and adults wanting a fun dinghy boat responsive in light wind. Length 12'. Sail area: 86sqf/8sqm. Email: jezntat@gmail.com or call our Thai mobile: 086-685 9359, or to Singapore: 65-977 38457.

#### CHEAP DIVE COMPRESSORS

Bauer Mariner 250, year 2006, price baht 140,000. L&W 245 year 2002 + another L&W 245 as spare parts. Total baht 70,000. Both in working condition. Tel: 081-370 3376 (English), 081-970 7480 (Thai). Fax: 076-280074.

#### SALE NEW 2013 KAW ULTRA300X

Only 519,000 baht (from 580,000 baht). Last unit! Better hurry! Tel: 081-754 7599 (English & Thai), 081-110 9223 (English & Thai) Fax: 034-426403. Email: csutivas@gmail.com [www.mfjetski.com](http://www.mfjetski.com)

#### THE SOLUTION TO THIS WEEK'S Cryptic Crossword

#### COFFEE break

Abbreviations: UPPER CASE (if used as part of anagram, in brackets).  
 Normal spelling: lower case.  
 Anagrams: *italic* (indicated in clue by words 'out', 'possibly', 'strangely', 'wild', or similar).  
 Letters left out: underlined.  
 Across: 9. ABLUTIONS: A.B.-loutsin 10. OLIGARCHY: hailgocry 12. TEAR: rate 13. ASLEEP: please 14. PRALINE: plainer 15. AQUEDUCTS: cute squad 17. ENDEAVOUR: overanude 18. SCEPTRE: specter 19. PASTOR: sopart 20. SPOT: S-P-O-T. 23. CROWNINGS: crown-sign 25. GREENDOOR: rogerdone 26. NOTE: not-E 27. UNABLE: un-A.B.-L-E 29. PRODUCT: prod-cut 32. INELASTIC: tailsince 34. PASSENGER: pass-green 35. EJECTOR: jetcore 36. BEATIT: hit-it 37. STUN: nuts 38. EXTROVERT: E-X-T-trevor 39. DILATIONS: itslaidon  
 Down: 1. MARTIANS: trainsam 2. PLEASUREBOAT: aturboplease 3. GODSACRE: dogsacre 4. ASSES: asses-S 5. COMPRESS: mcsprose 6. HIPPODROME: hippo-D-more 7. CARAVAN: car-a-van 8. TYPEWRITER: wetrytripe 11. CAIRO: Co-air 16. DETENT: de-tent 19. PUS: P-us 21. PROMULGATION: P.R.O.-glum[rev]-at-1-on 22. SNOOZE: zoneso 23. CONSIDERED: codediners 24. NONSTARTER: soentrant-R 25. GEE: E-e.g.[up] 28. BACKBITE: back-bite 29. POSSIBLE: slipsobe 30. TARTNESS: starts[sen.[up]] 31. BASTION: boastin 33. ELECT: elect 34. PLAIDS: palsid

# Looking for a boat?

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## Private Aircraft and Flight Services in Phuket

## 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)

## 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)

## 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](mailto:kajoda1954@yahoo.co.uk)

## 1999 ROBIN 2160i

I would like to sell my Robin aircraft or trade it for a 4-seat Cessna or Piper (based in Hua Hin). The Robin: TTA 300hrs. SMOH 60hrs. This is a well-equipped, two-seat aerobatic aircraft. Has the Christen inverted oil system. Excellent inside and outside. King KMA24 audio panel, KX155 nav/com, KI203 vor, KY197A comm, KN64A dme, KR87 adf, KT76A transponder, CSPA400 i-com, FP5 fuel computer, CHT, OAT, Pitot heat. Price: 4 million baht. Please contact Thom. Email: thos\_w@hotmail.com

## 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)

## TECNAM P-92

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

350hrs. Tel: 081-840 8418.

**Unique development - 124 Rai**

If you would like to:

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- Buy or hanger a plane, or
- Build or rent a hangar

**Call Robert: 081-810 4510 (Eng. Ger.)**

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# General Aviation

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- Flying Lessons

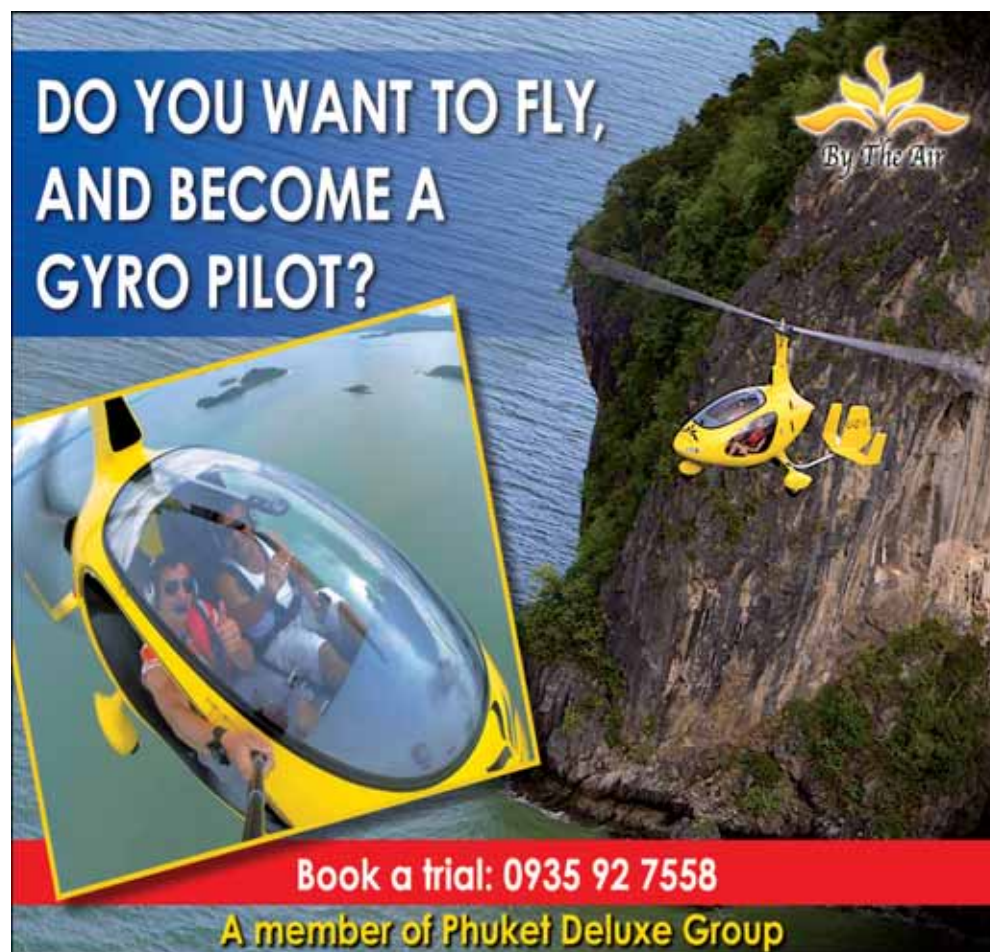
**Please use this form to write your classified advertisement.**

[illegible]

Classified ads are charged per line. Each line is 140 baht, with a minimum of 4 lines (heading included) per ad.

All advertising must be paid for in advance.

# DO YOU WANT TO FLY, AND BECOME A GYRO PILOT?



**Book a trial: 0935 92 7558**

**A member of Phuket Deluxe Group**



## One-stop Yacht Center opens at Chalong Pier

Phuket Governor Maitri Inthusut and Phuket Vice Governor Sommai Prijasilpa led officers and honorary consuls in opening the Phuket Yacht Control Center (PYCC) at Chalong Pier.



Phuket Vice Governor Sommai Prijasilpa took part in a tour of the facilities.



Phuket Governor Maitri Inthusut inspected the newly opened facility.

## Reducing Carbon Footprint Activity

The Moevenpick Resort & Spa Karon Beach Phuket team, together with students from Prince of Songkla University, Phuket Campus planted more than 300 trees on July 27. The planting event took place at Kathu Two Phuket Municipal School. The activity was a part of the university's academic preparation program and the hotel's sustainability program.



Students and hotel staff joined together to plant 300 trees.

## Food tasting at Sleep With Me Hotel

Sleep With Me Hotel in Patong recently hosted a food tasting event as part of rehearsals for several local chefs who are preparing for an international cooking competition.



Sleep With Me Hotel's Chef Korn prepared some of his signature dishes for the guests.

## Linda Kul's B'day celebrations

Phuket socialite Linda Kul recently celebrated her birthday with family and friends at her villa in Layan.



Linda Kul (left), a well known figure in the island's property industry, celebrated with close friends.



Linda's many celebrity friends joined the party to wish her health and prosperity.



## Words from the wise

"You see, there are still faint glimmers of civilization left in this barbaric slaughterhouse that was once known as humanity."  
— *M. Gustave, The Grand Budapest Hotel*

"The very essence of instinct is that it's followed independently of reason." — *Charles Darwin*

## Medium

5		7		9		1		6
			3		2			
3				7				9
	1		6		7		5	
6		5				7		2
	7		5		4		6	
4				8				3
			9		3			
9		3		4		8		7

## Hard

			8		2			1
		2		5				
6					7		8	
						9		8
	6	7		1		3	5	
2		1						
	5		2					3
				9		6		
4			5		3			

