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# Phuket Gazette



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REVIEW INSIDE

March 9 - 15, 2013 PhuketGazette.Net In partnership with The Nation

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# Danger lurking in Chalong Bay



## MANY MOORINGS REMAIN PERILOUSLY UNMARKED IN SHALLOW WATERS

By Gazette Reporters

AFTER spending 5.8 million baht to install new moorings in Chalong Bay and at Ao Por, on Phuket's east coast, the chief of the local Marine Office now says he needs more money to fix the moorings, which have sunk one boat and damaged at least three others.

The moorings in nautical terms are brand-new.

They were dropped in the water 14 weeks ago – 200 in Chalong Bay and 100 at Ao Por.

Reports surfaced barely a month later that many of the new moorings in Chalong were not usable because the buoys that marked them had disappeared. They broke loose, experienced yachties explained, because the lines attaching them to the concrete blocks on the sea floor frayed due to improper tethering.

However, Phuket Marine Office chief Phuripat

Theerakulpisut this week rejected accusations that the tethers were "cheap" and "ineffective". Instead, he blamed the broken lines on sabotage.

"Some people have cut some of the moorings. I have no idea who they are. I am trying to find out," he said.

"Some of the moorings broke because they have been used for a while [since November 29]..."

Continued on Page 3

## Parks chief rallies more support for land probe

THE Director-General of the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation arrived on Phuket to help bolster support for the ongoing investigation into 14 plots of land allegedly encroaching on national park land.

Full story on Page 5

## Turtle egg poachers to be targeted

MAI Khao Marine Turtle Foundation launched an investigation this month after a Gazette reader reported the possibility of turtle egg poachers probing the sands of northern Phuket beaches for protected turtle eggs.

Full story on Page 6

## Cough syrup bust spreads, catches 25

POLICE pretending to be pharmacists nabbed several groups of youngsters after they attempted to illegally buy cough syrup from a pharmacy to use in the popular drug cocktail known as "4x100".

Full story on Page 8

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## This Week



### Business

Phuket firm selected to design Miss Thailand's crown. **Page 11**



### Thai Gallery

Putting a face to one of 90.5's distinctive voices. **Page 37**



### Tech

Woody recounts a few recent problems living in Phuket. **Page 38**



### Environment

Are sea turtles the albatross around our necks? **Page 39**



### Humor

Explore how evolution and drinking beer are connected. **Page 40**



### Sport

Phuket United win hat trick as the season winds down. **Page 51**

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Monday



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# Driver confesses to assault, abduction – denies rape

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

A PHUKET taxi driver this week confessed to beating and abducting a karaoke hostess before stealing her valuables and leaving her tied up in a Phuket hotel room.

However, he denied the rape charge filed against him by the woman.

Phuket City Police arrested Suksan Mornamrong, 28, at his rented home in Koh Kaew on Tuesday for the alleged rape on Monday night of a woman who worked at a karaoke bar in the Rassada port area.

Suksan, originally from Krabi, was found in possession of stolen property belonging to the victim, including two mobile phones, 4,000 baht, two necklaces, an ATM card and her ID card.

The woman reported her ordeal to Thung Thong Police on Tuesday morning, recounting how she was abducted, beaten, raped and robbed by a taxi driver who drove a white Toyota Altis.

After the woman reported the license plate number of Suksan's taxi, police quickly found his home address and within hours had him under arrest.

Speaking in front of the press on Tuesday, Suksan confessed to abducting and beating the woman, and to stealing her belongings.

"I picked the woman up from a karaoke bar in Rassada and took her to a hotel in Phuket Town to have sex, but I failed to climax so I beat her, then took her to another hotel in Thung Thong,"



Suksan Mornamrong admits to having taken a woman to a hotel room and beaten her before tying her up and stealing her belongings.

he said.

"While I was driving the car [to Thung Thong], the woman started choking me, so I bit her hand. After we arrived at the hotel, I was angry so I took her into the hotel room and beat her again.

