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INSIDE TODAY

November 15 - 21, 2014 | PhuketGazette.Net | In partnership with [The Nation](http://TheNation.com)

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■ **'TOURISTS BANNED FROM PROVIDING OWN SHADE'**

Beach brolly fiasco unfolds

■ Ban stays as tourists forced to leave beach for bringing own umbrella

By **Chutharat Plerin**

OFFICIALS are scrambling to get beach umbrellas and mats on the sands at the island's key beaches this tourism high season before hordes of visitors arrive for the Christmas and New Year holidays.

The push comes as an island-wide ban on all umbrellas at Phuket's beaches saw a Swedish family on holiday last week being told they were not allowed to bring their own umbrella to provide shade for their 18-month-old baby.

"We are trying to get beach umbrellas provided by local municipalities at all main beaches. The high season has begun, and we are trying to get this done as soon as possible," Phuket Vice Governor Chamroen Tippayapongtada confirmed to the *Gazette* this week.

"The umbrellas will definitely be provided for free, but we are looking at having people who used to work as beach vendors provide mats for tourists to rent. There will be no more sun loungers. They will not be allowed back on the beach."

Hundreds of vendors were forced out of work earlier this year by the beach cleanup campaign ordered by the National Council for Peace and Order...

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Swedish tourist Thomas Tagheim was refused permission to bring his own umbrella for shade to prevent his infant grandson's delicate skin from burning. Photo: Supplied

Belgian billionaire pot dealer nipped in the bud by police

POLICE this week arrested Belgian national Patrick Lagrou, 55, who was wanted on an Interpol red notice, while he was attempting to leave the island by van.



Renowned as the biggest marijuana grower in Belgium's history, Mr Lagrou amassed a fortune of 25 million euros – more than a billion baht – in assets before fleeing to Thailand.

Full story Page 2

Beach Police start rolling on the sand

THE latest in Phuket law enforcement rolled into action this week with the launch of the Beach Police.

Dressed in tourist-friendly polo shirts and shorts, the officers are on patrol at Kamala and Kata-Karon. But wannabe criminals shouldn't be fooled by appearances – the officers carry sidearms and have the full power of arrest.

Full story Page 7

Bar owners balk at weekend shutdown to protest extortion

BAR owners in Patong have waylaid a vow to close their doors for three days this weekend to protest extortion payments and recent orders to close down at 2am.

Amid public claims that officials "high up" were still demanding corrupt payments, the owners warned that a strike was still on the cards.

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This Week



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An experienced sailor discovers the thrill of racing. **Page 35**



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Henry Mankell's latest novel is a treacherous flop. **Page 36**



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Billion-baht Belgian pot grower arrested

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

IMMIGRATION officers arrested Belgian national Patrick Lagrou, 55, who was wanted on an Interpol notice as a fugitive drug dealer, as he was attempting to leave Phuket on Saturday night.

Mr Lagrou is renowned as the biggest marijuana grower in Belgium's history, amassing a fortune of 25 million euros – more than a billion baht – in assets before he fled to Thailand, said Phuket Immigration Superintendent Sunchai Chokkajaykij.

"He was arrested at the Tah Chat Chai checkpoint while attempting to drive off the island at about 8pm," Col Sunchai told the press yesterday.

Mr Lagrou was trying to return to his residence in Phang Nga province, just north of Phuket, Col Sunchai explained.

"After receiving a notice from Interpol, we searched his



Patrick Lagrou was apprehended while attempting to leave Phuket.

registered address in Phang Nga. He was not there, but we learned of the registration details of the van he was driving," Col Sunchai said.

"So we stationed officers at the Tah Chat Chai checkpoint to catch him."



Mr Lagrou arrived in Thailand on June 2 this year and extended his visa on August 1, the colonel added.

Thai officials will coordinate with the Belgian authorities in order to extradite Mr Lagrou to Belgium, Col Sunchai concluded.

Danish fugitive arrested for tax evasion

A DANISH expat has been arrested in Phuket on an international arrest warrant for tax evasion involving more than 8 million Danish kroner (about 45mn baht).

Phuket Immigration Police received an order from the Thailand Immigration Bureau headquarters in Bangkok on October 28 to track down and arrest Peter Jensen, 48, as he was wanted by Interpol on an arrest warrant issued by the court in Hjørring, Denmark, explained Phuket Immigration Chief Sunchai Chokkajaykij.

"Mr Jensen was arrested early



Peter Jensen had an international arrest warrant for his arrest.

[November 7] at a restaurant in Pa Khlok, after we were informed that he was seen there," he said.

"Officers presented themselves and asked to see his identification.

Mr Jensen failed to provide any, so police arrested him and transported him to Phuket Immigration in Phuket Town."

According to records, Mr Jensen arrived in Thailand on August 3, 2010 via Suvarnabhumi International Airport in Bangkok. He extended his permit-to-stay multiple times, with the last one expiring on April 24, 2013.

"He has been charged with overstaying his visa," said Col Sunchai. "We are now in the process of handing him over to Interpol."

– Chutharat Plerin

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Krabi fishermen rally against proposed power plant

LOCAL fishermen in Krabi have joined the fight against an 870-megawatt coal-fired power plant to be built in the province's Nua Khlong district, east of Phuket.

A horde of boats carrying angry villagers congregated at the Baan Klong Ruo pier in Nua Khlong at about 10:30am on Monday, wielding large signs that read: "Protect Krabi from coal-power plant" and waving green

flags picturing dugong calling for "No coal".

The fishermen were especially opposed to a coal seaport at the pier as part of the power plant project, the *Gazette* was told.

"About 102.12 square kilometers in this area are wetlands which are protected under the Ramsar Convention," said Alee Channam, leader of the Krabi Kon Rak Lay (Krabi Sea Lovers) Club. — *Kritsada Mueanhawong*



Protesters vow to continue fighting the project until it is halted.



Construction will be halted to ease traffic congestion during the event.

Patong bars threaten strike to protest corruption, early closure

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

BAR owners in Patong, Phuket's premier resort town, have gone back on a vow to close their doors for three days in protest of corruption and recent orders to close down at 2am, as it would cost them too much in could-be profits.

A letter that was passed among bar owners in Soi Bangla and elsewhere in Patong stated that bars would go on strike from November 14 to 16, the first three days of the Asian Beach Games.

However, Patong Entertainment Business Association President Weerawit Krueasombut confirmed to the *Gazette* today that the owners have decided not to close — yet.

"The agreement to close bars was made between the bar owners, not the association. However, I have talked to them about the strike, and they have decided not to do it," he said.

"It would cost too much, and would have a great effect on Patong... I will talk to the governor about what can be done about the issues, then I will pass the information on to the bar owners."

In the open letter, local business owners expressed frustration over



Patong bar owners claim they are losing too much money by being forced to close at 2am.

being forced by police and military officers to close every night at 2am. They also claimed that they are now in financial trouble, alleging that they are still being asked to pay extortion fees despite making less money.

"We are being forced to close

at 2am; it has never been like this. Now that it is high season, we could be making more money from visitors," read the letter, written in Thai.

"We were told that this is an order coming from higher-ups, but were not told exactly who. It

has been a decade that we have been under control of corrupt officers, who ask us to pay 'tea money' and buy what they claim are charity event tickets.

"Nobody has ever lent us a hand to fix this problem. We are victims of corruption. It never ends."

Underpass construction put on hold for Games

GOVERNOR Nisit Jansomwong has ordered construction of the island's first two underpasses to be halted during the Asian Beach Games, which began on Thursday, so that all lanes can be open for traffic.

"Three lanes at the Darasamuth Intersection underpass [near Central Festival Phuket] will be open, as well as the road between Central Festival Phuket and HomeWorks, from November 14 to 23," he said during an inspection of the sites on Saturday.

"I have asked that all construction on both underpasses [including at the Samkong Intersection near the Tesco shopping center on the bypass road] be put on hold and that workers clean up the road surfaces as much as possible."

Governor Nisit is especially concerned about road safety during the Games, and will boost safety measures during that time.

"Concrete barriers will be removed from the road to make more room for motorists during the 10 days of the games. Lights will be installed in order to prevent accidents and so that drivers can see the direction of traffic flow," he said.

— *Athip Karndee*



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Ceremonial flame lands on Phuket

Fai phra ruck bestowed by HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej to serve as symbol of luck during 4th annual Asian Beach Games

By Woranut Pechdee

A SPECIAL ceremony was held on Monday in Phuket Town to display and honor a ceremonial flame provided by HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej for good luck during the Asian Beach Games, which began on Friday.

The flame, called *fai phra ruck*, arrived at Phuket International Airport at about 3:30pm and was displayed on a float that paraded to Saphan Hin, where the ceremony took place.

A *fai phra ruck* is used as a symbol of luck during auspicious times.

"It is such an honor that Thai-

'It is such an honor that Thailand was chosen by the Olympic Council of Asia [OCA] to be the host of the Asian Beach Games.'

land was chosen by the Olympic Council of Asia [OCA] to be the host of the Asian Beach Games," said Governor Nisit Jansomwong, who led the event.

"Moreover, that HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej has bestowed upon us the *fai phra ruck* for such an auspicious occasion."

The *fai phra ruck* was paraded to Kathu on Tuesday, then back to Phuket Town on Wednesday and, finally, to Thalang on Thursday, added Governor Nisit.

"This is so everyone can enjoy and celebrate in the occasion," he said.

Many cultural performances



Governor Nisit Jansomwong led the *fai phra ruck* parade from the airport to Saphan Hin on Monday.

were held in Saphan Hin on Monday night, including a traditional Thai masked ballet performed by a group of students from Plukpunya Municipality School and four performances by

students from Phuket Rajabhat University.

The Phuket Gazette is proud to have been selected as the sole English-language media sponsor for the

2014 Asian Beach Games being held in Phuket.

For more information on the Asian Beach Games, visit see the pull-out special feature on pages 14 and 27.



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Sinkholes strike again after heavy island storms

OFFICERS shut down a road in central Phuket on Monday after heavy rains and flash flooding last weekend caused a large, dangerous sinkhole to form on one side of the road.

Part of Rural Road 4008 off Thepkasattri Road, near Bang Jo Prison in Srisoonthorn, gave way after strong water flow inundated the drain pipe below and washed away the earth around it that was supporting the road.

Local officers told the *Gazette* that they immediately closed the road, as they were worried that more of it would cave in if motorists tried to drive on it.

"Part of the road has crumbled away, but the rest of it is still there with water streaming underneath," said Amnony Limpanon, an officer from the Srisoonthorn Tambon Administration Organization (OrBorTor).



An officer assesses the hole.

"It's too dangerous to allow motorists to pass on this road right now."

Mr Amnony did not specify when the damage would be repaired.

"We will fix it as soon as possible," he said.

- Thawit Bilabdullar



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Hunt for missing boats begins after Rohingya land on beach

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

POLICE are calling for all residents along the Andaman coast to report any sightings of two boats flying Thai flags which are believed to be trafficking refugees, including many Rohingya fleeing Myanmar.

The call to report sightings follows police taking into custody 299 refugees at Koh Nok, off the Ranong coast, on November 8.

The boat, a modified trawler, had been beached on the island. It had been carrying 80 Bangladeshis and 219 Rohingya, including women and children.

"We were notified of the boat at Koh Nok by a local fishermen who saw three trawlers in the area," said Col Kritsak Songmoonak, deputy commander of the Ranong Provincial Police.

"The boat was modified to carry many people. We believe the other two boats that are still miss-



Nearly 300 refugees, 219 of whom are Rohingya, were taken into custody on November 8. Photo: Supplied

ing may be carrying up to 600 people," he told the *Gazette*.

"We have called for residents along the coast, including in Phang Nga, to report any sightings of vessels that appear to be carrying

refugees. If anyone sees such boats, please report it to police by calling 191."

All refugees taken into custody on Saturday were taken to Ranong Community Hall for

questioning by officials.

"Hopefully we'll be able to confirm where these people are from, and who was behind the operation that brought them into Thai waters," Col Kritsak said.



Rescue workers help Ms Phanthip.

Hit-and-run driver wanted after striking motorcyclist

POLICE are looking for a hit-and-run driver who struck a motorcycle on the road between Phuket International Airport and Thepkasattri Road on Monday.

Police were notified of the incident at 11:05pm, said Lt Col Sanit Nookong of the Thalung Police.

"We received a call from a passing motorist reporting that a woman had been injured after being struck by a hit-and-run driver," he told the *Gazette*.

At the scene, near Thalung Technical College, officers found Phanthip Phengsombun, 24, lying on the road near her motorcycle.

Her left leg and left arm were broken, and she had suffered minor head injuries. She was taken to Thalung Hospital.

A pink helmet was found at the scene, Col Sanit confirmed.

Officers have begun their search for the driver, he added.

"We are now investigating this crime. We have collected evidence from the scene and hope to learn more information from Ms Phanthip," said Col Sanit.

— **Thawit Bilabduddar**

Jilted spirit medium shoots man for allegedly flirting with girlfriend

A MAN was rushed to the intensive-care unit (ICU) at Patong Hospital on Tuesday after being shot in the head for allegedly flirting with the girlfriend of a jealous spirit medium.

Patong Police arrested Bundit "King" Pramualsil, 36, from Phuket, while he was riding his motorbike on a road near Tri Trang Beach, south of Patong, at about 10:30am.

"We arrived at the scene and were told by witnesses that the gunman was Mr Bundit, who lives in the street and was last seen speeding off on his motorbike," Patong Police Deputy Superintendent

Khunnadet Na Nongkhai explained.

Narong Polcharoen was taken to hospital. At Mr Bundit's rented home, police found a .22 rifle with a telescopic targeting sight and a loaded magazine.


"Mr Bundit confessed that he shot Mr Narong with the gun," Lt Col Khunnadet said. "He said that he believed Mr Narong had been flirting with his girlfriend. However, he did not explain how he had come to believe this."


Mr Bundit was charged with attempted murder and possession of an unlicensed firearm.

— **Natthaphol Wittayarungrote**



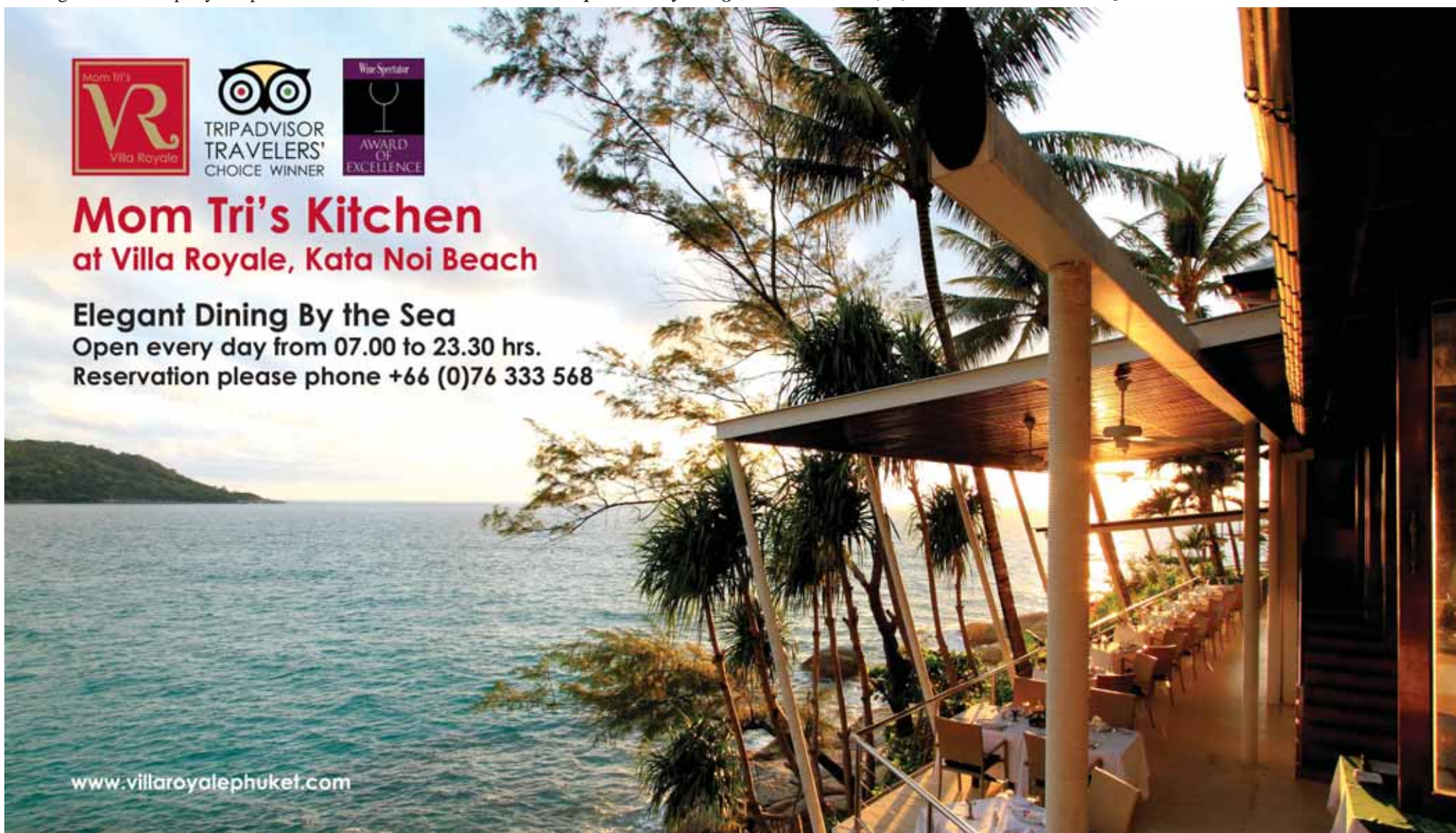
Mr Bundit (left) and the .22 rifle. Photo: Patong Police





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Night of fun, philanthropy at Nikki

SKAL International Phuket and South Thailand will hold its annual charity dinner on November 28.

