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# Phuket Gazette

## Jet-ski tourists pose surf danger

Beachgoers warn of hooligan jet-skiers at Surin Beach



INSIDE TODAY

January 31 - February 6, 2015

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20 Baht

■ 'I WAS TOLD TO RUN. HE WAS GETTING A BASEBALL BAT'

# Expat beaten over bar tab

■ Police investigate bar battering of English teacher in Rawai

By Renford Davies

POLICE are investigating an attack on a British man who is lying in a Phuket hospital with a fractured skull after allegedly being beaten with a baseball bat for not having enough cash to pay his drinking bill.

Christopher Stark, a 64-year-old English teacher at Phuket Montessori progressive school, told police that he was attacked by Sarawuth Kongphat, 37, at the Green Leaf Bar in Rawai at about 11pm on January 22, after Mr Sarawuth discovered that Mr Stark was short of cash to pay for the two drinks he had ordered.

"Mr Sarawuth confessed that he attacked Mr Stark because he failed to pay his bill. Even if Mr Stark does not file a formal complaint, we will pursue this case," Lt Chollada Chokdeesrijun of the Chalong Police told the *Gazette* this week. "However, Mr Sarawuth also said that Mr Stark had thrown the first punch after an argument about the tab."

Mr Stark told the *Gazette* from his Vachira...



Continued on Page 7

Christopher Stark told the *Gazette* that he was hit repeatedly with a baseball bat.

## Patong shaman arrested, faces pedophile charge

A MAN was arrested in Phang Nga for the alleged sexual assault of a 12-year-old girl during a mystical ceremony in Patong last year. A warrant was issued for Wasu Kumprayoon, 45, who was able to evade police until last week.

Mr Wasu has denied all charges.

Full Story Page 2

## Phuket favored as poster child for the Kingdom

PHUKET was named as the poster child of tourism for Thailand by Tourism and Sport Minister Kobkarn Wattanavrangkul in an exclusive interview with the *Gazette* this month.

"Phuket is the image of Thailand. Therefore, if Phuket has a good image, so does Thailand," Ms Kobkarn said.

Full Story Page 5

## Pink bus routes ideal for locals, budget travellers

LOCALS, migrant workers and budget travellers wanting to explore Rassada and central Phuket will be able to do so after the launch of a new local bus service later this year.

The new route will run from PPAO Hospital in Rassada and pass Baan Kuku, Bus Terminal 2, Phuket Rajabhat University and Tesco Lotus, with its final destination being the Baan Maireab school in Kathu.

Full story Page 6

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## This Week



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Honesty the key to success in island shade business. **Page 11**



### Property

Naihar Beach Condo turns attention to the south. **Page 29**



### Food

Saga beef pulls its weight at JW Marriott Phuket. **Page 31**



### Environment

One local artist teaches students to paint their world. **Page 34**



### In Focus

How to help an angry teenager find a way to be happy. **Page 35**



### Explore

Baz Daniel blazes a bike trail from Bangkok to Phuket. **Page 37**

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# Shaman arrested over sexual assault of child

By Khumpee Prasertphol

A SHAMAN wanted for sexually assaulting a 12-year-old girl during a ritual in Patong last year has denied the charges after evading police for months.

Police arrested Wasu Kumprayoon, 45, in Phang Nga at about 11pm on January 21 on a warrant issued by the Phuket Provincial Court on November 14.

"The girl's mother explained that Mr Wasu had persuaded her and her 12-year-old daughter to have a mole removed from the child's nose, claiming it was bad luck," Lt Col Sutthichai Tianpho of the Patong Police told the *Gazette*, adding that the mother's name would be kept confidential to protect the victim's identity.

The woman went to Mr Wasu's house in the Baan Mon community with her two daughters to perform the ceremony. She and her eldest daughter were then told by Mr Wasu to scatter flowers at a waterfall, he explained.

"While they were gone, the 12-year-old was left with Mr Wasu, who asked her to cleanse her body in preparation for the ceremony," Col Sutthichai said, recounting the mother's testimony.

"She was then told to lie down so that he could cast a spell on



Mr Wasu (center) had evaded arrest for months before he was arrested on sexual assault charges on January 21. Photo: Patong Police

her. At this point, Mr Wasu tried to remove her clothes and rape her. However, the girl was able to flee the scene and tell her mother what had happened."

The girl's mother filed a police complaint on November 9 against Mr Wasu. Five days later, police had gathered enough evidence to make an arrest. However, Mr Wasu had already fled and gone into hiding, said Col Sutthichai.

"We've been searching for him since November. It wasn't until we received a tip-off from an undercover officer in Phang Nga that we were able to move in and

make the arrest," he explained.

Mr Wasu faces charges for sexually assaulting a minor who is 15 years old or younger.

"Mr Wasu had been working out of his house in Phuket, offering magical services, such as charm creations, enchantments and other mystical rituals," Col Sutthichai said.

"We believe that he was using these activities to trick women into coming to see him, and then sexually assaulting them. However, this is the first time we have received a report in line with our suspicions."

## Police save Russian woman from Phuket Town streets

THE Russian consul to Phuket has arranged accommodations for a Russian woman who was found sleeping on the streets of Phuket Town on Tuesday morning.

Tourist Police were notified about the woman, who has a record of acting erratically and incoherently, at about 9:30am.

Officers arrived and gathered some clothes found scattered around her, but were unable to communicate with her, said Capt Prudsatorn Youthong of the Phuket Tourist Police.

The woman, whose name is being withheld at the request of

officials, already had a file with the Phuket Tourist Police.

She had previously refused the assistance of the Russian government, confirmed Santi Udomkiratak, the Russian Federation Deputy Honorary Consul.

"When she's ready to talk with us, we will sit down and see what can be done to contact her family. She seems to have no issues securing funds. If it comes to getting her medical attention, we will do our best. At this point, we are just trying to get a grasp of what's happening," Mr Santi said.

— Chutharat Plerin

## Chair leniency ends in Patong

RECENT leniency concerning beach loungers on Patong Beach has come to an end to prevent further confusion, Patong Mayor Chalermluck Kebsup has confirmed.

The mayor was originally allowing beachgoers to bring onto the beach their own smaller, collapsible sun loungers, as well as other chairs, during the three-month beach-management trial run.

"There wasn't a strict rule established on what kind of beach chairs might be allowed, so right now we will just prohibit all beach chairs — no matter how big or small," Ms Chalermluck said. "However, tourists are still welcome to use beach mats."

The move to do away with any



No chairs allowed. Photo: Gazette file

compromises on chairs follows a group of foreigners' beach gear being mistakenly seized by police and the governor's demand that the beach rules be strictly adhered to during the trial period.

The seizure of the tourists' belongings to use while enjoying the beach sparked an angry response.

"I am not going to carry a chair

to the beach every day," US expat Jim Newall told *Phuket Today*.

"If the government wants to make it inconvenient, they will go to a different country. I have lived in Patong for five years... I love it here."

"But now we have no lounge chairs, now we have no umbrellas — the beach is a mess. The decision to take those away destroyed the community of the beach. Now there is no community; it's a mess."

"And the police just come and take away the chairs? Why? They're just being difficult. Many people are angry, and many people will just go to Vietnam."

— Voratuss Intasee

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## Man to stand trial for attempted rape of Australian

THE Office of the Phuket Public Prosecutor has confirmed that it will prosecute a man for the attempted rape of an Australian tourist on Koh Maphrao, east of Phuket, in November.

The man, who has yet to be named by police, surrendered to officers after staff at a resort on the island notified police of the incident, and officers were immediately dispatched to investigate the claim.

"We have agreed to officially charge the suspect for rape, under Section 276 of the Criminal Code," said Pornsuk Pongsung, the deputy chief of the public prosecutor's office and the lead prosecutor in the case.

"The case will be signed off by January 30 and filed with the Phuket Provincial Court, then it will move to trial."

Both Ms Pornsuk and Capt Nucharee

Longkaew of the Phuket City Police, who investigated the attempted rape, declined to name the suspect until the verdict had been handed down.

The suspect is free on bail granted on November 11, Ms Pornsuk said, but added that he will be called to trial when the time comes.

"The victim will not need to be present to testify as we already have her statement," she added.

— Voratuss Intasee



Doctors at Vachira Phuket Hospital have yet to confirm the cause of Mr He's death.

## Surin Beach plagued by dangerous jet-skis

By Khumpee Prasertphol

THE dangerous jet-ski antics that continue to plague Surin Beach have forced local officials to consider installing roped-off swimming areas, despite a complete ban on jet-skis already in place at the beach.

"Four jet-skis came to Surin from Bang Tao. They came into the surf line, zig-zagging and driving recklessly in the designated swimming area," a regular beachgoer, who declined to be named, said on January 22.

"Two of the jet-skis then collided. A lifeguard on a rescue board responded, but [the tourists on] all four jet-skis fled back to Bang Tao.

"For the last four days... jet-ski renters [have been] jumping over to Surin, where most of the surf line is not roped off. They jump waves and circle and spray swimmers — it's a war zone out here."

The incident follows Ma-ann Samran, president of the Cherng Talay Tambon Administration Organization (OrBorTor), witnessing a jet-ski from a nearby beach com-



Mr Ma-ann with military during an inspection of the beach on January 20.

ing dangerously close to swimmers at Surin Beach on January 20.

Mr Ma-ann was conducting an inspection of the beach along with military and Tourist Police officers, when one jet-ski buzzed past unsuspecting swimmers.

The beachgoer who witnessed the close call on January 22 was also at the beach on January 20.

"At 2pm, a dark-blue jet-ski rented from Laem Singh Beach was driven to Surin Beach, where the rider repeatedly came dangerously close to swimmers at high speed," he said.

"This continued for 45 minutes. At that same time, Mr Ma-ann, Tourist Police officers and soldiers were patrolling the beach."

The officers proceeded to the shoreline and waved down the jet-ski renter, the beachgoer reported.

"As the renter approached the shore, he saw the officers and fled on the jet-ski back to Laem Singh."

Currently, only a small section of the beach has been roped off and lifeguards have set up yellow flags to mark safe areas for swimming. However, these no-jet-ski zones are regularly violated.

"I wouldn't like to have roped-off areas and buoys at Surin Beach at all. Jet-skis are already banned, and having ropes and buoys in the water would affect the natural beauty of the beach," Mr Ma-ann told the *Gazette* on January 22.

Mr Ma-ann was set to meet with Phuket Marine Office Chief Phuriphat Theerakulpisut on Wednesday to discuss ways to ensure people's safety at Surin Beach and resolve the problem.

Chief Phuriphat has blamed reckless tourists for the dangerous jet-ski antics that have killed, maimed and otherwise threatened tourists' safety at Phuket's beaches over the years.

## Chinese tourist dies off coast of Koh Racha

A 38-YEAR-OLD Chinese tourist died during a snorkelling tour at Koh Racha, a popular day-trip island about 25km south of Phuket, on Monday.

He Hua was with his family and friends when the tragic incident occurred, explained Phuket Tourist Police Chief Urumporn Koondejsumrit.

"The other tourists were enjoying their lunch on a beach at Koh Racha when Mr He went alone into the water," one of the Tourist Police officers who responded to the call told the *Gazette*.

"No one knew anything was wrong until they found him unconscious in the water at about 1:40pm."

Mr He's body was brought back to Chalong Pier, then taken to Vachira Phuket Hospital. Doctors have yet to confirm the cause of death.

The Chinese consulate in Phuket has been notified of the death, Maj Urumporn said.

"Mr He's family will begin making preparations to take his body home to China," he added.

— Thawit Bilabddullar

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## Cherng Talay top cop vows to take down animal touts

THE newly instated Cherng Talay Police superintendent, who took up the new position earlier this month, has vowed to crack down on animal touts on Phuket's beaches.

The promise to act follows a report from a concerned *Gazette* reader who spotted a group of men on Laem Singh Beach offering tourists the opportunity to be photographed with different animals, including a snake, a parrot and an iguana.

"I have ordered police officers to patrol Laem Singh Beach and other beaches in Cherng Talay. Anyone we find offering photo opportunities with animals will be charged for inflicting harm on the animal and causing a public nuisance," Cherng Talay Police Superintendent Serm Kwannimit told the *Gazette*.

"I won't allow this to happen under my watch. If they keep coming back, we will keep arresting them." – **Chutharat Plerin**

# Frenchwoman fesses up

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

A FRENCH tourist has been charged with filing a false police report of a bag snatch in Phuket that never happened in order to claim her lost camera on travel insurance.

Delphine Claudia Nicot, 43, on January 23 reported to the Chalong Police that she had her bag stolen by two men on a motorbike while she was walking along the street behind Rawai Municipality Office at about 4pm on January 22.

Ms Nicot gave a detailed description of the attack through a translator.

"She said that the suspects were both wearing helmets and covered their faces with cloths, and that they were both wearing black t-shirts," Capt Patiwat Yodkwan of the Chalong Police told the *Gazette*.

"She also said that they were riding a dark-blue motorcycle and sped off toward Nai Harn Beach."

The Frenchwoman listed the items stolen as a Decathlon-brand woman's bag worth about 1,000 baht, a Nokia camera valued at about 15,000 baht, as well as 2,000 baht and 2,000 euros in cash.

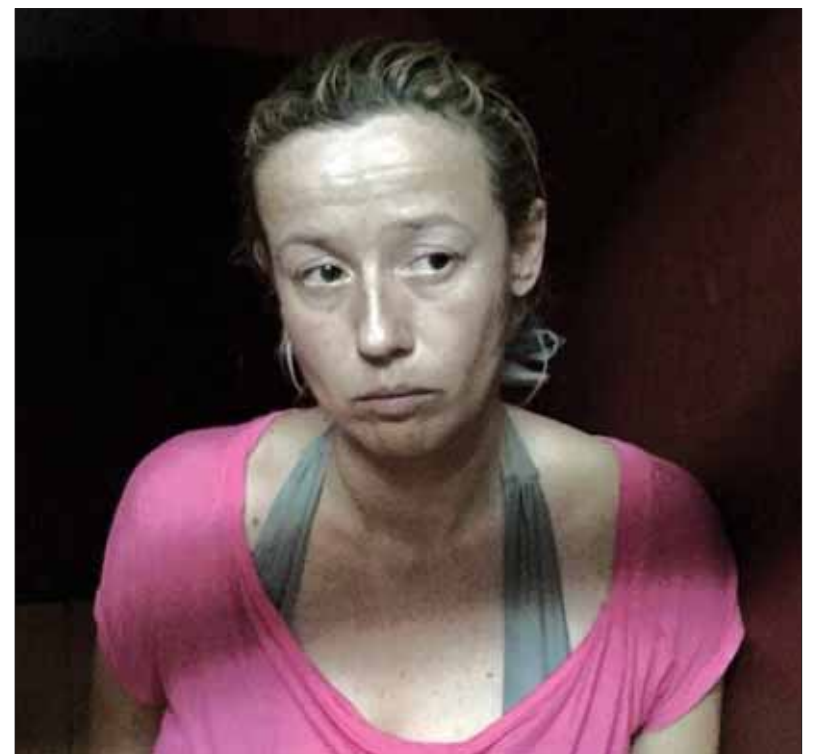
"But when we checked the footage from CCTV cameras covering the exact area where she claimed her bag was stolen, we found nothing," said Capt Patiwat.

"[There were] no suspects, no attack, not even Ms Nicot walking through the area."

Capt Patiwat called the translator to confirm that no information from Ms Nicot's report had been lost in translation.

"Then we called Ms Nicot in and presented her with what we had – actually, had not –

'But when we checked the footage from CCTV cameras covering the exact area where she claimed her bag was stolen, we found nothing... No suspects, no attack, not even Ms Nicot walking through the area.'



Delphine Claudia Nicot confessed to falsely reporting the crime.

found," he said.

"She later confessed that she had falsely reported the crime in order to reclaim the cost of her camera, which she had lost, from her travel insurance."

Capt Patiwat warned other tourists not to file false reports to police.

"Giving any false information to an official is a crime. Please do not take the risk," he said.

## Police turn down bribe to let thieving ladyboys loose



Australian Stephen Richard Jones got his belongings back.

A MAN was arrested for attempting to pay police officers a bribe to free three ladyboys busted for stealing a gold necklace from an Australian tourist on January 22.

Piyaphan Wongyai, 24, was taken into custody after officers turned down his 30,000-baht bribe.

Admittedly looking for money to pay for cosmetics and to party with, Suriyon Supohnok, 22; Sajjapong Thamhon, 22; and Appachai Sitthitham, 21, overwhelmed Stephen Richard Jones, 45, with charm at about 8:30pm.

"They committed the crime as a group. They surrounded the victim, who was walking in Karon with his family, and were able to

undo the latch on the necklace, letting it fall to the ground unnoticed," said Karon Deputy Superintendent Pachai Mattayan.

"The necklace was retrieved after the victim walked away."

Police arrested the group of ladyboys in Patong, after identified them from CCTV footage.

"The suspects confessed to the crime," said Lt Col Pachai.

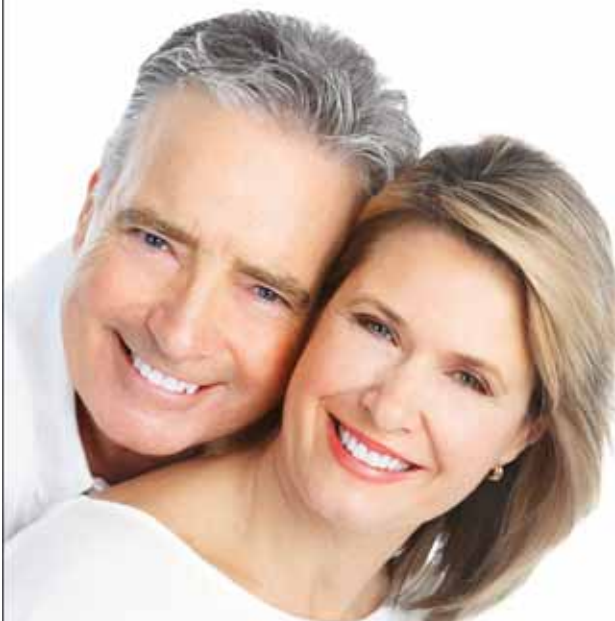
Ms Suriyon, Ms Sajjapong and Ms Appachai were charged for theft at night and attempting to bribe a police officer. Mr Piyaphan was charged for receiving stolen property and attempting to bribe an officer.

