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# Phuket Gazette

## Stranded by dust storm

More than 400 tourists stuck for days in Phuket after Abu Dhabi flights cancelled

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## ■ 'LIGHT RAIL CONSTRUCTION TO COST B23BN'

# All change

■ Mass transit a 'game changer' for island's tourism, property sectors

By **Chris Husted**

THE long-awaited project to build a "light rail" mass-transit system to ferry tourists and residents the length of the island passed its third and final public hearing on Tuesday, when it was revealed that construction is slated to begin in 2021.

The 23.5-billion-baht project has been heralded as an enormous development for the island's tourism and property industries, with comparisons drawn against Phuket's major tourism and developmental rivals, including Koh Samui and Bali.

"A Phuket light-rail project is a game changer for the island," said Bill Barnett, founder and managing director of C9 Hotelworks, a Phuket-based leading hospitality consulting firm that specializes in the Asia-Pacific region.

"You have to look no further than Bangkok and the advent of how the BTS Skytrain re-wrote the capital's business, tourism and property map. It transported the Chao Phraya and Silom markets into the Sukhumvit area, and to this day is a key economic..."

Continued on Page 30



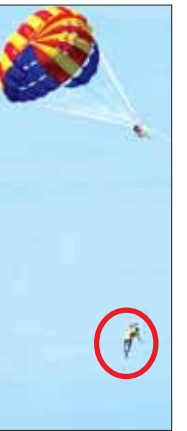
The proposed tracks will run straight through Phuket Old Town. Image: OTP

## Man falls 30m from parasail

PHUKET'S Governor vowed to order an investigation into a parasailing accident that saw a staffer free fall from a parachute.

The man fell 30 meters before landing in the water below and being rescued.

He was rushed to hospital, while the tourist, still strapped to the parachute, was safely lowered.



The staffer falls.

Full Story Page 3

## Manhunt starts for rapist, killer in Phang Nga

POLICE as of Wednesday had yet to establish any leads for the rape and murder of a karaoke waitress whose body was found in a palm grove north of Phang Nga Town.

Investigators believe that the suspect or suspects have ties to the local community.

Full Story Page 2

## Dive company on Racha Yai gets shut down

A DIVE company catering to Chinese tourists on Koh Racha Yai was shut down after officials discovered that Myanmar workers were illegally guiding the underwater tours.

Full Story Page 6

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## This Week



### Business

Villa Market reveals its secrets to importing foodstuffs. **Page 11**



### Property

Living Vis targets expats for new Thalang townhomes. **Page 29**



### Food

Senzanome's plates are dressed to thrill. **Page 31**



### In Focus

How a life of fashion led one man to a life in Thailand. **Page 33**



### Boating

Climb aboard the beautiful *Northern Sun* yacht. **Page 35**



### Sport

Fighters land on Phuket for Pencak Silat World Championship. **Page 38**

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Sunday



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Monday



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Wednesday



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Thursday



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# Police without a lead in rape, killing of waitress

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

POLICE as of Wednesday had yet to establish any leads for the rape and murder of a karaoke waitress whose body was found in a palm grove north of Phang Nga Town last Sunday.

Officers brought in 20 suspects for questioning on Monday, but made no progress in the case.

"We are focusing our investigation on local people," said Lt Pissanu Thaharn of the Thung Kha Ngok Police. "We believe the killer – or killers – know the area well. The grove where the body was found is hard to get to, and not likely to be known by people unfamiliar with the area."

Officers rushed to the scene on January 4, a plantation at Baan Kong Si, after a local resident found the body of Ploipailin Ketkeaw, 26, at about 10am.

"Her body was found about 300 meters from the Tiew Phai karaoke restaurant, where she worked," said Lt Pissanu.

"Her brazier had been pulled across to her right shoulder and her underwear had been pulled down to her ankles.

"We believe she was strangled. There were bruises around her neck and lips, and other evidence indicating that she



Police suspect the killer or killers have local ties.

had been raped."

Officers also found a black t-shirt, a pair of black shorts and one shoe, all believed to have been worn by Ms Ploipailin.

The owner of the Tiew Phai karaoke, 45-year-old Janpen Seanguan, told police that Ms Ploipailin was her niece, and that she came from Nong Khai to help at the venue.

"Ms Janpen told us that the last time she saw Ms Ploipailin was

when she closed the venue at 12:30am on January 3," said Lt Pissanu.

"After the venue closed, the staff went back to their rooms. However, one employee saw Ms Ploipailin drinking with a man sitting outside the karaoke.

"That was the last time Ms Ploipailin was seen."

Ms Ploipailin's body was taken to Phang Nga Hospital for confirmation of the cause of death.

## Seven Days of Danger closes with two deaths

THE nationwide Seven Days of Danger safety campaign for the New Year holidays drew to a close at midnight on Monday, with Phuket recording two deaths and 45 people admitted to hospital for injuries in 44 accidents.

Preedee Eng-seng of the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM) Phuket Office noted that although Phuket has more drivers on the road with each passing year, this year's New Year death and injury toll for the holidays was an improvement on the five dead last year.

"This year we could call the



DDPM recorded 44 New Year accidents. Photo: Thawit Bilabdullar

campaign a success, which was mainly due to the support we received in improving safety," he told the *Gazette*.

– *Saroj Kueprasertkij*

## Tourist injured in jet-ski accident

IN RESPONSE to an Israeli man suffering injuries in a jet-ski accident at Patong Beach last week, police have urged tourists to be more careful while riding the machines.

However, no action will be taken to avoid a similar accident from occurring again at Patong, Phuket's busiest tourist beach.

Two Israeli brothers reportedly hired separate jet-skis at Patong on December 30, then collided with each other about 800 meters offshore.

A passing longtail boat was able to assist the injured brother to shore and emergency services subsequently took him to Patong Hospital. The man has since been discharged.



The brothers crashed into each other on jet-skis. Photo: Gazette file

Patong Police are aware of the accident, but have no details as no formal complaint had been filed over the incident, explained Patong Police inspector Pratuang Polmana.

"On the afternoon of December 30, a jet-ski operator came to report the collision," Col Pratuang confirmed to the *Gazette*.

"I asked the operator for more information and for their [the

tourists'] passports and learned that the two brothers are from Israel and are here with their father.

"I assumed that the father may not have wanted to make a big deal of the accident and that the two parties had sorted out an agreement over the crash."

The best way to avoid a jet-ski accident is not to rent one, said Col Pratuang.

Meanwhile, Patong Jet-Ski Club President Nucha Petchvimol blamed the accident on the brothers.

"We told them to be careful. When they collided there was nothing we could do, but we did contact emergency services to take the injured man to Patong Hospital," he said.

– *Chutharat Plerin*



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## Myanmar rapist of 14-year-old girl sentenced to eight years in prison

THE man who confessed to raping a 14-year-old undocumented Myanmar migrant worker with the help of his wife in Khao Lak in August has been sentenced to eight years in jail.

His wife, an accomplice in the crime, was sentenced to three years in jail.

The couple, named by police only as "Mr Ko Nai" and "Ms Ma Rea" were found guilty by the Takuapa Provincial Court in Phang

Nga," confirmed Lt Palita Kangsing of the Khuk Khak Police Station.

Ma Rea was found guilty of aiding and abetting rape, under section 277 of the Thai Criminal Code, Lt Palita told the *Gazette*.

"Her trial was held separately because she denied the charge," he added.

Ko Nai attempted to avoid the rape charge by offering to pay compensation to the girl

and her family for the attack.

However, the girl pressed charges after branding the rape "unforgivable".

After the attack, the 14-year-old victim was taken into the care of the Foundation for Education and Development (FED) in Phang Nga.

She has since left the facility and returned to her parents.   
— *Voratuss Intasee*

## Immigration officer moved amid claims of corruption

AN OFFICIAL at the immigration office in Patong has been removed after complaints were filed against him for charging foreigners for services that should be free, Phuket Governor Nisit Jansomwong confirmed on Tuesday.

The news comes more than two and half months after Governor Nisit gave the Patong Immigration chief 15 days to explain why his office was charging for free services.

The governor ordered an explanation after a foreigner filed a complaint with the Phuket Damrongtham Center [ombudsman's office], alleging that a Patong immigration officer charged 500 baht for a confirmation of address letter.

"I had the chance to pass the issue on to a high-ranking police officer to take care of," Gov Nisit told the *Gazette*.

"I do not know many details about the investigation or even the officer's name. However, what I do know is that the officer who allegedly charged the 500 baht has been removed from Patong Immigration."

Immigration officers were not immediately available for comment or to name the officer transferred.

However, Gov Nisit could not confirm whether or not the officer would face any disciplinary action, or where the official had been transferred to.

Gov Nisit urged people to file complaints of any alleged corrupt activities by officials.

"Even though I have no direct authority over police officers, I will investigate your problems and see what can be done within my authority," he said.

"Any person who has problems [with corruption] are welcome to file a complaint at the Damrongtham Center. I will do my best."   
— *Chutharat Plerin*

# Man falls from sky

By Phuket Gazette

GOVERNOR Nisit Jansomwong has vowed to order the Phuket Marine Office to investigate a parasailing accident that saw a staffer free fall from a parachute off Bang Tao Beach on New Year's Eve.

After losing his grip on the parachute ropes, the staffer plunged about 30 meters into the water below.

"I will have the Phuket Marine Office look into what happened and have them find ways to prevent such accidents in the future," Governor Nisit told the *Gazette* on Wednesday.

"We might ask operators to have more staff to look after the safety of both the customers and their own employees."

An eye-witness to the plunge reported that he saw the staffer get into difficulties soon after the parasail lifted off from the beach.

"After the staffer struggled in the air for a while, the tow boat



The staffer lost his grip on the parachute ropes. Photo: Wanda Hopkins

driver realized that there were problems and stopped – causing the staffer to plunge into the sea," the witness said.

The boat driver then reversed the speedboat, which led to the parachute ropes becoming entangled around the boat's

propellers, he added.

Meanwhile, wind had filled the parachute, leaving the tourist at its mercy without a guide.

"The staffer was helped back onto the tow boat and brought to shore on a stretcher, and most likely sent to a hospital," said the

witness.

The tourist was brought down safely without incident.

Governor Nisit told the *Gazette* on Wednesday that he was previously unaware of the accident.

Phuket Marine chief Phuriphat Theerakulpisut, however, confirmed that he had been informed.

"The Phuket Marine Office has safety measures [for parasail operators]. However, I don't have specific details about the accident, so I cannot provide any further information," he said.

"Accidents occur every day. It was only an accident, which luckily didn't affect any tourists."

Speaking about the free-fall plunge, Ma-ann Samran, president of the Chong Talay Tambon Administration Organization (*OrBorTor*), said that the affair was out of his hands.

"Water activities... are all the responsibility of the the Phuket Marine Office. Our responsibility extends only across the beach, not into the sea," Mr Ma-ann said.

## Woman dies from injuries after tour bus crash

THE driver of a car that crashed head-on into a tour bus carrying 37 Russian tourists on December 30 has died from her injuries.

Tantima Thaworn, 37, was pronounced dead at 11:35am on January 1, staff at Vachira Phuket Hospital in Phuket Town confirmed.

However, the hospital staff declined to give further details.

Ms Tantima is the sole fatality from the accident, which saw an Anek Tour bus run off the road and flip onto its roof in the Kamala hills.

More than a dozen Russian tourists were taken to hospital from the crash site, but were later discharged after receiving treatment for minor injuries.

Police told the *Gazette* on January 2 that they have yet to conclude their investigation into the accident, which bus driver Aroon Yaemkua said was caused by a car attempting to overtake the bus.

Ms Tantima had lived in Phuket for seven years, police confirmed to the *Gazette*.

— *Voratuss Intasee*



Tantima Thaworn, 37, died from injuries sustained in the crash. Photo: Facebook

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Six children were also recovered.

## Police hunt traffickers

POLICE are hunting for three human traffickers who evaded arrest as they attempted to smuggle more than 50 Rohingya, including six children, through Thailand to Malaysia early Monday.

The drivers loaded the refugees into three pick-up trucks in a rubber-tree plantation in Takuapa, north of Phuket, before attempting to evade police checkpoints on the main road.

At about 3:30am, the team was notified that the refugees were being loaded into the trucks, and heading toward the main road.

One driver crashed his truck, while the other two drove into a nearby plantation, said Takuapa District chief Mani Pianthong.

"All three drivers managed to abandon the vehicles and evade arrest."

— Kritsada Mueanhawong

# Formal mafia charges yet to be levied against Keesin clan

By Chutharat Plerin

THE Public Prosecutor has yet to press formal charges against Prab and Pattawee Keesin, both sons of former Patong Mayor Pian Keesin, for operating a mafia organization.

Pisitpol Phumsawat, chief Phuket public prosecutor, confirmed to the *Gazette* that his office was still reviewing evidence presented by the police.

"I have dedicated a team to investigate the police claims," said Mr Pisitpol.

"This case has received a lot of media attention, so we have to work on it carefully in order to be fair to both sides."

No deadline has been set for the Public Prosecutor Office to decide whether or not to take the case to court, he added.

Mr Pisitpol declined to reveal any specific details about the case, but did mention that the Keesin's lawyer had appealed for a fair investigation into any alleged



The late Pian Keesin speaks at a press conference with his two sons who were also charged for mafia activity.

wrongdoings.

The Public Prosecutor has yet to press formal charges against Prab and Pattawee Keesin, both sons of former Patong Mayor Pian Keesin, for operating a mafia organization.

Mr Pian, Mr Prab, Mr Pattawee and five staffers of the Keesin-owned Pisona Group of companies separately surrendered to police in September to answer arrest war-

rants accusing them of operating a mafia organization.

Mr Pian was found dead at his secondary home north of Phuket Town on October 7. Police quickly ruled out foul-play in the kingpin's death.

Region 8 Police Deputy Commander Paween Pongsirin, who spearheaded the anti-mafia cleanup operation in Phuket earlier this year, gave the family one

week to grieve before filing his request for the public prosecutor to pursue the mafia charges against the clan.

Maj Gen Paween told the *Gazette* that his officers gave "more than enough evidence" against the suspects.

"I have no idea what more is needed. We worked hard to get the evidence and finally arrest them," Gen Paween said.

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The Chinese men were arrested at Ping Boom tour office.

## Skimmers scooped up

POLICE arrested two Chinese men and a Thai employee at a Phuket tour office for processing an estimated 700,00 baht in fake transactions charged to accounts of people whose ATM cards had been skimmed.

Officers arrested Thongtam Bamrajken, 23, and Chinese nationals Tang Yongjie, 39, and He Haibin, 24, at the Ping Boom tour office in Wichit on December 30.

Seized as evidence were nine electronic cards, Chinese passports, two laptops and an electronic card reader.

Police were alerted to the scam after staff at Kasikornbank reported an unusual volume of transactions at the tour office, explained Phuket Provincial Police Deputy Superintendent Prawit Engchua.

"When we arrived at the office, we found the three suspects using cards and a card reader. Some of the cards were plain white,

with no images indicating that they were issued by a bank," he said.

KBank staff confirmed that the cards were fake, and the three suspects all confessed to processing fake transactions, Lt Col Prawit added.

"Mr Tang and Mr He pretended to be customers at the tour office, and presented the fake cards to pay for tours," he said.

"The three agreed to share the money after the banks had completed transferring the amounts to Mr Thongtam's account, with Mr Thongtam to receive five per cent."

Between December 26 and 30, the suspects charged about 700,000 baht to accounts of people whose cards had been skimmed.

"By the time we had arrested them, the bank had already transferred 150,000 baht to Mr Thongtam's account," Col Prawit said.

— Kritsada Mueanhawong



# Tourists stranded in Phuket

By Voratuss Intasee

ABOUT 100 tourists remained stranded in Phuket as of Wednesday, after sandstorms and poor visibility in the United Arab Emirates forced Eithad Airways to cancel its flights to Abu Dhabi on January 3, a Phuket tourism official confirmed to the *Gazette* this week.

"The airline is no longer providing me with information," said Santi Pawai, director of the Ministry of Tourism and Sports Phuket office.

"They are now communicating directly with their passengers to update them about the dates and times when they will be able to fly out."

Mr Santi explained that the 100 who had not left the island are those who had only a connection in Abu Dhabi.

"The passengers that have been able to leave with the airline were those bound for Abu Dhabi," he said.

After the flights were cancelled on January 3, Eithad Airways transferred the 400-odd



Some of the stranded passengers confer with each other at the Dara Hotel. Photo: Kritsada Mueanhawong

affected passengers by shuttle bus to the Dara Hotel, the Chino Hotel and the Millennium Resort, while alternative flights were organized.

"We are working with the airline and communicating with the passengers," said Mr Santi said after the incident.

"The airline said that they will

take responsibility for accommodation and food, and that they will try to get the passengers to Abu Dhabi as soon as they can, even if they have to

fly with other airlines."

Some of the stranded passengers at the Dara Hotel expressed their initial frustrations to the *Gazette*.

"We don't know how long it's going to take for the airline to get us back home," said Roderick Robinson, 50, from the United Kingdom.

"Staff from the airline came to see us twice, but didn't give us any information about when we will leave," said another passenger, who declined to be named.

"We understand that there can be problems caused by natural events, but aren't we supposed to get information from the airline? When will we go home?"

At the time, Mr Santi called for calm and patience among the passengers.