Dubbed "Saturday Night Fever... on a Friday!" this year's Skat Beach Charity Party will take place at Nikki Beach Phuket, a stylish venue consisting of a club and restaurant located on Layan Beach.

In addition to cocktails, an exquisite dinner and free-flowing wine and beer, the night will feature a fashion show entitled: "Christian Develter – Art Fashion Show & Gallery", along with a performance by the Skat dancers, acrobatics from Mid-Air Circus Arts, as well as a band and DJ.

The Phuket chapter of Skat International – the world's premier travel and tourism industry group – boasts members from leading resorts on the island, making it the best in the business when it comes to organizing events.

Regent Cape Panwa General Manager and Skat Phuket chapter vice president Brice Borin said he hoped that Skat would be able to raise as much as 500,000 baht.

"It's going to be a wonderful night with some great music, food and fashion. Everyone will be able to enjoy the evening, while also helping to raise money for some very worthy causes," he said.

This year the four charities are: Phuket Sunshine Village; Barnhem Home for Children; and the PIWC and Skat scholarship funds.

Tickets for the event are priced at 2,500 baht, 1,000 baht for children under 12. Prices include food and free-flow wine and beer. Email: contact@skalphuket.org before November 20 for tickets.

The Gazette and PGTV's show 'Phuket Today' are proud to be the official media sponsors of this event.

Swedish fundraising cyclists closing in on Laotian border

By Isaac Stone Simonelli

VERY little lies between four men and their goal of cycling from Sweden to Phuket in order to raise funds for the post-tsunami orphanage Barnhem Muang Mai.

Mountain climbs to nearly 4,000 kilometers above sea level and the cold weather in China have been a dramatic change from what Calle Wollgard and the team faced when crossing the Middle East.

"The weather has made the cycling a bit more difficult. One morning, we woke up and it was snowing a lot, so we had to take a day off and wait for the snowing to stop," Calle told the *Gazette*.

"And it has been cold, really cold sometimes..."

However, with the Laotian border just a day or two ahead of them, Calle, Fredrik Jessen, Tomi Blumen and Christofer Johansson are maintaining their high spirits.

"It means that we are very close to Thailand, which still feels a bit unreal, but in a good way," Calle said.

... (NCPO). The campaign resulted in the revelation that vendors had sold their rights to operate businesses on the sands for amounts that totalled billions of baht.

"We have held several meetings with vendors and officials about getting umbrellas and mats back on the beaches. However, we cannot give them permission to 'own' the beach like before," said Vice Governor Chamroen.

"Local authorities have to find suitable places where vendors can rent out their mats. Every vendor must wear a uniform. They will be issued permits year by year, and they can-



The team (inset) is set to arrive in Phuket on December 6, in time for Christmas with the orphans. Photos: Supplied

"The journey will soon come to an end, and, of course, it's a bit sad, but crossing the finish line will be amazing. We have had some really good months behind us, and I think all these things keep our morale very high."

They set their arrival date at Barnhem for December 6, ensuring that they will have the chance to spend Christmas with the kids ahead of the 10th anniversary of the tsunami, as well as raise millions of baht for the orphanage.

Funds are being raised through pledges made for each 10km the team covers.

Anyone wanting to make a donation can contact Calle and his team at callewollgard@gmail.com.

Officials scramble to find umbrellas, mats for high-season tourists

From page 1

not pass the permit rights on to any third party.

"Each booth will be looked after by local government staff to make sure beach vendors do not break any regulations."

Swedish tourist Thomas Tagheim and his family last week were forced to leave Patong Beach on November 5 – after days of ignoring warnings from officials to remove the umbrella they were using to protect their baby's delicate skin – after Tourist Police officers confirmed that it was not allowed.

"We have been coming here twice a year, in October and January, for seven years. If we cannot use our own umbrella on the beach, we will not come back to the island... And I

know that many of my friends and other tourists feel the same.

"What will Phuket be without family tourists? How can the government allow jet-skis onto a public beach, but not allow parents and grandparents to protect their children from overheating and sunburn?"

V/Gov Chamroen confirmed to the *Gazette* that he was aware of the incident.

"We would like to apologize for any inconvenience... but until we have found a solution I would like to ask all people not to bring their own umbrellas to the beach. It will only cause arguments and misunderstandings," he said on Tuesday.

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Beach patrols hit the sand

By Khumpee Prasertphol

PROVINCIAL Police Commander Patchara Boonyasit unveiled the latest in Phuket law enforcement: the Beach Police, resplendent in their polo shirt and shorts uniform, with sidearms, and mounted on their patrol bicycles.

"Phuket is a famous tourist destination that has many beautiful beaches and we want to ensure people's safety while they are on them," he said.

"Safety is our top priority, especially when big events, such as the Asian Beach Games, are held here in Phuket."

Beach Police patrols are now in action at Karon and Kamala, which both have four beaches within their precincts, Maj Gen Patchara explained.

"We plan to expand this project to other police stations in Phuket with the goal of each station being responsible for a four-bicycle patrol," he said.

"The Beach Police squads are mainly here to serve and protect tourists visiting Phuket. They are armed and have the full power of arrest. I think this will make tour-



Gen Patchara unveiled Phuket's new Beach Police squad and their uniforms, complete with sidearms.

ists feel safer and more at ease while at the beach, and allow them to relax and really have fun while they are here."

Gen Patchara also reminded the public that crimes in Kata-Karon can now be reported to the nearest 7-Eleven convenience store.

The pilot project, being tested in Kata-Karon only, was initially

announced last month.

"The main problem for tourists – and even some Thais – is finding a police station to report a crime," Gen Patchara noted. "This is why we set up this system. People are more familiar with convenience stores, which are easily found."

If the project proves successful in Kata-Karon, it will be rolled

out across the island, he added.

The Gazette is proud to have been selected as the sole English-language media sponsor for the 2014 Asian Beach Games being held in Phuket.

For more information on the 4th Asian Beach Games, visit www.phuketthailand2014.com

Local butcher robs 7-Eleven at knifepoint



Mr Limpapanon stole 1,000 baht.

A LOCAL butcher robbed a 7-Eleven of 1,000 baht at knifepoint early on November 6, then used the stolen cash to pay for a prostitute, revealed a deputy commander of the Phuket Provincial Police.

Wichit Police received a report from the Tung Charoen 7-Eleven branch at about 4:20am.

Police arrested Boonlert Limpapanon, 37, at about 5:30pm on November 7 after they reviewed CCTV footage from the store and identified him as a local butcher.

"Mr Boonlert told officers that he spent the money on a prostitute in Soi Phoon Phol 11," Col Arayapan said.

Mr Boonlert was charged with theft and with carrying a deadly weapon in public.

– Kritsada Mueanhawong

Illegal tour guide arrested and charged

A MAN arrested on November 8 for illegally working as a Russian-speaking tour guide has been charged with attempting to bribe the Tourist Police officers who arrested him.

Dmitrii Pindiurin, 27, from the Kyrgyz Republic, was arrested at the Karon View Point at 10:30am.

"We were on the lookout for illegal guides when three foreigners arrived," said Sen Sgt Maj Surin Pitphan of the Phuket Tourist Police.

"One of them was talking and explaining the place. That's when I suspected that he was an illegal guide."

Sgt Surin identified himself to the trio as a police officer.

"The two foreigners with Mr Pindiurin said he was selling tour and travel packages in Phuket and that he was in the middle of conducting a tour he sold to them on November 3," he said.

"Mr Pindiurin confessed that he was working illegally. We searched his car and found Russian-language travel brochures."

While the officers were placing him under arrest, Mr Pindiurin offered to pay them 40,000 baht to let him go, Sgt Surin alleged.

"Our officers played along, saying that the

money had to be paid at the police station. They did that so the act of him offering the officers money could be recorded on the station's CCTV cameras," he said.

With the alleged bribe recorded at the Karon Police Station, the officers charged Mr Pindiurin with attempting to bribe an official under Section 144 of the Thai Criminal Code, which incurs a fine of up to 10,000 baht, up to five years in jail, or both.

The cash offered was seized as evidence.

Mr Pindiurin was also charged with illegally working as a tour guide.

– Athip Karndee



Dmitrii Pindiurin attempted to bribe an official, and was working illegally as a tour guide.



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ASIA'S BOUTIQUE AIRLINE

In brief...

Military dispatched to rescue residents in Trang trapped in homes after floods

FLOODWATER inundated about 100 homes in Trang's Huay Yot district Monday morning.

Soldiers from the Phraya Ratsada Nu Pradit camp were dispatched with flat-bottom boats to assist people trapped in their homes by the meter-deep flood, reported *The Nation*.

Impeachment case of ex-PM Yingluck deferred by NLA

THE National Legislative Assembly resolved Tuesday to defer impeachment proceedings against ex-PM Yingluck Shinawatra until November 28 because she had not yet looked into the documents or prepared herself to fight the case.

The meeting, which was originally scheduled for Wednesday, will take place on November 28, reported *The Nation*.

Officers identify 10 human-smugglers based in Thailand

MORE than 10 agents have allegedly been smuggling Rohingya from Myanmar to a third country, a source revealed.

The source said that the agents collected 30,000 baht from each refugee and another 60,000 baht from employers.

He said the Thailand-based agents began trafficking after the numbers of Myanmar national workers for their illegal business dropped, reported *The Nation*.

Pregnancy memo 'not policy', says hospital director

RAJAVITHI Hospital director Udom Chaovarindr has admitted that a memo prohibiting employees from getting pregnant until the end of next year did exist, but said that it was an agreement in its pharmaceutical division, not hospital policy, reported *The Nation*.

Koh Tao suspects to be indicted by end of month

THAWATCHAI Siangjaew, deputy director-general of Public Prosecution Region 8, announced on November 7 that prosecutors should be able to indict two Myanmar men charged with the murder of Britons David Miller and Hannah Witheridge by the end of this month, reported *The Nation*.

Citing an earlier chat with Provincial Police Region 8 deputy chief Maj Gen Paween Pongsirin, Mr Thawatchai said the additional investigation requested by prosecutors was about 80 per cent complete and that police

would submit the report again in two weeks.

Prosecutors would then be able to conclude it and pass it to the Samui public prosecutor to indict Win Zaw Htun and Zaw Lin, he said.

He confirmed that the prosecutor and police working on this case were trying to be as detailed as possible, while keeping the Office of the Attorney General constantly updated.

He went on to say that British police had visited the crime scene and that they should be satisfied with the procedure followed as per the Thai justice system.



The Koh Tao murder suspects. Photo: The Nation

AirAsia on look out for passport crime with Interpol's I-Checkit

INTERPOL has agreed to expand its I-Checkit initiative under the "Turn Back Crime" campaign to other businesses after its cooperation with AirAsia, Asia's largest budget airline, proved successful.

Commencing in June, the initiative saw the passports of passengers wishing to board the airline checked against Interpol's Stolen and Lost Travel Documents (SLTD) database, which has about 43 million records. The aim is to detect individuals attempting to use stolen or fraudulent travel documents and provide better aviation security, reported *The Nation*.

Malaysia-based AirAsia is the first airline that applied I-Checkit after Interpol approached its executive, who immediately agreed to join. When a passport is found in the database, security officials will be alerted to apprehend the person who presented it.

"As an airline that flies to more than 23 countries, we take international security very seriously, which brought us to collaborate with Interpol," AirAsia's Group CEO Tony Fernandes said.

"We are proud to be the first airline in the world to have our check-in system integrated with I-Checkit solution to screen passengers travelling within our network of 100 airports across Asia and 600 international flights per day."

Some six million AirAsia passengers have been screened since June when checking-in for flights, with 69 found to have lost or



Some passengers caught using stolen or fake passports may not be permitted to board. Photo: The Nation

stolen documents. Eighteen of them were not allowed to board their flights.

By using stolen passports, people are able to conceal their real identity, move between borders

and access key services in a bid to conduct illegal activities and escape justice. Therefore, measures to detect illegal use of stolen

travel documents are seen as critical for crime prevention around the world.

Last week, the General Assembly of Interpol members endorsed expansion of the initiative to cover a wider range of industries, such

as more airlines, banks and hotels.

Interpol's outgoing chief Ronald Noble said during the assembly: "Passengers travelling with AirAsia know that the airline has their safety and security in mind and is doing all it can to prevent anyone using a stolen passport from boarding. With the overwhelming support of the member countries for expanding the system, my hope is that one day soon, all citizens the world over will feel as secure when conducting their daily activities."

Under the system, no airline gains direct access to Interpol's database of some 43 million lost or stolen passports from 168 countries; but it can enter searches through the I-Checkit.

Personal information is not disclosed to companies, but the system will flag passports if there is concern, and there is a procedure to refer passengers to the authorities. AirAsia also said no personal data would be transmitted to Interpol other than passport numbers and the issuing nation.

Qatar Airways has become the second airline to join the initiative. It became the first full-service airline to use the pilot project.

Meanwhile, an AirAsia source said the airline was willing to pay if Interpol decides to collect fees – reportedly a few cents each time the database is consulted – as the initiative would certainly help boost security for its passengers and aviation as a whole.

AROUND THE nation

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Blisterful beach

DESPITE some recent stormy weather, the “official” start to Phuket’s annual high season for tourism got underway as planned on November 1, kicked off by this year’s installment of the annual Phuket Carnival in Patong.

With a spectacular street procession, free concerts, fireworks and a wide range of other high-profile activities, this year’s event was branded under the theme “Blissful Beach” in recognition of the unprecedented efforts by the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) to rid the island’s beaches of illegal vendors.

But despite all the pomp and circumstance, Phuket’s most popular beaches have yet to attain “blissful” status so far this high season. The “clean sweep” of the beaches has led to the complete disappearance of its most wanted service – the beach loungers and umbrellas for rent – even as jet-skis and speedboat parasail operators continue their, at times, lethal tourism services unabated.

Lest we forget, Phuket’s beaches remain the island’s premier attraction for many, if not most, foreign visitors. The *Gazette* has received numerous queries from visitors in recent months asking if they could expect loungers and umbrellas to be available for them – or if they should opt for another destination.

In contrast, nearly every comment the *Gazette* receives about jet-skis and speedboat parasail operators are complaints: most often about the notorious “damage scams”, but also about how annoying and dangerous they are.

The pre-coup situation on Phuket’s beaches was in long need of an overhaul, but failure to allow the return of the beach-lounger-and-umbrella combos in time for the high season comes across as a classic case of “throwing out the baby with the bath water” (see page 1).

For better or worse, Phuket evolved as a beach tourism destination with beach loungers and parasols as an integral part of the infrastructure. That corrupt local politicians used them to illegally amass personal fortunes over the years does not negate that reality.

Their absence not only compromises the island’s attractiveness to a huge segment of tourists, but also runs the risk of turning well-intentioned efforts “to return happiness” into an international debacle: with “blissful” replaced by “blisterful” to describe the sun-baked reality.

Tourists need loungers and parasols not only as convenience, but as the first line of defence against the sun’s rays. Sadly, untold thousands of units remain stacked uselessly away in beachside locations and many people remain unemployed as a result.

It is obviously too late to develop a comprehensive plan for a fair and transparent beach lounge rental industry for this high season, but by whatever means, we need to get them back on our beaches as soon as possible: like sandbags in the face of rising floodwaters. We can figure out a better long-term solution during the next low season.