– **Kritsada Mueanhawong**

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# Phuket dubbed 'poster child' for Thai tourism

By Chutharat Plerin

PHUKET was named as the 'poster child' of tourism for Thailand by Tourism and Sports Minister Kobkarn Wattanavrangkul in an exclusive interview with the *Gazette*.

"Phuket is the image of Thailand. Therefore, if Phuket has a good image, so does Thailand," Ms Kobkarn said.

Minister Kobkarn has become a regular visitor to the island following her appointment last August. Since then, Phuket has played host to the 4<sup>th</sup> Asian Beach Games, as well as the 16<sup>th</sup> Pencak Silat World Championships.

Most recently the minister announced that she would be pushing to have yacht crew visa laws and superyacht chartering laws changed to bolster Phuket's position as a international quality hub for boating in the region.

"However, yachting is not the only tourism sector I would like to develop. We are looking at improving Thailand's tourism industry in a variety of ways, especially these that increase tourist spending per head," Ms Kobkarn said.

"Most tourists love Thailand and return time and time again, so new and interesting activities must be provided for them. Because of



Tourism and Sports Minister Kobkarn Wattanavrangkul announced that she will be pushing to have yacht crew visa laws and superyacht chartering laws changed to bolster Phuket's boating reputation. Photo: Gazette file

this, we will be promoting a wider array of activities."

Fundamentally, however, it is "Thainess" that is the country's selling point, Ms Kobkarn told the *Gazette*.

"I personally believe that Thai-

land has its own unique charm that impresses tourists – this is our 'Thainess'," she said.

One of the Minister's events scheduled for this year is the "Discover Thainess" campaign, which will be unveiled at Italy's Milan

Expo 2015 and run from May 1 to October 31.

In addition to promoting "Thainess" the minister is targeting the expatriate community, as well as sport, health and medical tourism.



Artificial reef modules will be deployed next month. Photo: Gazette file

## Artificial reefs to be deployed off Koh Racha

DIVE and tour boats visiting Koh Racha, an island about 25km south of Phuket, are urged to exercise caution early next month, as work continues to expand artificial reefs in the area.

"We will deploy artificial-reef modules at Plub Pla Bay and Teu Bay from February 2-7," said Paitoon Panchaiyaphum, director of the Marine and Coastal Resources Conservation Department (DMCR) office in Phuket.

"Please avoid the areas during this period for tourists' safety, as we will require a large boat and several days to complete this task."

The artificial reef project at Koh Racha has received several extensions over the years.

In particular, the addition of artificial-reef modules in 2009 and the sinking of two boats as dive attractions received praise from members of the dive industry.

"We apologize for any inconvenience, but we trust that people understand that this project does much to support the local marine environment and improve the natural beauty of the area," Mr Paitoon said.

– Saroj Kueprasertkij



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# MOVING ON

## New Phuket bus route to arrive by mid-year

By Khumpee Prasertphol

PHUKET will soon be blessed with a new – and desperately needed – bus route to cater to the island's growing number of migrant workers and residents, the chief of the Phuket Provincial Administration Office (PPAO) Transport Division has announced.

Local buses, or *poh tong*, as they are called in Phuket, date back to the early days of village transport on the island, but it wasn't until 2001 that an official service was set up by local government using the now-familiar pink *poh tong* buses.

Since the launch of the bus service in 2001, there has been little change to the three available routes and pressure from local residents to improve the service has been growing.

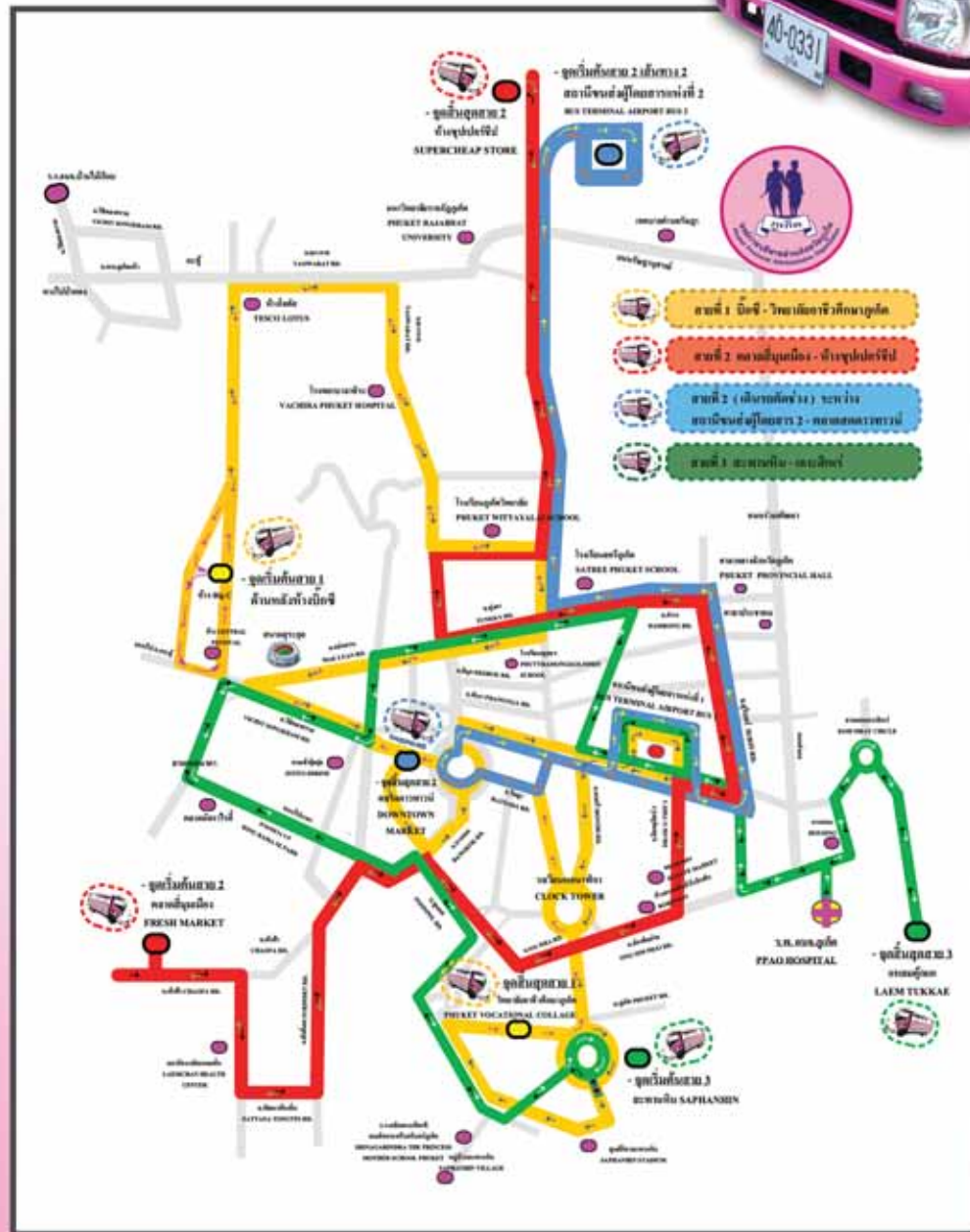
"At present there are three bus routes running in and around Phuket Town, with 36 pink buses active from 6am to 7pm, but I can now confirm that a fourth route will be launched later this year," said PPAO Transport Division Chief Prasit Yotharak.

"The new route will run from PPAO Hospital in Rassada and pass Baan Kuku, Bus Terminal 2, Phuket Rajabhat University, Tesco Lotus, with its final destination being the Baan Maireab school in Kathu."

However, the PPAO chief admitted that the project still needed to be approved by the Central Land Transport Control Committee, a process that could take at least three months.

"Although the route still needs to be approved by the committee, their mandate is to review the PPAO's proposed route and make any changes that they think are necessary. This means it will definitely go ahead," Mr Prasit said.

"We just can't give a precise date, but we should be ready to launch the



service by mid-year."

Once the project has been approved, it will be handed over to the Phuket Land Transport Office to evaluate the number

of buses needed for the new service. Only then, can the PPAO buy the pink buses and employ new bus drivers.

Mr Prasit said the new bus route would



Phuket's pink bus network is being expanded.

not only benefit local residents, but also the growing number of migrant workers unable to afford their own transport to and from work.

"Public transportation infrastructure is essential in driving forward Phuket's economy. It needs to be developed to meet the needs of the community," he said.

To that end, Mr Prasit explained that his office had recently extended Route 3 to now include Wichit Songkram Road on its route, before turning left onto Chaofa Road and heading south into Phuket Town on Wirat Hongyok Road past Suan Luang (Rama IX, also known as King's Park).

The PPAO chief also revealed to the *Gazette* that it had made the tough decision to increase fares on bus routes from 10 to 15 baht.

"Due to economic pressures, we have been forced to increase fares to keep our buses in service. The five-baht increase will take affect sometime around Chinese New Year," he said.

Phuket's official *poh tong* bus service currently provides three main routes:

**Route 1:** Big C (bypass road) – Phuket Vocational College (Saphan Hin)

**Route 2.1:** Fresh Market (near the Robinson department store) – main Super Cheap store on Thepkasattri Road.

**Route 2.2:** Bus Terminal 2 (on Thepkasattri Road) – Downtown Market (Ranong Road, Phuket Town)

**Route 3:** Saphan Hin – Koh Sireh

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# No changes in booze sales times: officials

By Chutharat Plerin

A TOP-RANKING police officer and a leading Phuket health official on January 24 both confirmed that there has been no change in the hours that alcohol may be sold, despite a new order signed into effect by Prime Minister Gen Prayut Chan-o-cha.

PM Prayut signed the order on January 6, and proclaimed in the *Government Gazette* as coming into effect on January 23.

The new order mandates that shops having liquor licenses are only allowed to sell alcohol between 11am and 2pm, and 5pm and midnight.

It also stipulates that the law does not apply to international airports or entertainment venues already regulated by law, such as bars along Patong's Soi Bangla.

Provincial Police Deputy Com-



The law doesn't apply to bars along Patong's Soi Bangla. Photo: Gazette file

mander Peerayuth Karajedee told the *Gazette*, "I have no idea why this is news. It has been these hours for more than 10 years."

Dr Krit Sakulpat, deputy chief of the Phuket Provincial Health

Office, concurred.

"I am not aware of – or been informed of – any changes to the Alcohol Beverages Control Act. I can only confirm that the hours that alcohol may be sold remain

the same," he said.

The Alcohol Beverages Control Act is an incarnation of the 253<sup>rd</sup> declaration of the 1972 Revolutionary Council, which stated that shops having liquor licenses are allowed to sell alcohol only from 11am to 2pm, and 5pm to midnight.

Regardless, Col Peeryauth said that police were aware that many small mom-and-pop stores in throughout Phuket ignored the ban.

"Please understand that we cannot keep track of every shop and fine them for it. Unless an officer catches them in the act, there is little we can do," he said.

The penalty back in 2004 was a fine of up to 30,000 baht, jail for up to three months, or both.

Later, the fine was reduced to up to 10,000 baht, but jail time raised to up to six months.

## Migrant workers nabbed running out of cockfight



Four Myanmar men were caught.

DESPITE seeing more than 30 people run off as police raided a cockfight in Thalang on January 25, officers managed to arrest only four Myanmar nationals for gambling on the bloodsport.

Officers raided an unregistered building near the Baan Lipon substation at about 2pm, said Deputy Superintendent Amnuay Kraiwutanan of the Thalang Police.

When police arrived, more than 30 people started to flee, he added.

"We were able to catch only four Myanmar men who seemed unfamiliar with the place; as if they didn't know which way to run," said Lt Col Amnuay.

"They were all charged for gambling, and will be fined between 500 and 1,000 baht, imprisoned for up to three months, or both," Col Amnuay said.

– **Thawit Bilabdullar**

## Teacher injured, in hospital after fight over drinks tab

From page 1

... Phuket Hospital bed that he had not anticipated that there was going to be problem, as he was a regular at the bar.

"I didn't think it was really a problem. A foreign lady involved in the bar is a friend of mine, and she agreed to lend me the money," Mr Stark said.

According to the Briton, Mr Sarawuth became enraged when he realized Mr Stark did not have enough money to pay his bill.

"He got really upset and pointed to a sign on the wall that said 'No credit allowed'. We then had a bit of a face-off, but it was all verbal. I'm not the kind of guy who uses violence," said Mr Stark.

"The staff member then disappeared and my friend [the foreign lady] told me he had gone to get a baseball bat and that I should leave quickly. I panicked and rushed outside to get on my motorbike, but I couldn't find the key."

Mr Stark said that Mr Sarawuth then came up from behind him and started beating him with the bat.

"I can't remember clearly, it all happened so quickly. I think he hit me with the bat about four times and one of the blows was to my head," Mr Stark explained with effort.

Despite the attack, Mr Stark said he remained conscious and remembers three policemen in uniform arriving at the bar to investigate.

"I was covered in blood... there were two regular cops and

one more, but they didn't show much interest and didn't ask me any questions," he said.

Shortly after, Mr Stark said what he believed to be an ambulance arrived and took him directly to Vachira Hospital.

Dr Piyaporn Songnatsiri, who examined Mr Stark, said that Mr Stark's CAT scan showed bleeding on the brain.

"Mr Stark's skull is fractured and the CAT scan shows he has a small hematoma under the depression at the back of his skull, so we have to keep him under observation," she said.

Mr Stark is now recovering from the surgery to remove the blood clot.

"The doctor said that the swelling has gone down and that my condition is improving, but I might have to spend at least five to six more days in hospital," Mr Stark said.

While Mr Stark is recovering, police are continuing their investigation.

"At this stage, we have yet to charge Mr Sarawuth," Lt Chollada said.

Lt Chollada returned to Mr Stark's hospital bed on Tuesday, but was still unable to get the full statement necessary, due to Mr Stark's condition, to push the case forward.

"We have been contacted by the British Embassy about the case and are doing our best to wrap it up as quickly as possible – we of course have to be fair to both parties," said Chalong Police Superintendent Nopadon Thiraprawat on Wednesday.

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## AROUND THE nation

### No foul play suspected in death of Brit

INITIAL investigations have revealed no signs of foul play in the recent death of a British woman on the tourist island of Koh Tao.

However, police said on Tuesday, citing preliminary autopsy data, that Christina Annesley, 23, had consumed a potentially fatal combination of alcohol and Valium, reported *The Nation*.

"Initial results from the autopsy found Valium and alcohol in the victim's body," police spokesman Lt Gen Prawut Thavornsiri, told *AFP*.

"There were no signs of rape," he said, adding that the full autopsy results would be released in the next three days.

Ms Annesley's body was discovered in her rented bungalow on January 21. There were no signs of ransacking or struggle.

# Impeachment 'politically driven', says US official

THE United States has branded the former prime minister Yingluck Shinawatra's impeachment as "politically driven" and called on the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) to lift martial law and push for "inclusive" democratic reform.

US Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, Daniel Russel, made the comment during an address at Chulalongkorn University on Monday, after meeting with Ms Yingluck, Democrat leader Abhisit Vejjajiva and Foreign Minister Tanasak Patimapragorn, to exchange views on Thailand's political direction, reported *The Nation*.

"The perception of fairness is important," Mr Russel said. "I'll be blunt here: When an elected leader is deposed, impeached by the authorities that implemented the coup, and then targeted with criminal charges while basic democratic processes and institutions are interrupted, the



Yingluck receives flowers from her supporters. Photo: The Nation

international community is left with the impression that these steps could be politically driven."

The NCPO-installed National Legislative Assembly (NLA) voted overwhelmingly to impeach Ms Yingluck and the anti-graft body pressed criminal charges on her for negligence in the rice-pledging scheme.

Mr Russel is the highest-ranking US official to visit Thailand

after the May 22 coup that brought down the Yingluck government.

Mr Russel also called on the NCPO to lift martial law, which has been in place since the coup.

"Ending martial law throughout the country and removing restrictions on freedom of speech and assembly are important steps as part of a genuinely inclusive reform process that reflects the broad diversity of views within the

country," he said.

"We are particularly concerned that the political process does not represent all elements of Thai society.

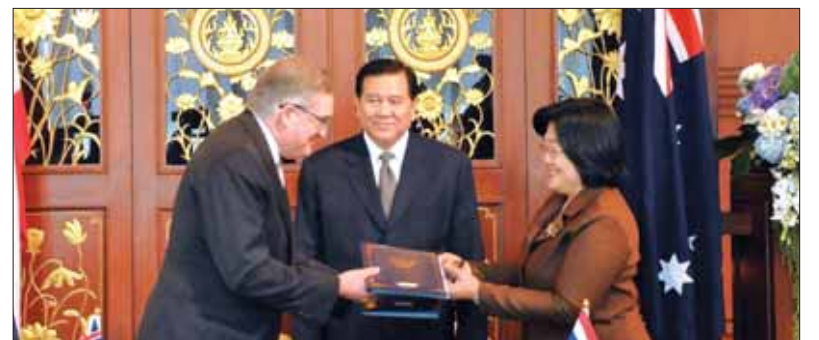
"We are not dictating the political path that Thailand should follow to get back to democracy, or taking sides in Thai politics. But an inclusive process promotes political reconciliation, which in turn, is key to long-term stability.