"For now, all we can do is wait for the airline to confirm alternative travel arrangements," he said.

Staff at the Etihad Airways office at Phuket International Airport confirmed that the flights EY0430 and EY0430 were cancelled on January 3, but declined to comment further.

## Mass brawl delays airport expansion

WORK on the Phuket International Airport expansion project was delayed due to a gang brawl between construction workers from Cambodia and another group from Myanmar on January 1.

The fight took place in the workers' camp, about 300 meters from the PTT aviation fuel warehouse, which is located about two kilometers from the airport.

The melee left more than 10 people injured and seven housing facilities torched.

The company responsible for the ongoing airport construction, Sino-Thai Engineering and Construction Public Co Ltd, has changed its work schedule due to the fight.

"That night [January 1] it was necessary for the foremen to move about 120 workers, both Myanmar nationals and Cambodians, to another camp about four kilometers away," said Somboon Champathong, who operates many of the on-grounds businesses in the camp.

"The Myanmar workers are more aggressive than the Cambodians; this is not the first time they've had problems."

There was also a fight between the two groups on December 30, Mr Somboon said.

"We have to choose one group of them to work here. It is impossible for them to work together," he said.

"The foremen have agreed to move 30 of the most active instigators out of the area, but this isn't going to work. Things will



Some workers were relocated.

get bad again. The problems are beyond us."

One of the Cambodians told the *Gazette* that police arrived at the camp to help relocate some of the workers on January 1.

"However, the Myanmar workers didn't stop. There were so many of them attacking us. They burnt down seven of our houses, leaving 14 of us roofless," he said.

"We would be glad to be transferred to a different work site."

The *Gazette* has confirmed that police will increase the frequency of their patrols at the camp to help prevent further violence. Military personnel stationed at Phuket Airport will also keep an eye on the situation.

Completion of the airport's 5.7-billion-baht expansion project has already suffered a series of setbacks, and is now not expected until at least mid-2016.

The expansion aims to increase the facility's capacity to 12.5 million passengers per year.

— *Thawit Bilabdullar*



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The touts were confronted by local expats. Photo: Vicki Kiely

## Police hunt slow loris beach touts

CHERNG Talay Police have vowed to search for beach touts who were taking photographs of tourists with a slow loris at Surin Beach on December 30.

"There were issues with touts offering to take photos of tourists with snakes and iguanas on Surin Beach, but we haven't had a report about this issue since the beach encroachment crackdown," Chong Talay Police Superintendent Paworn Pornpromma told the *Gazette*.

"I will send my officers out as soon as possible to investigate."

The two touts were spotted on the beach with the nocturnal forest creatures by local expats, who confronted them.

"We were sitting at one of the beach clubs and there were all these tourists taking photos, we couldn't see what it was," Vicki Kiely told the *Gazette*. "I went down and talked to one of the tourists and told them they were breaking the law and it's a protected species."

Police were allegedly called by the beach club's staff and the touts made their escape.

"Anyone we find offering to take photos of tourists with animals will be charged for inflicting harm on the animal and causing a public nuisance," Col Paworn said.

— Chutharat Plerin

## Male in Phuket's first set of gibbon twins found dead

THE male in the first set of gibbon twins to be born at the Gibbon Rehabilitation Project (GRP) in Phuket has died.

"These were our first gibbon twins since the center was established in 1992. The twins are the son and daughter of mother Mee and father Payu," explained GRP manager Phamon Samphanthamit.

Staff members decided to take the babies into care to nurse them, and got the chance when Mee left the twins for food.

"Both twins were very weak," Mr Phamon

said. "We bottle fed them. The next day we returned the female to her mother as she was bigger and stronger..."

"We checked Mee and saw that she was coping well with her baby, so we returned the male on December 29."

However, staffers found the male gibbon dead the next day.

"The next morning, we went to check on them again and found the boy dead in the cage with a bruise to his head," Mr Phamon said.

— Chutharat Plerin



The gibbon twins after birth. Photo: GRP

## Chinese dive tour company shut down at Koh Racha

By Chutharat Plerin

OFFICIALS have shut down a dive tour company serving Chinese tourists at Koh Racha, located about 25km south of Phuket, after confirming that Myanmar nationals were working illegally there as dive instructors.

Santi Pawai, director of the Minister of Tourism and Sports Phuket office, announced the forced closure of dive company Hou Hai Diver Co Ltd during his inspection of Racha Island on December 31.

The company promoted itself on the internet through a Chinese-language website that featured photos of tourists in Santa hats underwater — one pictured beside a cloth over coral and others holding starfish and a turtle.

"We were told that five Myanmar nationals were working as instructors and leading Chinese tourists on dive tours," Mr Santi explained.

"We found only three instructors, who were all arrested and



Three Myanmar nationals were arrested for working illegally as dive instructors for the company. Photo: MOTs

handed over to the Chalong Police to be charged and deported for working illegally."

The Myanmar nationals had been issued work permits as con-

struction laborers, he added.

"The company was also operating illegally," Mr Santi explained.

"It is not registered with the

Tourist Business and Guide Registration office, or even with PADI, of which it claims to be a member."

"We have not yet been able to identify the owner, but we believe the company owner operates the business from China, selling tour packages there."

"I have asked the Chalong Police and Marine Police to investigate this further."

Mr Santi urged anyone with information about companies illegally operating in the tourism industry to inform his office immediately.

"It is very dangerous. I am glad there were no sad accidents involving this operation, as accidents can happen even with experts running dive tours," he said.

"Anyone with information about illegal tourism operations, and especially with any information about the two missing Myanmar workers from this case, please call us at 076-327100. My staff are available 24 hours."



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## AROUND THE nation

### Rooftop solar cell plan gets a green light

THE National Reform Council (NRC) on Monday approved a national scheme to independently install solar cells on household rooftops, but it acknowledged that it might benefit the importers of the solar materials and operators rather than household users.

The NRC noted that a per-household cost of between 120,000 baht and 160,000 baht might be too expensive for homeowners – a setback that might render the scheme less cost-effective than it was intended to be.

The Energy Ministry will oversee the solar rooftop project jointly with the Energy Regulatory Commission, the Metropolitan Electricity Authority, the Provincial Electricity Authority and the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand, reported *The Nation*.

# Gas, oil warming relations

THAILAND and Cambodia look set to take a more compromising stance over their dispute on overlapping maritime areas, a security source told *The Nation*.

“They have adopted such a stance because they have already reckoned that unsuccessful negotiations mean both sides will lose benefits. If they can’t reach a deal, it will be impossible to use the maritime resources from the overlapping areas,” the source said.

Spanning thousands of square kilometers, the overlapping areas in the Gulf of Thailand are believed to hold a massive amount of natural gas and oil.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, a security official revealed that Thailand and Cambodia had already held informal discussions on the issue.

Since Prime Minister Gen Prayut Chan-o-cha came to power this year, ties between Thailand and Cambodia have become remarkably smooth, observers say. The release of Thai activist Veera Somkwamkid from a Cambodian jail was seen as solid proof that under Prayut’s leadership, Thailand has managed to tighten its ties with Cambodia.



Relationships between Cambodia and Thailand have improved significantly since PM Gen Prayut Chan-o-cha came to power. Photo: The Nation

There have been exchanges of visits by top-level delegations between the two countries in recent months.

For example, Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Prawit Wongsuwan last week led chiefs of the armed forces to Cambodia for official meetings with

Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen and Deputy PM and Defence Minister Tea Banh. He also attended meetings on the Cambodian-Thai General Border Committee.

After returning from Cambodia, Deputy PM Prawit said that the two countries had discussed vari-

ous issues including the maritime resources.

At a recent meeting on the National Maritime Security Plan 2015-2021, Deputy PM Prawit emphasized the need to take care of the country’s maritime resources for the benefit of posterity.

According to the plan, Thailand’s maritime interests are estimated at no less than 17.9 trillion baht a year and they look set to grow over the next 10 years.

A minor row last week over the building of a road in a disputed border area east of Preah Vihear appears not to have affected the warmer ties.

Cambodian strategists, meanwhile, have addressed the need to manage maritime disputes with neighboring countries.

The same security source disclosed that the two countries had discussed the possibility of establishing a joint committee to delimit their borderline and negotiate on overlapping areas.

Thailand’s Foreign Affairs Ministry was in the process of arranging a high-level meeting between Thailand and Cambodia.

“The meeting will take place in mid-January,” the source said.

## Police rule suicide in death of Frenchman on Koh Tao



The man was found dead on the resort island of Koh Tao. Photo: David Sim

POLICE are treating the death of a 29-year-old Frenchman found hanged with his hands tied behind his back on Koh Tao on Thursday as a suicide, reported *The Nation*.

The incident has caused a frenzy on social media as bloggers questioned the circumstances around the tourist’s death.

Police found the body suspended from the ceiling of his rented bungalow called Ta Chin. His hands were loosely bound with a black string and his neck was attached to a beam of a balcony with a black rope.

His neck showed bruising from the rope.

Police found a suicide note on his bed but no trace of fighting or a struggle in the room.

Witnesses said the man went out for a drink with his buddies at a local bar – Next Door – on New Year’s Eve at 5am before moving on to Experience Party, where he stayed till 11am. His friends returned to their guesthouses, leaving him drinking alone.


The note left behind, written in French, read, “Iris, I love you. Suicide seems easy but it is actually difficult.”

Police and physicians carried out an autopsy and believe that the cause of death was asphyxiation. The case is being treated as a suicide and not homicide.


The body has been sent to Koh Tao Temple in Surat Thani’s Koh Pha-ngan district.

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# Let our children know you care

## LETTER FROM THE GOVERNOR

CHILDREN'S Day gives us the chance to show children just how important they are to us and to our country. They will be the ones who will move our nation forward.

Since Thailand first held Children's Day in 1956, each prime minister has created a slogan for the national celebration. This year, the slogan created by Prime Minister Gen Prayut Chan-o-cha is "knowledge and virtue together will move us into the future".

I urge all people to take this year's slogan seriously, for our children's sake. Knowledge is a great asset, but it is just as important to have compassion for others and to follow the rules.

Our society will never move forward if smart people are always searching for ways to take advantage of the weak or the less fortunate. We must cherish knowledge and compassion, and use them both to move our nation in the right direction.

It is also important that we know what our roles or passions are and that we do our best to fulfill them. When we are children, our roles are to be well-behaved kids who care about others, and who share with and help each other. When we grow up, we should aspire to be good people who continue to help and care for others. We should never seek to take advantage of anyone.

Childhood is a time for the development of both the bodies and minds of children. However, children cannot do this on their

Childhood is a time for the development of both the bodies and minds of children. However, children cannot do this on their own.



governor of Ratchaburi province for one year.

**Nisit Jansomwong**, 52, from Ratchaburi, landed on the island in October to take up the position of Phuket Governor.

He has a master's degree in administration from Chulalongkorn University, where he graduated with honors. Before coming to Phuket, Governor Nisit was

own. They need help from their parents and other adults.

We all know that parents are the greatest role models for children. For example, I love reading, so I read before bed. My daughter has grown up watching me do this, and now she has become a book lover as well. There are some things you cannot teach your children in one day, and certainly not by just telling them what to do. If

you act responsibly as a positive role model, your children will notice and copy you.

Parents should also set

a good example when it comes to using technology. Technology has become an undeniable part of our lives. Neither we nor our children can avoid it. Technology has a lot to offer if we use it effectively. However, we must be careful not to let our children become addicted to it.

I give my daughter an hour on weekdays after school to surf the internet. She can do whatever she wants, although the computer is set up in a common room. I never set up the computer in a private

room. There are a lot of bad sites out there which we don't want our children to see. Thankfully, my daughter accepts the rule and enjoys her after-school time at home.

Every home has its own rules, and mine is no different. I would like to ask, however, that parents do not leave their children untended with computer games or the internet. This could have many consequences, but the biggest one is that it takes your children away from you.

When I see an interesting article or a website, I send it to my daughter. This way, I am able to use technology in order to bring my family closer, rather than allowing it to separate us.

Children's Day is a chance for us to be together with our children. I would like to see the organizers of Children's Day events across the island prepare some activities to improve children's knowledge and encourage them to use their minds.

I would love to see them exchange thoughts with their peers during the activities. I think the games should also teach them to be honest, loyal and to love their country. This day should be about more than simply food, drinks and gifts for our children.



Protesters gather after the fatal Ferguson shooting. Photo: Jamelle Bouie

## Coping with prejudice

THE fatal shot fired by Darren Wilson in Ferguson, Missouri, was not heard around the world, but the repercussions of slaying an unarmed black man, Michael Brown, were.

The shooting, trial and subsequent similar situation in New York, focused all major American and international media on issues that economically depressed black communities face in the US.

The war of words waged between those wanting to wag their fingers at white police officers and those blaming black youths once again highlighted, among many important issues, the deep-seated distrust that many non-mainstream communities have of the police in America. These prejudices against white officers of the law, justified or not, were planted more than 250 years ago in the Americas.

Being white, middle-class and raised in a non-confrontational family, my personal dealings with police in America have all been benign, just and fair. Yet within a few years of living in Thailand, I have developed a distrust of the police, despite not being subjected to any overwhelming injustices.

As a farang in Phuket, I feel vulnerable. I am a possible target for extortion, due to the preconceived notion by many Thais that due to my skin color I am wealthy, and that my inability to speak Thai makes me an easy mark.

This feeling comes from a plethora of news stories, regular accounts by friends and standard bar talk about the daily effects of corruption on foreigners.

This fear rose to the surface after I lost my bankbook and was forced to report it to the police.

However, as I plodded toward Chalong Police Station, which still

## Island View

By Alex Stone

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

has an unresolved case against it for alleged extortion of members of the dive community, I found myself worrying about whether or not I was going to find myself sitting across from a corrupt officer.

The fear boiled down to me feeling vulnerable, lacking confidence that I could take any direct action against an injustice when all I simply needed was assistance from a police officer.

In the end, the officer was swift, honest and got the job done.

However, the very real concerns I had while waiting at the station developed quickly in my mind. When such levels of injustice that have, for more than two centuries, rocked an entire people, giving birth to jazz, rap and countless other cultural innovations, it is difficult to grapple with the depth of the issue that is now being faced in the US.

Changing the way people in the US and in Phuket perceive officers of the law will be slow – slower in the US than here.

It will not come through public relations stunts or court hearings whose legitimacy is questioned, as has been seen in the US. The change will come through the actions of officers and their presence as helpful citizens.

It will come as more stories are shared about "this one nice cop" who helped a woman find her cat, who gave a fair warning instead of hauling a person over the coals, or who opted out of using violence.

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

### Parking permits for the disabled

Where can I apply for a parking permit for disabled persons written in Thai language? I have a disabled pass valid within the EU.

Gerhard Josef Huber  
Pa Khlok

**Terayout Prasertphol, chief of the Phuket Land Transportation office (PLTO), replies:**

If you already have a valid disabled persons parking permit in your home, all you need to do is have that permit translated into Thai, and have that translation officially confirmed as accurate by either an embassy of your home country or by a Thai



Permission to park.

notary public.

After that, you can use it throughout Thailand. You do not need any permit issued by our office.

### Karon Municipality's dirty little secret

My wife and I are big fans of Phuket. We love the culture, the people, the food and the lifestyle – that's why we have kept coming back since 2000.

For the past six years, we have been renting a house at the end of Patak Soi 14 in Karon, and we love it there.

It's just that lately, even though the garbage is regularly collected, the whole of Soi 14 remains littered with rubbish.

It's not only disgusting, but it's getting worse. Help!

Swiss expat  
Karon

**Sathika Jittameth, Public Health chief at Karon Municipality, replies:**

We have garbage trucks working every night, collecting trash throughout the Kata-Karon area.

If there is any problem with trash, our own staff and people living in the area usually inform us – and up until now you are the first to mention this.

Thank you very much for letting us know.

I will look into this directly and send some officers to clean up the mess.

I will also mention it to our

night-shift workers.

Please let us know if you notice any similar problems in the future.

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

Submit your issue at

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



# Trashy Phuket

WE STARTED 2015 with breaking news of a “private” dump site in coastal Kamala, which is still serving as a pungent reminder that Phuket’s waste disposal problems remain a dire threat to the island’s future. Now, as everyone returns to work and the year begins in earnest, we must face the fact that current strategies are not working – an overhaul is needed in how we think and deal with the waste generated by our ever-growing population.

The relative merits of waste-to-power incineration aside, continual addition of capacity at the Saphan Hin plant is not a long-term, sustainable solution.

The need to truck all of the island’s garbage through the narrow streets of Phuket Town to reach the facility is hugely expensive, worsens traffic congestion and leaves our streets covered with putrid swill – another turn off for tourists.

The fact that the facility and the landfill that surrounds it are adjacent to the island’s most popular public park is as hard to fathom as to why it was built on top of a mangrove forest.

Phuket’s growing population, plus the fact that the majority of residents and visitors seem to be brainwashed by a capitalist culture of over-consumption, is a big part of the problem.

Cleaning up after oneself is a skill that should be engrained in all people from the youngest possible age, thus preparing them to become responsible, civic-minded adults – the kind that limit their negative impact on the environment.

Sadly, for most people growing up in our country, training in how to keep things tidy typically ends at the family property line. It is this mentality that makes illegal dump sites so common here, even as the island continues to brand itself as a “tropical island paradise”.