"After that, I tied her up with rope and took her belongings, and asked her for the PIN code to her ATM card before I went out to work. I had to take a tourist from Patong to the airport.

"After dropping the tourist off, I returned home [to Koh Kaew], where police arrested me,"

Suksan explained.

After Suksan left the woman alone in the room, she screamed for help, alerting hotel staff to come to her assistance.

"The suspect was charged with sexual assault, robbery and abduction," said Thung Thong Police Deputy Superintendent Yodsaphat Suwannakij.

"We are now waiting for the results of the medical tests to confirm the woman was raped, then we will transfer the case to the Public Prosecutor for further action," he added.

## American embassy consular services in Phuket this week

THE Consular Section of the American Embassy in Bangkok will hold an "Outreach Visit" at Le Meridien Phuket Beach Resort in Karon on March 15.

Consular staff will be available from 8am to midday to provide services on:

– Passport renewal applications (US\$110 or 3,520 baht for adult passports, US\$105 or 3,360 baht for a child's passport).

– Notarial Services and Certified Copies (US\$50 or 1,600 baht), includes income affidavits for retirees in Thailand.

– Extra visa pages (US\$82 or 2,624 baht).

– Social security, VA, or other federal benefits questions: we will try to provide forms and answers.

Consular staff urge visitors to bring exact change for payment of any services required. See the US Embassy website for information and requirements for each service.

Consular Reports of Birth cannot be processed during consular outreach trips.

Appointments are not necessary for consular services during outreach visits. For more information, email [acsbk@state.gov](mailto:acsbk@state.gov) or call the American Citizen Services Unit at 02-205-4049.

## New moorings wreak havoc

From page 1

If we are going to fix them, we need the budget – but I have yet to draw up any budget proposal," Mr Phuripat explained.

Further, Mr Phuripat said he was not convinced that the situation required urgent action just yet. "I am now thinking about it," he told the *Gazette* on Wednesday.

With no buoys to mark them, many of the moorings remain unmarked in shallow waters in the bay, lurking beneath the waves for unsuspecting boat captains to inadvertently run into, explained several local yachties with over 10 years of experience in navigating Phuket's waterways.

The danger of unmarked mooring blocks in shallow waters became clear two weeks ago, on February 26, when the tour boat "Booze Cruise" collided at low tide with an unmarked block in the middle of the approach channel to the Chalong Pier.

The collision punched a hole in the boat's hull, causing it to sink quickly. The daytrippers on board jumped into the sea and were rescued by onlookers.

Not two hours later, a speed-



One of the many marker buoys that have broken free. Photo: Gazette file

boat carrying tourists from Chalong Pier to a popular island resort off Phuket struck an unmarked mooring in the same location.

Local yachtsmen have confirmed to the *Gazette* that "about a dozen" moorings were placed in the approach channel, the main thoroughfare for boats arriving and departing Chalong Pier.

"About four of them are still marked by [mooring] buoys," one yachtsman said.

"Where the remaining un-

marked buoys are located is anyone's guess," he added.

Yet Mr Phuripat remains unmoved by the growing list of calamities associated with the new moorings.

"Boat accidents in Chalong Bay are common," he explained.

"As I told you before, what I really do not like are reckless boat drivers. They drive too fast and do not drive along the approach channel. This is the main cause of boat accidents," Mr Phuripat said.



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# Residents protest plans for new provincial hall

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

MORE than 200 Phuket Town residents gathered at Sanam Chai in Phuket Town on Monday to protest the construction of the new provincial hall.

The protesters gathered to express their concerns that the proposed new hall will negatively affect the lifestyle of people in the local community.

Former Rassada Mayor Suratin Lianudom and former Tambon Administration Organization (OrBorTor) member Rangsang Kongthong led the area residents to meet Phuket Governor Maitri Inthusut to file a complaint against the construction of the new hall.

"Residents are concerned about losing the football field and tennis courts, which they use not only for sport but also for social and community events," he said.