"The alternative – a narrow process – risks leaving many Thai people feeling excluded from the political system."

Prime Minister Gen Prayut Chan-o-cha explained that Mr Russel did not pay him a courtesy call because he did not approve of how he came to power.

"But we have to separate trade and martial law, as well as economic matters and disagreement [over political issues]," the PM said. "Some countries might disagree with this government, but we still trade with them."

## Australian-Asian program to combat trafficking in persons launched in BKK



Australian Ambassador to Thailand HE Paul Robilliard and Director-General of the Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency Suchada Taibunthao, sign the agreement.

THAILAND'S criminal-justice response to human trafficking received a boost from the Australian government on Monday, as an arrangement to commence the Australia-Asia Program to Combat Trafficking in Persons (AAPTIP) in Thailand was signed at a ceremony in Bangkok.

This signing marks the implementation of AAPTIP – a program through which the Australian government has made a five-year commitment to strengthen the capacity of governments throughout Southeast Asia to enhance the investigation, prosecution and adjudication of trafficking crimes.

"The task for countries such as Thailand and Australia is to continue turning our good intentions into practical protections for migrants and the most vulnerable in our communities," said Australian Ambassador to Thailand HE Paul Robilliard at the signing.

"Australia believes that programs like AAPTIP provide a

necessary mechanism to help do just that."

In Thailand, AAPTIP will work closely with the Department of Special Investigations, the Royal Thai Police, the Office of the Attorney-General, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Labor and the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security.

The program will work to advance Thailand's national anti-trafficking priorities, by enhancing cross-border co-operation among trafficking investigators and strengthening protections for trafficking victims, as they engage in the process of bringing traffickers to justice, a statement from the Australian Embassy in Bangkok read.

AAPTIP builds on over a decade of Australian support for the anti-trafficking efforts of partner governments in Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam.

– *Phuket Gazette*



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# Co-operation is key to keeping us safe

## FIRST PERSON

IT COULD be said that the Phuket Marine Office is like a tiny version of the Marine Department headquarters in Bangkok, because we have so many responsibilities and tasks to manage.

Our responsibilities include but are not limited to: registering and renewing boat licences, checking boats and ensuring that they are being maintained properly; investigating and putting an end to any illegal maritime activity; maintain the safety of all forms of marine transportation; and cooperating and coordinating with relevant local, national and international agencies and organizations.

We also have a large sea and coastal area under our jurisdiction, including Phuket, Koh Naka, Koh Rang, Koh Maphrao, Koh Sireh, Koh Hei, as well as far off islands such as Koh Racha Yai and Koh Racha Noi.

No matter how many responsibilities we have, or how many islands we have to look after, we always put the safety and comfort of tourists first. In the meantime, we help to promote the development of marine transportation.

So much has already developed and changed in Phuket during my time as chief.

For one, we have completed the second phase of setting up a Vessel Traffic Monitoring System (VTMS) for Phuket and moved



**Phuriphat Theerakulpisut**, 47, originally from Trang province, is chief of the Phuket Marine Office. He graduated from the Merchant Marine Training Center in 1986.

Here, he talks about the duties of the Phuket Marine Office, and the changes and problems he has seen and encountered during his time as chief.

into the third phase of the project on January 23.

The VTMS enables us to track all maritime traffic. We can also determine each vessel's nationality, agent, size and type. This system has helped us improve the safety of our marine transportation and gain the trust of tourists.

Another project I have seen come to fruition is the Phuket Yacht Control Center (PYCC) at

Chalong Pier. It is the one and only dedicated center for yacht and cruise management on the island, and offers a one-stop service for all foreign-flagged boats entering Phuket waters.

Although we have seen positive changes here, we have also encountered

problems.

Every project or plan in my department encounters its own issues. I manage personnel from both outside of my department and inside it. Working in large groups of people, and usually under a deadline, is not easy.

**My one wish is for all Phuket people and foreign tourists to follow my team's directions. They are on duty all over the island to protect you and help keep you happy. I would be very appreciative if everyone could look after their own safety simply by following the rules.**



It's strange that chairs are polarizing a community. Photo: Isaac Stone Simonelli

## This isn't a game of musical chairs

COMFORTABLY nestled into a computer chair in front of a screen, it is hard to fathom why so many people appear to care so deeply about chairs on Phuket's beaches. Chairs seem to be such a strange household item to polarize a community – except for maybe musical chairs.

Nonetheless, the number of people engaged on the *Gazette* Facebook page and the readership stats found on The Phuket Forum indicate that chairs and sunloungers are a big deal – a really big deal.

Hardly a week goes by without the paper featuring a letter to the editor from a long-term tourist who has vowed never to return to Phuket now that sunloungers have been banned.

Were beach chairs really the island's only selling point?

The chairs, of course, are just a symbol of something more than high-end tourist baht, which the current drive to bring in "silver tourists" doesn't really seem to account for. The chairs represent a return to the norm after the National Council of Peace and Order's beach cleanup last year.

The *Gazette's* editorial writer quite poignantly noted that the encroachment of our beaches would start with umbrellas – the *pak bung talay* of the beach business world.

So the line has been drawn in the sand at beach loungers. The

We have even had to deal and work with some gangsters in Phuket, not to mention officers of the law who do not support me or the methods by which I work. Working with foreign tourists has its downsides as well.

However, I have a philosophy that has seen me through my time as chief: To be consistent and persistent with my work in every aspect of my career.

My one wish is for all Phuket people and foreign tourists to follow my team's directions. They are on duty to protect you and help keep you happy.

I would be very appreciative if everyone could look after their own safety simply by following the rules.

For example, if you are traveling in a boat, you must wear a life jacket at all times. You never know when an accident might happen.

I want to end by saying thank you to everyone who cooperates with the Marine Office.

One happy memory I have is from November of last year, when we issued a weather warning for an incoming storm. We made it clear that marine transport would be at risk. Most of the boats heeded our warning.

I was so impressed – I want every day to be like that one.

## Island View

By Alex Stone

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

poor Patong mayor has been caught in the middle trying to find a compromise between policy, common sense and the inevitable greediness of people who will always want more.

The solution is simple: don't attempt to be so fair. Don't treat all vendors as equal. Don't treat all resorts as equal. Don't treat all beaches as equal. Corner your markets and provide what tourists in each area of the island wants.

If the silver tourists want a sunlounger, let them book rooms at luxury hotels in Kata, Karon or Patong, where the chairs can stretch for kilometers, as they once did.

If they want pristine beaches, why force them to go to Khao Lak or Krabi? Give them stretches at Surin and Bang Tao, where there isn't a chair to be found – as the local Administrative Organization (*OrBorTor*) president seems to prefer.

One policy, one province will not be a successful way to manage the island's beaches. Phuket survives off of the diversity of the tourist markets it caters to – so allow a diversity of beach management systems.

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

### Who's afraid of the big, bad termites?

THERE is a huge termite mound 50cm from my house, but on my neighbor's land. I am worried that the termites will eat my house. What can I do?

I believe my neighbor will be held responsible for any damage to my property, but I haven't seen him for years.

*Termite aware, Thalang*

**Mongkol Ruengwutchana-puech, Lawyer and Barrister-at-law at the International Law Office Phuket, replies:**

The closest section of the Civil and Commercial Act which could be applied to protect one's right is Section 435: "A person who is

threatened with an injury from a building or other structure belonging to another is entitled to require the latter to take necessary measure for averting the danger."

After filing a complaint with the court, a judge may consider the termite mound a part of a structure on the neighbor's property.

**Veeraporn Yong-noo, chief administrative officer, Pa Khlok Tambon Administration Organization (OrBorTor), replies:**

You can come to our office on the Pa Khlok – Muang Mai Road to file a complaint. Once we have your complaint in writing, we will send out our officers to investigate the problem.

### Please clean the smelly stadium road

I DRIVE on the road behind Surakul Stadium every day. Each day, I smell a terrible stench near the Chinese graveyard where homeless people live. It is a terrible smell and garbage, squatters and buses fill the area.

Many hundreds of people drive past there every day. Recently, the road was re-paved, which is great, because it used to be filled with dangerous potholes. Why not clear out the smells and garbage?

*Jake, Samkong*

**Nathikarn Klaharn, an officer at the Phuket City Health and En-**

**vironment Department, replies:**

We will send our officers down to investigate and determine whether or not the case falls under our responsibilities as per the Public Health Act B.E. 2535.

If it is found to be our responsibility, we will do our best to eliminate the source of the smell.

If the smell is simply from nearby trash that has built up, we will promptly dispose of it. Then, we will post signs in the area which will prohibit depositing waste there. If anyone is found leaving their trash there, they will have to pay a fine to the Health and Environment Department.

Thank you for informing us.

If you have any other concerns, please call us during working hours at 076-212196, or email [admin@pkm.mail.go.th](mailto:admin@pkm.mail.go.th). You can also contact the Damrongtham Center (ombudsman's office) at Tel: 1567.

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)



# Teens booze, thanks to local shops

THE recent order by Prime Minister Gen Prayut Chan-o-cha confirming that the basic terms of the controversial Alcohol Control Act of 2008 will remain unchanged comes as great news for “mom-and-pop” store operators across the nation, as it ensures that they will maintain their most important competitive advantage over increasingly powerful chain store competitors: the ability to sell alcohol to anyone, at any time, with impunity.

As reported in this issue of the *Gazette* [see page 7], the order upholds the rule that retail alcohol sales be restricted to two periods of the day: from 11am until 2pm, and from 5pm until midnight.

The measures date back to a previous military government in 1972 that were dusted off by now fugitive former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra during the height of his social engineering campaigns under former Interior Minister Purachai Piumsomboon.

At that time, we were told that the restrictions were aimed at curbing alcohol sales to minors, under the assumption that the time restriction would prevent students from buying booze on their way home from school – despite the fact that alcohol sales were already forbidden to minors.

Almost ten years on, there have been no empirical studies suggesting these time restrictions have had any significant impact on alcohol consumption by minors, yet they remain on the books.

The sales restriction times, which make up just a small part of the act, need to be revised.

They inconvenience a number of alcohol users who drink responsibly and penalize businesses that play by the rules, while benefiting those that break them and, as a result, create a climate of impunity. Many of the aforementioned mom-and-pop shops also regularly violate other laws, such as by selling cigarettes to minors and serving as key hubs for the sale of underground lottery tickets.

Tacitly allowing this to continue is hardly the kind of message to send to a society that has corruption as its greatest obstacle to success in an increasingly competitive global marketplace.

The police themselves freely admit that they lack the resources to enforce the alcohol sales restrictions.

No province has suffered more over the past decade under these measures than Phuket, which has a bustling mass of tourists unaware of the purchasing restrictions and looking for a party at all times of the day. Doing away with the three-hour gap and allowing sales from 11am straight through to midnight would save consumers and retailers alike a great deal of wasted time and frustration. It would also have little impact on teenage drinking, since minors who want alcohol currently have no problem finding it, thanks to mom and pop.



## Phuket has turned into a banana republic

We arrived by SilkAir yesterday and were immediately approached by two uniformed men – but without an obvious number or name – to pay 100 baht for preferential treatment:

1. Why no number or name?
2. When I wanted to take a picture of them they wanted to confiscate my phone.
3. When I asked for their names, they refused and then after I made a lot of commotion they disappeared!

What kind of banana republic has Phuket become?

Jasper Jansen  
Cherng Talay

### Letters to the Editor

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

Additionally, many tourists are drunken reckless idiots who should not have access to jet-skis in the first place.

Why do the jet-ski thugs allow such tourists to drive these machines?

Jet-skis are simply incompatible with public beaches.

Pathetic  
Gazette forum

### Hoping for the best in a strange situation

Re: *Gazette online, Russian woman saved from Phuket Town streets, January 27*

I can't imagine what this girl is going through – or possibly doing – that could make her behave in such a way.

She is so very lucky that something hasn't happened to her when she starts acting “erratically and incoherently”.

I do hope that the Phuket officials can find her family. If she is not fit to be sent home to family or friends somewhere, I hope that she gets the help she needs.

Lily Pond  
Cape Panwa

### An attitude that will have long-term effects

Re: *Gazette online, Beach chair leniency ends in Phuket (video), January 24*

Tourists have so many choices; they have no reason to go to a country that makes things difficult or less appealing for them.

While a country has no control of money exchange rates that can affect tourism for good or bad (a huge drop in Russians), any anti-tourist sentiment will negatively affect tourism for years to come.

Bigfoot  
Gazette forum

### Parents of Phuket should be concerned

Re: *Gazette online, Phuket named Thailand's poster child for tourism, January 25*

I have been to Phuket many times before.

To me, it's a separate country from Thailand.

It bears little resemblance to, say, Chiang Mai or anywhere in Isarn, or even Bangkok.

If Phuket is the poster child, the parent should be very concerned.

Steve Carter  
Facebook

### A safer island for all starts with road safety

Re: *Gazette online, Woman dies in collision with Phuket tour bus, January 27*

These buses are a danger to all.

The drivers have no training and swerve all over the roads at random.

They turn without indicating or looking to see what else is going on.

Their vehicles destroy the roads, which are not designed for this size of transport, causing large holes which cars and bikes have to swerve to avoid.

Road safety will improve 10 times if these buses are removed from the island. They are not needed anyway. Once on the island, transfer everyone to small mini-buses to get people to their hotels quicker and more safely.

This would also create jobs for all the ex-taxi and tuk-tuk drivers who can then be trained to drive the mini-buses.

Then it will be a better, safer island for all.

Simon Lomas  
Facebook

### Jet-skis incompatible with public beaches

Re: *Gazette online, Surin Beach plagued by dangerous jet-skiers, January 22*

Once again, Phuket Marine Office Chief Phuriphat points the finger at tourists.

He is neglecting to mention the fact that the jet-ski boys take absolutely no measures to ensure that tourists understand where they can and cannot go on the jet-skis.

### Education could lead to a happy ending

Re: *Gazette online, New Cherng Talay top cop promises crackdown on animal touts, January 25*

Sadly the reason this keeps happening is because tourists continue to pay to have their photographs with these wild animals.

Educate the tourists and stop the industry.

Josie Burgess  
Facebook

## Phuket Gazette

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# Phuket's shining light in the shade business

By Khumpee Prasertphol

LOCAL Phuket startup Window Design and Awnings Co Ltd, which has rapidly made a name for itself since its founding in 2009, is now looking to expand beyond the Kingdom's borders.

People may have noticed the white curved fabrics spread out over the walkways at Boat Lagoon, but the majority of the company's clients are four, five and six-star hotels in Thailand.

"Now we are expanding into other countries. We have already installed our products at Big C locales in Vietnam and we also have customers in Pakistan placing orders," explained Chayuth Keawklin, managing director and founder of Window Design and Awnings.

Not forgetting the company's successful homefront, Mr Chayuth said there were still viable markets in Phuket, notably expats and the local government.

The product, tension fabrics, has been in Thailand for more than 30 years, so the key for business coming into the game late is constant innovation and re-design, Mr Chayuth explained.

"I recognize that our business must always be improving on all fronts. There are the designs, but there is also finding improved materials, as well as improved production techniques," he said.

"One of our strong points, in addition to our designs, is the use of galvanized steel, which ensures protection from rust for at least 20 years – an important factor when living in a moist, humid environment such as Phuket."



Chayuth Keawklin, managing director and founder of Window Design and Awnings, is looking into new markets.

When developing designs, the team reviews what final effect the customer wants, and then uses the appropriate materials that will provide the right look for years.

"Right now, white fabrics are being used to create a very modern look. This fabric is amazing; it's PVC-coated polyester that has a guaranteed lifespan of 15 years

and can withstand wind speeds of up to 110km/h," Mr Chayuth explained.

With the rate that scientists and manufacturers are churning out new-and-improved materials, Mr Chayuth was confident that business would remain profitable for at least the next decade.

However, the real key for

developing a strong business in Phuket is going about it honestly, he said.

"We are fast and deliver what our clients want; customers can rely on us, and they know it," said Mr Chayuth.

"The secret to business is to be honest and gain the trust of your customer base."



Passengers to see prices drop with abolishment of fuel surcharges.

## AirAsia kicks fuel surcharge following drop in oil prices

AIRASIA abolished fuel surcharges on 26 January across all of the airlines in the group, as well as its low-cost long-haul affiliates AirAsia X, Thai AirAsia X and Indonesia AirAsia X. The move is in line with declining global oil prices.

AirAsia was the first airline to abolish fuel surcharges for all its domestic and international flights back in 2008. However, rocketing fuel prices forced the airline to re-introduce fuel surcharges into its fares in 2011.

"We are a high-value, low-fare airline and we will continue to strive to make flying as affordable as possible. This decision was made in December 2014, which was in line with declining global oil prices. However, we are only able to implement it now," said AirAsia Group Chief Executive Officer Tony Fernandes.

"We believe removing the fuel surcharge and reducing travel costs will be a huge boost to the tourism industry. This will be a plus point for consumers, but the economy will also benefit from this, as the tourism industry is a great job creator."

– The Nation

## Private-sector ready to internally tackle Thailand corruption issues, says survey

THREE fourths of Thai business leaders are ready to drive for the establishment of internal anti-corruption policies at their organizations, according to a survey conducted by the Private Sector Collective Action Coalition Against Corruption (CAC) during October and November.

The survey showed that 54.5 per cent of 425 executives and directors at private companies said their companies are ready to push for the installation of internal anti-corruption policy, while another 20 per cent think their organizations are mostly ready to conduct such practices.

Some 18 per cent think that their companies are moderately ready, while 2.3 per cent and 4.4 per cent believe their firms are less ready and least ready respectively.

Regarding the private sector's



Private sector ready to step up anti-corruption efforts in Thailand. Graphic: Foreign and Common Wealth Office

role in tackling corruption over the next one to two years, 69 per cent of respondents expect the private sector to participate more, with nine per cent anticipating a much more active role from the private sector. Only 3.7 per cent of respondents expect the private sector to have a lesser role and 1.1 per cent see a much lesser role,

while the remainder 16.2 per cent anticipating a steady role.

