

Phuket Gazette

June 27 - July 3, 2015

Now with national circulation in **THE NATION** every Saturday

68 Pages / 20 Baht

■ 'LASTLY, I WANT TO TELL HIM THAT I MISSED HIM'

Dead man walking

■ Phone call sparks hope as Danish man is deemed legally dead

By **Isaac Stone Simonelli**

SOREN Baisgaard is legally dead. The Danish government laid him to rest after he went missing in Phuket in 1999. However, a single phone call in 2011 in response to a notice issued in the *Phuket Gazette* by the Danish government reignited the hopes of his deserted wife and two daughters that he was in fact still alive in Phuket, or elsewhere in Thailand. Even now, the search continues as the family asks anyone who might recognize him to step forward.

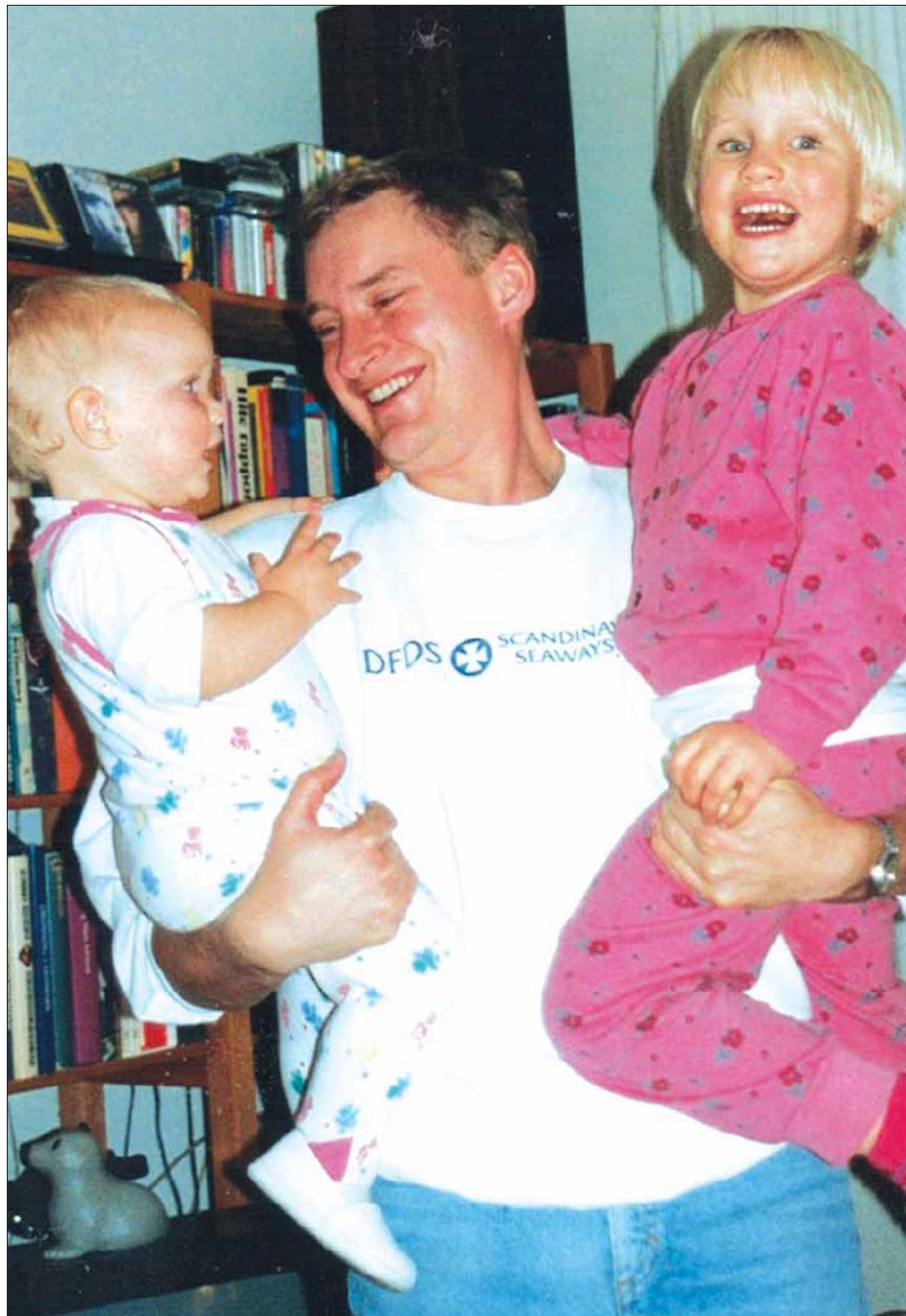
In 1999, Mr Baisgaard was confronted at his job as a travel agent in a major company in Denmark for alleged fraud. The same day, he was on a plane to Phuket – a previous holiday destination for him and his family. He checked into room 408 at the Holiday Inn in Patong alone on December 2. After a couple of days at the hotel, Mr Baisgaard extended his stay for three more nights. However, no one saw him after December 5.

Back in Denmark, Lone Eghave Jensen reported her husband missing. He had left behind a 'good bye' letter for her and their daughters, stating that he had been caught at work for fraud, and that he was leaving them for good.

Still believing that Mr Baisgaard is alive, Mrs Jensen and her daughters have declined to have the letter published.

"At the time, I thought he was just travelling, as he often did. But it became apparent that he wasn't coming back, and I started thinking what was wrong with my mom, my sister and me? Why didn't he want us? I was very upset, we all were. I was a little girl, and my...

Continued on Pages 4-5



Mr Baisgaard holds his two daughters, whom he abandoned in 1999. Photo: Private collection

What's this?

Your *Phuket Gazette* is now national, and has joined the world trend as a 'compact'.

Save the trees? Sure, but the primary impetus has come from the island's most important people, our readers, writers and advertisers.

You're younger now, more tuned in to trends – and increasingly, you're Thai. *Chern, khrap.*

Full story Page 11

BUSINESS



Lucky Media snatches up prime billboard space with crystal clear LED screens.

PROPERTY



Designer Niwat Aunprueang speaks out against 'design malpractice' in Thailand.

LIFE&STYLE



Duncan Worthington looks at what options are available for buying a boat in Phuket.

www.kisphuket.ac.th

KIS
Kajonkiet International School Phuket

EXCELLENT FACILITIES

SCIENCE LAB
COMPUTER SUITE

ART STUDIO
DESIGN & TECH ROOM

DRAMA & MUSIC STUDIO
1st CLASS SPORTS FACILITIES

YEAR 10 IGCSE
NOW OFFERED

UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE
International Examinations

edexcel
Approved Centre



Officers arrest Columbians in Tesco carpark robbery

POLICE have arrested two Colombian suspects for the professional-style robbery of a car in the parking lot of Tesco Lotus Thalang on June 21.

Daniel Guerrero Ariza, 28, and Jean Ortega Duarte, 21, were arrested on Monday when they went to return a car they had rented from a shop in Ao Nang, Krabi.

"Krabi Police made the arrest when the men returned to collect a fake Italian passport that Mr Ariza had used to rent the car. Once apprehended, it was easy to identify them, as the suspects were caught on camera during the robbery," Maj Gen Patchara said.

Police are continuing their hunt for the two other suspects.
— **Woranut Pechdee**

Girl shocked by exposed wire on Khao Rong

A 10-YEAR-OLD-GIRL survived an electric shock after she accidentally stepped on an exposed wire on Khao Rang on Monday.

Nisreen Klongsamuth was rushed to Vachira Phuket Hospital after the accident, but was released on Tuesday after doctors confirmed she was in good health.

Santi Pawai, director of the Ministry of Tourism and Sports (MOTS) Phuket office, who visited Nong Nisreen in hospital, said he ordered that an electric safety cut system be put in place to prevent a similar accident from occurring.

"People often kick or hit these wires when they are walk-

Dengue fever spreads in Krabi, Phuket safe



More than 400 people have been diagnosed with dengue fever in Krabi since January as the mosquito-borne disease spreads east of Phuket. However, case numbers remain down in Phuket when compared to last year. For the full story, visit PhuketGazette.net. Photo: Sanofi Pastuer

ing, which causes them to tear and break. Also, the weather is a bit humid so everything is wet," said Mr Santi.

"I have ordered the electric system to be set so that it automatically cuts off whenever someone comes in contact with a wire." — **Nichana Madsatool**

Gov reviews Phuket Airport's MERS control

ISLAND officials gave Phuket International Airport's Middle East Respiratory Syndrome-Coronavirus (MERS) prevention efforts a check-up last

LOCAL NEWS Briefly

week to ensure the airport was able to identify passengers from South Korea and the Middle East who may be carrying MERS.

No passengers from these risk countries have been suspected of MERS, said Phuket Provincial Health Organization Chief Kajohnsak Kaewjarus.

The visit followed an order from the Ministry of Public Health in Bangkok last week to ramp up efforts to be on alert for

the virus. Once case of MERS has been identified in Thailand. However, officials have since confirmed that no further cases exist in the Kingdom.

— **Nichana Madsatool**

One killed, two seriously hurt in bike crash

ONE Phuket resident was killed and three others injured on June 20 when three men on a motorbike ran a red light in Thalang and collided with another man on a motorcycle.

Police arrived at the Khao Lan junction on Thepkasattri

Road at about 1:30am and found the body of Suriya Chaikul, 34.

One of the passengers on the Honda Click, Wijit Konsong, told police that the three men had run the red light and collided with the Kawasaki 800cc motorcycle.

The other two men, 26-year-old Prachya Jantachum, the driver, and 24-year-old Ratanawit Jansena, were rushed to hospital.

Police have not pressed charges over the collision, as they have yet to confirm Mr Wijit's account of the accident.

— **Thawit Bilabdullar**

Owners deny sending 'muscle' to threaten local squatters

CHALONG landowners have asked island officials for justice and transparency in an investigation into a complaint filed by locals earlier this month claiming that the landowners had sent 'men in black' to threaten them for encroaching on the land.

Samran Sanyanuphap and Sulak Kunarak, two of the landowners listed on the Chanote for the disputed 70 rai of land in Chalong, and their lawyer, Suthon Thaweesuvann, went to the Damrongtham Center (ombudsman's office) last week to insist that they never sent anyone to threaten the villagers.

Though not present on Friday, Prajit Hongyok and Prathueang Krueathong are also listed as owners on the Chanote.

"We have been fighting the encroachment and trying to negotiate with the Sra Ton Po villagers for years."

The landowners have already taken legal action against the squatters. There are about 90 cases in total, 10 of which have already been judged by the court.

— **Kritsada Mueanhawong**



Window Design & Awnings



WINDOW DESIGN AND AWNINGS CO., LTD.
 70/89 M.4 Chao Fa West Road, T.Vichit, A.Muang Phuket 83000
 Email: arunsawadde@hotmail.com, www.tentphuket.com, www.windecor.co.th

OUR PRODUCT LINE INCLUDES WINDOW DESIGN AND AWNINGS

- ◆ Tension Membranes Product
- ◆ Retractable Awnings
- ◆ Vertical Awnings
- ◆ Canopy
- ◆ Tents and Warehouse Tents
- ◆ Drop Arm Awnings
- ◆ Pergola
- ◆ Insect Screen
- ◆ Sunscreen Roller Blinds

◆
 ☎ +66 (0) 89 724 6914
 ☎ +66 (0) 76 216 447
 ☎ +66 (0) 76 216 448



Sea gypsies beg for help

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

ABOUT 200 Rawai sea gypsies on Monday begged Phuket authorities for protection after a group of men allegedly threatened to shoot them if they moved concrete blocks that had been placed on the public access road to their village.

"Last month, a group of men put concrete barriers on the path between the beach and our village, which we have been using for more than 100 years," said Sanit Sae-Chua, who led the group to Provincial Hall.

"We filed our first complaint on May 15, and then we removed barriers. Then, on June 20, about 20 men came back to put the concrete barriers on the path again."

Mr Sanit said that the gypsies have removed the blocks before, but this time they faced threats from the men.

"This time they said, 'Move the concrete and get shot'," said Mr Sanit.

"We do not feel safe. Please protect us from these people. Send someone to measure the land and the beach so that no one can tell us that we cannot pass through the public land."

Villagers submitted the complaint directly to Vice Governor Somkiet Sangkhaosutthirak and Capt Boworn Promkeawngam of the Royal Thai Navy's Phuket-based Third Area Internal Security Operations Command.

"I will speak with Muang District Chief Supoj Chanakij, as well as the Chalong Police, and have the relevant authori-



More than 200 sea gypsies gathered outside of Provincial Hall on Monday to ask for protection.

ties send security staff to the area," Vice Governor Somkiet said. "I will also call the people who claim to own this land to question them about the incident."

The Rawai sea gypsies have been fighting for many years to prove the rights to the land their families have been living on for generations.

Last year, DNA tests on skeletal remains unearthed in their village confirmed that the seafaring nomads have called Phuket's southern beach home for more than 100 years.

The Department of Special Investigations (DSI) stepped in after the DNA test results were

revealed and vowed to provide evidence to support the villagers' fight to continue living at the village.

Establishing long duration of residency is a key element in the gypsies' fight against private investors who had won court orders to evict some villagers from the site.

"We hope the court will consider the evidence and dismiss the private land claims," Chatchawal Suksomjit, then-director of the DSI, said. "But it is now up to the court, and we cannot interfere in its decision."

Vice Governor Somkiet touched on this note and told

the villagers that it takes a long time to review land right ownership cases.

"Everything must be done very carefully to ensure that it is fair," V/Gov Somkiet said. "However, I will organize a meeting to discuss the land ownership problem as soon as possible."

The sea gypsies dispersed after V/Gov Somkiet promised to send security personnel to protect them.

On Monday night, Civil Defence Volunteers went to the sea gypsy village to stand guard, the *Gazette* was told on Tuesday by one of the volunteers.

Charter licence details defined for superyachts



Mr Chula announced the new regulations on June 18.

THE final regulations and requirements for a one-year permit that will allow foreign-flagged superyachts to charter in Thailand were announced at a public meeting on June 18.

The licence is expected to be signed off by the Ministry of Transport in July, confirmed Marine Department Director-General Chula Sukmanop.

"The licence will be multiple entry, so the superyacht can come and go from Thai waters as it pleases," said Mr Chula.

