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# Phuket Gazette

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INSIDE TODAY

Photo: Mathew Reyes

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June 13 - 19, 2015 PhuketGazette.Net In partnership with The Nation

■ 'ACCORDING TO CCTV HE WAS ATTACKED BY THE MEN'

# Self defence

## Patong Police drop case against Australian expat

By Kongleaphy Keam

POLICE have dropped the case against Australian expat and Phuket community member Mark Pendlebury for the fatal stabbing of a nightclub employee across the street from the island's famed party strip, Soi Bangla, in March.

The decision was made by police after CCTV footage surfaced backing claims that Mr Pendlebury had acted in self defence when confronted by 25-year-old Sanya Khluewaengmon in the early hours of March 11.

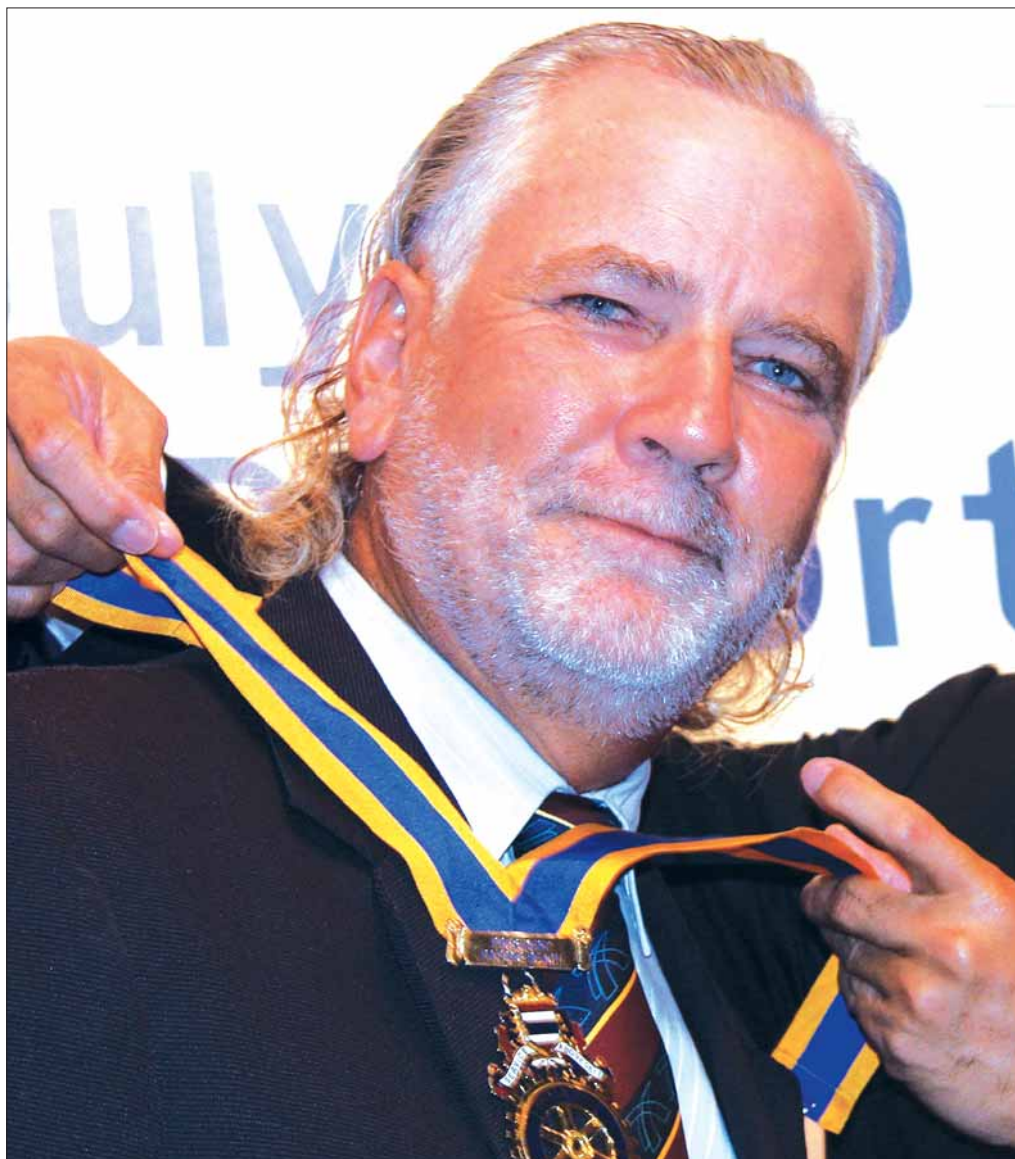
"The video footage, which we are unable to reveal to the public at the moment, shows Mr Pendlebury being attacked by a group of men before pulling out his knife in an attempt to defend himself," Lt Col Jessada Saengsuree of the Patong Police told the *Gazette*.

"Though police will not press charges against Mr Pendlebury, his case will be sent to the Public Prosecutor and the prosecutor will have to decide whether or not he agrees with us and to dismiss the case."

If the prosecutor does not concur with the Patong Police, the case will be sent back to police for further investigation, confirmed Col Jessada.

"There has already been a settlement between the parties. However, I prefer not to reveal any details about it," said Col Jessada...

Continued on Page 4



Long-standing community member and Phuket expat Mark Pendlebury takes the position of President of Rotary Club Patong Beach in July 2010. Photo: Denis Carpenter

## Officials warn of leaking cash through pipes

LEAKY water pipes landed a Rassada resident with a more than 16,000-baht water bill to pay, prompting Phuket authorities to issue a home maintenance advisory to all island dwellers.

The resident was stunned to receive a 16,829-baht water bill for the month of May after having become accustomed to paying a maximum of 200 baht.

Full Story Page 5

## Eight netted for running illegal gambling site

POLICE are searching for the head of an online gambling operation after eight Koreans were caught last week running a gambling site out of an apartment in Phuket.

The arrests follow a report in March from police in Bangkok about the gambling racket. Phuket Police have been on the trail ever since, said Phuket Provincial Police Commander Patchara Boonyasit.

Full Story Page 3

## South African tourist arrested for false report

A SOUTH African tourist was arrested after he was caught trying to scam his insurance company by filing a false police report stating that he had been robbed twice.

Full Story Page 2

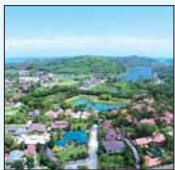
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## This Week



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Thanyapura invests big to boost 'Sports Hub of Asia' status. **Page 11**



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DCA revamp takes its toll on Thai aviation industry. **Page 27**



### In Focus

It's that time of year again: Baba weddings in Phuket. **Page 30**



### Well-being

How eating some Kiwi mussels can boost your health. **Page 31**

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# 'Laughing gas' huffing pictures go viral, prompt health warning

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

PICTURES of tourists on Phi Phi Island allegedly huffing balloons filled with 'laughing gas' have gone viral on social media sites, prompting a police investigation and a health warning from Krabi officials.

One of the photos shows three women lying on the ground, one with an empty balloon in her mouth and another who appears to be sucking the gas out of an inflated balloon.

Lt Col Danai Niyomdech of the Krabi Police told the *Gazette* that laughing gas, which is a more common name for nitrous oxide, is not categorized as a narcotic.

"As far as we know at this stage, the consumers and the vendors are not in the wrong. We are not sure how to tackle this issue," Col Danai explained.

"However, we will call together all relevant authorities to decide how to proceed."

Panas Soponpong, chief of the Krabi Public Health Office, has expressed his concerns about tourists huffing the gas.

"We have yet to track down who posted the pictures. People should be aware that nitrous oxide has an ecstasy-like effect, but it can destroy the brain," Dr Panas said.



The picture of the tourists went viral on social media sites: Photo: Facebook

"Inhaling large amounts of it can deprive the brain of oxygen, which can result in cell death and brain damage."

"It was once used as a general anesthetic during medical procedures, but that is no longer common practice. The dangers outweigh the advantages."

Many local business owners are concerned about the trend harming the popular tourist island's

reputation.

"Laughing gas is now popular and easy to find in pretty much every night club. It appears that most of the sellers are foreigners," said one Phi Phi Island businessperson, who asked not to be named.

"I would like to see the authorities inspecting bars for these types of activities. This could seriously damage Phi Phi's image."

## South African man arrested for insurance fraud scam

A SOUTH African tourist was arrested after he was caught trying to scam his insurance company on June 6.

"On [June 6], Laurie Viljoen Botha, 33, filed a police complaint claiming that items in his hotel room at Sino Imperial Hotel in Phuket Town had been stolen," said Phuket Tourist Police Chief Urumporn Kondejsumrit.

"Additionally, Mr Botha said that he had been robbed while walking on the street near the hotel."

"In total, Mr Botha claimed that he had been robbed of 13 items worth about 150,000 baht."

After receiving the report,

police went to the hotel to review CCTV footage and question witnesses about the alleged crime.

"We became wary of Mr Botha's story after our investigation yielded no evidence of the robberies," said Maj Urumporn.

Police then turned the spotlight back on Mr Botha, who eventually confessed that he had lied.

"Mr Botha confessed that he had made up the story in order to file a compensation claim with his insurance company," Maj Urumporn explained.

"He was charged with presenting false information."

— Kongleaphy Keam

## Three nabbed for fatal Patong stabbing

POLICE have arrested three suspects for the stabbing death of Somkit Jandawong, 27, which took place in Patong on June 1.

When police questioned witnesses and checked CCTV in the area, they discovered that the stabber, whom police have named only as 'Pat', is 17 years old.

"We contacted Mr Pat's mother and urged her to convince him to surrender to police before we requested an arrest warrant," said Patong Police Superintendent Chaiwat Auikam.

"Mr Pat surrendered to police at about 8pm on Tuesday night and confessed to the murder."

While questioning Mr Pat, police learned the identities of the two other suspects. Officers ar-



Mr Suksan (left) and Mr Suphan were arrested for the stabbing on June 3.

rested Suphan Legnork, 27 and Suksan Srikaew, 22, as they were walking down Soi Sai Nam Yen in Patong on June 3.

"We got into an argument because Somkit was being annoying and saying irritating things. At first I let it go, but he wouldn't stop," Mr Pat told police.

"Then he started insulting my parents, so my friends and I punched him."

"When he fell to the ground, I jumped on top of him and stabbed him four times."

All three suspects have been charged with gang murder and illegally carrying a weapon in public. Mr Pat's case will be sent to the Juvenile and Family Court, which has the authority to officially charge him for the same crimes.

Mr Suphan and Mr Suksan have denied all charges.

— Kritsada Mueanhawong



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# Police arrest Korean gambling racketeers

By Woranut Pechdee

POLICE are searching for the head of an online gambling operation after eight Koreans were caught on June 3 running a gambling site out of an apartment in Phuket.

The arrests follow a report in March from police in Bangkok about the gambling racket. Phuket Police have been on the trail ever since, said Phuket Provincial Police Commander Patchara Boonyasit.

"After months of collecting evidence and monitoring the suspects' activities, we tracked them down to a rental room at Eva Town in Wichit, which they were using as an office," said Maj Gen Patchara.

Police named the suspects as Lee Seok Joong, 30; Joo Seung Oh, 28; Han Hong Hee, 29; Kim Young Jae, 33; Oh Se Won, 35; Lee Jungmin, 31; Moon Hyuncheol, 34; and Lee Kang Yong, 35. All eight had been in Thailand for three months on tourist visas.

"In the apartment, we found more than 60 Korean bank books with more than 100 million baht in assets, 60,000 baht in cash, mobile phones, laptops, computers, flash drives, an iPad and other devices and items needed to run the operation," said Gen Patchara.



The Korean gambling site operators could face up to three years in prison, a 60,000-baht fine or both.

The suspects told police that they were only employees, and that someone else had created the website – only in Korean – so people could place bets on international sporting events, said Gen Patchara.

"All gambling ring members put money into the 'pot', which is one main account for the website, via bank transfer. The website then stores their bank account information and either transfers money

back to them if they win or keeps the money if they lose," he said.

"All the website members are Korean. About 100,000 to 150,000 baht flows through the main account on a daily basis. The main boss controls the bank account. We believe that the boss is somewhere in Thailand."

The eight suspects told police that they each earned 60,000 baht per month for operating the website.

"We believe they came to Thailand to set up the website because gambling laws in Korea carry harsher punishments than those here," explained Gen Patchara.

All eight suspects confessed to their crimes, and were charged with operating an illegal online gambling website.

"The punishment for this crime is up to three years in prison, a fine of 60,000 baht or both," Gen Patchara said.

## Decayed body found in hills above Patong



No identifying evidence was found near the human remains.

THE decaying remains of a human body were found by a field worker in the hills above Patong on June 7.

"The bones were found by a man who was hired to clear grass in a local orchard about one kilometer from Prabamee Road," explained Patong Police Superintendent Chaiwat Auikam to the *Gazette*.

No identifying evidence was found at the site.

"At this point, we believe it the body probably belonged to a man who was about 175cm tall," Col Chaiwat said.

"At the sight we found pants, a t-shirt, shoes and a half-empty bottle of whiskey, as well as two types of medicine – that we have yet to identify – in a bag next to the body."

Police are unsure if the remains are those of a Thai national or a foreigner, but are collecting DNA and making dental impressions in hopes of identifying the remains.

"There was no sign of a struggle, and this isn't a tourist area," Col Chaiwat said.

"However, it is possible that a tourist or expat got lost up here. It could also be the body of a plantation caretaker."

"We are contacting local police stations to see if there are any possible matches to missing person reports."

– **Thawit Bilabduddar**

## Police postpone charging owner of fatal bungy jump tower

POLICE were expected to press charges on Thursday against the owner of World Bungy Jump, the site of the death of a 25-year-old tourist last month.

Vinat Chanthornwiboonkul will be charged with reckless endangerment as police continue to investigate the case of Kuwaiti Abdullah Adel Kadhmbadman, who died after jumping from the 30-meter bungy tower.

"Even though we have yet to receive the results of the examination of the equipment from Bangkok, we'll charge the owner," Maj Teerasak Boonsang of the Patong Police told the *Gazette* on Monday.

"The appointment to formally charge the owner was originally set for today. However,

there were meetings that the police officers needed to attend, so the date was postponed."

During the initial investigation, Patong Municipality officers established that World Bungy Jump had not registered or obtained the necessary licences for the equipment, in accordance to a recent change in laws. The facility was forced to temporarily close while officers continued their investigation.

"At this stage, we are not pressing any charges against the owner of the company for not having the proper licences. We will send them a letter asking them to properly register the equipment first," said Patong Mayor Chalermluck Keksup. "If they fail to do so, we'll demolish the facility ourselves." – **Kongleaphy Keam**



Mr Vinat (right). Photo: Kritsada Mueanhawong

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Experts believe the turtle was injured by a fishing net.

## Turtle maimed by fishing net saved in Phuket

A MAIMED sea turtle was rescued off Mai Khao Beach and taken to the Phuket Marine Biological Center (PMBC) in Cape Panwa on Monday.

PMBC experts concluded that the turtle had mostly likely been caught in a fishing net for at least three days before it was rescued.

The turtle was missing its right front flipper and had severe wounds to its back right flipper.

"I am very worried about our sea turtles. Each year, we find at least 30 injured or dead turtles. This doesn't include unreported cases," said Winai Sae-ew of the Mai Khao Tambon Administration Organization. — **Thawit Bilabdullar**

# New shuttle idea gets nod

By Chutharat Plerin

A NEW shuttle service from Phuket International Airport to three final destinations on the island has garnered the approval of Airport Director Monrudee Gettuphan.

"I personally think it is a good idea to have a shuttle bus running from the airport to destinations throughout the island, such as Saphan Hin in Phuket Town, Karon and Rawai," Ms Monrudee told the *Gazette* on Tuesday.

The idea, which was first tabled at a meeting with Phuket Governor Nisit Jansomwong, has been brought to the attention of the Airports of Thailand (AoT) board.