High time to enforce the law

I went through customs on November 1, coming from Europe early evening. There were long lines of tourists, but only five counters open, with at least two closed for VIPs or people coming from Ebola countries.

The waiting time was terrible. Immigration officers then came around and told us that we could go through the Ebola/VIP counters if we paid US\$5 each!

This kind of practice is bad for Thailand and a shame for the military government who are supposed to enforce the law.

Now, the first thing the tourist meets when entering Thailand is blatant corruption like you might expect in some countries in Africa, but not here!

This is not the first time we’ve reported this scam, but nothing has been done!

Government: Please enforce the law!

*A (very) angry tourist
Phuket*

Rules are not made to be broken

Re: Gazette online, Poll: Should jet-skis stay on Phuket’s beaches?, November 10

Rules and regulations mean little when everyone knows – and expects – that they be broken.

One only has to observe the way people drive. Traffic chaos is a microcosm of the society as a whole, so don’t expect rules for jet-skis to be different.

The reality is, enforcement will never happen in practical terms, only on paper.

*Anon
Gazette forum*

Compulsory checks

Re: Gazette online, Billion-baht Belgian pot dealer arrested in

Letters to the Editor

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

Phuket, November 10

Perhaps Thai Immigration Police should make it compulsory, before issuing a non-immigrant visa or retirement visa, to get an official letter from foreign embassies and Interpol that those foreigners, willing to study, work or retire in Thailand, are not wanted by their own police or Interpol.

*Asterix
Gazette forum*

Who actually gets to have the last laugh?

Re: Gazette online, Jet-skis in Phuket must go – for good, November 9

After such a promising start, we seem to be sliding back into the abyss.

Jet-skis are a law unto themselves, all quiet on the prosecutions of those “influential people” in Patong and taxis returning to the streets. No change on the beach road either.

Looks like it was all a PR stunt that is running out of steam.

It’s a shame, as there was a chance to sort things out once and for all. Now the jet-ski mob are just laughing at us.

*Mister Ree
Gazette forum*

Helpless to make any lasting changes

Re: Gazette online, Phuket Immigration chief dodges long queue queries, November 6

I have always found these guys

to be helpful. When I was last there, I mentioned that the whole place was a shambles and “fees” were still being charged at times.

One told me they were helpless to do anything and that bringing this to the department head’s attention made no difference at all – only tended to sour relationships.

Sending a letter of complaint to the prime minister or governor was best, they said.

*Hugh Jampton
Gazette forum*

The sinkhole saga goes on and on

Re: Gazette online, Sinkholes strike again in Phuket after week-end storms, November 10

The photos show that this road appears to have had recent repairs.

Many of the rural roads in the Cherno Talay area seem to be mostly forgotten until something like this occurs.

I own a property in Moo 6 Srisoonthorn Subdistrict and am ashamed and embarrassed at the disgraceful condition of our road.

More potholes than actual road.

The local administration organization (OrBorTor)’s ongoing lack of concern for this is ridiculous.

*Ace of Thailand
Gazette forum*

Better to finish the job

Phuket Governor puts underpass construction on hold for Beach Games, November 10

This won’t make one ounce of difference.

It’s much better to just get the job finished.

I don’t know why they didn’t just build overpasses, as that construction would be finished by now.

*Marty Rijkuris
Facebook*

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Big man on campus speaks up

FIRST PERSON

I CANNOT deny that there are a lot of people with negative perceptions of police officers. However, I feel strongly that it is quite easy to change their minds about us. If we do our job well, we will gain people's trust, rather than eliciting fear.

We cannot just tell people that we are good cops and expect them to believe us. Words cannot do that, but doing our jobs and proving ourselves can. The duty of police is to protect the public, and arrest those who break the law. It is that easy.

When people report crimes, we will act quickly. The result? The people will have trust. They will tell their families and friends about the good things we have done.

On the other hand, if we treat people like our enemy, they will see us as an enemy as well.

We must work hard to gain this trust. We must arrest bad people and always be fair. Meanwhile, we



Patchara Boonyasit, 58, took up his new post as Phuket Provincial Police Commander on October 1. Before coming to the island, he served as commander of the Nakhon Sri Thammarat Provincial Police.

Here, he talks about the duty of police to work hard to protect the people, gain their trust and help build a good image and reputation of safety in Phuket.

must be open and welcoming to those who want to help us, such as police volunteers for patrols or those who wish to report crimes.

The Karon Police have just launched a campaign that allows victims of crime in Kata and Karon to file reports with police simply by visiting any 7-Eleven convenience store in the area.

I am looking to make that an island-wide service, and not only at 7-Eleven. I want to get other convenience stores involved as

well. I have ordered every police station on the island to work together with stores in their areas on the project. We should know which stores and which jurisdictions have made agreements by the end of the month.

After the stores and police agree to team up, staffers must be trained in how to work with police, and police must be given a direct contact number to the store.

Stickers promoting the service will be posted wherever it is avail-

able, so that people know which branches they can turn to for help.

Besides staying ahead of crime and protecting the public, we also need to find a way to resolve the major traffic problems on the island. Since I have taken up my position, I have heard endless complaints about traffic.

There are a lot of cars on the island, which naturally contributes to traffic jams.

On top of this, millions of tourists have already passed through Phuket International Airport this year – this is a huge number. We cannot deny

that more people means more problems, and more traffic.

We do what we can to solve this problem, including having traffic police out on the street directing traffic flow during rush hours. We think that this makes people feel more secure when they are on the road.

It doesn't matter how much crime there is or how many acci-

dents occur here. What matters is how quick and efficient we are at getting the job done, taking care of the people and bringing suspects to justice.

We also can't turn a blind eye to "small" cases. If police only spring to attention when there is a big case, but ignore the not-so-juicy ones – that is a big deal, a big problem. It can totally ruin

/ We cannot just tell people that we are good cops and expect them to believe us. Words cannot do that, but doing our jobs and proving ourselves can. /

the image of safety on the island.

If we work to ensure that Phuket is safe, a good image will organically form at the same time. This

is why we must aim to make the island's residents and visitors safe and happy. Doing this will both gain us the trust of the people and result in a good image for Phuket.

Crime happens everywhere in the world. It is up to police to prove their worth, and to fight – and hopefully win – the battle against crime.

Unwanted messages

Island View

By John Gershwin

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

EARLIER this year, after I returned to Phuket from South Africa, a friend of mine gave me a 49-baht TrueMove H SIM card package – the type you can just top up at a 7-Eleven or Family Mart without having to worry about the hassle of monthly bills.

That suited me fine. After South Africa, where you have to dive through hoops to get an ordinary SIM card – including providing proof of address – it was great to be able to open the plastic wrapping, pop out the SIM and have my new number working within minutes.

I'm a phone traditionalist: make the call, convey my message and say goodbye.

It came as a surprise when I discovered the credit on my phone was disappearing without making a single call. Within a few days, my regular 90-baht top-up was down to about 60 baht, and within a week it had almost gone.

After observing this strange phenomenon for a few days, I realized that I was losing credit to a barrage of Thai "promotional" messages that were arriving in my message box multiple times a day.

It was difficult to tell exactly how much money I was being charged for each message, but I had never requested any such service and no one from TrueMove H had ever contacted me to ask me whether I even wanted it.

After searching their website,



Photo: Jhaymesisviphography

I eventually found a TrueMove H number (tel: 1331) to ring the "Call Center". But get this: it's not free! They charge you 3 baht per minute to call one of their reps.

Finally, after going through umpteen recorded messages telling me to press this number, then that number "for more information", I got through to a TrueMove representative.

To make a long story short, she told me in happy tones that the service was provided by another company and therefore TrueMove H was not responsible. When I pointed out that the "other company" must have come to an agreement with TrueMove, she offered me 20 baht compensation. I complained that the amount was feeble and she increased it to 50 and told me that was the maximum she could offer...

I just read that True Corp has plans to invest 4 billion baht (US\$122.6 million) to further expand its 4G-2.1GHz network, and here they are offering me 50 baht compensation.

There's something not quite right here.

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YOUR horoscope

By Patrick Arundell

SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22):



Words have power, so be careful of what you commit to – and of what you say. Certain people

may have a super-sharp memory and will keep you to your word. Equally, there's a chance you'll want to keep your ideas and feelings more to yourself. Yet, by the end of the week, Venus's change of position can help you to see the benefits of sharing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21):



A dynamic alignment in your money zone suggests you may be tempted to buy a big-ticket item,

whether you can afford it or not. Yet, Mercury's link with Neptune might mean your judgment is out of kilter, so if you are unsure, a trusted friend could provide a valuable sounding board. Meanwhile, Venus's move into your sign is going to see you emanating a special magnetism.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20):



A conflict between your personal plans and those of the family could cause problems,

unless you can find a solution that works for everyone. However, you might find it hard to compromise if you've invested a lot of energy in this idea. Try collaborating with others. If you do, you could benefit in more ways than you might imagine.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19):



You may be in two minds about whether to attempt something or not, and, at first, doubts

can become rooted. Yet, as the week gathers pace you'll likely find your confidence develops, and that you're more willing to have a go. Fear could be holding you back from success, but with the right approach, believe you can flourish.

PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20):



A friend may show a surprising, and not so pleasant, side of themselves, which could

startle you – at least to begin with. Yet, their

antsy mood might be down to a fear of criticism regarding an idea that is dear to them. Later, as Neptune goes direct in your sign, your creative juices will start to flow and soon any flair you care to express can flow superbly well.

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20):



You're heading into a potentially no-nonsense week, in which you'll have no qualms

about what you want and how to go about getting it. The Mars-Pluto conjunction can give you the necessary determination to succeed, while Venus and Saturn encourage you to stick with the facts and be realistic when negotiating a deal or the price of a purchase.

TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21):



An urge for adventure and a desire to move out of your comfort zone can get you truly

excited. If this is something you've been planning, you'll be ready to take it to the limit, whether you're going on vacation, starting a course or researching an idea. Yet, romance-wise, you may be fearful of revealing too much, too soon.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21):



Joining forces with others and pooling resources might be what's

needed to get a business idea or an ambitious project off the ground. As a result, you could benefit from this potentially stable arrangement. Later, Venus dances into Sagittarius, with the chance to bring warmth and harmony into your love life – and a touch of adventure too.

CANCER (June 22-July 23):



A link between Mars and Pluto turns up the heat in relationships, particularly early on this

week. This isn't the time to issue ultimatums, but to tread with care if you want to stay on good terms with a significant other. Yet, where romance is concerned, you may feel reluctant to get involved, even if you are attracted to someone.

LEO (July 24-Aug 23):



You're a force to be reckoned with, as you'll accept no opposition to your plans. If

you're determined to make a success of something, then you can – no matter how many obstacles you have to navigate to make it happen. You could have a lot on your plate this week, Leo, but chances are you'll be more than up for the challenge.

VIRGO (Aug 24-Sept 23):



You'll get through whatever projects or plans you have on the agenda productively.

This is likely down to an ability to concentrate, plus your natural gift for attention to every detail. Later, Neptune forges ahead, encouraging you and a significant other to reconnect, or to bring someone new into your world. Meanwhile, you might relish entertaining this weekend.

LIBRA (Sept 24-Oct 23):



You have a chance to repair difficult family relationships, share resources and deepen

intimacy, as a potent aspect encourages positive changes at home. However, avoid being too direct and impatient in this realm, because if you don't, it may only prolong any tricky situations. Stay mindful that there's a fine line between being respectfully honest and taking it too far.



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WHAT'S ON in Phuket

November 15, 7:30-10pm. Triple Tribute: Beyonce / Michael Jackson / Rihanna

Triple Tribute from London brings Beyonce, Rihanna and Michael Jackson hits to Phuket. It comes with a twist! Ticket price – 1,500 baht concert style, or 1,800 baht for seating (limited).

Three shows for the price of one! Tickets are available now for this *Phuket Gazette* Headline Event.

November 19-22, 6am-midnight. Phuket International Sport-fishing Tournament (PIST)

Registration is on the evening of November 19 from 6pm onwards, at the Tamarind Bar & Grill in Chalong. The weigh station will be at the Tamarind on all three fishing days. The final evening and prize-giving party will also be held at the Tamarind. In an effort to showcase individual team skills, the rules of the tournament this year have been designed to allow teams to fish the event as they would while fun fishing.

This annual event, now in its 10th year, is proudly sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette* and PGTV's "Phuket Today" show.

November 21, 4-6pm. Amcham Marine Tourism Forum: The Challenges of Change

Phuket has been widely known and respected for its diverse marine industry and aquatic life. We have a vibrant yachting scene and a healthy scuba diving industry – vital ingredients in "Brand Phuket". But now, our reputation for marine tourism is under attack on many fronts – dwindling fish stocks, boat accidents, poor safety standards, yachting restrictions, low respect for marine life and prejudicial treatment of the foreign diving community by gov-



November 23 Laguna Phuket Triathlon

ernment authorities.

Join Natasha Eldred of Shine PR as she leads a discussion of these and other threats to Phuket's reputation as a friendly destination for marine tourists.

Special guest speaker, Ric O'Barry of "The Dolphin Project" and the award-winning documentary *The Cove*, will elaborate on his well-known views with regard to dolphins in captivity.

Everyone is welcome to attend. Free for members of AMCHAM, 100 baht for non-members. Networking drinks will follow the formal program.

November 23-30, 6:30am-3pm. Challenge Laguna Phuket Tri-Fest 2014

A week-long carnival of multi-sport fun and tri-related activities for you to enjoy at Laguna Phuket. Join

us for the 21st Laguna Phuket Triathlon (Nov 23) and the 2nd Challenge Laguna Phuket (Nov 30). Between these world-class, back-to-back triathlons, take in the excitement of the Challenge Laguna Phuket Tri-Fest experience and rub shoulders with the pros at events including: The 21st Laguna Phuket Triathlon on November 23 is Asia's premier destination triathlon featuring a unique 1.8k swim, 55k bike and 12k run through spectacular tropical scenery. Challenge Laguna Phuket is part of the globally expanding Challenge Family.

The Laguna Phuket Triathlon and the Challenge Laguna Phuket are proudly sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette* and PGTV's "Phuket Today" show, the island's only nationally broadcast television program (aired six daily on True Visions and all local cable

networks).

November 28, 7pm-2am. Saturday Night Fever... on a Friday!

Don't miss the SKAL Beach Charity Party "Saturday Night Fever... on a Friday!" Tickets at 2,500 baht per person include a cocktail, dinner and free flow of wine and beer. Band, DJ, mid-air circus, arts, action, Unique Showcase: "Christian Develter – Art Fashion Show & Gallery" and another hot performance by the famous SKAL dancers! All in support of the Phuket Sunshine Village, Barnhem Home for children, PIWC and SKAL scholarship funds. RSVP before November 20 to contact@skalphuket.org

November 29, 7-11am. Thanyapura Junior Challenge Triathlon 2014

As part of the Challenge Laguna

Phuket Tri-Fest 2014, which will attract about 2,000 adult participants, the Thanyapura Junior Challenge will be hosted by Thanyapura Phuket, at our world-class sports training center located just a 15 minute drive from Laguna Phuket.

This fun-filled youth triathlon provides a unique opportunity for participating children to experience the superior sporting facilities at Thanyapura, including a 50m Olympic standard outdoor pool and 500m cushioned all-weather athletics track, while the spectacular bike route skirts the scenic foothills of a nearby national park on quiet, safe back roads.

The *Phuket Gazette* is proud to sponsor this signature Thanyapura event.

December 5. His Majesty the King's Birthday

HM The King's Birthday. Also marked as Father's Day in Thailand.

December 16-18, 10:30am-11:30pm. Asia Superyacht Rendezvous 2014

Phuket will welcome Superyachts, their owners, captains and VIP guests to the 14th Asia Superyacht Rendezvous for three days of excitement, from December 16-18. Once the first night's formalities are concluded, the majestic *Silolona* will host an opening cocktail party.

With two days of friendly yet competitive "Superyacht Races", principal sponsor Feadship will host the "Challenge" during the second night's fun, where participants are to construct model boats to race. Kata Rocks will again be the spectacular host venue where all shore events will take place, culminating with the opulent "Gala Dinner" with the Superyachts providing a stunning backdrop.

The annual Superyacht Rendezvous is proudly sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette* and the "Phuket Today" show, the island's only nationally broadcast television program (aired daily on True Visions).

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LET THE GA

The Sports Authority of Thailand (SAT) cemented the exclusive Media Partnership Agreement with long-established news and events organization the *Phuket Gazette* to be the official media sponsor of the 4th Annual Asian Beach Games.