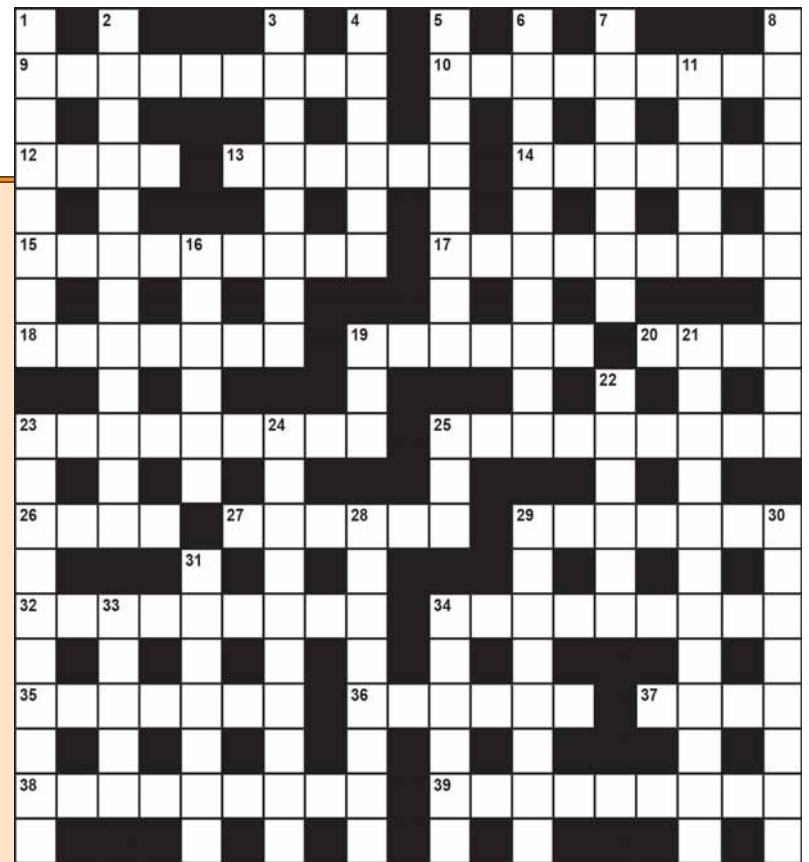
**SUDOKU:** Each row, column and 3x3 sub-grid must contain the number 1-9 once only. © Kevin Stone (brainbashers.com)

COFFEE  
break

## Cryptic Crossword

## Across

9. Sailor louts in strange ceremonial washing (9)  
10. Hail, go cry out for government by the few! (9)  
12. Rent rate changed (4)  
13. Please put in order in the land of Nod (6)  
14. Plainer cooked nut sweetmeat (7)  
15. Cute squad assembled conduits (9)  
17. Try hard over a nude composition (9)  
18. Specter working in royal staff! (7)  
19. Minister, so part biased (6)  
20. Mark second page, Old Testament (4)  
23. Top sign about coronations (9)  
25. Roger done badly by what the servants were behind (9)  
26. Not echo musical tone (4)  
27. A French sailor left Egyptian powerless (6)  
29. Result of stimulus cut out (7)  
32. Tail since became inflexible (9)  
34. Permit upset green traveler (9)  
35. Jet core could be something which throws out empty shells (7)  
36. Hit it and run off (4,2)  
37. Nuts, returns to astonish (4)  
38. Note times tenor Trevor goes back as the life and soul of the party (9)  
39. It's laid on piecemeal in lengthy discussions (9)



## Down

1. Aliens train Sam badly (8)  
2. Change a turbo, please, in the yacht (8,4)  
3. Dogs care about the churchyard (4,4)  
4. Fools, son, judge (6)  
5. Abridge M.C.'s prose perhaps (8)  
6. Old race course for large animal; five hundred more perhaps (10)  
7. Coach a front line in the desert convoy (7)  
8. We try tripe produced by typist (10)  
11. Air out company in Egyptian city (5)  
16. Catch which stops opening of French temporary accommodation (6)  
19. Past ourselves in suppuration (3)  
21. Public Relations Officer returns glum at one on making public (12)  
22. Zone so arranged for a nap (6)  
23. Code diners possibly thought about (10)  
24. One failing to take part in the race so entrant could be right (3,7)  
25. Turn up note, for example, to an expression of surprise (3)  
28. Reverse sharpness in slander (8)  
29. Conceivable to slip, so be moving (8)  
30. Sent star out in sour taste (8)  
31. Boast in novel fortification (7)  
33. Choose the chosen (5)  
34. Pals, I'd weave tartans (6)

## LEO (July 24-Aug 23):



Perhaps because you're energetic and feeling revitalized, you'll find your attention drawn to an area of life that needs some work. Mercury stokes up the fire in your sign enticing you to put your efforts into finding solutions. Also, extra creativity and ingenuity flow through. These can encourage ideas to flow whilst a generous gesture could enhance your love life.

## VIRGO (Aug 24-Sept 23):



The words of a friend may sting as a Venus tie-up hints at tension and perhaps reveal a little jealousy. Sorting this out might involve taking a philosophical viewpoint rather than getting involved in awkward conversations. You can find quiet reflection on this problem brings insights that could help resolve and heal it rather effectively.

## LIBRA (Sept 24-Oct 23):



It's not what you know but who you know that could make a resounding difference to your life this week. Being part of the

right group, connecting with key folk and being willing to mix in new circles, could enhance the potential for positive outcomes. Plus, a chat with a knowledgeable person might spark ideas for improving finances.

## SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22):



Resist the urge to get into a minor spat, as there's so much going on for you that is positive and creative. As Mercury winds its way into Leo, you may become aware of opportunities that pave the way for bigger and brighter outcomes. Forget about keeping a low profile for now, as success could be dependent on embracing the limelight.

## SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21):



Your determination to find answers concerning your purpose and meaning in life may take you on a magical, mystery tour. The focus on exploration suggests travel and study could help you zero in on the information you need. Equally, a chance to meditate and explore inner impulses might bring further insight and guidance your way.

YOUR  
horoscope  
By Patrick Arundell

## CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20):



If you enjoy doing business, the current alignment can be perfect, with plenty of options for lucrative contracts and deals. However, this blend of energies also coincides with the potential for a windfall, or a lucky break that initiates positive change. Be careful though, as someone may be a little envious of the savvy and flair that you show.

## AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19):



It will help to channel your creative exuberance into goals and ambitions that pique your imagination. And do you know Aquarius, some of your ideas could prove to be real winners. Meanwhile, Mercury's arrival in Leo encourages stepping up your co-operative efforts. This change might also be good for a relationship, as improved dialogue can flow.

## PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20):



A relationship may take a tumble, perhaps because of a minor conflict. However, it helps to get hidden feelings out into the open, as doing should make it easier to find a workable solution. In addition, you could light upon novel and creative ways to enhance your income, though it might require moving out of your comfort zone.

## ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20):



The current lively alignment helps you coast along on a wave of optimism, and your playful nature can kick into gear. You're moving through a time when creativity is at a peak, so dust off ideas that have been on the back burner and see what you can do. In addition, with romance supported by the planets one relationship could start to really sizzle.

## TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21):



Air any tensions rather than allow them to effect an ongoing relationship, particularly if resentment has been building.

Someone you think you know well could show a different side to their nature, which you may need to adjust to and accommodate. On another note, home and family projects are likely to move into focus much more.

## GEMINI (May 22-June 21):



A positive outlook could be offset by stresses at work or lifestyle complications. If things come to a head in this regard, you may be pushed into finding solutions that restore harmony. Later, a dynamic Mercury Jupiter connection can assist both commercial and creative activity, which is great for helping you to deal confidently with new ideas and plans.

## CANCER (June 22-July 23):



The week gets off to an edgy start, yet being honest may be the best way to deal with this. Meantime, soaring self-esteem suggests you'll push for what you want, rather than grudgingly go with the flow. The weekend could bring a desire to splurge and entice you to purchase items that might be gorgeous but not strictly necessary.



# The sky is the limit

By Jeremie Schatz

PERCHED on a steep hillside directly beneath the watchful gaze of the Big Buddha rests the compound that houses Helicam.

Owned and operated by British national Phil Clark, the media production company which specializes in aerial photography and videography is just about to celebrate a dozen years of operating in Phuket.

The anniversary will be highlighted by the upcoming launch of their new website which will display to the world, and especially potential clients, the extensive library of work they have accumulated over the years.

Coming off of a 10-year stint as an art director at an agency in the UK, Phil began to merge his interest in photography and hobby of remote control helicopters.

After an attempt at finding a foothold for his fledgling business met with resistance in Dubai, Phil's Phuket-based brother suggested he explore his options on the island.

"I started off doing the job using the helicopters to take aerial photographs of pieces of land. At the time, everyone was buying and selling land so it did sort of quickly kick-off," recalls the energetic father of two.

"And then people were asking, can you also do the shots inside for me, can you do the rooms, can you do a video, so they were asking for more and I thought, 'well, we are going to have to do more different things. We diversified, got more equipment, we learned more about photography and became better photographers and videographers and now we're doing hotel corporate videos for the Accor Group, 'Pullman, Banyan Tree, Angsana.'"

Although it might sound simple – buy a drone online for 30,000 baht and off you go – Phil and his team knew that to stay ahead of the pack, they had to offer services that branded them with a level of distinction.

"If we stuck with just doing the aerial photographs, we wouldn't be here

anymore," explains Phil.

What gives Helicam an edge, and what makes them one of the most attractive options in their field, is the fact that they offer the full package – a one-stop shop for visual media.

"These guys can do virtual tours on the ground and these guys can fly helicopters and take shots of villas and there is a good production company that does videos, but I've never come across a company which does the whole thing and packages them together as one job [like Helicam does]."

Picture this: A property developer is marketing their new multi-villa project on a hillside overlooking the sea. Naturally, they want to pre-sell as many units as possible before breaking ground on the project. What Helicam can do is take a series of aerial images and process them into a interactive birds-eye view of the surrounding landscape. Next, they

create CGI graphics of the new project. When a prospective client clicks on one of the units, a photo pops up which shows the view that they will see from their balcony. From the balcony, they can use the 360-degree virtual tour feature to actually navigate through the villa.

When the villas are complete, Helicam can combine their skyward approach of sweeping fly-throughs of the property with romantic edits of couples enjoying candle lit dinners, kids splashing in the pool and smiling faces of the staff to create a professionally published and visually stimulating package.

Helicam's success has been a product of a proactive approach to identifying new technology and methodologies, and taking the initiative to develop the skills necessary to employ them and stay ahead of the game.

Although the business has enjoyed 12 years of growing success, it does come with growing pains. "One of the biggest challenges is actually – it's not doing the work – but being able to be legitimate, having a Thai company operating in Thailand with so many language barriers and paperwork for work permits, business visas... red tape," reflects Phil.

**If we stuck with just doing the aerial photographs, we wouldn't be here anymore.**



Helicam owner Phil Clark holds one of his Evo hexacopters. Photo: Jeremie Schatz

He explains the exhausting process of trying to keep up with the ever-growing list of requirements needed to operate his business. Even his Thai accountant has recently become very frustrated.

In addition to staying abreast of bureaucratic business requirements, Phil has to keep up with the break-neck pace of the quickly changing tech landscape.

"The helicopters changed [from petrol] to the electric ones, we got batteries instead of using fuel. And then it changed again and we got autopilots and instruments and they got more autonomous. Then the multi-rotors came out, then the hexicopters, the

quadcopters, octocopters and it just keeps on going and changing."