"It is a serious investment, so we'll have to discuss all our options and take into account the fact that there is already a bus running from the airport to Phuket Town and Patong," Ms Monrudee said. "We don't want to interfere with other transport options."

The current service is provided by Airport Express Bus. However, high costs and lack of demand has



Ms Monrudee noted that she didn't want the new shuttle service – if approved – to compete with the current shuttle service, Airport Express Bus, which serves Patong and Phuket Town (pictured). Photo: Gazette file

caused a considerable amount of issues for the highly-applauded alternative to airport taxis.

Though the idea was originally slated as a free bus service, Ms

Monrudee said that such details needed to be reviewed and that there was no deadline for when the project – if approved – would be up and running.

"At this point, we've yet to finalize the idea. We will review all related information and look to do what's best for Phuket," Ms Monrudee said.

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## Australian exonerated by footage of killing, attack



Mr Pendlebury was taken to hospital after the incident. Photo: Gazette file

From Page 1

...Mr Pendlebury's lawyer, Chaiyot Panyawai, confirmed to the *Gazette* that a settlement had been reached and that Mr Sanya's family understood that Mr

Pendlebury had not started the fight.

"However, I prefer not to comment too much, as the case has yet to go to court. I am sure the police will do their best before handing the case over to the prosecutor," said Mr Chaiyot.

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# Resident leaking cash leads to island-wide pipe warning

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

LEAKY water pipes landed a Rassada resident with a more than 16,000-baht water bill to pay, prompting Phuket authorities to issue a home maintenance advisory to all island dwellers.

Pornsak Saengsri was stunned to receive a 16,829-baht water bill for the month of May after having become accustomed to paying a maximum of 200 baht to keep the water flowing in his rented home.

"The house belongs to my cousin, but I have been living here for years," Mr Pornsak told the *Gazette*. "I knew there must be something wrong, as only my wife and I live in the house, so I contacted the Phuket Water Authority [PWA]."

PWA officials went to the house and found that, though the water meter was accurate and in working order, a pipe was leaking, resulting in the inflated bill.

"If the bill is higher than normal because of a leaking pipe, it is



Pornsak Saengsri (top, right) was stunned to receive the 16,829-baht water bill for the month of May.

the responsibility of the homeowner to fix it. The only thing we can do for Mr Pornsak is to allow him to pay off the bill in installments," PWA manager Pisak

Chonlayut told the *Gazette*.

Mr Pisak used the incident as an example for all homeowners and renters to pay close attention to their water meter and to the



condition of their pipes.

"You must fix these problems as soon as possible to avoid being stuck with a very expensive water bill," Mr Pisak said.



Alee Banjob turned himself in to police in Phang Nga.

## Human trafficker confesses to cops

A HUMAN-TRAFFICKING 'caretaker' handed himself in to police north of Phuket on June 2.

Alee Banjob, 35, from Ranong, was wanted for his connection to a human-trafficking network operating in his home province, explained Kanokpol Pimthong, Deputy Director of Internal Security Operations Command in Phang Nga Province.

Mr Alee's surrender follows the October 14 arrest of Songphol 'Boss K' Klaimee, 20, who was caught trafficking 81 Rohingyas in the Takuapa District of Phang Nga. During questioning, he revealed the names of three others involved in the network.

Mr Songphol told police that Mr Alee was in charge of taking care of Rohingya who were being kept in forest camps.

— Kritsada Mueanhawong

## Give it up for those in need of blood

THE Phuket Regional Blood Center (PRBC) has invited all qualified island residents to make blood donations in recognition of World Blood Donor Day this month.

World Blood Donor Day, on June 14, falls on the birthday of Dr Karl Landsteiner, who is known for his discovery of the main blood groups and their classifications, PRBC Chief Pornthip Rattajak told the *Gazette*.

"We are calling this campaign 'Give freely, give often'. Blood donations matter and donating every three months can make you healthier. Hopefully, with the encouragement of people who love to



Residents called on to donate.

donate, we can get more teenagers to participate," Ms Pornthip said.

Those interested in donating blood this month can do so at one of the mobile donation clinics that will be set up around the island. For full details visit [PhuketGazette.net](http://PhuketGazette.net).

— Phuket Gazette



The new lifeguards at the ready.

## Katathani hires beach safety staff

KATATHANI Phuket Beach Resort is beefing up Kata Noi Beach security by providing its own privately funded, full safety and rescue team to patrol the small but popular stretch of sand.

"This safety project is being launched in the hopes of raising tourists' confidence. We want all related businesses to join us and serve as examples for other beaches," said Katathani Phuket Beach Resort Managing Director Sombat Atiset on June 5.

"We hope that this takes pressure off the government to provide lifeguards at this particular beach so that their lifeguards can be placed at other beaches where life-saving teams are needed."

Mr Sombat explained that there would be three lifeguards, six beach security officers and two nurses on hand.

Mr Sombat noted that the safety team would be fully equipped with watch towers, jet-skis, life jackets, body boards and surf boards. Life-saving equipment and first aid kits include whistles, flippers, walkie-talkies, and surf safety flags and signs.

The Katathani life-saving team would be placed on the beach in addition to the five lifeguards already under contract with and provided by the Phuket Lifeguard Club, confirmed Kata-Karon chief lifeguard Uten Singsom.

"We will not move our lifeguards to another beach until we are ordered to do so by the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization," Mr Uten said.

— **Kritsada Mueanhawong**

# Phuket Town streets to shift for island's light-rail project

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

PLANS for Phuket's light-rail project are going full steam ahead, with changes to the train's route and adjustments to traffic directions in Phuket Town being the focus of the latest meeting for the 23.5-billion-baht venture.

The proposal for the project to run through town was made in May of last year.

"We are now drawing up more detailed plans for the project, especially for the stops in Phuket Town. There will be 20 stations and the route will be on the ground, except for the part which goes over the bridge from Phuket to Phang Nga," said Sirigate Apirat of the Office of Transport and Traffic Policy and Planning.

"We have changed the route so that it crosses over Srisoonthorn Bridge rather than Thepkasattri Bridge, as Srisoonthorn is newer and stronger."

Traffic flow in Phuket Town will be changed to coincide with the route of the light rail, Mr Sirigate confirmed at the meeting at Provincial Hall on June 2.

"Thepkasattri Road-Phuket Road between Thungkhar Road and Dibuk Road will be one way, from north to south. The part of Thepkasattri Road-Phuket Road between Dibuk Road and Rassada Road will be made into a walking street — no vehicles will be allowed to drive on it," he said.

"We will also make the sections of Thalang Road and Phang Nga Road that are between Phuket Road and Montri Road one-way streets, from west to east."

Before these plans are sent to the Office of Natural Resources and Environment Policy an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is initiated, which officials expect to happen next month, Governor Nisit Jansomwong has



Sirigate Apirat (top left) of the Office of Transport and Traffic Policy and Planning led a meeting with Governor Nisit Jansomwong about plans for Phuket's light-rail project. Photos: Kritsada Mueanhawong / Gazette file

urged experts to study the area extensively so as to mitigate any negative affects on motorists.

"Experts from the Office of Transport and Traffic Policy must study the roads thoroughly and consult with Phuket City Municipi-

ality and Phuket Provincial Police as soon as possible. We need to make sure that we have accurate information about driving activity in that area," he said.

"Motorists' normal driving habits will have to change when we

alter traffic flow. We must do this in a way that affects their daily lives as little as possible.

"This is a massive, expensive project and we do not want any negative affects to come out of it."

## Rotary of Patong takes home top award

THE Rotary Club of Patong Beach (RCoPB) has won Rotary Thailand's highest service award, the HRH Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn Trophy, for its involvement in three projects to help the children of Burmese migrant workers and sea gypsies.

Youthline, the main project undertaken by RCoPB for which it received the award, focused on improving facilities at the Burmese Learning Center in the Kuraburi community. As part of the improvements, preschool bathrooms were installed, the school's kitchen renovated, a playground was built and hydroponic gardens were started to encourage vocational training and to grow food for the school's lunch program.

This year, the trophy was shared by the RCoPB and the



Youthline members improved facilities at a learning center.

Rotary Club of Nakhom Pathom. "RCoPB is a small club that prides itself in following the Rotary Motto 'Service above Self'. We are a Rotary Club out of Patong Beach, making an impact wherever we find the poorest of the poor in Thailand," said Brad Kenny, president of the RCoPB.

The second RCoPB project noted was providing water to a Moken village in Ranong.

In March, the village had water for the first time, which was pumped by a generator through a water pipeline and filters installed.

The third project brought a 5-year-old sea gypsy child from Koh Lao to Phuket for sight-saving surgery.

RCoPB won numerous awards at the May District 3330 Assembly in Hat Yai, including the Bhichai Rattakul Trophy. This trophy is awarded to the Rotary club with the most donations to the Rotary Foundation.

"These awards are a tribute to all RCoPB members for all we have accomplished during the past year. We are proud to have brought support, joy and comfort to so many people in need through our volunteer efforts," Mr Kenny said.

— **Phuket Gazette**



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# Bangkok blasts Gov over failed flood management

PRESSURE is on Bangkok Governor MR Sukhumbhand Paribatra after millions of commuters in the capital suffered a traffic nightmare due to flooded roads on Monday.

In addition to loud complaints on social media, the Stop Global Warming Association also called for Governor MR Sukhumbhand to be sacked, *The Nation* reported.

The association issued a statement demanding the removal of Gov MR Sukhumbhand, other executives at the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) and district office directors responsible for the city administration's inefficiency in tackling flood threats.

It warned that the failure to remove them could result in Bangkok continually suffering from flooding.

Many Bangkok people lamented that they were forced to spend hours on the roads trying to get to work or send their children to school on Monday.

As flooding wreaked havoc



Bangkok citizens spent hours trying to get to work or to get their children to school. Photo: The Nation

in the capital, Gov MR Sukhumbhand and his deputies were in the Netherlands inspecting a water-drainage system.

Later in the day, Gov MR Sukhumbhand gave an interview to Nation Channel explaining that the trip was made in response to an invitation and he would head home

on Tuesday. He apologized to those who had been affected by the flooding.

However, he explained that it took time for water to drain from roads following heavy rain, with Monday's downpour beginning at about 1am and lasting for hours.

Flooding is a serious issue in

Bangkok, and when Gov MR Sukhumbhand campaigned for his second term as Bangkok governor he highlighted his policy to prevent floods.

So far, after two more years in office, many Bangkok residents feel he cannot deliver on his promise.

## AROUND THE nation

### Songkhla prison riot kills inmate



Officers patrol outside of Songkhla Prison. Photo: The Nation

AN INMATE was killed and 13 others injured, including five guards, when a riot broke out at Songkhla Prison on Monday.

About 200 inmates were reportedly angry about crowded conditions and strict rules for searches for drugs and mobile phones.

Police said the convict who died was Chaiwut Saeheng, *The Nation* reported.

The riot started at 8am and ended in the afternoon, after officials agreed to consider the inmates' demands.

## Chiang Mai fire causes B100mn in damages

THE damage from last Friday's inferno that ravaged a building in Chiang Mai's Waroros Market has cost an estimated 100 million baht. The hefty loss is a result of the building having four textile shops with stockpiles of clothes worth about 20mn baht each.

The fire prompted Chiang Mai Governor Suriya Prasartbundit to order related agencies to inspect the safety standards of the other buildings in the market, as this is the second fire in a month, reported *The Nation*.

Forensic police officers and other city officials on June 6 inspected the scene, where there was still a smoldering fire on the building's second and third floors.

Fire-fighters sprayed the floors with water to prevent the fire start-



The fire erupted at Chiang Mai's Waroros Market. Photo: The Nation

ing up again. The building and the road in front of it were sealed off.

Lt Col Thanandon Wittaya-wuthikul, head of the Chiang Mai forensic police division, said the first probe found that the building's structure was severely damaged.

Col Thanandon said the police inspection of the CM Bazaar shop, where the fire reportedly started, had identified the point where the blaze started. Police would check CCTV footage to help them try and pinpoint the cause of the fire.

## Migrant smuggling stunted by monsoon season, crackdown on human-trafficking culprits: Navy

THE crackdown on human-trafficking in southern Thailand and the arrival of the monsoon season have put a halt to the smuggling of migrants from Myanmar and Bangladesh through Thai waters, a senior navy commander in charge of the government's search-and-rescue operation in the Andaman Sea said last weekend.

Vice Admiral Sayan Prasongsamrej, commander of the Phuket-based Third Naval Area, also said that most of the boats used to traffick Bangladeshis and the Rohingya were Thai fishing boats, reported *The Nation*.

"We need to face the facts so that we can address the problem correctly," he said, adding that



The search-and-rescue mission is to help migrants. Photo: The Nation

the Thai fishing boats were re-equipped so that they could take on human cargo for the perilous journeys to their destinations in Thailand's neighboring countries.

He said the continuing crack-

down, which has netted several human-trafficking suspects in southern Thailand, and the onset of the monsoon season have combined to disrupt the trafficking of migrants from the two countries.

"Our mission is to provide [migrants] with humanitarian assistance. We provide them with food, medical assistance and fuel and, if needed, fix their broken boat engines so that they can head towards their destination. It's very clear that they use Thailand only as a transit point," he said.

V/Adm Sayan said the search-and-rescue operation might need to be reviewed given the fact that the flow of boat people has halted for the time being.

## YACHT SOLUTIONS NOW HAS IN-HOUSE TEAMS OF YACHT SPECIALISTS SERVICING YACHTS OF ALL SIZES IN PHUKET



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# Too good to be true

THE recent proposal to launch a potentially free shuttle service (see page 4) for tourists transiting at Phuket International Airport is an excellent idea. However, islanders should not be overly optimistic about such a service being available any time soon.

Until the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) came to power just over a year ago, Phuket's tourism economy suffered brazen abuse at the hands of its notorious public transport syndicates.

No topic had been the subject of more futile editorializing in the *Gazette*, at least until the NCPO stepped in with its nonsense approach to imposing order on the corruption-driven plague that has done so much harm to the island's reputation.

Phuket boasts an unbeatable range of tourist attractions. In addition to being blessed by nature with beautiful beaches, free-market forces have added a vast array of recreational pursuits to our tourism menu: nightlife, yachting, golf, meditation retreats, martial arts training, go-kart racing, shooting ranges, recreational aviation – the list is too extensive for this space.

The 'missing link' has always been the almost complete lack of safe, reasonably-priced public transport. The forces of collusion conspired to make it cost prohibitive for tourists to pursue all their interests or for tourism businesses to fully profit from their investments. It has been as if the entire tourism economy were being driven with the emergency brake engaged.

The legacy of this is evident in the fact that an air-conditioned hotel room with WiFi and other amenities remains cheaper than a half-hour ride in a cramped, smoke-belching tuk-tuk. In what other world-renowned tourist destination does such a situation exist?

Given our pathetic public transport history, the concept of a free airport shuttle service appears attractive indeed. From a public relations standpoint, the introduction of such a service would go a long way to get the message out that public transport on the island is no longer in a stranglehold by thugs backed by corrupt civil servants and local politicians.

From a free-market perspective, however, the free airport shuttle idea has serious drawbacks. First, it would severely undercut the existing Airport Bus Express service, which was launched in the pre-NCPO era and deserves government support, not undermining.

Phuket has a long history of 'pie in the sky' public transport schemes; from the 'Patong Tunnel' to multiple reiterations of a monorail. Untold millions of baht and man-hours have been needlessly wasted studying these still non-existent services. We do not need to add another to the list.

The NCPO has correctly highlighted Phuket's public transport crisis as a top priority. The key to the island's long-term tourism success is to rid public transport of corruption so that free-market forces can prevail. If we can establish this during the NCPO's tenure and maintain it when we 're-start' during our next experiment with democracy, Phuket will ultimately emerge as the true 'Hub of Asean Tourism' that we all want and hope it to be.