"We believe that the *Gazette* can help promote and enhance the impact of this event encouraging many people, both Thai and foreign, to be involved, SAT spokesman Theerawat Sinlapaarcha said.

With 26 sports ranging from air sports to beach basketball and 168 gold medals up for grabs, the *Gazette* is proud to represent the island and take the lead in providing up-to-date coverage of this exciting event.

Check the *Phuket Gazette* website regularly for updates!



Competition Schedule

Competition Program for the 4th Asian Beach Games 2014
14 - 23 November 2014 in Phuket, Thailand

SPORT		10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	Medals					
																G	S	B	Total		
Chaofa	• Opening Ceremony • Closing Ceremony																				
	Air Sport																				
	Paragliding												4				4	4	4	12	
Karon	Power Paragliding												4				4	4	4	12	
	Aquatics																				
	Beach Water Polo												1				1	1	1	3	
	Marathon Swimming						2	R	2								4	4	4	12	
	Beach Basketball									2							2	2	2	6	
	Beach Handball										2						2	2	2	6	
	Beach Volleyball														2		2	2	2	6	
	Bodybuilding														6		6	6	6	18	
	Sailing																				
	Sailing										R		5				5	5	5	15	
	Windsurfing										R		4				4	4	4	12	
	Sambo			6	1												7	7	14	28	
	Squash					R		2									2	2	4	8	
	Woodball											8					8	8	12	28	
	Patong	Beach Kabaddi														2		2	2	4	8
Beach Sepak Takraw										2		2			2		6	6	12	24	
Beach Wrestling							2	2	2								6	6	12	24	
Foot Volley							1										1	1	2	4	
Jetski												6					6	6	6	18	
Ju-Jitsu				6	6												12	12	24	48	
Kurash							3	3	2								8	8	16	32	
Muay Thai															16		16	16	16	64	
Petanque								3	2	2		2					9	9	18	36	
Naiyang	Beach Athletics											5	4	5			14	14	14	42	
	Beach Modern Pentathlon												3				3	3	3	9	
	Triathlon																3	3	3	9	
	Duathlon						3										3	3	3	9	
Phuket	Triathlon								3								3	3	3	9	
	Waterski																				
Bangkok-Dam Antares Wake Park	Waterski/Wakeboard																				
	Cable Wakeboard/Wakeskate																				
	Beach Flag Football																				
	Beach Soccer																				
	Extreme Sports																				
	Inline Stunt												3				3	3	3	9	
	Skateboard												3				3	3	3	9	
	BMX Freestyle												4				4	4	4	12	
	Sports Climbing																				
	Saphan Hin Sport Centre																				
Final Medal			0	12	7	1	13	16	11	7	14	28	22	32	6	169	169	243	581		

The Phuket Gazette's weekly

ISLAND TRADER

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

November 15 - 21, 2014 | PhuketGazette.Net

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

PROPERTY of the week

**For Sale
Apartment**



See page 17

PROPERTY SERVICES
of the week

phuket
home
services

phuket
property
inspections

See page 19

JOB of the week

HÄFELE

See page 21

BOAT of the week

LEE MARINE
International Marine Brokerage



See page 25

HOT Promotion – Gazette **CLASSIFIEDS**

Introducing
Phuket's Best
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GET 1 FREE**

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ONLY!

- ✓ Less than **HALF THE COST** per reader of any other Classifieds in Phuket!
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- ✓ Run your ad also in *The Nation* – 60,000 readers a day nationwide! (just 150 baht per ad!)
- ✓ See your ad also on PGTV – 10 times a day, every day, all week! (just 500 baht per week!)

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Terms and Conditions:

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- 2) Ads must be placed in person or on the Gazette Online.
- 3) Ad Power Card discounts not available for this promotion.

THE NATION
Classifieds

Phuket today
Phuket Gazette

Questions?
Anna@PhuketGazette.Net

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

Properties For Sale

VILLA IN LAND & HOUSE

For sale 3 bed 2 bath 2 kitchen 200sqm land. Bargain 4.2mn baht down from 5mn. Tel: 084-845 4743.

PATONG TOWER CONDO

Seaview on 6th floor, bedroom, lounge, kitchen, and dining area. 69.4sqm. Very short walk to beach and all amenities. Foreign freehold, partly renovated and furnished 7mn. Tel: 089-290 8939. Email: steve bell247@hotmail.com

CONDO IN MARINA

The Cleat condo in Krabi Marina, waterfront condo built around the lagoon 2.9 MB! Tel: 076-238948, 082-271 3420. Fax: 076-273466. Email: info@phuketpropertytrip.com

RESORT

For sale or rent in Patong, 1,200sqm land, 20 rooms, pool, restaurant, fully furnished, equipment. Contact email: guidolan do2@hotmail.com

PLUS CONDO KATHU

1 Bedroom, custom furnished, 30sqm, balcony. 1.59mn baht. New Tel: 081-828 0972. Email: sbolls@hotmail.com

KAMALA

Large 4 bed house, 3 bath, guest WC, 5 aircons, ADSL, close to sea. Tel: 085-250 4197.

SEAVIEW HOUSE

3-bd Rawai, 640sqm land, 2 floors, perfect seaview on loft top, BBQ area on loft top 11 sqm. Tel: 088-168 5032. Email: info@thenetworkproperty.com

LARGE SEAVIEW HOUSE AT LAYAN

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

KAMALA HOTEL ROOM

540,000 baht leasehold. Prop has 2 pool + jacuzzi 30sqm. Tel: 084-716 0502.

URGENT KARON PENTHOUSE 4 BR

Sudden departure, fire sale price. Directly from owner. Penthouse 260sqm. Clear seaview, last floor freehold only 21 Million / Estimated 25MB. Please call 080-316 5434 or 089-004 6948. Email: desnault.bernard@gmail.com

THAI MODERN POOL VILLA

Situated in Park Residence of Boat Lagoon. 3bed, 4bath, 620sqm, 18MB! Tel: 076-238 948, 089-873 8050, 082-271 3420. Fax: 076-273466. Email: info@phuketpropertytrip.com

4 HOUSE 2 RAI 65 WAH PATONG

Villa with seaview, pool + garage and 3 house with 11 apartment for rent, free hold land 2 rai 65 wah in Patong city, same owner 13 years. Sell with company for 75mn baht. Tel: 089-290 9567 (Thai), 084-848 2511 (English). Email: lars@industriby.se

NICE HOUSE CHALONG

400sqm. Furnished, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, European kitchen, 4 aircon, swimming pool, Sale 4.9 million baht. Tel: 081-787 4831.

HOUSE FOR SALE

From Phuket 100km. Between Tubpu and Panom



Near Khao Sok National Park. Land 1 rai, furnished, 2 bedrooms, 2 aircon, price: 2.2 million baht. Please call: 081-667 1637 (Thai), 082-539 6433 (English).

LAND FOR SALE

73square wah with Chanote titles. 15 minutes to Panwa Beach (Ao Makham bay). Conveniently located, road frontage. Please contact 081-6912526. Email: s_jumpon@yahoo.com

**LAND & RESORT IN YOUR BUDGET****"The Andaburee Phuket"**

Seaview, Mountain View, Mission Hill Golf Course View Project

- Land from 120 sq wah up to 490 sq wah
- Price 15,000 baht per sq wah
- Bali House 7.5 million baht (Can be revised)

Contact: 076-350118, 083-389 7799. Email: Pee_bang56@hotmail.com

**Condo for Rent/Sale**

Rawai Condominium 60sqm., 1 bed, 1 bathroom, Great kitchen, fully furnished, European style, first floor, swimming pool view, price for sale 3.9 million baht, price for rent 30,000 baht for long-term.

For more information

English: Denis 082-539 6433, Sue 087-897 4421, Thai: Aoi 081-667 1637.

**LOVELY POOL VILLA**

Near beach, 15m pool. Also for rent 1 or 2 months. Tel: 076-388 236, 089-727 5407 (English). Email: cosmo campbell@yahoo.com

FIRST TO SEE WILL BUY

Fantastic value property in Land and House Chalong. Very spacious 6-bedroom pool villa, immaculate property selling for a very low price. First person genuinely looking to buy will want to own this property. 12.9MB. Tel: 080-124 1245.

NICE STUDIO APT, B 1.5 MILLION

Studio of 36sqm. Phuket Town at Green Places. Quiet. Details on request. Tel: 095-437 9062 (English). Email: lilly@mail.ru

FREEHOLD CONDO FOR SALE

Patong Tower building. One bedroom with 270 degree view of Patong beach and town, 10th floor, 54.35sqm. 11 million baht ONO. Contact Songpan. Genuine buyers only. No brokers please. Tel: 081-737 8662.

ขายอพาร์ทเมนท์และบ้านพร้อมที่ดิน

For Sale Apartment

6 floors 20 rooms
41.7 wah. 166.8 Sqm.

Villa(Patong)

167 wah. 699 Sqm.

ขายที่ดิน หลังสนามกอล์ฟ
15-2-73 rai
25,095 Sqm.
Land for sale (Kathu)

By - 081 370 0162 Thai/Eng
owner - 083 396 0884 Eng/German

2BDR BEACHFRONT CONDO RAWAI

2bdr / 2bath ens, huge balcony with direct walk out to pool, beach, restaurant, in 5* resort with access to gym, spa, ideal for family, separate storage, furniture incl, fast owner sale, leaving Asia, 13.9MM neg. Tel: 096-532849(English). Email: laura@tilaholdings.com

RAWAI VIP VILLAS WITH PARK

Unique project with Private Park. 300m from Rawai Beach. Pool villas from 7.9 million baht. 4 villas left! WebBest selling villas in Rawai. Tel: 085-575 3300, 092-979 7899(English & Thai). Email: an drey@phuket9.com see more details: http://phuket9.com/rawai-vip-villas-new/

KARON BEACH CONDO

This 1 bedroom Karon apartment is for sale. Ground floor with direct pool access. Tel: 087-892 3876 (English). Email: info@phuketcondo.net www.phuketcondo.net

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).

CHALONG BEACHFRONT POOL VILLA

For sale / rent 3 bedrooms. Tel: 089-649 9939. Email: siri_phuket@changrunner.com

LUXURY POOL VILLA

Within unique development - 8,700,000 baht. Please call 081-077 1765. Email: phuketformations@gmail.com

Properties For Rent

KATA BEACHFRONT APARTMENT

Luxury 5-star, 1 Br, pools. 30,000 baht per month. Avail now. www.katasala.com

B.L. APARTMENT

At Kathu, 1 bedroom, 1 living room, aircon, cable TV, hot shower, ADSL, swimming pool, garden and car park. Rent: 7,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-692 3163.

KATHU GOLF & LAKE VIEW VILLA

For rent 3 bed, 3-and-a-half bath on private hill overlooking Loch Palm golf course. Big pool, 4km to BIS and HeadStart International school. Quiet, new furniture, maid, WiFi, security. Long-term 75,000 per month, call 087-269 8492.

10 UNITS CONDO FOR RENT

In Patong, seaview 7-storey condo with rooftop swimming pool, good lobby, elevator, parking, fully furnished with 1&2 bedrooms, living room, well-equipped kitchen, 4-star property, with cheap rent. Call 081-797 7199, 086-683 0786 Email: highstylecondominium@gmail.com

PRIVATE RENTAL PATONG CONDO

1 bed, furn apt, living room, balcony, pool, gym, parking, WiFi, cable. Avail now. Want reliable, trustworthy LT tenant, good rate for right person. Tel: 085-069 0938. Email: neiln5nh6@gmail.com

LOFT STYLE FLATS - KATHU

Furnished, quiet, good exercise area, 10K baht/month. Tel: 086-664 5575 (English). Email: hkmsn@yahoo.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>

POOL VILLA FOR NEW YEAR

Nai Harn Samakee, 3 bedroom, pool, good condition, 150,000 baht/month. Tel: 093-741 3735. Email: phuket.hello@gmail.com

HOLIDAY RENTAL

The White House @ Phuket Boat Lagoon Marina is available for holiday rental. Tel: 087-465 8883 (English & Thai). Email: pen@mindproperties.net

2-BED BEACH CONDOS NAI HARN

Spacious, kitchen, terrace, shared pool, beach 3 minute walk. Email: resortgm@gmail.com

KATA BEACH APARTMENT

Nice 1 bedroom, kitchen, WiFi, spa, fully furnished, 500 baht per night. Tel: 086-595 8512, 081-970 4638 Email: nalumana2000@yahoo.com

APARTMENT FOR RENT

Serviced apartment: 66sqm, 2nd floor, 1 living room with pull-out sofa, 1 bedroom. Fully equipped European kitchen, WiFi internet access, cable LCD TV, DVD, stereo system. Maid cleaning, shuttle service to Nai Harn beach, fitness center, spa, poolside restaurant and bar, children's playground. Price: 3,200 baht per night. Contact: 081-550 7379.

**STUDIO ROOM FOR RENT**

Royal Place condo, Phuket City, bypass road, opposite Tesco Lotus, 37 Sqm, 2 fl. Studio room, fully furnished.

Please contact 086-4769612 email: annanoi1@hotmail.com

CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

54sqm 1 B/R in Patong near Simon Cabaret. Long-term rent (min 5 month) 20,000b/month. Security, big swimming pool, call Mr Finn Tel: 083-104 6599.

DELUXE BEACHFRONT CONDO

2 bedrooms, also 1 bedroom, kitchen, lounge. The point near Central Festival, many facilities. Tel: 081-892 0038.

ORCHID KATHU HEIGHTS

Serviced apartment, studio, 1 bedroom, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, rooftop, pool, free WiFi. Tel: 076-203208, 081-892 0038. www.orchidkathuheights-phuket.com

PRIVATE RENTAL PATONG CONDO

1 bed, furn apt, living room, balcony, pool, gym, parking, WiFi, cable. Avail now. Want reliable, trustworthy LT tenant, good rate for right person. Tel: 085-069 0938. Email: neiln5nh6@gmail.com

FOR RENT NAI YANG / AIRPORT

House for rent near Nai Yang / Airport. Email: ek_phuket@hotmail.com

DETACHED HOUSE FOR RENT

3-bedroom detached house near Phuket Academy. Tel: 081-719 0014. Email: nacky2u@hotmail.com

APARTMENT FOR RENT

Serviced apartment: 66sqm, 2nd floor, 1 living room with pull-out sofa, 1 bedroom. Fully equipped European kitchen, WiFi internet access, cable LCD TV, DVD, stereo system. Maid cleaning, shuttle service to Nai Harn beach, fitness center, spa, poolside restaurant and bar, children's playground. Price: 3,200 baht per night. Contact: 081-550 7379.

Offices / Showrooms Available For Rent

40, 80/120sq. meter units available.

PLAZA DEL MAR Entrance to Laguna Phuket

Contact Khun Nong for details or visit our website
m: 087 266 8400 e: plazadelmar@gmail.com
www.plazadelmar.nphuket.com

**GUESTHOUSE FOR RENT**

Selling 13 year lease on 15 room guesthouse in Patong with bar and kitchen. 3.5 mn baht key money B60,000 / month rent. Tel: 081-958 1055 (English), 081-606 5772 (Thai). Email: pauljames@expathotel.com

RENT APARTMENT PATONG

Condo, pool, security, 46sqm fully furnished. Tel: 089-728 4005. Email: thamad17@yahoo.com

BRAND NEW 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

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

BAR CONTENTS FOR SALE

Pool tables, TVs, fridges, point of sale tables and chairs, ETC, In Patong. Tel: 085-562 6711.

LEAVING PHUKET

Luxbed skin sofa / chair. Various other furniture items. All for sale, leaving Thailand. Open 16-17 October, 10am-12 noon. Located in Kata. Call 089-591 7249. Ask for Morten. Tel: 089-591 7249(English). Email: morten.pasby@gmail.com

MODERN KITCHEN & APPLIANCES

2bdr / 2bath ens, huge balcony with direct walk out to pool, beach, restaurant, in 5* resort with access to gym, spa, ideal for family, separate storage, furniture incl, fast owner sale, leaving Asia, 13.9MM neg. Tel: 096-532849 (English). Email: laura@tilaholdings.com



For sale. Complete with all modern appliances, fridge and dining table. Please call for photos. Bargain price at 85,000 baht. Tel: 084-650 1048, 085-354 9694

Need to rent apartment or house in rawai / nai harn from 25 September to 10 December. Email: comantin@gmail.com

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



Can turn into daybed.
Paid 20,000 baht, price
negotiable. Tel: 085-136
3031 (English).

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services**

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076 324 400
phukethomeservices.com

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property
inspections**

Home Buyer's Inspections
076 324 400
phukethomeinspections.com

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Place your **GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS** at
iTree Complete Printing Service



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Phuket Town

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Adidas Boots

Sangho McDonald's

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

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The Gazette Online is always on top in Google!