Phil has also kept on the cutting edge of his field by using the latest photography and videography equipment. He has forged forward from the days of slide film cameras through to the digital age and has even joined the ranks of the latest mirrorless revolution.

Following a dozen years of building a robust reputation among a diverse group of notable clients such as Sansiri, Coca Cola and Proctor and Gamble, the sky's the limit for this Phuket entrepreneur.

For more information, visit: [helicam.asia](http://helicam.asia)

## June exports jump

THE Department of International Trade Promotion (DITP) and the Ministry of Commerce has reported an increase of 3.9 per cent in exports for June 2014, with a total value of 630 billion baht (US\$19.8 billion).

According to DITP Director-General Nantawan Sakuntanak, the increase in Thailand's exports in June was the highest in 17 months. Imports were valued at 573bn baht (US\$18bn), a drop of 14 per cent, allowing the country to enjoy a trade surplus of 57bn baht (US\$1.8bn).

The improvement is believed to have resulted from a jump of 2.6 per cent in agricultural exports and 3.9 per cent in industrial exports during the month.

Over the first six months of 2014, the export value accumulated to 36 trillion baht (US\$112.7bn), decreasing 0.35 per cent, while the value of imports also decreased 14 per cent to stand at 35.7tn baht (US\$112.47bn). – NNT

## Deep-sea port awaits

THE proposed Pak Bara deep-sea port in Satun province is awaiting results from environment and health impact assessment (EHIA) studies.

According to Harbor Master Chula Sukmanop, the Pak Bara seaport project has already passed an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) study. However, it has yet to undergo an EHIA study. Once the study is completed, the projects will be forwarded to the NCPO for consideration.

The project has been opposed by many locals who fear that pollution likely caused by heavy industries will affect their livelihood. As a result, protests have been held by villagers and fishermen who demand that the project be scrapped.

Pak Bara has been designed to link with the second Songkhla deep-sea port, and the two could significantly drive the South's economic growth when completed. If the Pak Bara project fails to commence, Thailand will miss an opportunity to compete with neighboring countries, said the Harbor Master. – NNT

## The shopping allure

THE Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) has launched a campaign to promote tourism in the low season, or "green season", in Thailand by offering discounts at major department stores and cheap plane tickets through Thai AirAsia.

Deputy Governor of the TAT Wilaiwan Thawitsi said the TAT has invited foreign tourists to shop at leading department stores in Thailand to take advantage of discounts from many brand names. The low-cost airline Thai AirAsia has also joined in the TAT's "green season" campaign by offering cheap tickets to Thailand from Ho Chi Minh and Hanoi for Vietnamese tourists, Ms Wilaiwan said.

The TAT and Thai AirAsia organized the event "Thailand Shopping Paradise with AirAsia" at Aeon Mall in Ho Chi Minh on July 26-27. The event targeted Vietnamese tourists who have high purchasing power and enjoy travelling abroad. – NNT

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# Retirement planning with MLPs

A COMMON question that I get from potential clients is, "Why do I need a registered investment adviser? I can buy stocks on my own." Well, retirement planning is more than just buying and selling stocks and bonds. The answer is that retirement involves not only investment planning, but it also involves tax planning. The best way to explain this crucial point involves one of the most popular investments for yield today – master limited partnerships, or MLPs.

MLPs invest in energy assets. They're similar to real estate investment trusts (REITs), except that they carry on an active business. This has allowed MLPs to constantly and consistently increase their payouts over the last several years. A trend which will likely continue.

There are three types of MLPs: upstream, midstream and downstream. Upstream involves exploring and developing oil and gas properties. Downstream focuses on processing and refining. Midstream refers to the companies in the middle that provide services to energy companies on either side and charge a fee for their services.

The tricky part of investing in MLPs is the way that they are taxed. An MLP pays out the income from its businesses to its owners. Income from an MLP is treated as a return of capital. MLP owners receive what is called a K-1, which is a detailed tax report showing the income and expenses of the business. Each owner is allocated a certain portion based on the number of units they own.

Because of the income MLPs generate,



Finance

By Don Freeman

and the way that they are taxed, they are great for retirement, but terrible for a retirement account. What do I mean by this?

By owning MLPs in your retirement account, you are actually missing out on a lot of the tax breaks you can get by owning the MLP. MLP investors not only get the income from the MLP, but they get expenses that they can write-off against all other income. This is handy for retirees looking to limit the income they have to report to Uncle Sam and lower their tax bill.

Most retirees fail to take taxes into consideration when planning for retirement. The more money they have to pay Uncle Sam, the less they have for retirement and to live on. I not only provide you with suitable investments, but I also help devise your tax plan. After all, what good is saving for retirement if the government is going to keep taking a good chunk of your money?

Now, let's look and see how some MLPs have done for my clients since the start of the year. Here is how you would have fared had you put US\$100,000 into these MLPs on January 1.

Not including fees, you would be sitting on US\$117,435.49, good for over 17 per cent return on principal. Along the way, you would have also collected a total of US\$2,791.39 in distributions. You got price appreciation and received an average yield of 5.58 per cent on your money. This is why MLPs are so attractive and why I recommend them for my clients.

Now, what are some of the risks going forward? One risk is that interest rates rise.

MLP Investments since Jan 1						
	Unit Total	Price	Cost	Current Price	Current Value	Distributions Received
<b>Plains All American Pipeline (PAA)</b>	490	51.00	\$24,990.00	\$58.32	\$28,576.80	\$617.40
<b>Targa Resources Partners (NGLS)</b>	487	51.25	\$24,958.75	\$67.53	\$32,887.11	\$742.67
<b>Enterprise Products Partners (EPD)</b>	386	64.75	\$24,993.50	\$77.63	\$29,965.18	\$548.12
<b>Kinder Morgan Energy Partners (KMP)</b>	320	78.00	\$24,960.00	\$81.27	\$26,006.40	\$617.40

The table shows several MLP investments which have yielded Don Freeman's clients a 17 per cent return on principal since January 1. Graphic: Gazette Graphics

This would increase the yield on bonds and term deposits. Investors could sell some of their MLPs and shift the money towards other assets.

What about the price of oil? The good news is that MLPs are not affected by the price of oil or natural gas, especially the pipeline MLPs like Kinder Morgan. Kinder Morgan gets paid to pipe oil and natural gas regardless of their price. Kinder Morgan charges fees based on volume, not on the price of the underlying commodity.

MLPs are great long-term investments. The increase in US oil and natural gas production will continue to drive demand for

the businesses of upstream, midstream and downstream MLPs. As long as oil and gas keeps flowing, the MLPs will continue paying my clients and I and keep us happy long into our retirement here in the Land of Smiles.

Don Freeman is president of Freeman Capital Management, a Registered Investment Adviser 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.

## Dusit Thani announces new director of sales and marketing

THE Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket has announced the appointment of Sanjeev Tandon as its new Director of Sales and Marketing.

An Indian national, Mr Tandon holds a master's degree in Management Studies with a specialization in marketing from the SP Jain Institute of Management and Research at Mumbai University, India.

He also comes to the role with extensive experience in key account management, revenue management and marketing communications and operations.

Mr Tandon brings 25 years of international experience in several senior sales and marketing management positions and has built up an impressive list of accomplishments with luxury hospitality brands in India, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Oman and Qatar.

Prior to joining the Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket, he was director of sales and marketing for the Mövenpick Hotel Al Khobar and Mövenpick Beach Resort Al Khobar.

In his new role, Mr Tandon is set to lead the sales and marketing team at the hotel, which features 252 deluxe rooms, suites and two-bedroom pool villas. The role also includes the overseeing the hotel's weddings, meetings and events business.

His main focus will be over-



Sanjeev Tandon has been appointed as Director of Sales and Marketing for Dusit Thani.

seeing the sales and marketing operations and taking overall responsibility for business development, business partnerships, sales execution, marketing and communications, as well as traditional and new media strategies.

"Our management team is delighted to welcome Sanjeev as a new family member. With his extensive experience, he will be an asset to drive Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket's sales and marketing efforts to achieve growth and expansion into new markets, and to continue our success in the important Phuket market," said the resort's General Manager Denis Thouvard.

– Phuket Gazette

## Lessons to be learned from Brazil

RESEARCH from the Grant Thornton International Business Report (IBR) has found that the enthusiasm Brazilian businesses held for hosting the 2014 FIFA World Cup plummeted over the past two years leading up to event. However, while few business leaders predicted increased investment or increased profits as a result of Brazil hosting the competition, there is hope that infrastructure improvements and the influx of tourists will provide enduring legacies.

Andrew McBean, Partner of Grant Thornton in Thailand and a specialist in the AEC said, "The big sporting events usually bring huge amounts of growth to the hosting country. For example it was estimated that the economic impact of the London Olympic games was 551 billion baht (9.9bn pounds) to the UK in 2012 alone. However, the withdrawal on April 17 by the Vietnamese Government from hosting the 2019 Asian Games was a reminder that very careful consideration and planning needs to be given to hosting such events in emerging markets. Such a study needs to assess both



Doubts are voiced regarding future use of the Amazon Arena in Manaus, Brazil. Photo: Portal da Copa-Governo do Brasil

economic and social impacts."

The IBR reveals that the proportion of Brazilian business leaders who believed hosting the World Cup would translate to faster economic growth fell from 80% in Q1-2012 to just 33% by Q1-2014. Similarly, just 11% of businesses planned to make extra investments for the tournament, compared to 23% in 2012. A further 19% of businesses expected their profits to rise, and 52% expected the tourism sector to see the biggest pick-up in activity.

More than two in five business leaders expected infrastructure investments – particularly those in the transport sector – to be the most enduring legacy of the games (42%), with a further quarter expecting a greater influx of tourists

(26%). However, almost a third believed stadium construction in their city disrupted daily life and just 40% believed the stadium will be well used once the tournament is over.

"The important thing after the tournament is finished is the asset management. Of key concern is how to manage and utilize these in the future. Like the Bird's Nest in Beijing and Cape Town's Green Park Stadium, it is hard to

see the Amazon Arena in Manaus being well used after the tournament. However, there are good examples to follow so that stadia do not fall into disuse, particularly that of the east of London following the 2012 Olympic Games. The event allowed this previously derelict part of the UK capital to be modernized and it has subsequently attracted significant commercial and residential investment," explained Mr McBean.

