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# Phuket Gazette

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## Beach guards 'will be back'

By Janpen Upatising

PHUKET lifeguards will soon be back on the beaches in greater numbers and with more new life-saving equipment, Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (OrBorJor) president Paiboon Upatising has confirmed to the Gazette.

The news follows the February 26 expiration of the contract for the Phuket Lifeguard Club (PLC) to guard the beaches, leaving no organization officially responsible for saving swimmers.

"According to government regulations, we had to give all other interested parties the opportunity to bid for the new contract, but PLC was the only tender. We will contact them to renew the contract with us soon," Mr Paiboon said on Wednesday.

The contract will be for one year, starting mid-March, and with more lifeguards and more money for buying more lifesaving equipment, he said.

Meanwhile, volunteer lifeguards are patrolling the beaches when they can, said PLC president Prathaiyuth Chuayuan.

"About 30 members and volunteers are helping to guard some beaches, such as Nai Yang, Nai Thon, Nai Harn and Surin, during the weekends, when those beaches are busy with tourists.

"Some of our volunteers still stand guard on weekdays too, but that depends on their availability. If they have free time, they will go and help," he said.

Although surf at this time of year is usually safe to swim, Mr Prathaiyuth urged beachgoers to be vigilant.

"The volunteers may not be on duty all day, so swimmers themselves should check whether it is safe to swim. They can also ask beach vendors and hotel operators for advice," he said.

Last year, PLC's 83 lifeguards patrolled 13 beaches, where they conducted or assisted in about 1,000 rescues, said Mr Paiboon.

Yet, Mr Prathaiyuth is looking to improve on that. He called for ropes and floating devices be deployed to identify safe swimming areas. "These can prevent swimmers and jet-skis from being in the same areas, making it easier for us to protect tourists," he said.

He also called for more effort by the government and local hoteliers in warning Russian tourists of the surf, as they were the one segment lifeguards had particular trouble communicating with.



One of Phuket's much-needed lifeguards at Nai Harn Beach. Photo: Jim Welch

## 'Raging bull' jumbo retired to camp

By Stephen Fein

THE male elephant that went berserk and killed a Phuket tourist at Khao Sok National Park last week has been released into a wild-life sanctuary and will no longer be used in the tourism industry, the Gazette has learned.

One of the survivors, Helen Gothe of Australia, said she was told by the general manager of Siam Safari that the animal had been sent to a sanctuary after it attacked the elephant she was riding.

The pachyderm later stomped to death a Swiss woman in her 60s who had the misfortune of being put on its back.

The most badly injured of the survivors was 45-year-old Christine Colomb, who described the deceased woman as "her closest friend".

Mrs Gothe and her husband Sean, who sustained only minor injuries, returned home

to Australia on Tuesday.

Mrs Gothe, who suffered a broken rib and other injuries, told the Gazette on Wednesday that she visited Mrs Colomb at the hospital on Sunday.

The Swiss woman had been released from the ICU at Bangkok Hospital Phuket, where she was treated for injuries including 12 broken ribs and a punctured lung.

The injuries were sustained when numerous branches struck her torso as the elephant tore through the jungle at full speed.

Mrs Colomb was due to be released on



Thai bull elephant

Monday or Tuesday, but is expected to spend a few weeks at her resort before she will be able to fly home, she said.

"We'd like to thank Siam Safari for all their help in smoothing things out," Mrs Gothe said.

"The general manager in particular was really great. All of the staff at the hospital were fantastic and all the people at our resort, the Baan Lamai in Patong, were great as well," she said.

"The people at Siam Safari told us the elephant was moved to a sanctuary, and all the other elephants were checked by vets and all healthy, apart from our elephant that sustained some cuts, but she was doing really well..."

"She's eating and functioning normally, so that was fantastic to hear."

Mrs Gothe said she and her husband were planning a return trip to Thailand later this year.

Photo by James Christie

## Aldhouse extradition 'may take years'

THE City of Westminster Magistrates' Court in London has told the Gazette that the extradition hearing of Brit Lee Aldhouse "can take months or years".

Aldhouse remains wanted in Thailand for the stabbing murder of American Dashawn Longfellow in Rawai in August last year.

However, court official Russell Sykes said the former kickboxer remains remanded in custody to Wandsworth Prison until March 28, when he is to once again appear in the City of Westminster Magistrates' Court. The hearing at 10am is marked "for review", Mr Sykes said.

Aldhouse previously appeared in the same court on February 1 and March 1. "Extraditions can take months or years, [it] depends on the legal argument," Mr Sykes said.

- Nicholas Altstadt

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# Splashdown: Artificial reef sunk at Bang Tao

By Janpen Upatising

A TOTAL of 1,630 concrete cubic frames were sunk in Bang Tao and Kamala Bays this week as the ongoing artificial reef project continued.

The current installment, costing 7.9 million baht, was funded by the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (*OrBorJor*) and the frames deployed by the Phuket Marine and Coastal Resources Conservation Office (MCRC).

"There are 20 sites in Bang Tao and Kamala Bays, all about three kilometers offshore," said MCRC Director Pitul Panchaiyaphum.

"The sites are not more than 20 meters underwater to ensure divers have good visibility," he explained.

The artificial reefs are expected to attract fish and other sea creatures within about one month. Coral formation should begin to form after about three years, he said.

In addition to becoming attractions for divers, the reefs will be a boon for local fishermen.

Artificial reefs established years ago are now havens for growing



The 1,630 cubes, weighing a ton each, were placed in clusters of 80 to 100.

numbers of fish, providing local fisherman in some areas with record catches, Mr Pitul said.

The concrete frames are also expected to deter illegal fishermen from entering the areas.

Measuring 1.5 meters along each side and weighing about one ton apiece, it is hoped the cubes snag large nets used by illegal trawlers.

The frames are being placed in clusters of 80 to 100 cubes, with each cluster 500 meters to a kilo-

meter apart. "If they were placed separately, they would not be very effective in stopping vessels from illegally fishing in the area," said Director Pitul.

"We chose Bang Tao and Kamala bays because these areas are critical. There has been much illegal fishing in these waters," he added.

The next bays to benefit from the ongoing project will be Kata, Karon and Nai Harn, said Director Pitul.

## Tourist dies in jet-ski accident

RESCUE workers last weekend recovered the body of a young man who died in an apparent jet-ski accident off Phuket.

Lt Col Jessada Saengsuree identified the victim as 20-year-old Pakpien Nunnoi, a native of Si Sa Ket Province.

Mr Pakpien was on an extended family holiday, staying with his elder sister on Koh Rang, off the east coast of Phuket.

Sien Pakpien, the victim's father, said his son borrowed his sister's jet-ski and quickly developed a great enthusiasm for riding it offshore and around the small island.

His family became worried when he failed to return after several hours last Sunday.

Setting out to look for him around 4pm, they found the dam-



Rescue workers ready to take Mr Pakpien's body to hospital.

Photo: Yodsak Jarana

aged jet-ski about 100 meters offshore – but there was no sign of Mr Pakpien.

A two-day search that included divers failed to find the body. It

was finally spotted by a local fisherman on Tuesday near a rocky bluff locally known as Hode Hin.

Kusoldharm Foundation workers recovered the body and returned it to the main island at Laem Hin Pier, from where it was transferred to Vachira Phuket Hospital.

An examination of the body revealed Mr Pakpien suffered a severe head injury.

Police assume that he suffered an accident that caused his head to hit the jet-ski, which knocked him unconscious.

He then fell into the water and likely drowned, said police.

The family have accepted his death as an accident and will not pursue any criminal charges in relation to his death, police said.

– Yodsak Jarana

## Phuket is 'safe': Poll

PHUKET is a safe place to visit or live, say a majority of respondents in a recent *Gazette* poll.

The poll asked: "All things considered, do you think Phuket is a safe place to visit and live?"

Overall, just under 63% answered that Phuket is "very safe" or "fairly safe", compared to about 37% who responded that it was "not very safe" or "very unsafe".

The most common reply was "fairly safe", which was chosen by 46.3% overall.

Only 10.7% of the respondents overall thought Phuket was "very unsafe".

In a breakdown by demographic, those who identified

themselves as "tourists" or "visitors" were the most likely to view Phuket as a safe place to live or visit.

Seventy per cent of tourists answered that Phuket was "very safe" or "fairly safe" compared to just 30% who thought it was "not very safe" or "very unsafe".

A clear majority of local foreign residents (60%) and Thais (58%) also answered that Phuket is "fairly safe" or "very safe".

Thais were most likely to think Phuket was "very unsafe" (14%), followed by local foreign residents (12%) and tourists (7%).

A total of 835 readers voted in the two-week poll, which ran from February 10 to February 24.

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## Woman, 58, found lying unconscious, half-naked by roadside

By Atchaa Khamlo

A 58-year-old woman was found lying unconscious by a Phuket roadside last week. She was naked from the waist down with blood pouring from her head.

The woman, whose name was withheld, may have been raped, Thalang Police Lt Col Weerayut Sittirattanakul said.

At about 5am last Thursday, Thalang Police received a report of a woman lying unconscious near a parked motorbike on the side of Srisoonthorn Road, about 3km west of the Heroines' Monument.

Local residents said they had earlier heard an "accident" and came out to see what had happened, Lt Col Weerayut said.

"They saw one man lying unconscious on the side of the road. Another man, who [witnesses said] seemed to be drunk, was fighting with the woman. The witnesses then went back into their houses," he said.

"Later they found her lying unconscious and called the police."

Both men were more than 30 years old, witnesses said.

The woman had a deep wound to her right eyebrow and bruising between her chest and stomach.

"It's not clear whether she sustained these wounds in an accident or if someone hit her with a blunt object," Lt Col Weerayut said.

Police will await a doctor's report to see if the victim had also been raped, he added.

The woman may have had an accident with another motorbike and then got into a fight or was robbed, Lt Col Weerayut said.

The woman lived in nearby Bang Jo and went to the Tha Reua Market via Srisoonthorn Road every day, Lt Col Weerayut said.

# Fanelli on the inside

By Stephen Fein

MURDER suspect Ronald Fanelli has yet to enter a plea with Phuket Provincial Court and the American says his detention at Phuket Provincial Prison is making him physically ill.

Speaking through a telephone in the visitors' center on Tuesday, Mr Fanelli said a court appearance scheduled for last Thursday had to be postponed after "a timing mix-up" resulted in his lawyer being unable to appear.

Mr Fanelli has been charged with the murder of bar hostess Wanphen Pienjai, a 37-year-old mother of two who disappeared from the Sweethearts Bar in Kata on June 18 last year.

Her decaying body was found six days later stuffed into a suitcase dumped in a remote area off Chaofa Thani Road in Wichit.

Following a one-month manhunt, Mr Fanelli was arrested and confessed to killing Ms Wanphen, but said "it was a terrible, terrible accident. I never intended to harm that person".

His lawyer was to enter his initial plea in the case on Thursday, he said.



Ronald Fanelli. Photo: Atchaa Khamlo

**'We sleep asses to elbows here'**

Fanelli describes how he was suffering from 'the stress of having to watch out for my own physical safety as well as that of my friends who are weaker than me'.

Gaunt and appearing somewhat apprehensive, Mr Fanelli was disinclined to discuss the charges or how he would plea.

His lawyer would speak for him at his next court appearance, which is scheduled for later this month, he said.

He confirmed having spent three months in treatment at Suan Saranrom Hospital in Surat Thani, which specializes in the treatment of psychiatric conditions.

However, he denied that the treatment came at his own request, as was previously reported.

The court system and prison officials now have complete con-

trol over him and his own desires count for nothing, he said.

He described the facilities at Suan Saranrom as "spartan" but said the staff there were "outstanding".

Mr Fanelli also spent some time at Surat Thani Provincial Prison, which he said was less crowded than Phuket Prison.

Doctors have prescribed him Depakene, which is used to control mood swings and in the treatment of psychiatric conditions including bipolar disorder and depression, as well as epilepsy.

He was also prescribed Valium to help him sleep and ibuprofen

for migraine headaches, he said.

However, all of his medication has run out and he continues to suffer from "the stress of having to watch out for my own physical safety as well as that of my friends who are weaker than me".

Inmates at the prison are supposed to have access to doctors once a month, he said.

Asked about *ya bah* (methamphetamine) inside the prison, as recently reported, he said he hadn't seen any evidence of it. "But I don't seek it out either."

As a US Naval officer for 13 years, it would have been impossible for him to do his job on drugs and he had no history of recreational drug use, he said.

The overcrowding at the prison has led to a lack of cleanliness that has given him scabies and other infections he said, holding up his arms to show his sores.

"We sleep asses to elbows here," he said, adding that some inmates appeared to be suffering from active tuberculosis.

His Thai wife continues to visit him regularly despite the traveling involved. He also saw his son, now 18 months old, when he was in Surat Thani, he added.

## Hospital chief calls for donations for new ward

THE director of Vachira Phuket Hospital has appealed to the public for donations in order to complete a new ward at the hospital, the largest government medical facility on the island.

Health Minister Jurin Laksanawisit will chair the foundation stone laying ceremony on March 11, yet funds are still needed to complete the new building.

"Since 2006, the hospital has received 80 million baht in donations and Bt20mn from the government - but we still need Bt42mn baht to complete the construction," Hospital Director Dr

Jessada Chungpaibulpatana told the *Gazette*.

The five-storey building will have 68 patient rooms and two basement parking levels with space for 126 cars.

All the rooms will be general inpatient recovery rooms. The ward has not been dedicated to any specialist field of medicine.

Construction is scheduled to take 1,000 days to complete.

The building has been named *Luang Phor Chaem 100 Pi Vachira Phuket*, to commemorate the hospital's 100th anniversary in 2006, explained Dr Jessada.



The new ward will house 68 private rooms and two parking levels.

"Anyone who wants to support the construction, please call 076-361 234 ext 1101 or come directly to Vachira Phuket Hospital," he added.

While in Phuket on March 11, Health Minister Jurin will also officially open the Vachira Phuket Hospital 2 outpatient clinic across town at the Yee Teng complex.

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# UK envoy puts safety on the agenda

By Janpen Upatising

UK AMBASSADOR to Thailand Asif Ahmad met Phuket Governor Tri Augkaradacha on Tuesday to discuss a slew of issues affecting British residents and tourists, with the aim of working together with local authorities to boost safety on the island.

"We have 850,000 British tourists who visit Thailand every year. I'll say up to half come to Phuket... The majority of British residents and tourists here have nothing other than a good time – only a few have problems," said the ambassador.

"The biggest challenge for us is to educate and advise our own citizens: Do not do in Thailand what you would not do at home. Nobody in the UK would go on a motorcycle without a helmet... They'd be arrested in five minutes.

"It's a serious issue – we lose many people here from motorcycle injuries – and there are an alarming number of injuries. That's something we want to work on," he added.

"We want to come back to Phuket before June to run a campaign to explain to tourists about

basic safety, including not going swimming in the monsoon season," Amb Ahmad said.

The ambassador also raised the issue of how reports of sex attacks, regardless of victims' gender or nationality, were handled by police.

"I have been discussing this today, especially crimes and sex offenses against women. If they are attacked, no matter whether they are Thai, Russian or British – the issue is the same.

"Police should be trained to deal with the situation sympathetically – and women officers, not male officers, should be handling the investigation," he said.

"I want to bring some British expertise in these areas, and counseling on prosecution. That's one good example of something we can co-operate with Thailand on," he added.

Phuket Provincial Police Commander Pekad Tantipong, who met Amb Ahmad earlier in the day, told the *Gazette*, "Ambassador Asif said he will help by talking to the Commissioner-General in Bangkok about the need for female police officers in Phuket.

"Right now there are no female investigation officers in Phuket. All



British Ambassador to Thailand Asif Ahmad (right) focused talks on boosting safety through mutual cooperation. Photo: Janpen Upatising

of them work at [Royal Thai Police] headquarters in Bangkok.

"If they transfer a few female officers to us, that would be great," he said.

Maj Gen Pekad said his office had formally requested female officers to be posted to Phuket, but had yet to receive a reply.

"Phuket police only have male officers to investigate these cases, and female foreign victims are not comfortable talking about this in front of male officers," he said.

Regarding threatening jet-ski operators and bogus insurance claims, Amb Ahmad said that he believed the issue was mixed.

"There are appropriate places for jet-skis. I am not sure a crowded beach is one of them. I believe some claims of damage being done to jet-skis are genuine, and that not all jet-ski operators are 'bad', but the bad ones do need to be dealt with," he said.

Gov Tri said, "We admit that problems exist and we are trying

hard to solve them."

He pointed out the recent breakthrough in having most tuk-tuks in Patong agreeing to set maximum fares, with public feedback to be collected after three months.

However, Amb Ahmad suggested that all tuk-tuks in Phuket be fitted with meters, like taxis in Bangkok.

"I think [the tuk-tuk situation] is not perfect, but it's getting better... [If meters were installed]. What the meter tells you is what you pay. That's the best way to deal with this situation," he said.

Amb Ahmad also had good news for British residents on the island: He confirmed that the British embassy in Bangkok was looking to return to Phuket in June or July with "surgeries" offering outreach consular services similar to those conducted by the US embassy.

He also praised the efforts of British Honorary Consul to Phuket Martin Carpenter, who "does a lot of invaluable 'front line' work for us very well," he said.

Mr Carpenter confirmed to the press there were "between 5,000 and 6,000" British nationals living on Phuket.

## Guide dies during sea kayak tour

A TOUR guide with well-known kayak tour operator John Gray's Sea Canoe drowned after apparently suffering a diabetic seizure during a tour of Koh Hong in Krabi.

Suriyan "Mee Mee" Rachapai, 25, a resident of Ao Por, apparently suffered the seizure after diving into the sea.

John Gray said Mr Suriyan was previously offered an office job after receiving treatment for diabetes.

However, he insisted on taking tourists on kayak tours because he loved his job so much.

Fellow crew members said he dived into the sea during a "swim break" and came up smiling.

He then dove under again and never resurfaced.

John Gray, who rushed to the scene by speedboat, said he ini-

tially suspected a box jellyfish may have been responsible.

There was no clear explanation for the disappearance of the experienced guide, who had been working for him for about three years and was very highly regarded by both guests and colleagues, he said.

Conditions at the time were perfect, with little or no current.

"It was as if God simply said, 'Now is your time'," he said, breaking into tears.

Mr Suriyan's body was recovered by Kusolharm Foundation divers and returned to Ao Por Pier.

John Gray said he was satisfied with the emergency response procedures of his crew, but was very disappointed that national park staff did not assist in the rescue effort.

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# Land grab sparks full investigation

By Janpen Upatising

A HANDFUL of shelters and houses quickly built on an undeveloped plot north of Phuket Town has sparked a full investigation by the Phuket Land Office into who owns the land.

The issue came to a flashpoint on February 22, when Pasinpon Sabtamrongkan arrived at the site to find about 40 local residents – and a hastily built fence – stopping him from accessing land registered as owned by his wife, Methinee Janpong.

“They told me the land belongs to them... It’s my land, I can enter whenever I want, but the people said I was not allowed in and threatened to hurt me,” he said.

Contention over the land, accessed by a dirt road about a kilometer south of the Bang Khu Intersection in Sapam, began two months ago.

“I came here and found people [literally] building houses and shelters on the land. I told them to leave, but they just kept on building,” Mr Pasinpon explained.

“I hired a man called ‘Nuad’ to stay in a house on our land and cut the grass and weeds. But people started encroaching onto our land after he left about six months ago,” he added.

After discovering three houses, some shelters and a brick wall had been built on his land – along with newly planted banana and coconut trees and wire fences marking off different areas – Mr Pasinpon formally requested the Land Office to investigate.

“Tanit Janpong, my father-in-law, bought the 24 rai from Suchart Khaisil, who was the

original owner in 1979,” Mr Pasinpon explained.

“The whole plot used to be empty and later [Suchart] subdivided it to sell smaller plots cheaply – from 20,000 to 40,000 baht each. Most of the buyers were government officers,” he added.

“My wife bought the remaining land from her father eight years ago,” he said, adding that each plot was about 80 to 90 wah, covering “four to five rai” in total.

Also outraged by the land grab was Lt Col Jaran Boonsoparb of Phuket City Police.

“Dr Prasong Sangkhachai, my father-in-law, owns our plot of 87 wah. He bought it from Tanit Janpong. The Chanote was issued in 1989,” he said.

“We may have to talk and negotiate with them first because they may not know, but this is a warning to let them know: If the buildings stay, I will pull them down myself,” he said.

Arriving at the site that morning was Nikom Ukati and a team of fellow surveyors from the Phuket Land Office.

“When we arrived, some people ‘opposed’ us measuring the land. But we explained the problem to them and they let us continue our work,” he said.

“I am here to measure the four plots of land [that Mr Pasinpon claims his wife owns] and to confirm the plot areas by identifying the boundary markers. In total, 25 plots are to be investigated,” he explained.

“At this time, I have yet see any Chanote titles presented by people who have built houses and shelters here.”

After returning to the site on



Land Officer Nikom Ukati fielding questions as he investigates the disputed plots of land. Photo: Janpen Upatising

Tuesday, Mr Nikom told the *Gazette* that none of the people who occupy the recently-built houses and shelters claimed to have Chanote titles for the land they were now living on.

Observing the commotion at the site was Worravit Uisakul.