Looking for land to buy?
See more classified ads at www.phuketgazette.net

Classified Advertisements

Please use this form to write your classified advertisement.
Then hand it to any of our agents.

	(heading)

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.

Deadline for Property Gazette page: Friday 3 pm.

Deadline for all other ads: Saturday 12 noon.

OFFICE STAFF

Trading company in Kamala looking for office staff. Female and Thai only. Salary from 14,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-322663, 086-7734538 (English). Email: skgf@skgf.asia

FRONT OFFICE GIRL WANTED

Patong area, Thai National, good English, hotel experience. Start from 25K. Tel: 085-694 6463 (English & Thai). Email: solitude001@aol.com

TEACHING AT PSU

Prince of Songkla University International College Hat Yai Campus is looking for 4 lecturers for 3D Animation / English and Science Lecturer. Please send CV to psuic@psu.ac.th www.uic.psu.ac.th

LIVE IN HOUSEKEEPER

Thai lady to live in with small family in Kathu. Duties include cleaning, laundry, pets, some childcare and cooking. Tel: 094-593 0729 (English). Email: ritalouisedobson@hotmail.com

THAI STAFF WANTED

Require English-speaking Thai women for part-time staff at specialty beer shop. Monthly salary, social security, bonus. Tel: 094-868 2928.

SALES OFFICE MANAGER

Prime Real Estate is seeking an enthusiastic Sales Office Manager for the Boat Avenue Chermgthalay office. Written and spoken English a must. Experience is a plus, but not necessary. Good remuneration package available for the right candidate. To apply, please send your CV and cover letter by email. Tel: 087-893 5052. Email: sales@primerealestate-phuket.com www.primerealestate-phuket.com

Phuket Gazette

Reporter Wanted: Looking for a fun, enthusiastic and confident individual to join Phuket's main English-language media team.

REPORTER

- ▶ Thai national
- ▶ No experience needed!
- ▶ University degree not required
- ▶ Top quality on-the-job training provided
- ▶ Must have strong communication skills and a desire to help Phuket
- ▶ Reasonable command of spoken English

Competitive 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 Mobile: 081-970 8381

Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

SUB-EDITOR

- ▶ Fluent in English
- ▶ Able to work to strict deadlines
- ▶ A team player
- ▶ Naturally curious about the world, especially Phuket and what affects its residents
- ▶ Newspaper experience and/or layout skills, especially in PageMaker or InDesign, required.

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV and writing sample by email to editor@phuketgazette.net

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

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

HOUSEKEEPER NEEDED

To manage and ensure the cleanliness of our operation. Must be a dynamic team worker with a pleasant personality. Contact us. Tel: 081-893 5492 (English & Thai).

SALES OFFICER - AQUA MASTER

Leading distributor of scuba diving equipment. We are currently looking for two sales officers based in Chalong. Tel: 076-281227, 081-893 5492 (English), 081-270 4819 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-281076. Email: jissier@aquamaster.net

HEAD OF FINANCE

Live Phuket, the leading online real estate platform, requires a head of finance / finance manager to manage all related to accountancy / finance department. Must speak good English. Excellent pay. www.livephuket.com

MARKETING X REAL ESTATE

Phuket's leading real estate agency is now looking for 2 new marketing executives to join our successful company. We have positions available in Kata and Kamala beach. High salaries and commissions are offered to the right candidates. Please send us your CV at info@phuket-condos-homes.com and we will call you back for an interview. Thai national only! Tel: 076-341045, 081-459 0152. Email: andres@phuket-condos-homes.com

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

OFFICE ADMIN - REAL ESTATE

LivePhuket, leading holiday rental company in Kamala. Office admin position available. Must have work experience and read and write English as we work with many farang! Great salary. Tel: 092-474 6157. Email: paul@livephuket.com

SECRETARY

Female, Thai nationality, good command of written and spoken English, good computer knowledge (Word and Excel programs), good attitude and positive person. Benefit: salary 12,000-15,000 baht per month + commission 10-20%, social fee, public holiday, vacation. Tel: 086-940 5187, 081-415 7774. Email: sales@phuketislandrealestate.com

OFFICE ASSISTANT

Tropical Properties real estate is urgently looking for an Office Assistant. Must have good knowledge of spoken and written English. Basic accounting and good computer skills are essential. Must be able to organize and work independently and be in a position to start work almost immediately. Tel: 087-882 2856 (English). Email: luc@phuket-tropical-realestate.com

WRITER AND PHUKET LOVER

We are building a new online travel guide (Phuket) and we are looking for writer(s) to feed our site. The candidate: Lives in Phuket; Loves Phuket and the Thai culture; Is an English native writer; Has writing experience and loves writing. Ready for the challenge? Please send us your motivation letter and reference. Email: sunray69@gmail.com

LIGHT STEP COMPANY IS HIRING!

Position: sales manager. Thai national, 25-40 years old, self-motivated and attention to detail, enthusiasm for learning new things, good communication skills in English and good computer literacy (Microsoft office). Attractive salary and other benefits. Send CV to: enot-office@yandex.ru

HOTEL COOK NEEDED

Filipino cook wanted for western food and Thai food. Must be able to speak and write English. Tel: 076-345670, 083-392 8462. Email: cc@bayshoreprojects.com

PART-TIME TEACHERS NEEDED!!

Native speaker for English, Chinese and Japanese. Bachelor's degree or higher. Must be able to teach various ages of students. Tel: 076-219337, 095-429 5251 (English & Thai). Email: nycphuket@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** (Fisherman's Way Business Center, Chaofa East Rd) Tel: 076-282403

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** (Tesco Lotus Phuket Town) bank zone Tel: 076-255425

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!**

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Gazette Online Classifieds – 10,000 readers every day!

MARKETING MANAGER

Real estate company looking for foreign-national manager with good English skills. Basic salary + commission + work permit. Tel: 089-594 6888. Email: info@arthouse.asia

PERSONAL ASSISTANT

Fluent in English and computer skills. International drinks industry. 15,000 baht per month. Mike 086-057 7714.

HOTEL RECEPTION

Thai only needed. Speak English, can use computer. Good wages and commission, holidays. Tel: 088-444 7801.

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: hr.bangtao@oceanresortgroup.net

SHOP MANAGER

We have a position for a manager to run our busy massage shop to a high standard. You must be self motivated, a good communicator with good Thai / English language skills and good staff management skills. Good salary + bonus. Call for an interview. Tel: 084-247 2935(English). Email: Peter.ritchie@hotmail.co.nz

BB PHUKET NEEDS YOU!

A unique, luxury hospitality project, located on the tranquil eastern shores of Phuket, invites you to become a part of our team.

If you:

Have a passion for high-end hospitality
Have some experience in the hospitality industry
Have a pleasant, service-minded personality
Have a good command of English

We'd like to get to know you better!

Competitive compensation and benefit packages and guaranteed service fees for all successful applicants.

Contact us on jobs@bbphuket.com

Open office event every day except Sundays, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, at Beach Projects, 51/9 Moo 5, Chalempakiat 9 Rd., T. Rassada, A. Mueang, Phuket 83000 Thailand.

EXPERIENCED CS STAFF WANTED

Native English Speaking Customer Service Agent needed for E-commerce Fashion Retailer. Work Permit. High Salary. 5-day Work Week. Work on Macs. Tel: 076-282759. Email: carla@holyclothing.com

TO AND REP

DVC: English Reps and TO wanted. Contact: 088-450 1833 and speak with George. 076-342794. Email: hr@dauidvacationclub.com

COOKS URGENTLY NEEDED

Busy farang style restaurant needs 2 full time cooks. Some experience necessary but training given. Good salary and can start immediately. Tel: 086-509 7510 (English & Thai), 087-283 6074.

INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION

Thai person who can speak English and, importantly, Chinese. Will work with Chinese and Russian customers. If experienced in real estate business, there will be a great salary. Phuket Project Co, Ltd. Tel: 093-587 3711.

PHUKET HOME SERVICE

New maintenance company looking for staff: woman to clean, plumber, baby-sitter, ++. Contact: info@home-phuket-service.com or call 083-105 2707 (12.00-20.00) . www.home-phuket-service.com

HOTEL RECEPTION

Thai only needed. Speak English, can use computer. Good wages and commission, holidays. Tel: 088-444 7801.

FOOD & BEVERAGE MANAGER

We are hiring Food & Beverage Manager. Good salary with work permit. Experience working with Thai staff preferred. Tel: 081-905 8353. Email: hr.bangtao@oceanresortgroup.net

QUALIFIED BOAT CREW

Wanted for a 6 month journey in Southeast Asia on a 19m motor yacht. Pls email your resume with boating experience and skills, along with phone number. Email: boatcrewwanted@gmail.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.

GROUP FITNESS / P T

We have an exciting opportunity for a (level 3+ qualified) Personal Trainer. Good salary / 1 on 1 Privates / WP / Benefits. To apply, email your resume. Tel: 085-783 0141 (English) (English & Thai). Email: liam@phuketfit.com

BOAT SUPERVISOR / SAFETY STAFF

Established Phuket company with over 10 years experience. Looking for a stable, long term Phuket resident to join our team for high-end trips to Phi Phi, Phang Nga and Krabi. Job includes supervising boat staff, hands-on customer safety, and liaising with owners/managers. Applicants should have experience of local sea conditions. Diving experience would be a big plus. Thais with strong English language skills or foreign nationals. A work permit will be provided for the successful candidate (if a foreigner). Tel: 076-289044, 081-787 7702(English & Thai). Email: simbaseatrips@gmail.com

HÄFELE

Häfele is one of the leading system suppliers in the fields of furniture fittings, architectural hardware, home appliance, sanitary, tooling, LED lighting and electronic locking systems. Competent, dedicated and responsible employees are the essential basis for our global corporate success.

Sales Rep. - Home Appliance Project Showroom Phuket**Requirements :**

1. Male or Female; Thai nationality 24-30 years of age
2. Experienced Sales Professional with a proven track record
3. Good customer service skills & previous experience in a field sales role with home appliances or technology.
4. Making appointments with customers, present product, generate quotes & close the sales.
5. The roles require a good level of spoken and written English, and have PC skills.
6. 6-days work weeks.
7. Good salary, commission & benefits ++
8. Must have own car. Petrol paid by company.

Responsibilities:

Responsible for all sales activities including maintaining clients/memberships, promotion, customer relations etc.

If you would like to contribute to this success in the future we would be pleased to receive your application. Interested candidates please submit your application letter with academic transcript and detailed resume in English to:

sureerat@hafele.co.th

Häfele Design Center Phuket (Branch Office)

Opposite Big C, 81 Moo 5, Chalempakiat Ror-9 Road, Vichit, Muang, Phuket 83000

For any call Tel: 076 304-460 or 0-2728 7103

E-mail: sureerat@hafele.co.th

CRUISE LINE CHEFS

To double as a ship manager in Myanmar on the Pandaw River Cruises. Tel: 087-096 9625. Email: anthonydupont@yahoo.com

DIGITAL CONTENT / MEDIA ASST.

Knowledge in Graphic Design/ VDO Editing (Adobe Suite preferred) - Fluent in written and spoken English (Native-Level Preferred Thai national) - Ability to take pictures and VDO is an advantage. Please send your CV to aey @princessyachtssea.com or call 076-238060.

RUSSIAN SALES PERSON

Siam Real Estate require an experienced Russian speaking sales person to sell property. Must speak good English, be computer literate, and have an international driving license. Salary plus commissions, and Work Permit provided. No calls; send CV only. Tel: 076-288908. Email: info@siamrealestate.com

THAI EXECUTIVE CHEF NEEDED

The Chakri Group of Restaurants has 6 successful restaurants throughout KL, Malaysia. We are recruiting Executive Chefs with hotel experience of a minimum of 7 years. Tel: (60) 03-5569 2211, +60 016-227 7610. Email: cal een@chakri.com.my www.chakri.com.my

Employment Wanted**MANAGER - URGENT!**

Good English, 2 years' experience, team player, motivated, Thai national, long-term. Tel: 076-323861, 082-789 9620 (English & Thai), 095-106 1389(English & Thai). Email: phuket@escapehunt.com

RECEPTIONIST PART-TIME

Need receptionist from 5pm to 9pm. Must speak basic English. Tel: 076-343019. Email: info@casajip.com

Live in Karon?

Place your **GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS** at Euro style tailors



Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it with **Khun Anand: 076-396911 081-536 5550**

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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!**

Bar & Restaurant Equipment

LARGE FISH TANK

Massive 2.1m L x .75m W x .75m D. Fresh, but can be converted to salt water. Sodium bulbs x 2 heavy duty steel stands. Commercial or residential use. 29,000 baht or best offer. Tel: 081-921 5030 (English). Email: mikehallager@hotmail.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

Audio / Video Equipment

HI-FI AV RECEIVER

Cambridge Audio 540R V.20, excellent cond: 7,900 baht. 9-inch Acer monitor: 18,506 baht. Tel: 080-041 4240.

Computer

IMAC 21.5" (2010)

Intel Core i3 3.2Ghz/4GB
MACBOOK PRO 15" (2009)
Intel Core 2 Duo 2.8Ghz/4GB
18,000 Baht. Tel: 076-510 143.

IMAC

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

Club Memberships Available

MEMBERSHIP COUNTRY CLUB

Family membership 550,000 baht include transfer. Tel: 084-509 4306. Email: phbouvier14@yahoo.fr

Business Opportunities

3 SHOP HOUSES FOR SALE



Including 12 completely furnished rental rooms. Call 081-979 6215.

WRITER AND PHUKET LOVER

We are building a new online travel guide (Phuket) and we are looking for writer(s) to feed our a site. The candidate: Lives in Phuket; Loves Phuket and the Thai culture; Is an English native writer; Has writing experience and loves writing. Ready for the challenge? Please send us your motivation letter and reference. Email: sunray69@hotmail.com

RESTAURANT FOR SALE



Plaza 2nd floor. Area 385sqm. Can seat 130 persons and has dance floor, stage for DJ. Restaurant is fully equipped. 3-year contract, with extension up to 9 years. Price 3 million baht. Tel: 095-419 1310.

PRINT MACHINES & BUSINESS

Advertising business for sale. 1 Roland VP540i (print & cut), 1 Fuji Xerox (print size max A3 & 300gr paper), cold lamination machine, portfolio design (customers), furnishes, with all stock, desk, furniture, etc. No time-wasters. Tel: 083-392 7017 (English & Thai). Email: Jerome-patong@hotmail.com

BANGLA ROAD BAR FOR SALE



BAR FOR SALE : MID BANGLA ROAD. 1st row, beside Tiger 1 - opposite Séduction and Tiger discothèque. Contract: 3 years. Monthly rent: 80,000 baht. Asking price: 5.9 million baht. Please call. Tel: 061-216 2881. (English & Thai). Email: momo_f@hotmail.com

KARON RESTAURANT FOR SALE

Well-established restaurant in prime location on Karon's main street for sale. In operation since 2002. Reason for sale - owner's relocation. Tel: 082-800 8717 (English), 081-085 7550 (English & Thai). Email: a.tszyu@gmail.com

BARS ON BANGLA RD FOR SALE

Great location on Bangla road. Only 9 bars available. Contract 3 years. Price 1.7-4.5 million baht plus monthly rent. Tel: 085-887 7414. Email: niminphuket@gmail.com

KARON GUESTHOUSE

Cated on the tourist road, storeys, 7 furnished bedrooms. 13 million baht. Tel: 081-171 9705.

GUESTHOUSE FOR RENT

Selling 13 year lease on 15 room guesthouse in Patong with bar and kitchen. B3.5M key money B60,000 / month rent. Tel: 081-958 1055 (English), 081-606 5772 (Thai). Email: pauljames@expat hotel.com

RAWAI RESTAURANT URGENT SALE

Area 3,800sqm. Reduce from 1.5 MB to 980,000, yearly rent 200,000 baht. Includes 2 houses. Tel: 089-646 7176. Email: bigredchili@yahoo.com

EUROPEAN RESTAURANT

Good Chalong location, fully equipped, new contract, low rent, sale 1 mn baht. Tel: 084-845 4743.

BAR & 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: matt.hew.wilson@xtra.co.nz

RESORT

67/18 Moo 4 Soi Sermuk. 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.biga-sailing.com

LAUNDRY SHOP FOR SALE

Good location in Patong, 5 machines, 3 dryers. Price: 200,000 baht Neg. Tel: 087-265 4565 (English), 093-763 8416 (Thai).

MINI MART PATONG BEACH

Busy location, good daily customers, 250,000 baht. Tel: 089-469 4105 (Thai), 089-890 9899 (English).