"The outcome of the survey clearly demonstrates the readiness and eagerness of the Thai private sector to join the fight against corruption and not leaving the burden solely in the hands of the government. The rising conscious against corruption of the private

sector is an explicit signal that it is ready to work in parallel with the government," said Panas Simasathien, chairman of the CAC.

On the severity of the corruption problem in Thailand over the past year, 28.9 per cent of respondents say that the problem has worsened substantially, while 10.8 per cent think that the situation has worsened slightly. Meanwhile, some 31 per cent say that the situation has improved slightly, while 2.5 per cent think that it has substantially improved. The remainder 25.1 per cent think the level of corruption problem remains unchanged.

Private companies join the CAC voluntarily. At the end 2014, some 406 companies (including 212 listed companies) had joined the CAC, up by 138 companies from 268 at the end of 2013.

– The Nation

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## Exports to slow to medium growth this year

SIAM Commercial Bank's Economic Intelligence Center expected exports to expand by only 0.8% this year.

Meanwhile, Tisco Securities forecast a 4% growth rate thanks to contraction in the past two years as well as a strong economic recovery.

The SCB Center said that coming with a low growth rate, the cheap oil prices would put pressure on Thailand's refined oil and chemical exports as well as agricultural commodities such as rubber and sugar. Together, they account for 15% of total export value.

Meanwhile, demand in the Middle East, a major market for Thailand's automotive and accessories, is also expected to drop, in line with the sliding demand in China.

The termination in the European Union's privileges under the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) would also hurt Thailand's exports.

According to the Commerce Ministry, export value expanded by 1.9% from the same period a year earlier to US\$18.79 billion.

However, the annualized value contracted by 0.4%.

Import value also dropped by 8.7% in December, leading to 9% contraction for the whole year.

Thailand's trade deficit for the whole year dropped to US\$378.7 million.

- *The Nation*

# Finance: The year ahead

## Global economic recovery expected to continue in 2015



Finance

By Don Freeman

LOOKING back at 2014, the Standard & Poor's 500 (S&P 500) posted a solid year. The S&P +11.4%, Dow +7.5% and Russell 2000 +3.5%. The "buy the dip" mentality began to take hold as any small correction saw buyers step in and purchase equities.

### 2014 SUMMARY:

- Soaring Treasury bond prices
- Collapse in global commodity prices (oil)
- MH17 airline crash, Russia and Ukraine conflict
- The largest Ebola outbreak in history
- Utilities the best-performing United States sector, and energy was the worst sector

Small cap stocks certainly lagged large caps, but at the end of 2014 small cap growth stocks began to break out to new highs. International stocks lagged behind US equities as can be seen by the EFA Exchange Traded Fund (ETF), which tracks the international market and returned -6%. The US Oil ETF fell 42% and the popular SPDR Gold Trust declined 2.2% for the full year.

### MY OUTLOOK

- US economic growth will likely continue to improve in a very low interest and low inflation rate environment.
- Labor markets are improving, strengthening of the US dollar and lower oil prices will boost the recovery.
- Quantitative easing is ending and the US monetary and banking



The chart shows the US S&P 500 view of the economy over the last 20 years. A bullish US economy and stock market is expected in the long term, but volatility will continue in the short term. Source: US S&P 500

system (post 2008) is returning to a more normal healthy condition.

• I am bullish long-term for the US economy and stock market, but short-term I continue to see volatility and corrections likely as the market has had a nice move up since November 2012 without much of a pull-back.

I currently see the economic recovery continuing as we have not reached a point where the Federal Reserve has over tightened the money supply. Therefore, the bull market will likely continue without a threat of a bear market

or recession as we saw in 2000 or 2008. It will be important in

**I currently see the economic recovery continuing as we have not reached a point where the Federal Reserve has over tightened the money supply. Therefore the bull market will likely continue...**

the next three to five years to focus on individual stocks and leading ETF sectors. Over the past 14 years, while the US stock market digested the gains from 1982 to year 2000, we have had a technology bubble, housing bubble, gold bubble, banking crisis

and now the latest oil bubble which has come back to normal levels (oil under \$50). Cash has built up as a result of all this fear (wall of worry) and will eventually be redeployed back into

equities and long-term investments. The upward trend of the stock market remains positive (see chart above) despite all the fear built up over the past 12 years.

My positive outlook could change at any point, however, depending on the actions of the Federal Reserve, the economic numbers and earnings, and sales reports.

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

## Thailand ranks 61 in talent index

OUT of 93 countries, Thailand is ranked 61<sup>st</sup> in the Global Talent Competitiveness Index (GTCI). The index is based on a country's ability to grow, attract and retain talent, as a global talent mismatch sees vacant jobs despite mass unemployment.

"Thailand has good market conditions [enablers] and good performance in growing its own talent, although struggles in attracting talent [inter-regional and from abroad] and in converting existing talent into better performance in terms of employable skills [including global skills] and higher levels of labor productivity," said the research by INSEAD, Human Capital Leadership Institute (HCLI) of Singapore and Adecco Group.

"With Thai companies, particularly those in the area of technology, continuing to expand globally, the need for strong talent development in Thailand is more important than ever before.

As a country, we need to continually be looking at new ways of developing our talent base," said Tidarat Kanchanawat, country manager, Adecco Thailand.

Kwan Chee Wei, CEO of HCLI said there was a need in certain Asian countries to see value and worth in both professional and technical vocations.

"Traditional hierarchies and bureaucracy in many Asian corporates often hold back openness, transparency and empowerment – important levers in accelerating talent growth," he said.

The research finds that investments in employable skills and vocational education key to attracting, retaining and developing talent.

Globally, Switzerland, Singapore and Luxembourg led the rankings.

As in 2013, GTCI rankings are dominated by European countries, with only six non-European countries in the top 20: Singapore (2), the US (5), Canada (5), Australia (9), New-Zealand (16) and Japan (20).



More skilled vocational training is needed in Asia. Photo: J Haynes

"It's really quite striking that among the top three countries – Switzerland, Singapore and Luxembourg – two are landlocked and one is an island," said Bruno Lanvin, executive director of Global Indices at INSEAD, and co-author of the report.

"Faced with specific geographical challenges and a quasi-absence of natural resources, these countries have had no choice but to be open economies... The top countries in this year's GTCI have played the game of globalization, and have played it well."

- *The Nation*

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## WHAT'S ON in Phuket

### February 1, 4pm until late. Laguna Market on First

Shop for the best Phuket has to offer! On the first of every month, Laguna Phuket invites you to experience "Laguna Market on First", in the park at Laguna Grove.

Enjoy a variety of goods from food stalls, clothing, home decor, arts and crafts, music and performances, a dining area and much, much more!

Opening ceremony and mini-concerts by Jennifer Kim and Noom The Voice!

### 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 the day arrives.

### February 19, 5pm-10:15pm. Chinese New Year celebrations

Acrobats from Beijing will be performing at the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization's Year of the Goat festivities.

There will be 60 food stalls set up ahead of the 7:40pm acrobat

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**Jennifer Kim**  
**Noom The Voice**

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

performance at Chai Field in Phuket Town.

### 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 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.

### May 1. Labor Day

Public holiday for all commercial workers, but government offices will remain open.

### May 6. Coronation Day

Coronation Day commemorates the accession to the throne of HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej on May 5, 1950.

### June 1. Visakha Bucha Day

Visakha Bucha Day is observed on the day of the full moon during the sixth lunar month, which usually falls in either May or early June.

The day commemorates three important incidents: the birth, the enlightenment and the passing away of the Buddha.

Miraculously, these events fell in the same month and on the same date on the Buddhist calendar.

### July 30. Arsarnha Bucha Day

This full-moon day of the eighth lunar month commemorates the Buddha's first sermon to five disciples after he attained enlightenment more than 2,500 years ago.

Evening candlelight processions are staged in all Thai Buddhist temples.

### August 12. HM The Queen's Birthday

HM The Queen's Birthday is also marked as Mother's Day in Thailand.

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# YOUR Phuket

## Senzanome pizzazz



**GRAND OPENING:** L to R: Pattiya Bijisma, director of Senzanome Restaurant; Kata Kitpasan, deputy honorary consul of the Russian Federation to Phuket; Claude de Crissey, honorary consul of France to Phuket; Panlop Singhasanee, Phuket vice governor; Nicolino Bruno, executive chef of Senzanome Restaurant; and Francesco Pensato, honorary consul of Italy to Phuket.



**ANGELS ON THEIR SHOULDERS.** Narissa Moehring (L), a shareholder of Senzanome, and Tara Polsen.

# A day that lasts forever



**ONE RING TO UNITE THEM:** Panika Korsakul, director at Smart Phuket Language School, ties the knot with Ingkarat Hunpongkittikun, guest service representative for Anantara Vacation Club, at Royal Phuket City Hotel. Photo: Best Photo & Cinematography By Phuket Best Group

# Tasting Siam at Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket



Chef Morten Bojstrup Nielsen served up four courses of gourmet Thai cuisine at 'The Taste of Siam' wine dinner at Ruen Thai Restaurant, which highlighted a variety of wines coming from the Hua Hin hills.



**RAISE A GLASS TO LOCAL WINE:** Benjamin Perera, resident manager for Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket, stands with Kathrin Puff, a winemaker from Siam Winery Co Ltd, which supplied the drinks for 'The Taste of Siam' wine dinner at Ruen Thai Restaurant.



The Phuket Gazette's weekly

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January 31 - February 6, 2015 | [PhuketGazette.Net](http://PhuketGazette.Net)

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

**PROPERTY of the week**

## SUPERB PENTHOUSE



**See page 16**

**INVESTMENT of the week**

## INVESTMENT IN RAWAI



**See page 22**

**WHEELS & MOTORS of the week**



**2011 ISUZU D-MAX**

**See page 24**

**BOAT & MARINE of the week**

## JAENEAU 7.55 METER



**See page 25**

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## Properties For Sale

**STUDIO FOR SALE**

In Phuket Town. 5 min to Central, Big C. 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, 33sqm. Kitchen, furnished. Price 680,000 baht. Tel: 081-719 7015. Email: jassa rabee@gmail.com

**OCEAN VIEWS, KATA**

New 1-bed condo, 44sqm. Great views, in-house management & rental program available, investment. Ready move in. 3.98 million baht ONO. Email: lamscondo@yahoo.com

**TOWNHOUSE SALE / RENT**

Townhouse for sale (2.8mn baht) or rent (12,000 baht/mo) in Supalai City Hill estate, Phuket Town. 3bed-rooms, 2 Bath. Quiet, convenient location. Furnished, full kitchen, decor, garden, car park, 2 aircons. Good for family. Avail. from 5/2015. Tel: 089-874 0061, 086-291 4115. Email: stephenfein@gmail.com

**SUPER MODERN**

This supermodern Phuket house just came for sale in Rawai. The house is insulated in European style. For more info contact soi.saliga@gmail.com. Price 13 million baht. Tel: 080-530 6880 (English). Email: soi.saliga@gmail.com

**NICE HOUSE CHALONG**

400Sq. furnished 3 bed, 2 bath, euro kitchen, 4 aircon, pool, jacuzzi. Sale 4.9 million baht. Tel: 082-809 2873 (English & Thai).

**BEAUTIFUL LAND PLOT FOR SALE**

Very conveniently located in a secure estate with underground electricity, less than 10 mins from Phuket International Academy, airport, Tesco, Nai Yang beach, Ao Po Grand marina, in a peaceful foreign community, Chanote title, 1,100sqm, flat land with fences around, mountain view, ready to build, good investment. For quick sale direct from owner only 3.5 million baht. Tel: 081-343 0777.

**KAMALA**

Large family house. 4 bed, 3 bath, large reception room, 5 aircons, ADSL, quiet road, small garden, nice views close to village / sea. Tel: 085-250 4197.

**RAWAI BEACHFRONT CONDO**

New fully furnished with amenities, 2-bed 2-bath. Great location. Must see. Only 7.2 million baht. Tel: 081-892 6710 (English), 081-895 7908 (English & Thai). Email: peterh@asianwind.biz

**1-BED APT SALE / RENT**

Fully furnished apt in Chalong. Sale 1.95 million baht, rent 12,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-922 2800. Email: simonchinner@yahoo.com

**OCEAN FRONT VILLA**

Brand new, fully furnished, 3-4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 10-meter infinity swimming pool, beautiful view. For quick sale only 19.5 mn. Tel: 081-343 0777.

**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

**3 BED FOR SALE / RENT**

Furnished house in Chalong. Sale 3.95 million baht, rent 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-922 2800. Email: simonchinner@yahoo.com

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**Email: pee\_bang56@hotmail.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

**KATA HOUSE SALE**

4-bedrooms. Reduced price, must sell. Was 3.5 million baht and now 2.99 million baht. Tel: 082-4659 939.

**2-BEDROOM BEACHFRONT CONDO RAWAI**

2 bdr / 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

**URGENT PATONG VILLA 4 BED**

Fire sale price - sudden departure - direct from owner - now 19.9 million baht, estimated 29 million baht - Luxury 4-bedroom villa, mountain side, panoramic sea view 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.

**THE DECK CONDO FOR SALE**

2 units condo for sale at the center of Patong. The Deck Project Studio unit no.0103309 Floor 3 Building A 31 Sqm. Price 3.5 million baht. And 1 Bedroom Unit no.010310 area 41.5 Sqm. Price 4.5 Million THB. Full-furnished, ready to move in May 2015. Tel: 081-085 7550 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-344789. Email: omholland@hotmail.com

**ENTERTAINMENT PALACE**

Magnificent penthouse in Karon with panoramic sea view. 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

**Absolutely stunning sea view villa**  
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**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

**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

**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

**LAND IN NAI HARN FOR SALE**

Nai Harn. Chanote title. 1 rai. 300m to the beach. 13 million baht. Tel: 086-943 0871 (English). Email: Vodorod12@mail.ru

**AMAZING VILLA**

Modern villa, swimming pool in Rawai, 3 beds, 3 baths, seaview, fully furnished, 3 floors, close to beach & shops. Not for long price only 9 million baht, no brokers. Tel: 098-464 9220.

**POOL VILLAS RAWAI**

New top design pool villas, 2 & 3 bedrooms and bathrooms, large 5x8 pool, nice green area, Rawai, close to MACRO. Start 9mn THB. Tel: 096-284 2463 (English & Thai), 084-898 8258 (English & Thai). Email: p.bumrungs15@gmail.com

**KARON HOUSE SALE OF OWNER**

2 bed, sitting room, kitchen, bathroom, toilet, furnished. 4 mn baht. Tel: 087-886 7029 (English & Thai). Email: svein.arild.johansen@gmail.com

**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.

**KAMALA**

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

**PANORAMA SEA VIEW LAND**

For sale 5.5 rai, Ao Makham, Chanote title, 12 million baht / rai call 089-649 9939. Email: siri\_phuket@changrunner.com

**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



## Properties For Rent

## KAMALA BEACH

Very nice 2-bedrooms, house and APT; furnished, quiet, clean, secure. Price 16,000-22,000 baht / month. Tel: 083-645 3546.

## 6TH FLOOR CONDO FOR RENT

Brand-new, fully furnished 2 bed/2 bath condo with kitchen. 100m swimming pool, gym, internet, Cable TV, Airon, washing machine, parking. Security. Close to shopping malls. 35,000THB / month. Tel: 087-886 7895 (English & Thai). Email: duncaneclipse@yahoo.co.uk

## PRIVATE POOL VILLA FOR RENT



Spacious private pool villa with 2 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. Located at Soi Saiyuan, Rawai, Phuket. Only 10 minutes' drive to nearby famous tourist attractions: Rawai Beach, Nai Harn Beach, Promthep Cave, Lotus Chalong and Villa Market. This Thai contemporary house comes with divisible space and a cozy corner to relax after getting out of the swimming pool. For long-term rent/month: 70,000 baht. Short term rent/month: 80,000 baht (negotiable). Tel: 089-725 0779, 081-693 0935. Email: phuket@accounthotmail.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>

**10,000 BAHT / MONTH**  
1-bedroom condo, 65sqm. Nicely furnished. Tel: 085-795 4741. Ole. Email: oleandaman@gmail.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

## 4 BED, 4 BATH - CLOSE TO BIS



Aircon pool villa in a secure estate in Kathu, easy access to BIS, Central Festival and Patong. Avail March 10. 65,000 baht / PCM. Tel: 083-967 5777 (English & Thai).

## LUXURY RENT KAMALA

Luxury villas and apartment for rent, modern style, big garden, jacuzzi, swimming pool, WiFi, 600 m. from the beach with 2 or 3 bedrooms. Special price start from 3,000 baht per day. Email: francescobonta@gmail.com. For more info call Francesco 085-790 7816. [www.villacheloni.com](http://www.villacheloni.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

## SURIN BEACH CONDO

1-2 bedroom, pool, 300m to beach. Furnished. Call mobile 088-823 4128 (English). Email: rapaljes@yahoo.com

## APARTMENT FOR RENT



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

## CHEAP RENT HOUSE

Fully furnished 1-3 bedrooms, aircons, free WiFi, start from 6,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-892 4311. Website: panwagreen.weebly.com

## 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)

## GOLF VIEW 7-BEDROOM 4 RENT

Large house with private swimming pool, fully furnished, close to all international schools and shopping mall. Tel: 081-271 3228 (English & Thai). Email: info@procarpentering.com

## CHALONG BECHFRONT

2-storey pool villa. Seaview, furnished, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 lounge rooms, internet, cable TV. 30,000 baht / month. Tel: 095-046 4039.