The lame official response to the crisis in Kamala is just the latest example of a lack of leadership where it is needed most: solid waste disposal at local and community levels.

The official involved responded in typical fashion by saying “we are working on it” and “we don’t yet know who owns the land”, as if such information is somehow unattainable.

Kamala and Patong suffered more damage from the 2004 tsunami disaster than any other jurisdictions on the island, yet managed to eventually recover and dispose of enormous amounts of debris without creating putrid, coastal landfills that conjure up dystopian images of mountains of garbage like those depicted in the 2006 film *Idiocracy*.

Whatever its exact origins, the Kamala dump site has shown us once again what invariably happens when local island administrations do not nip dumping problems in the bud before the piling-on effect kicks in.

Each local administrative body should have cost-effective systems in place that force people to separate toxic waste from the main waste stream, while re-using and recycling waste as much as possible. Unfortunately, as this most recent debacle demonstrates, there is still a long, long way to go.



## Obey the laws you protect

*Re: Gazette online, Phuket police blame lawbreakers, insufficient personnel for runaway tour bus, January 4*

It would be a good start to see the police themselves obey and respect the traffic laws.

It’s quite common to see them rolling by without helmets, when they should be setting an example.

I also saw a cop just standing around by a set of lights the other day with at least ten bikes full of underage students passing him. He was too busy playing with his phone to do anything.

Too often “enforcement” is seen as tea money to be harvested when it suits.

*Mister Ree  
Gazette forum*

### ...and start checks to ensure vehicle safety

*Re: Gazette online, Phuket police blame lawbreakers, insufficient personnel for runaway tour bus, January 4*

Aside from actually enforcing the laws... how about better safety checks on the buses themselves?

How many break failures? This should not happen at all.

Every week I get stuck behind buses that cannot make it up the hill – when were they last serviced? I drove past one yesterday with more than a little trepidation about the way it was leaning, when were its shocks last checked?

I get a feeling that tourists really are taking a risk hopping on buses on this island!

*Penelope Corbett  
Facebook*

### Keep it clean, Phuket

*Re: Gazette online, Phuket officials stymied by sprawling trash pile, January 3*

### Letters to the Editor

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

This pile is disgusting, and the amount of times I’ve seen mostly locals throwing garbage from a bike or car is terrible.

Not only do they need to be educated about recycling, they need to reduce the amount of packaging for everything.

Bags inside bags inside boxes and not to mention the polystyrene take away boxes.

It is difficult to recycle here even if you want to.

Does the stuff inside the glass and plastic bins even get recycled? Keep it clean, Phuket!

*Lindsay Cameron  
Facebook*

### What has really been accomplished?

*Re: Gazette online, Opinion: Phuket’s AEC success hangs in the balance, January 4*

It’s back to business as usual in Kamala.

The tuk-tuks and taxis are all back in the spots they were thrown out of by the Army six months ago. The jet-skis continue to own huge portions of the beach – maybe even more now than ever before.

The Governor has given back the beaches to the restaurants and umbrella businesses.

The NCPO’s orders are never enforced, and it seems that all the bent local officials are back on the gravy train.

No one cares about the environment or the military’s rules – just money.

*Pinot  
Gazette forum*

### Karon Beach rubbish continues to pile up

I walk my dog every morning on Karon Beach, and feel that day by day the situation is getting worse.

Heaps of rubbish everywhere, and no one cares.

I saw some Thai people carrying big plastic bags full of rubbish to throw away near the beach.

The problem is not just caused by tourists.

Beer bottles, plastic water bottles, beer cans, plastic sacks with Thai food and dirty baby diapers are all over the beach.

There are no trash bins anywhere. Workers clean the streets, but only the streets.

Before the Asian Beach Games, I saw people picking up rubbish along the coast one day, but that was it. A pure hypocritical act.

It should be done weekly – even daily – by the city, or they should put trash bins every 30 meters or so.

Even when people want to dump rubbish in a bin, they can’t find one.

That is the problem.

Patak Road even has a signboard that reads “Keep Phuket clean”.

Before, the people who offered beach chairs would clean the beach every morning. Now, there is no one there, which is yet another problem.

Hotels who make money from tourists should do something to keep Karon Beach clean, especially the ones that face it.

It was a beautiful, long beach, which was the reason why I chose Karon for my retirement.

I am from Japan, and I cannot accept this situation.

On leaving a place one should see that all is in good order: these are nice words.

Is that too much to ask?

*Retired woman,  
Karon Beach*

## Phuket Gazette

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# Think locally, eat globally

**WHAT** is the first thing most expats start to miss from their home countries? Family? Maybe for some, but for most it's food. Luckily, the days when all you could eat in Thailand was the local cuisine are gone. Today, buying a piece of Dutch cheese, a few slices of Italian ham or some French paté is as easy as pie, and doesn't require you to dine in a restaurant serving international fare to get what you want.

The *Gazette* recently talked to Adrian Lanter, senior fresh food project manager at Villa Market, to learn more about the challenges of importing food into Thailand.

By Maciek Klimowicz

A PIECE of sausage, some home-made bread or a chunk of your favorite cheese brought to you by family or friends from your home country on a visit to Phuket, are not exactly legal, Mr Lanter explains. All food products that are imported into Thailand need Thai Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval, and it's not always that simple to acquire.

"To import food products into Thailand, you need to have all the licences and approvals, which are easier to get for some products than others," he explains.

"In my experience, dry products are easier to import, while cold cuts, salamis and so on are declared raw meats, and require special licences."

With more than 40 years of experience in the business and 50 per cent of its stock sourced from abroad, Villa Market has all the necessary experience it needs to import foodstuffs.

"We have a big line of our own products for which we take care

of the licensing. For other products, it's the importer who secures the appropriate permits," says Mr Lanter.

"The process [of getting permits] is much easier today. In the past, it could take as much as two years to get a product approved, now it can be done within a month."

According to Mr Lanter, the rules for importing products into Thailand are very strict, but Villa Market prides itself on working with the authorities to make sure only the best products are available to its customers.

"Nowadays, it seems that getting some licences is easier than before, because the guidance is clearer," he says. "Before, the process wasn't always clear and it changed from time to time."

"The rules are in place and have to be followed. If you do, then obtaining the correct FDA licence becomes that much easier."

Each time a new product is imported into Thailand, the FDA requests a full list of its ingredients to make sure it does not



Villa Market prides itself on making sure the best products are available to its customers. Photo: Maciek Klimowicz

include banned substances.

"This is why you will never be able to import Coca-Cola into Thailand, because no one will tell you the recipe. All Coke sold here is made in Thailand," explains Mr Lanter.

"And then there are a number of products that are not allowed to be imported. With caviar, for example, most producers around the world use a certain preservative to keep it fresh, and this preservative is not permitted in Thailand."

Before Villa Market decides to put a product on its shelves, it makes sure the producer meets in-

ternational standards and food licensing standards in their home country. Only then does Villa proceed with preparing documents to get the foodstuff approved for importing it to Thailand. Once the licence is granted – along with a label in Thai language – the product is ready for Villa to sell to local customers – be they expats in search of home flavors, or Thais curious to try the culinary tastes of another culture.

"Customers who visit various Villa Market outlets are very different. There is not only a difference between Bangkok and Phuket, but also between Phuket's

north and south," explains Mr Lanter.

"As a result, our stores vary depending on their demographic. For example, the store in Cherg Talay has a different range of products than the one in Chalong; with the one in the north of Phuket catering to a different type of consumer, due to its proximity to Laguna," says Mr Lanter.

With such a variety of customers, it's no wonder that the whole Villa Market product portfolio comprises more than 50,000 products with about 15,000 different products in stock at each outlet.

## Thailand's fashion industry climbs despite military coup

DESPITE political upheavals that saw much of Bangkok temporarily shut down by protesters last year, Thailand's fashion industry continued to flourish in 2014.

High-end brands appeared totally unconcerned about the unrest, going ahead with plans to open flagship stores in the city's upmarket malls with such regularity that events were sometimes put on hold for a few days so as not to clash with another opening.

And there's still plenty of room for the industry to grow, not least because 2015 will see the market welcome a potential 600 million extra shoppers as the Asean Economic Community comes into effect. The Mall Group has announced plans to deal with the expected influx with several stores scheduled to open in the new year.

For its part, the international luxury market seemed little affected by either political instability or thinner wallets. While some



Central Embassy. Photo: Picaidol

stores saw a drop in shoppers in the first half of the year, others were hardly affected.

Luxury retail mall Central Embassy went ahead with its scheduled opening and now boasts such high-end tenants as Maison Martin Margiela, Ralph Lauren, Jil Sander, Givenchy, Michael Kors, CH Carolina Herrera, Christian Louboutin, Isabel Marant, Kurt Geiger, Roberto Cavalli, Saint Laurent, La Martina and Pomellato.

– The Nation



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# Shanghai Real Estate Expo 2014

PHUKET Gazette Managing Director Oranee Hildebrand and Jantana Jaikwang, assistant sales manager, landed in Shanghai last month to present the island's leading luxury brands with the *Gazette's Phuket Luxury Living* supplement at the Shanghai Real Estate Expo.

The trip was part of the island's leading English-language media company's annual tradition of showcasing Phuket businesses at major international property shows overseas.

It follows the *Gazette's* sponsorship of the biggest and most important of such shows in Hong Kong, Dubai and Moscow.



Oranee Hildebrand (seated), managing director, and Jantana Jaikwang, assistant sales manager, in Shanghai.



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## Developers to bank in on proposed tax exemption

THE Finance Ministry may include exemptions for land held by developers for commercial purposes for no more than two years and residences worth no more than 1 million baht in the draft real estate tax bill.

Finance Minister Sommai Phasae said on Tuesday that the legal draft was being polished before it is proposed to the Cabinet late this month.

Some details still remain fluid.

Wisudhi Srisuphan, deputy finance minister, said that the ministry was reviewing the grace period for land holdings. Based on the land allotment approval procedure, the grace period may be set at one year, or in the case of condominium construction with environmental concerns, that could be set for two years.

"Setting the grace period for the property busi-

ness will lessen the business burden, which could be passed onto consumers. However, the period should not be too long. If developers accumulate a land bank, that could be their cost," Mr Wisudhi said.

If the grace period is not fixed for a land bank, it could be land that is not used appropriately and it would be taxed at no more than four per cent of its value.

Landowners could see a tax deduction of 1 million baht. If any property is valued at no more than 1 million baht, it will bear no tax.

However, three tax ceilings have been finalized for classes of real estate. Land for agricultural purposes will be taxed at no more than 0.5 per cent of its value, while residences will be taxed at no more than one per cent and idle land at no more than four per cent.

— The Nation



## WHAT'S ON in Phuket

### January 10. 10am - Noon. Unlock the Secrets to Online Wealth With Social Media

This course takes even the most green internet user through an amazing insight into how easy the world of online marketing can be.

This is for everyone. As long as you have access to a computer and know what the internet is, you are qualified! Also useful for existing business owners. Seminar is in English.

Contact Simon at 095-085 3355

### January 10. Children's Day

Games, activities and entertainment can be found throughout the island. For a full schedule go to [PhuketGazette.net](http://PhuketGazette.net).

Phuket Provincial Hall: 8am – 3:30pm

Saphan Hin in Phuket Town: 8:30am – 3:30pm

Loma Park in Patong: 8am – 3:00pm

Jungcelyon in Patong: All weekend

Srisoonthorn OrBorTor Office: 8:30am – 3:30pm

Suan Sri Phuvanart Park in Wichit: 8:30am – noon

Prince of Songkla University Phuket Campus in Kathu: All day

Royal Thai Navy Base in Cape Panwa: 8:30am – 3pm

Laguna Phuket in Cherng Talay: 4pm – 8pm

### January 18-26. Foundation for Shamanic Studies presents courses in Phuket

The Foundation for Shamanic Studies presents its first courses in Phuket, Thailand, from January 18-26, 2015. Book now at [www.shamanism-asia.com/2014/11/thai](http://www.shamanism-asia.com/2014/11/thai), or call 081-891 5539 for



more information.

### February 12-15. Phuket Yacht Show

Phuket Yacht Show, the largest charter event in Southeast Asia, is launching in Phuket early this year.

The inaugural event will take place on February 12-15 at the Phuket Yacht Haven Marina – the largest marina in the region. The exclusively on-water show will combine the best aspects of yacht charter, boating and luxury events, giving visitors the opportunity to

discover and experience the yachting lifestyle. Launched on the back of the hugely successful Singapore Yacht Show, the Phuket Yacht Show is organized as a result of increased demand from the industry and points to the emerging importance of Asia as a luxury yachting region and destination, set to catch up to Europe.

The Phuket Yacht Haven Marina can accommodate between 50 and 70 superyachts, providing capacity that is unmatched anywhere else in Asia.

### February. 14 Valentine's Day

Saint Valentine's Day, also known as Valentine's Day or the Feast of Saint Valentine will be celebrated throughout the island. Many resorts and restaurants are preparing special moments for courting and married couples. Best to plan ahead and book your table long before February arrives.

### March 4. Makha Bucha Day

Makha Bucha Day, which falls on the full moon of the third

lunar month, commemorates Buddha's ordaining of 1,250 monks who had arrived unannounced from afar only nine months after the Gautama Buddha attained enlightenment.

### April 6. Chakri Memorial Day

Chakri Day commemorates the origins of the ruling Chakri dynasty, founded by King Rama I, who established Bangkok as the nation's capital. HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej is the ninth monarch of the Chakri dynasty.

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[www.laundryservice.lagunaphuket.com](http://www.laundryservice.lagunaphuket.com) | Facebook.com/LagunaLaundryService



# YOUR Phuket

# La Versace says, aloha for Hawaii



WHAT'S YOUR FANTASEA?: Beyonce and Jay-Z on holiday.



Cecilia Pitra (center, right) joins the scantily clad models of the 'Phuket Ladies Club' at La Versace, Patong.

# Phuket's never ending Christmas season



Photo: Peddhapati



PLAYING THE PART: L to R: Voratuss Intasee, Phuket Gazette; Kulchada Boonrawd, marketing and communications manager for Renaissance Phuket Resort and Spa; Isaac Stone Simonelli, Phuket Gazette.



Photo: Peddhapati



PULLING THROUGH: L to R: Isaac Stone Simonelli, Phuket Gazette; Bella Thirapan, Pullman Hotels and Resorts marketing and communications; and Krisana Matzenberger, PGTV.



THE WHOLE PACKAGE: L to R: Oranee Hildebrand, Phuket Gazette, and Bhatar Amornrattanakij, Dusit Thani.



A LITTLE SOMETHING SOPHISTICATED: L to R: Kanchana Srisirikul, PR and marketing manager for Iniala; Simon Hand, PGTV; and Alexander Burger, chef de cuisine for Iniala.



The Phuket Gazette's weekly

# ISLAND TRADER

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

January 10 - 16, 2015 | [PhuketGazette.Net](http://PhuketGazette.Net)

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

## PROPERTY of the week

*elefloor.com* **Sell + Rent**  
Asia's Premier 'Direct to Seller' Property Portal



**See page 16**

## JOB of the week

**Zeavola**  
*Step back to simplicity*

**See page 20**

## WHEELS & MOTORS of the week

**CHEVROLET  
CAPTIVA  
FOR SALE**

**See page 24**

## BOAT & MARINE of the week

**LEE MARINE**  
*International Marine Brokerage*  
SINCE 1997



**See page 25**

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

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



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## Properties For Sale

**URGENT PATONG VILLA 4 BED**

Firesale price - sudden departure - direct from owner - now 19.9 million baht, estimated 29 million baht - Luxury 4-bedroom villa, mountainside, panoramic seaview of Patong bay, 4 bathrooms, private pool, tennis, fully furnished modern style, 270sqm. Tel: 081-832 8154 (English).

**FREEHOLD CONDO FOR SALE**

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

**SEAVIEW HOUSE**

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

**CHALONG BEACHFRONT POOL VILLA**

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

**FREEHOLD POOL VILLA**

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

**KATA OCEAN VIEW**

1 bedroom, fully furnished, 91sqm, sea view. Best price in complex: Only 60,000 baht/sqm; 5.5 million baht total. Tel: 095-037 9680, 089-617 2312, 076-288872, 076-341045.