"Thailand has hosted a record four Asian Games with the most recent in 1998, however before submitting any further proposals, it is worth pausing and performing deep economic and social studies using updated models and experiences," added Mr McBean.

– Phuket Gazette



# Avoiding cost overrun on a home-build

By Supitcha Chaipipat

THIS is both a question and a problem for home-building and usually concerns the last minute modifications that we often hear about. Let's look at how it happens and then consider ways to minimize the risk.

Before anything else, we must have an understanding that home-building involves three major phases. First is structure layout, whose works include laying foundation pillars and basement and building beams for weight support. Second is brick masonry and plastering. At this stage, the structure of the house starts to take shape.

These two phases are often within budget, unless there are some additional works. However, what often leads to a cost overrun is in the third and final phase, where the selection of home decorative items is involved. This is where people's minds change as to the choice of floor materials, wall materials, house-painting colors, sanitaryware, lamps and so on, depending on the owner's taste.

Owners may think the cost adjustment for new materials is minimal, but if they combine all the items together, they will realize that the budget is already way up high.



However, the real cause of above-cost building is the choice of an unprofessional home subcontractor. Often these people will leave the job uncompleted, leading to

the hiring of a replacement and, therefore, a budget overrun.

It is in many cases also caused by the initially unclear wishes and requirements of the owners. Sometimes, they have already agreed to a house design, but then change it later when they see that the house in the making is not to their satisfaction or expectation, and thus want to change the design despite the higher cost.

## FOUR TIPS

To minimize these problems, the following tips should always be borne in mind:

1. Ensure that the needs of the owner and members of their family are clearly set out and understood, in terms of layout, construction materials, decorative materials and an affordable budget. Most budgeting for home-building has three components. The first 60 per cent goes to construction, which involves structure and major construction works that are not adjustable. The adjustable part is exterior



Cost overrun is often caused by the selection of expensive finishings. Photo: Love Krittaya

decoration. Another 30 per cent goes to interior decoration, which concerns aesthetic beauty and the taste of the owner in relation to air-conditioners, curtains and furniture. The final 10 per cent goes to landscaping and exterior decoration.

2. Secure a clear and comprehensive agreement, including identification of essentials such as price, design, materials and construction, as well as a fixing period, on paper prior to the commencement of construction. This is to avoid any conflict during work in progress, and to not waste time fixing and making changes during the construction process, which will add to the cost and finally end up in a cost overrun.

3. When choosing materials, the owner must dedicate time to the materials required for a particular phase of construction in order to allow work to continue as planned, and to prevent instances where the produc-

tion of materials has already been terminated – or materials are overpriced. Also important is to choose materials according to what has initially been agreed.

4. The owner should refrain from changing their mind if they see materials that they consider more favorable than what has previously been agreed upon. A salesperson will always attempt to persuade them to buy something different, but the owner could then end up spending more unnecessarily.

In conclusion, home-building is all about the owner's satisfaction and budget. Most importantly, in controlling the budget the owner must have clear needs from the outset in order to make good and worthy choices. Their satisfaction is the most important thing. If they are not satisfied and want to change things, then the budget is bound to end up being exceeded.

## Sansiri named 'Thailand's Most Admired' real estate company

TWO leading business magazines in Thailand, *BrandAge* and *The Company*, have recognized Sansiri as "Thailand's Most Admired" real estate company in 2014. Sansiri PLC's Chief Executive Officer and Executive Board Chairman Apichart Chutrakul expressed the company's appreciation.

"We would like to express our sincere gratitude towards *BrandAge* for recognizing Sansiri as 'Thailand's Most Admired Brand 2014'. Similarly, our thanks extend to all of the readers of *The Company* who voted for Sansiri in the Real Estate category, earning us the title of 'Thailand's Most Admired Company 2014'.

"These much appreciated accolades affirm our dedication to excellence and commitment to delivering the best possible lifestyle products and services.

"Thailand's Most Admired Brand" is an annual survey organized by the magazine *BrandAge* to determine the trustworthiness and reliability of top companies in various sectors in Thailand.

This year, Sansiri was ranked number one in the Real Estate De-



Apichart Chutrakul. Photo: Supplied

velopers and Construction Material Manufacturers category. The study looked at four major factors that affect consumer purchasing decisions: company image, staff members and sales representatives, prices and promotions, and advertising and communication.

"Thailand's Most Admired Company" is a marketing study conducted annually by the magazine *The Company*. The study focuses on six key areas: innovation, company image and corporate social responsibility, business operations and success, service excellence, brand image, and company management. This year, Sansiri received

the highest average scores in the real estate category, with exceptionally high scores for "company image and corporate social responsibility" and "innovation".

"Over the past 30 years, Sansiri has time and again demonstrated determination and also vision to create superior lifestyle experiences for our customers. Attention to detail, innovative ideas and dependable after-sales services are all integral parts of our philosophy of 'constructing life, not just buildings'," Mr Apichart continued.

"It has always been one of our aspirations to become the 'Most Admired Brand', the top-of-mind name people think of when it comes to high quality residential developments. Such recognition from Thailand's leading business magazines, *BrandAge* and *The Company*, is evidence that we have already reached this milestone of success. But this doesn't mean that we can now stop; on the contrary, it reminds us that we need to continue to improve ourselves so that we may always deliver the best possible living experiences to our customers."

– *Phuket Gazette*

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# How to survive a plane crash



**Property Watch**

By Bill Barnett

"I'M FLYING high over Tupelo, Mississippi, with America's hottest band, and we're all about to die," is one of those great movie lines, in this case from the film *Almost Famous*. In the end, they didn't soar straight into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame as Lynyrd Skynyrd did, but the scene tapped into the darkest nightmare of travel, a plane crash.

Rock and roll and planes have made an often fatal toxic pairing, from the far too early demise of Buddy Holly, Otis Redding, Jim Croce, Rick Nelson, Ronnie Van Zandt of Lynyrd Skynyrd and Stevie Ray Vaughan – who actually met his maker in a helicopter accident.

Over the last few months, ever since the phantom disappearance of MH370 on March 8, planes seem to be falling out of the sky with a disturbing frequency, exposing a raw nerve for passengers and those who work in the industry. The red-tagged Breaking News banner continues to be an unwel-

come visitor, with most of us just wanting it to go away.

As readers will know I am a FIFO kind of guy. FIFO meaning "fly in/fly out" or, to put it another way, away from the island on an altogether too frequent basis. My journey to work is often onboard the bus, the Airbus that is. While the current spate of crashes has not pushed me to cancel any upcoming flights, I did come down with a morose case of the "what ifs" this afternoon and ended up surfing the net, eventually coming across an article titled *How to Survive a Plane Crash – 10 Tips to Saving Your Life*.

Bizarrely, the lines from *Peggy Sue* kept running through my mind as I prepared to get educated. Though in reflection, it's more of a flashback to the plane crash in the Hollywood blockbuster *Con Air*, versus getting all Buddy Holly like. Still, a crash is a crash. My work was laid out before my very eyes; 10 easy steps and I could become the master of my own destiny. All I needed to do was to scroll down and save my life.

In no particular order, odd subjects popped up, such as the "Plus

Three, Minus Eight Rule". The text shouts out that over 80 per cent of planes that crash, do so within this time period – within the first three minutes of takeoff or in the eight minutes before landing. Under-scored are the instructions "do not sleep". Questions arise, of course, considering I don't have a watch and using your mobile phone clock could actually make the plane crash, according to some inane FAA rule.

Up next was the "Remember The Five Row Rule" which infers statistically those within five rows from an emergency exit have enhanced their life expectancy should a crash occur. The odds are with you. But confusion starts to cloud any clarity as I recall reading about it being better to sit in the rear of the plane than the front, even though the main doors have all those exits, so my mind goes blank on which row to roost. Plus it really sucks sitting in the rear of the plane, which gyrates whenever you hit turbulence. Or being next to the lavatories at the rear which start to smell even on a mid-haul flight. Worst yet is being last off and spending two hours in line at the island's end-



Photo: Kalleboo

**Sitting within five rows from an emergency exit could help you in a crash.**

less airport waiting lines.

My head is about to explode as more info flies into my head about the chances of survival on water landings (I did like the movie *Castaway*), or being familiar with the emergency landing information and last but not least – brace, brace, brace. My thoughts on the latter are that I would not want my last moment on earth to be one with my head buried in my lap.

With time bearing down on me (as I can tell from my switched on mobile phone) I simply can't

read this doomsday script anymore. When the big guy calls you, there isn't a lot that can be done to talk your way out of it. In final analysis, and the words of legendary rock star Jim Morrison, "no one here gets out alive". That means you and it means me too. Incidentally Jim didn't die in a plane crash, but from mysterious causes in Paris in 1971.

Bill Barnett is Managing Director of C9Hotelworks. He can be contacted through [c9hotelworks.com](http://c9hotelworks.com)

## BIM system phenomenon

COMPUTER technology changes rapidly, forcing people to adjust the way they work in accordance with accumulative modifications.

Architectural design is one of the businesses affected by such change. From manual drawing and drafting of 20 years ago, the profession has moved on and adopted CAD (computer-aided design) for the presentation and production of architectural documents, especially with construction drawings.

The transformation has been so complete that one can hardly find an office still practicing manual drafting. New graduates are more accustomed to CAD programs.

Even clients are more familiar with CAD and computer technology. Computer representation allows clients to see the project – in which they are investing millions or billions – to the very minutest detail before the construction process begins.

The more the client sees, the further they can question, investigate or work to protect their investment, and computer technology allows them this advantage. This aspect coincides with the reality of growing complexity in the business of architectural design.

A building needs to respond to several simultaneous issues: energy consumption, meeting green building standards, LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) requirements, cost-effective facility management, environmen-

tal impacts, and construction uncertainties, among others. Because of these competing agendas, CAD technology begins to reach its limit, as it is best used in the static presentation of architectural drawings and scaled models.

BIM (building information modelling) extends these limitations. In addition to the capacity to create drawings and scaled models, BIM can also embed information into the representation of building parts.

Information may include data on the physical properties of building components, price, thermal induction, date and time of component installation, or the life expectancy of building parts. As this information can be integrated easily into drawings and models, BIM systems can do much more than the simple representation of buildings.

The information assigned in a BIM program to a building component can be usefully applied towards simulations and calculations – that is, bills of quantity, power consumption, or building maintenance schedules.