## We really don't have much of a choice

Re: *Gazette online, Article 44 tabled to return 'stolen' Phuket park land, May 30*

So there are two options to deal with the Phuket national park land grab: use the normal, snail-fast and 'flexible' process of law until another corrupt civilian administration gets in and prosecutions get conveniently shelved, or invoke Article 44 and get the land back quick-time now under the military regime.

Not much of a choice, really.

And the idea that there were naive business people out there who were cruelly deceived?

You must be joking!

Andy Phillips  
Phuket

### Letters

to the Editor

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

expats realize how important donating is and get out to one of the events or mobile clinics to give blood before it is someone they love lying in a hospital bed in desperate need.

Friendly reminder  
Chalong

also the tourism industry.

However, with all of the road changes and direction shifts slated for downtown Phuket, I am dreading the certain confusion and traffic jams in our future.

People can hardly safely operate motor vehicles here on any given day, how will they be able to cope with drastic changes in direction and traffic flow?

I suppose time will tell.

Not-so-optimistic driver  
Samkong

### Maybe the justice system isn't against us

Re: *Gazette online, Police drop case against Aussie expat charged for Phuket killing, June 10*

It is nice to read that the justice system actually did its job here in Phuket, and that a seemingly innocent man is one step closer to freedom after what was most likely a traumatizing event and arrest.

It seems like expats are always harping on about how the Thai system is constantly working against foreigners.

I wonder, what do these cynics make of this development?

Becky Sly  
Patong

### A positive move for health, education

Re: *Gazette online, Thanyapura to boost 'Sports Hub of Asia' status with B300mn investment, June 10*

I think what Thanyapura is doing is fantastic.

Between the ever-improving sports facilities and the move toward becoming a United World College, Phuket is really positioning itself as the place to beat for health and education.

It is a massive undertaking and will clearly take time, but I, for one, am excited to see what it brings to the island.

Heath Young  
Bang Tao

### Dreading the traffic horrors to come

Re: *Gazette online, Phuket Town streets to change direction for light-rail project, June 10*

I am all for the new infrastructure projects planned for Phuket's future. I have ridden light-rail type trains in many different countries, and all are very convenient and easy to navigate.

I think the introduction of such a transport option would do wonders for Phuket traffic and

### Is anyone surprised?

Re: *Gazette online, Police postpone charging owner of fatal Phuket bungy-jump tower, June 8*

Is it really any surprise that, first, the charges are being postponed, and second, that the bungy jump was clearly not maintained?

Look at the state of the roads, airplanes, tourist attractions and buildings here and you will have all the information you need about how important upkeep is here.

Fed up  
Kata

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### Give blood, save a life

Re: *Gazette online, PRBC launches World Blood Donor Day event, June 10*

The Phuket Regional Blood Center is fantastic about setting up events and mobile donation clinics on an almost monthly basis around the island so that it is easy and convenient for Phuket residents to donate much-needed blood to help those in need.

With this in mind, it is outrageous that there would ever need to be a call to donate blood for someone in a life-threatening situation on the island.

I know from recent, horrific first-hand experience that government hospitals are in dire need of blood from foreigners.

There are certain blood types that the majority of Thais do not have, but foreigners do.

A recent accident involving a well-known and loved expat teacher and a subsequent urgent call for blood for Vachira Phuket Hospital is just one example of how important it is for government hospitals to have what they need already on hand in order to save lives.

I hope that Phuket residents and

# Life-saving lessons

## FIRST PERSON

LIFEGUARDS are essential. If there are swimmers, then there should be lifeguards. This principle is the foundation of the Phuket Lifeguard Club.

As Phuket is a well-known tourist destination where many people come to spend time at the beach, having proper life-saving services is imperative. Without lifeguards, accidents are more likely to happen, and these accidents could seriously damage the reputation of Phuket.

It is a service that is essential in both the high season and the low season, as accidents are unpredictable. Our job is to protect and help others, so we need to be on duty all year.

The low season has begun, which means the swimming conditions are riskier than ever. Swimmers should only be swimming in the safe zones, and lifeguards should be prepared for anything. Our members are well trained and know how to deal with the changing currents of the sea.

However, it is a very challenging job. We put ourselves at risk when we go out to save someone, but if we are careful, we can avoid unnecessary risks. If we are blessed with the appropriate skills, we should use them to help other people.

Besides being properly trained, it is vital that we have adequate equipment. For example, during low season's strong waves, lifeguards must have jet-skis to rescue people. With jet-skis, we can reach victims quickly, and



**Prathaiyut Chuayuan**, 50, from Phuket, is the president of Phuket Lifeguard Club (PLC). He graduated from Prince of Songkhla University, Pattani campus, with a bachelor's degree in physical education. He was involved in exchange programs in England and Australia related to life-saving services. He started his first job as a lifeguard at Le Meridien in Phuket

in 1998. He has been the president of the PLC since 2003.

Here, he talks about how important lifeguards are in Phuket and worldwide, the problems they face on the island and his plans to bring life-saving services to Thailand's other coastal provinces.

both lifeguards and the victim will be safe.

No matter how good a lifeguard is at his or her job, without proper equipment they cannot save lives.

Tourists can also help us achieve our goals on the beach.

Advanced swimmers can help someone in distress. Many tourists have done this. I have often heard reports of tourists helping rescue victims while lifeguards are off-duty.

However, even advanced swimmers must be cautious if they decide to try and rescue someone.

All tourists, especially those less experienced in swimming, must listen to our instructions and obey all of the beach rules. These are set in place to protect them. If they care about their lives, then they should follow the rules.

One problem we often face in our line of work is the fact that many tourists don't like to listen to us or they don't believe in us.

**/ We put ourselves at great risk when we go out to save someone from a dangerous situation, but if we are careful, we can avoid the unnecessary risks. If we are blessed with the appropriate skills, we should use them to help other people. /**



Pictures from a recent news story show a couple of teens taking similar stone-throwing action against a Swedish man's car. Photo: Gazette file

## A stone's throw

IT IS imperative that you have excellent defense driving skills in Phuket, especially if you are a daily commuter on some of the island's busiest roads, such as Thepkasattri. Drivers stop in front of you and park without warning, and people switch lanes without signaling and open car doors without looking. And, as I found out on my way to work on Monday, some have high-speed chases and throw rocks at buses.

I have no idea what caused this all-out battle. I only saw it as it sped past me... numerous times.

Two motorbikes being ridden by four young adults without helmets were throwing very big, heavy rocks at a bus right at the Koh Kaew border, heading toward the bypass road.

The bus was not blameless, as I saw the driver speed and cut through traffic. I couldn't tell if he was trying to hit the young motorcyclists, or if he was trying to get away – easily a 50/50 shot there.

The motorbike drivers sped by me at least three different times, after they had stopped to replenish their arsenal. I tried to read their licence plate, but they conveniently tucked it under so it wasn't visible.

At one point, a giant rock bounced off the bus and flew back toward me, causing me to swerve and almost hit the car next to me at full speed.

This went on all the way to the bypass road, where I finally lost

## Island View

By Debbie Adams

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

track of them.

These people do not think.

People are on their way to drop their children off at school. Furthermore, kids are on their way to school watching this behavior, thinking it is somewhat normal.

Not only are these people risking their lives, but also the lives of the people on the bus and the people driving around them, and should something happen to someone, it affects the lives of family and friends of those people.

It makes me sad that people have become so narcissistic that they have no regard for anyone or anything else but their own self satisfaction.

It also scares me to no end that no matter how cautious a driver you are, or how considerate you are of those around you, all it takes is one very stupid person to destroy someone's life.

I just wanted to get to work, along with many others, and instead I was almost killed because someone, or in this case at least four someones, have anger-management issues and should be declared mentally unstable and prohibited from operating any type of machinery.

Be careful out there friends. Be calm. Be thoughtful. Be kind.

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

### What can I do about a landlord who doesn't follow a contract?

WHAT official channels do I take when I feel like my landlord is not following our contract? Do I go to the police or is there a less severe channel?

Kim Norton  
Bang Tao

### Capt Piyasit Sangpayan of the Cherg Talay Police replies:

We do not handle civil cases. Please contact the Phuket Provincial Court, as they have many lawyers that can help you.

### Nattapol Chaimanee, Phuket Provincial Court Information Officer, replies:

Please note that civil cases between two parties regarding housing contracts can take a very long time to complete. We have to consult with both the complainant and the landlord about the problem. If the landlord is not willing to co-operate after a complaint has been filed, we will begin the legal process.

Please come to the Phuket Provincial Court's information center with your identification card or passport, as well as your rental contract and any other relevant documents.

We have many lawyers on hand to provide legal advice and to help solve the issue.

The Phuket Provincial Court is located on Damrong Road in Phuket Town. It is open Monday through Friday from 8am to 4pm.

## Immediate road repairs needed

I COMMUTE from Kathu to Pa Khlok every day. In order to avoid driving on the dangerous bypass road and Thepkasattri Road, I use the short cut road that goes past British International School and eventually passes in front of the *Phuket Gazette* office. Just past the office, the road on the left-hand side has crumbled away.

This particular spot of the already narrow road is very dangerous for motorists. When will it be repaired?

Kenneth Lucas  
Kathu

### Kuakiet Jitkua, president of Koh Kaew Administration Organization (OrBorTor), replies:



Repair it. Photo: Thanaphon Phromthong

Thank you for your question. Heavy rain caused the road behind Isuzu Andaman Sales (Koh Kaew Branch) to collapse into the roadside canal. This caused much damage to the walls of the canal and has prevented the water from flowing properly.

Before we can fix the road, we have to fix the canal walls. The

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

Submit your issue at

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

canal repairs will be completed in August. After that, we will fix the road and repave it. How quickly we can complete the road repairs depends on the weather and other working conditions.

There are about 60 meters of the canal we have to fix and 700 meters of road.



When it comes to investing, getting impatient can sometimes cost a decade of recovery from a mistake that patience would have avoided. Photo: Rafael Matsunaga

# Cycling the bull market

## Finance

By David Mayes

AS THE bull market in global stocks continues in the worst economic environment for a bull market within my lifetime, I find it reassuring to turn to those with some of the most impressive track records in the world of investing and trading.

Have things changed this time? Is the new era of central bank money printing going to propel the markets to levels never seen without the intermittent crashes that have proved historically unavoidable?

Let's look at two quotes that have proved timeless so far.

Most of you will be familiar with one of my favorite mantras (borrowed from Mark Twain): History doesn't repeat itself, but it often rhymes.

People may not typically look to the great writer and adventurer for investment advice, but to this day, investors still take note of the advice offered by Benjamin Graham and Jesse Livermore in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. So, without further ado...

Here are some wise words from two of the world's most successful investors ever:

"Sooner or later, all bull markets must end badly." – Benjamin Graham.

"The stock market never really changes that much. What happened before will happen again and again and again." – Jesse Livermore

For those of you unfamiliar with Mr Graham, he is the one who mentored Warren Buffet, who is essentially the most successful investor of modern times. It should also be noted that Mr Buffet is currently sitting on loads of cash just waiting for said bull market to end badly so he can swoop in and purchase quality businesses at decent valuations when the time is right.

I know I have been writing about the coming end of this bull for quite some time. In investing, having patience is more important than in any other area of life. Getting impatient can sometimes cost a decade of recovery from a mistake that patience would have had you avoid. I still don't know how long they can keep this bubble inflating with the printing press, but the longer they do, the more dangerous the crash will be.

Of course, this also means the greater the opportunity will be for those of us who have been patiently waiting.

Mr Livermore was one of the original market technicians, having travelled around the country getting kicked out of all of the bucket shops back in the early days of the last century. His story is the essential read for anyone getting started in trading, and his advice has never gone wrong.

What has happened before, the public getting excited as the markets shoot to fantastic new highs just before turning around to crash, will surely continue to happen again, and again, and again.

What scares me most is how complacent so many people are about their stock portfolios, as if



When the bull market does end, will you be following the smart money or the crowd? Photo: Russ Bowling

unlike every other crash, they will somehow know the exact time to sell out and miss the big drop.

As history has proved again and again, the least loved asset class is generally the one to be in. This is why I am still such a big fan of cash in an environment where it gives you essentially no return. When the bull market does end,

people will be taking money out of stocks at or near the lows and placing the funds into cash, while smart investors like Mr Buffet will be taking money out of cash and buying the stocks that the general public is bailing out of.

Yes, this cycle will repeat again and again. Will you be following the smart money or the crowd?

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



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## CEO promises steady profits

THE new head of AIG Thailand Group vows to keep it consistently profitable and select insurance segments that can make the group grow faster, such as consumer lines.

AIG Thailand Group consists of New Hampshire Insurance Company's branch and AIG Insurance (Thailand).

Tomi Latva-Kiskola, chief executive officer of New Hampshire Insurance Co and president of AIG Thailand Group, told a press briefing that Thailand was a key market, and it is getting back on the development track.

Many focuses can be revived and returned to rapid growth, Mr Latva-Kiskola said.

The group is negotiating with financial institutions, including credit-card companies, to strengthen its distribution channels.

The group remains focused on commercial lines. It has a strong position in this market, but will look harder at segments that could help it grow faster, such as auto insurance.

The company will strongly promote the product after recently promoting two other consumer

lines – personal accident and travel.

Auto insurance is a huge market here.

In past decades, AIG Thailand Group was growing at more than twice as the rate of gross domestic product. Its growth is in line with the non-life-insurance industry.

The company's policy is not to unveil business targets, but under Mr Latva-Kiskola's management with the focus more on consumer insurance, gross premium income must grow at least as fast as the overall market. –The Nation

# Bigger is much better

By Gazette Editors

THANYAPURA Phuket is looking to invest an additional 300 million baht in an expansion plan that will further strengthen its status as the leading 'Sports Hub of Asia'.

To be constructed over five years, the investment will see the 23-hectare complex gain a 100-meter training pool, four tennis courts, a multi-room Wellness Center, an international school working toward becoming a United World College (UWC) with enhanced high-performance training programs and another 114 accommodation units.

The expansion is expected to allow Thanyapura to host a new range of sporting events and attract more athletes seeking to enhance their mental and physical readiness to compete in the growing number of national and regional sporting competitions throughout Asia and worldwide.

"Phuket's pristine environment and great all-year weather provide the perfect natural 'infrastructure' for sports training and education for athletes across all age groups," said Phillipp Graf Von Hardenberg, president and CEO of Thanyapura.

"We are committed to improve performance and health, inspire the mind, instill well-being to optimize the potential of athletes. Thanyapura's three-dimensional approach to coaching pays equal regard to the development of the body, mind and soul, benefiting from the complex's world-class facilities, wide open spaces in a peaceful environment and pace-

setting coaches of their respective disciplines.

"We are working closely with the Ministry of Sports and Tourism, the Sports Authority of Thailand, the Tourism Authority of Thailand and other authorities, associations and clubs to promote Phuket and Thanyapura as the 'Sports Hub of Asia'. We are focusing not only on professionals, but also aspiring talents from the young generation in our high-performance program.

"From now until 2017, we have 25 international, 15 national and 10 local events already planned, which will, attract thousands per event, of international, national and local athletes and spectators."

Among the international events planned for 2015-2016 includes the first 'Swim Around the Island' competition, national and international tennis tournaments, triathlon race for youths and the 'Color Run' event.

The following new facilities will be covered by the 300 million baht investment.

A 100m training pool with five lanes will be an addition to the existing 50m Olympic-size pool and 25m training pool. Thanyapura was recently chosen as the first official Federation Internationale de Natation (FINA) – International Swimming Federation – training center for Southeast Asia, and has signed an agreement together with FINA where 19 Southeast Asian countries are invited to send two swimmers each for preparation for the Kazan Championships and Rio Olympic Games.



The expansion will allow Thanyapura to host a new range of sporting events and attract more athletes.

Four more tennis courts will increase the total number of courts to 10, enabling Thanyapura to hold bigger national and international tennis tournaments.

A Wellness Center for the body and mind with seven individual spa rooms and two 100sqm large halls for carrying out yoga and mind-training programs will be established.