**LAND HOUSE FOR SALE**

400sqm, seaview, Karon: 3.9 million baht. Also, house and land (120sqm, 400sqm): 7 million baht. Tel: 091-040 2471. Email: naruchai@gmx.de

**NICE HOUSE CHALONG**

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

**SEAVIEW POOL VILLA**

Seaview over Chalong Bay marina. 7 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, private pool. Chanote. Size: 800sqm. Price: 25 million baht. Tel: 084-868 1732. or 084-933 9829. Email: kigwd@hotmail.com

**CHALONG HOUSE SALE BY OWNER**

Chanote title. 412sqm. 2 bed, 2 bath, in- and outdoor kitchen, beautiful garden. 4.2 million baht, negotiable. Tel: 093-737 1242. Email: konradantonsson@gmail.com

**LARGE SEAVIEW HOUSE AT LAYAN**

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

**2- BEDROOMS BEACHFRONT CONDO RAWAI**

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

**KAMALA**

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

**CHEAP LAND & HOUSE FOR SALE**

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

**SEA VIEW LAND FOR SALE**

Ao Yon. 13.5 rai. Chanote title. 13.5 million baht/rai. Tel: 089-649 9939. Email: siri\_phuket@changrunner.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. 12.9 million baht. Tel: 080-124 1245. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

**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

**3-BED HOUSE - LARGE GARDEN**

Chuan Cheun Lagoon, close to British International School and the Boat Lagoon Marina. Chanote land title, 146sqm. (584 sqm), private cul-de-sac location in secure, clean village. Cool, bright, open plan with large Western kitchen and good water supply. Large car park, patios. 6.85 million baht, negotiable. For sale by owner. Contact for more photos and info. Tel: 086-040 6866 (English), 081-979 6707 (Thai). Email: adrian.j.simpson@gmail.com

**26-ROOM HOTEL SEAVIEW**

1 km from beach, 26 rooms & apt (total 40 rooms), land 500sqm, 65 million baht. Email: bookx90@gmail.com

**ONE SINGLE HOUSE FOR SALE**

3km from Laguna Phuket, 3 beds, 2 bath, 3.5 million baht. Contact Nan 081-367 8967.

**LAND FOR SALE**

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

**2 - BEDROOMS 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! Web Best selling villas in Rawai. Tel: 085-575 3300, 092-979 7899 (English & Thai). Email: andrey@phuket9.com See more details: http://phuket9.com/rawai-vip-villas-new/

**ENTERTAINMENT PALACE**

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

**HOUSE FOR SALE**

From Phuket 100km. Between A. Thap Put Phang Nga and A. Panom Surat Thani



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



## Properties For Rent

**SURIN BEACH CONDO**

1-2 b/r, pool, 300m to beach. Furnished. Call mobile 088-823 4128 (English). Email: rapa\_ljes@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>

**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

**APARTMENT FOR RENT**

Serviced apartment: 66sqm, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**KAMALA: 1,200 BAHT**

Hotel room. 2 pools. 7 mins to beach. Has Jacuzzi. Tel: 084-716 0502.

**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](http://www.orchidkathuheights-phuket.com)

**KAMALA BEACH RENTAL**

Very nice house all apartment; furnished, quiet, clean, secure. Price 16,000-22,000 baht/month. Tel: 083-645 3546.

**HOLIDAY RENTAL**

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

**HOUSE FOR RENT IN CHALONG**

At Moo Baan Patak villa 2, Fully Furnished, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1 big kitchen, 1 living room and car parking. Two-storey house with internet WiFi for rent, long- and short-term - price flexible. Contact: 089-908 7830 or escadaphuket@hotmail.com

**PATONG CONDO PRIVATE RENTAL**

2 bedrooms, furnished, 24,000 baht / month. Long-term tenant wanted. Pool, gym, parking, WiFi, cable TV. 800m to beach. Tel: 085-069 0938 (English). 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

**APARTMENT FOR RENT PATONG**

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

**KATA SEAVIEW CONDO FOR RENT**

Long-term rental, more than 6 months. Nov - Apr: 38,000 baht per month. May-Oct 28,000 baht/month. Tel: 087-282 3724. Email: keywest\_aloha@hotmail.com

**FOR RENT**

Chalong Pier Road, ground floor unit, available for shop or office use. Excellent location on this popular and well-known road. For more information, please call 081-416 4177 or 076 381 341. Email: marketing@sea-bees.com

**HOUSE NAI HARN**

3 bedrooms, furniture, kitchen, WiFi, TV, community pool 25,000 baht / month. Tel: 083-388 8036.

**RAWAI BEACH FRONT HOUSE**

3 bedrooms, close to Fisher man' Way. For long-term rent: 80,000 baht / month. Tel: 081-593 9559, 081-737 1678. Email: supotpac@phuketemail.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.

**APARTMENT IN SURIN FOR RENT**

1 bedroom, furnished with balcony. Long or short term, 18,000 a month. Tel: 084-689 4658 (English), 081-537 2549 (English & Thai). Email: Malin@vertigo-phuket.com Website: suringate.com

**HOUSE FOR RENT**

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

**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: annanai1@hotmail.com

**RENT APARTMENT PATONG**

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

**POOL VILLAS FOR RENT**

1, 2 bedrooms, near Laguna, fully furnished from 20,000 Baht. Tel: 093-713 2278.

**LAGUNA 1 BED CONDO**

Renovated 1-bedroom condo for rent at Allamanda Residence, within the Laguna complex. Tel: 082-412 7022. Email: siam servicegroup@mail.com

**LAST-MINUTE RENTAL**

An elegant, high-quality 3-bedroom villa with private 12-meter pool is available for short-term or long term rental. Furnished to the highest standards, the property is part of a luxury private estate located only minutes to Nai Harn Beach, restaurants and shops. 12-month contract, 85,000 baht per month; Daily rate from 10,000 baht per day. Tel: 081-080 3184 (English). Email: zuber@loxinfo.co.th [www.villastellaphuket.com](http://www.villastellaphuket.com)

**CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT**

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

**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

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](mailto: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**

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# Phuket Gazette

**Chief Sub-Editor Wanted:** Looking for an experienced editor with a deep respect for the English language, who wants to stay hand on while developing, maintaining high-quality copy.

## CHIEF SUB-EDITOR

- ☐ Native English speaker
- ☐ 3-5 years of full-time editing experience, preferably within the news industry
- ☐ Interested in relocating to Phuket
- ☐ Commercial Social Media and SEO experience a plus

[Isaac@PhuketGazette.net](mailto:Isaac@PhuketGazette.net)

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

79/94 Moo 4, Thepkasattri Rd, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83000

Tel: 076-273555 Ext 301 Mobile: 080-526 5362

## GERMAN-SPEAKING STAFF

Required. Tel: 093-579 6644 (Nuch). For more info please send your CV and recent photo to rainforestjob@gmail.com

## CHINESE STAFF NEEDED

A Chinese person with reasonable English skills for marketing department of a yacht charter company. Tel: 087-384 2743.

## 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

## HOTEL STAFF WANTED

Front officer, cook, night receptionist, hotel manager needed. For new hotel with 200 rooms. Filipino and Thai staff only. Contact us by email only. Tel: 081-893 7720.

## FUNDRAISING OFFICER

Soi Dog Foundation seeks a Fund-raising Officer who will manage Soi Dog's donor database and send emails to supporters around the world, working closely with other members of the fundraising team. The position requires excellent attention to detail. Applicants should be reliable, consistent, comfortable with computers, fairly competent at writing in English, and love cats and dogs. To apply, please send a CV and cover letter to belinda@soidog.org

## WAITRESS/FOOD RUNNER

Female, friendly, Good service mind, experience is advantage. Benefits: salary, service charge, tips, social fee, 2 meals/day, uniform. Job available at Rossovivo Ristorante Italiano e Pizzeria 5/38 Viset road, Rawai. Tel: 076-384 686, 083-103 3801.

## COOK (F) NIGHT TIME

Cook for bbq, night time. Speaking Chinese would be an advantage. Urgently needed. Tel: 082-270 6385 (English). Email: tkoschig2000@hotmail.com

## NATIVE ENGLISH TEACHERS

Chalong International School is looking for two experienced native English teachers for our primary 1 and preschool (K-3) classes, to start January 6. Children 5 to 7 years old and class size up to 15 students. Monday to Friday, 8 to 4. Work permit available. Tel: 080-624 7060 (English), 087-278 5511 (English & Thai). Resume to phuketteacher@yahoo.com

## TELE SALES WORK FROM HOME

Earn up to 3,000 - 5,000 baht / day. International organization is looking for responsible and diligent persons for independent job. Thai and foreigners. Tel: 084-081 6067 (English). Email: recruitment@holiplanet.com

## ENGLISH TEACHERS

1 x Kindergarten - Part-time: 14hrs/week, in Chermg Talay, start Jan 5. 2 x Full-Time. School near Phuket Town. All positions: TEFL certs req'd. Pls contact: The Head Teacher, ECC Phuket. Tel: 076-307 0579, 091-647 5465 (English), 089-139 8453 (English & Thai). Email: Giles@ecc.ac.th



## VACANT POSITIONS



### Zeavola Resort and Spa

Zeavola Resort and Spa  
Zeavola is a 53 all-suite boutique resort and spa on the northern tip of Phi Phi Island, in Krabi Province, Thailand, and is located on a prime stretch of long white sand beachfront only an hour by speedboat from either Phuket or Krabi. Zeavola is the perfect getaway to relax, recharge and rejuvenate.

### Island Based Positions Vacant

#### Activity Manager & Dive Instructor

##### Profile:

- ▶ At least a Bachelor's degree or Certificate in all aspects of PADI operations management
- ▶ At least 5 years' experience in Activity Department management
- ▶ Strong results-oriented, people management and leadership skills
- ▶ Strong English-communication skills and computer literate
- ▶ Strong analytical and problem-solving skills, and execution of work

#### Front Office Manager

##### Profile:

- ▶ At least a Bachelor's degree in any field
- ▶ At least 3 years' experience in front office manager position of international hotels
- ▶ Strong results-oriented, people management and leadership skills
- ▶ Strong interpersonal skills and outgoing, friendly
- ▶ Strong English-communication skills and computer literate
- ▶ Strong analytical and problem-solving skills, and execution of work

#### Sous Chef

##### Profile:

- ▶ At least a Bachelor's degree or Certificate in any aspect of kitchen operations management
- ▶ At least 3-5 years' experience in Food & Beverage Department management
- ▶ Good working knowledge of Thai & European food in the kitchen
- ▶ Strong results-oriented, people-management and leadership skills
- ▶ Strong English-communication skills and computer literate
- ▶ Strong analytical and problem-solving skills, and execution of work

##### Fringe Benefits:

- ▶ Good Salary + Service Charge share
- ▶ Group Insurance, Social Security, Workers' Compensation
- ▶ Duty meals at the staff canteen / Officer Check at hotel restaurant as per position category
- ▶ Private dress / Uniform Laundry
- ▶ Transportation from/to Phuket / Krabi - Resort, round-trip by ferry
- ▶ Accommodation as per your position category at resort

An exciting career awaits creative professionals along with a competitive benefits package. Please send application together with a detailed resume, transcripts, current and expected salaries to:

Human Resources Department

Tel. 075-627000 ext 1400 or 1401 E-mail: hr@zeavola.com & preecha@zeavola.com

## EUROPEAN CHEFS

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

## SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Career opportunity for a dedicated sales rep at a holiday ownership company, based in Phuket. Tremendous potential for huge earnings. Legal working status will be arranged. Please send your resume to: rbv@royalperspective.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.

## Authorized Agents for Classified Advertising:

### CHALONG

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

Tel: 076-282254  
Tel: 076-280400  
Tel: 076-282403

### PATONG

- NEW Andy's Real Estate Agency (Opp. Savoei Seafood)
- ▶ Taurus Travel (Aroonsom Plaza)
- ▶ Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppe (Aroonsom Plaza)

Tel: 076-341644  
Tel: 076-344521-2  
Tel: 076-290468

### PHUKET CITY

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

Tel: 076-232398  
Tel: 076-258369  
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!**

The Gazette Online is always on top in Google!

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



**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.

**RESTAURANT NEEDS URGENTLY**

Looking for female Assistant Manager with bubbly personality. Up to 20,000 baht per month. Bar Manager needed for up to 15k. Waitresses needed for up to 12k. All plus service charge and benefits. Call for details. Tel: 076-211775, 086-509 7510 (English), 087-884 8271 (English & Thai). Email: simon@colonial-connection.com

**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.

**EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/ PA TO MD**

Experience as executive assistant / PA to MD of over 3 years. Native Thai, fluent in English, some basic Chinese. Secretarial and admin skills (computer, internet, coordination, attending meetings). Own and drive a car. Female, age 20-35. Can make decisions and deal with team members. Tel: 091-979 9911. Email: vrit@princessyachtssea.com, www.princessyachtssea.com

**CUSTOMER SERVICE**

Call centre customer service. Basic 15,000 baht per month. Fluent English speakers needed. Five-day working week. Great prospects, beautiful office in seafront villa environment. Tel: 083-1737 292 (English). Email: dennisbond44@yahoo.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.

**PHUKET HOME SERVICE**

New maintenance company looking for staff: maid, plumber, baby-sitter, ++. Contact: info@home-phuket-service.com

**QUALIFIED BOAT CREW**

Wanted for a 6-month journey in Southeast Asia on a 19m motor yacht. Email: boatcrewwanted@gmail.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. Email: aey@princessyachtssea.com

**SALES MANAGER NEEDED**

Sales staff needed for real estate business. Contact by email only. Email: cc@bayshoreprojects.com

**Phuket Gazette**

**Managing Editor Wanted:** Looking for an experienced editor with strong management skills, who is interested in developing an integrated multimedia company.

**MANAGING EDITOR**

- ☐ Native English speaker
- ☐ 3-5 years of full-time editing experience, preferably within the news industry
- ☐ Interested in relocating to Phuket
- ☐ Management experience

[Isaac@PhuketGazette.net](mailto:Isaac@PhuketGazette.net)

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

79/94 Moo 4, Thepkasattri Rd, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83000

Tel: 076-273555 Ext 301 Mobile: 080-526 5362

**SWEDISH STAFF**

Swedish-speaking 20-30 years old staff wanted. Send your CV & photo to naturejob13@gmail.com

**CRUISE LINE CHEFS**

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

**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

**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.

**EXECUTIVE CHEF WANTED**

A popular hotel in central Patong requires an executive chef. Applicants must have a minimum of 5 years experience in a similar position, and be able to undertake the full management of a busy kitchen. Languages required: Thai / English. Salary is negotiable, dependent on experience and ability. Tel: 089-208 8557. Email: nealeave ry@gmail.com

**K.Y. PROPERTY CO.,LTD**

Urgently required in  
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Salary: 15,000 baht and up

Benefits: Adjustment of income every year, uniform and Social Security

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- Computer and print skills

**Contact us**

20 Moo 2, Thepkasattri Road, Koh-Kaew, Muang Phuket  
Tel. 076-273414

**RUSSIAN REAL ESTATE 150K+**

We are a leading real estate company in Phuket that is expanding fast and looking for a talented individual to join our young, dynamic team. Must be a Russian-speaking agent who has a number of years experience in real estate, and preferably in Phuket. CVs to paul@livephuket.com, www.livephuket.com

**ENTHUSIASTIC STAFF WANTED**

Enthusiastic, fit, sociable, snorkelling trainer & safety person required for speedboat tours. Thai or foreign with the correct qualifications. Excellent English a must. Send photo with CV. Excellent pay for right person. Tel: 076-289044, 086-011 5340 (English & Thai).

**PHUKET HOME SERVICE**

New maintenance company looking for staff: maid, plumber, baby-sitter, ++. Contact: info@home-phuket-service.com or call 083-105 2707.

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

**NEW RESTAURANT IN LAGUNA**

Now hiring: Chefs – all levels; Servers – all levels; Bar staff; Back of house staff; and a Personal Assistant. Basic English necessary, previous experience preferred. Must be under 35 years of age. For the right candidates, we offer an excellent salary, benefits, holidays and structured professional development. Please forward CVs and a current picture to Jamie @bam pot.co or call 092-130 3114.

**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

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Intel core i7 upgraded spec  
1TB HD, 251GB Flash  
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SAMSUNG  
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Price: 12,000 baht ONO.  
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Life membership at Phuket  
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w.suetterlin@gmail.com

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Tel: 061-227 0743 (English).

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MEMBERSHIP

Family Membership. Mainte-  
nance paid through 2014.  
760,000 baht, including Transfer  
Fee. Tel: 091-224 1773 (English).

## BLUE CANYON

Blue Canyon golf membership  
for sale. 600,000 baht. Tel:  
081-271 7701 (English). Email:  
hemalegdr@hotmail.com

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PhonesIPHONE 4S  
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secondhand iPhone 4s  
(16GB).

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EquipmentEOS 7D (I) + EF-S  
18-135 NW

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(2010), very good condi-  
tion, + EF-S 18-135  
(new). 24,000 baht. Tel:  
080-717 9071. Email:  
otto.nothe@yahoo.de.

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sonal approach and profes-  
sional adjustment. Tel: 080-  
698 0813 (English). Email:  
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www.facebook.com/pages/  
Ashtanga-Yoga-Shala-  
Phuket/637555173029986

## Lost &amp; Found

HELP ME  
FIND MY DOG

Please help me find my dog  
Clio. She is a white pitbull ter-  
rier with brown spots on her  
rear and side and a bald shave  
mark on her head from a re-  
cent treatment. She went  
missing in Chalong on Thurs-  
day at around midday. This  
dog is the world to me and I  
offer a good reward for her re-  
turn. Tel: 081-891 9656 (Eng-  
lish), 081-537 7137 (Thai)  
Email: stephen@princess  
yachtsthailand.com

## Personals

## BACKGAMMON

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

## Pets

CHIHUAHUA  
DOG FOR SALE

Male, 4 months old. Tel: 081-  
080 8831 (English & Thai).  
Email: jstuder@loxinfo.co.th

## GUARD DOG WANTED

Puppy or young dog. Tel: 087-  
383 4452 Email: banwattana  
@gmail.com

## MISSING



Ezra Jansen came to Phuket, Thailand in June 2014.  
His family had not heard from him since.  
Name : Ezra Jansen  
Age : 31 years old  
Nationality : South African  
Hair color : Black, more light brown  
Eyes color : Light green sometimes light  
brown changes with the  
weather  
Identifying Characteristics d  
: Two scars on the left or right arm, not so sure now  
which arm, other scars are very faint from childhood  
Education : Electrical Mechanical  
Engineer

If anyone knows where he is or if Ezra Jansen sees this,  
please contact us at: jansenj@telkomsa.net or telephone  
number : +00127 21 3922742 Cape Town South Africa

South African Embassy Bangkok: 02-659 2900

## Miscellaneous For Sale

## SOLD SECOND HAND



- Musical instrument. Jazz guitar. Price: 25,000 baht.
- Orange amplifier. Price: 35,000 baht.
- Vintage French-style bookcase. Price: 160,000 baht.
- Showcase. Price: 170,000 baht.