BIM allows project stakeholders to predict the future performance of buildings, using techniques of simulation to anticipate and prevent problems before the actual construction process begins. – *The Nation*

Kaweekrai Srihiran, Department of Architecture, Faculty of Architecture, Chulalongkorn University.

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## The grand opening of Sangria's Tapas Bar & Restaurant

AMID a flurry of tasty tapas, pitchers of fruit-spiked wine and even a fire-spinning show, Sangria's Tapas Bar & Restaurant celebrated its grand opening in Rawai on July 1.

"Originally it was a salad bar," explained owner Aimee Grainge. "A lot of people came in and said, 'there's no meat'."

Now, following a change of character and menu, Sangria's offers enough options to please just about anyone.

"What I did was I looked around and thought, 'what is Rawai missing' and it was tapas."

Aimee, a qualified chef who studied at Westminster Kingsway College, used her training to devise a unique tapas menu

which currently has 32 dishes on offer.

"I've made my own creations of my own version of tapas. I'm not doing the typical Spanish omelet and things like that.

"For example, we have one [dish] that is a big pasta and what I did was I put the bolognese sauce inside of the pasta and it's then grilled with melted cheese on top. It is all my own creations and my own inventions because as a chef, I am passionate about not copying everyone else and doing the typical stuff that you see everyday. I want to put my mark on it," says Aimee.

In addition to the menu, Sangria's offers a well-stocked salad bar, an extensive wine menu and a selection of shisha. The contemporary eatery will also host special events such

as pig roasts and wine and cheese spreads.

Aimee intends for Sangria to be more than a place to stop for a quick bite, it is a place with an easy-going and sociable atmosphere where people can settle in on the outdoor couch with friends.

"My aim is customer service. I want people to come back because they enjoy the company, the surroundings – we are in a beautiful location."

Sangria's Tapas Bar & Restaurant is located in the Fisherman's Way shopping plaza on Wiset Road in Rawai and is open Tuesday through Sunday.

– Jeremie Schatz

For more information, call 088-768 6046



Owner Aimee Grainge. Photo: Jeremie Schatz

# No need to go to Japan

By Maciek Klimowicz

IF YOU moved to Phuket to escape the hustle and bustle of big city life, it might not be long before you start regretting your move. At times, Phuket seems as bad as any urban center, with all its traffic jams, road works and condominiums popping up everywhere. Add the millions of tourists visiting the island each year and you will find yourself in a pickle.

Luckily, there is a way out that doesn't involve leaving the island – weekend trips to Khao Lak included. First, you can simply wait for the rainy season. With most group tours and tour buses gone, Phuket becomes more than livable and an occasional shower or even a few days of non-stop rain are a small price to pay. Another option is to go north. Not as far as Phang Nga or the wilderness of Ranong province but right here, to the island's north in Mai Khao beach. If you try going the direction of Mai Khao in the low season, you might forget that you're still on the island that you love to hate. Yes, it's that serene.

You need a better reason to take the trip than Phuket's longest stretch of empty beach?

Choose to go on a Sunday and head for JW Marriott. The beachside resort recently secured the number one spot in the Travel + Leisure World's Best Awards 2014 readers' survey in the category of Top Family Hotels in Asia. And in deed it has all you need to enjoy a relaxed, family day – picturesque beach, deluxe facilities and, now, something to satisfy your hunger too.

The recently introduced JW Japanese Sunday brunch combines the pleasures of the Japanese table with access to the resort's facilities, making it a perfect reason to hop in your car and drive north, even from the very south of the island. On your way there you might drive past a number of other resorts with Sunday brunches on offer, but the one



There's much more than just sushi at Marriott's tables.

At the Marriott has a competitive edge. I'd call it focus. While other Phuket brunch events are more of a mishmash combining foie gras with Indian roti or piling up lamb chops on top of pizzas, Marriott goes 100 per cent authentic Japanese.

After all, the resort is home to one of, if not the, best Japanese restaurants on the island – the Kabuki Japanese Cuisine Theater.

On Kabuki's menu you will find only pure, Japanese dishes such as soba noodle salad with smoked salmon and wasabi dressing, mixed fresh seaweed in sesame dressing, red snapper, horse mackerel and seabass sashimi, tuna, salmon, snapper and burnt squid sushi and a number of tempura items.

Then there is the Teppanyaki section which produces dishes prepared by skilled chefs

grilling beef, lamb, pork and seafood in impressive bursts of flames. Your sweet tooth will be satisfied with a range of authentic Japanese desserts including deep fried ice cream. In short, during the Sunday brunch, all signature Japanese dishes usually served in Kabuki are available in the form of a buffet and at a reasonable price says the JW Marriott's Executive Chef, Dietmar Spitzer.

"And for an extra 600 baht guests can enjoy a free flow of alcoholic beverages including four different kinds of sake from different regions of Japan," he adds.

The JW Japanese Sunday Brunch is available every Sunday from 11am to 4pm at 1,900 baht net per person, half price for children ages seven to 12 and free for children under six. On the topic of kids – taking part in the brunch grants your children access to the resort's Kids' Pavilion while you relax after the meal by one of the Marriott's beachfront swimming pools.

Need a reminder why you ever moved to Phuket? Head to Mai Khao and you'll wonder how you could have lived anywhere else.

For more information visit [marriott.com/hotels/travel/hktjw-jw-marriott-phuket-resort-and-spa/](http://marriott.com/hotels/travel/hktjw-jw-marriott-phuket-resort-and-spa/)



Kabuki offers authentic Japanese atmosphere enhanced by the restaurant's helpful staff. Photos: Maciek Klimowicz

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# Magic, mystery and madness

By Parinyaporn Pajee

AUSTRALIAN illusionist and escapologist Cosentino didn't do any disappearing tricks when he popped over to Bangkok last week to chat with the media about his upcoming TV show, though he did have one lady floating horizontally in the air and escaped from a straitjacket.

The 31-year-old, who was born Paul Cosentino, is bringing *Cosentino* to Thailand next month with cable provider TrueVisions.

The young Cosentino turned to magic at the age of 12 to try and overcome his shyness and was soon wowing family and friends with his tricks.

A runner-up on *Australia's Got Talent* in 2011, Cosentino has won two Merlin Awards: Most Original International Magician in 2012 and International Magician of the Year last year. His own TV show followed, along with an invitation to take part in *Dancing with the Stars*, which he won.

We waved our magic wand and convinced the affable Cosentino to sit down for a chat.

## How do you create new magic?

I have a very child-like imagination. That doesn't mean I'm child-ish, but that my imagination is as vivid as a child's.

I have six nephews and nieces and do magic for them and they see it as real magic, not a trick or illusion. If you think like a child you become creative.

## What makes you different from other magicians?

In the TV shows we combine four disciplines – street magic, stunts, stage magic and reality, and of course, no other magician makes

a habit of dancing! That makes the show unique.

Then there's the personality factor. I've been influenced by people as diverse as Michael Jackson and Bruce Lee, even some of Walt Disney's characters, and the combination seems to work.

## Some of your escapes are really quite dangerous. Do you foresee a time when you will get into real trouble?

It's already happened. I did the show *Dropped* on TV. That involved my being in a sphere and dropping to the bottom of a 10-meter water tank. My eardrum burst while I was still chained. My ear was bleeding and I was nauseous, but I still had to extract myself from the sphere and swim back up to the surface in one single breath.

Another escape act that almost went bad is *Stabbed*. It used a machine I invented with 18 chefs' knives that are released. They are meant to miss me, but one time I ended up with a bad cut on the chin.

## How do you overcome your fear in situations like that?

It's very difficult to do. I convince myself that I have to do it. If I worry about the danger or think of the things that could possibly go wrong, I wouldn't do it.

But in the end it's all the practice and the training and the rehearsal that make you feel confident. You must never try and escape if you are not fully prepared, because you lose your confidence and start anticipating something going wrong.

And the main thing of course is not to panic. It's difficult but it's what you train for.

## Are you afraid that the tricks will get old sometime?

Of course, you can never do the same tricks too many times. I have to keep coming up with new material and new ideas and they usually involve more chains.

## What's the most difficult part about magic?

Like I said earlier, coming up with an idea is easy but bringing that idea to life is hard. We use technology to make it deceptive, but not everything we do works the first time.

We are constantly creating prototypes, which is very time-consuming and expensive and often frustrating.

## How do you rehearse?

I go to the gym five times a week and train for the acts every day. If I have live shows coming up, I train two months straight every day until it's perfect – really refined.

## What does it take to be a magician?

Passion first and foremost. You also need hand dexterity training and to be creative. Most important I guess is charm, because a magician is really an actor.

## What do you think when people watch the show to see how its done rather than for entertainment?

I would obviously prefer it if they watched just to be entertained. It is like watching a blockbuster like *Hercules* and thinking that that's all fake, that it's not real. Of course it's not. And that's the point. It's not real, it's illusion and it's entertaining.

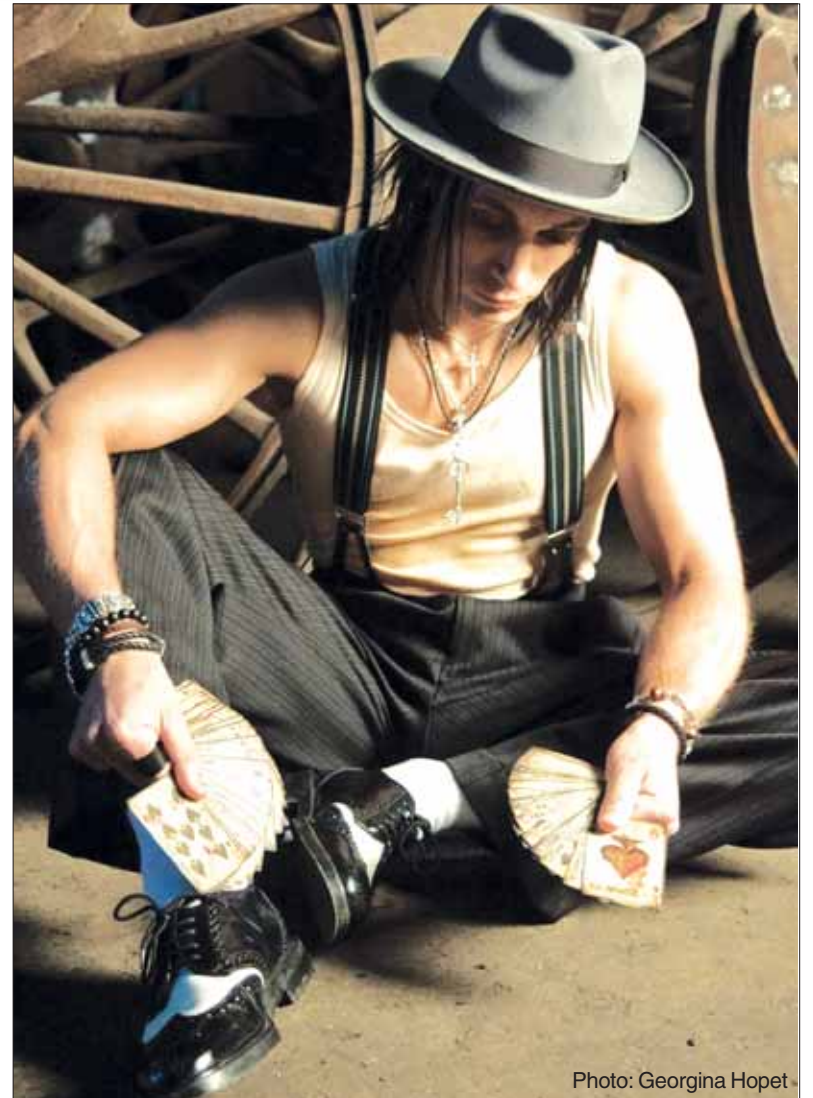


Photo: Georgina Hopet

Cosentino will be bringing his show to Thai TV viewers this month.