“This is public land. Anyone can build here,” he told the *Gazette*.

Asked if he lived in the area or owned any of the houses in question, Mr Worravit said he was “just a friend of someone here” and that he was “just here to help”.

Yet Mr Nikom denied any of the land was state land.

“None of the land here is public land. From the evidence I have so far, the land is privately owned,” he said.

Despite documentary evidence already confirming the ownership of the 25 plots, his team would continue measuring each and every plot – as requested, he added.

Most likely his team will complete the investigation by the end of March, Mr Nikom said on Tuesday.

Adding to the mix of complaints, Jamroen Pin-amorn told the *Gazette*, “I own 13 rai here. I did not buy it from [former gar-

dening caretaker] Nuad, but I believe he sold land to other people.”

Mr Jamroen then showed the *Gazette* two very basic documents that he said proved he had full ownership rights to his land.

“This document was issued by Royal Forest Department in 1979,” Mr Jamroen said.

Mr Pasinpon expressed his good faith in Mr Nuad, but he also had some doubt.

“I do not believe he sold my land, but we need to find him and ask him whether he did or not.

“But I think it would be quite difficult to find him now,” he added.

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# HIV up among ladyboys

By Janpen Upatising

INCREASING sexual activity among the youngest members of Phuket's transgender community is leading to a worrying rise in HIV infection rates, public health officials say.

Dr Sak Tanchaikul, chief of Phuket Provincial Public Health Office (PPHO), said he was deeply concerned about HIV infection rates among "men who have sex with men", which his agency members refer to collectively as "MSM".

Already over nine per cent of people who fall into the MSM category in Phuket have contracted HIV, he said.

A provincial subcommittee tasked with stopping the spread of the disease will coordinate efforts with all related agencies and groups to ensure that infection rates do not go any higher, he said.

"MSM is one of the risk groups because they have many sex partners. The more partners they have, the greater the risk of them contracting HIV," he added.

Mrs Eam-orn Kittitornkul, chief of the PPHO's service develop-



Ladyboy contestants in the Miss Prang Chompoo beauty pageant held during the Rawai Sky Night festival in late December. Photo: Janpen Upatising

ment division, said research conducted by her agency found an increase in sexual activity among transgender people.

"The MSM group is having major problems. From our studies last year, we found that *kathoe*

['ladyboys'] are having more sexual partners than ever before. In the past they typically reported having had one or two partners. But in 2010 we found many aged from 15 to 19 have already had four or more partners," she said.

Schools had an important role to play in providing knowledge about HIV and teaching those in high-risk groups how to protect themselves, she said.

Phuket Rajabhat University has invited famous sex education instructor Dr Pansak Sukrarook to lecture students, Dr Sak said.

"I think it is useful. The youth will have more understanding and know how to protect themselves [from HIV]," he said.

Apart from educational institutions, local authorities such as tambon administration organizations (*OrBorTor*) also receive budgets to fund HIV/AIDS awareness programs, said Mrs Eam-orn.

"Having a field trip or educational tour at the year end may help solve the problem somewhat.

"I think it would be better for the local authorities to help us [PPHO] install condom vending machines or disseminate knowledge about the value of condom usage to local residents," she said.

A campaign to increase public awareness about the need for condom use is being planned for Phuket, Dr Sak said.

## Man dies in police custody

A MOTORCYCLE taxi driver was found dead in his cell at Patong Police Station early last Thursday morning.

Chalee Jampa-ngam, 53, was driving along Phra Barami Road around noon on Wednesday when he collided with a pedestrian and fell off his motorbike.

Mr Chalee received three stitches for a head wound at Patong Hospital, where staff asked him to stay overnight.

However, Mr Chalee instead reported himself to Patong Police Station, where he was charged with drunk driving resulting in injury to another person.

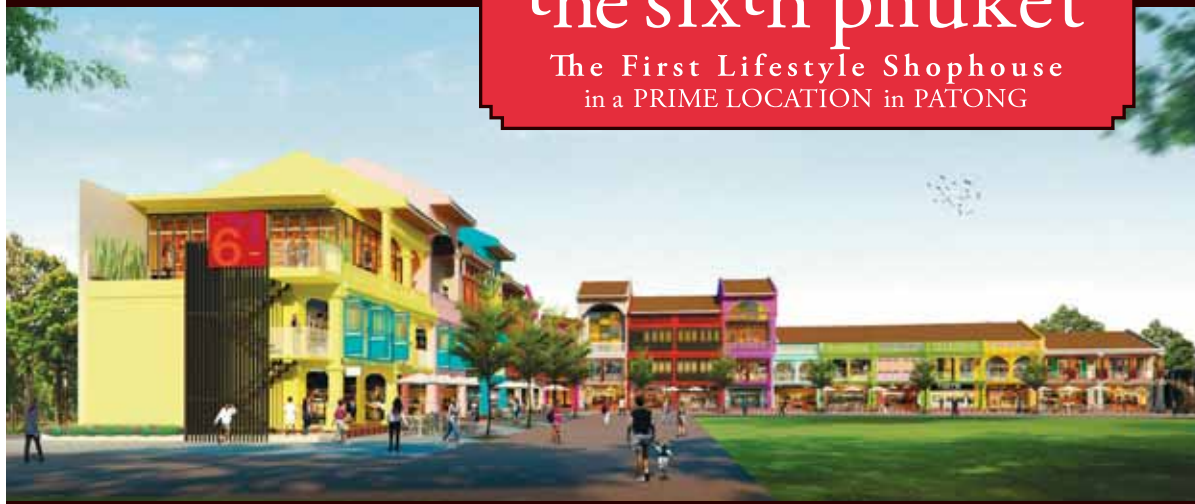
He was put in a holding cell, where he was discovered dead at about 8am the following morning.

Patong Police Superintendent Arayapan Pukbuakao said Mr Chalee's family have told police they do not want to pursue an investigation into his death, which they presume to be related to a pre-existing medical condition.

— *Atchaa Khamlo*

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Boris Gladkikh (left), first vice mayor of Nakhodka, with Vice Governor Nivit Aroonrat. Photo: Janpen Upatising

## Russians come in from the cold

THE first vice mayor of Nakhodka, Phuket's Russian "twin town", on Tuesday invited local officials to visit the far-eastern port city.

Mayor Boris Gladkikh extended the invitation to Phuket Vice Governor Nivit Aroonrat during a meeting at Phuket Provincial Hall to discuss building closer relations between the two cities.

Nakhodka, on the Sea of Japan near Vladivostok, has been Phuket's sister city since September 2006.

Mr Gladkikh hopes relations between Phuket and Nakhodka develop to a similar level as those of their other sister cities, which include Mizuru in Japan and Donghae, South Korea, he said.

"These cities are located closer to Nakhodka than Phuket so their delegations often visit our city and

ours visit them as well," Mr Gladkikh said.

"I want to invite Thai government representatives to visit Nakhodka. I vacation in Thailand two or three times a year and would enjoy hosting a delegation from Phuket," he added.

Vice Governor Nivit responded positively to the offer.

"We are delighted to accept your invitation. A Phuket delegation will visit Nakhodka soon," he said.

Mr Gladkikh's son, Grigory, lives in Phuket and works in the hotel industry.

"Nakhodka is a small city like Phuket, but we do not have an airport.

"However, I believe there will be a direct flight from Vladivostok to Phuket in the near future," he said.

— *Janpen Upatising*



# DSI changes story on Reuters man's death

INVESTIGATORS have reversed a finding that a Japanese cameraman who died during last year's red-shirt protests was killed by soldiers. There are claims the reversal came under pressure from the Army.

In an earlier report, the Department of Special Investigations (DSI) found that Reuters journalist Hiro Muramoto, 43, was shot by government troops during clashes with protesters on April 10.

A witness had claimed the high-velocity bullet that killed Mr Muramoto came from the direction of a group of soldiers.

But the DSI now claims Mr Muramoto was killed by an AK-47, a weapon not used by Thai troops.

"The forensic reports from a respected doctor found that an AK-47 caused the death of the Japanese cameraman.

"The Thai army does not use this kind of weapon," DSI chief Tharit Pengdit told AFP.

Former police forensic science chief Amporn Jarujinda, who is advising the DSI, claims photographs of Mr Muramoto's body showed he had sustained bullet wounds at least seven millimeters in diameter, consistent with an AK-47.

On Sunday, a local English-language newspaper reported claims that the army chief had visited Mr Tharit following the initial investigation to complain about the findings.

The BBC reported that a military officer was assigned to the DSI to "help" the investigation.

But Mr Tharit denied there had been any government interference. "There's no pressure," he told reporters. "I can confirm that we are doing our jobs as normal."

Since learning of the new findings, Reuters called the DSI for clarification.

"The apparent contradiction between the preliminary investigation and these reports makes full transparency about the process and the findings imperative," Stephen Adler, editor-in-chief of Reuters News, said in a statement.

- Phuket Gazette



Mr Muramoto at work in Banda Aceh in 2005. Photo: AFP

# PM admits he's a Brit

## AROUND THE nation

PRIME Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva has admitted he holds dual Thai-British nationality, though he insists he still considers himself a Thai.

Mr Abhisit, who was born in Newcastle-upon-Tyne to Thai parents in 1964, made the admission during a debate in parliament last Thursday.

"I admit I have not given up British nationality because it is understood legally that ... if the nationality laws are conflicting, Thai law must be used," he said, Associated Press (AP) reported.

"My intention is clear. I was born in England but I consider myself a Thai.

"I studied in England but I intended to return to work and live in Thailand, to work for the country's interest, and didn't think of anything else."

Mr Abhisit, who is known by the nickname "Mark", gained British citizenship automatically because he was born in England.

The admission came 24 days after international lawyer Robert Amsterdam first claimed Mr Abhisit was British.

Mr Amsterdam, who is retained by exiled former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra, has petitioned the International Criminal Court (ICC) to investigate Mr Abhisit on charges of crimes against humanity related to killings during the red shirt protests in Bangkok last year.

Although Thailand is not a sig-



PM Abhisit shows off a 'souvenir stamp' presented to him by Thailand Post. It is not known whether the British Royal Mail now has similar plans. Photo: The Nation

natory to the Rome Statute that established the treaty, Mr Amsterdam believes the prime minister can still be prosecuted at the ICC because of his British nationality.

"Thousands of Thai families have suffered losses and injury directly due to the policies of the Abhisit government, and it's high time that the prime minister come clean and start discussing the facts," Mr Amsterdam said in a statement.

In 2006, then senator Kraisaak Choonhavan called for Thailand to sign and ratify the Rome Statute

to allow the ICC to apply retrospective jurisdiction and investigate Mr Thaksin for crimes against humanity in connection

with thousands of alleged extrajudicial killings carried out in a "war on drugs" in 2003.

- Phuket Gazette

# Baby farm mothers going home

AT LEAST 14 Vietnamese women involved in an illegal surrogacy ring are to be sent home, according to the authorities.

The police will also take legal action against the Taiwanese company, Baby 101, accused of operating the service and holding some of the women against their will. The women were discovered in a raid on two houses in Bangkok last month.

Police have arrested several Taiwanese, Chinese and Burmese nationals for their part in the scheme.

Public Health Minister Jurin Laksanawisit said some of the women may have been raped.

Nine of the women said they voluntarily worked for the company, while others said they were tricked and held against their will after having their passports confiscated.

The company allegedly provided a surrogacy service for foreign couples. According to Thai law, it is illegal to act as a surrogate unless for a blood relative.

Despite the arrests, the company's website, www.baby-1001.com, continued to advertise services at the time of writing.

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## Slumdog paradise

As I travel around Patong I am amazed by the development of condos, villas and hotels.

This is, in the short-term, fabulous. But when enough is enough, what will happen?

Already tourists are complaining about Patong Beach being overcrowded.

With a doubling of the number of tourists on the way, where will they go?

A master plan is needed for long-term understanding of why tourists are here, what they expect, what attracts them and most importantly what will stop them from coming?

Out-of-control development can be like out-of-control immigration, and paradise can become an overcrowded slum followed by a mass exodus.

Tim Devlin  
Phuket

## Rental companies' passport impasse

Re: Gazette online, Finnish tourist found dead in Phuket room, March 2

Having read the story about the death of the Finnish tourist, sad as it is, one point did grab my attention: "Police believe the passport was being held by a local motorcycle rental operator."

I may stand corrected, but I am quite sure that rental companies are not allowed to retain passports.

Passports are the property of the government from which they are issued. Police and immigration are the only authorities allowed to keep a person's passport.

I refuse to allow anyone to hold my passport.

Take a photocopy, by all

# Some notes on the value of spam

## Phuket Gazette

FOLLOWING a salvo of gratuitous email last week from a local hospitality service business announcing the launch of a new company – which has now itself begun to indulge in daily bulk mailings – we at the *Phuket Gazette* have re-evaluated our longstanding and adamant policy against the use of spam for any purpose.

And we've decided to change nothing.

We're not altruistic, nor are we averse to corporate self-promotion – in moderation, and in the right places. But we do not believe that the in-boxes of our readers, advertisers or other contacts qualify as a 'right place'.

What is spam?

One definition, in Wikipedia, holds spam as "unsolicited bulk email, frequently with commercial content."

Another, at spam.abuse.net, defines a spammer as one who "floods the internet with many copies of the same message in an attempt to force the message on people who would not otherwise choose to receive it."

A third source, webopedia.com, defines spam as electronic junk mail, *unsolicited*, generally of an advertising nature, and sent often to a (stolen or purchased) mailing list.

Webopedia, goes on to digress into the etymology of electronic 'spam', referring to the dominant characteristics that it shares with the infamous canned lunch meat of the same name: "Nobody wants it or ever asks for it".

means, but for absolutely no reason will it be kept by anyone else.

With identity theft being a worldwide concern, does it not seem a little strange that a motorbike rental company can possess a tourist's passport?

What happens to these people should an emergency occur late at night and the rental office is

closed with no way of contacting the key holder?

In the event of a car accident or passing through a checkpoint, when police ask for your passport and the response is, "Sorry, 'Mopeds-R-Us' have it in Patong," I doubt very much the police officer will say to carry on sir and to have a nice day.

Everybody else in Thailand

takes a photocopy of a passport, so why on earth do rental companies feel the desperate need to hold a passport?

Do not allow these companies to bully you into offering your passport... there are plenty of rental companies that adhere to the law.

K O'Brien  
Cherng Talay

## Sinking funds

Re: Gazette online, Phuket beaches left unguarded, February 28

Why is the safety of tourists on Phuket beaches negated by contract negotiations?

The dangers of jet-skis, paragliders, boats and rip tides, and not to mention the unprepared tourist, are well documented. So surely beach safety provisions are paramount to the future of tourism here.

Many countries still advise people not to travel to Phuket for these reasons. Why then is it left to authorities to kick their heels in the hope of generating revenue from this vital service?

I understand it costs money to train and pay lifeguards, but surely the cost of not having them is greater.

I heard that the new British ambassador walked along Patong Beach recently and didn't notice any lifeguards.

His government's "know before you go" campaign will clearly report on facts such as the absence of beach lifeguards, which will affect potential visitors from the UK.

I am certain that if the authorities cannot afford Thai lifeguards then foreign volunteers could be offered the opportunity.

Take our friends in the Immigration office who provide a service to confused foreigners, for example.

It's a young man's job. Offer an employment visa and allow them to raise funds for salaries through charity organizations and I believe they'll flock to Phuket for their holidays, gap years and so forth.

You can't protect all the people all the time, but one child saved is certainly worth more than nine million baht.

J Burns  
Karon

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## Issues & Answers...

### Phuket go-kart burn

My son was badly burnt when the go-kart he was driving had a very minor collision with another kart.

The two karts were completely engulfed in flames within seconds. Whilst my son is fine and will make a full recovery, in other circumstances this could have been disastrous.

The staff at the kart track were very unhelpful.

Their main concern was to get my son off the track so they could get others racing.

They did not even appear to have a first aid kit and they they did their best to keep us out of sight of other customers arriving.

They eventually became quite aggressive towards us, even though my son was in a great deal of pain.

They would not call an ambulance or the police for us.

My local guide did so when I contacted him.

There appears to be no system

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IssuesAnswers

where these types of very serious incidents are reported, investigated and learned from.

I filed a report at Kathu Police Station, but they said it was not a matter for them.

Is there an agency in Phuket who would investigate this type of incident?

Is there an office that assesses facilities such as this are safe, have proper procedures in place and appropriately trained staff, who can not only deal with the operations of the track but also with medical emergencies if they arise?

Is the municipality involved in any way?

Tony Bruno  
Cherng Talay

### Rawat Jansongkoh, Guest Relations at Phuket Kart, replies:

I remember this case as I was working on that day.

The boy burned his arm on the exhaust pipe.

The exhaust pipes on our go-karts are not covered, but we brief all drivers on kart safety before they go out on the track.

We took the boy and his parents to our back office near our garage.

They said they didn't want or need our help and that they would handle the situation by themselves. The mother kept pouring cold water on the boy's arm.

We did not call any hospital or for an ambulance immediately because they did not ask us to.

Also, at the time immediately after the accident, it looked unnecessary to call for an ambulance as the boy did not look to be badly injured.

We asked them whether they wanted us to call an ambulance, but it seemed very confusing and they did not tell us directly whether they wanted us to or not.



# Phuket's new top cop to combat corruption

## FIRST PERSON



**Pol Col Chote Chitchai, 51, from Phatthalung, took up the position of Superintendent of Muang District Police on February 11. He previously served in Phuket for 18 years, from 1987 through 2004. He has returned to Phuket from Kapoe, Ranong, where he was District Police Superintendent. Here Col Chote lays down his priorities as the top cop in Phuket's most populated district.**

THE first thing I will focus on is drugs. In Kapoe, the only drug problem is *kratom* leaves (a natural stimulant), but in Phuket there are various kinds of drugs, such as *ya bah* (methamphetamine), *ya ice* (crystal meth), and *ya E* (ecstasy), among others.

More types of drugs means more drug addicts and more drug addicts means more crime.

The government is quite concerned about this and has set a nationwide policy to clean up drug problems. I agree with this policy, and have set it as my top priority.

I will keep reminding my officers to keep an eye on drug trafficking, to raid entertainment venues and ask customers and staff to do urine tests (for drugs). I will also order officers to increase their inspections of areas known for drug sales.

Drugs are everywhere now, so anyone who has any news about them, please inform us as soon as possible. The situation with drugs can get better, if we get co-operation from local people.

Another important thing I need to clean up is bad police officers.

I served in Phuket for 18 years before and now I have come back. I lived here for a long time and I have come to think of Phuket as my second home.

I admit that there are some officers that threaten and extort, and I am willing to solve this problem.



Phuket police often spell out 'ya bah' in Thai characters with seized pills.

If I find any officers guilty of such behavior, they will be punished accordingly under the law.

We need to clean up our home before we can clean up society. I don't want a few bad apples destroying people's trust in the whole police force.

If any of you are threatened or extorted money by police officers,

call me directly at 081-970 2523.

I will also continue the crackdown on enforcing the helmet-wearing laws, the project started by Superintendent Wanchai [former Superintendent of Phuket City Police Wanchai Ekpormpit].

This is a very good project that saves lives.

# Slick driving on Phuket roads

## Island View

By Dean Noble

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

DRIVERS on the roads of Phuket witness extraordinary maneuvers by selfish and careless individuals every day.

Add those 'driving attitudes' to the threat posed by deluges of rain which transform Phuket's driving surfaces into a life-sized Scalectrix track coated with Teflon, and you have the required elements to suggest emergency services and insurance companies remain on high alert.

It seems that for some, the course of action to take when behind the wheel of a car and faced with the onset of a downpour, is to accelerate.

The idea is unorthodox to say the least and at best may result in drivers arriving earlier to their destinations having not used their windscreen wipers.

The idea may also cause a 15 car rear ender, a two-hour traffic delay and increased insurance premiums.

With a reported figure of over 1,500 people having been treated in Phuket for road accident injuries in January and it being the wettest January on record, the warnings are clearly not being heeded. One suggestion is to educate drivers in wet-driving techniques.

Traffic accidents in the rain are usually due to driver error. When driving a car on a wet road the first thing a conscientious driver will do is slow down.

This simple action will also create a greater distance from the vehicle in front.

During inclement weather, extended gaps are crucial and provide a comfort zone in terms of vision and time. Increasing the gap or following distance will reduce the

effect of rear wheel spray and allow for better visibility.

Good following distance also affords time to slow down by gently braking or, preferably, by easing pressure off the accelerator. On wet roads these techniques can prevent loss of control as a result of hydroplaning.

Impatience and aborted attempts to overtake multiple vehicles may have drivers stamping on brake pedals to allow the offending driver room to recover and prevent collisions.

In the wet, this type of driving can be lethal.

Reading through most driving instruction manuals will usually lead to a section on following and braking distances.

Using a marker such as a telephone poll or a bridge, drivers can check if they are a safe distance from another vehicle. Counting seconds from when the vehicle in front passes the selected marker until the following car passes the same marker will provide the required information.

A three second rule is advised for all driving: Four to five seconds should be applied for wet roads while routes affected by oil should have drivers employ a 10 second rule.

Reduce speed, remain alert and increase your following-distance when driving in the rain and get to your destination safely.

## ...asking the questions that affect you...

Instead, the mother then started yelling for their tour guide to call an ambulance.