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



**Phuket today**  
Phuket Gazette

**Hot deal!**  
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Today show, broadcast on 3 cable networks  
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Cable TV coverage – broadcast 68 times a week throughout Phuket.

Catch the show at these times

**Phuket Cable Co (PC) - Covers all Phuket**  
**Channel 1, with 19 shows a week**  
Mon to Fri: 10.30am, 6.00pm, 9.00pm  
Sat & Sun: 10.30am, 9.00pm.

**Rawai Cable - Rawai and Chalong, Kata,**  
**Karon.**  
**Channel 1, with 28 shows a week**  
Mon to Sun: 10.00am, 1.00pm, 7.00pm,  
and 10.00pm

**KDTV (Kamala Cable TV) - Covers**  
**Patong, Kamala, Surin, Bangtao.**  
**Channel 4, with 21 shows a week**  
Mon to Sun: 7.00am, 11.30am, 11.00pm

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

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

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

On line: www.phuketgazette.net / tv | www.youtube.com / PGTVPhuket



## Rentals

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



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► Sunseeker 73 1,699,000 GBP	► Symbol 57 \$460,000 USD
► Jeanneau 57 590,000 Euro	► Fusion 40 298,000 Euro
► Nautor Swan 48 340,000 Euro	► Beneteau First 45 170,000 Euro

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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 Email: jim@leemarine.com  
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5 en suite cabins, sleeps 10, newly renovated. Perfect for tour & leisure trips. Location: Phang Nga Bay  
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 Tel: 093-024 1961.

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 paew@lambertbrothers.co.th  
 Tel: + 66 76 273 385  
[www.lambertbrothers.co.th](http://www.lambertbrothers.co.th)

**4.1M/40HP RIB. NEW (09/2014)!**

Only 3 months old. Used for just 14 hours. Suzuki engine and boat under warranty (Suzuki Shop). Bimini + Trailer + Tube Cover. Tel: 098-708 6632 (English), 093-584 0565 (English). Email: nono240@gmail.com

**10% DISCOUNT**

On Hypalon Yachtsman Tenders. Lightweight aluminum-hull RIBs. 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

**BOTNIA TARGA 32 (2013)**

As-new and with nearly all the options. A quality Scandinavian-built, go-anywhere fast cruiser at a substantial saving on the new price. US\$340,000. Boat shed phuket.com. Tel: 084-842 6146. alan.giles@boatshedphuket.com

**BOAT FOR SALE**

Model: Doral 36 SE Year: 2000  
 Engines: 2 x Cummins Diesel 5.9l 370HP. Tel: 076-390586, 089-471 4676 (English). Email: nuchjaree@latitude1maritime.com

**URGENT SALE**

Fiberglass 35ft ocean sailboat. Price: 200,000 baht. Call to see now at Khao Khad beach. Tel: 061-230 5902 (English). Email: 3dnv @3dnv.eu

**2.8M SAILING DINGHY**

BIC Open, excellent condition. 75,000 baht includes trailer and cover. Tel: 081-837 5774 (English).

**BENETEAU OCEANIS 370 (1991)**

Diesel 29hp Perkins Perama Diesel. Many recent upgrades. Contact Alan Giles at Boat shed phuket.com on 084-842 6146 or Email: alangiles@boatshedphuket.com

**SELLING YOUR BOAT?**

With high season now upon us, now is the right time to get her listed. Boatshedphuket.com are always looking for new listings, big or small, power or sail, to meet the demand for competitively priced, quality boats. Contact Alan Giles at Boat shedphuket.com on 084-842 6146 or alangiles@boatshedphuket.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. Boatshed phuket.com. Tel: 084-842 6146. alangiles@boatshedphuket.com

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We can meet you on board, take up to 80 photos and full details. We will accompany all viewings and provide non-exclusive brokerage on a "no sale, no fee" basis.

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As New 333,000 Euro  
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## THE SOLUTION TO THIS WEEK'S

### Cryptic Crossword



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. VERTICAL: *cartevil* 10. CAT: C-a-T 11. ESCAPE: *fliescapering* 12. STANCE: *canset* 13. PASTER: *naprest* 14. AIRY: A.1.-Ry. 15. PERMISSIVE: per-missive 17. TASTEBUD: *datesbut* 18. DEMANDS: D-amends 19. ARAI: a-rai 21. LITTER: refuse 24. the pick 27. TOMTIT: to-Mt.-1-T 29. ITEM: *time* 30. ECLIPSE: E-*splice* 33. FRIEDEGG: *fridgeeg* 35. ANTITHESIS: anti-thesis 36. USER: *sure* 37. TENSPO: ten-*opts* 38. PILLAR: p-ill-ar 40. PENNON: Penn.-on 41. SIR: si-R 42. TELLTALE: revealing

**Down:**  
 1. SETTLEMENT: subsidence 2. STUN: nuts[up] 3. ACCESSED: *cdceases* 4. CLIPPY: clip-pie 5. STREETFIGHT: *threegifts*-T 6. tennis club 7. SCRAPE: tricky situation 8. APERTURE: aper-true 10. CASTE: cas-T-e 16. MEANEST: mean-Est. 20. RIFLE: rifle 22. TENSILE: *listen*-E 23. STRINGINESS: st-R-*inginess* 25. ENTREATING: E-N-treat-*gin* 26. HOSPITABLE: *shop*-I-table 28. OGRESSSES: *sergeso*-S 31. CATAPULT: *palcutat* 32. STATUTE: *astute*(T) 34. ERRAND: err-and 35. AOPOR: *apoor* 39. LATE: late

# Looking for a boat?

See more classified ads at [www.phuketgazette.net](http://www.phuketgazette.net)



## Private Aircraft and Flight Services in Phuket

## Rockwell Commander 114 HS-AWS

**Built: 1976**

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



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

**Specs:**

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

Radio and Navigation Configuration: Fully IFR equipped. 2 Garmin GNS430  
VHF/COMM/NAV/GPS/TERRAIN. Garmin G1-106A 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](mailto:tony_scragg@hotmail.com)**

**HAVE A PASSION FOR AVIATION?**

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

**AIRPLAY ALTIS MICROLIGHT**

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

**1999 ROBIN 2160i**

I would like to sell my Robin aircraft or trade it for a 4-seat Cessna or Piper (based in Hua Hin). The Robin: 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](mailto: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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Please use this form to write your classified advertisement.

	(heading)

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

## See Phuket from above Book a trial!



**Book now: 0935 92 7558**



# Back to the Future: 2015



**KEEing UP FOR 2015:** Somchai Pantong, GM of KEE Resort and Spa, hands out a gift to guests during the New Year celebrations.



**LET GOOD TIMES ROLE:** Twin Palms patrons bring in the New Year with plenty of fanfare, dancing and drinking.



**MAKING 50 BY 2015:** L to R: Sarah and Charlie McKenna and Peter Wood celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> birthday of Helene Fallon Wood, Honorary Consul for Ireland. Photo: Bruce Stanley



**CLASSY GUESTS:** L to R: Dusit Thani guests dust off their jackets for a grand bow tie event.



**DUSIT THANI KEEPS IT CLASSY:** L to R: Orana Thongprasit, quality assurance manager; Denis Thouvard, GM; and Daranee Kolsaman, PA to GM.



**DREAMING:** L to R: Yulianna Zinovieva, composer and singer; Zhanel Tyurina, director of Maikhao Dream Co Ltd, and her daughters; and Baisakova Sayle, fashion designer.



**SADDLE UP:** Ornchaporn Sangsre; Phanwara Phatharaworanee; Anchisa Phatharaworanee; Supaporn Phatharaworanee; Kanokkorn Phatharaworanee; and Pharit Damrithamni.



**IMPIANA:** Boobpa Suwannasri, sales and events manager; Yupadee Kaittipunpattana, HR manager; Heng Hock Yee, financial controller – Thailand; David Xavier, GM – Thailand.



**NEW YEAR REVELRY:** Twin Palms patrons didn't hesitate when it came to hailing 2015. The party rocked on until the wee hours of the morning.



## Words from the wise

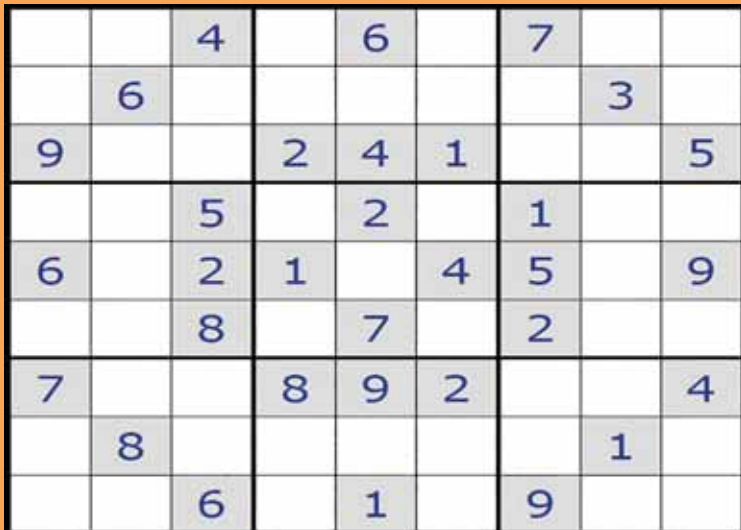
"People who think they know everything are a great annoyance to those of us who do."

— Isaac Asimov

"Too much agreement kills a chat."

— Eldridge Cleaver

## Medium



## Hard



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

COFFEE  
break

## Cryptic Crossword

## Across

9. Cart evil off, become upright (8)  
 10. Almost a time for a pet (3)  
 11. Get away from flies capering inside (6)  
 12. Can set different point of view (6)  
 13. Arrange nap, rest the animal's lower leg (7)  
 14. In first class, railway is well ventilated (4)  
 15. For each communication be broad minded (10)  
 17. Chewed dates, but a sensitive place in the mouth! (5,3)  
 18. Daughter amends strange ultimata (7)  
 19. What in Thailand is a measure of area (4)  
 21. Refuse family of puppies (6)  
 24. The one preferred, outstanding in its bouquet! (17)  
 27. Small bird to mount one time (6)  
 29. Time changes piece of news (4)  
 30. Note, splice carefully or blot out (7)  
 33. Breakfast food could be in fridge, e.g. (8)  
 35. Against the theory directly opposite (10)  
 36. Employer could be sure (4)  
 37. Number opts out in U.S. bill (3,4)  
 38. Equal footing I'll find inside column (6)  
 40. Flag Pennsylvania forward (6)  
 41. Teacher Italian, yes, right (3)  
 42. Revealing the informer (8)

## Down

1. Payment for subsidence (10)  
 2. Turns up, nuts, a knockout (4)  
 3. Gained entry to C.D., ceases perhaps (8)  
 4. Former bus crew trim turnover (7)  
 5. Three gifts distributed on time in an urban brawl (6,5)  
 6. Rackets common in this association! (6,4)  
 7. Scratch from a tricky situation! (6)  
 8. Opening for one who copies true, perhaps (8)  
 10. Established social order case, about time (5)  
 16. Intend established shortly to be nearest (7)  
 20. Steal and carry off firearm (5)  
 22. Listen carefully, note is capable

- of being stretched (7)  
 23. Having long thin characteristics, royal in being most niggardly (11)  
 25. Earnestly requesting in the East new thing that gives pleasure, mixed gin! (10)  
 26. Move shop, I submit, as welcoming (10)  
 28. Man-eating monsters in serge, so maybe singular (8)  
 31. Wildly, pal cut at ancient ballistic weapon (8)  
 32. Law could be astute, about time (7)  
 34. Go wrong, and in a message (6)  
 35. A poor shift in a Phuket inlet (5)  
 39. Departed behind schedule (4)

## CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20):



Extra responsibilities are likely to keep you busy early on. You can thrive in a situation in which time is of the essence and there's a challenge to be overcome. Where money matters are concerned, a hunch might encourage investment in an idea that's a bit out of the ordinary but potentially good for you, Capricorn.

## AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19):



Though keen to get up to speed, a Mercury-Saturn link suggests taking time to think things through can be beneficial. Plus, it's always worth asking around as someone may share a gem of an idea that might not have occurred otherwise. Romance-wise, you hold the aces more than you imagine, so a bold move could well pay off.

## PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20):



While it's great to aim high, Pisces, don't put so much pressure on yourself that you feel burdened by a de-

sire for success. This week's alignment encourages you to adopt an intuitive approach to achieving an ambition and to combine it with a plan. You'll find it helps you work smarter rather than harder.

## ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20):



Events this week unfold at a more relaxed pace, yet there's a chance you'll find yourself at sixes and sevens concerning a certain matter. Although tensions seem to be easing, you could find that your thoughts circle around this. Perhaps you want more out of life. If so, resolving this crucial issue might be your ticket to fulfilling your dreams.

## TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21):



Mercury's ethereal link with Saturn enhances concentration, enabling you to zero in on a project or idea, plan it and complete it with little or no fuss. You'll also find you become more resourceful, making better use of the funds you have available. Meanwhile, hobnobbing with others can uncover valuable information.

YOUR  
horoscope  
By Patrick Arundell

## GEMINI (May 22-June 21):



There is little chance your ideas will exceed your capabilities as friends or loved ones will be on hand to give you a reality check. Indeed, while it's great to have their guidance on key issues, don't let any of them rain on your parade. Maintain a balance between intuitive wisdom and implementing practical advice for success.

## CANCER (June 22-July 23):



Be sure to listen to your intuition, especially in relation to your finances. Though you may feel like splurging, Saturn's links to Mercury and Venus encourage otherwise. You'll do better if you create a budget and stick firmly to it. Later in the week, pressures will ease as the Sun moves away from Pluto, leaving you free to accomplish a great deal more.

## LEO (July 24-Aug 23):



Partnering with others may help you get up to speed, particularly if you have a creative idea you're keen to complete. Drawing from another's repertoire of skills could help you gain an advantage. Meanwhile, despite this early phase of the year, there's plenty of room for socializing. Whether you're looking for friendship or romance, opportunity knocks.

## VIRGO (Aug 24-Sept 23):



It's worth persevering if you're stuck in a rut, as you may uncover a treasure trove of resources that have other applications too. Go easy early this week though, as you won't benefit from pushing yourself to extremes. However, where lifestyle issues are concerned, you might feel motivated to change things for the better.

## LIBRA (Sept 24-Oct 23):



Sometimes romance can be heavenly, and this might be one of those weeks. Whether dating or involved, dive

in and enjoy getting even closer. You're also in creative mode with the days ahead spotlighting influences that can motivate you to use your skills – whether for earning extra money or for the satisfaction it brings.

## SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22):



Buying for the home may be on your to-do list this week, with a very practical blend of influences helping you make the most of your money. Although there are likely bargains to be had, a little discrimination could pay off handsomely. Wrestling with a problem? A spontaneous approach might supply the answers you need.

## SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21):



You'll focus on ways to make the most of your potential as Saturn's presence encourages you to think in the long-term. However, by breaking big plans into baby steps and accomplishing a little every day, you'll notice results begin to show almost effortlessly. Connecting with the right contacts could also speed your progress.



# Townhomes take off

## Living Vis targets expats in second phase of Thalang residential housing project



By Nick Davies

FOLLOWING the completion of phase one of 59 European-style tropical townhomes in Thalang under the banner “Baan Tak r Kard”, local developer Living Vis has launched the second phase of its residential development under the brand “r homes”, in a bid to attract more expat buyers.

“More than 80 per cent of the two- and three-bedroom homes in phase one are now occupied by expats and families of mixed nationalities, who are attracted to the affordability of high-quality homes, which has

given the community a distinctly international feel,” said Living Vis director Sunchai Neungsit.

Overwhelming interest from foreign buyers prompted Living Vis to launch sales of phase two under the banner r homes, in line with the international appeal of the project, he explained.

Located a little bit more than four kilometers from Layan Beach, r homes was initially

launched as a holiday-home investment for local buyers.

However, the pre-built homes – with features such as Kholer b a t h r o o m s , Fletcher Aluminium doors and windows incorporated into eco-designs that allow for natural ventilation, as well as other cost-saving features – have been a hit among

foreigners, especially the reasonable prices.

Priced at 3.98 million baht,

More than 80 per cent of the two- and three-bedroom homes in phase one are now occupied by expats and families of mixed nationalities, who are attracted to the affordability of high-quality homes, which has given the community a distinctly international feel. /



Baan Tak r Kard homes in Thalang are affordable and of high quality, says Living Vis Director Sunchai Neungsit.