## 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. Call: 089-908 7830.



## STUDIO ROOM FOR RENT

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

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

## PATONG 1-BED CONDO

Fully furnished, minimum 2 months, available now. 800m to beach, swimming pool, gym, parking, WiFi, cable TV. Tel: 085-069 0938. Email: neiln5nh6@gmail.com

## RENT APARTMENT PATONG

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

## HOLIDAY RENTAL

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

## BEACHFRONT LUXURY KATA APT

5 star, pools, gym, quiet area. 30,000 baht long term. Available now. Email: asiasail@yahoo.com [www.katasala.com](http://www.katasala.com)

## FURNISHED HOUSE FOR RENT

Furnished house in prime location, village near the Heroines Monument. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and kitchen. Tel: 086-607 7493.

## RAWAI BEACH FRONT HOUSE

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

## KATA BEACH

2-bed, 3-bath custom home 500 meters from the beach. Furnished. 25,000 baht per month. Available Feb 10th. Tel: 081-472 1010 (English & Thai), 086-385 0822 (English & Thai). Email: kahunadan@hotmail.com

## 4 MODERN POOL VILLAS



(2 & 3 beds). Fully furnished. Free WiFi, satellite TV, pool & garden. Located between Cape Yamu & Ao Po Marina. Tel: 081-8935 270. Email: mrdupouy@yahoo.fr [www.tropical-house.net](http://www.tropical-house.net)

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**1 COOK + 1 WAITRESS URGENTLY**

1 cook + 1 waitress urgently needed. Start work right away. Contact mobile 082-270 6385 (English & Thai). Email: tkoschig2000@hotmail.com

**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

**ENGLISH TEACHERS**

1 x Kindergarten - Part-time: 14hrs/week, in Cherno 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

**MARKETING FOR REAL ESTATE**

Phuket's leading real estate agency is now looking for new marketing staff to join our successful team at Jungceylon, the Banana Walk shopping center and our Kata Beach office. A high salary and commissions will be given for the right person. Thai nationals only. Tel: 076-341045, 081-459 0152. Please send your CV to admin@propertyinphuket.com or call us for an interview. www.propertyinphuket.com

**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 wiset road, Rawai. Tel: 076-384 686, 083-103 3801.

**FULL-TIME NANNY AND MAID WANTED**

Twin babies. Start March. Trial Feb. Salary negotiable on experience. Manik area - Mel 098-671 3740.

**FULL TIME MAID, COOK WANTED**

Full-time maid, cook wanted (2 staffs Thai nationals for private villa in Nai Harn, Rawai. Tel: 081-970 7633. Email: roberto.omini@gmail.com

**CHINESE STAFF NEEDED**

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

**DATABASE UPDATER**

Looking for a Thai national with basic English skills and computer knowledge. Own computer required. Full time job. Email if interested. Email: info@divethe-world.com

**PROPERTY LISTING MANAGER**

Leading Phuket Real Estate Company looking for an English speaker to join our friendly team, full time. The job involves creating property listings, research and data entry. Working hours: Monday to Friday, 9 am to 6pm. Tel: 090-703 5023 (English). Email: paul@livephuket.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

**FOOD / BEVERAGE MANAGER**

Position available now. Salary range: 40 to 45,000 baht per month plus monthly SC. Work schedule: 8 hrs per day, 6 days a week. Minimum 2-year degree in Food Service or Restaurant Management. Thai Nationals only. Must speak English. Minimum 2 years in managing a high-volume restaurant. Experience in developing, planning and implementing innovative & exciting menu items. Thai & Western experience in controlling F/B costs. Knowledgeable in F/B sales. Email: gm@ccshideaway.com

**GERMAN-SPEAKING STAFF**

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

**OFFICE ASSISTANT**

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

**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.

**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.

**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

**Phuket Gazette**

**Administrative Assistant Wanted:** Looking for an organized and enthusiastic individual to join Phuket's main English-language media team.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

- ☐ Thai national, aged 22 years and up
- ☐ Organized and detail oriented
- ☐ Reasonable command of spoken English
- ☐ Knowledge of basic office software

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV by email to

[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

**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. Savoe 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

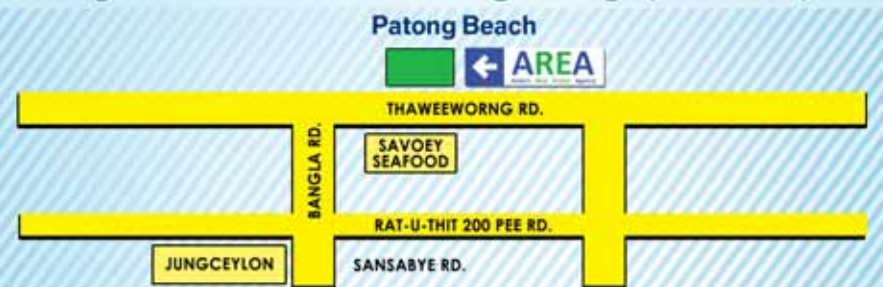
**KARON**

- ▶ 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!**



**TEACHER WANTED**

Native English speaker, female, age 25+, for 4 children 6-8 years old. Mon-Fri, 9:00-14:00, Starting salary 40,000 Baht. Tel: 081- 343 0777. Email : montha\_Phuket @ yahoo.com

**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: nealeavery@gmail.com

# Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

**GRAPHIC ARTIST 1 POSITION**

- ▶ Graphic-design skills and knowledge of Adobe Illustrator, PageMaker, Indesign, Photoshop required
- ▶ Freehand drawing and web-design skills a plus
- ▶ Responsible, hard-working, attention to detail
- ▶ Able to work in a fast-paced environment and meet deadlines
- ▶ Good communication skills, team player
- ▶ Thai-English speaker

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV to Khun Anna (General Manager), by email, fax or post to:

**The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd**

79/94 Moo 4, Thepkasattri Rd, T. Koh Kaew, A. Muang Phuket 83000  
Tel: 076-273555, ext 102 Fax: 076-615240 Email: anna@phuketgazette.net

# Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

**CLASSIFIEDS ADMINISTRATION 2 POSITIONS**

Qualified candidates will be:

- ▶ Thai nationals, aged 22 years up
- ▶ Service-minded with an outgoing personality
- ▶ Able to work well with large numbers of advertisers, both foreign and Thai

and should have:

- ▶ A Bachelor's Degree from a recognizable university
- ▶ A good sense of organization and respect for details
- ▶ Knowledge of basic office software, InDesign and PageMaker would be a plus.

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV to Khun Kookai at [Kookai@PhuketGazette.Net](mailto:Kookai@PhuketGazette.Net)

**The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd**

79/94 Moo 4, Thepkasattri Rd, Koh Kaew  
A. Muang, Phuket 83000  
Tel: 076-273555, ext 207 Fax: 076-615240

# 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

**CUSTOMER SERVICE**

Call center 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

**PHUKET HOME SERVICE**

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

**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.

**PERSONAL ASSISTANT**

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

**SALES MANAGER NEEDED**

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

**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).

**QUALIFIED BOAT CREW**

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

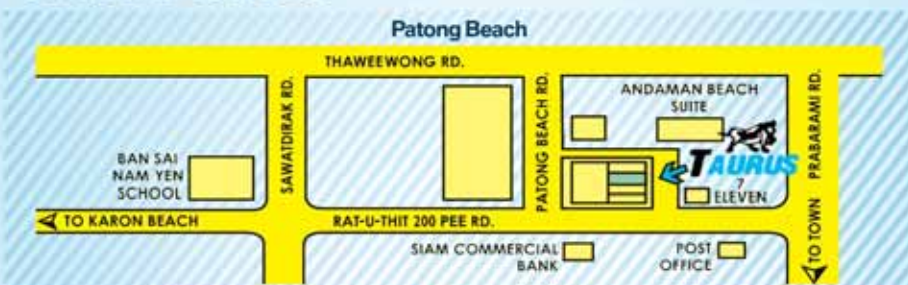
**RUSSIAN REAL ESTATE 150K+**

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

**Employment Wanted****HEAD CHEF**

Hi, I'm 32 years old with more than 10 years' experience as a chef. I am looking for employment. I am very hard working, experienced, reliable, easy-going, motivated and enthusiastic. Tel: 094-803 7306 (English). Email: m.dominici@email.cz

**Live in Patong?**  
Place your **GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS** at  
**Taurus Travel**



Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it with  
**Khun Kai: (076-344321-2)**

**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!**

**Live in Karon?**  
Place your **GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS** at  
**Euro style tailors**



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

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

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

Looking for a **JOB?**

Looking for a better candidate?

Find more Recruitment Classifieds at [WWW.PhuketGazette.Net!](http://WWW.PhuketGazette.Net)



## Business Opportunities

## Bulletins

## Patong



### 15-room Guesthouse and Sports Bar for sale

**Fully Furnished, Equipped & Licensed  
Long Lease 12 Years  
B1.9M or nearest offer**  
Contact pauljames@spathotel.com

#### RESTAURANT FOR SALE

Complete newly equipped and newly furnished restaurant in Patong for sale because of health issues. 700,000 baht. No key money and low monthly rent. Tel: 081-271 1605 (English & Thai), 081-891 9818 (English). Email: Luke59@web.de

#### GELATO EXCELLENCE IN PHUKET

Italian master, considered by international press to be one of the best gelato makers in all Europe, is looking for Thai investor to create excellence in Phuket. Email: info@officina delgeloavalon.eu, www.officina delgeloavalon.eu

#### PATONG STEAKHOUSE

Top-ranking and location for sale w/h all fixtures, furniture. Tel: 081-970 7007.

#### RESTAURANT & BAR FOR RENT

A long-established, fully equipped restaurant with bar for rent in an excellent location on Nanai Road, Patong. The 105sqm premises include a fully equipped kitchen, restaurant and bar with ample seating for 50 customers and excellent parking facilities. For all inquiries, Tel: 081-892 8526 Email: info@phuket-best homes.com

#### BAR / CAFE / RESTAURANT

Fully licensed Thai/ Western restaurant (seats 50+) on main road near Laguna and Bang Tao, with fully equipped kitchen, cafe /bar/bakery, with staff accommodation & customer parking: for sale or rent - price negotiable. Tel: 080-719 7390 (English & Thai).

#### RESTAURANT FOR RENT-PATONG



250sqm, fully equipped and furnished with license, on Sai Nam Yen Road, close to Sai Nam Yen Plaza. Tel: 086-268 3963.

#### MARKETING FOR REAL ESTATE

Phuket's leading real estate agency is now looking for new marketing staff to join our successful team at Jungceylon, the Banana Walk shopping center, and our Kata Beach office. A high salary and commissions will be given for the right person. Thai nationals only. Please send your CV to Tel: 076-341045, 081-4590152. Email: admin@pro pertyinphuket.com

#### TECH STARTUP INVESTMENT

3million baht investment needed for Home Security Tech. The team has already secured a purchasing intent letter worth 2 million and have technology ready to manufacture. We only need a seed fund to start it up. We are ready to do full due diligence. Tel: 085-156 4495 Tel: 083-993 9553 (English & Thai). Email: pipet @ipfun dasia.com, For further details, please see our website at www.getcerberus.com

#### RAWAI RESTAURANT URGENT SALE

Area 3,800sqm. Reduced from 1.5mn to 980,000, yearly rent 200,000 baht, includes 2 houses. Tel: 089-646 7176.

#### BAR FOR SALE

Prime Kamala location. High ST. Long lease available, very low rent, large size bar fully fitted outside garden area. Tel: 084-051 0891. Email: blackcatsmalc@gmail.com

#### GRAPHIC AND DESIGN COMPANY

Swiss company is looking for a joint venture or cooperation with a Phuket or Thailand-based graphic and design company. Business area: visualization for real estate projects / architecture. Tel: +41 076-349 7177

#### RESTAURANT FOR SALE

Fully equipped kitchen, fully furnished, TVs, dart board, pool table. Up to 80 seats. Two units, Lease: 5+3 years. Rent paid until Sept. 2015. No key money. Good location; Next to Best Western. Tel: 084-626 4528 (English) Tel: 087-882 1445 (English). Email: drazen.johansson@gmail.com

#### SPA & HERB SHOP FOR SALE

2-floor plan shop, fully equipped with aircon and display shelves, phone connection, etc. Tel: 089-645 8976.

#### BAR SOI TIGER FOR SALE

2nd row in from the front, over 2 years contract, 4.5m. For details Tel: 081-728 2682 (English).

#### INVESTMENT IN RAWAI



German design, 5 units, 50sqm to 100 sqm. Building 2014 + 1-shop 40sqm. Complete price: 28.5 million baht. Tel: 080-145 3533 (Christina).

## Alcoholics Anonymous

If you want to drink that is your business

If you want to stop that is ours

Daily Meetings

Patong, Phuket Town, Chalong, Surin, Karon

081-895 4763  
084-307 7408

Email: phuketaa@yahoo.com

Google AA Phuket

## Bar & Restaurant Equipment

#### GUESTHOUSE CLOSING

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

# Phuket Gazette

## CLASSIFIED AD ORDER FORM

STANDARD AD (Text only): 140 baht/line

OPTIONS (NEWSPAPER ONLY - NOT WEB):

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

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

#### ONLINE OPTIONS:

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

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

#### TELEVISION OPTION:

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

Total cost of your classified ..... baht

Each line is 140 baht, with a minimum of 4 lines (headline included). All ads must be paid in advance. The editors reserve the right not to publish any unsuitable material. In the event of non-publication of an advertisement for any reason, the publisher's liability shall be limited to the amount paid for the advertisement.

Please note: We are unable to offer refunds for any unused ads.

For more information, Please call 076-273555.  
Email: Kookai@phuketgazette.net

## PROMOTION PRICE

Your Ad on PGTV

## SAMPLE ADS

#### TOYOTA HILUX HERO

Pick-up, 4-door, 2.4L diesel. Good condition. Stereo. Only 95,000 km. Carefully maintained, service record available. Quick sale at 120,000 baht. Tel Khun Noi on 076 668126/7.

Standard: 840 baht (incl VAT)

Standard + Special font/layout + Box: 1,340 baht (incl VAT) →

#### NATIVE TEACHER OF ENGLISH TO YOUNG CHILDREN SEEKS CHALLENGING POSITION IN PHUKET

I will move to Phuket soon. Three yrs teaching in Bangkok.  
Phone Mr Reece  
(02) 668-1268

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

.....	(Headline)
.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	560 Baht
.....	700 Baht
.....	840 Baht
.....	980 Baht
.....	1,120 Baht
.....	1,260 Baht
.....	1,400 Baht



## Business Products &amp; Services



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

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

**CALL NOW:**  
081-868 7676 (English).  
080-525 3135 (Thai)

**DINODAYCARECENTER**

## VISA SERVICES

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

## SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

Professional and efficient. E-commerce, websites, desktop software. Tel: 085-073 9994.

## WORLDWIDE AIR TICKETS

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

## Personals

## BACKGAMMON

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

## Pool Tables

## STYLISH POOL TABLES

Style is a way to say who you are without having to speak. White 'Tokyo' model pool table. Tel: 085-797 0005, 085-7970303. www.thailandpooltables.com/index.php/tokyo-white-billiard-table.html.

## Computer

## IMAC 21.5" (2010)

Intel Core i3 3.2Ghz/4GB  
MACBOOK PRO 15" (2009)  
Intel Core 2 Duo 2.8Ghz/4GB  
Tel: 076-510143.

## SAMSUNG COMPUTER

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

## IMAC 27"

Intel core i7 upgraded spec 1TB HD, 251GB Flash Drive, 16GB Ram + photo software Tel: 084-447 7247

## Club Memberships Available

## GOLF !!!.....GOLF !!!

Lifetime family membership at Phuket Country Club, Kathu. 530,000 baht, including transfer fee. Tel: 086-282 0700 (Werner). Email: aerni.we@gmail.com

## BLUE CANYON MEMBERSHIP

Family Membership. Maintenance paid through 2014. 760,000 baht, including transfer fee. Tel: 091-224 1773 (English). Email: smolar@hotmail.com

## Miscellaneous Wanted

## A/C NEEDED 35SQM ROOM

Only very good or better used air-conditioner for 35sqm office. Tel: 090-165 8266 (English & Thai). Email: mjlucarelli@yahoo.com

## Education

## LEARN ENGLISH

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

## COUNTRY CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Country club membership for sale. 500,000 baht, including transfer fee. Tel: 091-647 6216 (Jo). Email: jm.conasiam@gmail.com

## GOLF MEMBERSHIP SALE

Life membership at Phuket Country Club Kathu. 550,000 baht, including transfer fee. Tel: 084-722 1520 (Ann, Kurt)

## Golf Stuff

## PING G25 SET

Brand new set China made Ping G25. Played only 9 holes. Driver, 3, 5, irons, SW, PW and putter. Stand bag and carry case included. Only 7,000 baht. Tel: 081-894 1530 (English).

## BAR CONTENTS

1 pool table, 50 bar stools, 15 fans, 4x42" LG TVs, 2-door fridge, sound system, 10 concrete tables, 4 timber top tables, shelving all new or as new. Tel: 087-282 7407.

## Building Products &amp; Services

## CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

Thai company, with western management, offering you a full range of construction services, from simple renovations to full builds, at affordable prices. Please feel free to contact us for more information. Tel: 085-576 6812 (English) Tel: 089-166 8090 (Thai). Email: ajb@thaiworldproperty.com. For further details, please see our website at www.thaiworldconstruction.com

## OUR SERVICE

Engineering structural design service- Steel structural design service-retaining wall structural design service-infrastructure design service-renovation engineering service. Tel: 076-283549, 081-255 7003 (English & Thai), 089-652 0768 Fax: 076-283549. Email: 2homerestort@gmail.com

## Cameras &amp; Equipment

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

Rawai. Canon EOS 7D (2010), very good condition, + EF-S 18-135 (new). 24,000 baht. Tel: 080-717 9071. Email: otto.nothe@yahoo.de.