Phuket International Academy School is working towards becoming a UWC, and expects to be certified by mid-2016. The high-performance training academies have hired three more coaches to build its training programs to send talent to national and

international competitions.

Thanyapura has positioned itself to present a unique and inspiring destination for individuals and groups, from professionals to amateur sports enthusiasts or those looking for a balanced approach to their lifestyle.

The facility, which first opened in 2008, which has cost 3.5 billion baht to date, comprises four centers: Thanyapura Sports and Leisure Club, Thanyapura Mind Center, Thanyapura Health and Phuket International Academy School. Other facilities include a 115-room sports hotel and DiVine Restaurant & Cellar and Booster

Daily & Bar, where an extensive range of regionally grown organic food underpins the menu.

Health-conscious persons from China are the top source of business, generating 31% of the facility's room-nights in 2014. Others in the top-ten list of business are sports persons from Thailand (15%), Australia (8%), Great Britain (5%), Hong Kong, Hungary, USA, the Netherlands, Singapore and Malaysia.

In addition to the sports facilities, Thanyapura also offers venues for a variety of events such as meetings, team-building, product launches, weddings and receptions.

## Defining your perfect customer



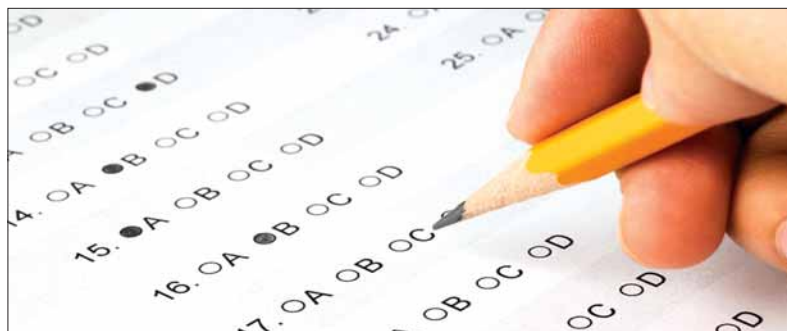
### Business Buzz

Simon Wetherell

ONE of the first things you should be focusing on in business is deciding what your niche is and who your perfect customers will be. Most people, in theory, will have done this as part of the initial planning and deciding what business to go into, but sometimes businesses change and go through significant metamorphosis over time, so it's always good to review who your clients are from time to time.

This seems very simple, but it is often overlooked or not given the weight it deserves. Many people have never conducted proper market analysis. It is never too late to go back and conduct this exercise, as also circumstances and markets change.

Quite simply, if we know who our perfect customer is, then we



When surveying, it is important to ask the right questions. Photo: Alberto G

can work out the best strategy to get our message to them and what it should be.

Something worth noting is that our target market is not always what we think is obvious. I remember when I was doing case studies during my MBA we reviewed Harley-Davidson. Initially it was thought that the perfect customer was the 'tough biker' who loved the sound and image of the Harley and riding with a gang of other like-minded individuals.

It shocked many (including

those at Harley-Davidson) to find out that the real target market was middle aged men, accountants and white collar workers, married with kids in safe and steady jobs, basically having a mid-life crisis and desperate to get the freedom of the road and wind in their hair (or what they had left of their hair).

These days, with the advent of online companies such as Survey Monkey, businesses can conduct very simple surveys at no cost to see what their trends are. Obviously it is important to ask the right

questions, and you may need to give incentive to your customers to complete the survey with a special offer or token gift, but the information you receive may well prove invaluable.

This information should then be used to re-examine your whole social media strategy. Next week we will look at building your biggest asset, and it is probably not what you are thinking.

Remember, if you have any questions please contact me, and I can select some each week and post them on the Gazette's Question & Answer section for everyone to see.

Simon Wetherell is a Social Media expert, Lawyer, Best Selling Author & International Speaker. He now resides in Phuket where he trains businesses and individuals on how to profit from the use of Social Media. For more information go to <http://PhuketOnlineMarketing.com> or call him on 095 085 3355.

TM

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## YOUR Phuket

### Taking care of Baan Mak Prok community



PTT invited doctors, nurses and officers from Bangkok Hospital Phuket to join the '2015 PTT Group Mobile Clinic' to take care of people in the Baan Mak Prok community in Thalang on May 28.

## Movenpick donates to Special Education Center



Mövenpick Resort & Spa Karon Beach Phuket visited Phuket Special Education Center to donate rice, diaper, shampoo, soap, milk, snacks and many other essentials.

## Ministry of Public Health pays visit to island hospital



Narongrit Havarungsi (right), director of Bangkok Hospital Phuket, is presented an award by Sqn Ldr Boonruang Triruangworawat (2<sup>nd</sup> right), director-general of the Department of Health Service Support.

## Amari Phuket welcomes members of top Israeli media



SHALOM: Management at Amari Phuket welcomes top media members visiting from Israel during their recent stay in Phuket.

## 10<sup>th</sup> Laguna Phuket International Marathon



As part of the marathon event there was a family-friendly fun run.



FULLY BOOKED: Mike Cartwright (left), 2015 Laguna Phuket International Marathon ambassador, hands over a donation of 20,000 baht to Ravi Chandran, managing director of Laguna Phuket for Laguna Phuket Foundation's 'Fully Booked!' mobile learning center.

The Phuket Gazette's weekly

# ISLAND TRADER

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

June 13 - 19, 2015 | [PhuketGazette.Net](http://PhuketGazette.Net)

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

PROPERTY FOR SALE  
of the week

**2-STOREY  
SINGLE HOUSE FOR SALE**



See page 15

PROPERTY SERVICE  
of the week

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



See page 16

JOB of the week

**LaGuna**  
HOLIDAY CLUB

See page 17

WHEELS & MOTORS  
of the week

**PASSION WINS**  
BY MILLENNIUM AUTO



See page 18

## HOT Promotion – Gazette **CLASSIFIEDS**

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**THE NATION**  
Classifieds

**Phuket today**  
Phuket Gazette

**Questions?**  
[Anna@PhuketGazette.Net](mailto:Anna@PhuketGazette.Net)



## Properties For Sale

**CHERNG TALAY LAGUNA**

Landplots 400sqm till 1,000 sqm. Ask for more information at laplphuket@gmail.com

**CONDO KATHU FOR SALE**

30.15sqm. Fully furnished. 1 bedroom. Living room. Kitchen. Aircon. Tel: 087-508 3516.

**HUGE FIVE-BED BIG POOL VILLA**

This huge five bedroom villa with massive feature pool in Rawai is greatly reduced for urgent sale at 12.5 million baht. Tel: 080-124 1245. Email: kay@phuketandaman realestate.com

**NICE HOUSE CHALONG**

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

**QUIET NAI HARN POOL VILLA**

Well-maintained 2-storey traditional Thai-style pool villa with 3 bedrooms, in small group of 4 homes. Private and serene. Desirable location with a short walk to Nai Harn Beach, restaurants and shops. Perfect for investment. Price reduced to 4.3 million baht. Email: rgartland@comcast.net

**OCEAN VIEWS, KATA**

New 1-bed condo, 44sqm. Great views. In-house management & rental program. A valuable investment. Ready to move in. 3.98 million baht or nearest offer. Email: ianscon do@yahoo.com

**LUXURY VILLA SALE**

5 bedrooms. 10x5m pool. Big living room. Nice kitchen. Fully furnished. About 300sqm. Quick sale only 8.5 million baht. Tel: 093-713 2278.

**THE DECK CONDO**

2-unit condo for sale at the center of Patong. The Deck Project. 1) studio unit no.0103309, floor 3, building A, 31sqm, 3.5 million baht. 2) 1-bedroom unit no.010310, 41.5sqm, 4.5 million baht. Full-furnished, ready to move in May 2015. Tel: 081-085 7550 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-344789. Email: ornhol land@hotmail.com

**RAWAI BEACH CONDO**

Pay in 10 years. Sell for 1.1 million baht in 40 trimestrial payments of 27,500 baht. Full Chanote title. Ownership forever. Brand new. Fully furnished. Aircon. Kitchen. Tel: 098-331 6449.

**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 or nearest offer. Genuine buyers only. No brokers please. Tel: 081-737 8662.

**22 RAI - 400,000 BAHT PER RAI**

Beautiful plot of land with nice mountain views. Has paved road access and electricity. Located 5km from Tablamu golf course and 10km south of Khao Lak. Price: 8.8 million baht. Tel: 087-277 7794 (English & Thai). Email: patchanee.samranjai@gmail.com

**KAMALA NEW HOUSE**

Living room. Bedroom. Bathroom. Terrace. Cable TV. Internet. Quick Sale 2.5 million baht. Secure place. Tel: 098-045 5421.

**URGENT SALE**

60sqm apartment in Kata Beach center. Reduced from 2.9 million baht. Sale now: 2 million baht, furniture included, free transfer. Please call 081-788 8280. Email: maurice.phuket@gmail.com

**LAND FOR HOTEL**

1.5 rai, 50m from beach, close to Amora Hotel. Plan for five-storey hotel with 108 rooms. For sale at 28 million baht. Please call 061-261 3486.

**3-BED HOUSE LARGE GARDEN**

Chuan Cheun Lagoon, close to British International School and the Boat Lagoon Marina. Chanote land title, 146sqm. (584sqm), 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. Please call 086-040 6866 (English), 081-979 6707 (Thai).

**FAMILY POOL VILLA IN RAWAI**

450sqm. Very peaceful and secure cul de sac. 3 bedrooms. 2 decks. 2-3 car park. 5 minutes to Rawai pier. Close to all amenities. Walk to beach. 9.9 million baht. For more information, please call 083-642 1300 (English & Thai). Email: adgareau@yahoo.com

**NAKA ISLAND**

Unique 4-bedroom beachfront house, panoramic views to the south, 10 mins to Ao Por pier. 240sqm on 2 floors, 750sqm plot, separate house for staff. Tel: 084-846 1270 (English).

**2-STOREY SINGLE HOUSE FOR SALE**

Burasiri Village. Koh Kaew. Next to BIS. 3 bedrooms (master bedroom with ensuite and walk-in closet), 3 bathrooms. Fully furnished, 4 aircons, kitchen with separate pantry. Parking for 2 cars. Communal swimming pool, garden and fitness.



For sale: 6.6 million baht or sell down payment: 400,000 baht. Long-term rent: 45,000 baht monthly, 520,000 baht yearly. **089-840 5290 (THAI)** **094-579 5666 (THAI / ENGLISH)**

**LAND IN NAI HARN FOR SALE**

Nai Harn. Chanote title. 1 rai. 300m to the beach. 13 million baht. Please call 086-943 0871 (English). Email: vodo rod12@mail.ru

**KATA HOUSE SALE**

4 bedrooms. Reduced price, must sell. Was 3.5 million baht and now 2.99 million baht. Tel: 082-465 9939.

**RAWAI BEACHFRONT CONDO**

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

**CHALONG HOUSE SALE BY OWNER**

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

**1-BED APT. SALE / RENT**

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

**POOL HOUSE**

Near Heroines Monument, Pa Khlok Road, 250sqm. Land 452sqm. 3/4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 4 aircons, big kitchen, furnished, 9x3m pool. Price: 5.25 million baht. Tel: 089-854 0277. Email: catayacht@csloxinfo.com

**POOL VILLAS RAWAI**

New top design pool villas, 2 & 3 bedrooms and bathrooms, large 5x8m pool, nice green area, Rawai, close to Makro. Start 9 million baht. Tel: 096-284 2463, 084-898 8258. Email: p.bumrung515@gmail.com

**KATA OCEAN VIEW**

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

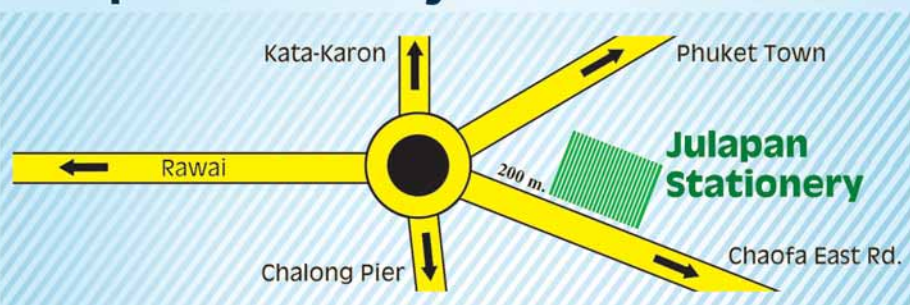
**CONDO FOR SALE**

Royal place condo, 3fl at the corner with swimming pool view, 45sqm. Fully furnished.

Pls contact 086-4769612 | annanoi@hotmail.com

## Live in Chalong?

### Place your **GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS** at Julapan Stationery



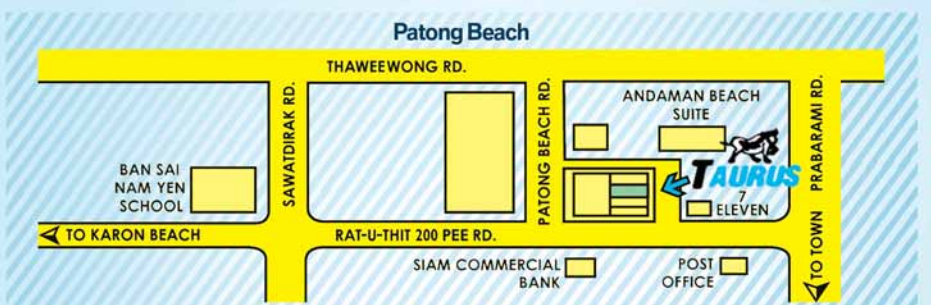
Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it with **Khun Aoi: (076-282254)**

**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 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!**

## Properties For Rent

**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.

**ORCHID KATHU HEIGHTS**

Serviced apartments. Free WiFi, 75sqm, studio. 1 bedroom 1 bathroom. 2 bedrooms 2 bathrooms. Plus duplex apartments overlooking the rooftop pool. Tel: 076-203208, 081-892 0038, www.orchidkathuheights-phuket.com

**NEW MAI KHAO BEACH HOUSE**

10,000 baht. New fully furnished and aircon. 500m to beach. For more information, please call 081-693 4463 (English & Thai). Email: 321orchidilla@gmail.com, www.orchidilla.com

**LUXURY APARTMENT PATONG**

1 bedroom, 50sqm, fully furnished, kitchen, balcony, big swimming pool. 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-080 88 31. For pictures please email to jstuder@loxinfo.co.th

**HOUSE BOAT LAGOON**

For long-term rent. Fully furnished. Tel: 084-629 3244. Email: fon-daki@hotmail.com

**BEACH HOUSE**

Chalong, furnished, 2 bedrooms, cable TV, WiFi, garden, quiet, secure, from 12,000 baht / month. Tel: 095-046 4039.

**AVAILABLE IN RAWAI**

2-bedroom pool villa - July 1. 2-bedroom house till November 1. Low price. Tel: 085-787 3046.

**1-BED BUNGALOW RAWAI**

Large terrace, big kitchen, aircon, WiFi, quiet. 9,000 baht. Tel: 081-271 7092. Email: bricothailand@hotmail.com

**BOUTIQUE ROOM FOR RENT**

Fully furnished, WiFi, Mae Luan Road. Tel: 089-668 3639 (English & Thai). Email: zhunaumann@gmail.com, http://BoutiqueRoomPhuket.com

**CHALONG AREA HOUSE**

1-3 bedrooms. Quiet area. Fully furnished. Please call 081-892 4311. Or visit our website at http://palaigreen.weebly.com

**KAMALA BEACH HOUSE**

2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, furnished, WiFi, cable, maid, secure, clean. 16,000 baht / month. Tel: 083-645 3546.

**LUXURY POOL VILLA**

Only 20,000 baht per month, lease for 5 months, in secluded resort, near Lauguna. Tel: 089-594 4067.