Emotion One (two bedrooms) and Emotion Two (three bedrooms) homes measure five and six meters wide, respectively.

Emotion One living space covers a total area of 108sqm, plus an 18.4sqm driveway and a

12sqm garden.

The larger six-meter-wide Emotion Two homes have three bathrooms with living space covering 125sqm, a 23.6sqm driveway and 14sqm garden.

Construction of phase two of r

homes is expected to be completed by the end of 2015 with the addition of a clubhouse and swimming pool exclusively for residents.

For more information visit [baan-tak-r-kard.com](http://baan-tak-r-kard.com)

## Builders focus on environmentally friendly property features for 2015

PRODUCERS of construction materials and property firms plan to do more to respond to consumer concerns about the environment this year.

Dr Jin Anotai, a lecturer in the department of environmental engineering at the King Mongkut University of Technology in Thon Buri, said engineers and architects today had to design homes and other buildings with concern for the environment firmly in mind, and construction materials also should be environmentally friendly.

Buildings should be designed with waste-disposal systems, with the goal of zero waste having equal importance to the building's beauty, he said.

Thailand's leading producer of construction materials, Siam Cement Group, has a policy of green products accounting for at least 30 per cent of its sales, which means it has to put new innovative products on the market every year, said president and chief executive officer Kan Trakulhoon.

Siam City Cement is another leading construction-material business providing green building



Bayer Thai Co recently unveiled the new eco-friendly facade on its building on North Sathorn Road in Bangkok. Photo: The Nation

products to the market.

“We have been developing green products since 2007, not only making innovative products but also renovating our cement plant to reduce carbon-dioxide emissions,” company adviser Chantana Sukumanont said.

With high competition in the market, property firms have to reduce their construction costs by cutting waste, pushing them to use innovative construction processes.

Fragrant Property designs its Circle brand condominium

projects under the theme of “eco-friendly innovative living”.

Most Circle condominium projects have solar panels to generate electricity for use in common areas, heat produced by air-conditioning units is recycled to heat water for residents to use.

The projects also recycle water for irrigation, with household wastewater treated in septic tanks before passing through three separate types of filter: multi-filter, carbon filter and micro-filter.

– The Nation

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Model shown here has been altered to represent the product shown. The developer does not guarantee its accuracy and it is not part of any offer or contract. All measurements are approximate and subject to change without notice. The developer reserves the right to any form of change to the project at its own discretion without giving any prior notice.



# Game changer: light rail system

From Page 1

...indicator for real estate and economic growth."

Transport infrastructure is a key demand generator for real estate, Mr Barnett added, as it's a virtual magnet for retail, commercial and property offerings.

"As seen in Bangkok, developers look to direct links for new mixed-use projects. As we all can see, Phuket is evolving into an urban destination and this is the logical step for growth," he said.

"Instead of astronomical year-on-year growth in motorbikes, we will see public transport slowly weave into the culture of Phuket."

Mr Barnett, a *Gazette* property columnist for more than a decade, predicted that the convergence of Phuket Town and Patong will happen in Kathu, once the light rail comes and the Patong tunnel is completed.

However, Mr Barnett questioned why the plans for the Phuket light rail don't account for the transport system to be elevated, as in Bangkok, Manila and other retrofitted mass urban destinations.

"Eventually, a central feeder from north to south, combining a larger high-way and light rail is the only option given the lack of land on coastal routes," Mr Barnett said.

"Phuket is now playing catch up to Asia's other key resort area, Bali, in terms of transport infrastructure. Bali's recent airport expansion, man-grove highways and underpasses are already changing that island.

"But one of Phuket's best



Infrastructure improvements, such as the light rail and the expansion of Phuket International Airport, mean that property projects will be more sustainable, thus creating more interest in Phuket real estate from buyers. Photo: OTP

strengths that Bali and many other island destinations, including Samui, do not have is a central corridor that can accommodate mass transit."

The public hearing on Tuesday, held at The Metropole Hotel in Phuket Town, was attended by about 350 people, and chaired by Peraphon Thawornsapacharoen, director-general of the Office of Transport and Traffic Policy and Planning (OTP).

"After this final public hearing, Enrich Consultants Co Ltd will submit their plans to the OTP. We will then review it," he told the crowd.

"If we agree with all aspects of the plan, we will then submit it for approval to the committee re-

viewing its Environmental Impact Assessment."

The light-rail system will originate at Tha Nun, on the north side of the channel that separates Phuket from the mainland, and continue to Phuket International Airport. It will then head south through Phuket Town and Saphan Hin before continuing along Chao Fa East Road to terminate at Chalong Circle.

"There will be 20 stops along the 60-kilometer track," explained Kitti Kijmanawat, logistics expert at Enrich Consultants and the project's lead engineer.

The stops are planned for: Tha Nun, Phuket Airport, Thalang, Heroines' Monument, Koh Kaew, Phuket's new bus terminal, Phuket Rajabhat University, Thungkha, Phuket Old Town, Clocktower Circle, Bang Niew, Phuket City Library, Saphan Hin, Sakdide-



Road, Daorung Intersection, Wichit, Chao Fa East Road, Soi Palai, Soi Kok Tanod and Chalong Circle.

Residents at the meeting voiced their support for the project, but called for the OTP to ensure safety measures were included to prevent accidents. Additionally, they requested car parks at the major stops in Phuket Town.

"Please think about people who have to drive to get to the light rail. There are not many places for people to park," said Satirapong Na Takuathung, president of the Phuket Tourist Association.

Don Limnantapisit, a leader in the Phuket Old Town community, called for parking areas for taxis near the stops, while Phuket City Mayor Somjai Suwansupana urged the project team to make a special effort to preserve the facades in the Old Town.

"The project is for the future of Phuket, so please help us maintain the identity of Phuket Old Town so it can be seen by Phuket's future generations," she said.

"Also, we will lose one lane in Phuket Old Town to the light rail. I hope experts have a clear understanding of how this will affect traffic in the area."

Pongsan Jongjinnan, from Baan Mai Khao at the northern end of the island, voiced his support, but called for more stops outside of Phuket Town.

"From what I can see, most of the stops are in Phuket Town... I would like to see the project support elderly and disabled people. Also, there are schools along the route outside of Phuket Town, which deserve stops," he said.

Additional reporting by Kritsada Mueanhawong

**I hope experts have a clear understanding of how this will affect traffic in the area.**

**— Somjai Suwansupana, Phuket City Mayor**

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## Manathai Hotels & Resorts opens centralized sales office

INDEPENDENT Thai hospitality group Manathai Hotels & Resorts has opened a centralized sales office in Bangkok to coordinate global sales and marketing activities for four boutique resorts it operates in beachfront areas in Thailand, including Phuket.

The team is headed by experienced travel and hospitality professional Bobbie-Jane Skewes.

Ms Skewes, who the firm says has shaped leading international and independent boutique hotels in her career spanning more than 15 years, is tasked with connecting travellers to experiences at some of Thailand's most beautiful and culturally rich destinations.

"Manathai is all about serving the needs of 'new travellers' — those who reject the cliches and want individuality, choice and authenticity," she said.

"It's a great privilege to be group director of sales and marketing at a company that

understands [that] a large number of individual travellers, couples and families want to experience Thailand in a more personalized and meaningful way at resorts that encapsulate their [surroundings] and flavors, be that in Hua Hin, Koh Samui, Khao Lak or Phuket."

Ms Skewes has worked in multicultural sales and marketing teams for hotels and corporate offices in Australia, Dubai, Egypt, Cambodia and Thailand.

"One of the most exciting aspects of working at a group like Manathai is its diverse collection of hotels, which have been inspired by serenity, hospitality and friendship," she said. "Each has an individual style and charm that echoes the vibrant coastal destinations they are located in. They offer the true essence of Thai hospitality, where welcoming smiles and the highest standard of personalized attention prevail."

— The Nation



# No name, just flavor

By Maciek Klimowicz

CONFIDENCE is silent, insecurities are loud. In a world of bragging loudmouths, marketing talk and aggressive advertising, food at Phuket's Senzanome restaurant speaks for itself.

At the far end of Phuket Boat Lagoon, right on the edge of a yacht peer, is a quiet place. There are no crowds here and no motorbikes zooming back and forth, just an occasional boat passing in front of Senzanome's windows. Inside, the peaceful, subdued atmosphere prevails. Design is minimalistic, with the entire place painted white – white are the tables, white are the flowers in the vases, white is the bar. Nothing to distract you, nothing to take your focus off of what matters here: the food.

The same is true of the chef, Bruno Nicolino. If he wanted to, he could talk about his food, his career and his famous guests for hours. Hailing from Italy, Nicolino has worked in Mexico City, Wiesbaden in Germany and Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia, but it was his venture to the Belgian capital of Brussels that won him a Michelin star for his efforts at a restaurant

of the same name as his latest Phuket venture – Senza Nome, meaning “no name” in Italian. However, chef Bruno is not keen on interviews; he dodges the spotlight and prefers to let the food do the talking.

And so he does, but it's not chitchat, rather poetry of the highest grade. The moment the first dish lands on my table, I understand the reasons behind the sterile whiteness of the interiors that surround me at Senzanome. All this is a clean canvas, an empty sheet of paper waiting to be filled with the artist's vision. My senses are taken for a ride.

It begins with Belgian beef Carpaccio cured for 27 days. The texture is soft, the flavor intense and the balance undisturbed. In short, it's perfect. The same can be said about each dish tried that evening. The cappuccino egg with black truffles that follows the Carpaccio feels as light as a summer cloud in my mouth, with flavors kept untouched thanks to slow cooking at a low temperature. The main dish of young chicken (pollo) with porcini mushrooms is among the most delicate, flavorful and extraordinary poultry dishes I have

**/ Senzanome doesn't need all that pointless talk – it doesn't even need a name – it has the food, and that's all that matters. /**



The food at Senzanome, made with organic produce, is of classic Italian origin. Photos: Maciek Klimowicz

ever tasted. One day later, when I'm writing this, I clearly remember each of the flavors, and it brings back a lot of pleasant memories.

Yes, the food at Senzanome is

of classic Italian origin. Yes, it's simple yet creative. Yes, it's made with organic produce and with heaps of passion. But, haven't you heard this a thousand times before, and haven't you read it in

pamphlets of a dozen restaurants? As good as it sounds, it's only words. Senzanome doesn't need all that pointless talk – it doesn't even need a name – it has the food, and that's all that matters.



Food does the talking at Phuket's Senzanome restaurant.

## MARE Italian Restaurant

Dine on the authentic flavours of classical Italian cuisine in the evenings, savour uncomplicated Italian fare for lunch, and enjoy Mare's award-winning wine list. Mare's Italian Chef, Chef Matteo Verini, offers to indulge you in exciting dishes that feature exquisite local produce and some of Italy's finest imports either indoors or al fresco, with a view over the beach. Vegetarian and healthy options are also available. With its own wine cellar, high ceiling and décor dominated by warm colours, the private room at Mare is the ideal dining venue for groups of eight and for exclusive dinners.

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# Surviving clunky prose

## Books

By James Eckardt

MATTHEW Thomas's first novel *We Are Not Ourselves* (Simon & Schuster, New York, 2014, 622pp) is similar to the last novel I reviewed, *The Bone Clocks*, by David Mitchell.

Both are 600-page sagas centered on narrating a woman's life from her early teens to early

seventies. But While Mitchell's novel roams the world, Thomas' is fixated in the Queens borough of New York. Mitchell's prose is brilliant; Thomas's is pedestrian. Many clunky sentences jump off the page at you:

"She wasn't too young to understand that the ones who

pleased him were the rare ones who didn't drain the frothy brew of his myth in a quick quaff, but nosed around the brine of his humanity awhile, giving it a skeptical sniff."

So Eileen Tumulty reflects about her brawny father, a beer truck deliveryman and a fixture in the Irish bars of Woodside, Queens. He passes on his dream of escaping tenement life for a house of one's own.

"She began to look forward to the day when she would take another man's name. It was the thoroughgoing Irishness of

Tumulty that bothered her, the redolence of peat bogs and sloppy rebel songs and an uproar in the blood, of a defeat that ran so deep it reemerged as a treacherous conviviality."

After Catholic school she escapes the secretarial pool to take up postgraduate nursing studies and marry another refugee from the Irish working class, Ed Leary, a handsome professor of brain chemistry. They escape together to a family home in Jackson

Heights, a more upscale neighborhood of Irish, Italians, Jews and Greeks. Their son is brilliant enough to win entry to the finest Catholic high school in the city, Regis, taught by Jesuits. But by the 1990s, the neighborhood is changing as Indians, Kore-

ans and South Americans take over the streets. You would think that this is the source of the title, *We Are Not Ourselves*. But no, it refers to an event halfway through the novel: Ed succumbs to an early onset of Alzheimer's Disease.

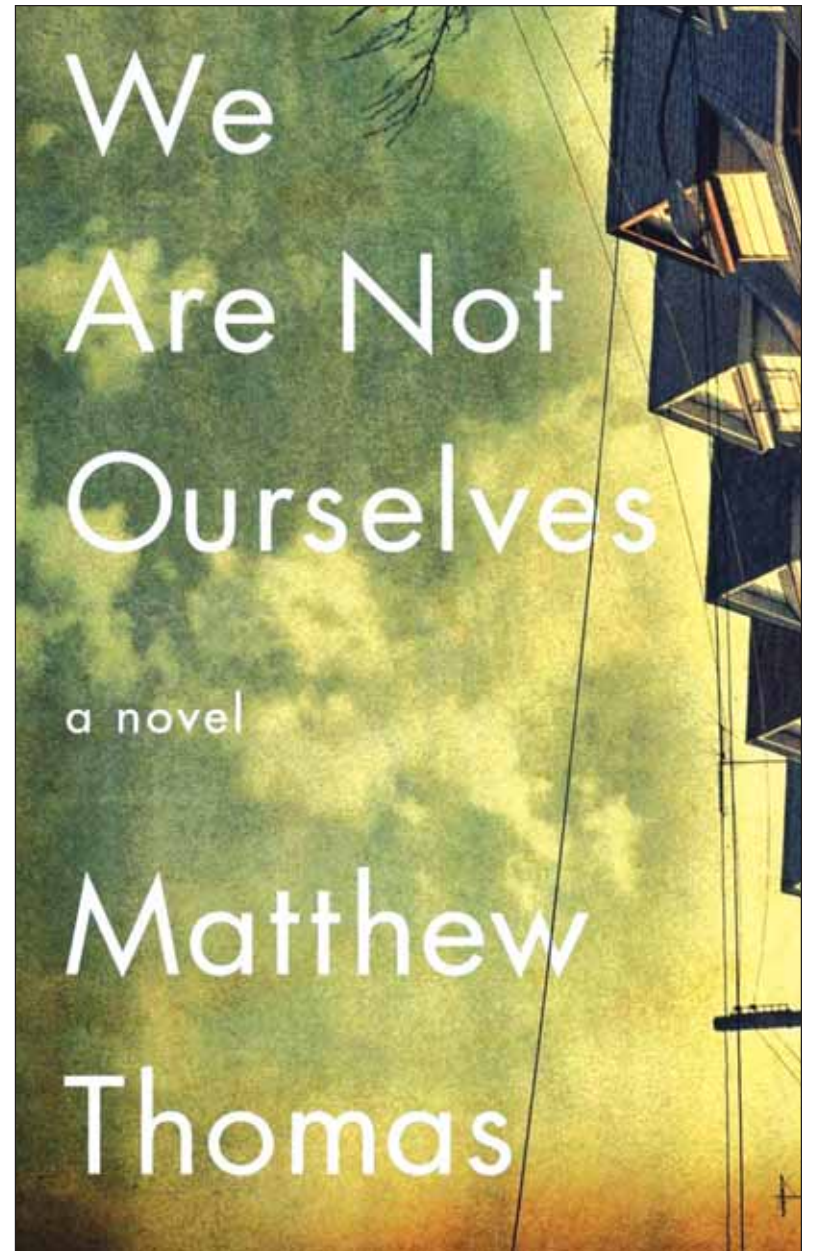
Up until this point, the novel is a familiar pedestrian tale of American upward mobility. By this time, the Leary family has moved outside the city, to a large old stone house in Bronxville, an exclusive neighborhood far from any dark faces: "She didn't want to have to watch a neighborhood go to ruin

again and preside over the memory of it like a monk guarding the scrolls of a dwindling people."

But by the time they have moved in and started making household repairs, Ed has long been displaying erratic behavior: throwing pointless rages, getting lost in a baseball stadium, losing his train of thought in a college lecture, failing to master basic arithmetic in compiling his students' grades, slopping food over himself at a dinner party. The plot now takes a horrifying descent into the effects of Alzheimer's.

With the son off at the University of Chicago, taking care of Ed falls completely into Eileen's hands. Her plight is summed up in more clunkier sentences: "In order to retain health benefits, she was going to have to keep a full-time job, any full time job. Thinking longer term, she was going to have to survive at NCB, or at another city hospital, for ten years if she wanted to qualify for the basic New York City pension and have health insurance in retirement."

But despite the clumsy prose, the reader is drawn helplessly into the horrors of a cruel disease as Eileen is forced to consign her husband to a nursing home. Her handsome athletic husband, devoted father, lover of baseball and classical music, is reduced to a hideous shell. "His teeth were broken, his gums had grown red and swollen, he had straggly hair, his once-proud muscles had atrophied to saggy sleeves, he had cuts and scabs everywhere, his skin had turned hoary from lack of exposure."