## Fitness Equipment

## ASHTANGA YOGA SHALA

Mysore style, lead and beginner's classes. Personal approach and professional adjustment. Tel: 080-698 0813 (English). Email: sofialinkov@gmail.com.

## Pets

## MISSING DOG



We miss our dog Quincy. An Airedale terrier, male, black and brown coat. He got lost on December 31 in Patong. 3,000 baht reward. Tel: 087-091 2798 (English & Thai).

## CHIHUAHUA DOG FOR SALE

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



**Phuket today**  
Phuket Gazette

**Hot deal!**  
**Classified Ads on TV**

Your Classified Ad will appear on the Phuket Today show, broadcast on 3 cable networks and running 24 hours a day via in-house TV in over 4,000 hotel rooms around the island.

**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









## JAENEAU 7.55 METER SPEEDBOAT – B2.55M

Twin 140 HP Suzuki – Low hours  
Completely redone December 2014  
1000 Watt JL audio system  
American owned and maintained with no corners cut.  
Turn-key ready to go for season  
**Call 062-061 0244**

**Boatshedphuket.com**  
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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. EARLINESS: *areinless* 10. PRETENDER: pre-tender 12. el-M.S.  
13. STATOR: *start(0)* 14. SUSTAIN: *satusin* 15. REDIRECTS: *ridescert*  
17. ORANGEADE: *gonedeara* 18. MUTABLE: *butmeal* 19. POSITS: *stopis*  
20. FUSS: *worry* 23. OUTRIGGER: O.U.-set off 25. DIRTROADS: *sirdodart*  
26. TIDY: *it[rev]-D-Y* 27. TARPON: *trapno* 29. DEPUTES: *duestep*  
32. OPPRESSOR: Op.-press-O-R 34. SELECTIVE: *vilesect-E*  
35. AMNESIA: *isaname* 36. EARTHY: *atryhe* 37. BAAN: *baAn*  
38. HEARTFELT: *heart-left* 39. TENTACLES: *letacent*

**Down:**

1. TELEGRAM: *metlarge* 2. PREMEDITATED: *timepredated*  
3. TESTICLE: *electsir* 4. ASITIS: *as-I-sit{up}* 5. SPURIOUS: *spur-I.O.U.'s*  
6. NEWSCASTER: *swearcents* 7. MESSAGE: *mess-age* 8. PRINCESSES: *sincepress*  
11. DRAMA: *Dr.-a-M.A.* 16. RABBIT: *crabbit* 19. PER: *rep[up]*  
21. UNATTAINABLE: *atunatin-able* 23. OSTEOPATHY: *theystoopa*  
24. GLASSPAPER: *glass-paper* 25. DIN: *D-in*  
28. PERMEATE: *per-team* 29. DOLPHINS: *oldship(N)* 30. STERNEST: *stern-set*  
31. DENSITY: *sendit-Y* 33. PANWA: *pawna* 34. SPRITE: *scrip-T*

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# Gov Nisit's support garners gratitude



**SUPPORTING TRADITIONS:** (L to R): Guntapich Ruangvittayanont, sales manager – domestic of Siam Niramit, and Kessara Keereerat, director of sales for Siam Niramit and thank Phuket Governor Nisit Jansomwong.



**GOURMET GOODNESS:** Phuket Governor Nisit Jansomwong (L) is thanked by Oriol Montal, JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa's General Manager, for his support of the first-ever 'Gourmet Weekend Event 2015'.

## Phuket Reporters' Club gets wet for the Boat Lagoon Lighthouse Market



Kemmawan Hemmarat volunteers at the Reporters' Club booth.



Pemika Seangthong.



Boon Yongsakul, deputy managing director for Boat Lagoon, enjoys the dunk booth at the Lighthouse Market. Photos: PR Department

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Project Area 53.58 Rai, Financial Institution: Siam Commercial Bank Public Co., Ltd. Construction Start: March 2013 Expected Completion: 2015 applying for Operation License. After full payment is completed, transference is made within 7 days.

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## Words from the wise

"Age is something that doesn't matter unless, you are a cheese."  
— Luis Buneul

"I have yet to hear a man ask for advice on how to combine marriage and a career."  
— Gloria Steinem

## Medium

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

## Hard

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

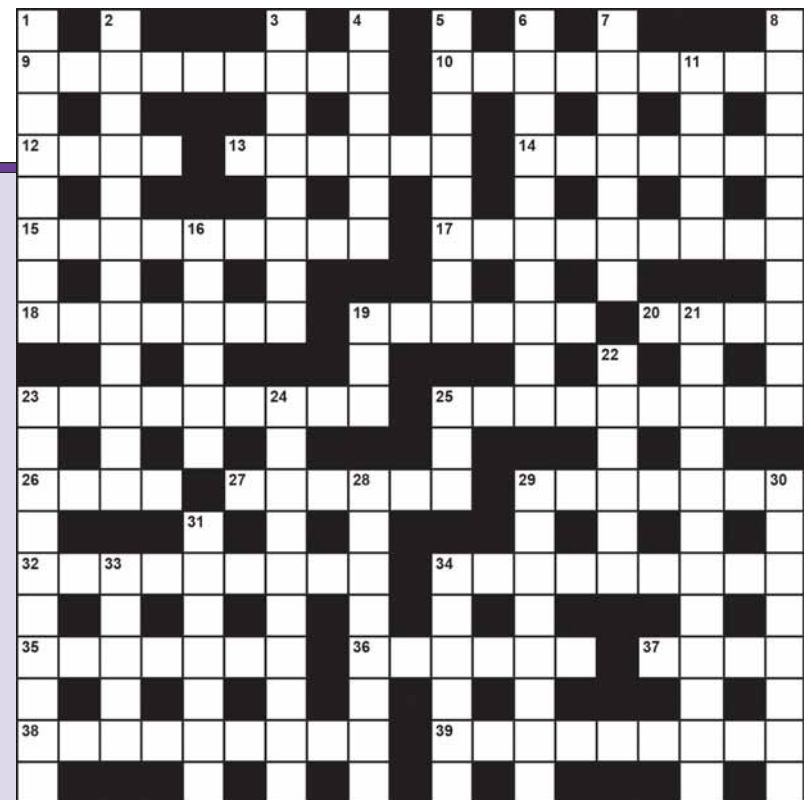
SUDOKU: Each row, column and 3x3 sub-grid must contain the number 1-9 once only. © Kevin Stone (brainbashers.com)

COFFEE  
break

## Cryptic Crossword

## Across

9. Are in less, perhaps as a condition of coming before time (9)  
10. Unjustified aspirant before offer (9)  
12. The Spanish manuscript for trees (4)  
13. Stationary component to maybe start around zero (6)  
14. Disturbed, sat us in to support (7)  
15. Rides 'cert', maybe shows the way again (9)  
17. Gone, dear, a mixed refreshing drink (9)  
18. But meal could be liable to change (7)  
19. Puts forward. Stop, is out of order! (6)  
20. Worry about furor (4)  
23. Oxford University set off in a boat with a subsidiary hull (9)  
25. Sir, do dart wildly in unpaved tracks (4,5)  
26. Return it, date, year, in good order (4)  
27. Trap no different game fish (6)  
29. Nominates due step carefully (7)  
32. Tyrant to work newspapers round right! (9)  
34. Vile sect out East is discriminatory (9)  
35. Is a name destroyed by loss of memory (7)  
36. A try he made to be bawdy (6)  
37. Ban about article on Thai house (4)  
38. Center left possibly sincere (9)



39. Best plain new gaming locations (9)

## Down

1. Supplanted means of communication met large complication (8)  
2. Thought before time, pre-dated perhaps (12)  
3. Grasping member let a cent change (8)  
4. In existing circumstances, while I sit up (6)  
5. Encourage acknowledgements of debt to be fake (8)  
6. Swear cents can be changed for the radio announcer (10)  
7. Communication disorder, period (7)  
8. Since press upset female royalty (10)  
11. Doctor a graduate in stage play (5)

16. Not caught, crab bit rodent (6)  
19. For each rep to turn up (3)  
21. A tuna tin could be able to be out of reach! (12)  
22. New port I caught at 23 and a bit degrees latitude (6)  
23. They stoop a different way from manipulative surgery (10)  
24. Mirror journal as an abrasive medium (5,5)  
25. Five hundred in the racket (3)  
28. Pass through for each team out East (8)  
29. Old ship maybe hiding new marine mammals (8)  
30. Back on board, set out to be most severe (8)  
31. Send it wrong year in stupidity (7)  
33. Pawn a cape in Phuket (5)  
34. Writing substitute for legal tender on time (6)

## AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19):



Downplay your independent streak for now, as being with upbeat people can bring out the best in you. As a result, you might enjoy being swept along by the pace of this week's social events. However, be wary of mixing friendship with business or money, as it could take the edge off one involvement you have.

## PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20):



Venus's arrival in your sign is set to encourage your social side to come out to play. Even so, a desire to be with friends and to enjoy life could clash with a need to meet urgent goals or deadlines. You'll need to tap into your natural ingenuity to find a way around this. A happy secret shared between you and a friend might give you something to smile about.

## ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20):



The focus on the sign of Pisces deepens as Venus moves in this week, suggesting it's a good time to pay even closer attention to your

dreams. If you do, you might get some powerful pointers on key issues. This week, friendships can also be supportive with unexpected invites showing up. In love, if there have been recent tensions, resolving these could deepen intimacy.

## TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21):



Although goals and plans may demand attention, a funny and sensitive friend could help release any feelings of

stress and boost your spirits. It will also help to leave spaces in your calendar for unexpected opportunities or invites that could prove to be very beneficial. Do avoid letting someone put a damper on a brilliant idea, though.

## GEMINI (May 22-June 21):



A plan could move one step nearer to success – if you're willing to reach out and liaise with the right

people. For making those vital connections could mean you will be on the road to a winning formula, even if you do have to overcome obstacles in the process. In fact, pooling resources and talents might speed up your rate of progress even more.

YOUR  
horoscope

By Patrick Arundell

## CANCER (June 22-July 23):



Sharing unique and innovative ideas can encourage people to take an interest in you, and perhaps

to contribute where they can. Later in the week, romantic and intimate relationships are in focus as Venus moves closer to Neptune, and a developing bond could become all the sweeter the more you spend time in one another's company.

## LEO (July 24-Aug 23):



Although you may enjoy many opportunities for pleasant evenings and wonderful conversation, a friend or partner's situation might detract you from your sense of well-being. If so, it will be your patient support that could be the very thing that helps them turn the corner. If you are looking to improve a close tie, soft music and glowing candles might help.

## VIRGO (Aug 24-Sept 23):



Should you find yourself at odds with anyone, work hard at not taking it personally. This week, as

Venus squares up to Saturn, it's even possible you'll benefit from a few practical pointers. An ongoing conflict could put family needs at odds with your social life, but try to talk it over for a more successful outcome.

## LIBRA (Sept 24-Oct 23):



This week's influences could push you to stand up for your rights and greater recognition at work,

or in everyday situations. As Venus edges into Pisces, avoid taking the passive route to dealing with an irritating problem. It's better to say something now and move on than to bottle up your emotions and feel upset and annoyed.

## SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22):



Feelings for someone you're fond of may intensify this week, encouraging you to spend more

time in each other's company.

Ultimately though, it could be because you have certain life issues in common that are drawing you closer together. Later this week, a family member could have an unexpected announcement to make.

## SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21):



You might find that wishful thinking, rather than getting in the way of practical matters,

could be your ally. Imagination, and not logic, may be where your deeper answers lie. There might also be opportunities for lively interactions with those in your locality, perhaps also a chance to exchange goods and services too.

## CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20):



Give thought to your financial goals and consider discussing them with someone who has a

particular flair in this area. The Quarter Moon can put a romantic spin on a relationship, even if your values are as different as chalk and cheese. Later, it's not what you say, but the way that you say it that counts, as is so often true.



# Diving into freehold condos

By Maciek Klimowicz

HIGH demand for condominiums coupled with an oversupply of new units has led the developers of Naiharn Beach Condominium (NBC) to turn their attention to the island's south, where they say attractive locations for new developments are easier to come by.

"The number of places left for freehold condominiums is very limited," says Fredric Perrochon, NBC sales director.

"Our specific location allows us to build and sell a seven-floor condominium project which we can offer as a freehold property."

Under Thai law, a foreigner can own 100 per cent of a freehold condominium – if the developer has obtained a condominium license, as is the case with NBC.

All three seven-storey buildings of NBC are located on a plot of 4,000 square meters of land, only one kilometer from Nai Harn Beach. Buildings A and B will be ready by the end of March, while construction of building C is scheduled to be completed in October.

"There are very few condominium projects in Nai Harn that offer freehold ownership, as this area is more villa and apartment oriented, which – by law – can only be purchased by foreigners as 30-year leasehold," explains Mr Perrochon.

However, the freehold status isn't the only attraction of NBC. A major asset of the project is its location in a green and secluded area, only a short walk from Nai Harn Beach.

"Nai Harn Beach is the only southern beach in Phuket where you can swim all year round," says Mr Perrochon, adding that the location is also near a wide choice of dining options and tourist attractions.

The project itself will feature 85 units divided into four categories: 45sqm one-bedroom units, 57sqm one-bedroom units,



Phuket's own NBC – Naiharn Beach Condominium, where foreigners can legally own their own home 100-per-cent freehold.

67sqm two-bedroom units and 115sqm two-bedroom units. Prices range from 4 million baht for the smaller units up to 8.6mn baht for the larger two-bedroom apartments.

"Our units will be delivered with air-conditioning in each room, fully equipped bathrooms and basic kitchen spaces with a sink," explains Mr Perrochon, adding that the owners have the choice of furnishing the apartments themselves, or choosing one of NBC's furniture packages.

The NBC's amenities will also include two shared swimming pools, a coffee shop, fitness center, parking for 40 vehicles and a free shuttle bus to the beach.

"About 40 per cent of our units have already been sold, with 24 freehold units still available," says Mr Perrochon.

"We are also working on a guaranteed rental-return program, which we will announce soon."

For more information, visit [nbcphuket.com](http://nbcphuket.com)



An owner may choose to furnish the condo, or select one of NBC's furniture packages.

## Jump in land transfers: owners 'spooked' by tax

THE prospect of an inheritance tax has led to a large jump in land transfers over recent months, the chief of the Bangkok Metropolitan Land Office has reported.

In December 2014 alone, there were 1,290 land transactions in Bangkok valued at 14.74 billion baht in total – up 88% and 180%, respectively, over the same period in 2013, noted Bangkok Land Office Chief Manus Chuasawat.

Last month saw 55 inheritance land transfers in inner Bangkok, up from 12 one year earlier, with a total fee income of 28.16 million baht (up from 1.94mn baht), he added.

The value of land transferred as inheritance increased from 388mn baht in December 2013 to 5.6bn baht last December. Currently, a fee of 0.5% of the land-appraisal value is collected for land transferred to an heir.

The Bangkok Metropolitan Land Office saw the highest value in inheritance land transfers (2.8bn baht), followed by the Land

As the bill is in the process of being discussed, concerning details about the threshold, people were worried about the amount of tax they would have to pay.

– Manus Chuasawat, chief of the Bangkok Metropolitan Land Office

Department's Phra Khanong branch (758.9mn baht), Huai Khwang branch (706.3mn baht), Bangkok Noi branch (578.1mn baht), and Prawet branch (532.31mn baht).

"This [transfer spike] is a clear result derived from the Inheritance Tax Bill," Mr Manus said.

"As the bill is in the process of being discussed, concerning details about the threshold, people were worried about the amount of tax they would have to pay."

The Inheritance Tax Bill, which is now under scrutiny in its sec-

ond reading by the National Legislative Assembly, seeks to collect a tax of 10% on the value of inherited land with an appraised value of more than 50mn baht.

The possibility of transfer fees rising was another factor that prompted people to make more transactions, Mr Manus said.

"Should the law be passed and the [increased] transfer fees come into effect, people will be charged twice," he explained.

The law is expected to come into effect in 2016.

Across the country, inheritance-land transfers totaled 5.36bn baht in December 2013.

Finance Minister Sommai Phasee previously said that the impact of the inheritance tax would not be too severe on most people, because the 10% tax would apply only to land valued above the 50mn baht minimum.

"I think that there is not an urgent need for people to transfer their inheritance to their heir at this time," he said. – *The Nation*

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# Smaller villas are all the rage

Moderately priced two to three-bedroom pool villas have started to dominate the property market



**Phuket Pads**  
**Patrick Lusted**

THE Phuket property market has remained fluid over the last 10 years. Crises have come and gone, yet the property market has remained surprisingly resilient. Buyers have benefited during this time period, as developers have adapted their offerings and prices to meet the budgets of overseas clients.

Five years ago there were few off-plan projects under 20 million baht for a three-bedroom villa. While there is still a demand for large, high-quality villas, there are many developers who are now building "boutique villa" communities on smaller land plots, consisting of four to 12 units, with prices ranging from 8mn baht to 15mn baht.

Why is this happening?

Buyers' budgets have reduced due to the world economic crisis, or they are prepared to risk less capital in the current economic climate. At the same time, the cost of land on Phuket has increased substantially, as have building costs.

Developers – a savvy bunch – recognized that buyers are now looking for two-bedroom to three-bedroom private villas with a swimming pool and a secure com-

munity in a pleasant area near the beach. The plot sizes are usually no more than 400sqm and 500sqm. The quality-designed villas usually have the swimming pool as the central focal point, with the living space and bedrooms overlooking the central area, making a very entertaining and inviting private space. The benefits to the buyer are: exceptional value for money and owning a property in Thailand, which can be rented out for short or long term – receiving excellent rental returns.

One such example of this change is a three-bedroom pool villa in Rawai that hits all of the marks. Constructed around a swimming terrace and an easy-care garden, the pool promises enjoyment for years to come.