We called the 1669 emergency hotline but the operator said they had already received a call asking for an ambulance to come to our track.

All this was witnessed by two French people who live in Phuket, but they are in Hong Kong on a business trip right now.

They can give more information about this if you feel there is a need for more details.

We have not heard from the family since the incident. We hope their boy is okay.

**Pallop Kaewkamhaeng, Duty Officer at Thung Thong Police Station, replies:**

This case is between the customers and go-kart track operators.

There has been no criminal action, hence there is nothing police can do about this.

They can file a complaint here and then use the formal complaint in their civil claim against the com-

pany or to claim medical bills on insurance.

**Vina Pikunpol, Director of the Public Health Division at Phuket City Municipality, replies:**

Any business that exposes the public to health or safety risks must have a permit issued by a health authority before it can legally open for business.

The Phuket Provincial Health Office is not responsible for issuing these permits.

They are issued and renewed annually by the local municipality or authority for their area. In this case, Kathu Municipality.

**Rattana Latthmapong, director of Kathu Municipality Health Division, replies:**

No go-kart businesses have ever applied to us for this permit. Thank you for letting us know about this incident.

There was a similar incident last year.

Because of the huge number of businesses in our area and the small number of staff we have,

we usually just keep in touch with businesses and raise issues with them as we learn about them.

We will now inspect the two go-kart tracks to make sure they comply with public health and safety regulations.

**An officer at the Foundation for Consumers in Bangkok (the Thai office of consumer rights organization Consumers International) replies:**

We would like to talk with you directly about your case. Please gather any documents you have relating to the incident, such as tickets or coupons issued by the company and tax receipts from any hospital you paid for treatment for your son. Photos would be helpful, too.

When you have these documents ready, please call us at 02-248-3734-7 from Monday to Friday (9am to 6pm).

We would like to meet and/or discuss this further with you to determine what options are available and any compensation you might be able to claim.



The boy's arm as it appeared two days after the incident (above) and six days after.



# 'Phuket a diamond' for rich jet owners

By Anand Singh

MJETS is in talks with Airports of Thailand (AOT) to build a private jet terminal at Phuket International Airport (PIA).

The move comes on the back of the success of its first private jet terminal at Don Muang Airport.

MJETS Executive Chairman Jaiyavat Navaraj believes the company's venture at PIA could put Phuket on the map for private aviators in the region.

Since MJets opened its first terminal at Don Muang Airport, the number of private jets landing there had increased from 25 to 40 flights per month, Mr Jaiyavat said.

The MJets private terminal at PIA is likely to include an executive lounge equipped with luxurious facilities, immigration counters and hangars for parking private jets. MJets will also provide a range of ground services for private jets.

"Currently there are around 30 to 35 private jets landing at PIA



Executive Chairman Jaiyavat Navaraj

every month. This is only an average figure. In a high season month there could be as many as 60 flights," Mr Jaiyavat said.

"Phuket is a diamond among tourist destinations in the region. It is also conveniently located near regional business centers like Singapore, Bangkok and Kuala Lumpur. It also has a complete net-

work of 'billionaire's toys', which includes luxurious villas, hotels and yachting facilities. If we develop the right facilities here the island can become a regional hub for private aviation," Mr Jaiyavat added.

"A private jet terminal at PIA should increase the number of private jets landing at PIA by around 15 per cent in the first few years of operation alone," Mr Jaiyavat said.

Mr Jaiyavat said that MJets customers are a good mix of businessmen, executives and holidaymakers.

"People who hire private jets demand a lot of convenience and speed. They could use commercial flights, but they do not like to spend three hours at an airport, checking-in, passing immigration and baggage collection points, every time they travel," Mr Jaiyavat said.

"We are talking about super-rich clients who value every minute of their time," he added.

Aside from chartering private jets, MJets also takes care of ground handling services for clients with their own private jets, including acquisition of landing permits for clients' jets at PIA.

Since MJets is an authorized service agent for Cessna aircraft in Thailand, clients who own a Cessna will also be able to service their private planes right here in Phuket.

Kraisi Phewkliang, Director of Ground Services at MJets said the AOT still needs to finalize the location for the construction of the private terminal within PIA.

Construction costs will depend on the size of land the AOT leases to the company.



EXPANSION: MJets wants a new terminal at Phuket International Airport.



LUCKY NUMBER: The 'Kor Nor' 9999 plate sold for 1.4 million baht.

## Paying the price for lucky license plates

THE sixth annual "Lucky License Plate Auction" held in Phuket Town last weekend raised 23,504,500 baht, Kanok Siripanichkorn, chief of the Phuket Land Transport Office (PLTO), told the *Phuket Gazette*.

"I am very happy with the revenue raised - it's five million baht more than last year," Mr Kanok said.

All 301 plates up for auction were sold, averaging 78,088 baht apiece - the highest average ever at the annual Phuket event, Mr Kanok added.

The event last year raised 18,745,500 baht, averaging 62,277 baht per plate.

Securing the top bid of 1.4 million baht at the auction this year was license plate *Kor Nor* 9999 bought by motorcycle repair shop owner Jaruk Kaewpunnaray, 30, for his boss. Phuket's "number-one" man, Governor Tri Augkaradacha, also participated in the auction, winning the bid for license number *Kor Nor* 1111 for a rela-

tively modest 250,000 baht.

Most of the money raised from the auction will go to the Department of Land Transport's national Road Safety Foundation to help pay for road-safety campaigns, Chief Kanok explained.

"Some of the revenue will be handed over to Phuket educational institutions and to local police to help fund local road-safety campaigns, and some will go toward helping disabled people in Phuket," he added.

"Every single baht will be returned to society," chief Kanok assured.

One of the key attractions of the annual event is that it gives people the chance to make merit, he added.

As next year's event will feature license plates with the Thai characters *Gor Bor*, "I believe anyone with the nickname 'Gob' [pronounced 'Gop', meaning 'frog'] will be interested," Chief Kanok said.

- Pimwara Choksakulpan

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# Moto taxis go on the meter

METERS for motorcycle taxis will hit the streets of Bangkok this month in an effort to regulate fares and reduce accidents – a scheme which will be tested in Phuket soon as well.

Visitors to the Central World shopping complex in the Pathum Wan district of Bangkok will be the first to witness the meters in operation.

Approximately 24 motorcycle taxis stationed at the taxi rank outside the mall will take part in a road test over the next few days.

Per Lind, Chief Operating Officer of World Moto says “the test is in preparation for mass production. We will also conduct a test in Phuket within the next few weeks”.

Paul Giles, President of World Moto, began developing the concept with Chris Ziomkowski, now World Moto’s Chief Technical Officer, in 2008.

Statistics suggest there are some 180,000 motorcycle taxis operating in Bangkok alone. Of these, only 60 per cent are registered. Fare rates, which must be negotiated, are variable. These aspects prompted Mr Giles to create



The new motorcycle taxi meters.

a durable device that generates a standard tariff while also monitoring driving behavior.

“The Moto Meter is sealed against environmental hazards such as road dust, rain and splashing water,” Mr Giles said.

Similar to “black box” technol-



INGENIOUS: The meters will regulate fares and monitor driving.

ogy in airplanes and cars, the meter will record data of interest to law enforcement and insurers.

“We hope the meter will help reduce accidents. Monitoring driving does tend to influence the way people drive,” Mr Ziomkowski said.

Passengers will also be com-

forted to know that the new gadget is tamper-proof. Any attempt to interfere with it will cause an immediate shut-down. This feature helps further guarantee a fair price for journeys.

Drivers may not be overjoyed at having to curtail their driving

skills, but compensation could come in the form of extra revenue created by advertising.

An LED screen will allow passengers to view advertising and promotions en route to their destination. This will produce revenue for both the taxi driver and World Moto.

“Once we own that space above the handlebars, there are so many things we can do with that,” Mr Giles said.

An initial investment of US\$1 million by World Moto is expected to return over US\$3 billion, according to Mr Giles. These figures are based on the number of motorcycle taxis worldwide, which is in excess of 20 million, and the US\$180 price tag for the meter.

“The price is cheaper than a standard taxi meter,” Mr Giles said. “Reducing acrimony and averting lost potential fares, it should pay for itself soon,” he added.

It is hoped that taxi co-operatives around the country will adopt the new device, affording this hazardous, but convenient form of transport the prospect of becoming a standardized industry.

– Phuket Gazette

# Local ink company works with green future in mind

PRINTER ink is a top contender among the world’s most expensive manufactured liquids. It’s up there with perfume and whiskey.

InkXpress Asia, which has been operating for nearly two years, is at the vanguard of creating a more eco-friendly and cost effective method of replacing printer ink and cartridges for businesses in Thailand.

The price of printer ink is very high. Hewlett Packard announced at the end of last year that their Imaging and Printing Group (IPG) revenue had increased by nine per cent to 6.2 billion dollars.

Gordon Bailey, Managing Director of InkXpress Asia, explained why printer ink is so costly.

“It’s down to research and the development of image quality and reliability, which are separate technologies,” he said.

Disposal of empty cartridges is a global concern. This aspect



Gordon Bailey

motivated Mr Bailey to exploit his printing background in the United Kingdom and source an alternative to replacing or refilling cartridges.

“Over 45 million empty cartridges are dumped or incinerated annually in Thailand, and this figure continues to rise,” Mr Bailey said.

“Considering the current crisis in the Middle East and the increase in oil prices, print users should be aware that it takes a gallon of oil to manufacture a single laser cartridge,” he said. “The carbon footprint of a remanufactured cartridge is nearly 46 per cent less than that of a new cartridge,” Mr Bailey added.

Skeptics of innovative, cheaper and green technologies will always raise concerns over quality.

“InkXpress does not just re-fill cartridges. We reuse only the outer casing, which is the most eco-harmful part. All internal working parts are replaced with new components which match those of any original equipment manufacturer (OEM),” Mr Bailey stated.

“In addition to using the best inks and toners, we clean, test and guarantee every cartridge will perform as well as the original. To

this end we also offer our customers a 100 per cent money back guarantee,” he said.

Based in Cherg Talay, InkXpress has an office and manufacturing facility which supplies to a range of businesses throughout Phuket and Thailand. Most companies have printing needs and a meeting with Gordon may help reduce costs and play a part in conservation.

– Phuket Gazette



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# Record crowd gets tangled up in blues

By Andrew Jennings

A SPELLBINDING performance by bill-topping blues legend Curtis Salgado, which stretched into the early hours of last Sunday morning, provided a fitting conclusion to the 2011 Phuket International Blues Rock Festival at the Hilton in Karon.

True to his promise before the

event, the American captivated the record-breaking crowd with a memorable performance of "good old fashion butt-rocking rhythm and blues".

Salgado and his band were one of 10 from seven different countries who performed last Friday and Saturday night at the sixth annual staging of the festival.

Festival Director Andy Ander-

son was thrilled with how everything went over the weekend and is already looking to expand the event for 2011.

"I'm extremely pleased with this year's festival, everybody loved it and it's our best so far. The musicians seemed to have a great time, the sound was perfect, and there were no complaints," said Mr Anderson.

"We estimated about 1,500 people watched Curtis Salgado on Saturday night – a fantastic turnout. There are plans to move the event to Patong next year and expand the event to make it even bigger," he added.

The first night of the festival got off to a blinding start when the Phuket All Star Blues Band – made up of three different bands – all got up on stage at once for a wonderful 10-minute ode to Neil Young.

Also wooing the crowd on the first night was Rich Harper, alongside super-tight band Disraeli Gears, whose Cream Revival set didn't miss a note.

Mason Ruffner had music fans on their feet with his original syncopation beats during an amazing performance, while seven-piece Malaysian band AkashA rounded off proceedings with their memorizing blend of high tempo world fusion music. After two rousing encores, they finally left the stage to rapturous applause.

Kicking off the second night of the festival was Torgny Sandgren from Sweden, who eased patrons into the evening with his expert delivery of electric blues and sparkling rock.

John Meyer's Blue Express turned things up a notch with his own smokin' hot band, while The New Machine managed to capture the sound and feel of seminal British band Pink Floyd perfectly.

The Prodigal Sons brought a dash color and good times to the stage, headed by characteristic front man "The Hammond Doctor", who during his 35-year career played with the likes of BB King and Eric Clapton.

Last, but not least, came Curtis Salgado with a typically powerful vocal display to conclude yet another top class Phuket Blue Rock Festival.

"It's one of the best times I've had in a long time. The audience were really responsive and I hope the blues scene in Phuket continues to grow. There is no place like Phuket, I had the time of my life," Curtis told the *Gazette* after the show.

MAIN PHOTO: From left are Mason Ruffner, Torgny Sandgren, George Cordeiro, 'Singapore Pat', Rich Harper and Curtis Salgado.



The 'Hammond Doctor'



Phuket musician Rob Davies



Australian John Meyer  
All photos: Christian Mouchet

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BAY OF BENGAL: The focus of a multinational collaboration. Image: Google Maps



AT STAKE: Management of fisheries is key to a sustainable future. Photo: Lia Barrett

# Nations unite for marine management

By Nicholas Altstadt

GETTING eight culturally diverse countries with varying systems of government and historically contentious relationships to co-operate on environmental management is a mammoth task.

That is precisely what the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem project (BOBLME) hopes to facilitate over the next four

years with nations in the Bay of Bengal region.

BOBLME, covering about 6.2 million square kilometers of ocean, began in April of 2009 and operates under the leadership of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), bringing together Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar (Burma), Sri Lanka and Thailand in its efforts to improve regional

environmental management.

BOBLME is one of 64 areas worldwide designated by the United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) as Large Marine Ecosystems (LME).

BOBLME, armed with a US\$31 million budget, is based in Phuket and aims to "assist the eight countries that share the bay [of Bengal] in developing a collaborative

framework to work together towards a common goal: The overall health and sustainability of this vast marine resource," according to a BOBLME statement.

There are an estimated 450 million people living in the Bay of Bengal coastal region who are dependent on its resources. Key to the project is its "borderless" scope as it seeks to work with scientists and regional governments in developing coastal management practices that benefit all nations in the LME.

In addition to guidance and coordination, BOBLME also provides financial support to countries and facilitates training, research and information gathering.

A major step forward for the project began late last year when BOBLME facilitated an agreement between Thai and Burmese officials to address management of the Mergui [Myeik in Burmese] Archipelago, which extends from the Surin Islands in Thailand, north to the coastal town of Mergui in Burma.

The archipelago is made up of more than 800 islands including Thahtay Kyun Island in Burma, home to the Andaman Club, a popular "visa run" destination near Ranong, Thailand.

The region is coming under increasing pressure from urban development, tourism, fishing and "it is not exempt from the impacts of climate change and rising water temperatures that are contributing to coral bleaching in some areas," a BOBLME statement read.

"BOBLME is supporting the Thailand and Myanmar [Burma] governments to implement a collaborative management approach in this special area that is shared by both countries," BOBLME Regional coordinator Chris O'Brien told the *Phuket Gazette*.

"We know there is a strong sense of community in this area and it will be interesting to see how communities in the Mergui Archipelago, including the Moken or

Salong [sea gypsy] people, get involved in this initiative," Mr O'Brien said.

Teams will soon begin data collection, review and analysis for the Mergui Archipelago project, involving a wide range of government bodies, universities and non-government organizations.

"The goal of the activities is to inform management and improve governance that aims at the balancing of sustainable resource use and social wellbeing," according to the statement.

Speaking of the BOBLME headquarters location in Ao Makham, Mr O'Brien told the *Gazette*, "Being located in Phuket and away from a large capital city such as Bangkok means we have

There are an estimated 450 million people living in the Bay of Bengal coastal region who are dependent on its resources.

the opportunity to get a better feeling for how the project is affecting people at the community level.

"Another advantage is that the project can benefit from closer ties to the many excellent technical organizations that are

located in Phuket, such as the Andaman Sea Fisheries Research and Development Center of the Department of Fisheries, the Phuket Marine Biological Center of the Department of Marine and Coastal Resources and the Prince of Songkla University."

The most recent meeting of BOBLME National Coordinators and National Technical Advisors took place in Phuket on February 9 and 10 to draft the 2011 "work plan".

The project is currently analyzing and adding to the Trans-boundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA), which is the culmination of seven years of work. The TDA has identified three "main areas of concern": Over-exploitation of the marine living resources, degradation of coral reefs, mangroves and seagrass, and pollution.

The next phase of the project will be the Strategic Action Plan, which will see implementation of various projects based on the TDA.

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# Lessons in the palm of your hand

APPLE has an application for almost everything these days.

Commonly viewed as a distraction in class and a way to avoid studies, many of these “i-applications” now actually help rather than impede learning.

A simple search on iTunes will return dozens of listings related to learning. From listening and speaking, to reading and writing, Apple’s programmers have developed an application to suit all students learning English as a second language (ESL).

Although many applications are aimed towards learners, others can help teachers create lessons or provide multimedia activities that keep students tuned in to lessons rather than Justin Bieber’s latest single.

Application prices range from free to just over 500 baht and it pays to do your homework before committing to your purchase.

Here’s a review of just some of what’s on offer out there.

**QuickDict English-Thai Dictionary:** This is a straightforward, direct translation dictionary. The user can enter a word in English and its definition comes up in Thai.

Simple translations are useful but some aren’t entirely accurate. Definitions for concrete nouns are satisfactory but the finer points of English get a bit lost in translation.

After looking up the word

## In the Classroom

By Eric Haeg

“terrific”, the definition was fine but one synonym used was “frightened” (*dtok jai*). Perhaps the writers got this word confused with “terrified”.

Its best feature is the price tag, just 60 baht. That’s cheaper than a paper dictionary and it could turn out handy for one-on-one lessons where a quick translation will do the trick. It’s very basic but you get what you pay for.

**Pocket English ESL Beginner I:** Split into mini-lessons such as, “Self-Introduction” and “Nationalities”, this application is geared towards learning basic conversation.

Priced at 150 baht, the application lets the user listen to conversations as well as dissect each word’s meaning and pronunciation.

The layout and content are good but the instructions are written and presented for learners who possess advanced English skills. Considering its lessons are about the most basic introductions, including instructions that are more complex than the subject matter is a very odd approach.

This application could only be used in conjunction with a teacher

so self-study is nearly impossible with this particular application. Since the lessons are all ready to go, this application is probably best for a teacher short on materials and experience.

**Phonetic Focus:** From the moment you start this application you can see it’s a quality product put out by Cambridge University.

Geared for those getting used to phonemic symbols and the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), this application benefits both teacher and learner in a myriad of ways.

It’s very interactive and packed full of great activities. Users can use electronic flashcards to warm up to the IPA and then test their knowledge through fun and meaningful challenges.

The art design and crystal clear audio also leave the user wondering how Cambridge can offer such a great product for less than most pay for lunch. Priced at only 60 baht, it’s an absolute steal.

These three applications are only the tip of the iceberg. So the next time you’re about to splash some cash around on teaching materials, be sure to catch up with the latest on ESL download.

*If you have a TESOL or TEFL issue you want addressed, then contact Eric at [kru.phuket@gmail.com](mailto:kru.phuket@gmail.com)*



‘i-LEARNER’: iPhones have applications for language learners. Photo: DailyM



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# Lady Pie in Sevens heaven

By Andrew Jennings

IT WILL be the life of pie for hungry rugby fanatics later this month when a popular Phuket eatery sends 10,000 "scrummy" pastries to Hong Kong for the world-renowned Cathay Pacific/Credit Suisse Rugby Sevens tournament.

A bulging 120,000 crowd is expected to descend on Hong Kong Park over three days (starting March 25) to see which of the 24 international teams can rise to the occasion and prove they're a crust above the rest.

Spectators will be able to savor the atmosphere all the more thanks to popular Cheng Talay pie shop, Lady Pie.

Having recently celebrated their fifth year in business, owners Susan and Harry Usher are delighted with the opportunity to help cater for the world's premier rugby sevens tournament by sending a massive haul of gourmet pies to Hong Kong for the event.

Susan explains how Lady Pie became involved with the prestigious event:

"Matthew Boner, the owner of Mes Amis Catering Group based in Hong Kong, was holidaying in Phuket recently and tasted our pies. He approached us about the possibility of marketing our products at the Hong Kong Sevens."

With only three weeks to go until the start of the tournament, the staff at Lady Pie is working diligently to meet the delivery quota, hoping not to run out of puff in more ways than one.

"Creating the perfect handmade pie takes time, and although the efficient and experienced Lady Pie team can sometimes work miracles for their customers, only a certain number can be prepared in time.

"We have a responsibility to all our customers and even with our amazing staff working flat out we can only deliver 100,000 pies for this year's tournament," says Susan.

A special Teflon-coated, oval pie tray has been created to shape each pastry like a rugby ball and prior to cooking, a laced seam

of gravy is piped on to complete the effect.

Players and fans will be able to enjoy one of four unique flavors: The Aussie Beef Ruck, Chicken and Mushroom Maul, Steak and Kidney Scrum, and there is even a veggie option... if they can "Haka" it.

Offering a glimpse of Lady Pies' future plans, Susan is understandably optimistic, "The Hong Kong Sevens will open doors for us.

"There are many events and outlets that will be interested in our products in places such as Singapore and Malaysia, maybe Australia."

And her motto for the Hong Kong Rugby Sevens: "One try and you'll be converted".

It seems it's "pies" the limit for this particular Phuket business.