MARKETING X REAL ESTATE

Phuket's leading real estate agency is now looking for 2 new marketing executives to join our successful company. We have positions available in Kata and Kamala beach. High salaries and commissions are offered to the right candidates. Please send us your CV at info@phuket-condos-homes.com and we will call you back for an interview. Thai nationals only! Tel: 076-341045, 081-459 0152. Email: andres@phuket-condos-homes.com

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INSURANCE SERVICE

Car, Motorbike, Health, Travel, Property Service at home, call to make appointment. Tel: 087-267 4342 (English). Email: agentsmithr@gmail.com

WORLDWIDE AIR TICKETS

Our service is for domestic and international flight tickets. Open daily from 8:30am to 9pm. Delivery service. Tel: 081-537 2655, 085-571 4489.

VISA SERVICES

UAE and Singapore for 3 days. Please call 080-697 1860. Email: sky75@list.ru

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

Professional and efficient. E-commerce, websites, desktop software. Tel: 085-073 9994. Email: jan.faroe@gmail.com

40FT SEA CONTAINER

For sale secondhand sea container 40ft. I can send a photo. Tel: 084-744 46 48 (English). Email: vb331@hotmail.com

Dive Gear

DIVE SHOP CLEARANCE

Due to Dive centre closure on PP Island we have a large amount of 2nd hand Bcd's and regulators for bulk sale, please call or email for details. Email: precarious_phil@hotmail.com www.vikingdiversphipi.com

CHEAP DIVE COMPRESSORS

Bauer Mariner 250, year 2006. 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).

Education

LEARN ENGLISH

20% off all courses this month only. Promotion code - Happy Birthday. Includes free student pack. Courses include: Conversation, Business, Law and Medical English. Tel: 076-350110, 092-894 9089. www.uckydragonlearning.com

Pool Tables

STYLISH POOL TABLES

Style is a way to say who you are without having to speak. White 'Tokyo' model pool table. Tel: 085-797 0005, 085-797 0303. Fax: 076-264461. Email: ying@phuketpooltables.com www.thailandpooltables.com/index.php/tokyo-white-billiard-table.html.

Miscellaneous For Sale

SOLD SECOND HAND



- Musical instrument. Jazz guitar. Price: 35,000 baht.
- Orange amplifier. Price: 40,000 baht.
- Vintage French-style bookcase. Price: 170,000 baht.
- Showcase. Price: 180,000 baht.

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

Personals

BACKGAMMON

Players wanted. Tel: 081-577 8443. Email: phuketconnection@yahoo.com

Personal Services Wanted

HOUSE BAND & DJ WANTED

House Band & DJ wanted for Beer Garden Restaurant in Khao Lak for high season. Contact Joe or Oot on 085-808 7363 (English & Thai). Email: kolaz58@gmail.com

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. For more information, please call (41) 079-3696 535.

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Call 091-161 0868 for quality secondhand iPhone 4s (16GB).



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

- Experienced nannies.
- Nutritious meals.
- Reasonable rates.
- Skill development activities

CALL NOW:

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080-525 3135 (Thai)

DINODAYCARECENTER

Camera & Equipment

WANTED CAMERA MAN

Real Estate company requires an amateur cameraman to take 360 property views on regular basis. Have equipment. Tel: 089-472 49 25. Email: jones.o.broberg@gmail.com

Private Aircraft and Flight Services in Phuket

Rockwell Commander 114 HS-AWS

**Built: 1976**

Registration: HS-AWS
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Previous Registrations:
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I-ECCE – Italy
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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 II B 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

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

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

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: TTAF 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

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.

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Unique development - 124 Rai

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240,000 Euro
NEW LISTING

► Riviera 42
13,500,000 THB
THAI REGISTERED

► Martin Francis Expedition 33
\$850,000 USD
NEW LISTING

► Van de Stadt Galapagos 50
99,000 Euro
STEEL HULL

► Fountaine Pajot Belize 43
\$350,000 USD

► Fusion 40
\$298,000 Euro
PRICE REDUCTION

► Super Maramu 2000
240,000 Euro

Martin Holmes
Mobile: 081 891 7057
Email: martin@leemarine.com

Marcus Overman
Mobile: 081 968 1437
Email: marcus@leemarine.com

Jim Poulsen
Mobile: 081 891 3237
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AIS CLASS B DEAL

AIS DEAL by Electrical Marine Co, Ltd. Has the Simrad Class B NAIS-400 complete with GPS and VHF antennas that will interface with all marine systems with NMEA2000 & NMEA 0183. 32,500 baht+VAT sales @electrical-marine.com Tel: 076-272177, 081-892 0534 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-272178. Email: sales@electrical-marine.com

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Aluminium hull RIB's and "Air Floor" inflatables welded PVC and Hypalon options. Good quality at very competitive prices. Now in stock at our Boat Lagoon Showroom For details contact Alan Giles. Andaman Boat Sales. Tel: 084-842 6146. boats@andamanboatsales.com

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Deep V Hull, Hydraulic steering, bimini, stereo & marine heads. Special low season price, includes launching trolley. Below cost at only 649,950THB inc VAT. Now in stock at our Boat Lagoon Showroom. for details contact Alan Giles. Andaman Boat Sales. Tel: 084-842 6146. boats@andamanboatsales.com

SELLING YOUR BOAT?

With high season just around the corner, now is the right time to get her listed, Boatshed phuket.com are 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. alangiles@boatshedphuket.com

VESSEL "SANITY"

1989 Princess Riviera 36. Direct sale by owner 2,000,000 baht only. Roger: 089-871 2940. Email: Info@villea.com

FRASER 41 (1988)

Solid construction by De Kleer Brothers in Canada and a successful competitor on the local racing scene. Perkins 4108 50hp auxiliary diesel. For details contact Alan Giles. Tel: 084 842 6146. Email: alangiles@boatshedphuket.com Boatshedphuket.com

AVON 400 JET RIB

2006 Avon 400 Seasport Jet RIB. Seats 6, 80HP, trailer and custom covers included. 300,000 baht o.n.o. Tel: 082-288 0668 (English). Email: davidcrammond@msn.com

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Commercially registered sport fisher. Twin 360Hp Hino diesels. Possibility of remaining in charter to offset some of the running costs. 5,950,000THB Contact Alan Giles at Boatshed Phuket. com on 084-842 6146. or alangiles@boatshedphuket.com

2008 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

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).

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SOLUTION TO THIS**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. UNCERTAIN: *aniceturn* 10. GERANIUM: *german (I)(U)* 12. PINE: long 13. STEREO: (E)store 14. SARASIN: *rainsas* 15. INCULCATE: *anicecult* 17. APPLICANT: *plainpact* 18. SPECIES: *pieces-S* 20. ROTATE: *toteat* 21. EPIC: *piece* 24. REQUIRED: *R-queried* 26. APHORISM: *imsharp(0)* 28. ROTA: *orto* 29. ICICLE: *I/C-I/C-le* 31. SLANDER: *S-la-nerd* 34. DUNCESCAP: *dun-C-escape* 36. DINNERSET: *meal-put down* 38. CHOLERA: *C-Ho.-L-era* 39. CROCUS: *croc.-U.S.* 40. PHRA: *harp* 41. FELLFLAT: *fell-flat* 42. PLANETREE: *enterplea*
Down: 1. SUPPLIES: *sup-piles* 2. SCENIC: *science* 3. MARTIANS: *mar-saint* 4. UNTRUE: (E.U.)turn 5. IGNORANT: *ratingon* 6. CROSSPATCH: *cross-patch* 7. INGRAIN: *inaring* 8. RUSSIA: *R.U.-asis* 11. UNSTICK: *tucksin* 16. LAIDUP: *pudail* 19. ERECT: *crete* 20. ROD: *or[up]-D* 22. POSED: *dopes* 23. CREATE: *trace-E* 25. RECYCLABLE: *crycable-le* 26. APE: *a-P.E.* 27. PRODUCE: *opcured* 30. CAPACITY: *cap-a-city* 31. SINGULAR: *rulingas* 32. RETRACED: *drcreate* 33. CEREALS: (E)clears 35. NOOSES: *soon[up]-E-S* 36. DROOPS: *prodso* 37. SPHERE: *P.S.[up]-here*

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Phuket Gazette

Photo by Guy Nowell

AMES BEGIN

HISTORY

The Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) has worked towards laying the proper foundation in the organization of the Asian Beach Games. The Games were first held on the beautiful island of Bali, Indonesia; the second in the majestic city of Muscat, Oman; and the third on the charming coastline of Haiyang in China. For its fourth edition – the biggest yet – the Asian Beach Games are being held from November 14 to 23 in Phuket, Thailand – known as “the pearl of the Andaman.”

Since 2008, the Asian Beach Games have become bigger and better, and have been shown by the OCA and the host cities to be an outstanding success. The Asian Beach Games serves as the perfect venue where sports and fun-loving people converge in the name of friendly competition.

With a strong initiative to support and promote the sports development model of the OCA, the government of Thailand; the Ministry of Tourism and Sports; the Sports Authority of Thailand; and the National Olympic Committee of Thailand have joined forces to secure the hosting of the 4th Asian Beach Games and make it a reality that will leave a long-lasting sporting legacy for the country and its people.

MASCOT

The sea turtle is a symbol of endurance, fertility, sustainability and growth. As Phuket is home to many rare species of sea turtle, it is a chance to announce to the participants of the Games – and also to the public – that Thailand plays an important role in the conservation of sea turtles.

As sea turtles are amphibious creatures, living both on land and in the sea, the Asian Beach Games will have both beach and water sports, which at the same time symbolize the relationships between the different countries of Asia.



The names **Sintu**, **Sakorn** and **Samut** all share a similar meaning for water.

WHERE IT'S HAPPENING

3

1. Patong Cluster
2. Karon Cluster
3. Nai Yang Cluster
4. Bang Neow Dam
5. Chao Fa Cluster
6. Saphan Hin Cluster

4

5

1

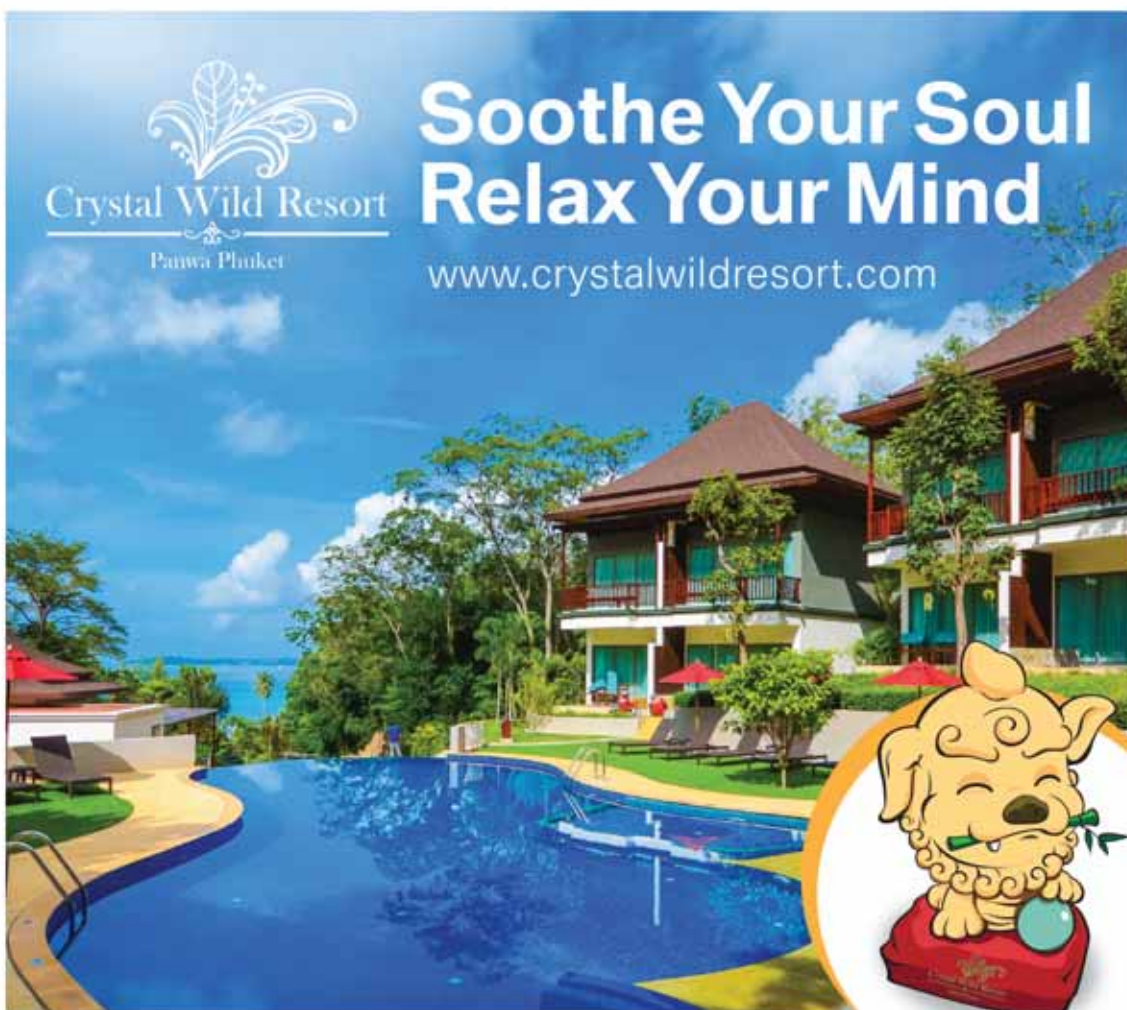
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Public relations representative for the pageant, Supatra Jujaroen, was 1st runner up for Miss Universe Thailand 2012 and Miss Southeast Asia 2012.

Models for charity

Ju Modeling Phuket recently held a charity event to raise money for orphaned children of the House of Life Foundation and to publicize the Miss Phuket Universe pageant to be held in February.



From Left: Sam Fauma, chairman of the House of Life Foundation; Sayan Prasongsamrej, commander of the Royal Thai Navy Third Area Command; and Phuket Governor Nisit Jansomwong.

Bollywood comes to Phuket

Bollywood Restaurant & Bar, located on Bangyai Road next to Index Living Mall, recently held its grand opening party.



The restaurant's owners: Sam Sethi and his wife Chin.

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Uber on the scene in Phuket

By Isaac Stone Simonelli

UNTIL the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) made historic efforts to sweep Phuket clear of local taxi mafias that had long tainted the island's international reputation, there were rarely rays of hope for its public transportation system.

However, this week, another major player has stepped up to provide the millions of tourists that holiday in Phuket, as well as the local community, with a safe, reliable and hassle-free transportation option.

Taxi-alternative Uber, valued at US\$18.2 billion (596bn baht), initiated a soft launch of its services in Phuket earlier this year, and is now ready to go full throttle just in time to tap into the high-season market.

"Uber is a technology company that connects riders and drivers to enable safe, convenient and affordable transport. Uber makes cities better by reducing congestion and improving transport availability and safety. Today, Uber operates in more than 220 cities across six continents," Mike Brown, Uber regional general manager, explained to the *Gazette*.

"Phuket is a city where reliable transportation options are few and far between, and public transport is virtually non-existent.

"We think it's a fabulous time to launch in Phuket because people there, and millions from around the world who visit the island every year, are clamoring for a great new transport alternative, and we are very much focused on that – the type of alternative that Uber's technology offers. People want safety, they want incredible reliability and they want accountability."

The Uber application for smartphones allows members to track Uber-approved drivers in the area – who are registered legal taxi drivers in Phuket already – as well as hail drivers with the tap of the screen.

"The car that picks you up when you request an Uber is an immaculate Toyota, Mitsubishi or Honda sedan or SUV driven by a professional driver," Mr Brown explained. "The vehicle and the driver's credentials have been inspected and approved by Uber and meet all regulatory requirements for a Phuket commercial



Phuket is now one of 220 cities on six continents serviced by Uber. Photo: Supplied

transport operator."

For locals, expats and tourists, the real kicker, of course, is that their feedback is actually taken into account. After years of complaints being disregarded by local authorities, untold numbers of passengers have failed to take action against taxi drivers who have violated their personal rights due to the amount of hassle required to work through official channels. Now, Uber will be able to step in and provide a greater level of transparency and accountability to the services that tourists expect.

The company already has a reputation for taking swift, decisive action against drivers that begin to slack or violate the company's policies.

"Finally, at the end of each trip, the passenger can rate the driver and comment on the experience. Feedback is extremely important to us and helps us ensure that a consistent high-quality ride on the Uber platform is maintained," Mr Brown said.