Once a superyacht meets all of the new rules and requirements, it can request a licence from the Ministry of Transport.

"All documents can then be filed by the superyacht representative to any marine office in Thailand," Mr Chula said. "The request will then be submitted to the Ministry of Transport."

"All licences will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the Minister of Transport."

The registration price will be 40 baht per gross tonne based on Thai Vessels Act BE 2481 (1938), confirmed Mr Chula.

— *Kongleaphy Keam*

Fatal bungy-jumping tower gets demolished

WORLD Bungy Jump in Patong has closed its doors for good and demolished its bungy-jump tower on Monday after a tourist suffered fatal injuries during a jump last month.

"The owner, Vinat Chanthornwiboonkul, decided on his own to close the business. We don't want to put anyone at risk at our bungy jump, and we are very sorry about the death of Abdullah Adel Kadhmbadman," said Kullanan Samnuk, a representative of World Bungy Jump.

"We encourage other entrepreneurs to take tourist safety seriously as well."

The facility was forced to

temporarily close while officers continued an investigation into the death of Mr Kadhmbadman, who died after jumping from the 30-meter bungy tower.

Patong Mayor Charlermluck Kebsup confirmed today that Mr Vinat had shut the business down of his own accord.

Despite having told the *Gazette* earlier this month that police would not wait for autopsy results before charging Mr Vinat for reckless endangerment, Maj Teerasak Boonsang of the Patong Police said on Wednesday that they had not yet charged Mr Vinat, and that they in fact have to wait for the results.

— *Thanaphon Phromthong*

ROMRAWIN
Aesthetic Clinic / ศูนย์รีดริส

Lifting & Smoothing
Away your lines wrinkles and sags.

Ulthera / Thermage

Give us a call today and find out how you can have youthful skin. *Results may vary by individual

Romrawin Central Festival Phuket 4th Flr.
☎ 076-307-098

Romrawin Jungceylon Patong Beach Phuket
Sense of Wellness Zone, 3rd Flr.
☎ 076-600-148

Local mayor looks to ban dogs in workers' camps

RAWAI Mayor Aroon Solos has revealed plans to prohibit those living in worker camps from owning pets as part of a new strategy to control dogs in the southern part of the island.

"We have no issues with people raising pets. However, when workers leave the camps the dogs are usually left behind, which has turned into a serious problem," Mr Aroon said. "We need to prevent the number of soi [street] dogs in the area from growing."

Mr Aroon is currently reviewing municipality laws to ensure he has the authority to ban dogs from being kept at worker camps.

The problem with soi dogs along Nai Harn Beach and other parts of Rawai was thrust into the spotlight after com-



Complaints have been made about dogs in Nai Harn. Photo: Rawai Municipality

plaints began rolling in to the municipality about the canines.

The plan is part of a multi-fold strategy to deal with dogs in the area, said Mr Aroon.

"After speaking with representatives from the Soi Dog Foundation, we agreed that people who are feeding the stray dogs must not do so near

the road, and only feed them between 9am and 4pm," Mr Aroon said.

Mr Aroon explained that the Suan Pa Bang Kanun shelter is full and that he is against euthanizing the dogs.

As an additional step in controlling dogs on Nai Harn Beach, the municipality will begin enforcing old rules for dog owners.

"We had an agreement a long time ago that allowed dog owners to take their animals out before 8am and after 6pm. We used to have signs too, but many are gone and some people have either forgotten the rule or are ignoring it," Mr Aroon said.

"I just want to make the beach a nice place for everyone." – Chutharat Plerin

Family hunts

From page 1

...father chose to disappear," one of Mr Baisgaard's two daughters, Malene Feldtmann, told the *Gazette* this week.

"I did not believe [that he died after vanishing from the hotel], and I still don't. It makes no sense to me, that he should travel all that way to kill himself, and if he died of natural causes, we would have been contacted by the proper authorities."

Mrs Feldtmann points out that, at this point, it isn't a 'sob story'.

"I mean, we want to find him, don't doubt that. But it's been 16 years, and my sister and I are adults now. Mostly we want answers. It's too late to get our dad back."

Mr Baisgaard left nearly everything behind at the hotel – at first glance it looked like a suicide.

The inventory for room 408 sent by Holiday Inn General Manager Wolfgang Meusburger to the lawyer handling Mr Baisgaard's case in 2011 was extensive.

In the room safe was Mr Baisgaard's passport, one dinner card, one master card, a driving licence, and a number of membership cards, as well as kroner and US dollars.

In the closet hung a dark suit, a leather jacket, five shirts,

two pairs of pants and a number of other items. Similar general items – such as keys, cigarettes, magazines, gloves, neck tie, cosmetics and so on – were also discovered, as was a book titled *Days of Fear: A Firsthand Account of Captivity Under the New Taliban*.

There was also a second letter to his daughters, which read: "Dear Malene and Marie. I love you. Dad".

The one thing missing was four bottles of codeine medicine for Crohn's disease, from which Mr Baisgaard suffered. However, there was a receipt in the room for the purchase of the medicine from a Patong pharmacy.

Crohn's is a chronic disease that belongs to a group of conditions known as Inflammatory Bowel Diseases, and can cause serious damage if not properly attended to. Mr Baisgaard underwent surgery for the

disease and has at least three scars on his stomach from it.

The Danish Police and Interpol Thailand promptly began their investigation after Mrs Jensen filed the missing person case. However, they returned empty handed. Mr Baisgaard had indeed vanished.

"As long as he was 'alive' he was officially living at Lone's address and she was not able to have any economic



Based on Mr Baisgaard's heritage, an image was created of what he may look like now. Photo: ELI

EXPAT PRIVILEGE CARD

FREE of CHARGE

Sign up and
get more

Discover a distinct experience of healthcare and benefits galore.
The ultimate privilege for all expatriates in Phuket and nearby provinces.

- Inpatient: 50% discount on room, 20% discount on medication
- Outpatient: 15% discount on medication

Apply online at www.phukethospital.com

For more information, please e-mail us at info@phukethospital.com
or call us through our Call Center 1719.

Call. 1719
www.PhuketHospital.com

Accredited

Accredited

โรงพยาบาลกรุงเทพ
BANGKOK HOSPITAL
ภูเก็ต • PHUKET

AUSTRALIAN VISAS

WANT TO VISIT, LIVE
OR STUDY IN AUSTRALIA?

**REGISTERED
AUSTRALIAN
MIGRATION AGENT**

Migration Agents
Registration Number
1464995
www.mia.gov.au

FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION

Tel: 095-085 3355 | www.AustralianVisaPhuket.com

for legally dead father, husband

help. She was not able to have him registered as 'moved away' without his acceptance. His accounts and his insurances could not be paid and closed as long as he was registered alive," explained Dorte Jensen, attorney (authorized trustee) for Therkildsen Advokater in Denmark, who was appointed by the court in 2011 to represent Mr Baisgaard during the hearing of the case.

Before Mr Baisgaard could be declared dead, a court summons was placed in the *Phuket Gazette*.

"There was a phone call to the court that appears to have been from Soren Baisgaard," Mrs Jensen said. "The employee did not make a note of the phone conversation. Instead she asked the person calling to write an email to the court. The court did not hear from the person concerned again, but the court decided that I should try again to find him. No results."

However, a Danish documentary team has quoted the court employee describing the conversation:

"This is Soren Baisgaard," the man on the phone tells the court employee. "What do you want? Is this about the fraud case against me?"

"No," the employee said as she looked up Mr Baisgaard in her files.

"Who is Lone Eghave Jensen?" she asks.

"It is the mother of my two children," the man said. "Can't you just leave me alone..."

The call was then terminated from the man's side.

Despite the call, Mr Baisgaard was declared dead on July 10, 2012. However, the closure that

it was supposed to bring to his wife and daughters 12 years late was dashed.

"It [the call] was very confusing. We were about to put an end to the entire thing and start processing the fact that he was dead, at least legally," Mrs Feldtmann said. "Then someone left that message, and it just started over. It was a very confusing time, and we were very upset with it."

Now, 15 years after Mr Baisgaard's disappearance, and about three years after he was declared legally dead, his family continues to hope they will eventually find him.

"I would like to find him, yes. If we find him, I would like to ask him why he ever thought that we would be better off without him. It's a very cowardly assumption that we would do better, just so he didn't have to stay and face the consequences," Mrs Feldtmann said.

"Then I want to tell him all the things he has missed in the 16 years he chose not to be here. Because he missed everything, and there were so many times I really wanted my

/ We were about to put an end to the entire thing and start processing the fact that he was dead, at least legally. Then, someone left that message. /

— Malene Feldtmann, daughter of Mr Baisgaard



Mr Baisgaard, his wife and two daughters during a holiday in Greece. Photo: Private collection

father to be there.

"And lastly I want to tell him that I missed him a lot."

Mr Baisgaard vanished when

he was 40 years old. If in fact he is still alive, he would now be 56 years old. Anyone who believes they have seen him or

knows him – possibly under an alias – are urged to write missing@tv2.dk or call 086-788 2050 or +45 301-01 113.



Jasmine B Restaurant

The Ultimate Wine and Dine
Western and Thai Modern Cuisine

Happy Hours 5 pm.-7 pm.

Discount 20%

Food & Drink
Wine Promotion at 990B/Bottle

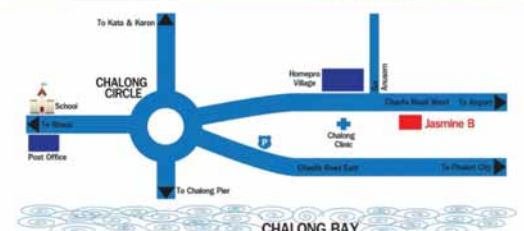


Open from 12 pm.- Midnight

3 M.8 Chaofah Rd.(west),Chalong,Muang,Phuket 83130

Tel.+66(0)76 384237

www.jasmineb-restaurant.com



Drug gangsters' luxury cars put up for auction

ABOUT 100 vehicles seized by state officials in drug cases – including a Lamborghini, a Porsche and Ducati motorbikes – were put up for auction last week by the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB), which hoped to raise at least 50 million baht from selling them.

ONCB secretary-general Permpong Chaowalit said that, in accordance with the Measure for Suppressing Narcotic Offenders Act, the agency had asked the Criminal Court to seize assets worth 1.9 billion baht from 4,315 drug suspects.

FDA warns consumers over fake 'Korean' cosmetics

SEVERAL cosmetic products with Korean-language labels have hit the Thai market. They look innocent and tempting, particularly when their sellers say, "These products are good. Your skin will get whiter. They are imported from [South] Korea. They even have FDA licence numbers here. No risks."

However, according to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), more than 1,000 cosmetic brands have flooded into the market in Thailand through fake licence numbers and blatant lies.

Worse still, some brands use dangerous chemicals, so their products can cause serious health problems such as kidney failure, skin cancer, liver inflammation and urinary-tract disorders.

Sumalee Pornkitprasarn, the director of the FDA's Bureau of Cosmetic and Hazardous Substances Control, said her office had found that such unlicensed



products were available via the internet and shopping centers.

Thailand fights to keep both heritage sites

THAILAND is preparing hard to defend the status of two World Heritage sites in the face of ongoing concerns about conservation and management efforts.

These two sites are the Dong Phrayayen-Khao Yai Forest Complex and the Ayutthaya Historical Park.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco) has threatened to downgrade the first site's status as a World Heritage site.

At the last session of Unesco's World Heritage Committee, the forest complex was identified as facing threats, which could be a reason to downgrade its World Heritage status.

NATIONAL NEWS Briefly

Unesco also has concerns about the repairing of historic sites in Ayutthaya Historical Park after heavy flooding.

Even though the upcoming World Heritage Committee meeting will not have the forest complex's status review on the agenda, the Thai delegation believes it needs to show that it will be able to maintain the complex as a World Heritage site.

US\$500 fart at Madam's Organ

THE post-event courtesy of a flatulent drummer at blues bar Madam's Organ in Washington DC cost the venue's owner \$500. Bill Duggan, the bar

owner, was not happy about it. "He'd opened a window to let the fart out," the publican told the *Borderstan* blog.

While there was no fine for the passing of gas *per se*, it seems the hapless drummer ran 'afoul' of a local ordinance prohibiting open windows in establishments where live music is played after 12:30am.

According to the blog report, Mr Duggan may opt to make an even bigger stink over the matter by filing an appeal against the local Alcoholic Beverage Control Board who imposed the fine.

"People get stabbed and shot in other establishments. In ours, someone farts and cracks [open] a window and [the Board] spends a year on it," the fuming owner is reported to have said.

Tour guides demand action against illegals

ABOUT 100 tour guides rallied outside Muang Pattaya Police Station in Chon Buri's Bang Lamung district last week, demanding serious action against illegal foreign tour guides. They also filed a petition with the mayor of Pattaya.

The group, led by Paisarn Sue-tanuwong, wants action to be taken against foreigners illegally working as tour guides in Pattaya as they violated Thai laws.

Commission to give boost to awareness of living wills

THE Office of National Health Commission (ONHC) is planning to raise public awareness about terminal patients' right to die, after the Supreme Administrative Court recently endorsed the legitimacy of "living wills".

Last week, the court dismissed a petition from some doctors opposing a ministerial regulation that requires doctors to comply with living wills.

"With the court's decision, it is clear that we have the legitimacy to go ahead with living wills. So, we will boost public awareness on the issue," said ONHC Secretary-General Amphon Jindawatthana said

Ministry to sell cheap rice to low-income people nationally

THE Commerce Ministry will sell cheap rice to about 200,000 low-income earners via co-operatives, to help ease their financial burden.

The project is expected to require a budget of 100 million baht.

ILLUZION

WHERE SHOW MEETS THE PARTY

Hotline: 076.683.030 | Mail: ticket@illuzionphuket.com | Fax: 076.683.059

facebook.com/illuzionphuket | www.illuzionphuket.com

31 Bangla Rd, Patong, Phuket

The Phuket Gazette

Volume 12 Issue 26

News Desk - Tel: 076-236555

June 25 - July 1, 2005

Daily news at www.phuketgazette.net

20 Baht

The Gazette is published
in association with

The Nation

IN THIS ISSUE

News: Thailand opens consulate on Langkawi; Governor airs ideas for boosting Phuket
Pages 2 & 3

More questions aired over aid

Tsunami 'has caused increase in piracy'

By Sangkhae Leelanapaporn

PHUKET: The national command and control center for the Marine Police, Police

Questions over tsunami aid

From page 1

"We have to restore and give back to the locals what was taken away from them as soon as possible. We also have to renovate the tourism areas. For the next high season we should be ready with full accommodation [and] facilities," he added.