LIFE OF PIE: Lady Pie owner Susan Usher

## Paresa Resort to serve up 'Six of the Best' chefs



BEST MEN: Leading island chefs will work together at the Paresa.

SIX of Phuket's best chefs will join together for a fundraising dinner at the Paresa Resort in Kamala on March 25 to benefit three local projects sponsored by The Good Shepherd Sisters.

The Good Shepherd Sisters

having been helping women and children in Thailand since 1965.

In Phuket, they have three projects to support women including a "safe house" shelter for pregnant women who have no family support, a center to help

women who are victims of human trafficking, and an education center at Patong Beach where women can learn a vocation such as hair-dressing or massage.

"Six of the Best" is the idea of Paresa General Manager, Scot Toon, who proposed the culinary event to the island's top resort chefs, who agreed to join in the charity fundraiser.

Chantal Fernandes, well-known for her work to aid local community projects explains, "We were able to collect the Executive Chefs from Paresa, Amanpuri, Banyan Tree, Anantara, Sheraton and Dusit Thani Laguna Resort, and get them to co-operate on a seven-course menu which would reflect each of their talents. We then ap-

proached the suppliers of food and beverages who were delighted to contribute to the event. It is our goal that 100 per cent of the proceeds goes towards the Good Shepherd Sisters projects."

The six chefs will co-operate with a stunning collection of canapes, featuring a *shoyu*-marinated *maguro*, soy air and finger line, a Himalayan salt-brick *shitake* mushroom with onion sesame and smoked salmon lollipops with sumac and thyme.

The main six menu offerings sound as extravagant as would be expected with such a collection of international culinary talent.

Stefano Artosin, who directs kitchen operations at the world-famous Amanpuri, says, "I chose

to prepare homard in *carnaroli* risotto with Jerusalem artichoke-sea urchin *espuma*. It's the Italian version of rice, which is the simple staple of many cultures matched with the noble ingredients which include lobster."

Silvano Amolini, Executive Chef at the Dusit Thani Laguna, is presenting a duo of ahi tuna with a tartar of pomelo, ginger jus, salmon roe, spring roll stick with Asian pesto and a crispy sashimi with wasabi *beurre blanc*.

The dinner will be presented at Paresa Resort's Diavolo restaurant in Kamala on March 25. The few remaining tickets available can be purchased by contacting Chantal at 089-874 2942.

- Bruce Stanley

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# Portman swans into a winner

## Film

By Alexandra Andersson

### Black Swan

**Director:** Darren Aronofsky  
**Starring:** Natalie Portman, Mila Kunis, Vincent Cassel  
**Genre:** Psychological Thriller  
**Gazette Rating:** 4.5/5 – Must see

NATALIE Portman lost more than 10 kilograms and trained tirelessly for a year leading up to her Best Actress Oscar-winning role as a troubled ballerina in *Black Swan*.

The words “psychological thriller” and “ballet” don’t usually go together, but this critically acclaimed movie proves that ballet is not all tutus and ribbons.

Bleeding toes, eating disorders, and intense competition are aspects of the often misconceived world of ballet that set the stage perfectly for a psychological thriller.

With expert direction from Darren Aronofsky (think *Requiem for a Dream*) and with the actors’

memorable performances, it’s a shame the movie missed out on the Best Picture Oscar to *The King’s Speech*.

The characterization in this film is outstanding. Nina (Portman) is an insecure, mentally fragile control-freak whose wish is to become the prima ballerina at her New York ballet institute.

She gets her wish. Her sleazy, manipulative and dominating instructor Thomas (Vincent Cassel) takes a shine to her and chases her as the lead in *Swan Lake*, to the envy of all her peers. The ex-prima ballerina (Winona Ryder) even becomes suicidal with jealousy.

But Nina’s dream becomes her nightmare, as the role of *Swan Queen* proves demanding – she must play both the pure White Swan and the evil Black Swan.

She struggles to find her dark side in the hours of training, which includes intermittent molestation, mind games and abuse from Thomas, who brands her “a frigid coward”.

Nina wants nothing but to perform perfectly and pushes the

boundaries of her body and mind to get to know her evil side.

Self harm, delusions, aggression, drugs, and a much-hyped scene where she explores her sexuality with fellow ballerina Lily (Mila Kunis) are all aspects of this trip to the dark side.

Aronofsky’s erratic and unconventional cinematography adds to the film’s edgy discomfort. He also uses Nina’s hallucinations to add a morbid and psychotic element.

I won’t give the game away, but in one delusion her legs buckle painfully and another hints at schizophrenia when her mirror image moves independently.

Portman and Cassel execute twisted perfection in their difficult roles, a testament to their real, and all-to-rare acting prowess.

The film is full of messages relating to insecurity and fame which are relevant to a modern audience, but does not deliver them in the painfully obvious way most blockbusters do.

The soundtrack of eerie classical ballet music, which draws from Tchaikovsky’s original ballet score

*Swan Lake*, and the stifled, fragmented script add to the sense of Nina’s physiological torment.

The experience of watching it, as well as the content itself, takes you uncomfortably close to the line of reality and delusion.

Strange as it may seem, this movie about ballet is definitely not for the fainthearted.

There is also a suitably disturbing yet perfect ending to the film, which will stay with you for days after you go watch this original and poignant movie. One of the year’s best and Portman delivers a performance worthy of her Oscar. Go see this film.

**BLACK SWAN:** Natalie Portman in her oscar-winning role as Nina.



# Speechless Firth reigns at Oscars

SOME of the biggest names in the movie industry took to the red carpet for the 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Academy Awards in Hollywood last Sunday.

In the most part, winners on the night were the hotly tipped favorites.

*The King’s Speech* reigned triumphantly over the rest, scooping the Best Picture, Best Actor (Colin Firth), Best Director (Tom Hooper) and Best Original Screenplay (David Seidler) Oscars.

Natalie Portman bagged the Best Actress Oscar for her performance in *Black Swan*.

Colin Firth, who played the speech-impaired King George VI in the film, gave a humble acceptance speech upon receiving his gong.

“I have a feeling my career has just peaked,” he joked, before telling the audience he was fighting the urge to jump for joy.

Firth saw off stiff competition from other leading men in his category: Javier Bardem (*Biutiful*), Jesse Eisenhower (*The Social Network*), last year’s Best Actor winner Jeff Bridges (*True Grit*) and James Franco (*127 Hours*).

Portman appeared on stage in a purple Rodarte gown and with a slight bump from her pregnancy on show.

She delivered a gracious acceptance speech and went on to thank

every member of the *Black Swan* crew while fighting back a few tears of emotion.

For her role as a tormented ballerina in *Black Swan*, Portman topped Nicole Kidman (*Rabbit Hole*), Michelle Williams (*Blue Valentine*), Annette Benning (*The Kids Are Alright*) and Jennifer Lawrence (*Winter’s Bone*) for the award.

Other nominees for Best Picture included *The Fighter*, *Inception*, *The Kids Are Alright*, *127 Hours*, *The Social Network*, *Toy Story 3*, *True Grit*, *Black Swan* and *Winters Bone*.

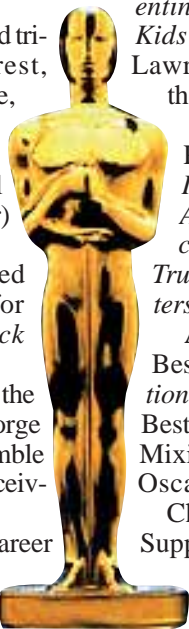
Although losing out in the Best Picture category, *Inception* won Best Cinematography, Best Sound Editing, Best Sound Mixing and Best Visual Effects Oscars.

Christian Bale won the Best Supporting Actor Oscar for his role in the *Fighter*, while co-star Melissa Leo won the Best Supporting Actress Oscar.

The evening was hosted by Anne Hathaway and James Franco, who according to ABC Australia did an underwhelming job: “Disappointing night for James Franco and Anne Hathaway, who got off to a poor start as co-hosts and never recovered.

Great night for David Letterman, who may be off the hook as the worst Oscar host in history,” reports suggested.

– *Phuket Gazette*



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Gourmet Sunday  more.



# Road trip with grumpy gang



By Marc Mulloy

REGULAR readers of the comments posted on *Phuket Gazette's* online forum will have noticed that there seems to be a number of grumpy old men on the island.

Some of these "self-confessed moaners" have even formed a society where they can enjoy each other's company – and presumably complaints – at meetings held on the first and third Monday (the grumpiest day of the week) of each month.

Called the Phuket GOMS (Grumpy Old Mens' Society), it consists of over 130 expatriate and Thai members who have a specific aim: to raise money for local charities.

On Sunday, March 6 they will stage their

inaugural annual car rally treasure hunt starting at 10am from Chalong Pier Beer Garden, they will follow a 145-kilometer route designed to take entrants through some of the more remote areas of Phuket while still remaining on tarmac roads.

Entries will be restricted to a maximum of 40 vehicles, with GOMS members and friends making up the majority of the starting list. Some members are using the occasion to show off lovingly restored classic cars.

Event director John Devenport, who together with course clerk Jum Ali Khan have more than 40 years of rally experience, said that it is not a race but a social event intended to test the driving and navigational

**GRUMPS ON A HIGH:** The Grumpy Old Mens' Society will host its island rally on March 6. Event Director John Devenport (right) with other members and their cars. Photos: Christian Mouchet

skills of the crews while raising money for charity.

"Unlike most rallies this is not a race to the finish. Our event is a fundraising activity to benefit the charities we support. We are very lucky to have as event sponsors Land Rover PLC, Patong GoKart Speedway, Da Vinci and Kan Eang@Pier restaurant as well as individual sponsors per car," said John.

"To ensure entrants stay strictly on route we require proof of passage in the form of photographic evidence of places or buildings they pass by. The rally is divided into morning and afternoon sessions with a lunch break in between. Entrants must

complete the morning session within two and a half hours, and the afternoon within one and a half hours, or face a time penalty," he explained.

"At the end of the morning session entrants will undergo two driving tests and these results will help determine the final results of the rally," he said.

The event will culminate with an awards ceremony at Chalong Pier Beer Garden where winners will be awarded and losers will presumably be grumpier than ever.

If you would like to become a GOMS member, see their website [www.phuketgoms.org](http://www.phuketgoms.org)

# A day exploring art, food and organic life at Evason

IT WAS an extraordinary weekend of art, exceptional food and distinctive wines at the Evason Phuket's second annual Redefining Art celebration last weekend.

The event was held in the resort's spacious 64 acres and at their beach club on Bon Island.

Besides a Saturday afternoon at Bon Island and an exquisite dinner produced by Executive Chef Thomas Jacoby at the stunning signature restaurant, Into the Sea, guests spent Sunday afternoon in the resort's organic gardens, which produce most of the vegetables and herbs used in the kitchens.

Chef Thomas, assisted by his very charming Thai cooks, intro-

duced the party to local cooking recipes featuring prawns wrapped in pepper leaves, *pak mhor* (Thai raviolis), pomelo with scallops, homegrown mushrooms, papaya salad combined with *tataki* tuna and finishing with *kaffir* lime ice cream.

Frank Grassman, the Evason's General Manager, sat at head of a long table under the trees, where a family-style lunch was leisurely served over several hours joined by the pleasant sounds of acoustic guitar in the distance. Modern paintings by Fiin Ratanachan were hung around the gardens. Fiin is a Thai native who spent many years living in Finland, where he learned to express his strong feelings for

nature through his paintings.

The family-style brunch was a feast for all the senses.

Sonu Shivdasani, creator and owner of the Six Senses resorts that includes the Evason, has recently acquired full ownership of the Phuket property. This will allow him free reign to redesign and renovate 260 rooms and all public areas.

His resort philosophy, which mirrors the international trend towards environmentally sustainable use, is called "SLOWLIFE". This stands for sustainable, local, organic, wholesome, learning, inspiring, fun, experiences, all of which were on show for



General Manager Frank Grassman leads a tour of the Evason gardens.

the Redefining Art weekend.

"This is a fantastic opportunity to restore one of Thailand's premier resorts. Evason Phuket has many loyal guests who will, we hope, be delighted by the improvements being made," said Mr Shivdasani.

"The Evason brand introduces a collection of unique resorts that follow the Six Senses phi-

losophy of uncompromised responsibility to the environment and to the community. We are looking forward to the results of our 100-million baht renovations and refurbishment so we can offer even more services to our valued guests," added GM Frank.

– Bruce Stanley

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# Cathy and Celine Masson

CATHY and Celine Masson are sisters born in the Brittany region of France. They both attended hotel management programs and worked in Paris before moving to Phuket in the mid-1990s. Over the past 15 years, they have been the imagination behind some of our most interesting restaurants and resorts.

Cathy is the eldest of three sisters. She learned the importance of service in her mother's shop as a young girl. After taking a certificate in front-office management, she headed to Paris where she worked at the Hotel Cognac and then Hotel Elysses Ponthieu. She then joined and was promoted to General Manager at the Hotel Elysses Bassano in the 16<sup>th</sup> arrondissement where she stayed for five years.

In 1995, she came to visit Celine on Phuket, an event which changed her life. She decided to leave her professional career in Paris and explore a life in Thailand. She was appointed Assistant Rooms Division Manager at the Cape Panwa Hotel. Later, she moved to sell art at Patong Beach.

In 1999, she opened a French bistro, The Wall, in the jungles of Rawai with her partner. It instantly became one of Phuket's most interesting dining hideaways.

"We had a partner who had built a climbing wall in what was then a jungle. It provided a backdrop to

**EXPAT**  
gallery  
By Bruce Stanley

our restaurant. We offered French cuisine in a relaxed setting where our guests could bring their friends and young families and sit on the floor around low tables."

The Wall was an immediate success offering a unique and elegant dining option for mainly expat residents. By 2002, Cathy relocated the restaurant to the Nakathani and renamed it Naka Flavors, serving the same French cuisine but in an elegant cliffside setting. From 2004 through 2009, she was the charming proprietor of Flavors at Patong's Baan Thai Resort.

Celine is the youngest of the sisters. She enrolled in the Lycee Hotelier de Dinard where she graduated from the four year program with specific training in food and beverage. She also headed to Paris to find work and adventure.

"I really enjoyed bartending, which was not common then for a woman. I became the first woman bartender at the Rive Gauche Lutecia Palace in Paris. I also served as bartender at the Hotel Vernet, which attracted a lot of celebrities.

I recall LaToya Jackson, who had just posed in *Playboy* magazine wearing nothing but a snake."

Celine continued in the hospitality industry in France, then England where she was determined to learn English at Oxford. She got a job for a year at Banbury in a hotel manor school.

She spent the next few years traveling and working in Spain and finally Switzerland where she met her future husband, Claude Sauter.

"Claude accepted a job in Thailand in 1994 and I decided to join him. I was fortunate to be recruited by Khun Wallee Pachantabutr at the Phuket Cabana as Public Relations Manager."

Celine stayed at what became the Impiana Phuket Cabana until August 2004, assuming different management positions.

"I began to look around Phuket Town for an historic Sino-Portuguese building where I could open my own boutique hotel.

"After a year, working with Movida Interior Designers from Bangkok, we were able to acquire a long lease on a big, beautiful historic building on Phang Nga Rd. We transformed it into what is now the Siam Indigo restaurant."

Cathy Masson now manages the stylish Siam Indigo, while Celine is enjoying more time at home with her two small children.



By PETER CHILD FOR THE PHUKET GAZETTE

## About Expat Gallery

The individuals profiled in "Expat Gallery" are chosen on the basis of their contributions to Phuket, and for having made those contributions in successful partnerships with Thais. For many, the contributions have entailed significant investment, often in the mid-80s and 90s when the rules of business were, ahh, not always clear. Some are not in business at all, but all have one thing in common: if there were a *Who's Who in Phuket*, they'd be in it.

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# A comprehensive review of the Phuket Gazette's policy with regard to the use of SPAM as a marketing tool

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- 2) As 'opt-OUT', rather than 'opt-IN', spam is intrusive, crude, passé and self defeating.
- 3) We don't want to join your Blocked Senders.

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# Saturday Night Lights

By Andrew Jennings

I LOVE the smell of fish balls in the evening.

The whiff of *Look Chin Pla* was just one of many oily perfumes hanging heavy in the air while I stood outside Surakul Stadium on Saturday evening, savoring the pre-match atmosphere of FC Phuket's first home game of the new season against Rajpracha FC.

At the entrance to the stadium the vibe was one of anticipation. Fans nervously jostled for a position in line at the ticket office, the street food vendors squawked for custom, while young children decked in green clung tightly to their parent's hand for fear of getting overwhelmed by the flow of people.

The crowd swarming around the stadium before kickoff seemed to have bulged from last season.

Motorcycles filled every void available, while traffic police worked feverishly to keep cars moving along Wichit Songkram Road.

Entering Surakul – an old fashioned multi-purpose stadium built in 1959 – I'm reminded of those Eastern European-style open-bowl arenas, where a running track separates fans from players, meaning the intensity in atmosphere can often be lost.

But not here. In fact, the more I visit Surakul the more I fall under its spell.

Maybe it's the time of evening Phuket games are played. On Saturday it was approaching 6pm when I took my seat on the far side of the stadium (opposite the Main Stand).

It was that glorious time, the moment before dusk when the sky is a swirling mess of pastel pinks and blues, just as the sun begins its decent beyond the hills in Kathu. And I witnessed it all from where I was sitting as the game kicked off.

Soccer isn't soccer without passion, and boy do the Phuket fans have it in abundance. As soccer tribes go, the club is still a child



**FAN POWER:** FC Phuket supporters at the game against Rajpracha FC on Saturday evening. Photo: Wutthichat Songkhun

(two-years-old in fact), yet the energy radiating from the stands, the animation of supporters, is compelling.

The drums beat hard, screams bellow with every refereeing decision against their team, a man runs the length of the sideline with the tallest flag in the province, as folk try in vain to get the Mexican wave going. Smiles and grimaces, claps and howls, all encapsulate 90 minutes of football here.

Taking in the surrounding between gaps in play, I was again reminded how football often transcends cultural boundaries.

Expats make up a healthy portion of the Phuket fan base, and again on Saturday they mingled with the Thai natives next to them, both supporting the one team, displaying warmth and humor towards each other. This is a club for every cross-section of Phuket society.

There were a handful moments from the evening that will stay with me. At half-time I watched a Thai woman, sitting next to her son, who was about seven-years-old, buying a delightful delicacy of dried squid on a long stick from a vendor.

It was just the two of them sitting there, mother and son, the young boy head-to-toe in Phuket green and the mother smiling away enjoying her snack.

Another was the performance of the four paramedics on duty (who had a busy night!).

On several occasions the men were asked to sprint halfway around the pitch to treat a Rajpracha player who had tumbled to the ground, apparently injured.

When the medical team eventually reached the stricken

player they were usually back on their feet with nothing wrong them.

However, the medical men took it all in their stride, trudging off the field out of breath, laughing among themselves, and waving to the fans in the stand, who rightly acclaimed their efforts.

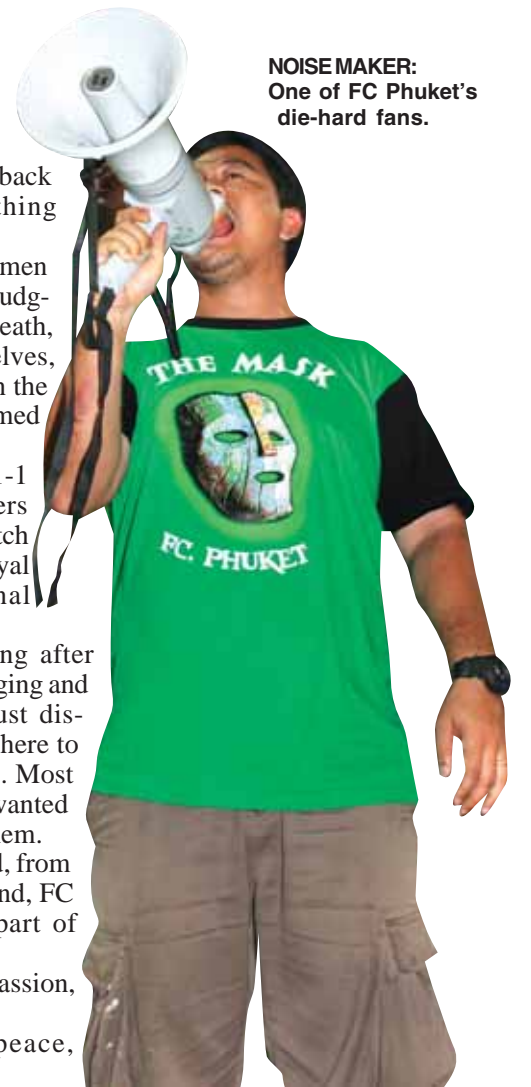
The game ended in a 1-1 draw. The Phuket players walked a full lap of the pitch to pay homage to their loyal fans following the final whistle.

Supporters stayed long after the whistle, some still singing and dancing, while many just discussing the match and where to go for post-match drinks. Most looked like they never wanted to leave. I was one of them.

For many on the island, from every race and background, FC Phuket has become a part of their week.

It is a lifestyle and a passion, and it's brilliant to see.

The world needs peace, Phuket needs football!