**GREAT VALUE CONDO**

2-bedroom, 2-bathroom condo, full amenities, linens, utensils, etc. Pool, wifi, kitchen, great location. From as low as 25,000 baht for long term. Tel: 081-892 6710 (English), 081-895 7908 (English & Thai). Email: peterh@asianwind.biz

**KATA BEACH FOR RENT**

Nice, 1 bedroom, kitchen, WiFi, aircon, spa. 500 baht per day. Tel: 086-595 8512, 081-970 4638. Email: nalu mana2000@yahoo.com

**LUXURY POOL VILLA**

Chalong, new, 110sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished, pool, aircons, security cameras, electric gate, high fences. Long-term rent: 35,000 baht / month by owner. Contact Nina. Tel: 089-729 6244. Email: ninaphuket@hotmail.com

**CONDO FOR RENT IN TOWN**

Fully furnished condo with air-con, TV, fridge, gym & pool. 10,000 baht / month. For more information, please call 092-991 9624. Email: keng.na.ranong@hotmail.com

**12,000 BAHT A MONTH**

2 bedrooms, fully furnished, on 0.5 rai, in a nice area. Close to PIA, golf and beach. Please call 081-125 1873, 081-892 4804.

**TOWNHOUSE SUPALAI CITY HILL**

For sale (2.8 million baht) or rent (12,000 baht/month) in Supalai City Hill Estate, Phuket Town. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, quiet, convenient location, furnished, full kitchen, decor, garden, car park, 2 aircons. Available from May 2015. Tel: 089-874 0061, 086-291 4115. Email: stephenfein@gmail.com

**NEW POOL VILLA RENT**

Apartment, 3 bedrooms, ensuite bathroom. Located at Layan. Contact Daniel. Tel: 081-787 43 83.

**SHOP HOUSE FOR RENT**

2-storey, 2-unit shop house for rent near Karon Circle. For more information, please call 076-344922, 083-102 5928. Fax: 076-341870. Email: kkiran23@hotmail.com

**KAMALA CONDO FOR RENT**

18,000 baht per month for long term, at the Trees Residence, 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, fully furnished, TV, WiFi available, washing machine. Facilities include 2 swimming pools, 2 gyms, tennis court, sauna, squash court, restaurant, shuttle bus to town and beach, 24-hour security. Tel: 076-529082, 098-683 2433 (English), 061-238 0155 (English). Email: paula jlaydon@hotmail.com

**FAMILY HOUSE + POOL**

Kathu - near schools, shops. Located at Baan Suan Loch Palm. This modern home has 3 bedrooms + maid room. Secure and safe in a patrolled gated community, major schools including BIS are only minutes away. Major shopping centers such as Central and Tesco Lotus are an easy 10-minute drive. House features an excellent all-weather outdoor area, swimming pool, nice gardens. Longer term rental preferred. Fully furnished. Contact Bea: 087-352 4114 (Thai), Justin: 083-551 1633 (English).

**4-BEDROOM POOL VILLA CHALONG**

4-bedroom, 5-bathroom private villa with 8 x 4m private pool for rent in Chalong. Fully furnished with TV and entertainment systems. Includes WiFi and cable TV. Secluded with gated entrance. Tel: 093-584 3711 (Thai), 081-397 6921 (English). Email: terry leetuck@hotmail.com

**CAPE YAMU VILLA**

900sqm, ultimate luxury villa, amazing sea views. 195,000 baht / month. No agents. Tel: 082-420 3270.

**Holiday Homes & Villa Rentals****HOUSE ON THE GOLF COURSE**

Loch Palm. Small 2-bedroom/bathroom house for long-term rent. No pool. Great views. Fully furnished. Tel: 081-894 0339 (English). Email: hilltribe@poppies samui.com

**RAWAI POOL VILLA**

2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, available for 6 people, private pool, dining patio, WiFi, carport, walled, gated. 6 months minimum, 12 months preferred. 40,000 baht / month. Contact Sue Walker. Tel: 081-970 17 16.

**Accommodation Available****PATONG LUXURY APT.**

Paradise Hotel Complex. 150m to beach. 1 large bedroom, kitchen, light, airy. For more information, please call 086-276 7608.

**Property Wanted****30 RAI JUNGLE WITH STREAM**

Waterfall or creek on property and secluded quiet location a must. Chanote or Nor Sor 3 Gor titles only. Anywhere in Thailand. For more information, please call 081-892 2419 (English & Thai). Email: linpracha krich@gmail.com

## Property Services

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Mail: AdPower@PhuketGazette.Net

**JUNIOR WEB DEVELOPER**

Salary: 20,000 - 30,000 baht / month+ bonus. Must be a female / male Thai national who is start-up minded, with clear thinking. We work with worldwide clientele and welcome any junior / beginner. Necessary experience with: Classic ASP or PHP. Some experience necessary with XML, JSON, Javascript, JQuery, HTML5At, ASP MVCAt, SQL Server and IIS / Windows. For more details, please call 098-671 8466 (English). Email: marina@juslaws.com See more details on www.sednasystem.com

**BUSINESS CONSULTANT**

Jus Laws & Consults Company Limited is looking for a Business Consultant. Native English speaking. Law education background. Please send CV to marina@juslaws.com or call 076-304353, 091-035 9191.

**EXECUTIVE SALES MANAGER**

Male / female Thai, excellent in communication and presentation skill both Thai & English, self-managed, car fuel covered. 30,000 - 60,000 baht / month. For more information, please call 098-331 6387. Email: info@phuket solar.com or visit our website: www.phuketsolar.com

**TIMESHARE / TELESales PROS**

\$\$\$ Exceptional opportunity \$\$\$ Work at our lakeside resort in Chiang Mai. Looking for a few top guns to work the phones into Australia. We supply full training, excellent leads, top commissions & great working environment. Tel: 081-020 4023. Please send resume to brad@spachiangmai waterside.com or go to our website at www.spa Chiangmaiwaterside.com

**JOB, CAREER AVAILABLE**

Villa Manager, Guest Service Supervisor (Natai), Villa Technician, Accountant, Housekeeper, Therapist, Beautician. Please send CV or apply in person. Tel: 076-527 633. Email: hr@luxuryvilla sandhomes.com

**SALES MANAGER**

- Excellent communication, reading & written English skills.
  - Ability to adapt quickly to new trends and new markets.
  - Experience working in property markets.
  - Must be hard working & dedicated.
  - Co-ordinate and work with Management team as required.
  - Thai national preferred.
- Baan Yamu Residence. Tel: 076-310507. Email: info@baanyamu.com

**MARKETING MANAGER WANTED**

Marketing manager wanted for new product. Thai national. Basic English. Tel: 087-893 8747 (English). Email: info@platinumresidencepark.com

**FRONT OFFICE MANAGER WANTED**

Thai and English speaking. Salary negotiable. Please send CV or contact Anne. Tel: 084-845 0003. Email: admincontrol@bayshore projects.com

**SALES REPRESENTATIVE**

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

**SALES COORDINATOR**

Siam Real Estate requires an experienced naturalised English speaker to administer and co-ordinate sales/rentals enquiries at our Rawai office. Must be a strong organiser, have a pre-emptive approach, be computer literate and have good people skills. Salary + WP provided. Tel: 076-288 908.

**SALES REP. AND TO.**

DVC looking for English Reps and TO. For more details call 098-270 8099, 076-342794. Email: hr@david vacationclub.com

**SALES REPRESENTATIVE**

Good communication skills and ready to work with business clients. Thai female or male. Good salary. For more information, please call 089-515 5288 (English). Email: timo.saarinen@swuid.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. For more details call 086-940 5187, 081-415 7774.

**GUEST RELATIONS**

Luxury villa in Nai Thon looking for an experienced Guest Relations Manager. Must have education, be reliable and flexible. Salary 20,000+ baht. For more details, please call 080-440 0772. Email: richard@ivanhoe.net

**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. Thai national only! Tel: 087-882 2856 (English). Email: luc@phuket-tropical-realestate.com

**COOKS AND MAIDS**

Vacation villas in Patong looking for full-time and part-time Thai staff to work in holiday villas in Patong. For more information, please call 080-699 2436 (English), 081-133 6477 (English & Thai). Email: kokakat@gmail.com

**HOUSEKEEPER NEEDED**

To manage and ensure the cleanliness of our operation. Must be a dynamic team worker with a pleasant personality. For more details, please call 081-893 5492 (English & Thai).

**ANIMAL CAREGIVER WANTED LIVE IN**

Starting March 1. Full time. Position involves handling sick animals, dog walking, grooming & medicating, cooking meals & running errands. Occasional after-hours & nights expected. Animal experience essential. Please send your resume to jellinecastro@yahoo.com

**Laguna HOLIDAY CLUB**

Laguna Holiday Club, part of the Laguna Phuket family of resorts, permits members to own their holiday getaway in one of four luxury room types based on a points system that allows great flexibility.

Laguna Holiday Club offers a competitive remuneration and fringe benefits package to qualified individuals.

- **Sales Representative** (English with Russian / Mandarin / Cantonese or Arabic speaking)
- **In House Sales Representative** (English with Chinese or Russian speaking)
- **Outside Personal Contact Team Leader (Marketing)** (Good command in English)
- **Outside Personal Contact (Marketing)** (English with Chinese speaking is an advantage)
- **EP Booker / Telesales Agent (Marketing)** (English with Chinese speaking is an advantage)

Must have experience in timeshare business for all positions. We are proud to provide an excellent benefits package including: basic salary, generous commissions, medical coverage, training, etc.

Send your CV to career@lagunaholidayclub.com

Call for more information: 076-362400 ext. 5140

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

Please be informed that only short-listed candidates will be notified

**ENGLISH TEACHERS**

Teachers from N.E.S / European countries to teach in schools: Phuket city, Chering Talay. TEFL / TESOL (+ Degree preferred but only essential for F/T). Must be good with YL. 1 x F/T. 2 x P/T. 30,000-35,000 baht / month. Contact head teacher ECC, Phuket. For more details, please call 076-307 0579, 089-139 8453 (English & Thai), 091-647 5465 (English). Email: Giles@ecc.ac.th

**TUTOR TEACHER**

Tutor / Teacher wanted for 5-year-old Australian/Thai child, to teach K3 Math, Reading, as well as Thai language. Monday-Saturday, 4 hours per day. For more information, please call 093-418 9529. Email: Shayne.Micchia@gmail.com

**CHINESE WEDDING PLANNER**

Wanted Chinese wedding planner, good command of Mandarin, working online, work at home and earn extra money for side business, basic fee plus commission included. For more details, please call 087-268 8159. Email: wedding@samer.com

**ENGLISH TEACHER WANTED**

Or native English speaker. Needed for private lessons for my 19-year-old Thai son. For more information, please call 081-797 1497.

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

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

**PATONG**

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

**PHUKET CITY**

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

**CHERNG TALAY**

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

**RAWAI**

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

**KARON**

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

**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
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Auto 110cc motorbike. Like new, 2 years old, 25,000km. 25,000 baht. For more information, please call 084-845 47 43.

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**BIG BIKE FOR SALE**

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**TOYOTA VIOS 2008 FOR SALE**

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## Orchard 48 (1992)

USD\$215,000


**Botnia Targa 32 (2013)**  
USD\$315,000

**Marquis 560 (2009)**  
USD\$599,000

**Majesty 56 (2011)**  
USD\$795,000

**Jeanneau 52.2 (2002)**  
USD\$220,000

**Riviera 50 Enclosed Flybridge (2015)** AUD\$1,600,000

**Jeanneau Sun Odyssey 45DS (2011)** USD\$295,000

**Beneteau Oceanis 423 (2004)** USD\$180,000

**Chris Craft Scorpion 311 (1988)** THB1,100,000


## VISION 49 SLOOP (1982)

45hp Volvo MD22. If you are looking for a comfortable cruising yacht at a very reasonable price and capable of winning regattas this could be the one for you. Only US\$69,950. For details contact Alan Giles. Andaman Boat Sales. Tel: 084-842 6146. Email: alangiles@boatshedphuket.com, www.Boatshedphuket.com

## RINKER EXPRESS CRUISER 310 (2010)

Twin 260hp Mercruisers, generator, air conditioning, micro wave, chart plotter, etc. Reduced to a very competitive US\$99,900. For details contact Alan Giles. Andaman Boat Sales. Tel: 084-842 6146. Email: alangiles@boatshedphuket.com, www.Boatshedphuket.com

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## HOBIE CAT 16

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## 3.1M YACHT TENDER DINGHY FOR SALE



3.1m Stingray RIB with 9.9hp, 4 stroke Suzuki outboard, storage cover, fuel tank, etc. Great size yacht tender, dinghy, as new 140,000 baht. Tel: 089-873 4044 (English), 081-270 3538 (Thai). Email: sc@crone.net.au

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## SEA RAY 330 SUNDANCER

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## THE SOLUTION TO THIS WEEK'S

## Cryptic Crossword

**COFFEE**  
**break**

**Abbreviations: UPPER CASE** (if used as part of anagram, in brackets).

**Normal spelling: lower case.**

**Anagrams: *italic*** (indicated in clue by words 'out', 'possibly', 'strangely', 'wild', or similar).

**Letters left out: underlined.**

**Across:**

8. BANGTAO: gotaban 9. GUITARIST: itrustagi 13. DRIFT: Dr.-fit 14. TIMER: merit 15. RECLAIM: Re-claim 16. SKEPTIC: S-kept-I/C 17. THERE: T-here 18. DINGO: doing 20. ALOUD: as spoken 22. PETALS: plates 23. ENTIRE: E-irent 25. STRIATE: asitter 27. FREEDOM: fedmore 30. PRIEST: PRsite 31. NITNOI: notiin 32. THEIR: the-1-R 35. THEME: them-E 36. LEASE: asale 37. UNIFORM: not changing 39. STRATUM: musttar 41. PASTA: Pa's-at[rev] 42. YARNS: threads 43. CANONICAL: true, authoritative 44. HELLISH: hillhes

**Down:**

1. MALICE: claim-E 2. AGITATE: getaidat 3. PARTICIPATE: patriciapet 4. QUARTERLY: laterquery 5. STARTER: treats(R) 6. PRECEDENCE: precede-N-C-E 7. ASIA: as-1-A 10. ODESSA: doesas 11. IMITATE: itimeat 12. IMPOSE: poemsi 19. NOISOME: moosein 21. OUTSIZE: out-size 24. ARTICULATED: segmented 26. INSPECTION: inspect-ion 28. DISAPPEAR: aidsapper 29. INTENSE: teensin 30. POTASH: pot-has 32. TRICYCLE: T-circle(Y) 33. REMISS: misers 34. ALEMBIC: a-climb(E) 38. OGRESS: gorses 40. READ: dare

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I-ECCE – Italy  
G-BVNL – UK

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Overhauled Feb 2011 (7 years to TBO). C of A Due 11th November 2011. New 5-year Permit.  
100 hour check completed 19 Feb 2011.

**Specs:**

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

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

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**TECNAM P-92**

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# Phuket Comedy Show

American stand-up comedian Tom Rhodes from Las Vegas dropped in to the Spice Box restaurant at Boat Avenue on May 30, where he performed to a packed house. The 'Gazette Headline' event was organized by Events International, who specialize in bringing overseas talent – both musical and theatrical – to Phuket to perform at a wide variety of locations on the island. Catch it on this week's 'Phuket Today' show (see schedule on page 23).



American stand-up comedian Tom Rhodes takes the stage in Phuket.



Tom Rhodes had the crowd at the sold-out show laughing hard.

# Star struck at Cape Panwa



Staff at Cape Panwa Hotel Phuket welcome cast members from the TV show 'Neung Nai Suang'.

# Taste of California

## Wine tasting at Jasmine B Restaurant



**SIMPLY DELICIOUS:** From L: Wanchana Chantrairat, restaurant manager of Jasmine B; Neven Vidas, president of California Pacific Wines; Pongsak Tiamsuttikarn, director of sales and marketing of World Class Wines; Saksri Kerdphol, wine distributor; and Michael Huang, assistant director of marketing of California Wines.