As for compensation paid to the families of those missing after the wave, K. Vissanu was unequivocal. "We will push to change the laws regarding missing persons and their families. At present things take far too long. The missing victims' relatives should be able to go ahead with compensation claims."

The day before the Deputy PM arrived, the new chief of the Phuket Provincial Office of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (ODPM), Boonchai Somjai, released figures showing that more than a billion baht has been spent in Phuket on tsunami relief.

K. Boonchai, who took up the position of Phuket ODPM chief just the day before his announcement, said that aid from the ODPM so far totaled more than 67 million baht and that the Tsunami Relief Fund had spent more than 71 million baht in providing relief.

The bulk of state aid has come through the many government departments, and thus far totals more than 706 million baht.

The Phuket Provincial Administration Organization has spent more than 41 million baht in relief aid, while NGOs and charities have put forward more than 196.4 million baht.

K. Boonchai also explained that the figures do not include the 2.05 million baht stolen from Phuket Provincial Hall on February 15.

Apichart Nooprod, Chief of the Finance Division of the Phuket Provincial Financial Office, has been charged in connection with the theft. He has denied any wrongdoing and is awaiting trial. (See Between the Lines, page 21.)



Another 'Love Phuket' winner

The latest winner in the Gazette's "We Love Phuket" campaign, Arunvalaya Raess, collects her prize of a round of golf at the Phuket Country Club, from Phatsara "Yui" Raktammakitt of the Gazette's Classified Advertising team.

Each week the Gazette prints the license plate numbers of six cars that have been spotted carrying "We Love Phuket" stickers. Check page 10 to see whether your car number is among them. If it is, you're a winner!

Thailand opens new consulate on Langkawi

By Gazette Staff

PHUKET: In a drive to promote relations between Thailand and Malaysia, a Thai consulate opened on the Malaysian island of Langkawi, just south of the Thai border, on June 10.

The consulate's opening was chaired by the Thai Minister of Foreign Affairs, Kantathi Suphamong, and Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the former Prime Minister of Malaysia, who is known to have a particular affection for the island where, decades ago, he practiced medicine.

Sihesak Phuanketkeow, Director General of Information

of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, told the Gazette that the consulate should make life a lot easier for regular "visa runners" and commuters between Thailand and Malaysia.

He said, "There is no Tourism Authority of Thailand office in Langkawi, so the Thai consulate will make life a lot more comfortable for tourists who want information about traveling within Thailand. At the same time we can take better care of Thai residents in Langkawi."

K. Sihesak added, "It's an improvement in terms of tourism destination links, and will be useful to the people who visit southern Thailand, especially Phuket, then continue on to Langkawi."

"We have been discussing plans to link the two destinations ever since Dr Mahathir was Prime Minister. Having a Thai consulate on Langkawi could help make these plans come to fruition."

He did not address the lack of direct air services between Phuket and Langkawi. Currently, the quickest route involves a dogleg through Kuala Lumpur.

More facilities for those planning "visa hops" will become available in July when the first phase of the Treasure Island casino and resort complex opens on two Burmese islands near Ranong.

The 3.5-billion-baht investment by the Singaporean DP Group of Companies will eventually see a massive complex built that will include two casinos, more than 400 guest rooms, and a marina for 50 yachts. It will also have Burmese immigration facilities.

Meanwhile, tourists from China, Hong Kong and Taiwan are being exempted from paying visa fees for Thailand as part of the ongoing attempt to revive tourism after the tsunami.

In addition to the government waiving the 1,000-baht visa fee until October this year, the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) is working with Thai Airways to put together a 3,500-baht mid-week package including round-trip flights from Bangkok to Phuket or Krabi, two nights' accommodation and airport transfers.

Hotels in Phuket, Phang Nga, Krabi and Trang are being invited to join the promotion.

Suwalai Pinpradab, Director of the Tourism Authority of Thailand's office in Phuket, told the Gazette that it was hoped these initiatives would attract more mainland Chinese, Taiwanese and Hong Kong tourists to come to the Andaman provinces.

Penang expert advises on restoration

PHUKET CITY: City authorities have been given advice on preserving and enhancing historic Phuket old town by an expert in heritage and conservation from Penang.

Dr Gwynn Jenkins, a Penang-based British consultant in architectural heritage and cultural anthropology, met last week with Deputy Mayor Sornsiri Koopongsakorn and leading members of the municipality's public works department to share with them what she has learned from observing the renaissance of Penang's historic Georgetown.

During another meeting at Phuket Art Gallery on Thalang Road, she put her ideas to people who live in the historic buildings around Thalang Rd, Yaowarat Rd and Dibuk Rd. She also met with local architects.

Dr Jenkins told the Gazette that Georgetown could provide a template for what should - and should not - be done with the

buildings in the oldest part of Phuket City.

She said, "I have seen both good and bad repair of old buildings in Penang, and [in my talks] I gave examples of [both]. I think they could be used as examples for any new development in Phuket."

An example of what Dr Jenkins hopes can be achieved in Phuket is the Moa Marut Clinic on Thalang Rd. She said, "The clinic has a very beautiful design. I think the young architect either clearly understands or has learned to look at and appreciate [this architecture], to think about all aspects of design and make them modern."

Park completion delayed

PHUKET CITY: Because of a change of plan, part of a 40-million-baht park being built in honor of HM Queen Sirikit remains a muddy wasteland five months after the main part was finished.

Under the original plans, three rai of the 10-rai site, on the south side of Dibuk Rd, was earmarked for a new provincial treasury building.

However, Governor Udomsak Usawangkura felt it would be better if the three rai were left open and landscaped, rather than built upon.

"The clinic looks very nice to older people because it has memories of the past, but at the same time it looks very modern for young people. So [the architect] is extremely clever."

Dr Jenkins was invited to Phuket by local historian Asst Prof Pranee Sakulpipatana, who said, "If we take away our history we create landscapes without identity."

"As a consultant on architectural heritage, Dr Jenkins could show residents of Phuket the wrong and right ways of retaining the character of an old building before it is developed."

- Athiga Jundee & Mayo Kishimura

Open Daily

Big C Branch (G.I.N.)
08:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Thepkasattiri Road Branch
07:30 AM - 10:30 PM

Tel: 076 232 523-4
www.tinycoffee.com
E-Mail: info@tinycoffee.com

Leak Kan Bo Co., Ltd. (New cushion goods Phuket Co., Ltd.)
108/23 Moo 8, Chaloemphrakiat Rd 9 (the bypass road),
T. Pratsang, A. Muang, Phuket 83000
Tel: 076 261168; 254308 (Thai), 01-5389445 (Eng) Fax: 076 261569
Email: info@cushionsandcurtain.com www.cushionsandcurtain.com

Made to order:
Leather furniture,
curtains and tents.
Transforming space
and a design service
for resorts and spas.

Skin Tightening and Contouring - without surgery -
with technology cleared by the US FDA
performed by an American Board Certified Dermatologist

• Botox, Collagen
• Laser Hair Removal
• Mesotherapy

APEX

Only a single-treatment session

3rd Fl. Central Phuket Tel: 076-3894215 • Call Center 0 2044 8877
3rd Fl. Emporium Tel: 0 2044 8874 • 3rd Fl. Siam Center Tel: 0 2058 1167

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



ELECTRICAL



AIR CONDITIONING



REFRIGERATION



MARINE ENGINEERING



SHIPWRIGHT SERVICES



CARPENTRY



PAINTING & FINISHING



WELDING & FABRICATION



HYDRAULICS



YACHT SOLUTIONS

Contact: M +66 (0) 927526214 T +66 (0) 76 238 450

E technicalservices@yachtsolutions.comW www.yachtsolutions.com

Human rights

THE plan by Rawai Mayor Aroon Solos to ban migrant workers from keeping dogs (see page 4) is unlikely to have much of an effect on dog populations in the area; the scheme not only fails to address the main cause of the problem, but also shifts the blame to the most convenient scapegoat.

Predictably, news of the proposed ban has set off debate in social media. Strangely, however, the debate has focused more on animal rights issues than human rights – in this case the right (or lack thereof) of migrant workers to keep dogs.

It goes without saying that the majority of people who live in these alleged canine-incubation colonies are migrant workers from Myanmar. Many are laborers with no other alternative than to toil at dangerous, difficult jobs that the average Thai or foreigner would never consider.

Given their tenuous legal standing and subsequent lack of human rights, these workers have long served as scapegoats for politicians and civil servants, all of whom are well aware of the seldom spoken of, yet widespread, anti-Burmese discrimination throughout Thailand.

Try to consider the issue through the eyes of these workers. While some dismiss these camps as slums, they are home to these workers. As the place where all their valuables are stored, they need to be protected – and not just from theft.

Such camps have been the sites of many crimes over the years, such as murder, arson, rape and even attempts at extortion by vile thugs posing as state officers. For the women and children left behind during the work day, keeping a pack of loyal dogs is the best security investment they can make.

While it is inevitable that some dogs will get left behind when the workers migrate to a new location, we doubt this is a major contributing factor to the Rawai canine problem. A much more important factor is the failure of local pet owners to take responsibility by sterilizing their animals.

To his credit, the mayor of Rawai is studying the legal issues of such a ban before ordering any action. We hope he will reconsider and come up with an alternative strategy that will allow these workers to keep their pets.

Fortunately, Rawai is home to one of the best-known and well-funded animal rights groups on the island, the Soi Dog Foundation. We hope the Rawai Mayor will continue to work together with the Soi Dog Foundation, as well as other groups and agencies to allow more volunteers into the camps to provide free sterilizations.



Why not set aside a 'jet-ski beach'

Re: Gazette online, Opinion: Last chance to rid Phuket of jet-skis, June 21

People will travel to do a zip line, elephant rides, and zorbing.

There's absolutely no reason why some little-used beach couldn't be designated 'the jet-ski beach', which would be the only place to rent jet-skis.

They could even have specialized shops for the jet-ski enthusiasts.

And, hey, do the same for the parasailors.

Another simple, reasonable idea to help the place I call home.

Bigfoot
Gazette forum

Enforce the rules or nothing will change

Re: Gazette online, Opinion: Lack of discipline, June 23

Children under the age of 10 should be banned from motorbikes.

People with no helmet should have their licence suspended and made to pay a very significant fine.

No more than two people should be allowed on a motorbike. No animals should be allowed on a motorbike.

As far as driving, until the traffic police enforce the rules of the roads, Phuket will continue to be one of the most dangerous places on earth to drive a motor vehicle.

John Wayne
Gazette forum

Letters to the Editor

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

Is every person who is involved at fault?

Re: Gazette online, Eviction notice posted at Nui Beach establishments, June 24

I am happy to hear that the authorities are following up on crimes involving people who exploit public land, especially the beach, for profit.

It is nice to see all of the beaches being returned to their former glory.

However, I always wonder if the landowners are being caught off guard when they are told their land title documents are illegal.

I can't imagine that every single land case in Phuket has people knowingly breaking the law behind it.

Perhaps some of these land cases and illegal documents are not in the hands of people who know they are illegal or made them so.

Wendy Hamilton
Rassada

Need a restaurant operating hours list

I, like most people here, go out to eat nearly every night.

I know that many restaurants are closed on Mondays, but

others are closed on random days of the week, or take random holidays.

Normally I would just look it up on their websites or Facebook, but many of them either don't list days and times of operation, or they are listed incorrectly.

Moreover, when they do go on holiday, it is usually only posted on the doors of the establishment.

On an island that has so many food options, I am surprised that I have not found an interactive online calendar listing which restaurants are closed on which days, with the option of each owner being able to add in any holidays they will be taking.

Hungry Hillary
Chalong

Too little too late for public safety

Re: Gazette online, Girl shocked by exposed wire in Phuket, June 23

It's very lucky that this little girl wasn't more seriously injured by the electric shock.

I am personally appalled that island authorities have not already put in place a safety power cut in the event that this neglected cord comes into contact with someone's skin.

These safety measures should be required before permits are given for any structure or power source can be built.

Loraine Newton
Kathu

Phuket Gazette

In association with The Nation Multimedia Group PCL

Editor-in-chief: Isaac Stone Simonelli

Managing Director: Oranee Hildebrand

General Manager: Natthira Susangrat

Publisher: The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

Contact us:

Editorial: news@phuketgazette.net

Advertising Sales: adsales@phuketgazette.net

Classified Advertising: classads@phuketgazette.net

Website services: anna@phuketgazette.net

Gazette Guide: guide@phuketgazette.net

Events Sponsorship: events@phuketgazette.net

General: info@phuketgazette.net

Telephone: 076 273555 (10 lines) Fax 076 615240
79/94 Moo 4, Thepkasattri Rd, T. Koh Kaew, A. Muang, Phuket

The views expressed in the Phuket Gazette are those of the writers and contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Publisher, the Editor, the shareholders or the directors of The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd.

Volume 22 Issue 26

Copyright © 1994-2015 The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

Unlocking the shackles of old-world cosmology

FIRST PERSON

HERE you all are at a pivotal moment in your lives and I am meant to inspire you and impart to you some kind of sage advice.

That's a challenge, because the world you're about to step into looks nothing like the world I entered upon graduating 35 years ago. I grew up in a monochromatic, low-definition world. Everything was black, white or gray, including people, religion, politics and careers.

There was a set of respectable career choices that had been in the making for decades. Lines were not crossed. Engineers were not entrepreneurs. Educators and academics were certainly not millionaires.

If you have studied ancient history, you'll know that the 1980s were defined by an unapologetic and unrestrained pursuit of money. Society measured success in dollar signs, with the pursuit of happiness being an unnecessary philosophical contrivance.

Happiness, we were led to believe, was a byproduct of increased consumption.

That's all we needed to understand. The world was ours for the taking, we were told.

We conquered the world – virtually every corner of it. And yet, we the conquerors are really slaves and always have been. We were enslaved by a narrowly defined world view of what constitutes success, an unimaginative view of what constitutes progress, a limited set of paths to happiness and a narrow definition of self.