Another main selling point is cashless transactions. All payments are made with a pre-registered credit card through the Uber app, preventing drivers from rounding to the nearest hundred baht and pretending not to have change for that 1,000-baht bill.

"Uber pricing is very competitive with the market rates for comparable on-the-ground transportation options accessible on almost all parts of the island like limousine taxis and tuk tuks," Mr Brown explained.

The rate currently being quoted for an Uber driver is 950 baht from the airport to anywhere on the island. Shorter rides, such as from Patong to Central Festival in Phuket Town – 10.2km – will vary between 385 and 467 baht depending on traffic, according to the app's "Fare Quote" feature.

Though more expensive than one of the new metered taxis launched on the island, which could theoretically make the trip from Patong to Central Festival for 260 baht (if you can

find one), Uber maintains that the consistency, convenience and safety provided by the company will make it a major player in the market place.

It's good for the passengers, but what incentives are there for drivers who are willing to break free from the mold?

Mr Brown assured that, in fact, the application was incredibly beneficial for drivers by providing another source of clientele while they continue to work their usual beats.

"Uber's technology offers consumers more choices [and] allows drivers to make more money," Mr Brown said.

"In fact, we have seen Uber become a unifying force among the driver community around the island, which has historically been very segregated. Uber driver partners have been sharing their experience with other top-notch drivers from different parts of the island and encouraging them to partner with Uber."

The launch in Phuket is the multi-billion-dollar company's first "#UberDESTINATION" – part of a series of exotic destination resort towns to which the Uber service is provided – a service that many holidaymakers have become accustomed to in their hometowns.

Though potential for windfall profits exists for the company, several enormous barriers still stand – most notably the island's apparent acceptance of drunk driving. Regularly, stories of car accidents or motorbike deaths that are believed to be directly or indirectly connected to alcohol consumption find their way onto the *Gazette's* pages. Despite the deaths, it is common for expats and tourists to clamor into or onto their motor vehicles after a night in the bars for the cheapest – or, sometimes, most expensive – ride of their lives.

"Locals and expats on the island will also benefit from Uber. Many typically drive their own cars or ride a scooter for long distances on windy roads to attend engagements, events or parties... that typically involve alcohol consumption. Uber offers a reliable service that is largely available around the clock on most parts of the island, which they can now turn to for a safe ride home," explained Mr Brown.



The Uber application for smartphones allows members to track Uber-approved drivers in the area...

The SEC pushes for easing of foreign ownership regulations

THE Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has said foreign ownership regulations should be relaxed in order to attract more foreign investors.

The call for the red-tape overhaul came as the Taiwan Stock Exchange revealed that getting rid of regulation barriers was key to luring back local companies that had listed abroad.

SEC deputy secretary-general Tipsuda Thavaramara told a seminar arranged by the Association of Thai Securities Companies that it was "almost embarrassing" that Thailand still had regulation barriers regarding foreign ownership.

Ms Tipsuda also said the list of industries protected by the Foreign Business Act could be shortened to lower these foreign investment barriers. "The FBA list is quite broad, especially list 3, which also stated that foreigners who provide a service that is not contained on the

list must still obtain a foreign business licence prior to commencing operations," she said.

"Therefore, an exemption has to be sought case by case, which is why the SEC has invented the NVDR [non-voting depository receipt] to allow access to financial benefits for foreigners who do not want to express any control; but there are complications and it is not the same as real holdings.

"It would be better if the FBA's list is shortened, as the market always has issues against NVDR but we always told them [the markets] that the regulations cannot be further relaxed because of the FBA."

Nevertheless, Ms Tipsuda revealed that the SEC was working on vehicles to facilitate overseas investment and it expected to introduce an infrastructure trust early next year to go along with an infrastructure mutual fund.

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When it's best to play it safe

Finance

By David Mayes

RETIREEES have really been given a raw deal by the global financial system ever since the big banks created the mess that led to the financial crisis in 2008. Since then, the banks have been bailed out and the economy has been on life support, at the expense of those trying to live on the fixed income they worked their whole lives to create.

In order to stimulate the economy, interest rates have been at rock bottom for an astonishing six years now. Despite the low returns on fixed income, it has never been more important to avoid risky investments.

Over the past few years there have been many horror stories from those who should have been in safe assets in a normal interest-rate environment, but instead have been trying to make up for the lack of return. Many people are still moving into riskier asset classes even now, and with money they really cannot afford to lose.



Since the major financial institutions' bailout, avoiding risk has been the best way to stay afloat. Photo: US Navy

The thing retirees should remember is that their retirement could possibly last many decades, if they survive that long, and they need to preserve their capital to be able to take advantage of higher rates – when they eventually do come back. Even though they feel the pinch very painfully now, trust that it is less painful than the results of making a big mistake with retirement funds that can't be undone.

The following asset classes

should absolutely be avoided by the bulk of retirees' net worth if they have stopped working, and do not wish to re-enter the work force during their golden years.

The first is stocks. A crash will come. While nobody can say when for sure, the longer any bull market runs, the higher the probability that a crash is coming soon. Of course, a recovery and rebound to eventual new highs always happens, but it's impossible to participate if money needs

to be drawn out to survive. With this is included specialist funds, which used to be a good choice. Sadly, that asset class has proven to have far too high a percentage of shyster fund-managers to risk retirement funds with.

Bond funds with durations over a few years are also to be avoided, as it is mathematically impossible for them to avoid losses on their portfolios when interest rates eventually do rise. Interest-rate risk is at the highest

it has been in decades. It is better to buy medium-termed individual holdings of top-grade corporations that can be held to maturity. This eliminates interest rates, albeit at the expense of an increase in inflation risk and company specific risk. Only buy triple A-rated senior debt and diversify as much as possible.

The main thing to always remember is that investing is a long-term game that can be destroyed by short-term thinking. We have all fallen victim to short-term thinking at some point. Hopefully, the lessons learned will help avoid making a similar mistake again. Better days for retirees will come. Exactly when is hard to say, but they will come for sure. Make sure to have an intact capital base when that day comes.

David Mayes MBA resides in Phuket and provides wealth management services to expatriates around the globe, focusing on UK pension transfers. He can be reached at david.m@faramond.com or 085-335 8573. Faramond UK is regulated by the FCA and provides advice on pensions and taxation.

Slowed economic growth results in delayed stimulous

THAILAND'S economic growth this year is likely to fall short of its target of 1.5 per cent, as Deputy Prime Minister MR Pridiyathorn Devakula, who is in charge of the economy, conceded that a proposed 324-billion-baht stimulus package is yet to be released to kick-start the economy by the year-end.

The Fiscal Policy Office recently cut its GDP growth estimate for the year to 1.4 per cent while the University of Thai Chamber of Commerce has maintained its growth forecast of 1.3 to 1.5 per cent. The Bank of Thailand is expected to revise its recent growth forecast of 1.5 per cent.

Speaking at a seminar arranged by the Economic Society of Thailand and the National Institute of Development Administration yesterday, Pridiyathorn said the economy in 2014 had slowed due to a lack of real public investment in the past 10 months along with the uncertainty surrounding the global economic recovery. He also said the government stimulus package, which aimed to create more jobs via maintenance projects, was delayed.

He admitted that some parts of the government's implementation of the stimulus package worth 324.47bn baht are slower than expected by two to three months. But, there was no need to introduce other measures at the moment as the package was sufficient.

"Has the stimulus package produced any effect? My answer is not yet and it is slower than what I expected," he said.

Mr Pridiyathorn explained that job-creation measures worth 23bn baht were delayed because the project's identification process was finished only at the end of October. He said that of the total 8bn baht leftover budget had yet to be approved by the Budget Bureau and 15bn baht from the "Strengthening Thailand Project" had still not been presented to the Cabinet for approval before it could be disbursed.

"Not even one baht has been disbursed and no contract has been signed, but it is okay. I will make sure that it will be out by December and that would be even better, as the rice farmers will be done with their harvesting and there will be more workers to work on maintenance projects," he said.

Mr Pridiyathorn explained further that there was also delay in the investment budget that was left over from the fiscal 2013-14 budget worth 149bn baht, of which only 14bn baht has been used since the acceleration.

But he expected that the leftover budget and the new investment budget from the 2015 fiscal budget, worth 129bn baht, would be implemented by December and its effect would be more apparent in the first quarter of next year.

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Being wheedled with words

The intoxicating verbiage used by the property industry to entice

By Jules Kay

IN THE travel and lifestyle industry certain words are over-used to the point where they become little more than verbal gloss; shiny adornments designed to entice people to part with more cash than they would normally choose to spend.

The word boutique is one such term, now applied with abandon to everything from a modest eatery to a six-star beach resort.

Then, of course, there's luxury, which has somehow expanded its descriptive reach to cover a multitude of desirables, both physical and experiential.

In a popular, eclectic destination like Phuket, of course "luxury" offerings abound, yet they are only worthy of the title if their value goes beyond a high price tag. In fact, it is the island's priceless assets that make it such a unique and appealing destination for the discerning and the wealthy, which is why the smartest money hones in on highlights such as unspoilt nature, fine design and personalized Thai hospitality.

In reality, each of Phuket's business sectors offers its own distinctive version of luxury,

depending on the type of experiences being offered and the type of clients being targeted.

In the tourism sector, for example, the emphasis is increasingly on luxury services. The island now offers a vast array of bespoke options to visitors, ranging from private chefs and personal butlers in high-end hotels and holiday villas, to stretch limousine rentals and fully-staffed superyacht charters.

Meanwhile, in the real estate sector, Phuket offers first and second-time home owners and renters some of the most appealing luxury homes and private facilities in Asia. Innovative architecture and unique designs combine supreme comfort with a desirable tropical lifestyle that takes full advantage of the kind climate, clean air and attractive natural surroundings.

New launch and pipeline residential projects continue to push the envelope, and with few resort destination competitors in the region, Phuket continues to draw a significant number of high net worth investors to its shores every year.

To complement the island's established and expanding luxury home and hospitality sectors,

high-end retail projects are also being added to Phuket's luxury landscape. Thailand's two biggest mall developers – the Central Group and the Mall Group – are each investing heavily in new developments that promise conspicuous consumers a whole host of world-class luxury retail and entertainment choices.

These gilded additions, along with more practical upgrades such as a new airport terminal, better road connectivity and extended marina facilities mean that, at the very least, visitors and residents of Phuket will be afforded the luxury of convenience.

Jules Kay is a marketing consultant, managing editor and content curator with 15 years experience working in the Southeast Asian luxury property, tourism and lifestyle sectors. His latest project is an exclusive mixed-use residential resort development on Kamala beach.

For more information, visit: www.montazure.com.



Jules Kay is a Phuket-based marketing consultant. Photo: Supplied

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Cruising monohull Aqua, a regular entrant in the Ao Chalong Yacht Club Sunday race series, is pictured on picturesque Chalong Bay earlier this year. Photo: Mig Wehrle

Like sailing? Join the club

By Chris Husted

OFTEN the boats and the lifestyles featured in this boating column highlight how the “other half” lives. Well, not exactly the “one percenters”, but more like the “eight to 12 percenters”. Yet what lies behind all the luxury is the same common ground: the lure of the sea.

What many people don't know, including many long-term Phuket residents, is that a slice of that experience can be enjoyed in Phuket waters for just 200 baht – the race fee for non-members at the Ao Chalong Yacht Club (ACYC) to join one of the races in its annual series.

“People come from around the world to enjoy sailing the Andaman and see the splendors of Phang Nga Bay. For people living in Phuket, that experience is right on their doorstep,” said life member and former Commodore, Grenville Fordham.

“What amazes me is how many people sail here on their boats, and then rarely venture out to sail in local waters. The ACYC Sunday race series has for years

proved a valuable way of learning the local waters and where rocks and shallows lie, and for yachties to network and learn about what marine services are available on the island.

“It is also a great way to learn from expat sailors what the local regulations are and what is required to make sure your stay in Phuket remains legal.”

Steve Lawrence, 63, from England, has been sailing for 25 years. He finally ventured out for his first ACYC race last weekend.

“I've known about the ACYC since I arrived here, but this was my first race,” he said. “I'm really a cruising sailor. I've spent eight years cruising Southeast Asia – Borneo, the Philippines. Essentially, I'm a cruising yachtsman.”

Yet, Steve had never joined an ACYC race in his 10 years' living in Phuket. The tipping point was friendship. “I've known Grenville a long time. I respect the contribution he's made to sailing in the country,” said Steve.

“This was the first time I've been on a boat with Grenville... He made an offer I couldn't refuse,” he laughed.



“Every cruising yachtsman should go racing... It sharpens your skills. Everything must be done quicker, sharper. You must pay attention to everything you do.”

– Steve Lawrence, veteran cruiser
Photo: Bob Mott

Steve's verdict on his first foray racing in Phuket was simple: “Absolutely fantastic.”

“If you want to go racing, you want challenging conditions – you want wind, choppy conditions and poor visibility. Today we had all that,” he said.

“It was the kind of experience I wanted, and it makes me feel like I want to do more racing. It was my first race and the boat I was on came first.”

“On handicap,” chortled ACYC stalwart Bob Mott sitting nearby.

“Every cruising yachtsman should go racing,” Steve admitted. “It sharpens your skills.

Everything must be done quicker, sharper. You must pay attention to everything you do.

“For a cruising sailor to turn up to a mooring or anchorage 10 minutes late is nothing – but today we won by six minutes, and in racing that is a huge margin.”

For years the ACYC race series has proved a valuable training ground for local sailors competing in the Phuket Raceweek regatta or the annual King's Cup Regatta. And that's where the ACYC stalwarts shine, regularly notching up victories against professional crews.

“It is the range of weather

conditions that make it perfect for race practice. Last week we had gusts of up to 15 knots and one-meter waves on the bay. The previous two races saw light winds that tested racers' skills and patience – and pretty much resulted in a pleasant jaunt around the course,” said Bob.

In recent years the club has also made strides in developing its new clubhouse into a family-oriented venue suitable for parents and children – not just salt-spattered yachties.

On race-day Sundays, the clubhouse serves a roast that is fast gaining a reputation as a feast to be conquered and provides live music. During the past year, the club has also organized dinghy sailing lessons for beginners.

“We encourage all people – from sailors with decades' of experience to people who have never been on a sailboat before – to join the series. It's simply one of the best ways to enjoy an essential part of being in Phuket,” concluded Grenville.

For more information about the ACYC, visit <http://acyc.asia/>

Yacht Solutions consultant for Statham blockbuster

PHUKET-based Yacht Solutions has been appointed marine consultant for Jason Statham's next blockbuster movie, *Mechanic: Resurrection*, which is scheduled for cinematic release in January 2016.

Shooting started in Bangkok with Statham reprising his title role as a master assassin who faked his death in an attempt to walk away from his former profession, in order to lead a peaceful and quiet retirement.

The movie also stars Tommy Lee Jones and Jessica Alba.

“It's a pleasure to be working on such a high-profile film, with such prestigious actors,” said Gareth Twist, managing director of Yacht Solutions.

“This is a great opportunity for the marine industry in Thailand, enabling us to showcase what filming opportunities are available here, both on land and sea.

“Blockbusters such as these



Jason Statham will be filming on location off Phuket. Photo: Reuters

will help to promote the country as an exotic, beautiful and friendly location for filming. We will be offering the production company marine co-ordination and logistical support.”

Filming starts mid-November until mid-December on board a 63-meter superyacht in Thailand.

The cast will be filming on location on the superyacht in the Gulf of Thailand organized by Yacht Solutions, and they will also be filming in and around Phuket.

– Chris Husted

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A treacherous bore

Books

By James Eckardt

I PICKED up Henning Mankell's *A Treacherous Paradise* (Knopf, New York, 2013, 360pp) because I was interested in reading a novel about Mozambique. It was only later that I learned that Henning Mankell is part of a coterie of Swedish crime writers who have recently attained international popularity. His Detective Kurt Wallander mystery series has been translated into 40 languages. He has also written eight literary novels.

His most recent, *A Treacherous Paradise*, is a towering mediocrity, an interminable bore, an amateurish mishmash of clumsy sentences, creaking plot and cartoonish characters. Henning Mankell is a gentleman of the political left, long cozy with the Marxist government that threw off Portuguese colonialism in Mozambique. The characters of his novel are black and white – black being good, white being evil.