**NOISE MAKER:** One of FC Phuket's die-hard fans.



Singapore MediaCorp Artiste, Joanne Peh

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**HAPPY CAMPER:** A fan showing peace and love for FC Phuket at Saturday's game. Photo: Wutthichat Songkhun



# Rock star style for Bt500

By Julia Dennis

ROCK star fashion is cocky, casual, and cool beyond trend, but expensive? Not on your life. In Phuket, fashion in the spirit of rebellious rockers past and present is made affordable with epic markets and expo malls on one's doorstep. And no, I'm not talking about picking up sirloin from the local butcher for a Lady Gaga-inspired meat dress. Fashion that rocks is about loud accessories, distressed denim, and style that's not just different, but indifferent. Rolling Stone's Keith Richards put it best, "Fashion thinks more about me, than what I think about it." With the season upon us for music festivals and beachside concerts, the perfect ensemble to cheaply rock out in can be put together for less than 500 baht. For inspiration, take notes from some of rock's greatest style icons.



**ROCKIN' IT:** Jennifer Kathrens, wearing the 490 baht look.

What would Jimmy Page do? Ponder this while wearing the name of his legendary rock band, or your favorite classic rock artist, and showing the world that you know a thing or two about good music. The band homage adds a certain authenticity factor to the look, plus vintage T-shirts from concerts of yore have a soft, worn-in feel that's hard to replicate today. Ten sizes too big? Just crop the bottom half of the shirt or tie into a back knot to show a little skin.



**'Zeppelin'** T-Shirt - 100 baht

Kei\$ha's style is a blend of youthful arrogance and pure insanity – basically anything to grab attention like claiming to brush her teeth in the morning with a bottle of Jack Daniels.

For those who couldn't care less about the pearls or emeralds donned in glamorous Hollywood circles, a good bullet pendant necklace is priceless.



**'Kei\$ha'** Necklace - 150 baht



**'Kanye'** Sunglasses - 100 baht

When you're a rock star, you need a rock stare. Eyes only come out for special occasions, like performing at the Grammy Awards, or showing up in court. Over the years, Ray Ban-style sunglasses have become ubiquitous with trendsetters across all genres, from Bob Dylan to Kanye West. Choose a pair that make a statement and take your friends word for it that you look cool (even if you can't see anything).

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Scarves are cheap, but make for the perfect messy yet pulled-together layered look that rock stars cultivate. No one does this better than Aerosmith's Steven Tyler, draping himself (shirt-optional) in strips of fabrics to match the scarves on his microphone stand. For an everyday look, wrap at least two thin scarves loosely around the neck, or tie back unruly rocker hair with a scarfband.



**'Steven Scarves'** - 2 for 20 baht



**'Bruce'** Denim - 120 baht

Bruce Springsteen is better-known as The Boss, and well-known for being swathed in 100 per cent cotton denim head-to-toe onstage. While jean jackets will swelter a star in Phuket, cut-offs allow for full dance potential and a distressed vintage feel. Either pick up second-hand denim pants and cut them thigh-high yourself, or find pre-cut versions like this pair for 120 baht at the weekend market in Phuket Town. Do a couple quick squats, keg stands or stage dives and your backside is set to rock.

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## WHAT'S ON in Phuket

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### March 7-11. Mango House Festival

Lovers of funky house music are in for a real treat during Koh Lanta's annual cultural festival, the Lanta Festival, in the Old Town, from Monday, March 7 to March 11. Mango House Festival is pleased to announce that two

## March 6. Phuket Yacht Club Fun Day



The North East Monsoon Race Series and family day barbeque starts Sunday, March 6 from 9am to 4pm. Racing brief starts at 9am; buffet at 1pm. For more details about racing, crewing or finding crew, contact via E:andrew@leemarine.com. Prizes from The Bel Air Resort and Spa at Panwa Phuket. Contact Donna Stephens at T:086-1200752 E:phuketyachtclub@gmail.com or visit W:phuketyachtclub.info for more information.

house music veterans, DJ Nick Power and DJ Colin Edwards, will help spread the love of house music at Mango House in Lanta Old Town on March 10 and March 11 between 9pm-1am. On the other nights, the festival will also feature DJ Taz and DJ NuTrip on March 7 and 8, DJ Tommy T on March 9 and DJs Nick and Colin on March 10. Contact Duane Lennie at T:086-9486836

E:duane@mangonation.com or visit W:mangohousesessions.com for more information.

### March 7-13. RPM Facebook: Guess the Beach Game

The Royal Phuket Marina (RPM) Facebook Beach Guessing Game runs from March 7 to April 3. This is a free-entry contest on RPM's Facebook page. All you need do to win the fantastic grand prize of a boat trip for two to Koh Phi Phi (including lunch) is to "Like" their Facebook page and guess the names of the beaches which are shown in the pictures. Terms and conditions apply. Contact Mr Fredy Munger at T:089-9734421 E:fredy@bitsiren.com or visit W:royalphuketmarina.com for more information.

### March 8-10 Transforming Felicity and Adversity

Transforming Felicity and Adversity into the Spiritual Path with Dr Alan Wallace. In this classic text, *Transforming Felicity and Adversity into the Spiritual Path*, the 19<sup>th</sup> Century Dzogchen master Dodrupchen Tenpey Nyima

provides practical instructions for transmuted all of life's ups and downs into nourishment on the path to enlightenment. During this retreat at Phuket International Academy's Mind Center, Dr Wallace will explain his teachings, together with guided meditations for putting them into practice. The session will be at 7am on April 8, and 12pm on April 10. Accommodation is available at Thanya Chitra Retreat. Contact Weena at T:076-336030 E:mtc@phuketinternationalacademy.com or visit W:phuketinternationalacademy.com for more information.

### March 12. Salsa Night @ Les Anges

Free entrance and free snacks. Dress code: colorful. Royal Phuket Marina's Salsa Night Let's go dancing will showcase the best in Cha-cha, Bachata, Samba, Rumba...with DJ Miscaro & Oy. Start 8:30pm. Contact Anna & Didier at T:084-0517455 (Thai, English) or T:084-3062016 (French, English) or Khun Murat at T:081-7973364 E:dance@phuket-dance.com or visit W:phuket-dance.com for more information.

### March 13. Phuket Yacht Club Kid's Sailing

Go on, get your kids involved in sailing! A number of courses will be held on Sundays at Phuket Yacht Club, Ao Yon on selected dates in March for children aged 7-12 years. These will be introductory to sailing courses. Contact Donna Stephens at T:086-1200752 E:phuketyachtclub@gmail.com or visit W:phuketyachtclub.info for more information.

### March 17. Phuket International Women's Club AGM and lunch

The AGM will be held from 10am to 2pm at Le Meridien Phuket Beach Resort. All are welcome but only members are allowed to vote. This is followed by lunch from 11:30am, and again all are welcome to join both events. The lunch will be 500 baht for members and 650 baht for guests per person. Contact Carole Dux for reservations at T:076-200730 and E:info@phuketiwcc.com, or visit W:phuketiwcc.com for more information.

## Free Computer Clinics

Is Windows driving you nuts? Want to know about the best Internet connections in Phuket? Need help finding a repair shop or a dealer that knows what they're doing? Join *For Dummies...* author and local Windows guru Woody Leonhard in his free weekly seminars. Sponsored by Woody's Sandwich Shoppes and the *Phuket Gazette*.

March 6 - Patong, March 13 - Laguna,  
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For more info contact Woody at T:076-290468

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# Ladies do lunch

So many brunches, lunches and dinners to choose from in Phuket, and so little time! Above (from left) Wasa Wansawut, restaurant owner Panatta Bunthanom, Samaporn Janyanon and Able Wanamakok sample the delectable fare at newly-opened Brush in Kalim.

**SCRUMPTIOUS:** Phuket resident Kerry Lahana tests out the liquid brunch offer at Kata's Avista resort.

Photos: Janpen Upatising and Alexandra Andersson

# YOUR Phuket

## A barrel of laughs

THESE three were a barrel of laughs last week at Phuket Punchline Comedy Club's latest shindig at the Holiday Inn Resort in Patong.

Audience members in the front row felt the searing burn of all three comedians' humor and maybe made them feel like they should have sat further back.

Irishman Michael Legge (center) did a great job as compare on the night, while Englishman Josh Howie (right) got a mixed response with his flurry of borderline-obnoxious jokes.

Wrapping up the night of laughs was Englishman Nick Doody (left) whose comic wit was heartily applauded by the packed audience.

Keep your ear to the ground for the next side-splitting comedy night at [W:phuketgazette.net](http://W:phuketgazette.net)



Charity kayakers Victoria and Les Bird presented Phuket Sunshine Village Administrative Director Nuttisa with 16,000 baht last week. Photo: Franco Ferri



Jackie Holden, Lyn Carthew and David Campion enjoy the TapasTree Restaurant opening at Tinlay Village.



The Players Retreat bar opened recently, with owner Michael Simmons (left), manager John Byrne (right) and waitresses hosting the party.



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# Isarn fashion struts in Phuket

The recent "Heritage Cultural of Southern E-San" fair at HomeWorks showcased the cultural heritage of Isarn's Nakhon Ratchasima, Chaiyaphum, Buriram and Surin provinces. Isarn country music concerts and cultural performances were hosted daily, including a fashion show showcasing silk garments (pictured above). Among the 80 booths at the event were displays showcasing antique silk garments, silk weaving and yarn spinning demonstrations. Photos: Atchaa Khamlo

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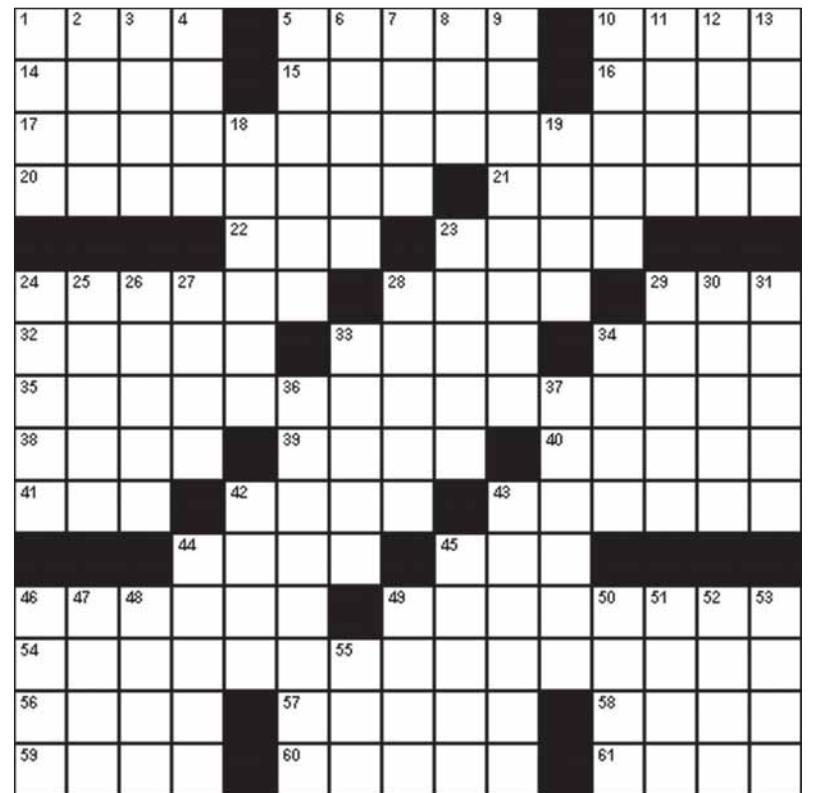
## The Impossibly Possible Quiz

### Quizzical about St Patrick's Day?

1. In Irish folklore, what did Saint Patrick rid from Ireland in the Fourth Century?
2. What is the name of Ireland's former Taoiseach (Prime Minister) who lost office last week?
3. Which famous river runs through Ireland's capital city Dublin?
4. What is the name of U2's debut album released in 1980?
5. What is the largest county in Ireland, famed for being the home of the Blarney Stone?
6. Which fruity sounding band had hits with *Linger* and *Zombie*?
7. What sport takes place at The Curragh?
8. Which Irish newspaper was first published in March 1859?
9. Which Irish boyband made history when their first five singles went straight to number one in the UK charts?
10. Name the Irish actor who has played James Bond?
11. Which Irish man wrote the acclaimed novel *Ulysses*?
12. Which Irish-born actor starred in the films *My Left Foot*, *Gangs of New York* and *There Will Be Blood*?

*Quiz answers on page 37*

- Across**
1. French friends
  5. Provide food
  10. Reddish-brown gem
  14. Heroic adventure tale
  15. Grammarian's topic
  16. Winglike parts
  17. Make a trade?
  20. Coffeecake topping
  21. Murmur
  22. Emeritus abbr.
  23. Letter opener
  24. Moved at an easy pace
  28. Sicilian volcano
  29. Recipe abbr.
  32. Eskimo canoe
  33. Aimlessly twiddle
  34. Bristle
  35. Out-of-school activities
  38. Fibbed
  39. Arch type
  40. Robbery
  41. Early hours
  42. Gunk
  43. Easily remembered
  44. Donated
  45. Brit's raincoat
  46. Guarantee
  49. Central American monkey
  54. Divide up
  56. Something that wakes you up minus the "m"
  57. Sibling activity
  58. Gillette brand
  59. Monetary unit of South Africa
  60. Computer key
  61. 365 days
- Down**
1. Cairo cobras
  2. Trading center
  3. Borodin's prince
  4. Not dangerous
  5. Swore
  6. It's a good thing to have
  7. Follow
  8. Feeling of self-importance
  9. Chinese money
  10. Old sailors
  11. Came down to earth



12. Bring down
13. Antlered animal
18. Exclamation of triumph
19. Ambiance
23. American shop
24. Pack leader
25. Principle of conduct
26. Units of computer memory
27. Hog fat
28. Made a mistake
29. Tending to a definite end
30. Hiding place
31. Social gathering
33. Musical composition

34. Hard fatty tissue
36. Warship
37. Brownish-gray baboon
42. British comedian Jimmy
43. 39<sup>th</sup> president of the US
44. Watch over
45. The house of a parson
46. Purim month
47. Actress Ward
48. Bridge
49. Steak, sausage, burger etc.
50. Oil of \_\_\_\_
51. Web \_\_\_\_
52. Poet Pound
53. Drop of water expelled by the eye
55. Adult male

*Provided by BestCrosswords.com. Used with permission.*


*Puzzle solutions on page 37*


**PISCES** (February 20-March 20):  
 As March progresses many Pisceans will be investigating ways of streamlining work commitments so they can have more free time in the summer. The stars suggest that your fear of letting a fire sign down is unfounded and Tuesday is an auspicious day for discussions. Those with a birthday this week will find that they have more options in the coming year. Lucky days for romance this week are Monday and Tuesday.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20):  
 Standing up for your rights or beliefs is forecast to bring some awkward moments for Arians this week. Choose your listeners carefully to avoid embarrassment. Those who have been waiting for a business decision to be made should be satisfied with the results. Where romance is concerned, an earth sign is doubtful about a more serious relationship. Wear the color hazelnut brown to enhance your romantic appeal.

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21):  
 Expressing how you really feel may be difficult this week. Taureans who can't easily say what's on their minds should try


writing their thoughts down first. The best plans you can come up with may not be perfect, but there will be room for improvement at a later date. Wish upon a star this weekend as the astral atmosphere is ready to support your needs. Wear a piece of turquoise to encourage smooth flow of communication.


**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21):  
 A business related project will only succeed if the foundations are firm. The stars indicate that some Geminis could be tempted to take short cuts this week. Inconvenience is highlighted on Tuesday and Wednesday when you will probably need to adjust your schedule to suit others. Your romantic luck is good, but a recently separated close friend is forecast to need a shoulder to cry on this weekend.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 23):  
 Finding the missing link in a potential business relationship comes at a helpful time for some Cancerians. An auspicious astral atmosphere encourages influential people to cross your path this week. Where romantic relationships are concerned, those who need a sympathetic ear to listen to a per-

**YOUR horoscope**  
 By Isla Star

sonal problem should choose another water sign or an air sign to get the best response. Wear the color mulberry red to encourage peace of mind.

**LEO** (July 24-August 22):  
 Leos could be reminded that all that glitters is not gold this week. A work situation that appeared full of promise may become less appealing when you learn more about what or who is involved. Where romance is concerned, a blast from your past is forecast to make contact in March. Those involved with someone else should remember that honesty is the best policy.

**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23):  
 Virgoans are forecast to have started the month of March on the right note. Your luck in business matters is strong and a more confident attitude has the right effect on those you want to impress. Love at first sight is

predicted this weekend when you are drawn to another earth sign.

**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23):  
 An earth sign's energy gives inspiration to Librans who have been feeling down in the dumps. Your ideas should start to become more realistic as March progresses. Finances are also predicted to be less troublesome this week and chances of gain between now and the middle of the month are strong. Those hoping to find romance are advised to stop trying too hard. The stars suggest that love will turn up when you least expect it.

**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22):  
 Your need to explore could cause a restless mood this week. Scorpios who are tied to one particular place or situation will be looking at ways to take a break. At work you may feel cornered by colleagues who have different views. Romantic tension with another water sign builds and there are indications that a first date will be everything you had hoped for.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21):  
 Sagittarius have probably only been listening to

what they want to hear at work. The stars suggest that once you understand all sides of a situation it will be easier to know how to react. Wednesday is the most auspicious day to have discussions with colleagues. A romance could be put to the test this weekend. Your lucky number is four.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20):  
 The stars suggest offloading some of your tasks - try asking for more support from family members. If it's not possible to relax at home, take time out this weekend to be quiet elsewhere. In the realm of romance, there are signs that a water sign's patience is wearing thin - you could be faced with an ultimatum this weekend. Relationships with other earth signs are well-starred.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19):  
 Aquarians are advised to make allowances for unreliable friends or colleagues this week. An unsettled astral atmosphere could mean that it's hard to make arrangements with other air signs in particular. Business negotiations are best left on the back burner until nearer the middle of March. Lime green is lucky this week.



# PROPERTY Gazette

News | Construction | Gardening | For sale | For rent | Classifieds

# New zoning laws to impact development

By Nicholas Altstadt

NEW environmental regulations may significantly affect property developments and land values, law experts told those gathered at the American Chamber of Commerce (AMCHAM) Greater Phuket Chapter's inaugural 2011 event last Friday.

The keynote speakers at the event, entitled "Changes In Greater Phuket Planning and Environmental Regulations", were Sorachon Boonsong and Kammalard Urapeepatanapong, partners at Baker & McKenzie, and Anurag Ramanat, a partner at South Asia Law.

At the core of the presentation were the "areas and measures" defined by new Environment Act regulations, effective from July 31, 2010.

The provisions govern the use of land in four "major tourist areas": Phuket, Hua Hin, Pattaya and Krabi.

Mr Anurag also discussed new zoning regulations in Phang Nga, similar to those in Phuket, which went into effect on July 2, 2010.

The regulations designate nine "zones" on Phuket, each with dif-

ferent building restrictions.

"From our analysis, development and land value in Phuket may be significantly affected by the introduction of the Phuket Environmental Regulations, especially 'mega-size' hillside villas," a Baker & McKenzie statement read.

"This impact is demonstrated by the stricter requirements in many aspects," it continued.

Restrictions governing building height, free space requirements, and "slope area" are applied differently in each of the nine zones.

Building height requirements are straightforward, according to a table produced by Baker & McKenzie. The law firm's interpretation of the regulations explains that building height is based on the following two criteria:

- In the case where there is no leveling of the ground, or the ground level is lower than the public road in the area of the construction site, the measurement shall be made from the ground level of the construction site.

- In the case the level of the ground is equal to or higher than the public road, the measurement shall be made from the level

Building height restrictions							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
≤ 6m and ≤ 20m set back from the sea	≤ 12m	≤ 16m	(1) ≤ 12m (2) ≤ 45m (3) ≤ 60m	≤ 6m unless permitted by local assembly but not more than 12m	≤ 8m except public utilities	Reserved for national security, national telecommunication, and public utilities	≤ 23m except telecom posts set ≤ 60m back from road

Free space requirements							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
≥ 75%	≥ 30% for house duplex, office building apartment, public buiding	≥ 30% for house duplex, office building apartment, public buiding	(1) ≥ 16% for Sino-Portuguese buiding and ≥ 30% for other	≥ 30% for house duplex, office building apartment, public buiding	≥ 30% for house duplex, office building apartment, public buiding		≥ 30% for house duplex, office building apartment, public buiding
≥ 40% for special industry ware-house	≥ 10% for commercial buiding townhouse	≥ 10% for commercial buiding townhouse	(2) ≥ 35% (3) ≥ 40%	≥ 10% for commercial buiding townhouse	≥ 10% for commercial buiding townhouse		≥ 10% for commercial buiding townhouse

at least 75 per cent of the land as free space unless otherwise permitted.

The issue of "free space", however, is a bit unclear when it comes to building on slopes, Mr Kamallard of Baker & McKenzie said.

In a slope area of 20 to 35 per cent, all eight zones are restricted to construction of "houses or standalone buildings" only, with at least 70 per cent free space, 50 per cent of which must be "green space with local trees", Mr Kammalard said.

"It is a bit unclear what 'local trees' means," he added.

About 60 people attended AMCHAM's first event of the year for the newly created Greater Phuket Chapter.

Among those in attendance were AMCHAM Greater Phuket Chapter committee leaders Bill Barnett of C9 Hotelworks and John Magee of the *Phuket Gazette*.