Todd Lemons is the founder of InfiniteEARTH (infinite-earth.com), a Hong Kong-based project development company whose mission is “to move the world from an unsustainable extractive economy to a sustainable replacement economy by changing the way [we] view the consumption and pricing of goods...”

Here is a condensed version of his commencement address to the Class of 2015 at the British International School Phuket last month.

But, you are different. You have been born free just by the timing of your births. You are entering a world on the precipice of change. Consequently, you are free of the shackles of the old cosmologies. You are free to define yourselves and your world, unencumbered by the biases and historical norms of the old world. Your world is polychromatic and success will depend on your ability to see an infinite set of possibilities, visible only in full color HD.

I believe this special school in this special place has greatly facilitated that freedom and ability. Here, in this multi-cultural environment, you are free from the confines you would have faced back home.

And so it is you who inspire me. It is you who give me hope for the future.

If there is any advice I can give you, it is that getting a degree to get a better job, to make more money is not the end game, nor is it a guarantee of success, let alone happiness.

Do not leave here to ‘get a degree’ in something in order to make a career for yourselves.

Leave here and get an education in anything with just one explicit goal: to make a life and to reshape the world.

Your success will be found in repairing what we have degraded, and in replacing what we have depleted. Your future and the future of this planet will demand that you seek economic growth balanced with social and environmental justice.

This special place has given you that ability. You possess skills your peers do not have and cannot replicate.

You are free of geographic, racial, cultural and linguistic barriers. Your eyes, your hearts, and your minds are wide open, and so are your opportunities. You are well prepared to enter this new world and shape it through your leadership.

Good luck and god speed.

See full text of this speech on the Gazette Online, Wednesday, July 1.



Sometimes ‘big media’ don’t show the full picture. Photo: Deskana

Big media blunders

Island View

By Simon J Hand

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

LAST Friday evening, the Ambassador for Nepal, HE Khaga Nath Adhikari, came to Phuket to ask for our help in rebooting Nepal’s crippled tourism sector – an industry that, before the May earthquakes, accounted for about 50 per cent of the country’s annual GDP.

The Ambassador’s message was that – despite news reports to the contrary – Nepal has not been ‘completely destroyed’.

In fact, more than 90 per cent of the hotels are still operating and most of the top tourist attractions – including Lumbini, birthplace of the Buddha – are ready to receive tourists.

I was reminded of our own efforts to reverse the negative impact of ‘big media’ insistence that Phuket had been destroyed by the Indian Ocean tsunami.

For the first few days after the disaster, Phuket’s west coast was horrifying to behold, but two kilometers or so inland you would not even know there had been a tsunami.

Phuket International Airport, despite being hard against the west coast, re-opened just hours after the tsunami struck. This convenience – along with good communications infrastructure – was why the international news media made Phuket its reporting base camp.

We found one pack of big media journo camped out at the Patong Novotel. They had set up their TV cameras on a veranda overlooking a building site that was being used as a

dump site for all the detritus being cleared from the beaches.

It made for an awesome backdrop to their reports of death, destruction, tears and misery, but I do not believe that any of them mentioned that they were less than three meters from a stocked cocktail bar.

As the old year passed, the clean-up crews transformed Phuket’s beaches from the hell-sites of Boxing Day back to their pre-tourism glory.

The international press cared not, however, as they were still reporting from above their dump site. And now they were picking up footage of the destruction in Khao Lak and Aceh to augment their reports. To the viewers overseas this equated to: ‘Phuket has been destroyed.’

Big media was having an even more devastating effect on the economy than the tsunami.

A decade later and we now have social media as our first source for news. So, when tourists do return to Nepal, I hope they take out their phones and show their thousands of friends around the world what the country is really like.

Then we won’t need to believe the big media reports. We will be able to see the truth for ourselves, through our friends.

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

Who can unclog my toilet?

MY HOUSE is near Prince of Songkhla University in Kathu. My toilet is full, and when I pressed the flush button, it did not go down. Which government office can I contact? How much will it cost?

Kongleaphy Keam
Kathu

Supa Jitthiagng, head of the Public Health Division of Kathu Municipality, replies:

You can come fill out a re-

quest form at Kathu Municipality. Once you submit the form, we will go to your house as soon as we can. Normally, it takes only one or two days after you submit your form with all of the necessary information, including your address and the issue you face.

The starting price for our service is 500 baht. If the municipality cannot solve the problem, you will have to contact a private company.

Dangerous road needs urgent repairs

SOI Tha Ruea, the road next to Tha Ruea Shrine in Koh Kaew, is very dangerous. At one spot, the road has fallen away after

the recent heavy rains. This particular spot is already perilous, as it drops sharply off into a roadside ditch.

When can we expect this road to be repaired? Also, will there be a guard rail installed there to protect drivers from falling off the side of the road?

Scared motorist
Koh Kaew

Prapit Noopet from the engineering division of the

Srisoonthorn Tambon Administration Organization (OrBorTor) replies:

We have requested 5 million baht to fix the road, but we are still waiting for this to be approved. Once it is approved, it will take about one year to repair and repave the road.

We will also consider building a guard rail in the spot you have specified. That will take about two months to install, once the road repairs are done.

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

Submit your issue to

PhuketGazette.net/
IssuesAnswers

Create sales funnels with social media


Business Buzz
Simon Wetherell

FOLLOWING up on last week, now that you have a plan, know your target market and understand the importance of your biggest asset – your database, we are going to look at how the customer experience is created through your sales funnel.

Many people do not fully understand the role and importance of a sales funnel as a whole system and just view individual parts in isolation, so it is important to understand the role and function.

Put simply, a sales funnel is the guided path you take a new potential customer along from your first interaction, and if all goes well, until they complete a purchase and become a loyal customer. It includes growing your database through planned customer attraction, capturing their details and then creating ongoing communication and interaction.

An example of a simple sales funnel is placing an advertisement online with social media, which gets them to click on a link that takes them to a website or capture page to get their contact details. From there you may redirect them to your sales page.

The ultimate aim is to have a satisfied loyal customer who is generating a revenue stream for you, preferably on a repeat basis.

Simon Wetherell is a social media expert, lawyer and 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 PhuketOnlineMarketing.com, or call him on 095-085 3355.

Bright lights, big city: LED billboards lucky for Phuket

By Isaac Stone Simonelli

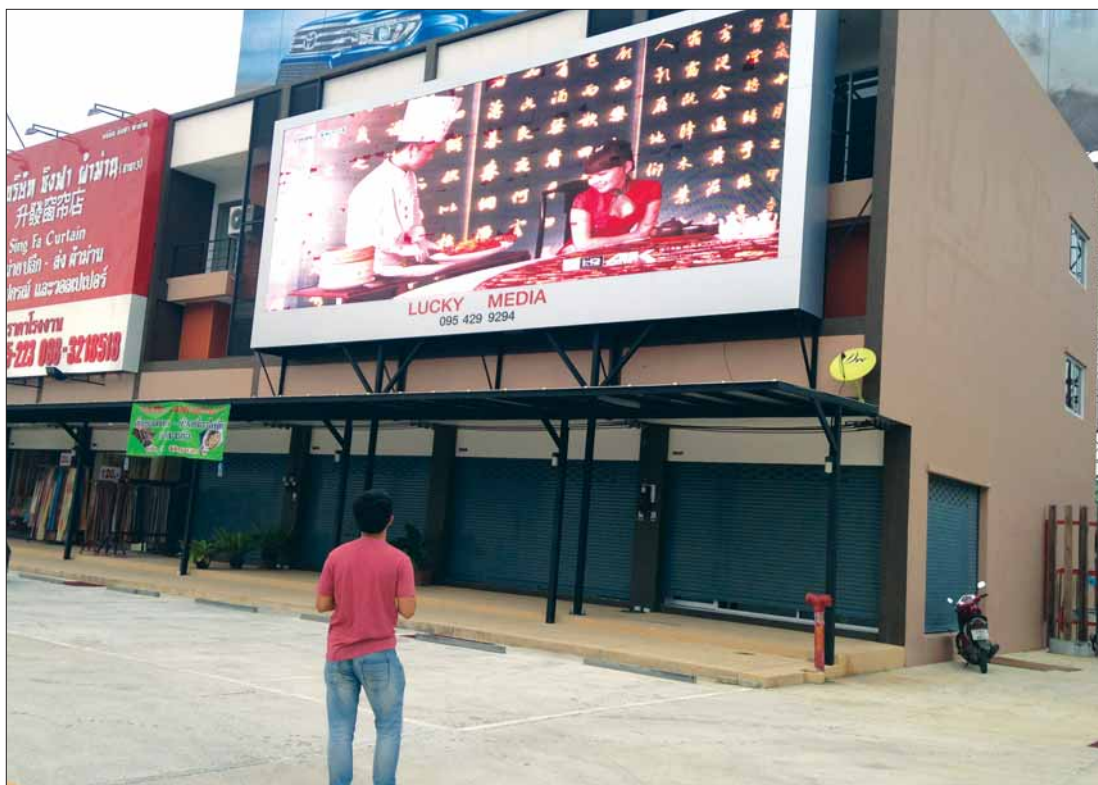
LUCKY Media is one of those companies that from humble beginnings has evolved into a player with serious impact and an annual income of 150 million to 200mn baht.

The publicly listed company was born in Bangkok out of the Assawarungruang family business, Lucky Music – which started and continues to be a music store importing PRS amplifiers, Gibson guitars and other musical instruments. What Lucky Media is bringing to the island, however, isn't for your ears, it's for your eyes – large, crisp and crystal-clear LED billboards.

Through family connections and friendships with local people on the island, Lucky Media has managed to wrangle some of the prime, high-volume advertising locations in Phuket: Laguna, Tah Chat Chai checkpoint, Ban Chalong School, Chalong Circle, the junction of Thepkraasatri Road and the bypass road, and now the densely trafficked Heroines' Monument.

"Our company is a technology company specializing in sound systems and top-quality lighting equipment," Preccha Assawarungruang, managing director of Lucky Music, told the *Gazette*. "We work together with the National Theatre, setting up the sound systems for them, as well as the lighting and projectors."

About eight years ago, Mr Preecha launched Lucky Media into the LED screen business after realizing that the screen production quality in China had finally caught up with the Japanese and the Americans.



LIGHTING UP PHUKET: Lucky Media sees profitable investments on the island. Photo: Chutharat Plerin

"We found the quality from China was quite good. Within the last 10 years, the Chinese have been producing LED screens and the quality is better and better every day," Mr Preecha said.

Lucky Music then linked up with Lampu Company in central China. Now the company is pushing into the Phuket market with six crisp LED screens and four more in the works.

"Most of the LED companies are just concerned about Bangkok; they forget everything outside of Bangkok," Mr Preecha says.

"The main population of course is in Bangkok, but there are still more than 50 million people outside of Bangkok – it's a big number."

Phuket made perfect sense

as a point to expand the LED screen business. However, Mr Preecha wants to eventually get national coverage.

"Phuket has lots of tourists and we'll be expecting more once the airport expansion project is finished," Mr Preecha said. "We will want to have locations throughout Thailand."

When it comes to advertisers accessing that potential growth in the market, it's about location. And Mr Preecha anticipates that Lucky Media's early move into the LED screen market will set it up well to help companies target Singaporean clients and others from ASEAN member nations when Thailand opens up as part of that community at the end of this year.

The end goal, at least for the

LED screens, will be to establish a central control station in Bangkok. However, Mr Preecha is confident that as new technologies come on line at reasonable costs, Lucky Media will continue to look for options for expansion.

"If you do business, you must feel young. You have to learn more and more – everything is new. If you're excited when you're working, you don't feel tired," said Mr Preecha, who is now 55 years old.

"Everything is new for me, you find new technology and it's like playing a game. The more new technology you can have, the more fun you're going to have."

For more information on these new billboards, contact Oranee ('Ann') on 081-868 7676.

GM takes wheel at Cassia Phuket

BANYAN Tree has appointed a new General Manager for the company's most recent hotel residences, Cassia Phuket.

Ilias Vamvakas will be taking the reins at this the third property in the company's portfolio after having worked and led teams in various hotels around the world, including: Sandals Grande St Lucia Spa & Beach Resort and The Sealine Beach Resort in Qatar, as well as hotels in Germany, Barbados



Ilias Vamvakas

and his homeland, Greece.

Mr Vamvakas, who has a diploma in hotel management from Oxford Brookes University in

England, is excited to be taking up the position at Cassia Phuket and helping shape the property.

Cassia Phuket will be opening in November this year with a hotel concept that integrates cutting edge design, street art and an a la carte menu of services for guests to choose from.

The property will launch with 221 hotel residences, and will expand to 326 with a second tower to be added by 2017.

– *Phuket Gazette*



Siam International
38/54 Nanai Road,
Patong, Kathu, Phuket 83150

Siam
International

❖ Legal consultation Contact: K.Joy
❖ Company formations Tel: 076 346 149
❖ Notarial Fax: 076 346 150
 certifications Email:
❖ Contracts siamint@loxinfo.co.th
❖ Work permits
❖ Bookkeeping
❖ Visa service
❖ Translations

Gazette re-designs to go national

By John Magee

Your *Phuket Gazette* goes truly national today and boasts a re-design to the world-trending 'compact' format you're holding in your hands.

By joining such esteemed publications as *The Wall Street Journal*, the *Telegraph*, the *Times of London*, the *Daily Mail*, *Bild* and scores of other major titles around the world, the *Gazette* is now more portable and reader friendly than the stiff-paper tabloids germane to Thailand's rural markets.

But this is not just a change to a better delivery vehicle; it goes right to the editorial core. You'll be seeing more investigative news features; more follow-up on crime stories; a general reduction in story length; more photos; and (our new mantra) more *relevance to Thailand*. (We know you don't often look to a weekly Phuket newspaper for world news, wire stories, major league baseball scores or advice on how to repair a work bench.)

Readership of the new *Gazette* is set to increase more than six-fold, driven not only by the revisions to format and content, but also, critically, by distribution. We want 30,000 readers. That is not possible in Phuket alone, where the saturation point for English language print is 'maxed out' at 5,000 – including tourists.

We want to truly deliver



The *Phuket Gazette* has ditched the dinosaur days of tabloids and joined the world-trending switch to 'compact' format.