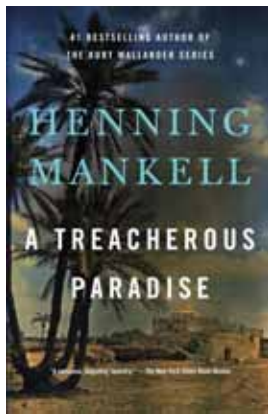
The book's sole virtue is its heroine, Hanna Renstrom, who grew up cold and hungry in the northern mountains of Sweden and is dispatched in 1904 by her widowed mother to seek her fortune in the little port city of Sundsvall. Here, she ships out as a cook on a lumber steamer bound for Australia. In Algiers she marries the ship's second mate and in Lourenco Marques, capital of Mozambique, her new husband dies of fever, leaving Hanna widowed at the age of 18.

She jumps ship and checks into the Paradise Hotel where she falls ill from a miscarriage. Later, she realizes that she is living in the city's most popular brothel, a lone white woman amid a score of black prostitutes. Here would be a chance for a parade of colorful characters, but the whores and their white clients are mostly left in the background, except for the good-hearted Felicia. Oh, and there's also a chimpanzee named Carlos who works as a waiter.

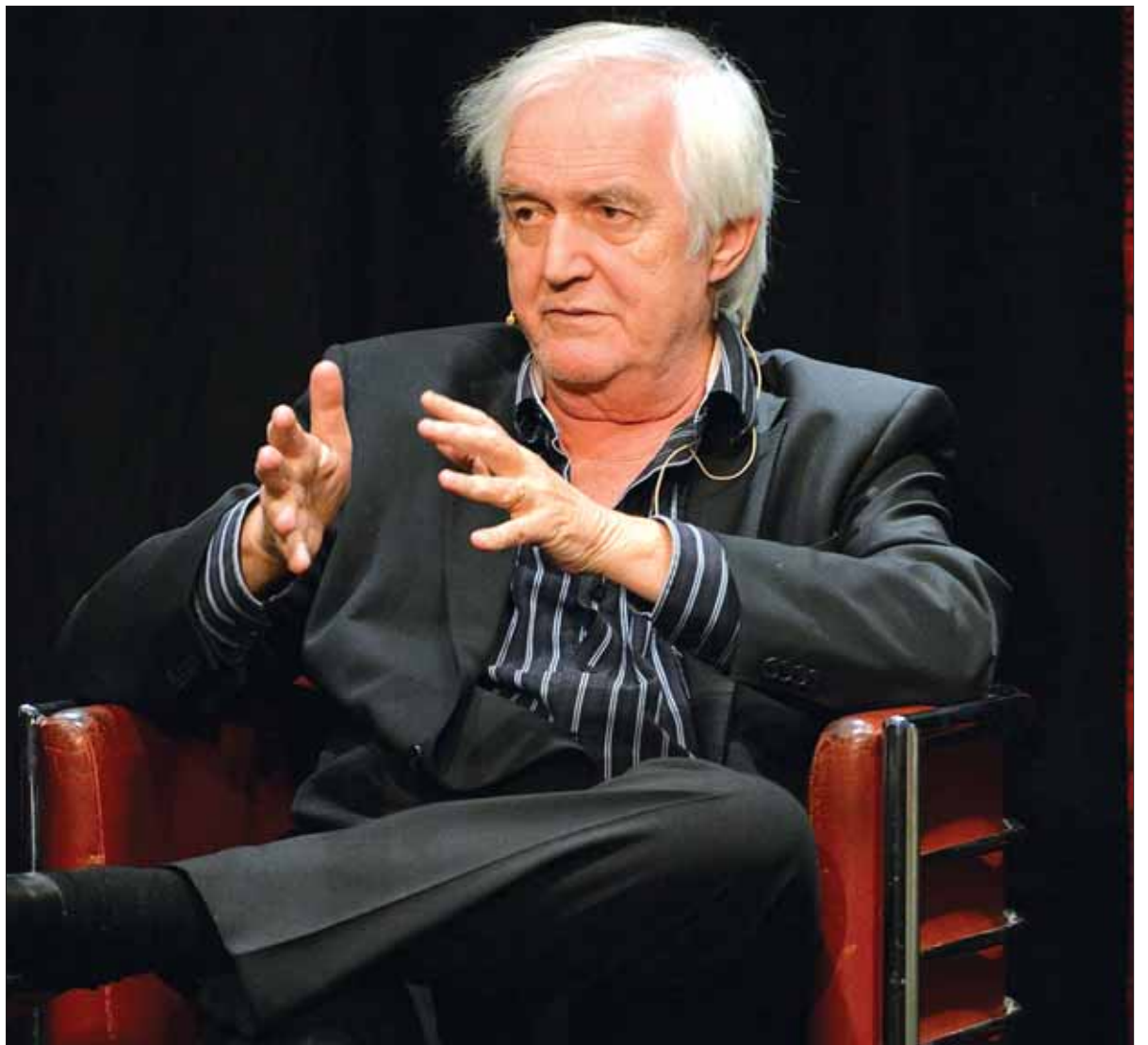
The author conveys no sense of place for Lourenco Marques, no insight into the populace other than that the whites are insufferably arrogant and the blacks won't look the whites in the eyes.

The brothel owner, Senhor Vaz, is a fair man who lets his whores keep half their earnings. Though he barely comes up to Hanna's shoulder, she accepts his proposal of marriage. He turns out to be impotent. When Hanna slips him an aphrodisiac, he dies. Hanna is suddenly a wealthy woman.

Before he died, Senhor Vaz had advised Hanna to seek business advice from prosperous merchant Pedro Pimenta, who breeds guard dogs and crocodiles at his farm. Scandalizing the white community, Pedro has an African wife named Isabel and two children whom he dotes on. Hanna happens to be at his farm when Pedro's white wife turns up from Portugal with her own two children in tow. What follows is a very clunky murder scene:



The book's sole virtue is its heroine, Hanna Renstrom, who grew up cold and hungry in the northern mountains of Sweden...



Henning Mankell's most recent novel, *A Treacherous Paradise*, is a painfully bad read. Photo: Frankie Fouganthin

"It was Isabel who progressed from words to action. Lying on the table was a knife that Pimenta used to carve small wooden sculptures, which he burnt when they were finished. She grabbed the knife and thrust it deep into Pimenta's chest, pulled it out, then stabbed him again. Hanna thought she could count up to at least 10 deep wounds before Pimenta's body slowly slithered down onto the floor of the veranda. Isabel took her children and disappeared into the house."

Isabel is then consigned to a

cell in the Portuguese fort. The final third of the novel revolves around Hanna's efforts to help her. There are more clunky murders, including that of the chimp Carlos. The ending is utterly unsatisfactory.

Mankell's narrative tone remains as didactic as Karl Marx. When Hanna enters black slums for the first time in search of Isabel's parents, "it came as a shock to her to discover the conditions in which black people lived. She discovered squalor and suffering way beyond her imagination..."

But after a few days she noticed something else when she made her repeated visits to the black settlements. She discovered an unexpected lust for life among the poorest of the poor. The slightest reason for feeling joy was not tossed disdainfully aside, but seized with both hands. People supported one another, even though they had virtually nothing that they could share."

This passage is typical. Mankell constantly tells us opinions and shows us nothing. *A Treacherous Paradise* is a painfully bad read.




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Tailor-made relaxation

By Mauri Grant

MAI Khao is not just home to the longest stretch of breathtaking beach on the island, where majestic sea turtles come to nest and beach morning glory creeps out to touch the sand, but it is also home to Mandara Spa, a tranquil world-class spa tucked away inside JW Marriott Phuket.

The atmosphere of the resort without a doubt lends itself to relaxation. Between the serene natural surroundings and design – with lotus and reflection ponds, immaculately manicured gardens and several swimming pools – you can't help but be drawn in, tempted to tune out of your busy life and plug in to a state of wellness and pleasure.

With their first, wildly successful wellness retreat – this I know from personal experience – behind them, the minds behind Mandara are ready to launch tailor-made treatments and wellness workshops for guests in the new year.

Spa Director Linda Overman is on hand and more than prepared to customize a spa day or holiday for everyone who walks through her doors – whether they are af-

ter a weekend of relaxation and unwinding through spa treatments and meditation, or a holiday honing in on personal health with yoga and clean-eating classes.

A number of practitioners, some of the world's finest, will be on call to further customize the already unique spa experience, from nutritionists to yoga gurus to meditation masters, and will visit the resort to hold lectures and be available for guests who wish to book private consultations.

The most powerful tool at Mandara's disposal, however, is Linda. With more than 10 years of experience in the spa industry and

a passion for helping people live healthier lives, she is dedicated to hand crafting a revitalizing – and educational – treatment or workshop for anyone who is keen.

"At Mandara Spa, our guests can relax, re-charge and re-center themselves, but we also aim to educate them about the concept of 'wellness' and how that can positively impact their lives once they leave us," she says.

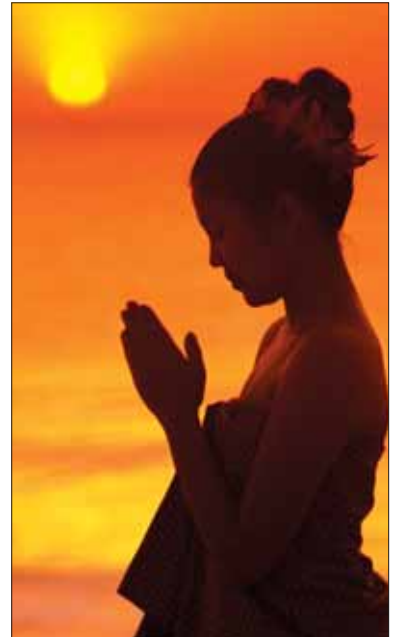
"We want to open up a new world of holistic and natural wellness practices that our guests



Linda Overman



Nikorn Banjerdlert, a renowned life coach and Reiki master, is an on-call expert.



Photos: Phuket Best Group/Supplied

can taste here, then take with them into their lives beyond our doors."

While the resort does not market itself as a destination geared specifically toward wellness, Linda believes that guests can experience the best of both worlds.

"While your husband relaxes with a round of golf or while your family lies poolside, why not join in a class on calming the mind, children's health tips or yoga, or visit our spa practitioners to discuss our menu of all-natural

treatments?" Linda offers.

Linda is specialized in many facets of therapy and having been at the forefront of emerging trends over the years, can cater to clients of all backgrounds and needs.

"Wellness was such a small part of the hotel experience when I first started out," says Linda. "But over the years, it has become an essential part of any major resort."

"As a result, we offer everything from a 60-minute head massage to personally-tailored

three-day cleanse programs."

So, no matter what you fancy during your holiday or – in my case – a weekend escape after a busy work week, Mandara has it. And it will be delivered with style, class and a warm cup of tea.

For information about treatment options at JW Marriott Phuket's Mandara Spa and their wellness retreats, contact Linda at loverman@minornet.com or call 076 338 000 ext. 3750.

Steroids 101: The good, the bad and the ghastly

STEROIDS can be found and bought over the counter all over Phuket. Most pharmacies stock them, and I have known some gyms to sell them as well.

The term "steroid" is commonly used to describe any performance-enhancing drug. This simply is not accurate.

Steroids are synthetic hormones. For example, diabetics that have to inject insulin are taking steroids. If you have ever been in an accident, hospitals here will inject you with cortisol to reduce inflammation – that is a steroid too. The list goes on and on.

The popular perception of a "steroid" is the intake of synthetic testosterone, which is what this article will discuss.

Testosterone is the hormone that instructs your body to increase muscle size and strength, and which helps you recover faster.

Excessive use of synthetic testosterone can result in a number of side effects. For men, side effects can range from hair growth (sorry, not the kind that would help baldness), a decrease in sperm count, acne, high cholesterol and even testicular atrophy (look it up). This decrease in



Photo: LocalFitness

sperm count can even lead to sterility. However, all of these side effects are reversible once a man comes off the drug.

Some of the side effects for women, though, are irreversible. In addition to acne and hair growth, excessive use of steroids can cause menstrual irregularities, deepening of the voice and enlargement of the clitoris – the latter two being irreversible.

So, here comes the big question: is taking steroids cheating?

If the rules of your sport forbid steroid use, then, yes, taking them would be cheating.

But what if the sport does not have any rules against steroids?

They are allowed in many bodybuilding competitions, for one, but are still looked down upon.

Think about this: What if someone comes up with a way of making our bodies naturally produce enough testosterone to imitate the results of someone on steroids? What if someone came up with something better than steroids? Would this change the way we think about them?

Even though I am against them, I would love to see an Olympics where anything goes in regards to steroids.

– Krix Luther

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Getting serious at Soccer 7s

By Maciek Klimowicz

THERE are people out there who complain that kids nowadays spend all their free time in front of the TV, on the Internet or playing gaming consoles. A visit to the British International School Phuket (BISP) grounds during the recent Soccer 7s tournament would surely prove those people wrong.

With over 1,300 competitors and teams flocking to the island from throughout Southeast Asia, the BISP soccer competition is among the largest sporting events in the region. But it's more than just the numbers. What matters also is the incredible atmosphere the event generates, bringing out the best of the sporting spirit and bounds of joy in students aged nine to 19, boys and girls alike.

But don't let the ever-present smiles and cheers deceive you. The Soccer 7s tournament is a serious sporting competition, and the determination and skills the young players show on the football pitch never fail to im-



BISP claimed the gold in the Boys Over 15 category. Photo: BISP

press spectators, who gather by the sidelines to watch the games.

This year, it was BISP's own teams' performance that will go down in the annals of the tournament. With three gold medals, including one in the prestigious "Boys Over 15" category, BISP were the top medal winners followed by

Tanglin Trust Singapore and the Alice Smith School Malaysia teams.

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 have sponsored this event.

FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT RESULTS				7-8 November 2014	
Girls	PARTICIPATING SCHOOL	U9	PARTICIPATING SCHOOL	Boys	
No. 5 - The Alice Smith School Malaysia		MVP	No. 11 - St. Andrew's Int'l School Bangkok		
Shrewsbury International School Bangkok		Bronze	BIS Vietnam		
Bangkok Patana School		Silver	St. Andrew's Int'l School Bangkok		
The Alice Smith School Malaysia		Gold	BIS Phuket Orange		
Girls	PARTICIPATING SCHOOL	U11	PARTICIPATING SCHOOL	Boys	
No. 3 BIS Vietnam		MVP	No. 27 Tanglin Trust Singapore		
Tanglin Trust Singapore		Bronze	BIS Phuket Orange		
Bangkok Patana School		Silver	Bangkok Patana School		
The Alice Smith School Malaysia		Gold	Tanglin Trust Singapore		
Girls	PARTICIPATING SCHOOL	U13	PARTICIPATING SCHOOL	Boys	
No. 14 Int'l School of Kuala Lumpur		MVP	No. 99 Garden Int'l School Kuala Lumpur		
BIS Jakarta		Bronze	Int'l School of Kuala Lumpur		
Int'l School of Kuala Lumpur		Silver	Youth Football Home		
Tanglin Trust Singapore		Gold	Tanglin Trust Singapore		
Girls	PARTICIPATING SCHOOL	U15	PARTICIPATING SCHOOL	Boys	
No. 83 BIS Phuket		MVP	No. 19 Int'l School of Kuala Lumpur		
The Alice Smith School Malaysia		Bronze	United World College, Singapore		
Int'l School Penang, Upisland		Silver	Int'l School of Kuala Lumpur		
BIS Phuket Orange		Gold	Trail International School, Bangkok		
Girls	PARTICIPATING SCHOOL	O15	PARTICIPATING SCHOOL	Boys	
No. 13 Int'l School Penang, Upisland		MVP	No. 10 Shrewsbury International School Bangkok		
Shrewsbury International School Bangkok		Bronze	German European School, Singapore		
The Regents School Pattaya		Silver	Shrewsbury International School Bangkok		
Int'l School Penang, Upisland		Gold	BIS Phuket Orange		

Kata Group named host sponsor of King's Cup

THE pinnacle of yacht racing events in Asia, the King's Cup Regatta, is gearing up to lift anchor and set sail on November 29.

Making its 28th annual appearance on Phuket's west coast, the Regatta attracts dozens of wind-powered watercraft to battle it out for rights to the coveted title.

With the boats come scores of crew, family and spectators and, of course, fantastic post-race parties hosted by various resorts and restaurants.

The last 16 of the Regatta's 28 years have seen Kata Group Resorts Thailand, a renowned hospitality company owned by Pramookpisitt Achariyachai, as the



Kata Beach Resort will serve as the Regatta's home base. Photo: Supplied

host sponsor of the Phuket King's Cup Regatta, and this year the tradition will be continued.

— *Phuket Gazette*
Phuket Gazette and PGTV's 'Phuket Today' show, the island's only nationally broadcast television program (aired six daily on True Visions and all local cable networks) are proud sponsors of the King's Cup Regatta..

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Sansiri encourages iodized salt consumption to help boost IQ of children