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### Words from the wise

“Argue for your limitations, and sure enough they’re yours.”

– *Richard Bach*

#### Medium

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

#### Hard

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

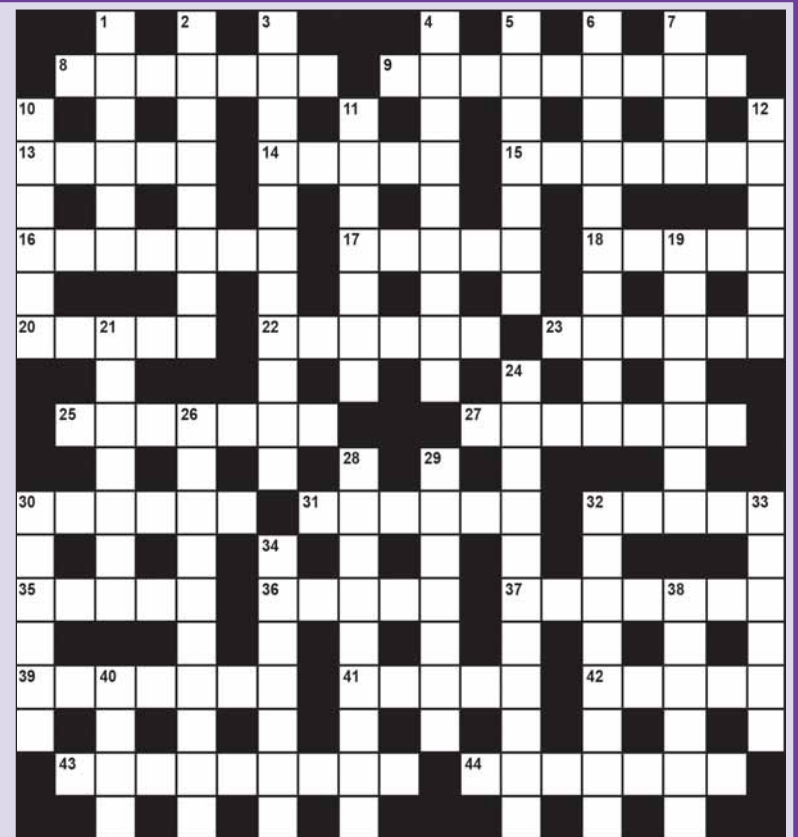
**SUDOKU:** Each row, column and 3x3 sub-grid must contain the number 1-9 once only. © Kevin Stone (brainbashers.com)

## COFFEE break

### Cryptic Crossword

#### Across

8. Got a ban organized for a Phuket beach (7)  
9. Maybe I trust a G.I. as a player in the band (9)  
13. Doctor fit moving pile of snow (5)  
14. Merit new stopwatch, for example (5)  
15. Recover concerning allegation (7)  
16. Doubting son kept in charge (7)  
17. Taken in this place or that place (5)  
18. Doing badly as a feral canine (5)  
20. Sounds as if it's allowed for all to hear (5)  
22. Plates showing parts of flowers (6)  
23. Note I rent out the whole (6)  
25. Indent a sitter wrongly (7)  
27. Possibly fed more independence (7)  
30. P.R. changed site for clergyman (6)  
31. Not I, in arranging a little bit in Thailand (6)  
32. The one river belonging to them (5)  
35. Those people note the topic (5)  
36. Rewrite a sale or rental agreement (5)  
37. Not changing livery (7)  
39. Must tar different deposited layer (7)  
41. Father's back at the Italian food! (5)  
42. The threads of the stories (5)



43. True and authoritative relating to a cathedral chapter (9)  
44. Horrendous hill he's scrambled up (7)

#### Down

1. Ill will from claim out East (6)  
2. Get aid at becoming disturbed (8)  
3. Move, Patricia pet, join in! (11)  
4. Later, query moving out East every three months (9)  
5. Maybe treats about right as entrant in race (7)  
6. Go before new chapter, note as priority (10)  
7. As one adult is continent (4)  
10. Does as arranged in European city (6)  
11. Copy I time at random (7)

12. Poems I rewrite to take advantage of (6)  
19. Moose in wild, offensive (7)  
21. Huge, not in measurements (7)  
24. Clearly spoken and segmented (11)  
26. Scrutinize charged particle in assessment (10)  
28. Carefully aid sapper to get out of sight (9)  
29. Upset teens in earnest (7)  
30. Container maybe has chemical fertilizer (6)  
32. Time unknown in circle disturbed child's conveyance (8)  
33. Miser's move is negligent (6)  
34. A wobbly climb around. Note, ancient still! (7)  
38. Man-eater in tangled gorses (6)  
40. Dare carefully to peruse (4)

#### Gemini (May 22-June 21)



Starting Monday, you may find key events encourage you to consider a few changes to your routines, especially if they are long overdue. If so, this week's alignments can be excellent for making a start. In addition, the new moon in your sign on Tuesday could motivate you to take the first step to achieving a big hope.

#### Cancer (June 22-July 23)



Taking time out for creative activities can be very therapeutic and may inspire answers to complex issues. There's more too, as an involvement could become passionate and seductively intense. And while the new moon encourages reflection, the sun in your sign from Sunday might push you to confidently express your talents.

#### Leo (July 24-Aug 23)



With both Venus and Jupiter in your sign matched by a busy social sector – you may find yourself very much in demand. However,

you'll need to balance your leisure time with responsibilities on the home front, which may mean weeding out unnecessary activities. Even so, you'll still benefit from expanding your social horizons.

#### Virgo (Aug 24-Sept 23)



It may be back to the drawing board regarding an idea, particularly if it's failed to produce the results you're after. A little more in-depth research and tweaking can, however, lead to success. Also you might find yourself keen to get moving on a key goal or ambition – and with the help of a supportive associate you could do very well.

#### Libra (Sept 24-Oct 23)



It pays to look after finances over the coming weeks with Saturn retracing its steps into Scorpio suggesting recycling goods, cutting back on spending and generally making the most of what you have. Furthermore, investing in study and research can be beneficial. And from Sunday on, you'll have more opportunities to showcase your skills.

## YOUR horoscope

By Patrick Arundell

#### Scorpio (Oct 24-Nov 22)



Saturn edges back into your sign on Monday, and remains with you until mid-September. As a result you may put more pressure on yourself to achieve goals and ambitions. At the same time, it's possible you'll sabotage your best intentions. As the sun moves into Cancer on Sunday it suggests nurturing, rather than criticizing yourself.

#### Sagittarius (Nov 23-Dec 21)



You may feel a tad more relaxed from this week as Saturn moves out of your sign back into Scorpio. For the next three months, part of your focus may be on healing any unresolved issues, especially regarding key relationships. Even so, the new moon on Tuesday promises a fabulous new start if you're willing to make a bold move.

#### Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 20)



Your social sector is back in focus on Monday, and it seems you're keen to connect with people who can help you achieve your goals and ambitions. Moving in the right circles becomes especially important and beneficial. Meanwhile the sun in Cancer from Sunday could provide a fresh perspective on a key relationship.

#### Aquarius (Jan 21-Feb 19)



Pressures associated with your career or big ambitions may come to a head once again. However, you now have an opportunity to create change at a grassroots level that can transform your fortunes in positive ways. At the same time, Tuesday's Gemini new moon could offer an opportunity to lead with a creative solution.

#### Pisces (Feb 20-Mar 20)



The new moon can be excellent for making changes at home, starting redecoration projects or even buying or selling a property. Whatever your

plans, it looks like you'll have a lot on your plate. However, the Sun in Cancer from the weekend puts the spotlight on pleasure and romance, bringing a chance to indulge.

#### Aries (Mar 21-Apr 20)



Saturn reverses back into Scorpio, seeing emotions deepening and holding greater sway, which could add to your mystique in a key relationship or budding romance. You may want to keep financial hopes secret too – especially if others have a tendency to meddle. For yourself personally, information gathering can lead to wise decisions.

#### Taurus (Apr 21-May 21)



Relationships can increase in intensity starting Monday, which may be the spur you need to heal an issue or resolve any ongoing difficulties. Tuesday can prove to be excellent for a new start regarding matters with money, and on Sunday as the sun eases into Cancer, it could act as a spur to enhance communication and intimacy.

## WHAT'S ON in Phuket

### June 9-June 16. Adventure Golf Summer Package

Day pass, all you can play. One main dish from the menu/kids menu. A drink from selected drinks menu. Cold towel after the game. Adults: 499 baht, Children: 299 baht (up to 11 years old). Book now and save 40-50%.

Happy hour daily from 5pm to 7 pm: A glass of selected beverages and pour-up drinks: 99 baht.

The 18-hole course is fully floodlit for twilight and night golfing. Welcome! Bang Tao Beach Rd, Soi 2, next to Arinara Beach Resort. Make your reservation by calling 080 147 2468 or visiting [www.phuketadventureminigolf.com](http://www.phuketadventureminigolf.com)

### June 20-June 21. 7th Annual Phuket Baba Wedding

Baba Weddings were the most important celebrations in the life of the Peranakan people, where well-to-do families could display their wealth and prestige during lavish ceremonies. Now, the revitalized tradition is accessible to everyone, either as participants getting married, or as spectators watching the wedding procession as it ambles through Old Phuket Town's historic streets.

The Thai Peranakan Association is delighted to invite all to share in the joy of love with the bride and the groom, their families and the Phuket community June 20-June 21.

Keep following the *Gazette* for schedules of the day's events or

**The 7th PHUKET BABA Wedding**  
20-21 JUNE 2015

for more information, contact Ms Orasiri at the Thai Peranakan Association, 081 691 1955.

### June 22. Jazz for Nepal Simone Live in Phuket

Rotary Club of Tongkah invites you to join 'Jazz for Nepal Simone Live in Phuket' on Monday, June 22, 6:30pm at LimeLight Avenue, featuring world renowned Austrian jazz

vocalist Simone Kopmajer.

Proceeds after expenses will be forwarded to the Rotary Club Thamel district, Kathmandu, Nepal 3290 to assist victims of the May 12 quake and repair damaged schools.

For more information, contact Aom at 086 410 1246.

### July 15-July 19. Cape Panwa Hotel Phuket Raceweek

Now in its 12<sup>th</sup> year, Cape Panwa Hotel Phuket Raceweek offers exceptional sailing on the east coast of Phuket and quality accommodation. Four nights of extravagant parties that have become infamous around the Asian yachting scene make this one of the best summer sailing regattas.

Cape Panwa Hotel Phuket Raceweek 2015 has a comprehen-

sive commercial sponsorship and partnership program that enables corporate Asia to get involved with the world of sailing. The growing popularity of sailing in Asia makes it the ideal platform for companies to increase their brand awareness. For more information, email [info@phuketraceweek.com](mailto:info@phuketraceweek.com) or call 089 000 4664. Keep following the *Gazette* for more updates.

# Phuket today

Phuket Gazette

**BROADCASTING PHUKET TO THE WORLD**

Phuket Today takes the Pearl of the Andaman to an international audience. PGTV's one-hour show features the personalities, lifestyle, sports and leisure activities that make Phuket famous.

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

LOCAL COVERAGE	NATIONAL COVERAGE	INTERNATIONAL COVERAGE
<b>Phuket Cable</b> Coverage: All of Phuket <b>Channel: 1</b> Monday-Friday: 10.30am, 6pm, 9pm Saturday-Sunday: 10.30am, 9pm  <b>Rawai Cable</b> Coverage: Rawai, Kata, Karon <b>Channel: 1</b> Monday-Friday: 10am, 1pm, 7pm, 10pm  <b>KDTV</b> Coverage: Phuket's West Coast from Patong to Cherng Talay <b>Channel: 10</b> Daily: 8.30am, 2.30pm	<b>MCOT World</b> <b>Tuesday:</b> 6.10am, 12pm, 7.10pm <b>Wednesday:</b> 6.10pm <b>Thursday:</b> 1.10am <b>Friday:</b> 1.10am <b>Saturday:</b> 1.10am <b>Sunday:</b> 6.10am  <b>Truevisions</b> Channel: <b>79</b> <b>PSI</b> Channel: <b>223, 320</b> <b>Dynasat</b> Channel: <b>106</b> <b>Thaisat</b> Channel: <b>185</b> <b>Infosat</b> Channel: <b>185</b> <b>Sunbox</b> Channel: <b>81</b> <b>GMMZ</b> Channel: <b>103</b>	Broadcast to China, the Philippines, Southeast Asia, India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Turkey, UAE, and many other countries around Asia and beyond.  <b>Thaicom 5 Sat</b> <b>3520H</b> <b>Tuesday:</b> 6.10am, 12pm, 7.10pm <b>Wednesday:</b> 6.10pm <b>Thursday:</b> 1.10am <b>Friday:</b> 1.10am <b>Saturday:</b> 1.10am <b>Sunday:</b> 6.10am

**Online:** [www.phuketgazette.net/tv](http://www.phuketgazette.net/tv) | [www.youtube.com/PGTVPhuket](http://www.youtube.com/PGTVPhuket)  
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# Prep your property for rent



## By The Book

Kevin Hodges

MANY Phuket property owners purchase with the intention of renting out their property. Historically, Phuket has provided owners with very attractive rental returns on their investments, a trend which is likely to continue as the island's appeal to tourists and long-term expats grows further.

Preparing a property for rent starts at the purchasing stage. A buyer must decide whether they are looking to maximize rental income or just cover maintenance costs.

Before looking at purchasing a property a buyer must also consider whether they want a managed property with or without guaranteed returns, or whether they will manage the property and rentals themselves.

If the property is not part of a managed development, the owner will need to market their rental property through local brokers and/or international booking websites. An overseas owner will also need a property management company to handle potential maintenance issues.

A buyer may not be buying with the intention to maximize rental return or occupancy, as they may want to use the property as frequently as they wish. Some property developments will set a maximum limit for owner usage, otherwise owners must opt out of the rental pool, while other developments offer much more flexibility.

## PRICING

Owners need to ensure their property is priced competitively while also leaving some room for negotiation – all tenants expect to be able to negotiate a deal. Local agents can assist with advice regarding pricing as they know the market best.

Owners must be very clear what is included in the rental price. Holiday rental rates will usually include all utility costs while long-term prices normally exclude utilities such as electric, water, TV and internet.

## PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Owners must ensure the property is being maintained. Regular maintenance and re-decorating is essential to ensure your property is maximizing its rental returns. Property damage must be fixed promptly and decoration and furnishings must be kept up and reflect what is being advertised.

## PHOTOS AND GUEST REVIEWS

Nearly all prospective tenants will begin their search by looking at property advertised on the internet. Those properties with very attractive photos will get the most attention and generate the most inquiries.

For holiday rental properties this is vital, as guests will be booking without viewing the property. Guest reviews will back up photos and get more rental bookings.

## CALENDAR

Keeping an availability calendar is a great way to increase rentals and Siam Real Estate can provide a 'calendar plug-in' for your website to avoid receiving inquiries for periods that are already booked. If your calendar shows no bookings however, it will not look like a popular property to choose.

Whether marketing through booking websites or local brokers, owners should ensure there is a detailed description of their property and nearby attractions and amenities. A lot of people who book property online will not be familiar with Phuket, so the more details the better.

## PREPARING THE PROPERTY

A holiday rental property should be fully furnished including extra bed sheets, towels, cooking and dinnerware. When preparing the property, the owner should have in the back of their mind that all guests should need to bring is their suitcase and tooth brush, all else will be provided.

Internet is essential for holiday rental guests. There will also need to be some-



Some property developments set a maximum limit for owner usage.

body to check in and check out the tenant and handle any maintenance issues which arise during the tenants stay.

Generally, for long-term rental properties, the preparation requirements are less. Longer term tenants will often have their own towels, bed linen and dishes or be prepared to purchase them. These guests will normally arrange their own internet and TV packages and will not expect a maid service or airport collection to be included.