The battle against Alzheimer's Disease leaves the reader horrified.

After his death in 1999, Eileen has a moment of epiphany as she returns to her old home in Jackson Heights and is warmly welcomed by the Indian family

that had displaced her. Much to her surprise, she enjoys her first Indian meal and revels in kinship with the immigrant success of her hosts.

## Zuckerburg's New Year's resolution: read something other than Facebook

THE news is awash with billionaire Mark Zuckerberg's New Year resolutions for 2015. Already in Phuket, we've seen people taking their annual vows to finally take advantage of one of the many high-end, high-cost training facilities on the island; cut back on the number of nights spent boozing at go-go bars; and just create routines that make them feel like they are better human beings. Do the rich and famous have the same goals as the mildly well-to-do? Apparently so.

"My challenge for 2015 is to read a new book every other week – with an emphasis on learning about different cultures, beliefs, histories and technologies," Mr Zuckerberg wrote on Facebook.

His announcement came after he crowdsourced ideas for a personal challenge in a post on Facebook on December 30, reported *Wall Street Journal*. About 50,000 people gave him suggestions, with many focus-



Mark Zuckerberg made his announcement on Facebook.

ing on reading.

"I'm excited for my reading challenge. I've found reading books very intellectually fulfilling. Books allow you to fully explore a topic and immerse yourself in a deeper way than most media today. I'm looking forward to shifting more of my media diet toward reading books," Mr Zuckerberg said.

Of course, those of us who aren't quite ready to refocus our

media consumption from just bits and pieces can follow Mr Zuckerberg's progress on the Facebook page "A Year of Books". Or, you can join his campaign to read more.

"Our first book will be *The End of Power* by Moisés Naím. Feel free to discuss it in the comments here, but please keep all conversation relevant to this book," said a post on the page, dated January 3.

– Isaac Stone Simonelli



# Woven patterns of life

By Jeremie Schatz

NEW York native Efi Haninkes' life can be visualized as a colorfully woven cloth exhibiting a distinct variety of patterns and materials.

Back in 1983, the then 24-year-old had just finished university and had walked away with a Bachelor of Arts in fashion design. The next logical step for a budding recent graduate wanting to immerse himself in the industry, was to buy a one-way ticket to Paris. And this is exactly what he did.

In Paris, Efi expanded his education, studying at the Sorbonne before securing a job as chief designer and production consultant with a fashion designer in Paris.

"I spent some time in North Africa and that really gave me a prompt for coming to Asia as far as being in a developing country and working in a place where there are factories that produce for export," explains Efi.

Beyond the bounds of his designer skills, Efi began playing a role in production, visiting factories in Tunisia and Morocco and eventually assisting in the organization of a large factory geared toward export production.

It was this on-the-ground experience that prompted big changes in Efi's life.

"I went to Laos for the first time, basically just to look for some nice textiles with the idea that I would bring them back to France," recalls Efi.

He experienced Laos at a pivotal time, when the fall of communism in the Soviet Union pulled back the curtain to not only reveal countries in need, but also new avenues for import and export.

During Laos' search for foreign



**BEAUTIFUL CRYSTALS:** Efi is no longer keeping his work strictly to artistic textiles.

aid, a United Nations project emerged with the goal of preserving the country's traditional textile industry.

"I got involved with a UN pilot project that was a women's textiles center with the idea of keeping alive the art of weaving and the cotton industry at that time," explains Efi.

"They were able to spin the yarn, weave the fabric and dye it – but they had no real product. I came in with the aim of getting the workers to produce home decorative products or, the concept they had in mind at that time, to make clothing."

With a background in design

and his north-African experience, Efi was offered a one-year contract at the Vientiane-based UN development project.

Vientiane's unique amalgamation of Southeast Asian culture blended with the remnants of French colonization intrigued Efi and led to a seven-year tenure with Thailand's neighbor.

"After the UN project, I started my own company with Lao fabrics," says Efi. "The patterns and designs are Lao designs, but by widening and blowing them up, changing colors, doing greyscales – that made [the designs] really hot."

The fashionable designs sporting exotic Lao styles and patterns

brought a fresh new look to boutique storefronts in Paris.

In 1996, Efi maintained his business momentum by altering the designs for a different market, and introducing his line of women's clothing to Central Department stores in Bangkok.

"It's ironic, but I never thought I would leave Paris and go to Laos only to sell in Thailand – and then all of a sudden I was living in Bangkok half the time," he admits.

Things changed when the Asian economic crisis hit in 1997.

"I met the owner of a home textiles factory in Thailand and we became friends. I really liked his

factory and really liked the fact that it's still fashion."

Efi came on board as the director of design and product development for Tel-Dan Company in Bangkok, which mass produces home textiles, including cushions, curtains and linens. He has worked closely with the company for the past 15 years.

"Our markets are the US, Europe, Australia, Japan and domestically we sell to HomePro, Tesco Lotus, Big C – all of these," says Efi.

So why, after 17 years in Bangkok, did he decide to pack up and leave? "A change of lifestyle by leaving Bangkok and choosing Phuket as a place to live, but also as a place to work because I am by no means wanting to retire," he explains.

His recently-opened shop in Cherg Talay's Boat Avenue focuses not only on high-quality Laotian textiles, but awe-inspiring crystals and ornate decorative bowls carved from rare black and red ebony wood burls.

Efi's move to Phuket wasn't on a whim. Rather, he chose the island after careful consideration, coming to the conclusion that it was one of few places in Thailand where high-end art would be valued and appreciated.

However, he isn't finished with textiles or design. When time allows, the space above his new gallery – aptly named "Fe2 Decor" – will be converted into a workshop where traditional textiles will be once again be transformed into pieces of wearable art.

Visit Fe2 Decor at the Boat Avenue shopping center in Cherg Talay. For more information, visit [fe2decor.com](http://fe2decor.com)

## Book flights, seats for theatrical performances showing in capital

PHUKET residents start booking your tickets – for flights and theaters – as nothing except Bangkok's notorious traffic and perhaps the weather will disrupt trips to the theater this coming year.

The declared "Return to Happiness" also means more grand-scale musicals can be expected. JSL gets that ball rolling with another Suntraporn jukebox musical, "*Kho Hai Muean Doem*", starting on January 24 at M Theatre. And Mind Matters, JSL's subsidiary, will re-stage "*Klai Kangwon Musical on the Beach*" from January 28 in Hua Hin.

Scenario and BEC-Tero bring "*Disney's Beauty and the Beast: The Original Broadway Musical Spectacular*" to Muangthai Rachadalai Theatre from February 24.

As always, we should never forget that the core of contemporary Thai theater is not the



**Dance Dance Asia will stage 'Tokyo Gegegei' at M Theatre in March.**

musical, but rather the wide variety of works seen at smaller venues.

Thong Lor Art Space starts the year on January 15 with "*Falling from Heaven*", with five performers from Konnakhao Mime Academy portraying 14 characters in eight short scenes directed by master Paitoon Laisakul.

B-Floor Theatre is up next at Thong Lor Art Space with a revival of Ornanong Thaisriwong's

solo show "*Bang Lamerd*". Not far from Thong Lor, Blue Box Studio will host Young Novice Repertory's translation of William Inge's "*The Rainy Afternoon*", beginning January 16.

Contemporary dance lovers are now looking forward to Belgium-based German choreographer Arco Renz's "*Alpha*" on January 23 and 24, featuring Eisa Jocson and Daniel Kok, award-winning pole dancers from the Philippines and Singapore respectively.

In late January, Pichet Klunchun Dance Company will perform "*Gentlemen*", a reworking of "*Nay Nai*", which had its world premiere in Singapore last year.

Another major theatrical event is playwright Oriza Hirata and robotics specialist Hiroshi Ishiguro's "*The Metamorphosis (Android Version)*".

– The Nation

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# Skulduggery in Ayutthaya

## Looking Back

By Anand Singh

AFTER Sukhothai, Ayutthaya was the second capital city of the Siamese Kingdom, founded in 1350. King Prasat Thong, who reigned from 1629 to 1656, was the founder of a new dynasty during the heydays of Ayutthaya. His father, Okya Sri Thammathirat, was King Songtham's maternal uncle. King Prasat Thong himself held the title of Okya Sri Vorawong, a position with immense authority.

King Songtham had appointed his brother, Prince Si Sin as the "Front Palace", a position that was only given to a king's successor. The Front Palace often acted as the vice-king to a reigning king.

Toward the end of King Songtham's reign however, a faction of nobility, which included Prasat Thong, convinced the king to name his son, Prince Chetthathirat, as the king's successor instead.

When King Songtham finally passed away in 1628, Prince Chetthathirat ascended to the throne and became king.

The nobles then began purging supporters of Prince Si Sin and finally captured him. Si Sin was sent into exile to Phetchaburi. He was left to starve in a well in Phetchaburi, but was rescued. The prince organized a rebellion and marched on Ayutthaya.

Prasat Thong sent his two of his most trusted generals, Okya Kamhaeng and the leader of his Japanese mercenary army, Yamada Nagamasa, to Phetchaburi in order to put down Prince Si Sin's rebellion.

Prince Si Sin's brave attempt to reclaim his throne was swiftly crushed; the prince was captured and brought back to Ayutthaya, where he was executed.

With Prince Si Sin gone, King Chetthathirat's reign was secure.



Wat Chaiwatthanaram, one of Ayutthaya's most well known relics, still stands today. Photo: Justin Vidamo

The king was grateful to Prasat Thong and gave him extensive authority. Because he was the kingmaker, Prasat Thong had powerful supporters. Soon it began to emerge that he was in fact challenging the King's very authority. Barely a year later, a conflict emerged between King Chetthathirat and Prasat Thong. Before the King could react, Prasat Thong ordered his soldiers and mercenaries to storm the royal palace in a coup that ended in the capture of King Chetthathirat.

The King was executed, and Prasat Thong replaced the King with his 11-year-old brother, Prince Athittayawong.

Following the young prince's coronation, Prasat Thong appointed himself as the king's regent, assumed the position of Front Palace and also referred to himself as the "second king". His coup had lost him many supporters who were starting to realize the true extent of his ambitions.

Amongst his allies – who later

turned on him – were his closest generals, Okya Kamhaeng and Yamada Nagamasa. Okya Kamhaeng was charged with treason and swiftly executed. Yamada Nagamasa, on the other hand, was appointed governor of Nakhon Sri Thammarat, a southern city far away from the capital.

As soon as Yamada Nagamasa had left the capital, only 38 days after King Athittayawong was crowned, news reached him that Prasat Thong had deposed the young king and had crowned himself King of Siam. The 11-year-old Athittayawong had been brutally executed. When the Japanese mercenary general heard the news, he rebelled against Prasat Thong. An assassin was later sent by Prasat Thong to poison Yamada Nagamasa. He died in 1630.

Prasat Thong was the first king of his own dynasty. He kept himself in power through terror. As a usurper, he was always afraid of plots to dethrone or assassinate him. Prasat Thong's usurpation,

his order to assassinate Yamada Nagamasa and the purging of the Japanese community in Siam in the aftermath of the coup, caused a fracture between Thai-Japanese relations. From 1634 onwards, the Shogun refused to allow Japanese trading ships to sail to Siam and no Siamese vessels were allowed to enter Japanese waters. Prasat Thong tried sending embassy envoys to Japan to rebuild relations in 1636, but the Shogun rejected his offer and turned the envoys away.

In 1649, King Prasat Thong's beloved daughter passed away. At her cremation in February of 1650, it was noticed that the fire did not consume some of her remains. The King thought that this was the result of dark magic or poisoning so he ordered the execution of 2,900 high-ranking officials, nobles and even princes in the royal court. In actual fact, it was the perfect opportunity to eliminate a good number of potential rivals in one fell swoop.

King Prasat Thong was deeply disturbed and unhappy throughout his reign. Not only was he constantly imagining threats to his throne and life, but also his reign was going to see his kingdom cross into a new millennium in the Thai, or Chulasakarat calendar. The first year of the new millennium happened to fall on the year of the tiger. According to superstition, this could usher in an age of darkness and calamity. In order to avert or mitigate such disastrous consequences, King Prasat Thong organized lavish Brahmin ceremonies. He also constructed and restored more than a hundred Buddhist temples throughout the capital, including the magnificent Wat Chaiwatthanaram Temple, which still stands in the ruins of Ayutthaya today.

King Prasat Thong died peacefully on August 7, 1656, after reigning for 27 years. His sons would again lock themselves in bloody dispute, each one vying for the throne.

King Songtham's eldest son, Prince Chai, seized the throne, but was quickly deposed by his younger brother, Prince Narai.

Prince Narai, lacking support, was urged to name Prasat Thong's youngest brother, Prince Si Suthammaracha, as king. Prince Narai himself assumed the Front Palace and became vice-king, or Upparaja. However, King Si Suthammaracha only managed to reign for two months. According to historical chronicles, the King tried to have his way with Princess Si Chulalok, Prince Narai's younger sister, against her will. Furious, the prince gathered his loyal soldiers and attacked the royal palace. A fierce battle erupted within the grounds of the palace.

King Si Suthammaracha was captured and dragged to Wat Khokphraya, where he was immediately executed.

After the incident, Prince Narai ascended the throne and became King of Siam in the year 1656.

## Brit journalist to speak at Siam Society in BKK

THE Siam Society will host British journalist Philip Bowring on January 15 for a special lecture about the man behind the Bowring Treaty, an accord between Thailand and Britain which liberalized foreign trade in Siam.

Mr Bowring, a history graduate of Cambridge University, currently lives in Hong Kong. He is a distant relative of Sir John Bowring, governor of Hong Kong and Britain's envoy who signed the Bowring Treaty with King Mongkut, or Rama IV, in 1855.

The lecture by Mr Bowring, according to the Siam Society's website, will focus on how Sir Bowring's extraordinary career – in which he transitioned from a

small merchant in the west of England to a famous linguist, literary figure and free-trade trailblazer, then on to a politician, colonial governor and diplomat – was pivotal in establishing rapport with King Mongkut.

Mr Bowring will explain the strengths and weaknesses of Sir Bowring, his contributions to East Asian history and more.

The lecture will be begin at 7:30pm at The Siam Society. Members and family, and students showing valid ID will be admitted free of charge. Non-members are asked to donate 200 baht. For more information, email [info@siam-society.org](mailto:info@siam-society.org) or visit [www.siam-society.org](http://www.siam-society.org)

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# Life in the Northern Sun



The M/Y Northern Sun, now based in Phuket, exemplifies the best of what is available to enjoy within the stunning cruising grounds of the Andaman Sea. Photo: M/Y Northern Sun

By Ola Polczynski

IT IS just over a month until the inaugural Phuket Yacht Show, which will be held from February 13 to 15 at Yacht Haven Marina in the north of the island. Many of the yachts that will be on display at the dedicated charter and brokerage show have already arrived in Phuket or are well on their way, as it is the high season for cruising in the Andaman.

One of the yachts that will be on display at the show is M/Y Northern Sun. The yacht, at 51 meters long, has called Phuket home for five years, but has only recently become available for charter to discerning travellers attracted to the sublime cruising grounds on Phuket's doorstep.

The Northern Sun's current life is a far cry from her origins as a

Japanese government research vessel, although her origins are not lost and provide some key advantages to her guests. She was bought by her current owners and then went through a complete metamorphosis between 2005 and 2008 to emerge as a luxury expedition yacht.

Although she provides guests with a superior level of comfort on their travels, her sturdy original construction means that she maintains all the advantages of robust seafaring capabilities, stability, capacity and range.

Ellie Brade of Albatross PR, superyacht experts based in New Zealand, recently spent a week onboard Northern Sun, cruising from Langkawi to Phuket. Her comprehensive account details not only the destination experience, but also the yachting, culinary and



M/Y Northern Sun was a vessel initially used for research and professional duties that was turned towards luxury. Photo: M/Y Northern Sun

personal experience that Thailand and the Northern Sun can provide.

"My fellow guests and I have been very privileged to be a part of this experience and I have no doubt that Northern Sun will be-

come a popular choice for charter guests wishing to explore this beguiling region that is so untouched compared to the milk-run destinations that most yachts populate," Ellie said.

The Northern Sun can be viewed by appointment at the Phuket Yacht Show, which aims to inspire the high-end traveller to add new elements to their holiday experience.

"Our role as yachting event organizers in Southeast Asia is to open eyes to the possibilities for cruising in this area of the world," explained the show's managing director, Andy Treadwell.

"M/Y Northern Sun, through her extensive transformation, perfectly represents this, as a vessel initially used for research and professional duties, and now turned towards luxury. She represents the variety, luxury and opportunities which can be found at the Phuket Yacht Show."

All details about the show can be found at [PhuketYachtShow.com](http://PhuketYachtShow.com)

## Superyacht trips to start with an 'E'

THE Indian government has launched e-visas to enter the country at nine of its airports, a move that has been welcomed for facilitating visitors joining their superyachts in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

"Visa on Arrival Facility is now available at nine airports in India for those planning, or those interested in cruising the highly intriguing superyacht destination – India's Andaman Islands," announced R. Rathnam of the Asia-Pacific Superyachts (APS) Andaman Islands branch.