Introducing the keynote speakers, Mr Barnett said the creation of the Greater Phuket Chapter is "sending a message to Bangkok that Phuket is serious about business".

of the public road. The varying height restrictions for each zone can be seen in the top chart on this page.

Each zone is also subject to various free space requirements (bottom table), meaning that a certain percentage of the space remain "open". For example, in Area 1, a property must maintain

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# Developing the land with impact in mind



Property Watch

By Bill Barnett

FOR those interested in living in paradise, the decision of whether to live "on" or "off the grid" ultimately comes at a price.

Be it convenience, aesthetics, cost or trying to stretch the generosity of Mother Earth's resources, the debate is like that in any marriage or relationship: There will be compromise, and more and more to follow.

Giving back to nature when building your island dream house can often create a personal conundrum akin to that of Jekyll and Hyde – while those electric cards certainly do wonders for the planet, isn't a bright red Ferrari much more in tune with the impending midlife crisis?

Taking the high road – and drawing on one of those oxygen tanks for the moment – I've compiled some ideas from both local island homes and those abroad that make sense, sustainability-wise.

Reducing the "footprint" of building sites through the use of smaller, independent buildings allows green areas to coexist.

Earthworks for mega-structures that often require large-scale cut and fill can be minimized or eliminated by creating lightweight mini-buildings.

In light of changes to the island's environmental regulations last year that restrict free-space ratios, this approach works wonderfully.



**PROBLEMS OF OLD:** Overdevelopment in Patong has caused major floods in years past. This photo was taken by our reporter in 2009 in response to complaints from residents over inadequate drainage in the area.

Site drainage – whether it's into the ocean, down slopes or onto roadways – continues to blight Phuket.

While addressing issues of runoff and soil erosion inevitably require sub-drainage systems, the planting of native species for landscaping that have deep-root systems and can absorb rainwater runoff can help. Design features which use soil berms rather than concrete sidings also lessen impact.

Exaggerated roof overhangs not only produce shade, reducing the need for air conditioning, but can be used to capture large amounts of rainwater that can be

stored for domestic and landscaping use. Intelligent use of roof peaks creates opportunities for natural ventilation, as can wind-powered extractor fans or external vents. Natural breezes can be circulated and hot air, which rises, can be eliminated without turning on the electricity.

Louvered feature walls can be another great addition. They can be open and closed, depending on the weather and with smaller footprints for buildings, existing spaces can serve dual purposes as indoor or outdoor living spaces.

Thick walls, often constructed from earth removed from the building site, reduce heat exchange and keep interiors night-time cool, even during the hottest part of sizzling tropical days.

Using individual solar lighting fixtures in outdoor areas saves electricity and reduces the need to dig up gardens and walkways. It also saves on the extensive use of plastic conduits and makes moving lights an incredibly easy task.

With a home that takes up less land area, you create space for not

only ornamental landscaping, but usable trees, plants and gardens. Try planting a banana tree or two instead of visiting the supermarket.

The same approach can be taken with interiors. Recycling an eclectic mix of broken tiles can create original mosaics and the use of bamboo laminates instead of wood creates stylistic overtones.

We've managed to cover a lot of territory in the column today and now my mind is swimming laps in an Olympic-size pool of possibilities.

For those who don't have the luxury of building their dreams from scratch, remember that baby steps and small doses of investment can pay off – whether investing in energy-saving lights in your apartment or condo, or going out to buy and grow a plant for the very first time.

The best thing is that this is like the day before summer vacation from school; tomorrow you have the freedom to try new things – explore – and give just a little back to our island.

Bill Barnett is Managing Director of C9 Hotelworks and can be contacted through [www.c9hotelworks.com](http://www.c9hotelworks.com).



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## In brief...

### Nai Thon wins as intercontinental move in with Indigo

INTERCONTINENTAL Hotels has announced the signing of a new 120-room and 15-villa project under their boutique Indigo brand at Nai Thon Beach.

Local Phuket firm Tiansin Property Development inked a deal for the site, located across the street from the 281 key Pullman Arcadia Resort which is currently under construction.

The Hotel Indigo Phuket is expected to open mid-2014. Expect some confusion as nearby Nai Yang calls the Indigo Pearl home, which is independently operated.

IHG's newest brand Hotel Indigo has 38 properties globally with a hotel in Bangkok in the pipeline.

Tiansin is best known as a dealer of Mitsubishi vehicles on the island.

Nai Thon beach is expected to experience dramatic changes from what was once a nearly deserted beach to what is now becoming a mainstream market place.

### Krabi's Lai Thai resort redeveloped

WELL-KNOWN Krabi resort Lai Thai is being redeveloped into upscale hotel-managed apartments.

The developer has cited growing demand for family style accommodations with kitchen facilities as prompting the move.

New configurations are studio, one and two bedroom units and penthouses. Legal structuring is under leasehold provisions given an anticipated large foreign demand.

Pricing points start from 3.5 to 13.5 million baht.

Located in the main tourist area of Ao Nang Beach, the former bungalow property operated as a resort for 15 years.

### Dean & DeLuca expand number of Thai outlets

DRAWING on the success of their first Thailand outlet at Bangkok's trendy MahaNakhon sales pavilion, chic New York specialty brand Dean & DeLuca are set to expand to other parts of the country.

Expansion plans call for a series of new cafes and gourmet markets to be opened in Bangkok over the next few years.

The SoHo born enterprise has created an ultimate buzz with the hi-so crowd in the nation's capital and is looking to use the successful platform to expand into new locations.

Do you have any breaking news about Phuket property? Email [property@phuketgazette.net](mailto:property@phuketgazette.net)



# Landless let down by Cabinet

SIX communities in Phuket, of 34 across Thailand hoping to receive "community" title deeds to the land they live on, reacted with disappointment last week following a Cabinet decision not to address their concerns.

A Prime Minister's Office regulation, announced last year, called for the government to legalize and protect communities who make their living on idle plots of government land.

After a lengthy selection process, 35 communities across Thailand were chosen to qualify for the "community Chanote" title deeds.

The chosen communities in Phuket were: Baan Tha Sak in Pa Khlok; Baan Khlong Koh Phi in Wichit; Baan Khlong Pakbang in Patong; Baan Tha Reua Mai in Rassada; Baan Ao Yon in Wichit; and Baan Sapam in Koh Kaew.

So far just one area nationwide has received a "community Chanote" and residents of the remaining 34 are becoming skeptical they will ever receive the deeds.

They want the government to

speed up issuance of the deeds and to strong-arm uncooperative bodies such as the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE).

The MNRE controls land on which 17 of the communities are located.

Environment Minister Suwit Khunkitti has criticized the scheme, saying he fears giving title deeds to communities living on protected forest land could encourage more encroachment on forests.

Members of the Phuket communities joined hundreds of poor people protesting in Bangkok in mid-February.

They urged the government to make good on promises to help Thailand's poorest residents.

The communities had therefore pinned their hopes on last week's Cabinet meeting to yield some progress, after Sathit Wongnongtoey, the minister responsible for the scheme, promised to present their concerns to PM Abhisit Vejjajiva and his Cabinet.

However, the Cabinet "ac-

knowledged" the issue, but decided to take no action, *Phuket Gazette*-affiliate *Krungthep Thurakij* reported.

Phongthip Samranchit, an adviser to the National Land Reform (NLR) in Thailand, an umbrella group representing communities affected by land rights issues, told *Krungthep Thurakij* that the MNRE had failed to hand over title deeds because it claimed it had no legal mechanism to do so.

Mrs Phongthip said she had asked Mr Sathit to explain the problem to the Cabinet last week. Prayong Doklamyai, an adviser to the NLR, said he thought the Cabinet did not dare make a decision.

The Cabinet had acknowledged the problem, but this would have no effect in bringing about action, he told reporters.

"When it goes like this, we just have to protest indefinitely," he said. The group may have to continue their protest until the government agrees to their demands, he added.

- *Krungthep Thurakij*

For more on this and many more property and news stories see [W:phuketgazette.net](http://W:phuketgazette.net)



LAND WANTED: A group of 300 "Rak Santi" (Peace Loving People) from the East and Northeast have asked the government to either grant or leasing them land. Photo: The Nation



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# Hardy Hydrangeas that beat the heat



## Gardening

By Patrick Campbell

THERE is a villa garden close to the lake in Nai Harn with one of the most glorious collections of Hydrangea in Phuket.

Although the name Hydrangea rarely conjures up visions of a Phuket paradise (more likely gardens in the cooler climes) they are flourishing in this garden. All thanks to the care lavished on them by a retired English lawyer and his charming wife.

This shrub's natural habitat is in moist woodland, so you would hardly expect to find Hydrangeas in Nai Harn, but you do, and they are thriving.

They are doing well for two reasons. Firstly, because they are growing in large pots well-supplied with plenty of rich humus, organic compost and liberal amounts of water.

Secondly, because they are located in a shady patio area at the side of the house where the sun can't scorch their foliage.

Hydrangeas are the most demanding of shrubs when it comes to acidic soil and murky light, so it's good that here they get plenty of both.

Right now, the *Hydrangea Macrophylla* is coming into flower, with its densely packed clusters of blooms igniting the villa's cobbled patio.

Blueish-pink, these "mopheads" display their wares atop attractive green foliage. Here, they vie for attention with specimens of Red Ginger, already displaying their exotic spikes of scarlet bracts.

Make no mistake, this is not just a cool climate garden. Meticulously kept, and seven years since the present owners acquired it, the garden also contains plenty of



**PICTURESQUE:** This quaint garden is owned by a retired English lawyer and his wife and is bursting with flowers. Photos: Patrick Campbell

well-established tropical delights.

In the center of the lawn is a venerable avocado plant which produces the largest and most succulent pears imaginable.

Next to it is a prickly pear plant of similar vintage. The avocado provides shade for other shrubs in the adjacent borders, such as *Clerodendrum Tricotomum*, which is currently showing off its red flowers with white bottle shaped chutes that turn purple as they drop.

Related to the pagoda plant, this woody shrub is not common in Phuket, yet deserves to be more popular.

The hedges enclosing this triangular garden are planted with pink and apricot colored Hibiscus on one side, and a mix of Thunbergia, Indian Rubber Vine and Bougainvillea inside the wall fronting the road.

The owners have fought and won a battle against fungus, mealy

bugs and white fly – pests which infested the Hibiscus and threatened its survival. Now vigorous and healthy, the result is a dense border of flowers seven feet high.

The Thunbergia has survived a different kind of struggle – against the thorny embrace of the nearby Bougainvilleas, which became invasive and had to be cut back.

Close by in a separate circular bed is a fine Yellow Bells (*Tecoma stans*), also in full flower.

Against the house wall is a beautifully manicured hedge of orange Ixora, flanked by a low border of mauve Cuphea.

Relax on the veranda and the eye is captivated by floral vistas in all directions.

Nowhere is the Thai influence more evident than in the profusion Crown of Thorn plants, all neatly potted and arranged in ranks to attract the visitor's eye as it ascends the gentle paved slope to the front veranda.



**PHEW, IT'S HOT:** Hydrangeas are usually grown in cooler climates.

Salmon pink, cerise and yellow, there are also *Euphorbia millii*, the variety with tiny brilliant red flowers.

The delightful theme is repeated near a pool flanked by colorful pots of Euphorbias, and Variegated Crotons.

On the roadside beyond the wall is a narrow strip of earth. Most owners would ignore this feature, but not these gardeners. Instead, they have assiduously enriched and watered the soil.

The results are colorful, with masses of pink Portulaca Daisies at ground level, and towering above them, clumps of brilliant red Zinnias and equally dazzling Canna Lilies. The symphony of color is completed by a row of giant sunflowers. A most harmonious combination.

If you have a garden that you would like to be featured on this page, please email: [pcampbell45@gmail.com](mailto:pcampbell45@gmail.com)

## Tip of the week

### Spray and pray

INFESTATIONS in tropical gardens must be treated drastically and immediately.

Look for telltale signs such as falling or discolored leaves, try to identify the culprit, and treat with a modern insecticide or fungicide. And remember that it is at the larval stage that a lot of insects are most lethal.

I recently received a picture of a white grub with massive brown mouth parts where a critter had destroyed a reader's 300-year-old cashew tree in a matter of weeks by burrowing into its trunk and branches.

My prize fiddlewood tree went the same way – killed by a particularly virulent fungus which was detected too late.

The grub turned out to be the larva of *Plocaderus Ferrigneus*, which has ravaged whole cashew plantations in Africa. The fungus was probably black spot, and Mancozeb might have saved it.

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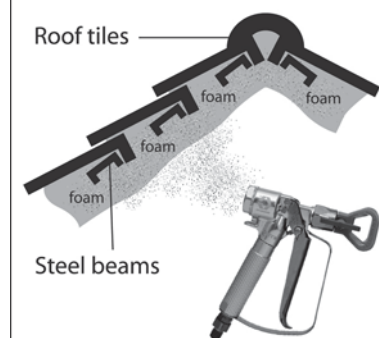
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3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, approx 150sqm, established garden on 1.2 rai (1920sqm) fully fenced in. C/w two car access, gates and 1 bungalow. Close to Surin & Bang Tao beaches & amenities. Tel: 086-941 0410. Email: here@fastmail.fm See all details and photo gallery at <http://click.here.fastmail.fm>

### LAND FOR SALE BY OWNER

Cape Yamu: 1.5 rai. Mission Hills: 1 rai. Both Chanote. Price negotiable. Tel: 076-239432, 081-087 9237 (English & Thai), 086-270 8727. Email: crob58@gmail.com For further details, please see our website at <http://samuivillafor sale.com/phuket-land>

### ONE BEDROOM POOL VILLA



Near Laguna. Land: 125 sqm. Building: 83sqm. Fully furnished, with a private 3x5m pool. For a quick sale. Price: 5.5 million baht. Long-term rent: 35,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-325411, 081-979 3369. Email: bhee@phuketrealty.net

### 2-BEDROOM PATONG CONDO

High floor, 100sqm, fully furnished. The project has a gym, 2 pools, 2 km to town. Going quickly - call today! Tel: 080-052 8082 (English). Email: solitude001@aol.com

**3-BEDROOM HOUSE**  
for sale in Chuan Chuen Lagoon Koh Keaw. Very close to British school. Fully furnished, with 2 bathrooms, 3 aircons, 2 living areas. Includes washing machine. 65sq wah. Price: 3.95 million baht. Contact Scott. Tel: 081-866 8716.

### AUCTION SALE BEST OFFER



It has 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, a studio apartment, 2 car garages, and a pool. Land: 700sqm. House: 380sqm. Tel: 084-850 0568.

### THAI TRADITIONAL PRIVAT POOL VILLA



For sale. 3 bedrooms, with 24 hours security. Just 3 minutes to Nai Harn Beach. Please visit [www.chokechaiproperty.com](http://www.chokechaiproperty.com)

### 2 BEDROOM VILLA FULLY FURNISHED

Located in a very quiet green area in Rawai-Nai Harn. 200sqm, brand-new 2 bedroom villa with a garden view, 2 bathrooms, living room and western-style kitchen. Fully equipped with all appliances including flatscreen TV LCD, DVD and 3 aircon units. Garden and parking place. 10mins from Nai Harn Beach, 15mins from Kata Beach, 10mins from Home Pro Village. Chanote title included, pictures available. Price: 6.8 million baht. Email: greenhousephuket@gmail.com

### PATONG CONDO FOR SALE / RENT

Two condos fully furnished going cheap. For rent also. Tel: 084-442 6144 (English). Email: tj\_biggie@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at <http://cheaproom spatong.web.fc2.com/phuket.html>

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Flat land near Dowroong School in Phuket Town. Tel: 081-691 2526.

### ON THE BEACH

2-bedroom apartment in north Patong. Foreign freehold, top floor, swimming pools. 9.7 million baht. Tel: 086-276 5117. Email: jihshand@gmail.com

### SEAVIEW LAND FOR SALE

13 rai 3 ngan in Layan. Price: 5 million baht per rai or best offer. Please call. Tel: 086-272 6508 (English), 085-782 1579 (Thai).

### GOLF VIEW LAND IN KATHU

For sale, 17 rai with view of Loch Palm golf course, connects with the main road, Nor Sor 3 Kor. Price: 65 million baht. Tel: 089-724 7211 (English). Email: julien@phuketimmo.com

### 58 RAI IN TAKUAPA

Palm oil farm, with house. 10-year-old trees. Price: 10 million baht. Tel: 089-594 4017.

### 11 RAI HOBBY FARM

200km from Phuket. 1 hour to Surin Islands. With Chanote title. Price: 4 million baht. Tel: 089-594 4017.

### LOFT SEAVIEW VILLA



2 bedrooms beachfront, panoramic view. All facilities, including fitness clubhouse. Price: 37 million baht. Tel: 084-837 4429. [www.chokechaiproperty.com](http://www.chokechaiproperty.com)

### SALE BT5M POOL VILLA, RAWAI BEACH



With 6 bedrooms and 6 bathrooms on 400sqm plot. Freehold title. Lease: from 1 up to 30 years. Tel: 084-242 8914. Email: phuket7@yahoo.com

### LUXURY VILLA IN CHALONG



Baan Pranghtong Park, an exclusive residential gated community. House: 660sqm on 3 levels. Land: 1,600sqm. 5-bedrooms, 7-bathrooms, with a 12.5 x 6m swimming pool, spa, large sala and double garage. Freehold: 5 Chanote title of 82sq wah (350sqm) each. Excellent investment potential on 2 plots with Chanote Title, to built another 2 separate villas fully independent with own entrance. Price: 750,000 euros or equivalent in Thai baht. Long-term rent: 120,000 baht per month, full maintenance. Tel: 086-271 3260. Email: crishausb@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at [www.tamata-phuket.com](http://www.tamata-phuket.com)

### LAND NEAR LAYAN HILL ESTATE

1/2 rai, quiet location, easy access, near Laguna. Price: 2.35 million baht. Tel: 081-078 0014. Email: homeinphuket@live.com

### PRIVATE SALE OF HALF A RAI

At Ao Makham. Land is located opposite Port of Phuket and next to Bel Air Cape Panwa Resort. Price 4.2 million. Tel: 081-891 5932, 089-035 6702.

### CHEAP LAND FOR SALE

Close to Phuket International Airport. 4 rai, Chanote title. 3.8 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-868 7676. Email: phuketann@gmail.com

### 4 BED IN RAWAI 5.7 MILLION BAH



360sqm, 4 aircons, 3 bathrooms, filter system, storage area. Easy walk to shop and beach. Tel: 084-424 7688.

### HOUSE & FURNITURE

Single house, 60sqm. 2 floors, 3 bedrooms and 3 toilets. In Chaipayruak Village at Land & House, Chalong. Good location and entrance from bypass road. Built 2 years ago. Tel: 084-627 7001.

### LAND AT CHERNG TALAY

390sqw, nice flat land, quiet area, Chanote. In Pasak Soi 5 near Laguna Home. Price: 6 million baht. Tel: 089-472 9118, 086-709 2933.

### LAND FOR SALE

Near the main road to Baan Don-Cherng Talay. 68sq wah. 1.1 million baht. Tel: 089-472 9118. Email: honda.1437@yahoo.co.th

### BAR POOL HOTEL 9 ROOMS



at Rawai Beach. 648sqm plot with a building for sale. Price: 10 million baht, with 6 years financing. Tel: 084-242 8914. Email: phuket7@yahoo.com

### 3-BEDROOM HOUSE

62sq wah, 2 bathrooms, Villa Dowroong. 4.5 million baht. Contact Khun Tar. Tel: 076-377052, 089-971 1268.

### PATONG APT

2-bedroom apartment for rent or sale. 87sqm unit on the 5th floor with seaview. Fully furnished. Tel: 081-891 6502. Email: andrea.capucci@gmail.com

### SEAVIEW LAND IN AO MAKHAM



For sale. Chanote title, easy access in and out with concrete road. Price: 12 million baht per rai. No agent! Tel: 087-270 9093.

### LAND AT PA KHLOK

1 rai 13.6sq wah with Chanote. Located on Tha Ruea-Pa Khlok-Muang Mai Rd. 11 km from Heroines Monument, near Mission Hill. Price: 3.9 million baht. Tel: 089-4729118.

### LAND IN KAMALA

1 rai, behind Phuket Fanta-Sea. Price 6.5 million baht. Contact for more details. Tel: 087-270 9093.

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Mid Town, Royal Place Project. Studio condo, fully furnished, reasonable price. Tel: 086-476 9612.

**STUNNING VILLA AT BOAT LAGOON**  
Special design, 5 bedrooms, on a plot of 1,256sqm. Price upon request. Tel: 076-238948, 081-968 9046, 089-873 8050. Email: pen@phuketpropertytrip.com

**SUPER SEA VIEW**  
Property with a super sea view for sale at 21 million baht. Long-term rent 160,000 per month. Tel: 086-982 2888 (English & Thai). Email: prim\_purdue@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at www.awphuket.com

**PATONG APARTMENT**  
10 minutes to beach. 9th-floor condotel. Furnished. 28sqm. Price: 1.5 million baht o.n.o. Tel: 089-909 3882.