Phuket – the good, the bad and the inexplicable – to Bangkok and beyond because the island is important in multiple ways, and has long been under-represented in Thailand's mass media.

What's good here, is good for Thailand. And what isn't... needs national attention.

It's unlikely that Phuket could ever float a genuinely national newspaper without being a part of one. So your full *Phuket Gazette*, long a part of *The Nation*, is now literally *in* that publication, every Saturday morning. You'll find us in the same places you find *The*

Nation – all over Bangkok (including all government ministries), Koh Samui, Pattaya, Hua Hin and so on. And we're now aboard more airlines – 14 major ones, including THAI, where *The Nation* has for decades been a popular daily passenger.

But there is one area where you'll not see us in a *Nation* – the Andaman provinces, including Phuket. Here you'll find us just as you always have, but at more locations, in larger numbers, and now, as less of a *nan su pim farang*, in the hands of more Thais.

Thailand's regional role challenged by CLMV

THE Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) says the Japanese firms' 'Thai+1' strategy is here to stay as Thailand remains Japan's number one foreign direct investment (FDI) destination in Asean – but the growing attraction of regional competitors, especially Indonesia, means that the Kingdom's role is currently under challenge.

Japanese annual outward foreign direct investment (FDI) flow to the world was US\$120 billion last year, and \$5.2 billion found its way to Thailand in the same period. Around \$4.2 billion went to Indonesia, while Vietnam, Philippines and Malaysia received less than \$2 billion in 2014.

"Thailand still serves as a manufacturing hub for Japanese

firms but, because costs are rising, they are increasingly looking into using labor from Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam and Myanmar (CLMV) and they are being integrated into the Thai-Japanese supply chain in Thailand," said Izumi Davalier, HSBC's Japan and Asia-Pacific economist.

"Recently, the Thailand+1 scheme has changed into using Thailand as its own production base and also building independent supply chains," she said.

Davalier explained that instead of producing cars and electronics in Thailand, Japanese firms are also using CLMV countries to produce these products, where they are managed mainly by Thais, before exploiting the supply chain in larger markets like Indonesia and India.

– *The Nation*

BALANCE
Professional Counselling

Ready For Help? We Listen.

Empowering Individuals, Families and Communities

Rita Dobson: Counsellor DipPsych, MA Counselling, MBPS, BACP Member
Email: info@balancegroup.asia | Phone: 076-390 614

www.balancegroup.asia

PHUKET
INTERNATIONAL LAW FIRM

Family Law/Custody /Divorce/Will

Child Adoption

Notary Public

Litigation (Civil & Criminal Cases)

Company Setup

Business Contracts

Property Law/Due Diligence

Visa & Work Permit

Tel : 091-078 9595

info@phuketinternationallaw.com
www.phuketinternationallaw.com

Royal Phuket Marina makes mega investment

Phuket's premier lifestyle destination, Royal Phuket Marina, has announced a five-year 5-billion-baht investment plan under the slogan #DestinationRPM.



SHOW ME THE MONEY: (L) Gulu Lalvani, chairman of Royal Phuket Marina; Anoma Wongyai, director of Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) Phuket office; and Michael Ayling, managing director of Royal Phuket Marina.

Singing in the rain



MAKE IT RAIN: Central Festival Phuket General Manager Wilaiporn Pitimanaare (middle right, green trousers) poses with theater students from HeadStart International School, led by drama teacher Joel Brent Adams (back row, center), and the school's singing club, led by Jackie Feliciano (left), who put on a flash-mob-style Broadway performance at Central Festival Phuket on June 11, which also featured local singing group Phuket Aloud.

Meet you at 'Kitchen We'

Kitchen We recently opened in Rattana Apart-Hotel on Thepkasattri Road.



FLANKED BY FRIENDS: Executive Chef and restaurant owner Tawee Chanthasit (center right) and Jamroen Tiengthong (center left), shareholder, stand with friends at the opening.

Selling 'Amazing Thailand'

The Amazing Thailand Grand Sale 2015 took place at Central Department Store Phuket on June 15.



ALL DRESSED UP: Anoma Wongyai (middle), Director of Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) Phuket office; Panat Pookpho (second right), manager of Central Department Store Phuket; and Supreeya Jitrawiparat (right), marketing manager of Central Department Store Phuket stand with guests at the event's grand opening ceremony.

Hot spring heaven



GETTING HOT IN HERE: Kannika Meeboon (third from left), managing director of The Hotspring Beach Resort and Spa, welcomed Dr Lynne Miller (fourth from left) and her group from Sumalee Boxing Gym to enjoy the hot spring spa on June 7.

Come and be our VIP guests

Mövenpick Resort & Spa Karon Beach Phuket welcomed 20 children from the 'Phuket Has Been Good To Us' Foundation as VIP guests for a day on June 20.



THUMBS UP: Hansruedi Frutiger (middle), general manager of Mövenpick Resort & Spa Karon Beach Phuket, stands with hotel employees (green shirts) and children from the 'Phuket Has Been Good To Us' Foundation.

Krabi Music Festival



Guests pose for pictures at Sofitel's Krabi Music Festival.



J Jetrin wowed the crowd at Sofitel Krabi Phokeethra Golf & Spa Resort on June 20.



SURROUNDED BY SIRENS: Meeporn Oeawpanich (center right), director of marketing and communications of Sofitel Krabi Phokeethra Golf & Spa Resort; Luis Garcia (middle), director of food and beverage at the resort; and Chanaporn Saelao Key (center left), account manager, Diageo Moet Hennessy (Thailand) Ltd.

Junior golfers tee up

On June 21, 67 junior golfers participated in the first Laguna Phuket Junior Golf Tournament – partnered with British International School, Phuket (BISP). Competing in an 18-hole individual format, players from 6-18 years old enjoyed the challenge of the newly renovated Laguna Phuket Golf Club.



Overall champions and divisional winners of the Laguna Phuket Junior Golf Tournament.



WINNER, WINNER: Laguna Phuket Golf Club awarded individual memberships until the end of 2015 to both overall champions. In the girls section, Thitapa Pakdeesethakul (left), won the award with a gross score of 76. In the boys section, BISP student Napat Paramacharoenroj achieved a level par gross 71 to win by just one shot.

COFFEE break

Cryptic Crossword

Across

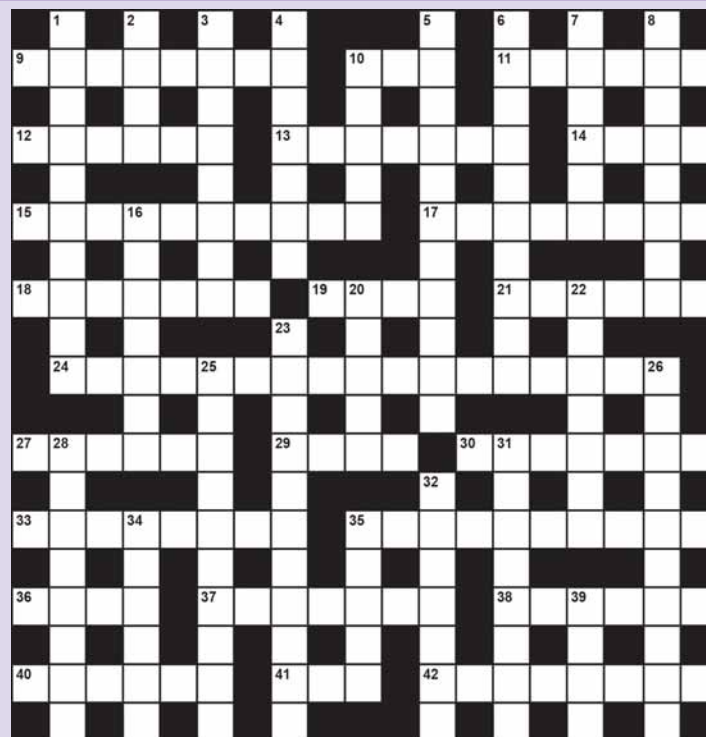
9. Proved is incorrect, makes provision for (8)
10. Cut branch record (3)
11. Pictures of games I produced (6)
12. Err, be a bad messenger (6)
13. With valor, I cook one Italian dish (7)
14. Rent to run November (4)
15. Worst, a drab new cheap building material (10)
17. Or in, gaze about, put in order (8)
18. Traverse the ground in the district (7)
19. Against arranging taking out gas, against! (4)
21. Petty Officer in strange tale of quart beer mug (6)
24. Courage! On change of

- a p.m. arrangement, get congratulatory drink (6,2,9)
27. Acquire information on a prude perhaps (4,2)
29. Backing it, about to weaken (4)
30. No talk about a big island S.E. of Phuket (7)
33. I am well in Thailand, but I see a bad arrangement (8)
35. Fought round in the matter of an old badminton racket (10)
36. Pine for young girl (4)
37. Those remaining, there on the street (3,4)
38. No, try a different licensed lawyer (6)
40. Thin cover, never move out East (6)
41. Walk quietly, father, daughter! (3)
42. Settle into the scene, son, carefully (8)

Down

1. Horticultural talent grand, change the number (5,5)
2. Finished, rove around (4)
3. Engaging to bear load care-

- fully (8)
4. Following behind the boat, a master move (7)
5. Groom can ail, possibly to do with farm management (11)
6. Water moving into building structure, leaving the ground a bit wet (6,4)
7. Caledonian material can make rattan! (6)
8. Composite material in Italian terrace (8)
10. Devil went back and was alive (5)
16. Made effervescent by date, are animated (7)
20. More subtle, more agreeable (5)
22. Glen spread out, and in the country (7)
23. Against setter, M.P. possibly has unlucky accident (11)
25. Punishing stone throwers lads to pair off (10)
26. Difficult undertaking makes for present ire (10)
28. Inspector to perhaps ax miner out East (8)



31. Sin I lose, possibly the quality of being unctuous (8)
32. Second time speak with a stammer! (7)
34. Swear carefully about new response (6)
35. Brother dear, turn over the loaf (5)
39. Implement turning up the loot (4)

For answers to this week's Cryptic Crossword please visit the Gazette Online's Lifestyle section Sunday morning.



Congratulations
and best wishes to the
Phuket Gazette
on the launch of Phuket's new
nationwide newspaper!

Coming Soon

BOAT ARCADE

East Coast Edutainment & Family Center

Retail Space For Rent. Contact: M. +6681 810 3328, +6676 239 888

Email. pr@phuketboatlagoon.com www.boatlagoonresort.com

Phuket Boat Lagoon

22/1 moo 2, Thepkrasattri Road, Muang, Phuket 83000

GARDENING

Neem: A tree for all seasons



Gardening

By Patrick Campbell

BACK in February, 2009, the Thai government, in the guise of the Industry Ministry, issued a decree listing 13 herbs as hazardous plants and forbidding their use nationwide.

The penalty? Six months in jail or a 500,000 baht fine. There was immediately an outcry from farmers. Why? Because these 'hazardous' substances were all organically derived pesticides and herbicides that had been used for generations without any adverse environmental effect.

Furthermore, they were widely employed as alternatives to modern equivalents – expensive and toxic synthetic farm chemicals. The guilty list? Neem, lemongrass, turmeric, African marigold, ginger, Chinese ginger, Siam weed or bitter bush, tea seed cake, chilli, Chinese celery, ringworm bush, glory lily and stemona.

People were quick to point

out that most of these herbs are, in any case, key ingredients in classic Thai cuisine, so they could hardly be dangerous.

It was darkly hinted that such action implied that the government was in the pay of multi-national chemical companies. The official response was that there was 'no hidden agenda': the action was 'to protect organic farmers from fake pesticides.' Predictably, the brouhaha died down and the department rescinded its ruling.

I was recently reminded of this by a reader who asked for a cure for mealy bugs which had taken an unhealthy interest in his *jatrophas*. I suggested neem oil (*nam mun sadao*).

A smallish, fast-growing tree, *azadirachta indica* is sometimes referred to as *sadao*. It is mostly evergreen and boasts attractive pinnate leaves. It grows in any soil, but because of its shallow root system will need watering until established. Its flowers grow in sprays during the dry season.

According to 'Neem: India's



Neem is a ready-made solution to just about everything, says Patrick. Photo: Prabhupuducherry

Miraculous Healing Plant', a source quoted in the *Bangkok Post* by Normita Thongtham, it is known in the subcontinent as the village pharmacy. Used in Ayurvedic medicine as a blood purifier and detoxifier, it is an anti-inflammatory, and is used to treat arthritis, diabetes, tumors and more.

As if this isn't enough, its leaves and seeds contain azadirachtin, a pesticide which,

watered in, can even reach nematodes or round worms which attack the roots of plants. The oil, which is used in certain soaps, can be diluted with water and employed as a spray, or watered into the soil as a systemic. Neem cake, the fibrous residue left after the extraction of oil, can be used as a mulch and will deter insects.

To any poor farmer, one can only begin to imagine what a

marvelous asset it would be to have this tree on your land: a ready-made solution to just about everything. And the government wanted to ban it.

If you have a question or a garden that you would like featured, email: drpaccampbell@gmail.com. Further information about this gardening series and Patrick's other work can be accessed at: patrickaccampbell.wordpress.com

June 27. Wine Tasting at Wine Lovers Phuket

Wine tasting with live music, Thai appetizers, salad and mini sushi buffet, fruits and six glasses of white and red wine. Only 899 baht. Saturday, June 27, from 7pm to 9pm. Call 076-384662 or email info@wineloversphuket.com to reserve your ticket. All welcome.

July 1. Canal Village Summer Fair

Canal Village Summer Fair offers a wide variety of family events that we invite you to join. The fair will start with an exciting Dragon Boat Race at 3pm while various boutique shops will have their collections on offer at 20-50% discounts. Also on offer are Summer Family Packages by Phuket's leading tour operators.

The Fair features a trio band and a variety of stage entertainment. For the little ones, a Kids Fun Zone provides activities and entertainment such as a bouncy castle, face painting, balloon animals and much more.

From 3pm to 9pm at Canal Shopping Village, Laguna. Food and drinks available. Free



Join the Independence Day fun at Friendship Beach Resort. Photo: Anthony Cramp

entry. For more information call 076-362300 or visit www.lagunaphuket.com.