## What happens if someone discovers how a trick works?

We kill them! No, I'm kidding – at the end of the day everyone wants to know how it's done. But when the audience is being entertained, they get wrapped up in the story, in the mystery and at the end of the day, although they want to know the secret, the entertainment overpowers it. But if someone does discover the secret, I would say shhhh!

## You're famous now, have you reached your goal?

No, not at all. I always want to get better on my show. I believe we can always learn and for me it's always good to learn from different cultures and pick up inspiration from different people.

## What do you get from being a magician?

In the beginning it was all about finding confidence in myself. Now, I love the fact that I can share who I am. It's not about money or fame but the feeling of being able to share my art.

## Finally, do you call yourself a magician or an illusionist?

An illusionist, because a magician does smaller tricks and more of them. If you are an illusionist, the bigger and grander your escapes, the better the show. – *The Nation*

Cosentino will air on TrueVisions' RTL CBS Extreme HD Channel 338 at 9pm on August 14 and 15 and August 21 and 22. For more details, visit: [cosentino.com.au](http://cosentino.com.au)

# Coming attractions



## Into the storm

In the span of a single day, the town of Silverton is ravaged by an unprecedented onslaught of tornadoes. The entire town is at the mercy of the deadly cyclones, and storm trackers predict the worst is yet to come. Released August 7.



## Joe

An ex-con, who is the unlikeliest of role models, meets a 15-year-old boy and is faced with the choice of redemption or ruin. Starring Nicolas Cage and Tye Sheridan. Directed by David Gordon Green. Released August 7.



## 22 Jump Street

After making their way through high school (twice), big changes are in store for officers Schmidt and Jenko when they go deep undercover at a local college. Starring Jonah Hill and Channing Tatum. Released August 12



## The Expendables 3

The third installment of the action-adventure franchise that follows the exploits of Barney Ross, Lee Christmas, and their associates. Written and directed by Sylvester Stallone and starring every hollywood tough guy imaginable. Released August 14



# The lure of Angel's trumpets



**Gardening**  
By Patrick Campbell

WHILE perusing old photographs of Chiang Mai, I came across some views of Doi Inthanon. This mountain, at 2,564 meters, is not only the highest in Thailand, but boasts some spectacular montane forests and flowers. At the summit, the twin Chedis appear to float, disembodied, in swirling mists that are more reminiscent of a Scottish "haar" than a tropical mountainscape.

The upper slopes of Doi Inthanon offer a perfect setting for temperate plants – lower diurnal temperatures and cooler nights – that would otherwise struggle to survive in Thailand's hot-house environment. With more than 300 kinds of birds, there is greater biodiversity here than in any part of the country. Red rhododendrons – unique to this area of the kingdom – grow near the summit, there are two varieties of conifer found only here, and the moist hillsides provide a perfect environment for epiphytic plants such as wanda orchids, and a range of lichens, lianas, sphagnum mosses and osmunda ferns.

Royal projects encourage hill villagers to cultivate cold climate crops including apples, strawber-

ries and grapes. Lower down where the air is dryer and warmer (at the top the temperature often falls below zero), there are magnificent stands of Angel's Trumpets. It was these that took my eye as I sauntered down memory lane. I have always loved Angel's Trumpets, formerly called *daturas*, but known nowadays in botanical parlance as *brugmansias*.

They were one of the few tropical plants that I managed to cultivate in England where I successfully grew them in pots in my Highgate loft. A constant source of astonishment to visitors. Moreover, they luxuriated in my Andalucian garden, which was perched precariously on a steep, rocky hillside at 300 meters.

They took readily from cuttings and quickly became leafy trees covered with masses of yellow blooms. Success has been harder to come by in Phuket. Natives of the Peruvian uplands, *brugmansias* need some protection from the tropical sun, and do better at higher altitudes. A pity since they are truly spectacular shrubs with huge, pendant, tubular flowers which hang directly down from woody stems. Moreover, they are fragrant and can, as my experience attests, be grown indoors.

Perhaps you should try them as house plants in Phuket. There are



Although beautiful to behold, angel's trumpet flowers can be deadly poisonous if ingested. Photo: Wouter Hagen

now many hybrids. *B. x candida* is a fast grower (up to 3.5 meters tall) with dull green leaves and 20-30 centimeter long creamy white flowers. "Double White", from the same stable, has double blossoms and greyish foliage. *Insignis*, another hybrid, sometimes referred to in plant books as *suavolens*, has atypical trumpets that point outwards at 45 degrees from the branches. Spicily fragrant, they can be white, pink, or orange, though "Jamaica Yellow", the variety I probably grew in Spain, has pale golden blooms.

Yet another *brugmansia*, *B. versicolor* is the variety I remember on the slopes on Doi Inthanon:

the largest species, it has flowers of a peachy apricot color that hang straight down in great profusion. Plenty of choice then, if you can locate specimens in the island's garden centers.

If you do find potted specimens, they are likely to be in the shaded area, away from direct sun and wind. For *brugmansias* are quite fragile, despite the fact that they can develop into large woody shrubs or small trees. The gray branches are brittle and the blooms are tissue-paper thin. The foliage, moreover, is easily reduced to tatters by strong winds. Before new growth begins, remove all weak, dead or overlapping stems.

If you want to try your hand at growing a *brugmansia* in a pot, give it a large container and water regularly. Its drooping leaves will soon let you know if the soil is allowed to dry out. And as with so many members of the *solanaceae* family, all parts are poisonous if ingested. Angels, though alluring, are not all they seem.

If you have a question or a garden that you would like featured you can email me at: [drpaccampbell@gmail.com](mailto:drpaccampbell@gmail.com). Further information about this gardening series and Patrick's other work can be accessed at: [patrickaccampbell.wordpress.com](http://patrickaccampbell.wordpress.com)



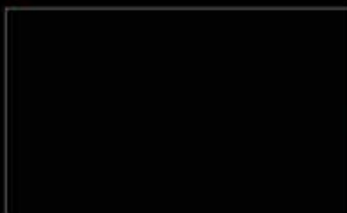
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# Aboard the Blue World

## Witness a wild dolphin pod's beauty



By Isaac Stone Simonelli

AS SEA Shepherd and marine conservationists on the island prepare to battle the opening of a dolphinarium in Phuket, Captain Mike Fallows of Blue World Safaris continues to take hundreds of tourists to see a pod of these vastly intelligent marine mammals in the wild.

About 30 minutes after the captain's safety briefing – including sea sickness tablets and a run down about the on-boat bar – the 16.3-meter multihull catamaran *Blue World* slides up against Koh Mai Thon.

“According to records, there has been a pod of dolphins living off Koh Mai Thon since at least 1970, and I am convinced that these dolphins are descendants of the same family,” Capt Mike says.

When *Blue World* Safaris first started visiting the pod more than two years ago, there were 22 individuals.

“But just over a year ago there was some kind of disaster, with some dolphins being washed up on the local beaches, and even one with a broken dorsal fin. We can only speculate as to what happened to them, but after these incidents the dolphins were

extremely reluctant to come to us. It was upsetting to see that their numbers had dropped to around 15!”

However, Capt Mike delightedly reports to the *Phuket Gazette* that within the last few months his team and countless tourists have spotted at least six dolphin calves.

“The pod is not only around their previous numbers [now], but also looks healthy and once again are happy to approach the boat.”

Koh Mai Thon, the playground for these graceful mammals, is about 14 kilometers from Phuket's Chalong Pier, which takes the speedy *Blue World* only about 30 minutes to reach.

“*Blue World* is the fastest and biggest of the very few power catamarans in Phuket. Being a catamaran she is both stable and more roomy

than single hulled boats. We are able to carry up to 55 guests and her top speed of 27 knots brings islands previously only possible [to access] by liveaboards [from Phuket] within easy reach for a day trip,” Capt Mike says. “For example, we can get to the Similans from Phuket in two hours and Phi Phi is just one hour away.”

Dolphin spotting is usually in-



A pod of spinner dolphins, a species which can be found in waters around Thailand. Photo: Alexander Vasinin

cluded on Mike's day trips to Phi Phi or Racha Noi, where guests swim, snorkel, kayak, free dive, scuba dive or even cliff jump, if they are so inclined. However, when it comes to dolphins, there are no guarantees.

“It's not always possible to see dolphins, but sightings are so exciting that we feel that the endeavor is well worth while. We are very restrained in how we approach the dolphins, always allowing them to swim to the boat voluntarily and breaking off when they lose interest. As a result, it is even more enjoyable to see them jump and play for us. I especially like when

they roll over in the water to look at us,” Capt Mike says.

“There is a special affinity between man and dolphin and any encounter with wild dolphins is not only thrilling but leaves us feeling lucky and uplifted.”

Though dolphins may perform even greater feats in marine parks, those moments lack the same wonder as seeing them play in the wild, because audience members can't hide from the fact that the animals suffer due to being kept in captivity.