**LAND FOR SALE**  
4 rai at Nai Yang. Near beach. Asking price: 4.3 million baht per rai. Tel: +324 7754 5098 (Eng), 087-091 8331 (Thai). Email: chiangmaibeltrade@hotmail.com

**GREAT VILLA DEALS**  
2-floor villa in secured estate, with 3 or 4 bedrooms. 327sqm living area, big garden, airconditioned, fully equipped kitchen, high-quality materials and finish. Price: 11.9 million baht. More great deals are available. Contact builder. Tel: 087-893 8747.

**THE SANDS FREEHOLD CONDO**  
2-bedroom condo for sale at 11 million baht. Foreign freehold. Email: naiharnhome@gmail.com

**PORNSAWAN CONDO 1.8 MILLION BAH**  
Freehold! Corner room with private balcony, 78sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, never rented out, car park, pool and keycard. Tel: 076-245013, 086-741 1113. Email: nulong\_noot@yahoo.com

**NICE PLOT**



For sale. Near Layan Hill Estate (Manik-Bang Jo area). Size: 1,364sqm. Price: 7.2 million baht. Tel: 080-520 2989.

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Single house for sale or rent located at Phanason 3 (Thalang). Land area 63.3 sq wah, 3 bed, 2 bath, large living area, furnished, ADSL, tel, landscaped garden and 24hr security. Sale price: 2.85 million baht. For more info, call Phing. Tel: 087-278 0067. Email: sweetpinkylive@live.co.uk

**VILLA URGENT SALE**

Two-bedroom pool villa, fully furnished. Price reduced from 14.5 million baht to 11 million baht. Tel: 076-384664, 087-898 8647. Fax: 076-384665. Email: mundo@ayudhya.net

**PATONG BEACH, LAND FOR SALE**

500sqm - 1,400sqm of prime land for sale in the hills at the north end of Patong Beach. Very quiet and natural setting, good access by road, own water supply, and utility. Open to offers. Tel: 081-891 3466 (English). Email: antc@phuket.ksc.co.th

**BOAT LAGOON MARINA**  
Houses 23/65 + 76 for sale. Freehold. End units. Price: 6.9 million and 8.9 million baht. For further details pls call Khun Pen. Tel: 081-968 9046.

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Newly built Thai / Bali modern villa for sale in a beautiful and quiet area of Rawai. Priced to sell. Land 600sqm, internal area 250sqm. 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Comes fully furnished. Asking price: 11.8 million baht, negotiable. Call Gary. Tel: 089-973 1180 (English & Thai). Email: garyfordham@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at www.phuketrawai villa.com

**NICE AND SPACIOUS HOUSE**



In Heritage Project, Kathu. 2 floors, fully furnished, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 1 maidroom. 234sq wah. 18 million baht. Tel: 081-8920190 (Warit), 089-6464823 (Rattana). Email: prayoon\_jp@hotmail.com

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**SUPERB CONDO**

56sqm, fully furnished, 1 bedroom with sea view. Chanote title included. Close to the beach, viewing is a must. Tel: 087-822 3357. Email: Marberry45@hotmail.com

**STUNNING SEAVIEWS**

House on cape heights at Yamu. 4-bedroom luxury villa set in gardens with a pool. Price: 25 million baht. Financing available. Tel: 086-279 6283.

**NAI HARN LUXURY CONDO**



2-3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 111sqm. From 4.5 million baht. Must see. Tel: 084-993 7308. For further details, please see our website at www.amphiseabreeze.com

**TWO PLOTS MISSION HILLS**

206sq wah plot. Flat land with a mountain view on small development with Chanote title and electricity. Price: 1.6 million baht. 6-Rai hilltop land with sea and mountain views, including Chanote title. Price: 4 million baht per rai. Tel: 087-978 5804.

**HOUSE FOR SALE IN KATHU**

Nice town house, farang style. 1 floor, no garden. 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 1 living room, 1 kitchen and a nice terrace. 2 aircon units. Close to Kathu waterfall, waterski and school. Email for more pictures and information. Price: 1.4 million baht. Tel: 089-881 7310 (Thai), 088-444 7914 (English). Email: yingpromthep@gmail.com

**2MB REDUCED AT 1.4MB**



Rawai Beach. 28-year lease. Pool villa on 92sqm plot + 15sqm parking. Furnished. Tel: 084-242 8914. Email: phuket7@yahoo.com

**SAI YUAN BUILDING**



Building at Sai Yuan. 28sq wah, 3-storey. Price: 4.7 million baht. Tel: 081-606 7600 (Thai), 085-095 0599 (English).

**NEWLY BUILT BIG POOL VILLA**

Newly built and fully furnished in Cherngtalay, close to the Laguna area. Exclusive architect-designed villa with large pool. Ready to move in. 320sqm on 500sqm land. Large living room and kitchen in open plan. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Large glass sliding doors to the garden from all rooms. Garage for 2 cars. Motorized gate and wall around the plot. Price: 12.9 million baht. Tel: 082-807 2392 (English). Email: info@hyrahusphuket.se For further details, please see our website at www.hyrahusphuket.se/Objekttillsalu\_19.html

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Bang Tao. All utilities. Safe community. 6.9 million baht. Tel: 086-267 0157 (English), 089-590 3665 (Thai). Fax: 076-325294. Email: bannuaton@yahoo.com

**POOL VILLA RAWAI**

Pool villa for sale in Rawai. 3-4 bedrooms, with full aircon, a fully equipped kitchen, very big rooms and a large garden. Tel: 087-893 8747.

**SPACIOUS RAWAI VILLA, POOL**



3 large en-suite bedrooms, all with aircon. 46sqm lounge, western kitchen. Plus guesthouse. Separate maid's/utility room. Includes a private pool in a 1,000sqm walled garden. In a quiet leafy area. ADSL. With Chanote title. Price: 14.9 million baht. Tel: 087-273 0141. Email: howells\_sue@yahoo.co.uk

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**VAN DE STADT 38' YACHT**

Ashore at Langkawi Port, due for inspection in March. Photos and spec on request. Price: US\$ 45,000. Tel: +60-125-531 4030 (English). Email: brianralph.goodwin@yahoo.com

**91FT JUNK SAILBOAT FOR SALE**



A newly built traditional junk rigged sailing boat. Perfect for a day or sunset cruise business. Can easily accommodate 50 passengers with comfort. Price: 5.8 million baht. Tel: 077-430108, 081-894 9005 (English & Thai). Fax: 077-430109. Email: mako@cg8.so-net.ne.jp For further details, please see our website at www.hobo-ya-similar.com/photogallery/akariforsale/index.html

**SPEEDBOAT FOR SALE**

With 2 company work permits. Building B&B. Boat length: 27'. Year: 2007. GPR Fiberglass capacity: 35 knots. Engine: Honda 225MP. Price: 960,000 baht. Negotiable. Tel: 087-518 1347.

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A perfect fishing boat made of fiberglass. Comes with 2 Honda 4 stroke engines, each 50 HP. It has a hydraulik system, a Simrad navigation GPS chart plotter and electric Ankerwisch plus toilet. Phuket registration. With 4-wheel aluminium trailer. Price: 600,000 baht. Contact Khun Aree. Tel: 089-474 5168.

**REMOTE SEARCHLIGHT**

Guest stainless, remote operated, motorized, 12v spot / floodlight. In excellent condition. 7,000 baht. Tel: 081-397 7598 (English & Thai). Email: kajoda1954@yahoo.co.uk

**SEA DOO 255 RXT JETSKI**

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**MOTORSAILER**



33' ketch. New paint and varnish. Sailed single-handed from UK. Many new parts. Bluewater cruiser. Tel: 081-968 1437 (English). Email: bobedward1@hotmail.com

**55-FOOT CATAMARAN**

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**BARGAIN YAMAHA JET-SKI**

Yamaha jet-ski on trailer in perfect running condition. Engine has just been totally revised. Mooring place available. Price: 115,000 baht or O.N.O. Contact Roy. Tel: 082-425 0230.

**POWER CAT FOR SALE**

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**LOOKING FOR PEGASUS 8.2**

Looking for a Pegasus 8.2 fiberglass in good condition. Tel: 081-891 3095 (English). Email: norbusteahouse@gmail.com

**NEW BAYLINER 175 FOR SALE@COST**

New Bayliner 175 with full options + trailer. For sale by dealer at cost. Price dropped from 950,000 to 850,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-754 7599. Email: csutivas@gmail.com Website at www.mfjetski.com

**NEW SEADOO RXP@ KILLER DEAL**

2009 New RXP 215HP still in crate. 70+mph. Last unit, price reduced from 510,000 to 420,000 baht. Tel: 081-754 7599. Email: csutivas@gmail.com

**ROYAL PHUKET MARINA BERTH**

20m front line Royal Phuket Marina berth to let by private owner. On flexible terms and greatly discounted rates. Email: james@shayler.com

**23M, 75" YACHT - SUPERSALE**

Very nice boat in great condition, good for snorkeling and fishing trips. Can carry 35 people + 4 crew. Urgent sale. Please email for more info. Tel: 086-010 6988 (English). Email: michaelcrona@email.com

**AZIMUT 46 (2001)**

For sale. New listing. Very good condition, mail for brochure. Tel: 086-690 0444 (English), 085-887 7414 (Thai). Email: rico@yachtcharter-asia.com

**WOODWORK FOR BOAT & HOUSE**

All for wood and more!

- Full hull repairs
- Internal woodwork
- Teak wood work and decking
- Teak wood accessories
- Fiberglass repairs
- Spray painting
- Antifouling
- Super Yacht repairs
- Built-in furniture for homes, kitchens, flooring, decking, wardrobes
- Concrete waterproofing and more.

Tel: 076-238947, 081-968 3118 (English), 081-271 3228 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-238947. Email: info@procarpentering.com

**JET SKI YAMAHA**

Must sell. VX Deluxe 140 HR. Price: 240,000 baht. Tel: 089-470 8926. Email: jyfievat@gmail.com

**BIG GAME FISHING BOAT FOR SALE**

13 meters, purpose-built big game fishing boat. Price: 4.5 million baht. Serious offers considered. Tel: 082-218 3177. Email: deudale@yahoo.co.uk

**8M SAILING CATAMARAN**

Thai registered cat from 2008. 15Hp Yamaha. New paint, varnish and antifouling. Good condition, fully equipped and ready to sail. Price: 390,000 baht. Tel: +49-332-22930210, 087-461 8089. Email: StefanStier@gmx.de

**SOLUTIONS TO THIS WEEK'S PUZZLES**

**COFFEE break**

**Crossword puzzle:**

1	A	M	I	S	5	C	A	T	E	R	9	S	A	R	D
14	S	A	G	A	15	U	S	A	G	E	16	A	L	A	E
17	P	R	O	F	E	S	S	I	O	N	A	L	I	Z	E
20	S	T	R	E	U	S	E	L	21	M	U	T	T	E	R
					22	R	E	T	23	S	I	R	S		
24	A	M	B	L	E	D	26	E	T	N	A	28	T	S	P
32	K	A	Y	A	K	36	F	R	O	B	34	S	E	T	A
35	E	X	T	R	A	C	U	R	R	I	C	U	L	A	R
38	L	I	E	D	38	O	G	E	40	H	E	I	S	T	
41	A	M	S	42	C	R	U	D	43	C	A	T	C	H	Y
					44	G	A	V	E	45	M	A	C		
46	A	S	S	U	R	E	49	M	A	R	M	O	S	E	T
54	D	E	P	A	R	T	M	E	N	T	A	L	I	Z	E
58	A	L	A	R	57	T	E	A	S	E	58	A	T	R	A
59	R	A	N	D	60	E	N	T	E	R	61	Y	E	A	R

**Quiz answers:**

- Snakes
- Brian Cowen
- River Liffey
- Boy
- County Cork
- The Cranberries
- Horse Racing
- The Irish Times
- Westlife
- Pierce Brosnan
- James Joyce
- Daniel Day Lewis



WWW.  
**Scandinavian-Divers**  
COM  
THE WORLD OF  
DIVING & SNORKELLING

**One of Phuket's biggest Dive Centers has an available position in the booking department:**

- The following qualifications are needed:
- Excellent skills in spoken and written Thai
- Good skills in spoken and written English
- Knowledge of the dive business
- Knowledge in working with a computer
- Presentable and flexible

Interested candidates, who fit the above profiles, please email your resume immediately. We will then call you to make an appointment for an interview.

Chalong: Phone: 076-383 052  
Email: [info@scandinavian-divers.com](mailto:info@scandinavian-divers.com)

**MY STORAGE™**  
Secure, Clean & Cost Effective Self Storage

MY STORAGE – Thailand's No.1 Self Storage facility located at Jungceylon Shopping Center, Patong, Phuket – is seeking an enthusiastic, motivated and result driven Sales professional.

**Sales Executive**

- Bachelor's degree or related field
- Thai national 25 – 35 years old, fluent in English (written and spoken)
- Minimum of 3-5 years sales experience in the same field or position
- Computer literate with good knowledge of Microsoft Office
- Excellent administrative office skills and a good telephone manner
- Good presentation, negotiation and communication skills
- Advanced customer service skills
- Honest, proactive and well organized
- Pleasant personality and service-minded
- Positive attitude, enthusiastic and able to work under pressure
- Car driving license with own car will be advantage.
- This is a full time position which may involve some weekend work/shift and flexible hours
- Salary & benefits plus commission - great earning potential!

Submit your CV with recent photo and a covering letter in English to [hr@mystorageasia.com](mailto:hr@mystorageasia.com) or call 076 29 29 09 for further information.

Want to know more about MY STORAGE? Visit [mystorageasia.com](http://mystorageasia.com)

www.AbsoluteWorld.net

**Absolute**  
WORLD  
Share in the dream

With the expansion of the Absolute Group of Companies, we are recruiting for a new role

**PA TO COUNTRY GENERAL MANAGER – THAILAND**

This role is an exciting new development for the Group and will be based in the Thailand Head Office in Patong, Phuket.

We are looking for a self-starter, someone who is extremely well organised, focused and energetic with excellent communication skills in both written and spoken English and with Thai mother tongue to support our new Country GM as PA.

**Qualifications**

- Bachelor's Degree or higher in other related fields
- Minimum 2 years' experience working with expatriate executives in such a position, preferably in a foreign management / tourism related company
- Excellent communication skills with fluency in written and spoken English and Thai
- A high level of diplomacy; able to deal with sensitive and confidential matters
- Excellent IT skills and proficiency with Microsoft Office products, including an advanced knowledge of Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Outlook and Internet Access
- Good administrative abilities
- Good personality, leadership skills, positive attitude
- Age ideally not exceeding 37 years old
- High responsibility, discipline, self motivated and well organised
- Willingness to be flexible with working hours, when appropriate
- An active team player with a sense of urgency and the ability to work independently in a dynamic environment

**Responsibilities**

- Responsible for all secretarial and admin for Country GM
- Schedule all appointments and meetings for Country GM
- Correspondence in English, co-ordinating with customers and suppliers, liaising with internal departments and managing all incoming and outgoing distribution and filing correspondences
- Carry out other duties as may be requested including personal issues and other related jobs as assigned
- Support in travel arrangements for itineraries, such as booking air tickets and confirmation / accommodation
- Manage and co-ordinate various concerned projects as assigned
- For the right candidate we offer excellent salary and benefits

Absolute Sales Corporation Co.,Ltd. HR Department, 42/11 Taveewong Road, Patong Beach, Kathu, Phuket, 83150 Thailand  
Tel: +66 76 341 427 Fax: +66 76 341 425 Email: [hr@clubabsolute.com](mailto:hr@clubabsolute.com)

#### SALE EXECUTIVE NEEDED

Sale Executive needed urgently in Phuket Town. Qualifications: Aged between 25-45 years, male or female. Good command of English in writing and speaking skills. Minimum 2 years of experience as sales officer, any construction experience will be considered favorably. Salary: 8,500-12,000 baht not including commission. Tel: 0878153777 or [phuketimperial@yahoo.com](mailto:phuketimperial@yahoo.com) For further details, please see our website at [www.phuket-stainless-service.com](http://www.phuket-stainless-service.com)

#### MASSAGE THERAPIST JOBS

Massage therapists to work in fitness clubs in Russia. Good pay, free round-trip airfare and a free apartment. Tel: +1-602-904 5716. Email: [Wall.lawoffices@gmail.com](mailto:Wall.lawoffices@gmail.com) For further details, please see our website at [www.fitness.ru/content/ru/club-2009-02-18-15-46-06.html](http://www.fitness.ru/content/ru/club-2009-02-18-15-46-06.html)

#### STAFF WANTED

Nightshift receptionist for Patong guesthouse. Must speak some English. Tel: 083-388 4300.

#### WEB DEVELOPER HELP NEEDED

Looking for a person who can do PHP, MySQL, CSS3, SEO, Googlemap API v3, HTML5, Web optimization (size, on both Images and code, caching for fast loading speeds). Tel: 076-239820. Email: [noinah@latitude1maritime.com](mailto:noinah@latitude1maritime.com)

#### ITALIAN RESTAURANT

We are looking for full-time wait staff. English speaking is essential. Some experience would be good although training will be provided. Apply in person at Rossovivo Rawai, Fisherman Way Garden Center. Tel: 076-384686, 080-148 9989. Email: [billidavid@hotmail.com](mailto:billidavid@hotmail.com)

#### RIDER CAFE

Rider Cafe opening soon on the bypass road. Requires the services of two energetic, outgoing, customer friendly, female staff. Applicants must have some English. Preference given to those with previous cafe experience. Please contact Nid for a private interview. Tel: 089-470 9470 (English & Thai). Email: [teddy.fagerstrom@gmail.com](mailto:teddy.fagerstrom@gmail.com)

#### YACHT ENGINEER/MANAGER

Requirements: Experience working with luxury yachts as an engineer and service manager including management and maintenance, able to take initiatives and propose solutions or new ideas and a basic understanding of local boating industry, contractor and suppliers. Tel: 081-979 9911. Email: [vrit@boatlagoon-yachting.co.th](mailto:vrit@boatlagoon-yachting.co.th)

#### CYPRUS SEASON 2011

Sales people required for Panaretti Resorts, the largest timeshare company in Cyprus. British Germans, Scandinavians, Russians. Flight and accommodation provided. Please contact Sales. Tel: Jacques 35-79 7682698. Email: [s.staouros@apcyprus.com](mailto:s.staouros@apcyprus.com) or marketing Email: [kevsw@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:kevsw@hotmail.co.uk)

#### MANAGER REQUIRED

For 35-room boutique hotel in Patong. Please send resume and expected salary to [claudstrey@gmail.com](mailto:claudstrey@gmail.com)

#### EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/PA

Requirements: Must have over 3 years experience as an executive assistant/PA, excellent English, fluent Thai, must be skilled in computers and internet, must take initiatives and be able to make well-researched decisions, propose solutions to problems and new ideas, own and drive personal car and experience dealing with high-end luxury products and clients would be an advantage. Tel: 081-979 9911. Email: [vrit@boatlagoon-yachting.co.th](mailto:vrit@boatlagoon-yachting.co.th) For further details, please see our website at [www.boatlagoon-yachting.co.th](http://www.boatlagoon-yachting.co.th)

#### CAFE STAFF WANTED

Thai staff for a gourmet cafe in Rawai. Good personality, some English. Day work. Please contact Sandy on 080-695 3380. Email: [sanduquin@gmail.com](mailto:sanduquin@gmail.com)

#### RESTAURANT MANAGER

New Italian restaurant based in Rawai seeks experienced and qualified Restaurant Supervisor. Thai national, perfect English. Apply in person at Rossovivo restaurant. Tel: 076-384686, 080-148 9989. Email: [billidavid@hotmail.com](mailto:billidavid@hotmail.com)

#### PROPERTY LISTING AGENT

Siam Real Estate require a presentable person to take property listings. Must be literate, English speaking, good photography and writing skills, and know Phuket. Commission based on listings taken. Tel: 076-288908. Email: [info@siamrealestate.com](mailto:info@siamrealestate.com)

#### MARKETING ASSISTANT WANTED

Must be fluent in written & spoken English. Required skills: Excel, Word, Publisher, Powerpoint, Photoshop and Illustrator. Experience in web design, HTML and graphic design an advantage. Tel: 076-527565. Send CV with expected salary to [cv@phuket-oceanvillas.com](mailto:cv@phuket-oceanvillas.com)

#### FRONT DESK & BOOKEEPER

Accounting & English skills. 1-9pm. Thai national. Experience required. Tel: 080-052 8082 (English). Send email: [solitude001@aol.com](mailto:solitude001@aol.com)

#### HOUSE MAID WANTED

To clean pool villa. Easy work. No previous experience is necessary. Tel: 083-641 9327.