July 4. Independence Day Party at Friendship Beach Resort

Independence Day celebration at Friendship Beach Resort. Traditional BBQ buffet from 6:30pm to 9:30pm featuring award winning ribs, salmon filet, southern fried chicken, hot dogs, Thai dishes,

WHAT'S ON in Phuket

salads, desserts and sides. Welcome drink included. Dance and party to classic rock, pop and funk from the 70s, 80s and 90s with DJ Bobby D and watch the fireworks display from our waterfront restaurant and bar. Adults: 790 baht, kids

under 12 years: 350 baht. Party ends at 11:30pm.

For reservations please call Charlie at 089-728 5304.

July 15-19. Cape Panwa Hotel Phuket Raceweek

Now in its 12th 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 famous

around the Asian-yachting scene make this one of the best summer sailing regattas.

Cape Panwa Hotel Phuket Raceweek 2015 has a comprehensive 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 or call 089-000 4664.

July 30. Asahna Bucha Day

This full-moon day of the eighth lunar month commemorates the Buddha's first sermon to five disciples after he attained enlightenment more than 2,500 years ago. Evening candlelight processions will be staged in all Thai Buddhist temples throughout the island.

August 12. HM The Queen's Birthday

HM Queen Sirikit's birthday is also marked as Mother's Day in Thailand, with festivities taking place throughout the country. Keep checking the *Gazette* for local activities and celebrations.

BOATING

Not just another boating cliché



On Deck

By Duncan Worthington

LET'S not beat around the bush: Phuket is Asia's marine playground. Period.

Whether you live in Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia or anywhere in the region, Phuket offers some of the best sailing grounds, a well-developed onshore infrastructure and is a great place to cruise, race or base your boat. And many do. It's also a great place to buy a boat.

They say the two happiest moments in a boat owner's life are when they buy a boat and when they sell a boat. A cliché? Perhaps. But it's one I'm sure many boat owners would agree with. It makes sense when you bear in mind the likely costs of



Research is the key to buying a boat, and a big part of that is knowing what you need. Photo: Gazette file

owning, using, maintaining and berthing a boat.

However, more and more people are becoming interested in boating around the world and Asia is still very new to the scene.

That age-old cliché looks set to be challenged.

Before buying a boat you need to do your research. There's a lot of generic advice out there on the web. For example, who will use the boat?

What will it be used for and how often? Where will it be used? What's your budget? Once you've answered some or all of those helpful questions, then it's time to shop.

Let's be clear, I'm assuming you're buying a boat to keep in Phuket. So the best place to start researching and shopping is in fact right here in Phuket, and if you've never shopped for boats on the island before, you'll be amazed at the options – power or sail, big or small, yacht for charter or yacht for racing, they're all here.

The choice of secondhand boats (or pre-owned as the industry prefers to call them) is diverse. Most yacht brokerages on the island will have a good mix on offer and at a range of prices.

If you are looking for a new-build, however, most of the international boat brands are represented on Phuket, most by the 'Big 8' – Asia Marine, Derani Yachts, Elite Yachting, Go

Boating Thailand and Lee Marine, Multihull Solutions Asia, Simpson Marine, South East Asia Yacht Sales and Services. But a big mover on the local marine scene recently, has been Boat Lagoon Yachting, a subsidiary of Phuket Boat Lagoon.

Long-time representative of Princess Yachts in Southeast Asia, Boat Lagoon Yachting was appointed sole distributor for Wider Yachts in Thailand, Singapore and Indonesia in January 2015 and launched the Wider 32 into Asia at the Phuket International Boat Show, and more recently added Jeanneau (sole distributors in Thailand and Singapore) and Admiral (sole distributors in Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia) to their stable.

If you're not brand-focused and are looking for something different, Thailand is renowned for its quality craftsmanship and Phuket is home to a good number of local boat builders, constructing all manner of craft to high standards.

Do your research: Google away, walk the marinas and shop around. More than likely you will find something that answers all of your questions and suits your needs for boating in Phuket.

Duncan Worthington is a long time Phuket resident and through Infinity Communications (www.infinity-comms.com) consults to leading consumer brands, hospitality and marine clients in Thailand. In his spare time he runs the marine web portal www.MarineScene.asia. #OnDeckPhuket



Phuket is a great place to cruise, race or base your boat.

NICE PEAK 88
Music Moving On

Phuket's Largest Radio network

Reach 245,000 Thais in English every day!

green FM 93
life in nature

STUDIO LINE AGENCY CO LTD (Tel. 076-210624)

<https://www.studiolinemediaone.com> <https://www.facebook.com/Studioline8893>

MEDIA ONE CREATION **GREEN** Green on TV energy for life (KPP2 24hrs.) **Phuket today** **IGTV** **Phuket Gazette**

BOOKS

Lusitania: The other Titanic

Books

By James Eckardt

ERIK Larson is an accomplished writer of non-fiction. I greatly enjoyed the fourth of his seven books: *The Devil in White City*, which contrasted the glories of the 1893 Chicago World Columbian Exposition with the sordid dealings of a charming serial killer. The contrast in his new book, *Dead Wake* (Crown Publishers, New York, 2015, 430pp) is between the *Lusitania*, the world's largest, fastest, most luxurious passenger liner and the German submarine that sank her off the coast of Ireland on May 7, 1915.

World War I was in its second year and submarine warfare had come into its own with the sinking of a British cruiser in the Mediterranean, followed by two other cruisers when they came in aid of the first. This began a naval policy of forbidding warships to help torpedoed ships – one which would have fatal consequences for those on board the *Lusitania*.

Larson tells his tale skillfully, weaving the indolent pleasures of the luxury liner's passengers with the Spartan lives of the U-boat's crew in their cramped, foul-smelling steel tube: "the basal reek of three dozen men who never bathed... and shared



The *Lusitania* was the world's largest, fastest, most luxurious passenger liner in 1915. Photo: Der Vollstrecker

one small lavatory."

But there were similarities too: the captains of both ships were kindly men, beloved by their crews.

Captain William Turner of the *Lusitania* had been at sea since the age of eight, during the era of clipper ships. Though he disliked socializing with passengers, he reassured an apprehensive audience in the First Class Lounge as they neared the coast of Ireland that his ship was far faster than any German U-boat. His presence backfired 'in the way that a priest's arrival tends to undermine the

cheery smile of a nurse'.

The next afternoon, under a clear and sunny sky that brought the ship's women and children out to play on the decks, a German torpedo struck the bow of the *Lusitania*. She sank in 18 minutes.

Now begins the horror story.

As one passenger raced down to his cabin to retrieve his belongings: 'He found vivid evidence of just how much the ship had listed. The floor was canted to a degree that made it impossible to walk without also stepping on a wall... He passed open staterooms whose port-

holes had once provided views of sky and horizon but now looked down onto water made dark by the shadow of the leaning hull.'

The sudden list made it difficult to launch lifeboats. Those on the port side slammed against the hull, those on starboard swayed too far out from the deck. Only a half dozen landed in the sea. Passengers, with no practice putting on life vests, suited up the wrong way and drowned.

The big ship sank bow first. Passengers backed toward the stern and watched as those

ahead in line lost their grip on the rail. One officer described the scene: "An all swallowing wave, not unlike a surf comber on a beach, was rushing up the boat deck, enveloping passengers, boats and everything that lay in its path." A mass wail rose from those it engulfed. "All the despair, terror and anguish of hundreds of souls passing into eternity composed that awful cry."

Unlike the *Titanic*, which sank in mid-ocean, the *Lusitania* was only a dozen miles offshore of Ireland. From the port of Queenstown, the fast cruiser Juno was dispatched to the rescue, but then recalled under standing orders. Though there were submarine warnings, the Royal Navy had neglected to provide a destroyer escort for the *Lusitania*. First Lord of the Admiralty Winston Churchill later blamed the captain for the disaster. It was hardly Churchill's finest hour.

Of the nearly 2,000 passengers and crew, 1,200 drowned, including 123 Americans. Though the United States would not declare war on Germany for another two years, the *Lusitania*'s sinking sparked public outrage. It's true that a second explosion from the tonnes of munitions in the ship's cargo hold caused it to sink so fast and with such a great loss of life, but this was quickly forgotten in the fever of war.

By the girls, for the girls

THE all-female, girl-power concert known rather quaintly as 'What Women Worth' returns next month for its sixth edition and will be raising funds so that women in need can enjoy a better life.

Taking place at the Bangkok Convention Center Hall (BCC Hall) on July 18, the concert is dedicated to HM Queen Sirikit on the occasion of her 83rd birthday, which falls on August 12.

"The first concert in 2009 was a great success and, after expenses, we were able to donate 900,000 baht to the Ban Home Hug led by Suthasinee Noiin," said Pasinee Prechathanapol, vice president for corporate communications of Thai Life Insurance.

"This year, Thailand's leading female singers will again be



'What Women Worth' returns for its sixth edition. Photo: The Nation

on the stage. They won't only be entertaining the audience but also helping women have a better life through the 'One for Lives' Foundation, which supports care for paediatric cancer, women's cancers and elderly patients."

Other sponsors of the concert include Supree Pongpanich, director of Siam Commercial Bank's advertising and promotion; Sudrak Janyawong, manager of Thai Airways

International's marketing promotion division; Panichanart Yampika, the editor-in-chief of *Priew* magazine; and Hattaya Wongkrachang, managing director of Independent Communication Network.

Among the stars taking part in this year's concert are Penpak 'Tai' Sirikul, Thanaporn 'Pam' Waekprayoon, Lalana 'Jeab' Kongtoranin, Nipaporn 'Zani' Thititanakarn, Siriporn 'Tak' Yooyod, Patcharasri 'Kalamare' Benjamas, and Ekkachai 'DJ Ekkie' Eusangkomsert. They'll be accompanied by an all-women mini orchestra.

Proceeds after expenses will go to the Foundation as well as Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital to cover pap smears for underprivileged women between the ages of 30 and 60.

– The Nation

THE CRAB HOUSE

LET'S CRACK SOME CRABS

The Crab House
Patong, Phuket

109/83 Phangmang Rd., Patong, Phuket Thailand
Tel: 091 839 4953, 076 687065
Facebook: The Crab House - Patong, Phuket

Fraudulent designing in disguise

By Nina Suebsukcharoen

WHEN purchasing new furniture it is always wise to keep an eye open for poorly made or refurbished goods in disguise.

Some seemingly brand new, imported furniture is in fact a renovated secondhand piece with a big price tag, says Niwat Aunprueng, interior designer and executive partner of PIA Interior Company.

This means that overseas dealers and local importers are raking in huge profits from unsuspecting buyers.

European furniture business owners, who this well-known interior designer met during his frequent overseas trips, confirmed that they are completely refurbishing and repainting old pieces and making them just like new.

"I just came back from America and saw that they too are doing this. They even bid at auctions

for old pieces that hostels or hotels are getting rid of and completely reupholster or leather over the structure and resell.

"This happens – I think they have been doing this for a long time in Europe but Thais aren't familiar with it. Even some foreign villa owners don't really know about it," Mr Niwat added.

The profits that these foreign furniture dealers and local importers obtain by simply not

telling buyers that the classy furniture in their swanky showrooms is not new, is almost triple the original cost.

However, the ostensibly new European and American furniture is often stronger than locally made pieces, which despite being new, are usually badly proportioned, weak-jointed copies of Western designs.

Buyers are advised to bargain and not blindly pay the asking price, while also checking the quality of the wood to determine whether it is truly solid or has plywood within.

While the general impression is that the mass-produced contemporary furniture that is widely available across the country is made right here in Thailand, Mr Niwat has found that they are in fact mostly imported from China.

"They are adding 100 per cent profit and then retailing here. Not many people are aware of this, they think that it's made here when in actuality it is almost all made in China," he said.

"And although it's cheap and has the desired look, there is no guarantee of the quality."

When comparing Thai and Balinese furniture Mr Niwat praised the latter for having clear character while what is made in Thailand is more contemporary and on the safe side of design.

"Balinese sell furniture –



Designer Niwat Aunprueng speaks out against 'design malpractice'.



Some places will sell you seemingly brand new furniture, when it is actually refurbished.

wood, rattan and bamboo – and lots of it. They have a process to make these materials withstand the tropical heat," he said.

"It's not like Europe which gets hot and cold. When we buy from Europe and place the pieces outside, they pressurize in the heat and crack.

"That is why outdoor chairs

at many places in Phuket are fake rattan, a synthetic material made of plastic, but this doesn't give a true tropical feeling – it's contemporary."

Mr Niwat added that although Thais are not yet making quality wooden and bamboo furniture as the Balinese do – who use a lengthy

process to dry and coat wood – this is in fact a good business opportunity for those willing to follow suit.

"There are many people right now who are importing Balinese furniture. I find that a lot of Westerners like a design with a tropical look – they want a natural touch."

Montara Hospitality Group eyes young, wealthy Chinese

MONTARA Hospitality Group, owner and operator of Thailand's ultra-luxury resort brand Trisara, is set to increase its presence on Phuket in a bid to capture emerging markets while also expanding locally and abroad for the first time.

"More private villa hotels and luxury residences have been opened on Phuket, and that has brought even tougher competition. Many players are likely to continue facing challenges as arrivals from traditional markets, particularly from Europe, Russia, and South Korea, continue to slow," said Kittisak Pattamasaevi, the group's vice president of sales and marketing.

The group, however, believed that many high-spending tourists would still travel to the island. One of the fastest

growing markets, which is becoming a huge portion of the market, is mainland China.

To capture this emerging market, the group has turned its focus to young and affluent Chinese visitors as a replacement for slowing markets.

Wealthy Chinese tourists are expected to contribute to Trisara's growing base of royalty customers in the upcoming decade. Furthermore, existing markets including Hong Kong, Singapore, and Australia remain key sources for Montara.

It currently operates two properties on Phuket and expects to announce new additions to its select portfolio soon. Each property has set its business strategy and marketing direction.

The 11-year flagship property Trisara

Phuket, consisting of 39 villas and 21 residences, is offering a special deal for the current low season until the end of this year, with a 30-per-cent saving on seasonal rates plus a one-time credit of 3,000 baht per room per stay for spa treatments, food, non-alcoholic drinks and on-site resort excursions.

The average rates for its villas and residences are 26,000 baht and 96,000 baht per night respectively.

Trisara Phuket will undergo a major renovation that is expected to start in the low season 2016.