"This is another encouraging move from the Government of India in welcoming tourists and visiting yachts to India."

The system is to make it easier for tourists to travel to India, which usually requires applicants to wait weeks before visas are issued. The new tourist e-visa is



Getting to the Andaman Islands just got easier. Photo: Courtesy of Asia-Pacific Superyachts

issued within 72 hours, regardless of holidays.

Rajiv Gandhi International Airport in Hyderabad was the first to allow entries on e-visas to the citizens of 43 countries, including Australia, Brazil, Germany and the US, starting on November 27.

Mr Rathnam recommends the Chennai and New Delhi airports for those flying in to meet their arriving superyacht at Port Blair.

– *Phuket Gazette*

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# Luxury in balance

Reiki Master Noona Ayres plays yogi to the rich and famous

By Baz Daniels

NOONA Ayres is the epitome of a and Reiki Master. She's not only slim, healthy and beautiful, but seems to radiate an inner energy that immediately catches your attention and draws you to her. It was exactly that compelling energy that caught my attention at the Kata Rocks launch party.

Richard Pope, the convivial developer of Kata Rocks, met Noona on a yacht no less, in Monaco where she spends a bit of time in her enviable role of on-board yogi to mega-wealthy yacht owners.

I know this article is beginning to sound impossibly glamorous, but this scribe can only report what he experienced and it's all true and unembellished, I assure you.

Noona hails from the UK, but nowadays resides in one of the most sought-after locations in the world, in Juan les Pins between Cannes and Antibes on the French Cote d'Azur.

She's a qualified teacher in the Integral Yoga tradition, having trained at the Satchidananda Ashram in Virginia, USA.

Richard invited her to come over to be yogi in residence during the resort's launch, as well as during the King's Cup Regatta and the Asia Superyacht Rendezvous.

Over an extremely healthy breakfast looking out across the infinity pool to the azure Andaman, the billowing sails of the King's Cup flotilla etched in aquarelle on the horizon, Noona tells me a bit about Integral Yoga.



Noona Ayres teaches Integral Yoga, a form of hatha-based yoga that has many relaxing elements.

"It's a beautiful form of hatha-based yoga and each class incorporates not only asana practice but also relaxation, Pranayama (breathing) and meditation, all of which leave the practitioner feeling refreshed and peaceful in both body and mind".

Noona continues, "The classes I teach are suitable for all levels

and I encourage students of any age and condition to explore each posture at their own pace while mindfully observing what arises without judgement. By balancing effort and surrender, the practitioner is able to discover the optimal flow of energy to achieve greater flexibility, strength, poise and mental focus.

"Besides promoting the health of all the bodily systems, Integral Yoga is designed to draw the practitioner into a physical and mental stillness that leads to an experience of one's true nature, which is peaceful and happy."

While that may sound rather idealistic, I must confess that I started to feel peaceful and happy

just sitting with Noona and sipping a cappuccino.

How did Noona become a yogi? Was she always as blissfully balanced and centered as she appears now?

"I was working in the luxury yacht charter business which was pretty stressful. That's when I started practising yoga. It was the only thing that kept me sane. I practised various forms and eventually discovered Integral Yoga in 2011 during a life-changing retreat in Almeria, Spain.

"Eventually I left yacht chartering after becoming completely burnt out and subsequently went on a retreat at the Satchidananda Ashram in Virginia. After qualifying from the Ashram in August 2013 with a 200-hour teacher's certification I returned to the south of France to begin teaching Integral Yoga."

Noona's path towards the mystifying healing practice of Reiki began in 2010 when she received her own first treatment and was amazed by the results. She instantly became fascinated and undertook a degree with teachers in Antibes, subsequently taking a second degree a year later.

By 2012 Noona achieved the Reiki Master attunement with an advanced teacher in England, taking her understanding and practical application of Reiki to new levels. In 2013, she completed her Reiki training with a Reiki Master Teacher Training degree, also in England.

For more information about Noona, visit [www.revitalize.fr](http://www.revitalize.fr)



# Man versus machine

WALK into any gym and you'll find a mix of machine weights and free weights. Less than five years ago, the fitness industry was loving machine weights,



**Excuse Buster**

**By Krix Luther**

terms (push, pull, squat, twist) are the movements we use every day, and are bio-mechanically natural for us.

The Smith machine, for example, locks you into place, which does not allow you to do a natural squat, but certainly allows you to slap on a lot of weight.

In my opinion, this is a recipe for disaster, not to mention the resulting neglect on many smaller muscles. Since most machines lock you in position, the muscles that are meant to stabilize you become disengaged. Your primary movers will get a workout, but smaller muscles will become weak.

boasting how good they were for building size and strength. This has its truths, but after a while people have started to realize the lack of movement and mobility they had with machine weights, and even a decrease in their sports performance.

So, which is better? Straight off the bat, I would recommend free weights, but depending on your goals and abilities, machine weights do have a role. Let's check out the advantages and disadvantages of both.

## ADVANTAGES OF MACHINE WEIGHTS

Most machines are pretty self-explanatory. They're easy to use and relatively safe with multiple safeguards in case you get too carried away. In short, they allow you to attempt heavy weights without the need of a spotter. They also have a lower risk of injury. I see them used properly most often by bodybuilders who like to isolate muscles, and those who want to improve specific weaknesses in their physiques.

## DISADVANTAGES OF MACHINE WEIGHTS

The disadvantages would be that they are non-functional. Our primal movement pat-

## ADVANTAGES OF FREE WEIGHTS

terns (push, pull, squat, twist) are the movements we use every day, and are bio-mechanically natural for us. Free weights allow functional movement patterns in a full range of motion and activate stabilization muscles, keeping your joints healthy and fully operational. This, of course, reaps great benefits for everyday movement and activities, such as playing football with your kids or carrying the shopping. Mobilization is also one of the most important things for athletes who want to achieve optimal performance.

## DISADVANTAGES OF FREE WEIGHTS

Free weights take a bit of practice to learn the proper technique. You'd be surprised how many bad habits I see in the gym because people have never learned the right



Free weights allow functional movements in a full range of motion. Photo: Gabriel Porras

way. Bad habits can lead to injuries.

Start lifting a free weight with a joint out of alignment and you can expect to tweak something, especially if you're going heavy.

Make no mistake about it; if you're going heavy you will almost certainly need someone to spot you, as there are no safeguards against gravity.

So, which one should you use? My vote is for free weights. Unless you're a body builder with a specific goal, or someone

going through rehab, I would avoid machine weights. If you're a beginner, I would stick with super-light free weights or hire a trainer to show you the proper form so that you don't slip into any bad habits.

*Krix Luther is a fully qualified personal trainer with nearly a decade of experience specializing in strength and conditioning. For more information about Krix and his services, visit [thevitruvianmethod.com](http://thevitruvianmethod.com)*

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# Pencak Silat kicks off

## Fighters from 38 countries arrive for World Championships

By Chutharat Plerin

FIGHTERS from 38 countries arrived in Phuket this week to take part in the 16<sup>th</sup> Pencak Silat World Championship, which will get under way at Saphan Hin this weekend.

"There will be about 1,000 people, including athletes and support staff, coming to Phuket for the competition," Nakrob Thongdaeng, deputy secretary general Pencak Silat Association of Thailand (PSAT), announced on Tuesday.

Although the event officially begun on Wednesday, the preliminary fights in the tournament will start on Saturday, with competitors fighting for the title of world champion in their respective weight divisions on January 16.

"Officials, coaches and athletes will use the initial days to make sure participants clearly understand the competition rules," Mr Nakrob explained. "We need to make sure we're all on the same page."

The opening ceremony will start at 2:30pm on Saturday and be chaired by Tourism and Sports Minister Kobkarn Wattanavrangkul.

"This will be the first time we have hosted participants from Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and South Africa," Mr Nakrob said.

Entrants will compete in two categories: match and artistic.

"The match category has 11 weight classes for men and seven weight classes for women," Mr Nakrob explained. "And there are three categories for artistic competitions: solo, double and team."

Athletes competing in the Match fights will compete in 5kg weight divisions from 45-50kg through 90-95kg, with an open Above 85kg class.

Women will compete in 5kg weight divisions from 45-50kg through 70-75kg, with an open



Some of the best Pencak Silat fighters at the world championships win their matches on points from defending themselves. Photo: Reuters

Above 65kg class for all comers.

For the artistic competitions, men will compete in two weight divisions, 45-95kg and above 85kg, while women will compete in 45-75kg and above 65kg classes.

During the press conference, Mr Nakrob dispelled the myth that Pencak Silat was purely an attacking martial art.

"The fun of pencak silat is that athletes get points for defending themselves, too," he explained.

"In fact, most winners are better at defense."

All are welcome to watch the fights.

"We would like to call on

everyone to attend the competition and experience this sport and support the athletes," Mr Nakrob said. "Entry to all competitions is free."

The tourney begins with the poll round of the competition at the Saphan Hin indoor Sports Center from 10am to midday on Saturday (Jan 10), followed by the preliminary rounds from 7:30am to 9:30pm that night.

The action continues with competition fights in three sessions – from 10am-midday; 2pm-6pm; and 7:30pm-9:30pm – daily on January 11-14.

The finals kick off at 10am on January 16.

## The Raid takes Silat to the world

THE Indonesian martial arts film *The Raid: Redemption*, released in 2012, with its fast fight sequences smashed domestic box office records and became the first Indonesian feature film to break into the US box office, also winning acclaim at international film festivals.

Now the movie's director hopes the film's success will breathe new life into Pencak Silat, the Indonesian martial art it showcases which has more than 150 variations in style.

*The Raid* was released world-



A frame from 'The Raid: Redemption'

wide on March 28, 2012, and reached number 11 in the US box office just two weeks later, drawing an audience of more than two million. At home, it drew an audience of more than a million.

"If through this film there are

audience members anywhere in the world that suddenly start to learn more about Silat, or people that want to learn to actually be able to perform Silat, then we've done our job," said Gareth Evans, a filmmaker from Wales who wrote and directed the movie after falling in love with Pencak Silat several years ago.

Evans said he was impressed by the beauty of how Silat athletes move into an attack, as well as the brutality behind it, but its popularity has diminished among younger Indonesians. – Reuters

### MATCH CATEGORIES

Male	Category	Female
Above 45 – 50 kg	A	Above 45 – 50 kg
Above 50 – 55 kg	B	Above 50 – 55 kg
Above 55 – 60 kg	C	Above 55 – 60 kg
Above 60 – 65 kg	D	Above 60 – 65 kg
Above 65 – 70 kg	E	Above 65 – 70 kg
Above 70 – 75 kg	F	Above 70 – 75 kg
Above 75 – 80 kg	G	-
Above 80 – 85 kg	H	-
Above 85 – 90 kg	I	-
Above 90 – 95 kg	J	-
Above 85 kg	OPEN	Above 65 kg

### ARTISTIC CATEGORIES

Male	Female
Single	Single
Double	Double
Team	Team



# Blatter fights challengers in FIFA election face-off

By Mike Collett

PRINCE Ali Bin Al Hussein of Jordan on Tuesday announced that he would stand for the presidency of world soccer's governing body FIFA later this year.

Ali, the current FIFA vice-president and head of the Jordanian and West Asian Football Federations, said he had been encouraged to stand in the May elections in Zurich against incumbent Sepp Blatter and challenger Jerome Champagne.

"I am seeking the presidency of FIFA because I believe it is time to shift the focus away from administrative controversy and back to sport," Prince Ali said in a statement on Tuesday.

"This was not an easy decision. It came after careful consideration and many discussions with respected FIFA colleagues over the last few months."

Prince Ali became the youngest member of the FIFA executive committee when he was elected to the governing body in 2011, but the Jordanian has never been overawed by the more established members on soccer's top table.

He could become the youngest FIFA president since Robert Guerin, became its first aged 28 in 1904.

Those who have followed his career closely over the last four years were not surprised by his decision to challenge Blatter for the presidency.

UEFA president Michel Platini, who decided to remain as president of the European soccer body



FIFA President Sepp Blatter gestures as he addresses a news conference after a meeting of the FIFA executive committee in Zurich last September. Photo: Reuters

**The message I heard, over and over, was that it is time for a change. The world game deserves a world-class governing body – an International Federation that is a service organisation and a model of ethics, transparency and good governance**

– Prince Ali Bin Al Hussein, FIFA vice-president

and not run for the FIFA office despite saying Blatter's time at the top should end, welcomed the announcement.

"I know Prince Ali well," the Frenchman said in a statement. "He has all the credibility required to hold high office. We now await his proposals and his programme

for the future of football."

Jim Boyce of Northern Ireland, Britain's FIFA vice-president, said, "I have sat on the executive committee with him for three and a half years and I hold him in the highest esteem."

Prince Ali became president of the Jordan Football Association

when he was just 24 in 1999 and likes to joke, "when I went into the dressing room, I was the same age as most of the players."

"But there was one major difference," adds the royal. "They could play the game a lot better than me."

Among his achievements, Prince Ali founded the West Asian Football Federation in 2000 and started the Asian Football Development Project in 2012, a non-profit scheme aimed at developing grassroots football across Asia.

He also campaigned successfully to lift the ban on female Islamic players wearing headscarves or hijabs in competitions.

– Reuters



Lewis Hamilton in the Korean F1 Grand Prix in 2013. Photo: Reuters

## Korean circuit dropped from F1 calendar

THE Korean Formula One Grand Prix has been formally dropped from the 2015 calendar after its surprise inclusion last month for contractual reasons.

A revised 20-race calendar, starting in Australia on March 15, appeared on the governing International Automobile Federation's website, FIA.com.

An FIA spokesman confirmed the race had been removed because it was not viable.

That came as no shock, with the sport's commercial supremo Bernie Ecclestone telling reporters in December that the local South Korean promoters did not want to hold the May 3 race but he had to include it for legal reasons.

"We have a contract with Korea. We have to put it on the calendar," he said then. "If we hadn't have done they could have sued us. We let them off for a year on the understanding they would be back."

The race, first hosted at the southern Yeongam circuit in 2010, did not take place last year.

The decision to axe it again from what would have been a record 21-race list leaves a three week gap between Bahrain on April 19 and Spain on May 10.

– Reuters

# Bouchard swats off Serena

CANADIAN teenager Eugenie Bouchard swatted aside an out-of-sorts Serena Williams 6-2 6-1 at the Hopman Cup in Perth, Western Australia, on Tuesday.

The American world number one's body language throughout the contest suggested she would rather have been anywhere else than on the blue hardcourts.

An on-court espresso helped spark her into life as she overcame a first set bagel to beat Italy's Flavia Pennetta 0-6 6-3 6-0 on Monday in the round robin mixed team event, but nothing could help bring her out of Tuesday's slump.

"I don't know what's wrong with me. I'm so tired," Williams said after the match. "It's weird. I can't get my body to move. I feel like I've got no energy."

"It's a little frustrating because I know I can play two thousand times better."

Sluggish footwork and uncharacteristically slow serves allowed Bouchard to break the 33-year-old



An on-court espresso and bagel failed to lift Williams in Perth. Photo: Reuters

with ease as the Canadian bounced back from a 6-0 6-4 loss to Czech Lucie Safarova in her opener.

Williams complained of jet-lag after her previous day's efforts against Pennetta, but she looked in good spirits as she teamed up with John Isner to win their mixed doubles against the Italians for a 3-0 later on Monday.

"I've just got to get my feet moving. I have to figure it out. Hopefully I can do better in the next match."

Regardless, Bouchard relished her first win over the 18-times grand slam singles champion in the warm-up event for the year's first major, the Australian Open, later this month in Melbourne. – Reuters

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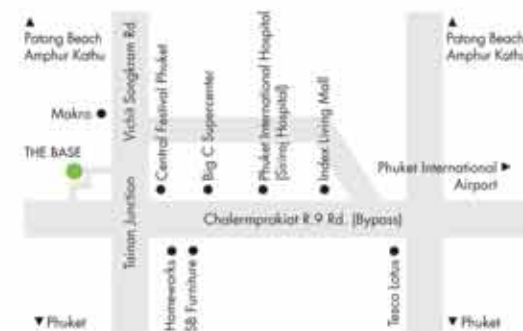
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Project Owner : Sansiri Public Company Limited Company's registered no. 0107538000665. Head office : 475 Sri Ayudhya Road, Thuan Phayathai, Rajthawi, Bangkok : 10400. Registered capital(THB) : 11,641,569,085.55, Paid up capital(THB) : 10,267,638,931.45 (as of date 6 May 2014). The President : Mr. Sathit Thavasin. The Project : The Base Downtown - Phuket, Condominium's registered no. 21/2536, Land title deed no. 102583, approximately area 3-34 Rai, located at Witthi Sub-district, Muang Phuket District, Phuket Province, as a Condominium of 7 storey(s), 2 building(s), total of 311 unit(s), (for residential: 311 units, and for commercial: units). The land and building have been mortgaged with Siam Commercial Bank PSC. Condominium unit is promptly to be transferred within 30 days upon the purchaser has paid the unit price in full together with the sinking fund, common fee, tax and other fees as prescribed by Project Owner or the Condominium Juristic Person subjected to the Condominium law. \*Terms and conditions apply. / Featured images consist of photography on location, photography on location with simulated atmosphere and surroundings, and computer generated images. For any questions regarding the images, please contact our customer service staff or visit the project site. Tel +66(0)2 201 3999.