"People gather at the football field in the afternoon and evening, and we use it for fairs and to celebrate the HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej's Birthday," he added.

Mr Suratin promised that protests would be ongoing and that the



Phuket Vice Governor Chamroen Tipayapongtada (left) accepted the letter of complaint from former Rassada Mayor Suratin Lianudom (right).

group would invite more people to join. To show their determination, the protesters said they planned to set up a tent to allow them to stay

overnight at Sanam Chai.

Phuket Vice Governor Chamroen Tipayapongtada received their complaint as

Governor Maitri is currently on duty abroad, and tried to convince the protesters that their fears were unwarranted.

While Vice Governor Chamroen was talking to the protesters, some of them showed their dissatisfaction by shouting.

V/Gov Chamroen asked the protesters to send a representative to discuss the issue with him, but they refused.

The vice governor explained that the present provincial hall has been in use for 105 years.

"The building is showing its age and it is too small," he said. "It is crowded when many people come together at the same time."

"We received a 450-million-baht budget from the Cabinet to build a new provincial hall at Sanam Chai. The new building will be five stories with a meeting hall that can hold 500 people," he said

"Our goal is to facilitate people. The new hall will be beneficial to both government organizations and local residents. We have to find a way to explain this better to the protesters," said Mr Chamroen.



OrBorJor 'pink bus' Photo: Gazette file

## Russian man run over by a 'pink bus'

A RUSSIAN tourist suffered serious injuries when he was run over by a 'pink bus' in the middle of Phuket Town on Wednesday.

"The man was hit by an OrBorJor [Phuket Provincial Administration Organization] pink bus at about 10am, when he parked his motorbike in front of Lan Nawamin on Phuket Road," Col Yongyuth said.

Kirill Kulaein, 43, was conscious but unable to talk after he was struck.

"He suffered head injuries and a broken leg, and was taken to the hospital," Col Yongyuth said.

"From the tyre skid marks at the scene, it seems the bus was travelling at speed when it hit the man... the driver will be called in later to give his statement," Col Yongyuth added.

- Orawin Narabal

## Keeping junk clean

JUNK shop traders are under scrutiny in the latest campaign to keep the island green.

Officers from the Pollution Control Department are working with the Environment office to ensure recyclables and heavy materials are recycled or disposed of appropriately.

Surachai Kulthong, from the regional Environment office, on Wednesday explained to the Gazette that 39 secondhand goods stores in Phuket were being inspected in a series of raids across the island.

"We need to educate and inform shopowners how to keep their stores clean and tidy, and how certain items should be disposed of," Mr Surachai said.

Store owners will be assessed

in their current practices, and informed when those fall short of acceptable procedures.

"The idea is to educate the shopowners so they understand their role in reducing pollution, preserving the environment and reducing global warming," Mr Surachai explained.

"Stores that pass a second inspection at an undisclosed date in the future will be awarded a certificate," Mr Surachai said.

"There are more than 10,000 junk shops in Thailand, filled with broken, used and uselessly junk. This all affects the environment and the health of people in surrounding areas, that is why we launched this project," Mr Surachai said.

- Kritsada Mueanhawong

## Mob surrounds Brit who hit motorcyclist

A BRITISH expat involved in a collision with a motorbike on March 1 had to be extricated from the scene by police after local residents reacted angrily over the incident, the Gazette has been told.

Police were called to Soi Ngern Fun at 11:30pm.

"We found Worrachet Ngamthip, 16, at the entrance to the soi. His left leg was broken," said Thalang Police Sub Lt Niphon Temsang.

Mr Worrachet was rushed to Mission Hospital Phuket.

About 30 meters down the soi, police found Martin Ian

Foster, 48, from England.

"Not far from Mr Foster were his car and a motorbike still stuck under the front of the car. There were marks on the road showing the motorbike was dragged into the street after being hit," he added.

"Witnesses said it seemed like Mr Foster was trying to flee the scene," Sub Lt Niphon said.