In recognition of the rights dolphins should have, such as the same basic right of freedom as

humans, India this year became the world's fourth country to ban keeping dolphins in captivity.

Even the United States' National Aquarium in Baltimore announced earlier this year that it is considering retiring its eight bottlenose dolphins and moving them to an oceanside sanctuary.

With the shift in mentality around the world on the rights of dolphins following the horrific documentary *The Cove* in 2009, perhaps tourists will bypass Chalong's proposed dolphinarium and see the creatures in the beauty of the wild from aboard *Blue World*.

There is a special affinity between man and dolphin and any encounter with wild dolphins is not only thrilling but leaves us feeling lucky and uplifted



## Horrible history of captive dolphins in Thailand

DOLPHINS have been kept in captivity in Thailand since 1986. The first wild pink dolphin was caught and kept at Laem Singh in Chanthaburi at a venue that later became the Oasis Sea World. But it wasn't until recent years that interest in new dolphinariums developed within Thailand.

Several attempts to start up aquariums containing wild-caught dolphins in Phuket and Koh Samui did not eventuate.

Likewise, a Koh Samui resort obtained a locally caught wild pink dolphin in an attempt to increase tourist interest. While they claimed that they had rescued the dolphin

from a collision with a fishing boat, the dolphin was trained to perform shows instead of being medically treated.

The animal was later confiscated and freed, with the resort's further plans of obtaining more dolphins being cancelled.

Prior to this, two enterprises initiated the exploitation of dolphins many years earlier: Oasis Sea World in Chanthaburi (established in 1991) and the “Sanctuary of Truth” in Pattaya (established in about 2001).

Oasis Sea World was able to export six pink dolphins to Singapore in 1999, despite the international regulatory body the Con-

ference on International trade of Endangered Species (CITES) clearly forbidding the trade of wild-caught specimens for entertainment purposes.

The government did start enforcing the CITES regulations and local laws, ending the export of dolphins.

Oasis Sea World then looked into other options to increase profits. This resulted in the “Pattaya Dolphin World and Resort” being developed last year. A soft opening on August 12 this year saw the transfer of seven of 18 dolphins at Oasis Sea World.

– Edwin Wiek / *The Nation*



A pink dolphin in Thailand. Photo: The Nation



# Sentinels of the sea

By Jeremie Schatz

IT MIGHT seem like the ocean is big and can take care of itself, but with tourism booming around Southeast Asia's tropical locales and many eager to experience the underwater wonders that the sea has to offer, someone has got to look out for it. This is where the Green Fins Association comes into the picture.

Operating under regional coordinators Reef-World, Green Fins has six regional arms operating in the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Maldives, Vietnam and Thailand. Launched in Thailand in 2004, the program was spawned from the perceived need to not only educate dive operators about best practice, but encourage them to teach it to their customers.

Green Fins Thailand is a marine conservation initiative aimed at developing relationships with dive centers in order to establish a baseline code of conduct for them to adhere to. Green Fins strives to provide divers with the knowledge and training to meet environmentally sustainable standards.

Green Fins' self-proclaimed mission is, "To protect and conserve coral reefs by establishing and implementing environmen-

tally friendly guidelines to promote a sustainable diving tourism industry."

"Our target group is the diving and snorkeling tour operators in Phuket, Phang Nga, Surat Thani and Krabi," explains Green Fins project coordinator Petchrungr Sukpong (Aey).

Specifically, they are looking to establish a relationship with, "the tour guide or the tour leader who is in the middle between the customer and the owner," says Aey.

**Green Fins strives to provide divers with the knowledge and training to meet environmentally sustainable standards.**

"We have the Green Fin assessment program... We try to evaluate the quality of diving or snorkeling and then we talk with the owner to improve the quality."

Aey pointed out that the assessments are made not to focus on the things they are doing wrong, but to try and provide feedback that will hopefully translate into positive change.

Training sessions range from four hours to a day and a half. Topics cover issues regarding general safety protocols, best practice to

protect and conserve coral reefs, marine wildlife interaction and minimum discharge guidelines.

Dive operators benefit by being able to proudly announce their participation in the Green Fins program and display the Green Fins logo on their website or other promotional materials. Of course, the long-term health of the marine eco-system will ensure that their business has a resource to continue capitalizing on.

"Thailand is the only country that still continues [Green Fins] without funding from UNEP (United Nations Environment Program) since 2006 or 2007. The government tries to sustain this with a very small budget," notes Aey.

Everything that Green Fins accomplishes is with one government staff member and three volunteers.

There are currently more than 220 members throughout Thailand, 40 of which are in Phuket.

"This year we are focusing on snorkeling tour guides," says Aey.

She explained that they are creating a standard briefing for tour guides to deliver to their customers as well as printed educational materials.

Part of the Green Fins training is to encourage divers to provide



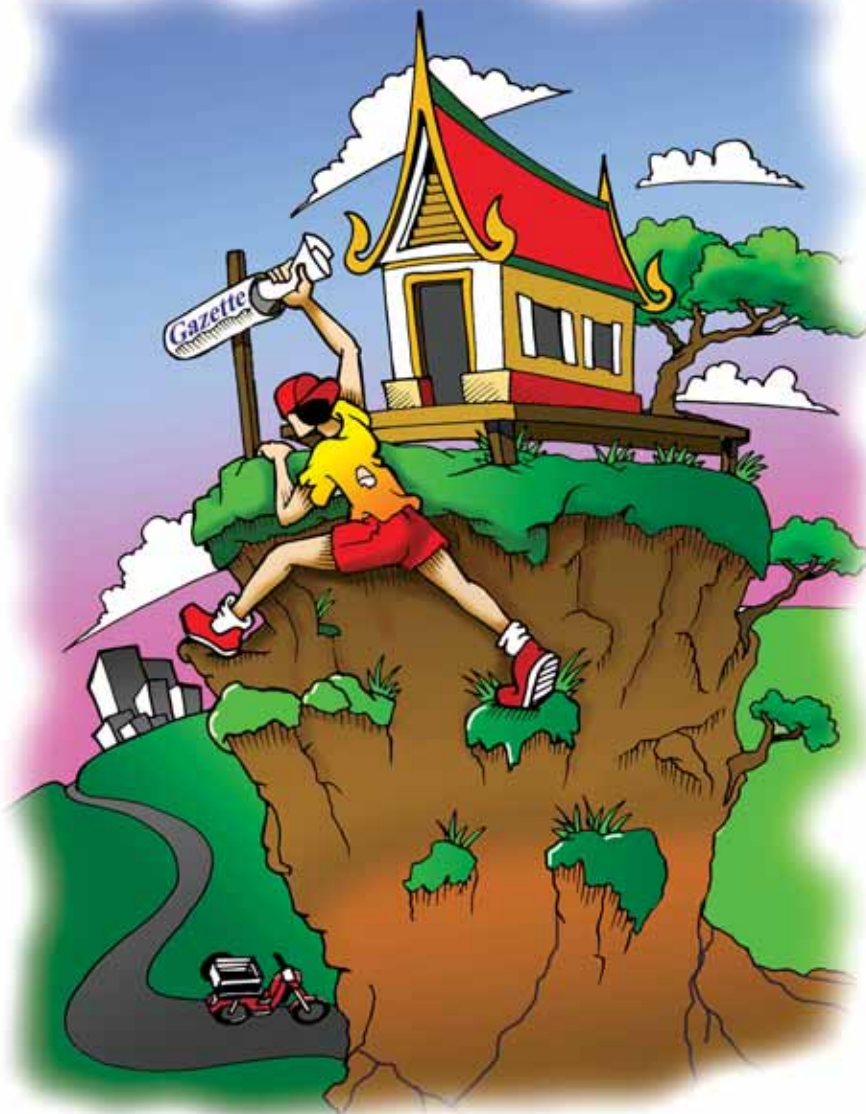
The long-term health of the marine eco-system will ensure that businesses have a resource to continue capitalizing on. Photo: MartinStr

feedback via the Reef Watch survey method. Using an underwater writing tablet, divers can collect data about various aspects of the reef in order to determine the health of the site. They collect general characteristics such as location and orientation of the reef as well as reef type, reef coverage, the presence of indicator species, damage to the reef and amount of litter. The data can then be used to create a profile of the

site to enable monitoring of its health over time.

Green Fins also has a campaign to teach dive companies the simple process of creating their own eco-friendly, all-purpose cleaner for land a marine use. They hope to soon be able to create large batches of the cleaner to sell or give to operators.

For information about Green Fins or to get involved, visit: [greenfins.net](http://greenfins.net)



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# Asians dominate in ITF Pro Circuit 2014

WITH the rise of Asian ATP and WTA players like Kei Nishikori of Japan and Li Na of China in the tennis world, this year's participation has increased by numbers and there's a strong progression of tennis in Asian countries.

The two ITF women's tournaments held at Thanyapura have proven this. The Single and Double winners of both tournaments turned out to be from Asia.

In the last week's tournament Yoo Mi of Korea won the Single Title over Zuzana Zlochova of Slovakia.

The doubles event trophy went to the Thai ladies Nicha Lertpitaksinchai Ms Peangtarn Plipuech with a win over Korean Yoo Mi and Han Na Lae by 6:3, 6-7(5), 11-9.



Zuzana Zlochova from Slovakia.

"This is our 3<sup>rd</sup> year hosting ITF tournaments at Thanyapura Phuket. It was great to see lots of exciting action and world class tennis in the past two weeks. In overall, we had a successful event, and we look forward bringing the event back to Phuket in October" said Mr. Vijja Vajaranant, Tournament Organizer.

The next ITF tournament will be held from October 17-November 1 at Thanyapura. — *Phuket Gazette*

*The Phuket Gazette and PGTV's 'Phuket Today' show, the island's only nationally broadcast television program (aired daily on True Visions channels HD-79 and SD-107), are proud to sponsor this event.*

## Results

### July 12-19 ITF tournament

#### Singles

Winner: Wang Ya-Fan (CHN)  
Runner up: Xu Yi-Fan (CHN)

#### Doubles

Winner: Yoo Mi and Han Na Lae (KOR)  
Runner up: Inoue Akari (JPN)/Lee Ya-Hsuan (TWN)

### July 19-26 ITF tournament

#### Singles

Winner: Yoo Mi (KOR)  
Runner up: Zuzana Zlochova (SVK)

#### Doubles

Winner: Nicha Lertpitaksinchai and Peangtarn Plipuech (THA)  
Runner up: Yoo Mi/Han Na Lae (KOR)



Yoo Mi from Korea, winner of the July 19-26 singles. Photos: Supplied

# Thalang overcome ICC in T20 Round 4

THE Alan Cooke Ground in Thalang was wet underfoot after a heavy down-pour on Saturday night and Sunday morning. Water was removed from the top of the artificial pitch and the Outrigger T20 match started on time with ICC sent in to bat against Thalang.