## RENTAL TERMS

When agreeing to let out your property, you must ensure that the tenant has signed a lease agreement or agreed to terms and conditions that clearly cover all eventualities.

For long-term rental, the standard deposit is equal to two months' rent and the rent is paid one month in advance. Holiday rental security deposits are a bit vaguer as tenants are not always willing to pay a large

security deposit up front.

When using a local agent it should be standard practice for the agent to take copies of passports and a home address. In our lease agreement, there is a clause that states that should a tenant leave early, they are liable to pay the entire rent for the remainder of the lease period. If using an online booking agent it is wise to check that the agent's terms fully cover you and your property.

Owners should take out full insurance prior to occupation to cover all eventualities.

Income returns are an important part of any investment: they supplement capital gains of an asset giving greater returns. It is therefore very important that when you decide to rent out your property you are able to maximize its rental potential through occupancy and or rental rates.

For more information, contact Kevin Hodges by calling 076-324042 or emailing: kevin@siamrealestate.com.



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## Leading online portal takes stab at dominating Thai property market

THAILAND'S leading property website, DDproperty.com, has launched a new campaign with a 10-million-baht advertising budget aimed at gaining up to 80 per cent of the property portal market share in Thailand within the next five years.

As part of Asia's leading property media company, PropertyGuru Group, founded in Singapore, DDproperty.com's new campaign, titled 'A smarter way to search property', aims for market dominance with a host of features for its users.

Napong Panthong, head of marketing for DDproperty.com, said the campaign was named as such simply to emphasize the website's position as the leading property portal in Thailand.

He noted that at present DDproperty.com's market share stands at 60 per cent, with more



DDproperty.com aims for market dominance. Photo: Daniel X. O'Neil

than 2.9 million users per month averaging approximately six minutes per site visit.

"If we were to compare ourselves to our competitors in Thailand, we are still by far ahead of the game. As we constantly want to secure the top position, we must always create newer and more effective marketing strategies to ensure DDproperty.com is

even more distinctive," he added.

In order to implement such strategies, Mr Napong revealed that starting this month, there will be three major additions to the DDproperty.com website.

Users will be able to access Smart Tool, a newer and more advanced feature for property searching in Thailand that follows four simple steps: locating property; calculating installment payments based on applicable interest rates; show sales trends for the selected property; and display the most suitable property based on a built-in point-scoring system.

The second addition to DDproperty.com involves key content that will be made more complete in the 'Review' section and 'New Home' section.

The third will make the site more user-friendly.

—The Nation

# Boat Avenue goes higher

## Phuket's Boat Development Company is ready to expand Boat Avenue's business

By Nina Suebsukchareon

THE Boat Avenue community mall in the Laguna area is in the process of adding seven more shophouses in the main compound and will later build commercial structures along both sides of the newly constructed road.

Boon Yongsakul, deputy managing director of Boat Development Company, an offshoot of the famous Boat Lagoon marina, told the *Gazette* that each of these seven four-storey shophouses are for sale at 12 million baht each.

"There are already two roads leading to our community mall but to make it easier for our clients in Laguna we cut a new two-lane, 10-meter-wide road so that they needn't pass through the T-junction," Mr Boon said. "Although both sides of this road remain green we are working on a master plan to bring in good Phuket restaurants and also those in Bangkok keen on moving here."

The company was able to build a new road for only 5mn baht

because the Yongsakul family owns about 2,000 rai of land surrounding Laguna.

"We have land in other parts of Phuket, too," Mr Boon noted. "It's because my family had been mining here and we have correct titles for them."

Mr Boon said he intends to concentrate on further expanding the community mall to meet the needs of residents living in the area and guests of various luxury hotels.

"We are not limiting ourselves to retail and commercial development, it's just that right now we want Boat Avenue to shape up as intended," he explained.

While all the shophouses in the initial phase and the seven new ones are for sale, the developer retains ownership of the mall where Villa supermarket and small shops are located.

"This Villa branch is the best performer in all of Thailand because there isn't much competition," Mr Boon said.

Tri Property, which built Zcape X2 condominium next to



Mr Boon intends to further expand the community mall to meet the needs of residents in the area.

the community mall after buying the land from the Yongsakul family, has not inquired about buying any additional plots for development.

Also within this complex is housed Thailand's first container park, of which Mr Boon is rightly proud.

"We put containers around like they do in New Zealand and

England, and there is a waiting list of people who want to come in," Mr Boon explained. "We arranged the containers and painted them in vibrant hues of red and green and it's quite good."

Mr Boon is upbeat about the future, particularly the brand he has created because, while some units have still to be rented out,

he is meeting his target as planned.

"We wanted Boat Avenue to be an asset brand, so we incorporated the word Boat, but Avenue was an inspiration from the J Avenue community mall in Bangkok because it's very well known around Thailand and people know what that's all about," he explained.

## Quality Houses looks to woo Gen Y

BUILDING a brand that focuses on the young generation is the objective of Quality Houses in the next two or three years, the company's new president and chief executive officer Chadchart Sittipunt said in an interview with *The Nation*.

Chadchart, a former transport minister in the government of Yingluck Shinawatra, took over as president and CEO on January 1 this year.

"My goal is to drive Quality Houses to achieve a sustainable average growth of 10 per cent a year by focusing on the quality of our products to serve all market segments. That is why we have to build ourselves into a recognizable brand for the young generation," Mr Chadchart said.

According to the company's survey, the Quality Houses brand is well known to people aged 40 and above. As a result, the company has to refresh its brand to serve Gen Y purchasing power.

Mr Chadchart said the company



Chadchart Sittipunt. Photo: The Nation has revised its business structure, especially the design concept, integrating separate design departments for brands such as QH, Casa, Trust, and Gusto. This will enable it to have designs that cover all generations and also have a unique concept.


Earlier, when the individual brands had their own designers, they did not liaise with other brands under the Quality Houses umbrella. Some designs of other brands looked similar hence the customers could not identify the differences between the various brands.

Currently, the company is pooling together the designers of every brand so that they can work together. This will change the design concept to focus on customers under the same concept and also have different designs.

"Our design theme will serve our goal to design residences that serve the needs of the young generation and also continue to retain our existing customers. Our concept is to have premium products in all market segments," Mr Chadchart said.


Building a brand is not only about advertising; it means quality of products, the best location, and after sales service. The company may use a lower advertising budget and expect its customers to tell others to buy its residences through word of mouth. To achieve this goal, the company has to build quality residences to serve customer demand, Mr Chadchart added.

—The Nation





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# References for underwater world

## How new divers' minds scramble to understand life below the ocean's surface

By Catherine M Hooker

COMING to Thailand from a landlocked country, there are few points of reference that we can use to mentally prepare for a PADI open water diving course. For those who have never been diving before, most of our context for the underwater world is derived from urban references: movies, books, advertisements and aquariums – we all know what a 'Nemo fish' is.

It is natural for humans to want to compare things, it helps us understand the world and categorize everything more quickly. If we didn't have this instinct, we would be overwhelmed by everything around us each and every day, constantly processing every ocean view, every scooter and every tree as if it were completely unique from the last one we had seen.

Vince of Kiwidiver.com begins the class by focusing on theory, and how to ensure diver safety from the beginning to the end of a dive. Even though the material is

completely new, there is still a frame of reference for most of us: we understand how to take a test and read study materials. It's the next part that makes me nervous and excited – putting all of this into practice.

As the course progresses, Vince calmly shows me every skill I need: retrieving my regulator, clearing it, and controlling my breath so I can hover in the middle of a pool. Using one's lungs as a way to move through the water is completely foreign to someone

who has never been diving. It's hard to find a comparable experience.

The next day, below the ocean's surface, my mind begins compensating for the vast unknown and

**/ My mind begins compensating for the vast unknown and drawing references from my terrestrial life to help me understand it. /**

drawing references from my terrestrial life to help me understand it. At Racha Bay 1, it is hard not to think that we have submerged ourselves into a movie where the sea creatures can speak and relate to human emotions. Or that we are in a video game where the unique cubes placed in the bay to support a coral reef are strange



Catherine's mind wrangles with the urban references she encounters on her first dives. Photo: Kiwidiver.com

obstacles that stand between us and the next level.

However, it only takes a couple of dives before it is possible to view the underwater world for what it truly is, and not some surreal facsimile of fictional, urban references.

As a new diver, one marvels at the iridescence of every parrotfish, the neon color on a blue-spotted stingray and the curiosity of a wrasse who just wants to find something to eat. Such vivid, direct experiences swim in the face of our sense of infinite knowledge

that comes from our hyper-connected world.

It is wonderful to experience something for which there are no comparisons, and no YouTube video, tweet or story can realistically substitute diving into a whole new world.

## Name those pop references



'Finding Nemo' has re-named this type of fish. Photo: Nick Hobgood



Clearly 'Jaws', but Bruce is also acceptable. Photo: Lwp Kommunikacio



The referencing from 'Flipper' had devastating results. Photo: bm:iphone



It's a classic: Twenty Thousand Leagues Under The Sea.



Who knew that Sebastian was supposed to be a crab. Photo: DIAC



'Free Willy' – but check out 'Black Fish'. Photo: Leonardo Dasilva

The 7th

# PHUKET BABA

## Wedding

20-21 JUNE 2015

# Revamp taking its toll



By Stephen Fein

THERE has been little reported progress in the ongoing restructuring of Thailand's Department of Civil Aviation (DCA), and the slow-moving bureaucratic revamp is taking its toll across the entire Thai aviation industry.

At the top of the aviation food chain, some Thai-registered commercial carriers have been forced to scrap requests for new routes.

A number of important tourist source countries in the region have taken very seriously the negative results of an audit earlier this year by the United Nations' International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), banning any new flights from Thai-flagged carriers in their airspace until regulatory improvement is shown.

The next hurdle the Thai commercial aviation industry will have to clear is a planned inspection by the United States' Federal Aviation

Administration (FAA), scheduled for July 13. Experts fear this could lead to yet another major setback to industry operations, if it goes poorly.

US charge d'affaires W Patrick Murphy, the top US diplomat in the Kingdom since former US Ambassador Kristie Kennie left Bangkok in November last year, has reportedly offered to "act as a mediator" in the upcoming talks.

Unnamed sources in the DCA have been quoted as saying that the agency has already addressed 31 of 33 safety concerns listed by the ICAO after the results of its audit and subsequent safety alert.

More positive news came at the end of last month, when the Japanese government agreed to extend its reprieve on six Thai carriers with services to that country. The airlines were three scheduled carriers: Thai Airways International (THAI), Jet Asia and Thai Air AsiaX; along with charter carriers NokScoot, Asian Air and Asia Atlantic Airlines.

## HOLDING PATTERN

Under the present circumstances, few people in the 'general aviation' community wished to be directly quoted about issues related to the effect of the DCA overhaul.



Phuket's general aviation industry is in a holding pattern. Photo: Gazette file

However, several reliable sources in the Thai general aviation community provided Up In The Air with some interesting, off-the-record insights on issues related to recreational flying in the Kingdom.

Among the key issues is what organizational role, if any, the Royal Aeronautic Sports Association of Thailand (RASAT) would play in the future of these activities.

Most general aviation businesses and activities were licensed under RASAT, a flying club organization set up with foundation status more than 20 years ago by Thai aviation enthusiasts.

"But since the current storm started with the DCA, the government has decided to 'go by the book'. Back in the day, RASAT was basically an agreement among friends. Nothing was ever really official and there was very little direct government involvement in general aviation activities," one source said.

The organization is now lobbying the government for the right to continue its activities with a more official role under a revamped DCA, but the association's future role is far from clear, the source said.

In the meantime, recreational

flying activities are in a proverbial holding pattern.

"The DCA has basically put everything on hold. They are not giving out any new pilot licences or aircraft registrations for general aviation activities," the source said.

The military-run board overseeing the restructuring of the DCA and other regulatory changes affecting general aviation has stated that new regulations applying to general aviation would not be ready until October – at the earliest.

"Basically, we are hoping for the best; that everything goes as they have announced. If that is the case, then by October everything should be okay, unless there are surprises – such as if Thailand decides it does not want to allow foreigners to be involved in any form of aviation," said the source.

However, another local industry insider pointed out one silver lining for general aviation in Phuket.

"At least it is taking place during the low season, when monsoon conditions prevail and demand is lower due to the reduced number of tourists. The best we can hope for is that all this gets sorted out by October so that we can be back in business by the time the next high season for tourism arrives," he said.

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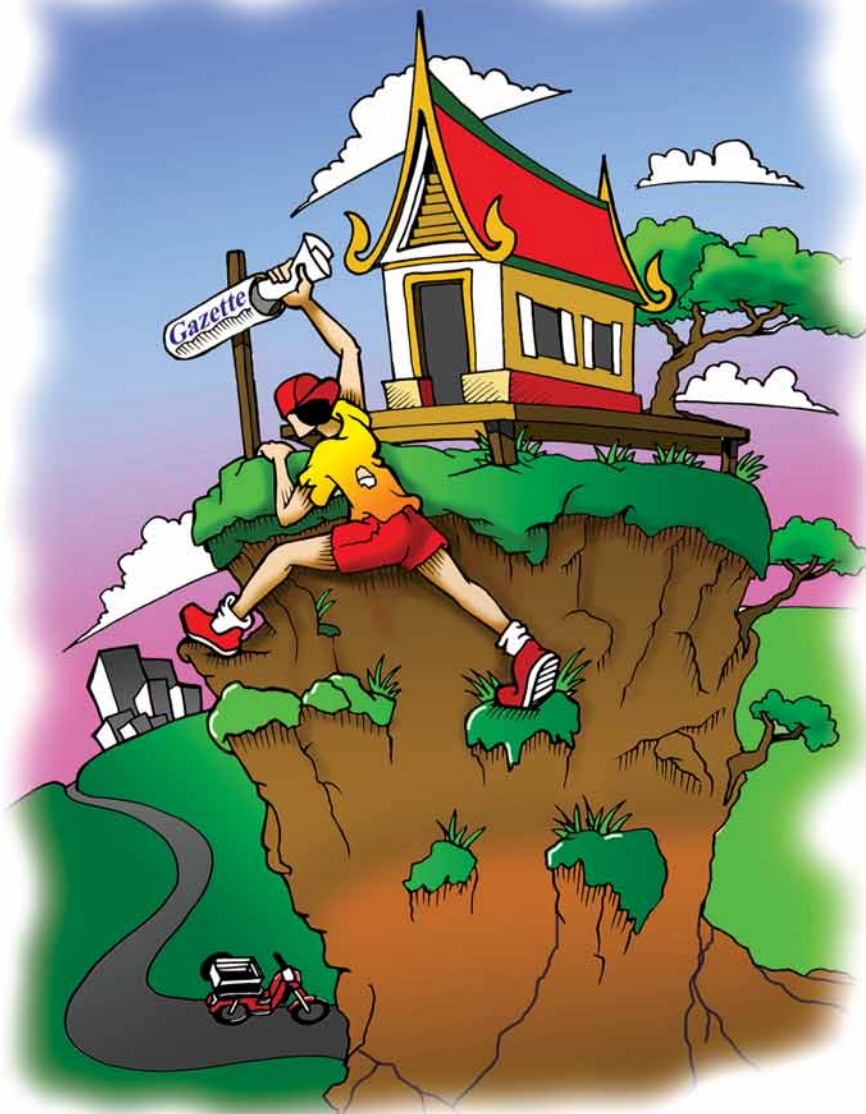
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# A great love story

## Books

By James Eckardt

PLOT, characterization, dialogue, descriptive style – many elements combine to make a good novel, but the most mysterious is empathy, that magic emotional connection that makes a reader care passionately about fictional characters. In this, first-time novelist Atticus Lish succeeds magnificently.

His *Preparation for the Next Life* (Tyrant Books, New York, 2015, 417pp) opens with this sentence:

“She came by way of Archer, Bridgeport, Nanuet, worked off 95 in jeans and a denim jacket, carrying a plastic bag and shower shoes, a phone number, waiting beneath an underpass, the potato chips long gone, light-headed.”