Enter through the double carport, past the laundry/storage room and into the open-plan living area. The full Western kitchen features gorgeous wooden cabinetry, a breakfast bar and built-in stainless steel appliances. The lounge sits adjacent and opens onto the pool terrace, where you will find the informal dining suite.

The pool terrace is surrounded by a nicely landscaped garden and has a modern lounge sala. There are views of the mountains, with trees peaking over the security fence, and the pool itself is perfect for relaxing with a step-down design and in-pool jacuzzi.




The pool is designed as the ideal centerpiece to the unit.

All three bedrooms have pool access. The master suite sits at the head of the house and features an en-suite bathroom with a his-and-hers vanity. The other two bedrooms share the second bathroom. The built-in ward-


robes, fans and air-conditioners in all rooms, as well as the dining terrace are all it takes to complete the picture. This is the kind of villa that is easy to maintain and can generate a steady rental income if so desired.

The property is priced at 9.6 million baht.

For details, contact: Patrick Lusted at Siam Real Estate, quote reference number: HSIL7355. T: 076-288908 [www.siamrealestate.com](http://www.siamrealestate.com).



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## Leading firms bring big money to undeveloped land, infrastructure

LEADING property firms have set aside a combined investment budget of more than 100 billion baht this year to buy undeveloped land and construct the infrastructure for developing residential projects both this year and next, according to a survey conducted by *The Nation* last week.

The funds will come from their cash flow, the issuance of debentures and real estate investment trusts (REITs).

For example, Land & Houses has earmarked 12bn baht, some 8bn baht of which is allocated to buying undeveloped land and the remainder to acquire assets generating recurring income.

Some of the developer's investment budget will come from issuing a debenture as well as an REIT.

Sansiri has set aside 7bn baht to buy undeveloped land and an-



Firms seek undeveloped land.

other 24bn baht for developing the infrastructure for its projects.

The investment budget will be funded by the company's cash flow.

Quality Houses, meanwhile, has put aside a budget to purchase undeveloped land worth 8bn baht this year.

"We have expanded our investment to buy undeveloped land this year from last year's level, when

we invested only 7bn baht, after seeing business opportunity both for developing residential projects and investing in assets that generate recurring income for the long term," explained Naporn Sunthornchitcharoen, president of Land & Houses PLC.

Sansiri president Srettha Thavisin said the company's 7bn-baht investment budget would be for the purchase of land in both Bangkok and the provinces, as the company believed the property market this year would recover from last year's level thanks to an economic recovery driven by the government's expenditure plans.

Meanwhile, new residential project launches by listed property firms will recover to more than 200 projects worth over 350bn baht this year, with half of them being condominium projects, *The Nation* survey found.



# You say Kobe, I say Saga

By Maciek Klimowicz

HAVE you ever heard of Saga beef? Most of us haven't. Many of us, though, are familiar with Kobe beef – if not with its fabled flavor, than at least with its lore, which tells of pampered cows enjoying lives filled with Beethoven's symphonies, gentle massages and buckets of sake before they meet their fate at the slaughter house.

"Everybody knows Kobe beef as the best beef in the world, but if you ask what my favorite beef is, I say Saga," says chef Norio Nomoto of JW Marriott Bangkok.

Chef Nomoto recently visited JW Marriott Phuket to join forces with chef Hiromi Nakabaru, from Saga Prefecture in Japan, to present a special Saga Beef Promotion Menu at Kabuki restaurant.

"Saga beef is no less delicious than Kobe beef, it's just less well known. Kobe has a brand, but Saga tastes very similar and is less expensive," explains chef Nomoto.

This last characteristic of Saga

beef, its attractive price tag – at least when compared to the skyrocketing prices of Kobe – is a flavor to savor.

Saga beef is characterized by the same wonderful flavor and texture as Kobe. All thanks to Japanese cattlemen who take great care to keep their cows in good spirits, as well as feed them the best available food and drink. Such well-nourished, relaxed and happy cows produce meat of unrivaled quality, explains chef Nomoto.

If there is a beef that melts in ones mouth, it has to be *wagyu*, which composes several breeds of Japanese cow that are genetically predisposed to intense marbling.

Saga beef proves itself a good cut of *wagyu* at the Kabuki restaurant, as it comes straight off a simmering hot Japanese *teppan* grill before being served with a hint of mustard sauce.

"Saga beef has a very nice flavor that opens up in your mouth. I recommend not using too much seasoning; salt and pepper is



The Saga region brings you another well-marbled, melt-in-your-mouth wagyu steak.

enough," chef Nomoto explains, when asked about the best way to prepare a Saga steak.

In fact, the same can be said about Japanese cuisine in general. Of course it has its tricks and advanced techniques, but what's at its heart are quality ingredients. If you have the best beef, the best

pork or the best seafood at your disposal, there isn't much left for the chef to do but to serve it fresh and clean.

And that's exactly what chefs at Kabuki do. While they are no strangers to showmanship at the *teppan*, which involves sharp blades and seemingly out-of-con-

trol flames, what ends up on the guests' plates is an ode to unadulterated food.

Saga Beef Promotion Menu priced at 3800 ++ baht is available until the end of January at JW Marriot Phuket's Kabuki restaurant. For bookings call 076 338-000 ext. 3748.



When it comes to Saga beef, it's best to keep the flavors simple.



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# Many layers of an onion



MY GOOD friend Sam Wilko, known to *Gazette* readers as resident gourmet, sent me a fascinating article about the onion and suggested I write about it. So, here are some appropriated facts about the humble onion – plus a few of my own.

It is the world's most widely grown vegetable. About 175 countries cultivate it – twice the number that grow wheat, the world's most abundant crop. Moreover, it is probably the oldest edible vegetable to be cultivated for food, surfacing in Egyptian books some 4,000 years old that identify a cuisine, according to French hisotrian Jean Bottero, of "striking richness, sophistication and... artistry".

Its botanical name, *allium cepa*, marks it out as an unlikely member of the lily genus. Its blue-rounded umbels, borne at the end of long stems, are so attractive in their own right, they may have provided its original *raison d'être*.

Indeed, flowering onions have recently been finding favor as a fashionable and sculptural addition to urban rock-gardens.

Most onions, however, never reach the flowering stage, since every cook wants to get their hands on the succulent bulb before it starts giving up its goodness. As with pumpkins, growers vie with each other to produce the biggest: currently the record, at over 16 pounds, is held by a British farmer.

Despite its ubiquity, the onion is mostly imported into Thailand, for the simple reason that the neighboring countries of India and China produce roughly half of the world's



The onion is a versatile vegetable, with its culinary origins dating back 4,000 years ago to Egypt. Photo: Andrew C

crop. The Kingdom can and does produce onions, but because they are durable and transportable, it makes more sense to import them. Moreover, they are essentially a cool-climate vegetable, making it a tad hot for them here. I have yet to see a row of onions growing in Phuket. Dear gardener, let me know if you have succeeded in this endeavor. I would be delighted to hear from you.

The trick with cultivating good onions is deep, well-prepared,

organo-rich soil. Well-rotted manure, worked in deeply, will improve the quality of the crop. Wood ash can usefully be added to the top soil. They can be propagated from seed, but it must be fresh else germination will not occur. Prick them out when two inches tall and put them in individual pots before transferring to open ground. Or, the seed can be sown in rows and the seedlings thinned out as they develop. More often though, onions are grown in

sets. The small bulbs can be planted in a row a few inches apart. Water and feed the plants regularly. An onion is 89 percent water, after all.

When growth slackens, and the green tops – which consist of a fan of hollow blue-green leaves – begin to sag, bend over the remainder to encourage further plumping of the bulbs. If the surplus soil around the onion is pared away to expose its upper half, it will be easy to see when the onion has stopped putting on weight. Lift

them when they are fully developed and dry out the bulbs in the open air. If you intend to keep them longer, then move to a cooler place. Otherwise, packed with energy, they will begin to sprout after a couple of weeks.

The most common variety of onion is the yellow type, exemplified by such traditional cultivars as Ailsa Craig and Autumn Queen. This is the one you will find in your local fresh market, ranged alongside the so-called red onion (in fact purple) which is smaller and somewhat sweeter – hence its appeal as a colorful ingredient in salads. Other members of the clan include shallots which produce clusters of small bulbs in the same way as garlic, and are therefore referred to as multiplier onions.

While onions are exceedingly good for you, with high levels of vitamin B and lots of trace elements – manganese, magnesium, phosphorus, iron and zinc – they do contain eye irritants which are released, as we all know to our cost, when they are cut open.

Perhaps lesser known, is the fact that onions are potentially lethal to domestic pets such as cats and dogs. For the would-be grower, there are some persistent pests: eelworms, which unseen, attack the roots; and onion flies, which appear as if by magic when the bulbs show any tendency to rot.

Not a happy note on which to end. Instead, let's just imagine a stew, a shepherd's pie, or *boeuf bourguignon*, devoid of this indispensable ingredient.

Catch Patrick online at [PhuketGazette.net](http://PhuketGazette.net) Sunday morning next week, when he looks at the effectiveness of Ashok Trees for screening one's property.

## Tip of the Week

### Ways to water your patch

NOW that Phuket's dry season is upon us, some form of watering is essential for your garden.

Most of us make do with hoses attached to available outdoor water sources. The process is time-consuming, but has the advantage of ensuring you can direct the flow straight down onto the soil, and focus on the plants that need the most attention.

An alternative is to use sprinklers which spray in a fixed pattern, or rotating ones that deliver water over an extensive circle of ground.

These are especially useful if you have large areas of lawn. They ensure a fairly even distribution of H<sub>2</sub>O.

Irrigation systems can be installed with a system of pipes extending – usually at, or just below, surface level – to all the key areas of the garden. Usually these systems have valves which control water usage, and spray heads set at intervals along the hosing.

Simpler versions called drip emitters have small holes in the pipe at regular intervals.



An alternative to using a hose is to install a sprinkler. Photo: Andrew C





## Island Fever

By Bill Barnett

[illegible]

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# Painting our world



The students were asked to paint their thoughts about the environment.



**Thinking Green**  
By Dr Peter W Harris

IN A very moving exhibition, students from five local schools have created in art and words their feelings about the environment.

Nearly 300 students from Anuban Kanchanawat Wittaya School, Kanchanawat Wittaya School, Thairatwittaya 29 School, Phuket Wittayalai School and Baan Kuku School created works of art under the themes of rubbish, plants, sea and oceans, tourism and sustainability.

The exhibition, held in the center of Jungceylon, is the creative idea of Prassopsuk "Pom" Leadviriyapiti.

Pom is an ecological artist who devotes her free time to working

with schools and community groups and running workshops about the environment.

The schools that get involved are asked to provide the necessary materials and a room in which to paint.

"I love my country," Pom says. "I want to give students a spark to think about our environment."

"To help our environment, we have to create an awareness [of it] and encourage students to think about the issues and the solutions."

After Pom meets with the school directors, she then recruits enthusiastic teachers to undertake the project.

"We ask that students write down their thoughts [about

the environment] in English and Thai. From the writings, they have to create a piece of art," says Pom.

As they hope to be one day in-

**I love my country. I want to give students a spark to think about our environment. To help our environment, we have to create an awareness [of it] and encourage students to think about the issues and the solutions.**



Prassopsuk "Pom" Leadviriyapiti is an ecological artist who volunteers at schools and in community groups, running workshops about the environment.

involved in an international community, all students are encouraged to use English, Pom explains.

"Our pictures have to be human and honest and reflect feelings [and states] like dirty, smelly and oily, but also express cleanliness

and happiness," she adds.

The exhibition itself promotes the re-use and recycling of materials; all of the paintings are attached to newspapers, which can be re-used after the event is over.

It is inspiring to see a local artist so concerned about the future of Phuket's children that she devotes all of her spare time volunteering and encouraging the young to think about such issues and about the future.

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# Angry teenagers


**Balance Matters**
**Rita Dobson**

KEVIN screamed, "I don't care what you think!", as he pushed his mother out of the doorway to his bedroom. His mother, Jit, was propelled into a wall head first and fell to her knees. She called after her son, but he was already gone.

Jit pulled herself up, walked to the kitchen table, picked up her tea and began to cry before her lips touched the cup. She asked herself how things had gotten this bad, but had no answer.

Kevin enjoyed a happy childhood in Phuket with lots of friends, success with sports and school, as well as all hobbies and interests. Peter and Jit, Kevin's parents, were relieved Kevin was such a happy and independent child, because they were so busy with their business and also needed to look after Kevin's younger, physically handicapped brother.

When Kevin entered secondary school, his demeanor and outlook changed. It quickly went from bad to worse. Peter and Jit knew that boys go through changes as teenagers, so they simply applied discipline and boundaries, figuring Kevin would grow out of it.

As the months passed, his outbursts became more frequent, aggressive and insulting toward his mother. He lost interest in his sports and hobbies, and screamed in defiance when his father suggested he get back into them.

On this particular morning, Jit found cigarettes in Kevin's bag. Jit's mother died of lung cancer,



There are ways that parents can help their children deal with anger problems and heal. Photo: Pamula 133

making her an ardent anti-smoker. She was planning to have a rational conversation with Kevin, but it turned into an emotion-filled lecture. Kevin reached his tipping point, threw his mother to the ground, and stormed out of the house.

Kevin came home from school that day with a black eye. The head teacher called Jit to inform her that Kevin had been in a fight and that his teachers had complained of his disruptive behavior in class.

The school suspended Kevin and required him to see a coun-

sellor for continued enrollment in the school. Kevin resisted the counselling at first, but soon found the sessions to be stress-relievers because he could talk about anything and knew the conversation would be confidential.

Counselling provided him space to explore his feelings, thoughts and behaviors in a supportive environment. Kevin talked about the resentment he felt toward his younger brother and the guilt for feeling that resentment.

He was sad and ashamed for behaving so aggressively toward

his mother. He talked about feeling restricted and restrained and wishing he could lead his own life. Counselling gave him the opportunity to put a meaning to his unhappy feelings – to let go, forgive himself and move on. Kevin learned that receiving help was okay. This alone could benefit him in his later life.

Anger – one of the most natural and healthy human emotions – affects millions of teens. Teens become angry for a multitude of reasons. Some struggle to cope with strong emotions, while also

dealing with confusing changes to their life and body during puberty.

Alcohol or drug usage; feeling lonely or rejected; things being unfair; school issues such as bullying or coping with learning difficulties; experiencing parental divorce; exposure to aggression at home or in the media; or not being listened to are all potential triggers.

While we all express and deal with anger in different ways – shouting, hitting, breaking things or mixing with the "wrong" crowd – anger becomes a problem when it is too intense, occurs too frequently or leads to hostility. Feelings of anger can also be expressed inwardly with eating problems, misuse of drugs and alcohol, self-harm, feeling low and putting oneself in danger.

If anger is causing problems for your teenage child at home or at school, it would be helpful for them to learn ways to control it.

Parents, extended family members, caregivers and teachers can all play a role in helping teens cope with anger in healthy ways.

If your child still continues to struggle with their emotions you may want to consider seeking professional help.

*Rita Dobson, MBPS, BACP, is a professional counselor with a graduate diploma in psychology and an MA in counseling from Monash University. Rita has lived in Southeast Asia for more than 20 years. She has been working with youths in community centers, schools and young offenders' institutions, as well as supporting their families. Rita can be reached at [rita@balancegroup.asia](mailto:rita@balancegroup.asia)*

## Healthy ways for families, caregivers and teachers to help teenagers cope with anger

**YOU** can try helping your teenage children in the following ways:

◆ Communicate with your child, be available and approachable to prevent a build up of negative emotions

◆ Encourage participation in sports on a regular basis to release body tensions and chemical endorphins, which make a person feel good

◆ Allow your child to take time out in a safe environment when they need to scream or cry

◆ Help your child recognize anger triggers (computer games, family relationships, alcohol, and so on)

◆ Show your child how to maintain an "anger diary". Log times, days, situations and people that trigger their anger



A good way to relax is by reading a book. Photo: LouAnna

◆ Encourage your child to do breathing exercises. Take in deep breaths through the nose and count up to three. Hold it for a moment, then release through the mouth – counting to five

◆ Help your child to recognize warning signs, such as sweaty palms, increased heart

rate, tense shoulders and clenched fists – all common signs that emotions are beginning to boil over

◆ Help your child to relax by listening to music, singing or dancing

◆ Other ways to relax include reading, drawing or writing about feelings of anger

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# Bangkok to Phuket

## Baz reminisces about his 800km trek to help the Yaowawit School


**Blazing Saddles**
**By Baz Daniel**

AT 7:30pm on a Saturday, we trooped into a meeting room on top of the Majestic Grande Hotel in Bangkok overlooking Nana Plaza. Mainly male, average age mid-forties, hailing from Germany, Scandinavia, Switzerland, Canada, with one Englishman now domiciled in Phuket – me.

Martin Brot, owner of Siam Bike Tours, started his briefing about our Bangkok to Phuket tour, which we would be starting the next day. We were going to cycle a total of 810 kilometers over seven days with one rest day.

Martin explained that each day's format would be an 8am start and cycling in a group or peloton covering the first 40 to 50km in a couple of hours prior to a coffee/banana/sticky-bun stop. Then cycling onwards for another hour or so to have lunch around the 90km mark. Finally, the post-lunch pain session would cover the final 30/40/50km taking us to our hotel for the night.

Each day would see upwards of four hours of pedaling, but fear not, said Martin, our hotels all had spas and swimming pools (not to mention cold beer) with which to salve our aching bodies and souls.

We set off the next day by taking a mini-van to Petchaburi in order to avoid the congested Bangkok suburbs.

The ride started at around noon and took us to Cha-Am, then Hua



The tribe of 24 cyclists rode more than 800 kilometers from Bangkok to Phuket.