The first session was all ICC's. Junaid Mohammad handled the conditions better than the bowlers and he clubbed 9 fours and a 6 to have ICC on 81/1 at the 10 over drinks break. As is often the case, a wicket falls soon after resumption and it was Mohommad that mistimed a shot back to the bowler in the 11<sup>th</sup> over. Thalang's South African duo Justin Thomatos and debutante

Donavan Cowell bowled in tandem through the middle of the innings, wrestling back the run rate and sniffing 5 ICC wickets in the process. The pitch and the runs were drying up but the floodgate of wickets had sprung wide open. In the 9.2 overs following drinks ICC lost 9 wickets for just 29 runs to be all out for 110. Only Ravi Naik (15 runs) showed some resistance with Thomatos 3/12, Cowell 2/13, Andrew McMillan 2/7, and Craig Murphy 2/17 the lucky recipients.

ICC took to the field and made good early use of the new ball. Within four overs they had the scalps of Thalang's run machine Thomatos and Simon Wetherell. On

a day when a slow outfield made boundaries hard to come by, debutante Donovan Cowell (19 runs) hit 3 fours before being caught and Thalang were 69/3 at drinks. ICC's four captains rotated their bowlers but were unable to get a much needed wicket or find the answer to the wide bowling that was feeding Thalang's run rate. With 4 runs to win, Paresh Borkar refused to throw in the towel and instead chucked down 1 last over which resulted in the wickets of McMillan (45 runs), Murphy (11 runs), and Garry Lane. However, it was a little too late for ICC with the 28<sup>th</sup> wide of the innings handing Thalang the win and placing the two

teams level on 8 points in the Outrigger T20 league. Borkar finished with 3/25, and Arun Viridkar 1/18 was the most economical of the bowlers.

The next fixture is on Sunday, August 3 with Laguna playing Bondi Bar Bashers in the morning and The Village playing Thalang in the afternoon. Start times are 10am and 2pm respectively. — *Phuket Gazette*

*If anyone is interested in getting involved with cricket in Phuket, please email the Phuket Cricket Group Chairman at chairman@phuketcricketgroup.com, or visit phuketcricketgroup.com and acgphuket.com for more information.*



A throw by Saleam (ICC) and Craig Murphy (Thalang) was run out. In the end, Thalang came on top. Photo: Supplied.



# England's Proud night in the pool

By Sam Holden

BENJAMIN Proud said he had surpassed his wildest dreams after landing a second win to guide England to a record-equalling gold tally as the swimming event ended in thrilling style at the Commonwealth Games on Tuesday.

The 19-year-old edged out Australians Cameron McEvoy and James Magnussen in the 50 metres freestyle in a time of 21.92 seconds to add to the 50 butterfly gold he won on Friday.

On a night where Games-best times, record-breaking medal hauls and exhilarating relays brought the curtain down on the event, the session belonged to England and it was a sparkling performance that stood out.

Proud, who also won a bronze in the 4x100 freestyle relay, had never reached a final at a major competition before arriving in Glasgow.

"I couldn't have asked for any-

thing more," he told Reuters.

"Coming into these Games it was all about preparation and trying to learn as much as I could.

"There are some great swimmers here and I didn't expect to make a final, let alone get a medal. To become the Commonwealth champion for the second time is unreal.

"It's given me that confidence boost I need for Rio 2016," said Proud in reference to the Olympics. "I just need to make sure I step up when it's needed - it's a big learning curve for me."

In addition England beat Australia to the men's 4x100 relay crown in a Games-best time to snatch a 10<sup>th</sup> gold in the pool, matching their best total from Manchester 2002.

Wales also enjoyed a good night, capturing a gold, silver and bronze.

The country's 40-year wait for a female swimming champion at the Games was ended on Monday when Jazz Carlin won the 800 freestyle.



England's Benjamin Proud reacts after winning the Men's 50m Butterfly. Photo: Reuters

A day later compatriot Georgia Davies captured the 50 backstroke title in a Games record 27.56 seconds, making it the first time Wales have clinched multiple swimming golds in the competition.

The 23-year-old had already won

a silver in the 100 on Saturday and secured another medal by overcoming her rival and friend Lauren Quigley of England.

"I'm so happy especially with the two of us battling against each other. Now we stand on the podium next

to each other having both smashed the old British record," Davies told the BBC.

"It is back to training tomorrow but I don't want to stop swimming now because I want the fast times to keep coming." - Reuters

# McIlroy not one to rest on his laurels

RORY McIlroy embellished his status as one of the game's best players with his wire-to-wire win at the British Open nine days ago, but has put that behind him as he strives to achieve further goals before the end of this year.

The Northern Irishman has made a habit of stringing together red-hot runs of form during his burgeoning career and has set his sights on clinching a maiden World Golf Championships crown at this week's WGC-Bridgestone Invitational in Akron, Ohio.

"I've obviously had a bit of time to reflect after the (British) Open and everything, but just decided I wanted to move on and move forward," world number two McIlroy told reporters at Firestone Country Club on Tuesday.

"There's a lot of big tournaments left this year, a lot of golf left to play and a lot of things I still want to achieve. So I definitely wasn't going to dwell on what I'd done at Hoylake (venue for the British Open).

"I want to move on and start by

playing well again this week. I've never won a World Golf Championship. I've got three majors but never won one of these, so there's a lot of stuff still to play for."

Though McIlroy has suffered a few lapses in form, most notably last year when he struggled to adapt after changing his equipment manufacturer in January and having to cope with legal distractions, he has already achieved more than most of his peers.

## STIRRING RUNS

Victories at the 2011 U.S. Open and the 2012 PGA Championship gave him two major trophies to cherish by the age of 24 and he followed up on both successes with a stirring run of form.

"I always feel like winning a major is almost a springboard in a way," said the 25-year-old, who has already triumphed seven times on the PGA Tour. "Especially after the (2012) PGA (Championship) at Kiawah, I didn't want to rest on that. I'd already had a pretty good year,

but I wanted to just keep going.

"I set myself a goal. I want to win the FedExCup. I want to win the Race to Dubai. I want to keep that No.1 position in the world.

"Every time you have success, you need to reassess your goals because it's only halfway, two-thirds through the season, and a lot of the goals that I set myself for the start of the year, I've achieved already."

McIlroy said he would only be ready to savour his successes once the season was over.

"You've got to keep moving forward and keep thinking about what you want to achieve from now until the end of the year," he said. "And then at the end of the year, you can really reflect on everything you've done and enjoy it.

"So it's a springboard. I feel like I've got a lot of momentum, and I can carry that through to the end of the year. Hopefully ride that and play some really good golf, and some golf similar to what you saw at Hoylake."

McIlroy is scheduled to tee off



Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland during the final round of the British Open Championship at the Royal Liverpool Golf Club in Hoylake. Photo: Reuters

with American world number six Matt Kuchar in Thursday's opening round at Firestone, one of his favourite venues on the PGA Tour.

"This is one of the best courses we play all year," said McIlroy, who recorded successive top-10 finishes at Firestone in (2010, 2011

and 2012. "I really look forward to this week.

"All the players really enjoy it because of the atmosphere, because you're guaranteed four days of golf. It's on a great golf course and guys just enjoy coming here and playing. It's a good test." - Reuters

## Ali banned from wearing 'Save Gaza' wristbands

ENGLAND batsman Moeen Ali has been banned from wearing wristbands featuring the slogans "Save Gaza" and "Free Palestine", the International Cricket Council (ICC) announced on Tuesday.

Moeen, who is Muslim and of Pakistani descent, helped raise funds for charities working with those affected by the three-week conflict with Israel.

He wore the wristbands on Monday's second day of the third test against India at Southampton.

Moeen, 27, risked disciplinary action under the ICC Code of Conduct, which forbids players

wearing, displaying or conveying messages through arm bands or other items on clothing or equipment without prior approval.

Messages related to political, religious or racial activities or causes are not allowed.

Moeen was backed by the England and Wales Cricket Board but was told by match referee David Boon to remove the wristband and not wear them again while playing for England.

"The ICC Equipment and Clothing Regulations do not permit the display of messages that relate to political, religious or racial activi-

ties or causes during an international match," an ICC statement said on Tuesday.

"Moeen Ali was told by the Match Referee that whilst he is free to express his views on such causes away from the cricket field, he is not permitted to wear the wristbands on the field of play and warned not to wear the bands again during an international match." - Reuters



Ali. Photo: Reuters

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**SUNDAY 6TH JULY**



# Bailey-Cole, Okagbare dominate 100 meter dash

USAIN Bolt's training partner Kemar Bailey-Cole took advantage of the Olympic champion's absence to coolly grab 100 meters gold at the Commonwealth Games on Monday but Veronica Campbell Brown failed to seal a Jamaican double.

With the six-time Olympic champion and world record holder Bolt only competing in the 4x100 relay after an injury-hit season, the 22-year-old Bailey-Cole seized his chance and sped to victory in a time of 10 seconds flat at Hampden Park.

"I didn't feel any pressure, I just went out there and executed my own race, but it wasn't that perfect," he told reporters.

"The aim was to come out here and win and I did just that. I said to myself, 'these guys can't beat me'."

In the women's 100m final, Blessing Okagbare beat out Jamaican Veronica Campbell-Brown to take home the gold.

The blonde Nigerian stormed to victory in a Games record 10.85 seconds ahead of Campbell-Brown and fellow Jamaican Kerron Stewart.

"It is an honor and the reaction back home is going to be absolutely amazing," Okagbare said.

"All my preparations have been based on these Commonwealth Games so I had expected to run a fast time and I am so happy I can't explain.

"Everything has come together, it all just fell in place." —Reuters

Kemar Bailey-Cole of Jamaica finishes first place during the men's 100m final at the 2014 Commonwealth Games. Photo: Andrew Winning/Reuters

Blessing Okagbare of Nigeria celebrates after finishing first place in the women's 100m final at the 2014 Commonwealth Games. Photo: Suzanne Plunkett /Reuters

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