This is Zou Lei, an illegal immigrant, daughter of a Uighur mother from the Siberian steppes and a soldier of the People’s Liberation Army in the heroic Maoist mold. She has come to the United States via Mexico and is plugged into a network of cheap Chinese restaurant jobs at below minimum wage. She is thrown in jail during an immigration sweep on Long Island. When she emerges three months later, she heads for the anonymity of northern Queens – Flushing and Elmhurst – now New York’s largest Chinatown, leavened with Koreans, Indians, Filipinos, Thais and South Americans. Looking for a job, she arrives at a warren of food stalls called Flushing Mall.

“It was mobbed with kids,



Zou Lei begins her love story as an illegal immigrant in New York City's Chinatown. Photo: Paul Arps

fifteen-year-old girls shouting, marching with their arms straight, screaming, telling off boys. They sat at the tables, texting, wearing Eskimo boots, their jeans riding low. Adult men lifted their heads like horses, their long, hollow-cheeked skulls, staring. Putting their faces back in bowls, eyes over the rim. Plastic bags, black hair, and sneakers, eating with their long, sharp fingers... You could see the wooden faces of the

women in aprons standing, waiting, waiting to serve somebody and, behind them, the kitchens steaming like public showers.”

Here she meets another newcomer to the city, Brad Skinner, native of Pittsburg, recently released from the army after three tours in Iraq, badly wounded in both body and soul, strung out on pills and booze, subject to nightmares and post traumatic stress disorder. He arrives in Queens,

humping a duffle bag, an assault pack on his back, weighed down by a 9mm pistol. Meeting Zhu Lei seems miraculous to him.

“In his mind, he knew that she was special...She was what he ached for when he had been over there. When he believed he was going to die, the idea of never having a woman to love him had summed up all his pain.”

But his bursts of rage lead to ferocious fights. “When they made

up, she experienced powerful well-being. Immortality flowed back into her life like the juice in a plant stem. She immediately began to taste her life again and the two of them would plan for the future.”

Skinner is devoted to lifting weights, Zhe Lei to running enormous distances. Both learn from each other. Their love affair holds the reader in its grip, anxious, hopeful, afraid for both as they wander the dangerous streets. She is vulnerable to predators, he to benders and blackouts in strange bars.

The original inhabitants of this section of Queens were the Irish. There are still Irish bars and drunks standing on corners. Skinner rents a basement apartment in a row house owned by an Irish family. The son is in prison and is introduced at the start of the novel's Part II:

“The white looked like a long-legged biker, as if, instead of being inside these razor-wire-topped walls, he should be leaning back on a chopper going down the highway, with his long legs extended and his boots on the chrome footrests...His mustache made him resemble a wolf. He was pale and large and when he walked, he rose up on his feet like the piston in a motor – up and down – chin always up, an eighth Cherokee, last name Turner.”

A soldier in the Aryan Nation, Turner is released from prison after ten years to find a damaged vet and a Chinese girl living in the family basement. The trajectory of violent conflict is inevitable. And heartbreaking, because the reader has come to care so much about the two lovers.

## ENB delivers a feast for the eyes

THE English National Ballet (ENB) wrapped up its three-week Asia tour recently at the Esplanade Theatre with *Le Corsaire*, having already performed *Swan Lake* and *Coppelia* in three Chinese cities. The Dorian's decision to present a lesser-known work earned praise in its own right, notwithstanding the fact that this new version of *Le Corsaire* by Anna Marie-Holmes was the first work commissioned by Spanish ballerina Tamara Rojo.

Showing no signs of exhaustion or stress, her Medora flew smoothly and effortlessly from one scene to another in much the same way as the ballet itself. Another star of the evening was Japanese Shiori Kase whose Gulnare shone bright in all her scenes.

With the bar set high by the women, the male leads were up to it, showing another strength of this company. The most captivating was Cesar Corrales in the role of Ali, slave to Isaac Hernandez's arresting Conrad in his adventure-filled journey to save the love of his life.



*Le Corsaire* is inspired by a poem written by Lord Byron. Photo: The Nation

The entire performance showed that the company puts as much emphasis on storytelling and characterization as ballet skills. In the end, I'm sure I wasn't alone in feeling we all had more fun at this classical ballet inspired by Lord Byron's poem than we'd expected.

The production's visual feast, which successfully took the audience to the Ottoman Empire, was enhanced by set and costume designer Bob Ringwood who appropriately translated his experience in Hollywood to this ballet stage. Nicely filling the large proscenium frame, his set designs showed fine details and at the same time created

dimension while allowing ample space for the dancers and his choices of colors for the costumes to stand out. His deft co-ordination with lighting designer Neil Austin was evident in the pirate ship's sailing and wrecking scenes as they made smart use of scrim and projection in creating a very realistic image.

The performance was backed up by the Singapore Lyric Opera Orchestra, under the baton of conductor Gavin Sutherland, and the audience both approved of and took pride in this collaboration.

– Pawit Mahasarinand  
The Nation

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## 17<sup>th</sup> International Festival of Dance and Music opening soon

FANS of Bangkok's International Festival of Dance and Music, Thailand's largest annual showcase of international performing arts, who have been checking the festival's website and Facebook wall, have expressed surprise that the opening performance, taking place on September 11, is a Chinese opera. *The Butterfly Lovers*, which many Thais know very well, is being performed by the Zhejiang Xiaobaihua Yue Opera Troupe.

"This 17<sup>th</sup> edition of the festival celebrates Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn's fifth cycle birthday, and since the festival has been under her

Royal patronage for many years, we asked which kind of performance she'd like to watch," International Cultural Promotions' Egasith Chotpakditrakul explains.

"After hearing her preference for Chinese opera, we've worked closely with the Embassy of the People's Republic of China and they highly recommend this Yue opera company with an all-female cast. Considered cultural ambassadors, they have performed all around the world and were recently at the 43<sup>rd</sup> Hong Kong Arts Festival. Their production here will be even grander."

Also marking the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between the People's

Republic of China and the Kingdom of Thailand, this is fittingly the grandest Chinese opera to have ever been staged here.

Despite the fact that the festival has been presenting more works from Europe and the Americas in the past 16 years, Mr Egasith confirms that International Cultural Promotions aims to bring world-class performances from all over the world.

"We're always interested in Asia and in recent years, we've presented Chinese, Indian, Japanese and South Korean performances," Mr Egasith said.

Returning to the festival are the Imperial Ice Stars and the Novosibirsk Ballet Theater.

"This is the third time here for the Imperial Ice Stars and they'll perform *The Sleeping Beauty*. Our audiences loved both their *Nutcracker* and *Swan Lake*. I think our audience is split when it comes to preferring either the original ballet or the 'on-ice' adaptation. Even in my family, my children prefer the latter, while I go for the former," said Mr Egasith.

"When we program the festival, we carefully consider each company's strength and that's why we'll have two Russian companies back-to-back in 12 days, instead of one company performing both ballets and operas." **-The Nation**

# Going gaga for Baba

By Thanaphon Phromthong

THE Thai Peranakan Association and the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) Phuket, along with local government officials, are organizing a mass 'Baba Yaya' wedding ceremony at Sukko Spa Resort with dinner to follow at 75 VT Nam Neaung Restaurant in Phuket Town on June 21.

The event celebrates more than 200 years of local traditional weddings in the 'Baba Phuket' style, and promotes the island as a wedding and honeymoon destination.

The wedding price for one couple is 39,900 baht, which includes food, three nights' stay at a pre-selected hotel, and traditional clothes and make up. Couples will be welcomed to the island on June 20 and will be given tours of Wat Chalong, idyllic beach locations, an optional photo shoot at Phuket's iconic Promthep Cape, as well as other activities.

"We hold this ceremony to attract couples from around the world to Phuket. It is a unique wedding experience that is framed by the beautiful views of Phuket, making it an ideal wedding and honeymoon destination," said Kosol Tang-Uthai, president of the Thai Peranakan Association.

Baba and Yaya are terms used for the descendants of late 19<sup>th</sup>



Baba and Yaya are terms used to describe descendants of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century Chinese immigrants who relocated to Phuket.

century Chinese immigrants to Phuket. Baba is used for male and Yaya for female.

Baba men and Yaya women have a long tradition of getting married in a unique style, and in recent years having a Phuket Baba Yaya wedding has been an

increasingly popular option for visitors to the island.

The Baba wedding has become an annual event in Phuket and upholding the long ancestral tradition is considered the duty of each new generation.

"The ceremony is held to

conserve the great tradition of Peranakan, which is inherited from generation to generation," Dr Kosol said.

"There is traditional clothing, food and music and the tea ceremony takes place in a Hongyok building, a famous ancient build-

ing in Phuket, which acts as the bride's house."

Those already in the Kingdom, who have registered for the ceremony, can take advantage of Nok Air's deal that allows the couple to fly into Phuket from anywhere in Thailand for 999 baht.



Baba men and Yaya women have a long tradition of getting married in a unique style, making it very popular among couples who wish to have a destination wedding.



The famous 'green-shelled' mussels from New Zealand were considered a source of the Maoris' massive size and strength. Photo: Naotake Murayama

# Making Maori mighty

## New Zealand 'green-shelled' mussels, the superfood of the sea



### Excuse Buster

By Craig Burton

SEAFOOD – alongside avocados and coconuts – is my all-time favorite food.

After living in landlocked locations in the United Kingdom and Europe for the past 12 years, it is good to be living in Phuket – back by the sea, enjoying fresh seafood again.

On the menu in the Burton house last week were mussels *tom-ka* style, with these ones coming from New Zealand – the famous 'green-shelled' variety that were considered a source of the Maoris' – indigenous people of New Zealand – massive size and strength. But, on the weekends, I am always on the lookout at our nearby market for the fresh, local variety, along with other seafood treats, such as squid, wild shrimp and wild fish.

### WHY ARE MUSSELS SO GOOD?

The ocean has always been an amazing source of nutrition, and mussels are without a doubt a superfood of the sea.

So before popping an assortment of pills to get more omega-3, selenium, iron, zinc and B vitamins, along with a huge amount of other nutrients, try a serving of mussels along with a healthy supply of other seafood choices and clean whole foods.

### ANTI-INFLAMMATORY ACTION

Fish oil is renowned for its omega-3 anti-inflammatory action, but mussels, especially the New Zealand variety, have a certain type of rare omega-3 called eicosatetraenoic acid (ETA). ETA has been shown to have impressive anti-inflammatory properties, more so than any other omega 3 source – including fish oil. No wonder the All Blacks can run through walls.



Harness the power of the Maori with the ocean's superfood. Photo: Reuters

### GREAT FOR THE THYROID

Your thyroid is the master gland of metabolism and your friend to staying lean, energetic and healthy. Two critical minerals for a healthy thyroid are iodine and selenium, both severely lacking in the standard nutrient-poor western diet, which is one reason for the high number of dysfunctional thyroid cases. But mussels are a rich source of both: a serving portion of six mussels will meet most people's daily requirement.

### ENERGY POWERHOUSE

Healthy iron levels are critical for adequate amounts of energy. One hundred grams of mussels has about 10mg of iron – it takes more than 300g of lean beef to rival that. Mussels are also a rich source of vitamin B12 and folic acid, both essential to energy and well-being.

### SEXUAL HEALTH BOOSTER

Shellfish have long been considered

nature's aphrodisiacs, which has a lot to do with their high zinc content. Zinc plays a critical role in producing testosterone, which is responsible for libido in both males and females. Though oysters are the clear winners when it comes to zinc content, mussels are still a good source. Zinc is also essential for a healthy immune system.

### WEIGHT LOSS WONDER

Mussels are nutrient dense, low in calories and packed with good protein to make you feel full and satisfied – a great combination for weight loss. Mussels are mostly protein with 18g of protein per 100g serving (3g of fat and 4g of carbohydrates).

### MUSSEL DANGERS

When it comes to buying mussels, it is essential to buy them very fresh or to know they were frozen directly after harvesting and cleaning (as in the case of the New Zealand variety), as they can expire quickly and lead to a nasty case of food poisoning – so trust your nose. Ideally they should come from clean water, as they can pick up toxins in the ocean.

On that note, if you ever suspect that you have eaten unclean food, seek medical advice if you think it is serious, but it is also worth having activated charcoal at home for minor cases, as it can help prevent the poisons from being absorbed by your stomach. It is also good after drinking excessive amounts of alcohol.

*Craig Burton is a nutritional expert with more than 15 years of experience at the forefront of the health and well-being field.*

*He offers a high-level of his expertise in functional training and nutrition, focusing on detoxification, food intolerance and nutrient deficiency. For more information about Craig and his services, visit [thevitruvianmethod.com](http://thevitruvianmethod.com)*

## New legislation needed to stop Thai teens from lighting up

SMOKING usually starts as a lark, a way for youngsters to step into adult life and to show their mates that they're cool.

Before they know it, though, they are hooked on a habit that will not only damage their health for years to come, but also knock years off their life.

The anti-smoking lobby continues to urge the Public Health

Ministry to adjust the Tobacco Products Control Act 1992 and Non Smokers' Health Protection Act of the same year, which are now badly out of date and failing to prevent tobacco use.

Meanwhile, the tobacco industry is constantly developing new market strategies to lure young people, among them the use of 'pretties' to introduce new products,

social media campaigns, attractive packaging and even new flavors.

Waranit Lumyai, who is in charge of the Trendy Activity Project, is a strong advocate of a new Tobacco Products Control Act to protect children and adolescents.

"We are campaigning for a new Act that will respond to the situation today. If the new one is

enacted, teenagers' demand for tobacco will reduce and we should be able to control the number of early smokers. A reduction of even 100,000 smokers a year would substantially decrease the annual economic losses of 15.8 billion baht related to smoking," he says.

"Farmers won't get hurt if we are successful in reducing the domestic demand. They have time

to study other forms of cultivation that are not harmful to public health," he says.

"Under the new Tobacco Products Control Act, all parties are obligated to respect and follow what is written in the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

– *Thai Health Promotion Foundation / The Nation*

# Sailors flock to Race Week

PHUKET is preparing for an influx of visitors in July, as more than 500 sailors and spectators from around the world flock to be part of the prestigious Cape Panwa Hotel Phuket Raceweek 2015.

Now in its 12<sup>th</sup> year, with this year's event taking place from July 15-19, Phuket Raceweek's reputation continues to grow as an increasing number of participants from all over the world fly in to enjoy the event and the beauty of Phuket's 'green season'.

"We are very pleased to see more international participants taking part in Phuket Raceweek each year. There is a large local fleet of boats for charter in Phuket and nearby, and, as word continues to spread about Phuket's stunning sailing grounds and Phuket Raceweek, we expect to see continued growth in the number of overseas sailors taking part," said Byron Jones, Managing Director of organizer Media Business Services Co Ltd.

Equally important to overseas participants is the regatta's shore venue. With the five-star Cape Panwa Hotel as title sponsor and host venue, together with sister property Kantary Bay Hotel, Phuket Raceweek provides an idyllic beachfront venue and safe anchorage with exceptional on-shore service.

"Cape Panwa Hotel is an excellent host of Phuket Raceweek. With direct beachfront access sailors can anchor meters off in safety and enjoy the Regatta Village and social activities which are in the hotel's gardens. The service is five-star, the parties are second-to-none and this has helped Raceweek win awards and set a new regatta standard," added Mr Jones.

Phuket's strategic central position and yachting hub status in Asia, combined with being home to some of the best sailing

grounds in the world, prime the event for further growth.

Often perceived as a niche sport, regattas in Thailand attract between 300 and 2,000 sailors and spectators to a destination for a week or longer, delivering revenue

directly into the local economy through expenditures on food and beverages, accommodation and entertainment.

Cape Panwa Hotel Phuket Raceweek is the opening event of

the 2015/16 Asian Yachting Grand Prix – a regional sailing champion – ship that includes four days of world-class racing for twelve of the best regattas in Asia.

– *Phuket Gazette*



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