According to Mr Kittisak, the group is talking with partners to develop a new Trisara property, which would be located four hours by plane from Bangkok. No other details are available

at this stage, but it would be the first addition to the Trisara brand alongside the flagship Phuket hotel.

Aside from Trisara, the group also operates the 26-year-old Boathouse by Montara at Kata, which Montara acquired four years ago. The 38-room hotel has been renovated and now focuses more on the young and beach-goers.

The group also offers management and consultancy services to owners of local private properties and islands.

Last year, the group earned 600 million baht in total revenue. Of that, 450mn baht came from Trisara and 150mn baht from the Boathouse.

The group aims to increase its revenue by 10 per cent this year and next year.

– Suchat Sritama / The Nation

Innocent until proven guilty



Property Watch

Desmond Hughes

THE global hypocrisy of societies, governments, parliaments, judicial bodies, law enforcement agencies and even friends and acquaintances can be a fascinating subject. Hypocrisy exists everywhere in the world, including in the Phuket property market.

In recent months, there has been a notable and worthy attempt to clean up many issues in Phuket. This work is ongoing, and will take many years.

One issue that has been covered in foreign and Thai media and has a huge potential impact on property investment is land title investigations.

The hypocrisy I have witnessed in society is the 'jump on the bandwagon' mentality when an investigation into an alleged wrongdoing is in process. I am confident there will be others that share the view that one essential principle in any society which has laws and law-enforcement agencies is: 'Innocent until proven guilty'.

I believe many in Phuket rely, and may have to rely, upon this principle at some point in their lives.

However, the hypocrisy of society means that when an investigation takes place, those



Investigations take time. Leave them to the officials who have knowledge of the land. Photo: Gazette file

that glory in the difficulties of others and wallow in self righteousness, quickly come out with such meaningless phrases as 'There is no smoke without fire' and 'Well that always looked illegal to me'.

Let me stand up for and protect all those who deserve the protection of 'innocent until proven guilty', including land

owners. They are not guilty, until proven so.

If there is an investigation into, let's say, 50 projects, is it likely that all 50 projects will be illegal? I think not.

The point of an investigation may be to, where a land title has been challenged or doubt has been cast, actually clean up the title and give it a clean bill of

health. This is something that is an inconvenient truth for those who wallow in controversy. If an allegation is made, it may become necessary to prove not only that the allegation was baseless, but also to ensure there is no leftover mud sticking.

An investigation is something that will often require multiple parties to look at a

land title and where it came from. It will involve many senior officials who may have knowledge of land far deeper and far more technically competent than a foreigner. Those officials may remember who owned land in the 1960s. They may remember what it was used for, and why it developed into whatever it may be today.

The way I studied isn't that different from many: reading books; analyzing information; digging deep into a subject I thought I would specialize in.

I tried not to comment to my professors on matters I didn't understand, though I always challenged them if I felt confident enough with my knowledge to do so.

These days it seems many have an opinion that's not grounded in fact, but in a 10-second search on the internet.

There are lots of land title investigations in Phuket. I doubt all the titles are illegal. I also doubt that there has been wrongdoing in every case.

If we truly wish that a legal system, society or environment will improve, we should do our bit in improving it.

Desmond Hughes has been an owner and operator of his law firm in Thailand for 12 years, and is a Senior Partner at Hughes Krupica law firm www.hugheskrupica.com

Companies team up, diversify to survive in property market

FINDING a strategic partner, entering into a joint venture and diversifying into new businesses have since last year been the keys to survival for both listed and non-listed property firms facing stiff competition from the largest players as well as high costs, according to a survey by *The Nation*.

Some owners have also decided to sell their stakes, as they believe that this is the best way to drive growth sustainably by bringing in new shareholders and management teams.

Since last year, Sansiri formed nine joint ventures with BTS Group to develop nine condominium projects worth more than 50 billion baht.

"This is how to synergize our strong points to develop residences when the market faces high competition. We



Property companies are teaming up to stay in the game. Photo: Lucas

have the experience to develop premium condominiums, while BTS Group also owns more land close to the mass transit system," said Srettha Thavisin, president of Sansiri.

Branching out into new businesses, especially those that generate recurring income, is another strategy adopted by property firms.

"We decided to expand to hotels, retailing and solar roofs because we want recurring in-

come. The property market has dropped. Our target is for 10-20 per cent of revenue to come from recurring income in three to five years," said Kessara Thanya-lakpark, director of Sena Development.

The market is confronting competition from leading local and foreign firms. This has pushed small and medium firms to differentiate themselves from their rivals.

— *The Nation*

Ladies WHO LUNCH
FROM 11AM TILL 5 PM

OPEN FOR LUNCH FROM MONDAY TO FRIDAY

f NIKKIBeachPHUKET | @NIKKIBeachPKT | NIKKIBeachPHUKET

TEL: +66(0)76-681-161 | RESERVATIONS: PHUKET@NIKKIBeach.COM | WWW.NIKKIBeach.COM

PROPERTY FOR SALE

CONDO FOR SALE



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

Pls contact 086-4769612 | annanoi1@hotmail.com

BEST VIEW AND AREA IN PATONG

Condo for sale: Enviroment is very quiet, lovely houses, no traffic, cul-de-sac and a lots of green, enjoy walking, 5 minutes drive to central Patong, 73sqm, 4 years built. So far noone has been lived this condo. All new interior. Very low management fee, just 8.5 million baht. Freehold. Tel: 081-107 4036. Email: phuket0007@gmail.com See more photos and info on our website at <http://phuket0007.wix.com/sale-property-phuket>

URGENT FOR SALE



Kata beach center in small suite hotel. 2 apartments each 60sqm, included furniture. Reduced from 3.7 million baht. **NOW 3 MILLION BAHT EACH.** One BIG two-bedroom apartment, 140 sqm, included furniture. Reduced from 8.5 million baht. Now 7.5 million baht. **FOR BARGAIN HUNTERS,** buy the 3 apartments together and we negotiate a special deal! Call Thiery. Tel: 081-618 7295. Email: tvanhole@yahoo.com

LUXURY VILLA SALE

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

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 kit-chen, decor, garden, car park, 2 aircons. Available from May 2015. Tel: 089-874 0061, 086-291 4115. Email: stephenfein@gmail.com

THE PERFECT PLOT

The perfect plot for a pool villa with garden. Safe & quiet area. Away from traffic jams but close to Thanya pura, Mission Hills, Blue Canyon, Airport, Tesco Lotus, Makro & Home Pro. Chanote title 590sqm. Wall and drainage installed, ready to build. 2.5 million baht. Tel: 081-891 3051 (English & Thai). Email: jerdek56-asia@yahoo.com

REAL SEAVIEW LAND

Yamu hills, 0.967 rai, 5.5 million baht, freehold, Chanote. Tel: 084-625 5090. Email: yamu.hills.sunrise@gmail.com

PATONG BEST VALUE FOR BAHTS

Stunning property in Patong. Great for private usage and gold for investment! 15% ROI possible. Extreme Interest! Offered at bargain price for 66.667 baht a square meter. Chanote land and foreign freehold stones / building. 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Private pool. Top location in the best area of Patong city. Baan Suan Kam Nan at the south side of Patong bay. Close to the Amari Hotel. Finance available for serious buyer. Call Edwin. Tel: 086-786 6350 (English & Thai). Email: Edwinvan demosselaar@hotmail.com Detailed website online. www.bahtsold.com/view/patong-blue-point-best-value-for-bahts-216506

GUESTHOUSE SALE KHAO LAK

Guesthouse at Khao Lak Center for sale. 14 rooms, fully equipped. 3 storeys. 10 x 30m ground floor, can make restaurant and bar. Close to highway road, opposite Khao Lak Laguna Resort. Near Beach. Tel: 076-485118, 081-894 1030 (English & Thai). Email: prasert3112@hotmail.com

PATONG SEAVIEW WITH POOL

Single house, fully furnished. Beautiful Patong sea view with swimming pool, 3 / 4 rooms. Tel: 086-271 5959. Email: web.poisson@gmail.com

5-BED VILLA IN BOAT LAGOON

Beautiful 5-bedroom villa plus maids' quarters in top condition with a total area of approximately 1,200sqm. Waterfront and an indoor area of approximately 550 sqm. The house is fully furnished and has high-quality equipment. Perfect for families with kids. Must see condition. Asking price only 28 million baht. Tel: 081-891 6143 (English & Thai), 081-956 5576. Email: norbertfun@hotmail.com

MA KHAM BAY SEA VIEW LAND



16.2.33 rai. Chanote title. Ma Kham Bay. For sale: 6.5 million baht / rai. Tel: 090-161 6669. Email: airqueen69@gmail.com

KATA BEACH HOUSE

Sale. Great location, spa, 7 bedrooms. Make an offer. Tel: 086-595 8512. Email: nalumana2000@yahoo.com

2-STOREY SINGLE HOUSE FOR SALE



Burasiri Village. Koh Kaew. Next to BIS. 3 bedrooms (master bed- room 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 month-ly, 520,000 baht yearly.

Tel: 089-840 5290 (Thai), 094-579 5666 (Thai / Eng.)

QUICK SALE HOUSE

2 bedrooms. Near Laguna. Fully furnished. Only 2.2 million baht. Tel: 093-713 2278.

GENERAL CLASSIFIEDS

BUSSINESS PRODUCTS & SERVICES

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT

Enzo ESEMPI International Co., Ltd is seeking a Thai supplier to make monthly export purchases of peanuts, pistachios and candied fruit. Contact Krystyna. Tel: 094-587 5262. Email: krystyna@enzoesempi.com

CLUB MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE

LAGUNA PHUKET GOLF CLUB

Individual membership valid till 12/2024. Price: 260,000 baht, transfer fee included. Tel: 081-891 2006. Email: secretary.rv@gmail.com

BULLETINS

Alcoholics Anonymous

If you want to drink that is your business

If you want to stop that is ours

Daily Meetings

Patong, Phuket Town, Chalong, Surin, Karon

081-895 4763
084-307 7408

Email: phuketaa@yahoo.com

Google AA Phuket

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

RESTAURANT IN CHALONG FOR SALE

Chalong. Good location. Fully furnished. Wood-fire pizza. New 3 + 3 year lease. Cheap rent. Tel: 084-845 4743.

NOTICE

NOTICE FROM FREDRIK CARLSSON

This is a public apology from our good office to Khun Jill. We sincerely apologize for the miscommunication that occurred. We would like to clear her name, and say that she was never involved in any misdemeanor regarding advertising. In fact, she was professional enough to deal with her clients. We hope this clears things up with all parties involved. Thank you and sorry for any inconvenience. Email: fredrikyoung@gmail.com

PROPERTY FOR RENT

COZY HOUSE
NEAR NAI HARN

Near Nai Harn. A high-grade built house. Furnished and conveniently located minutes from Rawai and Nai Harn beaches. 2 spacious bedrooms with en-suite bathrooms. 1 guest toilet. Aircons. Large living-dining room. Telephone line with ADSL. Free water supply and garbage removal service. 22,000 baht/month. Contact Nui. Tel: 087-383 0936. Email: hunt17@hotmail.com

2-BED CONDO
BEACH 3-MIN WALK

180sqm, 2 large pools, gym. Walk to 2 beaches/town in 3 minutes. Email: resortgm@gmail.com

SHOP HOUSE
FOR RENT

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

HOLIDAY HOMES
& VILLA RENTALS1-BED SEAVIEW @
COCONUT ISLAND

Large terrace, 50sqm split level studio, fully furnished, aircon, 330sqm garden, 100m to beach. Long-term rent: 18,500 baht a month. Tel: 089-873 6533. Email: phuketinterpreter@gmail.com

THAI VILLA POOL
NAI HARN

2-bedroom villa in Soi Naya, 37,500 baht/month. Long term. Tel: 083-396 4007. Email: mervyn.crocker@yahoo.com, http://sites.google.com/site/mervyn.crocker/home

NEW POOL VILLA
RENT

Apartment, 3 bedrooms, ensuite bathroom. Located at Layan. Contact Daniel. Tel: 081-787 4383.

CHALONG AREA HOUSE

1-3 bedrooms. Quiet area. Fully furnished. Tel: 081-892 4311. Or visit our website at http://palai.green.weebly.com

BOUTIQUE ROOM
FOR RENT

Fully furnished, WiFi, Mae Luan Road. For more information, please call 089-668 3639 (English & Thai). Email: zhunau.mann@gmail.com, http://BoutiqueRoomPhuket.com

ACCOMMODATION
AVAILABLE

PATONG LUXURY APT.

Paradise Hotel Complex. 150m to beach, large 1 bedroom, kitchen, light, airy. Tel: 086-276 7608.

HOTEL FOR LEASE

24-room Hotel for long-term lease, big swimming pool, bar, restaurant, kitchen, pool table, located on 1 rai of land, main road in Patong. Price: 4 million baht. Tel: 081-893 7720. Contact email for information include your phone number in the email. Email: cc@bayshoreprojects.com

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

HOUSE
BOAT LAGOON

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

RECRUITMENT

RECEPTIONIST KATA

Small hotel in Kata seeks Thai female receptionist. No experience needed. Good salary and 2 days off per week. Call Noi. Tel: 089-875 7139 (English & Thai).

SALES MANAGER

Developer based in the north is now seeking a sales manager. The ideal candidate is 35-45, with perfect written and spoken English and five years' experience in property market. Tel: 086-004 3008 (English). Email: angius@villasuksan.com

NATIVE ENGLISH
TEACHERS

Chalong Phuket International School has openings for 2 experienced teachers to start August 17, 2015. Monday - Friday, 10 - 15 children, ages 2 - 7 years old. Work permit available. Send resume and Thai telephone number. Mandatory interview in Chalong. For more information, please call 076-384 638, 080-624 7060 (English), 087-278 5511 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-384639. Send your CV to buds.span@yahoo.com

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 information, please call 098-671 8466 (English) or send email to marina@juslaws.com Please visit our website at www.sednasystem.com

EVENTS MANAGER
NEEDED

We are looking for a full-time event manager. Located at Kathu. Must have experience in recruiting sponsorship. Must speak, read and write English perfectly. Must have minimum two years experience, be proficient in microsoft office: outlook, word, excel. Be extremely proficient in social media: facebook, twitter, google+, website manager. 3-month trial period. After 3 months, contract for additional one year. Salary is negotiable on experience. For more information, please call 081-797 4100. Email: charlie@asia-pacific-superyachts.com

**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.

12,000 BAHT
A MONTH

2 bedrooms, fully furnished, on 0.5 rai, in a nice area. Close to PIA, golf and beach. For more information, please call 081-125 1873, 081-892 4804 (Thai / English).