#### GRADE 1 TEACHER

International school is looking for a homeroom teacher for grade 1 (6 to 7-year-olds). Only native English speakers with appropriate degree should apply. Please send application to [phuketprimary@mail.com](mailto:phuketprimary@mail.com)

#### PHUKET WATER SKI PARK STAFF

Looking for a Thai person with good English for a temporary job. Distribution of our advertising material and contracts to travel agencies. Payment: salary + commission. Please send your CV to [phuketcableski@yahoo.com](mailto:phuketcableski@yahoo.com)

#### WABOBA SALES STAFF

Thai national with English skills. 10,000 baht plus monthly bonus. Email: [tim@bangkok-bounce.com](mailto:tim@bangkok-bounce.com)

#### EXPERIENCED VILLA MANAGER

Must have excellent spoken and written English skills. Experience in property or hotels, and people management essential. Mature Thai national required. Send CV and salary requirement to [info@villachangrajang.com](mailto:info@villachangrajang.com)

#### GENERAL HANDYMAN REQUIRED

Thai national, live-in position if needed. Must have experience, Surin area. Call Apple. Tel: 085-789 8443. Email: [info@villachangrajang.com](mailto:info@villachangrajang.com)

#### ADMIN ASSISTANT

Thai national assistant needed for office work with good command of English. No previous experience is needed. Salary + commission. Tel: 088-168 5032. Email: [B\\_Gholami@hotmail.com](mailto:B_Gholami@hotmail.com)

#### YACHT SALES EXECUTIVE


Requirements: Experience in sales & brokerage of luxury yachts, knowledge of boats, and technical issues, fluent in English and excellent computer and internet skills. Tel: 081-979 9911. Email: [vrit@boatlagoon-yachting.co.th](mailto:vrit@boatlagoon-yachting.co.th) For further details, please see our website at [www.boatlagoon-yachting.co.th](http://www.boatlagoon-yachting.co.th)

#### SALES & MARKETING MANAGER

Requirements: Over 4 years experience as a sales & marketing manager of a business selling high-end luxury products. Fluent in English and Thai, excellent marketing skills and knowledge, and excellent computer and internet skills. Tel: 081-979 9911. Email: [vrit@boatlagoon-yachting.co.th](mailto:vrit@boatlagoon-yachting.co.th)

Looking for a job?  
Looking for a better candidate?  
Find more Recruitment Classifieds at [www.PhuketGazette.Net/](http://www.PhuketGazette.Net/)





**Outrigger Laguna Phuket Resort and Villas**

**Job Title – Executive Chef**  
**Company Name – Outrigger Laguna Phuket Resort & Villas**  
**Experience – 8-10 years in a five star or international chain hotel**


**Company Profile;**  
 Outrigger is one of the largest and fastest growing privately-held leisure lodging and hospitality companies in the Asia Pacific and Oceania regions and continues to expand its presence throughout the area. We operate and develop hotel properties and hospitality-related retail and real estate opportunities for partners in Hawaii, Pacific, the mainland USA and Asia.

Outrigger Laguna Phuket Resort and Villas is a new luxury collection of villas and suites located in Laguna's destination resort on Bang Tao Bay on the northwestern coast of Phuket, Thailand. The resort currently operates with a poolside café and In villa dining. The next stage will open mid 2011 with a new restaurant and bar.

**Objective of job and duties & responsibilities –** To directly manage front and back of house food and beverage operations. This role incorporates planning and managing day to day operations from the kitchen and utilizing your front of house skills. This is a senior executive position designed to lead a team, bring on line new food and beverage outlets as well as re-positioning.

**Report to – General Manager**

If you feel you have the necessary skills and experience to fulfill these positions, please send your latest resumé with recent photo, references and salary expectations by email to: [paew.chanantho@outrigger.co.th](mailto:paew.chanantho@outrigger.co.th)



The development and design company behind the new high-end Luxury Villa Resort, Andara Resort & Villas in Kamala Beach Phuket is looking for qualified & energetic person to fill the following position:

## Property sales, Marketing & Development Manager

Candidates should have previous experience in property sales, marketing and credit control management as well as possessing the following attributes:

**Qualifications:**

- ◆ Bachelor's Degree in Sales and Marketing, Business Administration or Credit Control
- ◆ Minimum 5 years experience in selling Luxury brand residential properties
- ◆ Good leadership skills and a strong effective team player adapting easily to an independent role
- ◆ A good sales track record in recent years, with the ability to assist in the motivation of others within the sales team
- ◆ Highly self-motivated, entrepreneurial, good interpersonal and communication skills with a 'can-do' attitude, a strategic thinker with an outgoing personality
- ◆ Ability to understand aspects of business management
- ◆ Extensive knowledge and experience in the real estate market
- ◆ Able to deliver & react well, and often exceeding given performance and sales targets
- ◆ Highly professional and able to maintain poise under pressure
- ◆ Resourceful and flexible in your approach to work, a determined person who relishes new challenges, new working environments and business practices

**Responsibilities:**

- ◆ Develop business plans and sales strategies for the market that ensures attainment of company sales goals and profitability
- ◆ Responsible for the performance and development of all sales activities for our projects
- ◆ Prepare action plans individually or within the team for effective research within segment markets to maximize sales leads and prospects
- ◆ Initiate and coordinate development of action plans to penetrate new markets
- ◆ Assist in the development and implementation of marketing plans as needed
- ◆ Provide timely feedback to senior management regarding performance
- ◆ Provide timely, accurate, competitive pricing on all completed prospect applications submitted for pricing and approval, while striving to maintain maximum profit margins
- ◆ Maintain accurate records of all pricing, sales, and activity reports to be submitted to the Company Executives
- ◆ Assist Account Executives in preparation of proposals and presentations
- ◆ Control expenses to meet budget guidelines
- ◆ Adhere to all Company policies, procedures and business ethics codes and ensure that they are communicated and implemented within the team

Interested candidates, please send full resume, expected salary & enclose a recent photo

by fax or e-mail to PARADISE GROUP:  
 The Plaza Surin 5/50 Moo 3, Cherngthalay, Thalang, Phuket 83110  
 f: 66-76-271242 or e: [jonathanj@paradisepuket.com](mailto:jonathanj@paradisepuket.com)



## Tropical Homes Real Estate, Phuket

We are one of Phuket's leading real estate companies with two branches in Phuket. For our Cherng Talay office we are inviting applicants for the following position:

**Receptionist/Administrator;** Minimum 3-5 years of administrative experience, good personality and service minded, excellent computer skills including Photoshop and Illustrator, basic accounting and tax skills, ready to start immediately.

We value our staff and offer competitive salaries and bonuses. Thai females with excellent English literacy should send an introductory email together with current resume or CV and a recent photograph.

Please send all inquiries to: [info@tropical-homes.net](mailto:info@tropical-homes.net)

**Tropical Homes Real Estate Co. Ltd.**  
 100/27 Moo 5, Cherngtalay, Thalang, Phuket 83110

**Joe Conrad the Magic Theatre** is opening in Patong at the Jungceylon Center. The 700-seat theatre will be Phuket's first and only show offering Las Vegas style illusions and magic entertainment on a nightly basis. If you have an interest in the entertainment industry or you have experience in it already, we need talented, experienced and motivated people to join the team!

**We are now looking for the following positions:**

**Office Team**

- Sales Manager & Sales Representatives
- HR Manager & HR Support
- Call Center Supervisor/Agents
- Financial Analysts

**Theatre Team**

- Box Office Manager
- Ticket Booth Agents
- Usher & Ticket Takers
- Cashiers - Food/Drink/Gifts
- Magic Demonstrators
- Electrician
- Maintenance Engineer
- IT Engineer



ASIA'S PREMIER MAGIC SPECTACULAR  
 PATONG • PHUKET

Email: [hr@joeconrad.com](mailto:hr@joeconrad.com),  
[www.joeconradmagictheatre.com](http://www.joeconradmagictheatre.com)



## ONLINE JOB APPLICATION

HOTEL - ACCTING - SALES - IT - WEB DESIGN - F&B  
[www.KARON-PHUKET-HOTELS.com /JOB.htm](http://www.KARON-PHUKET-HOTELS.com /JOB.htm)



## THE PRIVILEGE RESIDENCES • PATONG

The Privilege At BayCliff Co Ltd is an exclusive real estate company located at Prabaramee Road. We are urgently looking for professional and qualified candidates to join our team in Phuket. Must have the following qualifications:

### Sales Manager

- Preferably 30-40 years old
- Minimum 2-3 years experience in sales or/marketing
- Good negotiation and English Communication skills
- Self-motivated and dynamic, service-minded and result-oriented
- Pro-active and well organized
- Pleasant personality
- Computer literate
- Car driving license with own car will be an advantage

Please e-mail your resume to: [niramon@thebaycliff.com](mailto:niramon@thebaycliff.com) or contact us at 076 342 696, Attn: Khun Niramon

**ASSISTANT MANAGER**  
 Assistant in real-estate company. English, 24-30 years old. Email [derkach@tr-pro.ru](mailto:derkach@tr-pro.ru) to apply.

**OFFICE MANAGER**  
 Phuket's leading wedding, event and speedboat charter company requires a Thai national with excellent English skills, and experience in tour company admin duties. Knowledge of work permit and immigration and good organisation/people skills is also necessary, as well as good computer knowledge. Tel: 076-354074, 081-9569961. Email: [info@coralseekers.com](mailto:info@coralseekers.com)

**TEACHERS NEEDED**  
 For English Program & International Program. Satee Phuket School Phuket, Thailand. We are urgently seeking 12 full-time teachers, both native English-speakers and Thais, to begin work in May 2011 in the following positions:

- 2 mathematics teachers: both native English-speaking and Thai teachers.
- 1 science teacher: both native English-speaking and Thai teachers.
- 1 social studies teacher.
- 1 Thai history teacher: both native English-speaking and Thai teacher.
- 1 Health and Physical Education teacher
- 1 Arts teacher
- 1 Computer teacher with technician and website qualification
- 3 English teachers
- 1 ASEAN Studies teacher: native English-speaking in social studies with ASEAN country qualification or related field and project work.

Thai applicants must have completed M.A. degree abroad.

General Job Descriptions:

- Teach full-time (18-20 hours per week) to secondary students (ages 13-18)
- Holidays: 10 personal holidays: 7 days of sick leave.
- Salary:
- + General B.A. degree: 30,000 baht per month, plus 3,000 baht for housing.
- + Specialized B.A. major degree: 35,000 baht per month, plus 3,000 baht for housing.
- + General M.A. degree: 35,000 baht per month, plus 3,000 baht for housing.
- + Specialized M.A. major degree
- Benefits
- + Work permit (valid non-immigrant B visa required)
- + Health insurance after three months probation.

If you are interested, please send contact details and positions you are applying for with your CV and TEFL or CELTA certificate from now until 10<sup>th</sup> March 2010. Tel: 076-211034 ext. 144. Email: [spk2011.staffrecruitment@gmail.com](mailto:spk2011.staffrecruitment@gmail.com)



## Articles For Sale

**WHEELCHAIR SALE**  
Can walk again after 7 months in fantastic wheelchair. Tel: 080-649 0500.

**CERAMIC POT CLEARANCE SALE**  
50% off our entire range of quality ceramic pots imported from Vietnam. Closing business. Everything must go! Free delivery all over Phuket. Call Khun Karn. Tel: 076-271 3215, 087-382 1751 (English & Thai). Email: alwyn@phuket-landandhomes.com

**ELLIPTICAL TRAINER**  
for sale XT 1,500 Like new, silver color, excellent cond. 2-year warranty, excellent 4 lose weight & firm muscles. Can deliver. Must Sell, movingasking 20,000 paid 32,000B. Tel: 081-477 4774. Email: getfitwithhallan@gmail.com

**HAND-HELD GPS**  
ETREX venture HC handheld GPS, unused and still in box, complete with marine maps. New was 9,000 baht, will sell for 5,000 baht. Tel: 076-621200, 080-141 8292 (English). Email: davestacey16@hotmail.com

**WASHING MACHINE 2,000 BAHT**  
Washing machine: 5kg, front loader, hot water, 6 years old, for 2,000 baht. It works. Call me from 1pm to 6pm. You can see it in Phuket Town and I have pickup for delivery. Tel: 083-525 8914 (English & Thai). Email: adihousedj@hotmail.com

**MICROLIGHT AIRCRAFT**  
Airplay Alis in excellent condition. Fitted super quiet Konig radial engine. Wing in perfect condition. Great fun and very economical. Easy to store and fly. Price: 295,000 baht. Tel: 089-111 6457 (English & Thai), 081-397 7598 (English & Thai). Contact for more detail. Email: kajoda1954@yahoo.co.uk

**BREAD AND CAKE MIXER**  
Industrial electric mixer with 5kg bowl, in good working order. Price: 5,000 baht. Tel: 087-993 8737.

**KAYAKS FOR SELL**  
I have 1 double and 3 single sit-on-top, high-quality Ocean Kayaks for sell. All in good condition and they come with back rest and paddles. Wants 45,000 baht for all ono. Tel: 080-529 1449. Email: psongmuang@hotmail.com

**SAMSUNG TV**  
Flat screen-50 inch screen. 20 months old, good condition. 100,000 baht new, will accept 18,000 baht. Tel: 081-906 6243. Email: jonnowilko@gmail.com

**CLASSIC KITCHEN EQUIPMENT**  
Kitchenaid Artisan mixer. Apple green color. New condition, used only 3 times: 14,000 baht. Dualit stainless-steel 2-slot toaster, very good condition: 4,000 baht. Tel: 086-940 2111 (English). Email: tom\_woods6@hotmail.com

## Bar & Restaurant Equipment

**P.O.S. SERVICE FOR IPAD**  
GHBS POS is an iPad based, affordable, simple-to-use, web-based point of sale (P.O.S.) solution with Business Intelligence (B.I.) features that make it ideal for restaurants, guesthouses, resorts, hotels, bars, nightclubs and country clubs. This service will put your company on cruise control. You can start using this service tomorrow for 1,900 baht per month. Tel: 085-784 3043. Email: prodgers@gmail.com For further details, please see our website at: www.b-structures.com

## Bulletins

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**

For Phuket info (English) call 081-8912895, 081-8954763 or email: phuketaa@yahoo.com

English Speaking Meetings  
Mission Hospital - Phuket City  
Wed and Sun 7 PM

Bangkok Hospital - Phuket City  
Fri 7 PM

Patong Hospital - Patong  
Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun 17 PM

Green Man Restaurant - Chalong  
Tue 1 PM

Stereo Lab Restaurant - Surin Beachfront  
Thur 9:30 AM

Scandinavian Meeting  
Elephant Restaurant - Karon  
Tue and Sat 7 PM (Nov-April only)  
Tel: 086-9440460 Sive, 085-4647450 Sive

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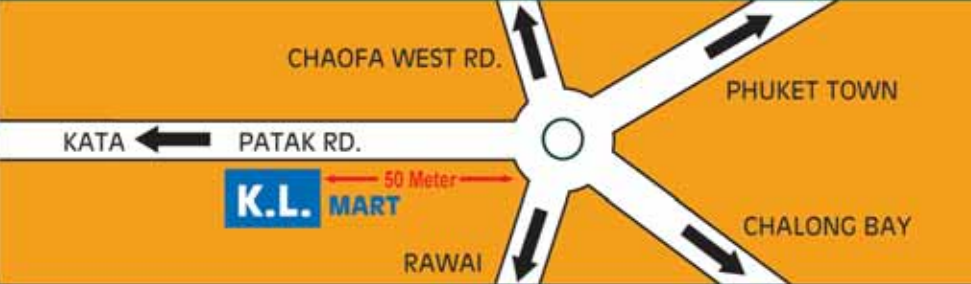
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# Sport



**AT A STRETCH:** The lively Sarat Yooyen in action during the Rajpracha FC match last Saturday at Surakul Stadium. Photo: Apinun Saithong

## FC Phuket protest nets precious points

By Andrew Jennings

FC PHUKET was handed a slice of good fortune this week when the club was awarded all three league points after protesting Rajpracha's use of too many foreign players.

The match at Surakul Stadium ended in frustration for Phuket as they were held to a 1-1 draw against a team intent on avoiding defeat.

A second successive draw meant Phuket languished in the lower reaches of Division 1 on Saturday night, but in a bizarre turn of events following the game, Phuket officials lodged an official complaint to the Thai League, complaining that Rajpracha exceeded the quota of foreign players used during the game.

The Thai football rulebook states that teams are not allowed field more than five foreign players at any one time. Rajpracha brought on two foreign substitutes late in the game, meaning they had six on pitch.

Following a meeting of Thai League officials on Monday, it was decided that Rajpracha had broken the rules and the league awarded the game to Phuket on a scoreline of 2-0.

The unexpected three points sees Phuket propel up Division 1

into third place, level on points and goal difference with Rajpracha FC, and just two points behind early league leaders Big Bang Chulalongkorn University (BBCU).

Phuket will view the default victory as well-deserved following the controversial events in the game last Saturday.

Kone Adama opened the scoring in 36 minutes when he nodded home after Sarat Yooyen had crashed a brilliant free-kick against the crossbar.

Although Phuket did go in at the break a goal ahead, the lead didn't last long into the second half, when Rajpracha's Rewat Meeleum equalized. Both teams spurned chances during the second period, but the visitors seemed satisfied with a draw, doing everything in their power – plenty of it outside the rules of the game – to return home with a point.

The niggly nature of the game wasn't helped by a referee who failed to stamp out obvious Rajpracha time wasting. One of their defenders saw red during the second-half, while their goalkeeper should really have joined him after raising his hand against Adama late in the game.

Phuket's next game is against BBCU at Surakul Stadium on March 13. Kickoff is at 6pm.

# BIS holds court

By Andrew Jennings

BRITISH International School (BIS) served up some top-class tennis last Sunday morning when it played host to the annual mixed doubles and ladies doubles tournament.

The popular social and sporting event was open to players of all standards and this year it once again proved a resounding success.

Twenty teams competed for honors in the two competitions, with the mixed doubles section comprising of husband-wife, father-daughter and mother-son combination teams.

In the main draw, the winners of the ladies doubles section were Lizelle Van Den Berg and Val Mallia, while the mixed doubles champions were Joy Hansi and Yves Bastiand.

In the ladies consolation section, Dorothy Macpherson and Denise Goetz came out on top, while Maria and Stein Oserod did the same in the mixed equivalent.

"All players enjoyed the tournament and the friendly, relaxed atmosphere at BIS proved a great location because of its quiet surrounding in nature and its location in the heart of Phuket," said organizer Lorenzo Marcuzzi.

BIS is working hard to establish a proper tennis club in Phuket, which is currently in dire need of a good site to hold tennis events and clinics.

Last weekend's event welcomed players from all corners of Phuket, including Kamala, Cherng Talay, Phuket Town and Chalong – all of whom are keen to play on a more regular basis.

With this in mind, BIS has organized another tournament to be held

on April 3 at the same venue.

The tournament will have both men's and women's singles competitions. Anyone interested can contact Dianne Browning, E: didee51@yahoo.com.au

The final application deadline for the tournament is Sunday, March 27. Play starts at 8:30am and players will have to be at the tennis courts at BIS at 8am for registration.



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Khun Wirawan @ BIS 076 238 711 ext. 1122, 1105 and Kathy Manthei Coulson @ BIS 086 120 5536

Tickets Available at Chalong, Cherngtalay and BIS



**Thai amateur golfer bags Canyon title**

FOLLOWING three days of scorching golf at Phuket's Blue Canyon Country Club last weekend, Thailand's Somruk Napachot emerged victorious in the Men's A category (handicap up to 12) of the BMW Golf Cup International.

Somruk finished ahead of Japan's Shigehisa Takashina who had to settle for second place. Asian amateurs showed their class during the event, dominating the leaderboard in all three categories and the prestigious international competition.

Australian Dennis Hu held his nerve to win an extremely close competition in the Men's B category (handicap 13-28), eventually finishing just one point ahead of Yung-Chin Huang from Taiwan.

The Ladies competition (handicap up to 28) was dominated by Gillian Lai from Hong Kong, while in the national competition, Team Malaysia successfully defended the title it won last year in South Africa.

- *Phuket Gazette*

# Liverpool Legends head for Phuket

By Andrew Jennings

PHUKET'S Liverpool Football Club fanbase is set for a massive treat this June when a Legends of Liverpool team swing into town to take on a Legends of Thailand side at Surakul Stadium.

A squad that includes 15 Anfield greats will don the famous red shirt in Phuket on June 18 as part of their tour of Thailand, which will also take in a game at the Yamaha stadium in Bangkok on June 15.

Three different eras of the Merseyside club will be represented during the challenge game.

The legends team will include, wing-wizards John Barnes, Jason McAteer and Steve McManaman, colorful goalkeeper "Bruceie" Grobbelaar, midfield-maestro Jan Molby and former captain Phil Neal.

Neal is the most decorated player in Liverpool history. In fact, no Englishman can boast more medals.

The full-back helped bring 22 pieces of silverware to the Anfield trophy room and was the only player to feature in the Reds' first

four European Cup triumphs.

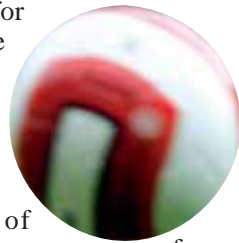
Also set to line out for Liverpool in Phuket are Alan Kennedy and Robbie Fowler - both men were on the island recently to help promote the game.

Kennedy is one of Liverpool's greatest ever servants, a free-scoring full-back who netted the winning goal in Paris against Real Madrid in the 1981 European Cup final.

Kennedy is also a patron of the Youth Football Home (Phuket) Foundation and speaking about the Legends tours he said: "This group of players from Liverpool Football Club have won more Championships and trophies than any other team before or since for Liverpool, and were part of the successes of Liverpool FC during the '80s and '90s."

Off the pitch, the Liverpool Legends team will also participate in football clinics and meet fans at shopping malls in Phuket.

Tickets will be available at [www.footballlegendstour.com](http://www.footballlegendstour.com)



KOPICON: Robbie Fowler  
Photo: AFP/Andrew Yates

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