Hin, past deserted prawn ponds and burgeoning condominiums rearing out of the heat haze. We were on the main highway for much of the day and, reassuringly, the passing juggernauts did give us a wide berth as they passed what was essentially a collective organism comprised of 24 cyclists plus a support van replete with spare parts, energy drinks and a highly efficient support team.

It became clear that staying with the peloton was important, not only for the protection from traffic, but to gain shelter from the wind if you happened to be at the back, as I seemed to be!

I was becoming aware of what tribal primates humans are. Being part of this tribe of *homo pedalus* became a matter of an almost primal imperative for survival.

On day two we cycled through some of the most enchanting terrain of the trip – dramatic karst topography of Sam Roy Yod National Park.

After a beachside lunch at a ramshackle wooden restaurant, we cycled onwards for a total of 115km for the day. We ended in the quiet seaside town of Prachuap Khiri Khan and settled into our hotel, which overlooked the promenade and was bracketed by vaulting headlands and islands.

Day three took us along back roads through charming towns to the beach at Haad Ban Krut – a real Thai secret where the smiles and laid-back Thai charm were evident in abundance.

Day four was a 125km ride along beach roads colonnaded with palms, then over rolling hills on quiet side roads displaying a rich variety of Thai life. Our destination was a delightful resort on the beach of Ao Thung Wua Laen, 15km north of Chumphon where (oh, bliss) we had a rest day!

Day five was the longest day, a total of 140km firstly though Chumphon, then across the

“elephant's trunk of Thailand”, from the gulf to the Andaman Sea. We cycled through pristine forests and beside clean gushing rivers, which were reassuring to see after life in an increasingly polluted Phuket.

The final part of our day was the long descent into Ranong and to our hotel, which featured thermal pools with water from the hot springs for which the region is famous.

The next morning we were on the homeward stretch and in our final days: first, we stayed at a jungle lodge south of Kiraburi, then onwards to Khao Lak for our final night. We were on familiar territory to anyone who has enjoyed the dubious pleasures of doing visa runs out of Phuket.

Our final day was a 90km ride onto the island, terminating at Siam Bike Tours shop where a hearty salvo of cold beer waited to celebrate our survival.

A large percentage of Martin's clients are “returnees” who've done many tours with him. Once I got over the bone-tiredness from the trip, I too started thinking about my next long-distance bike ride... maybe once I am able to sit down again without wincing!

*Baz endured – sorry, enjoyed – the trip to support Yaowawit School for underprivileged children. If you would like to make a donation please send funds directly to: Children World Academy Foundation, Siam Commercial Bank, Takuapa-Talad Yanyao Branch. Account Number: 533-2-45237-1. Swift Code – SICOTHBK.*



Each day of the trip from Bangkok to Phuket saw upwards of four hours of pedaling.

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# Island cricketers smash Thalang to defend league lead

THE Island Cricket Club (ICC) held onto their top spot in the league table with a victory over Thalang Cricket Team at the Alan Cooke Ground in Thalang last Sunday.

Under bright blue skies, Thalang skipper Bill Stahmer won the toss and elected to bat, though his team weren't able to light up the scoreboard and at the first drinks break were a meager 1/24.

After the break, Culpan was spectacularly caught by Vaigankar at point, Simon Wetherell hit the ball straight up and was also caught out, while Stahmer was ruled

LBW after scoring 22 runs from 47 balls.

Justin Thomatos built a solid partnership with Craig Murphy. Scoring 42 off 45 balls, Thomatos was caught after he mistimed a pull shot from the bowling of Ventrapatti and Thalang were 5/156. Murphy 38 (off 42) was bowled by Chand soon after.

It wasn't until the last over of the innings that Thalang came alive. Alex Runhaar hit a six from a no ball and Thai cricketer "Pao" took 18 runs from the over to set ICC 191 to win.

ICC opener Mohammad plundered 40

runs in leg-side boundaries in four overs, before his was caught out by Runhaar, who took in an impressive running catch.

However, a broken finger put an early end to Barrie Buck's match, and the match started slipping out of Thalang's grasp when Sam Ali dropped a simple catch. Thalang dropped another two difficult chances near the boundary rope before ICC all-rounder Mydeen hit a six to bring up the winning runs in the 36<sup>th</sup> over.

Patong will take on the Village at the ACG this Sunday.

— David Thomas



Divan Mydeen dispatches a six to seal ICC's win and defend their lead. Photo: Michael Way

# Yokohama reveal top class

## Phuket FC outgunned as J-League squad level pre-season series

By Voratuss Intasee

YOKOHAMA FC outclassed Phuket FC to run out 2-0 winners at Surakul Stadium last Sunday, regaining a respectable 3-3 aggregate against the islanders over two friendlies played last week.

The home side, who have officially taken on the nickname "The Ronins", held out the visiting J-League squad for the first half, but the superior skills of the visitors saw them slot two goals in the final 45 minutes.

"Yokohama were good at pressing, leaving us little space for moving the ball," said Phuket FC's Songyod "Coach Daeng" Klinseesuk.

"But our players were patient and moved forward when the opportunity was there."

Retaining possession was key, he added, noting that it was a lesson learned from the first friendly on January 22.

"After first match, we reviewed what we did well, and where our



Phuket FC (in yellow) defended well, but were finally outgunned by Yokohama FC. Photo: Boonrat Apiwanthanakorn

weaknesses were," Coach Daeng said. "What we noticed was how good they were at pressing and we came up with strategies to try our best to overcome that."

The loss to Yokohama on Sunday was a turnabout after last Thursday's friendly, which Phuket FC won convincingly 3-1. The match was also played at Surakul.

The victory came courtesy of a hat-trick by Phuket FC's new Cameroon signing, Berlin Ndebe-Nlome, sporting his favorite jersey number, 32.

Berlin comes to Phuket after serving Sriracha FC and Chonburi FC, which he joined after starting his international football career in the UK with clubs Portsmouth, Crawley and a later stint with Swindon FC, which he joined after signings with Belgian top side KVC Westerlo and Portugal's P. Ferreira.

The touring Yokohama squad arrived in Phuket on January 19 for pre-season training and the two friendlies against Phuket FC.

On Tuesday, they returned to Japan, where they will begin their J-League Division 2 season against Kawasaki Frontale on March 7.

Coach Daeng rated the international friendlies as "a good experience" for the Phuket squad.

"It was good for us in the way that every player had to react to a stronger opposing side and had to work as part of the team to try to overcome them," he said.

"This helps to build players' confidence and makes us a stronger team."

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# Challenge Cup basketball showcases students' skills

THE British International School Phuket (BISP) senior boys team fell just short of a back-to-back success last weekend at the second annual Challenge Cup basketball tournament.

The team had a strong run, winning all three of their games before facing off with last year's finalists, Thai Hua.

The hotly-contested, low-scoring game, 19-17, was fraught with solid defense by both teams. However, it was Thai Hua who was able to hold the lead when the final buzzer went – dubbing them the champions of the tournament.

This year saw the introduction of a girls' division. The BISP senior girls progressed through the pool playoffs with three wins, setting up a final showdown with Satee Phuket, the powerhouse of girls' basketball in Phuket.



BISP senior boys team (in white) join tournament winners Thai Hua.

### BISP results

**Over 15 Girls:**  
 Win vs Kathu 36-6  
 Win vs Songkla 22-18  
 Win vs Satee 23-20  
 Final - Loss in OT vs Satee 23-27

**Over 15 Boys:**  
 Win vs Dowroong 48-26  
 Win vs Satee 43-33  
 Win vs Kathu 59-26  
 Semi Final - Win vs Phuket Wittaya 30-28  
 Final - Loss vs Thai Hua 17-19

In the nail-biting final, scores were locked at full time, and two minutes of overtime were played to decide the winner.

In the end, the Satee ballers' experience paid off and the team made some crucial baskets to seal the victory and be crowned cup champions.

— Phuket Gazette



# Cornerbacks set for Super Bowl

By Steve Keating

WIDE receiver has long been one of American football's glamor positions, but in the buildup to the Super Bowl [Feb 2, 6:30am Phuket time, NBC] it is the cornerbacks on the New England Patriots and Seattle Seahawks packing the star power.

Most NFL fans can probably tell you about the Patriots' Darrelle Revis and Seahawks' Richard Sherman, but many would be hard-pressed to name the receivers they will line up against at the University of Phoenix Stadium.

Revis, known to fans as "Revis Island" for leaving receivers stranded when he covers them, has been named to five Pro Bowls, while the outspoken Sherman has been a first-team All-Pro the last three years.

Former Seahawk Brandon Browner, who now patrols the other corner for New England, has a resume that also includes a Pro Bowl appearance while Byron Maxwell is viewed as an emerging talent in the Seattle secondary.

In comparison, the wide receiver corps on New England and Seattle are relatively anonymous figures who do not feature as primary offensive weapons.

Neither team's wideouts reached the 1,000-yard plateau in receiving this year.

Seattle's Doug Baldwin had just three touchdowns while Jermaine Kearse had one. Five non-Seattle players had more receiving yards than the two Seattle wide receivers combined (1,362 yards).

Brady made more use of his wideouts, who both caught over 900 yards, Brandon



New England Patriots cornerback Darrelle Revis waves after the AFC Championship Game against the Indianapolis Colts at Gillette Stadium. Photo: David Butler II-USA TODAY Sports

LaFell hauling in seven touchdowns catches and Julian Edelman four.

"They're similar to our receivers in that they're underrated, they don't get a lot of the spotlight," said Sherman about the challenge that awaits the Seattle secondary on Sunday [Monday Phuket time].

"They're not always asked to have huge games and to have a huge effect on the game, but they work hard, they run their routes precisely and when they're asked to make big plays, they make them."

Like many of his teammates, Kearse plays with a chip on his shoulder, motivated

by the lack of perceived disrespect he and his fellow receivers get from the public and opposing teams.

Unwanted, Kearse and Baldwin were signed as undrafted free agents and found a home in Seattle, giving the Seahawks a reliable, if unspectacular, receiving pair of performers.

"The majority of our room is undrafted," said Kearse.

"A lot of our guys play with chips on their shoulders. I've watched these guys practice. I've watched these guys play. There's a lot of talent." — Reuters

## League ditches Roman numerals

THE logo for the 50<sup>th</sup> Super Bowl in 2016 will take a one-year break from the tradition of using Roman numerals in favor of numbers.

Super Bowl 50, which will determine the NFL's champion for the 2015 season, will be played on February 7, 2016, at Levi's Stadium, the new home of the San Francisco 49ers.



Numerous reports suggested that the Roman numeral for 50, an uppercase "L", was scrapped because it was not as aesthetically pleasing as the Arabic numerals.

But the NFL said they decided to make the change simply to help celebrate the "milestone" game.

"If 'L' was the Roman numeral for [Super Bowls] 49 or 59, we wouldn't have done this, but because it is a historic milestone, we made the change," said NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy.

The NFL will return to Roman numerals for Super Bowl LI, which will be played in February 2017 at Houston's Reliant Stadium.

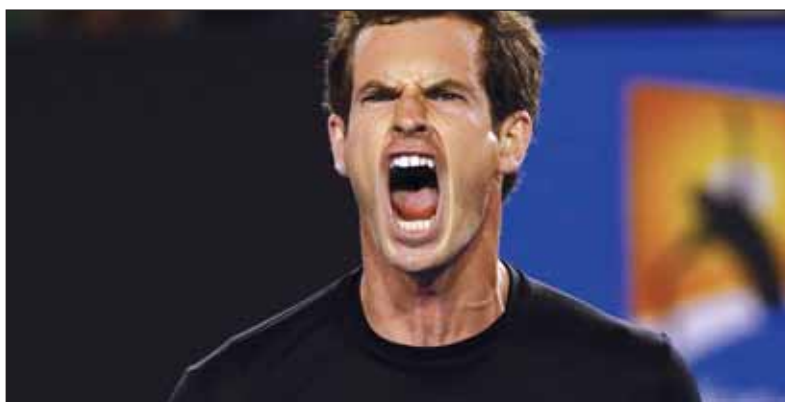
— Reuters

# Big plays pave the way for greats at Australian Open

SERENA Williams broke her run of slow starts at the Australian Open on Wednesday to hammer Dominika Cibulkova 6-2 6-2 and set up an all-American semi-final against teenager Madison Keys.

An injury-hampered Keys dug deep to beat Williams' older sister Venus in three sets earlier in the day, but Serena was in no mood for a contest as she broke the Slovakian 11<sup>th</sup> seed twice in each set and gave her nothing on serve.

Williams closed out the match when last year's finalist Cibulkova clubbed a return past the baseline and the American grinned broadly as she smiled and waved at the Rod Laver Arena crowd on a sunny, breezy day.



Andy Murray reacts after defeating Grigor Dimitrov. Photo: Reuters

Top seed Williams will head into the semi-final fresh after her one-hour five-minute rout as she bids to win her first title at Melbourne Park since 2010.

Meanwhile, men's champion Stan Wawrinka produced a comfortable victory over Kei Nishikori as he negated the Japanese fifth seed's baseline game.

"I'm still nervous even after the end of the tiebreak," Wawrinka said of the 6-3 6-4 7-6(6) victory that he sealed with his 20<sup>th</sup> ace on his sixth match point after he had a 6-1 lead in the tiebreak.

"There is no easy match even from the first round. I am playing well and I'm happy to be back playing the semi-final."

It was the 29-year-old Swiss' first win over a top-five player since he beat Roger Federer in Monte Carlo last year, and the workmanlike victory undoubtedly sent a warning to four-times champion Novak Djokovic that he would need to be at his best to reclaim the Australian Open title.

Wawrinka's win followed Andy

Murray's clinical victory over local hope Nick Kyrgios on Tuesday as the Briton set up a semi-final with Tomas Berdych with a 6-3 7-6 (5) 6-3 victory.

Sixth seed Murray used the winds to his benefit to dispatch the 19-year-old in just over two hours.

"It was tricky because it was a very strong breeze," said Murray. "When you were down the far end of the court you had to do a lot more defending."

Kyrgios was the first teenager since Roger Federer in 2001 to make the last eight at two grand slams and has been touted as the player most likely to lead a renaissance of Australian men's tennis.

— Reuters

## Swedes top 'Champions League Pairs'

SWEDISH pair Ulf Egerstaad and Ulf Danielsson defeated the Australian pairing of John King and John Griffiths to win Division A of the "Champions League Pairs" held at the Kamala Lawn Bowls Club on Monday.

The Swedes defeated defending champions Rob Knight and Rich Tuck 7-6 in the semis, to face off the Aussies in the final.

Behind 7-3 after six ends in the 10-end final, the two Ulfs produced some world-class bowling in the last three ends to draw level 7-7 after all 10 ends. So, in fading light, the drama continued as the final moved onto a "sudden death" one-end shootout.



Ulf Egerstaad and Ulf Danielsson.

Egerstaad and Danielsson triumphant.

The next major event at the Kamala Lawn Bowls Club is the Phuket Open Singles Championship and Plate on February 22. Call 089-592 8059 for details.

— Robert Knight

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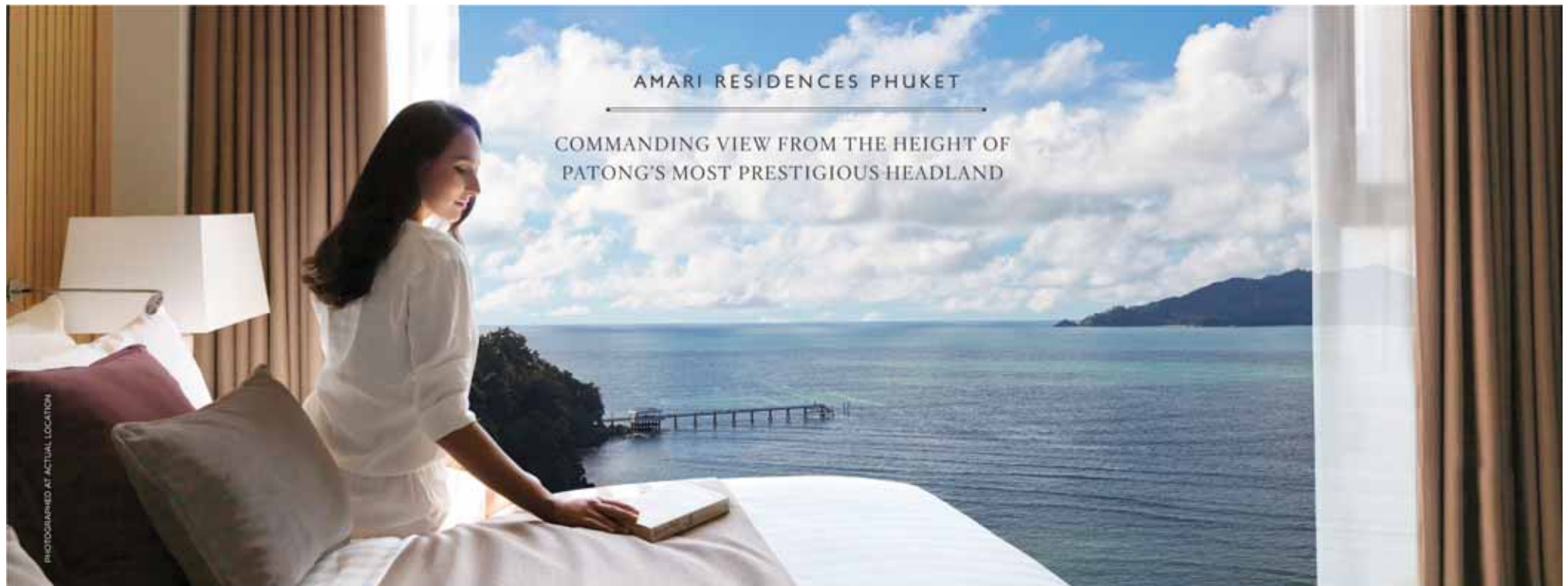
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