BRAND NEW ROOMS
TO RENT

New fully furnished apartments for rent with bedding, aircon, fridge, internet, TV and WiFi. For more information, please call 081-278 5968, 089-874 0851 (English & Thai), 081-833 4325 (English). Fax: 076-283073. Email: savcom@ksc.th.com

LUXURY POOL VILLA
FOR RENT

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

Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

CLASSIFIEDS ADMINISTRATION 2 POSITIONS

Qualified candidates will be:

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

and should have:

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

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV to
Diao@PhuketGazette.Net

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

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

GENERAL AVIATION

1999 ROBIN 2160i

Selling Robin aircraft or trade it for a 4-seat Cessna or Piper (based in Hua Hin). The Robin: TT AF 300hrs. SMOH 60hrs. Well-equipped, two-seat aerobatic aircraft. Has the Christen inverted oil system. King KMA24 audio panel, KX155 nav/com, KI203 vor, KY197A comm, KN64A dme, KR87 adf, KT76A transponder, CS PA400 i-com, FP5 fuel computer, CHT, OAT, Pitot heat. 4 million baht. Email: thos_w@hotmail.com

AIRPLAY ALTIS MICROLIGHT

Superb trike with Konig radial engine. Great economical fun. Little use. For more information, please call 089-111 6457, 081-397 7598. Email: kajoda1954@yahoo.co.uk

YOUR HELICOPTER

Flying and owning your own helicopter has just become possible. Free complete flight instruction course with your purchase. For more details, please send email to pat@aeropromgr.com

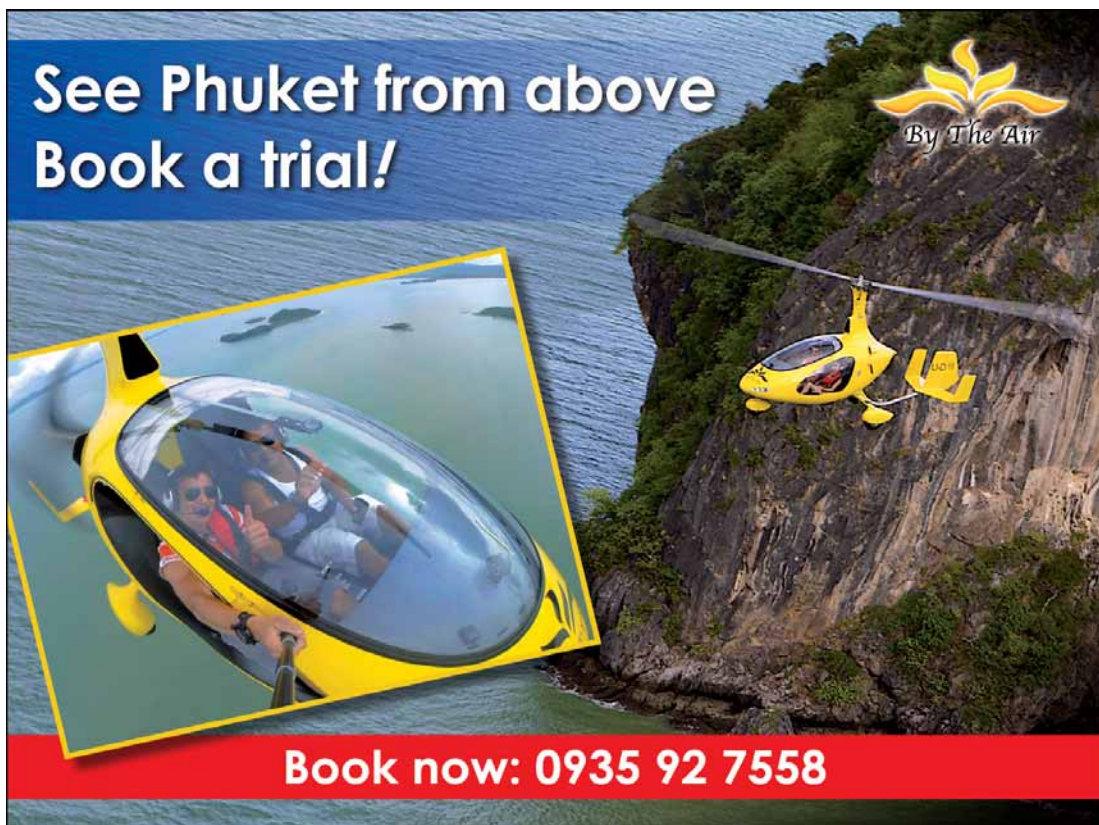
TECNAM P-92

- Price: 1.5 million baht
- Registration: U-B08
- Year of Manufacture: 2002
- Equipment: Full standard equipment
- Engine: Rotax 912-80hp 350hrs. Tel: 081-840 8418.

HAVE A PASSION FOR AVIATION?

If you have an aircraft for sale or an interest in aviation and wish to learn how to fly or buy an aircraft or arrange a private flight, etc. Please see our website at www.aeropromgr.com/newsletter

**See Phuket from above
Book a trial!**



Book now: 0935 92 7558

Unique development - 124 Rai

If you would like to:

- Learn to fly
- Buy or hanger a plane, or
- Build or rent a hangar



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

**Обучение и полеты вокруг Пхукета:
+66 94 386 2294, по-русски.**



WHEELS & MOTORS

**PASSION WINS
BY MILLENNIUM AUTO**

Contact: Warut Thongtem Mobile: 089-873 3340 Line ID: torwarut Millennium Auto Phuket

MAZDA 121

Manual 1992 model. Aircon. Good condition. 150,000km. For 100,000 baht. Tel: 085-378 0498.

3 CARS FOR SALE

Jazz 2005, auto, tax February 2016, insurance September. Toyota Soluna 2001, automatic. Toyota Vios 2009, manual, tax/insurance September. Prices: 185,000 baht, 95,000 baht, 265,000 baht. Tel: 089-831 4703 (English), 084-304 6723 (English & Thai). Email: colinminett@yahoo.co.uk

**2007 HONDA CRV
2.4 4WD**

One owner. Only 63,000km. For sale: 535,000 baht. For more information, please call 089-970 8281.

RENTALS

**CAR RENT 11,000
BAHT / MONTH**

Short or long-term rent with first-class insurance. Delivery service. For more information, please call 081-607 8567. Email: suksavat@hotmail.com

**EVEREST 4WD
QUICK SALE**

10+ years but looks and drives great. Motor also great. Manual. 450,000 baht. Offers over 400,000 baht considered for fast sale. Tel: 081-892 6710 (English), 081-895 7908 (English & Thai). Email: peterh@asianwind.biz

CARS FOR RENT

Short or long-term rent with first-class insurance. Delivery service. For more information, please call 086-690 0626. Email: bcarrent@hotmail.com

**TOYOTA HILUX
FOR SALE**

Toyota Hilux Vigo Prerunner Champ. 650,000 baht. 3.0 G VN-Turbo. Manual transmission. 2-wheel drive (rear wheels). 4-door pickup. Registered: 2013. 37,xxxkm. Tel: 090-072 8034 (English), 090-072 8035 (English). Email: lilmisschatterbox@msn.com

2010 RANGER DIESEL

4WD. Auto. Loaded. Runs. Drives. Looks great. New service. Very reliable. Sale: 380,000 baht. Tel: 083-645 3546.

Deadline for all other ads: Saturday 12 noon.

PROFILE

Foundation of education

By Lauren Wafer-Kiddle

STANDING alongside eager students, the Chief Executive of Phuket International Academy (PIA) has started demonstrating how to build a bamboo shelter. As he knots the rope around two bamboo sticks, Julian Whiteley explains to the children how the hut will provide protection from the elements.

His 30-minute lesson on basic survival skills cannot be taught properly in a classroom. It is an outdoor skill – something that can help children develop both mentally and physically.

The former Head and CEO of the United World College of South East Asia (UWCSEA), Singapore, moved to Phuket last October with a vision of developing education in Thailand and helping PIA work toward becoming a member of the prestigious United World College movement. It would be the first of its kind in Thailand.

“Outdoor education is going to play an increasing part in the program we offer,” Julian says. “From the point of view of any prospective employer, they want people who can think critically, analyze situations, solve problems and generate creative solutions which they can then communicate by a variety of means to others. They also want people who have the ability to nurture, develop and sustain relationships.”

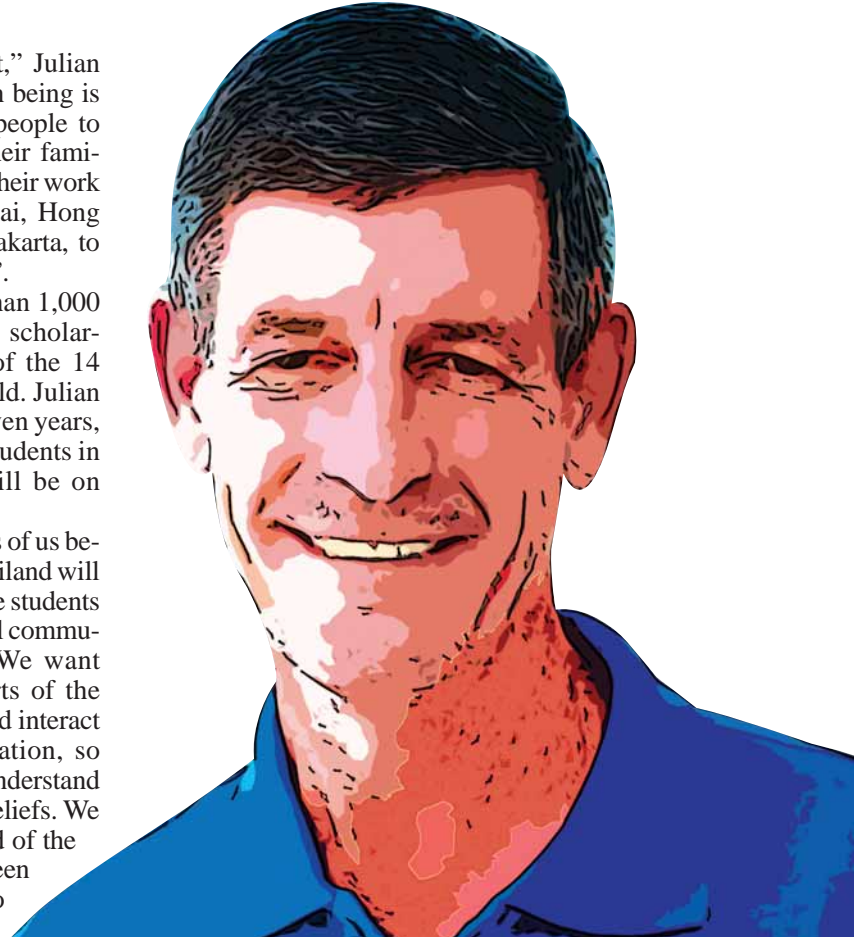
Julian has an extensive background in the education world. He has worked in a variety of schools in Europe, South America and Asia. He served on the Board of the East Asia Regional Council of Schools, and was a member of the International Baccalaureate Heads Council and the United World Colleges Council.

“The reputation and standing of UWC is such that to become a member of UWC would be a reflection upon the quality of the school and our ambitions, but also a tremen-

dous asset for Phuket,” Julian explains. “The reason being is that it would attract people to come and establish their families in Phuket, even if their work was based in Shanghai, Hong Kong, Singapore or Jakarta, to name but a few cities”.

Each year, more than 1,000 students are awarded scholarships to attend one of the 14 UWCs across the world. Julian hopes that in six to seven years, 40 per cent of PIA’s students in the senior classes will be on scholarships.

“One of the focuses of us becoming a UWC in Thailand will be very much about the students engaging with the local community,” says Julian. “We want students from all parts of the world to come here and interact with the local population, so they learn about and understand the Thai culture and beliefs. We want them to be proud of the fact that they have been part of Thailand and go out as ambassadors for the country.”



Chief Executive of Phuket International Academy (PIA) Julian Whiteley



สมาคมบริษัทหลักทรัพย์ไทย
ASSOCIATION OF THAI SECURITIES COMPANIES

You are cordially invited to

“Phuket Investor Forum”

Meet Top Notch Researchers and Investment Strategists in Thailand

5 July 2015 (Sunday) 13.00 – 17.00 Phuket Ballroom, Royal Phuket City Hotel

Room 1 Thai Session

13.00 – 15.00

“2H15 Reshuffle”

15.00 – 17.00

“Stock picks for next economic phase”

Room 2 Thai Session

13.00 – 14.20

“5 Steps to Start Investing”

14.20 – 15.40

“Low cost-High profit with Stock Futures Block Trade”

15.40 – 17.00

“How to Profit from Technical Analysis”

Room 3 English Session

13.00 – 15.00

“Introduction to Thai Financial Products”

15.00 – 17.00

Investment Outlook 2015

To register, please contact:

Kasikorn Securities
K.San
Tel: 076-373-509
Email: San.Su@Kasikornsecurities.com

Bualuang Securities
K.Supatchai
Tel: 076-355-171
Email: supatchai@bualuang.co.th

Country Group Securities
K.Thrinn
Tel: 076-232-482-90
Email: thrinn.pa@countrygroup.co.th

Finasia Syrus Securities
K.Maneerat
Tel: 076-210-499
Email: Maneerat.p@fnysyrus.com

KT ZMICO Securities
K.Koraticha
Tel: 076-222-811
Email: Koratichaw@ktzmico.com

Maybank Kim Eng Securities
K.Thaveechai
Tel: 076-355-730 – 6
Email: Thaveechai.H@maybank-ke.co.th

Thanachart Securities
K.Thitima
Tel: 076-220-339
Email: Thitima.dil@thanachart.co.th

Association of Thai Securities Companies
K.Witsakan
Tel: 02-264-0909 #151
Email: witsakan@asco.or.th

Capital Nomura Securities
K.Kornkeaw
Tel: 076-214-422
Email: Kornkeaw.Piti@th.nomura.com

Organized by



Sponsored by