"We could smell alcohol on him," Sub Lt Niphon alleged.

Mr Foster was charged with drunk driving and reckless driving causing damage to a person and property.

- Thawit Bilabdullar



Marks on the road indicated the motorbike was dragged.

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# Parks chief bolsters support for probe

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

THE recently installed Director-General of the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP), Manopat Huamuangkaew, arrived in Phuket on March 1 to hear firsthand the update on the investigation into 14 plots allegedly encroaching on Sirinath National Park on Phuket's west coast.

"So far we have investigated the land documents of 14 plots of land and found that all were issued illegally. We have asked police to press charges against five of those involved," Sirinath National Park chief Cheewapap Cheewatham told Mr Manopat.

Mr Cheewapap was reporting old news. The most recent action taken was five months ago, when on September 7 he filed a complaint to Cherng Talay Police against the fifth land owner for allegedly encroaching on the national park.

However, during Mr Manopat's visit Mr Cheewapap did not explain whether or not any further action had been taken against the remaining nine land owners accused of encroaching on the park. He also did not provide any update of police progress in pressing charges of encroachment against the five land owners already accused of encroaching on park.

Mr Cheewapap did explain that aerial photographs of the 14 plots of land under investigation had been compared with the land title deeds for those plots, showing that the encroachment had come about through "Flying *Sor Kor I*" or "*Sor Kor Buwam*" techniques.

Flying *Sor Kor I* are title deeds that have been legally issued for a specific plot of land, but are then applied to another plot of land elsewhere.

*Sor Kor Buwam*, *buwam* being

'If we continue to ignore this problem, soon the only land left in the park will be what is below the park office and the sand on the beach'

– Manopat Huamuangkaew, Director-General of the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP)



DNP Director-General Manopat Huamuangkaew inspected several of the plots under investigation along the west coast. Photo: Kritsada Mueanhawong

the Thai word for "swollen", is used to describe title deeds that have maintained the relative dimensions of the plot boundaries, but illegally expanded to cover more land, hence illegally attempting to occupy more land than legally registered.

"We are now going to continue to investigate suspicious land title deeds for about 1,400 rai of land in the national park," chief Cheewapap added.

Due to a lack of cooperation from the Department of Lands, said Mr Cheewapap, the Depart-

ment of Special Investigation (DSI) will be joining the investigation (as reported in the page 1 story of the February 23 issue of the *Phuket Gazette*).

However, the plan to bring down a 366-strong DNP investigation team from Bangkok to help in the investigation has been cancelled, confirmed Mr Manopat.

"The 366 investigators will not be joining us from Bangkok. We are now in the process of putting together a new team of officers from Surat Thani, Nakhon Sri Thammarat and Songkhla," he said.

"To facilitate the work of the team, DNP will provide a budget of 4 million baht."

During his visit to Phuket, Mr Manopat inspected several of the sites believed to be encroaching on Sirinath National Park.

"Although we will face many obstacles, the raids will continue. Currently, about 30 per cent of the land in the national park has been stolen by investors.

"If we continue to ignore this problem, soon the only land left in the park will be what is below the park office and the sand on the beach," he said.

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COOPED UP: Police arrested 16 men for gambling at the cockfight.

## 16 caught at forest hideout cockfight

POLICE raided a cockfighting match near a rubber plantation in central Phuket last Sunday, arresting 16 men and confiscating two roosters and 220 baht found at the scene.

The number of men attending the matches had grown steadily over the past few weeks, causing local residents to complain to police, who sent an undercover agent to discover the time and place of future matches.

At 4:30pm, the officers raided the match in a forest in Pa Khlok, on Phuket's east coast.

"We arrived at the scene and found about 50 people watching the fight. They were having a good time, shouting and placing bets," said Thalung Police Deputy Superintendent Amnuay Kraiwutthianun.

A large proportion of the group evaded capture by running away, taking the gambling money with them. Police were left with the 16 men, the two roosters that had



Police raided the cockfight after local residents complained about the noise.

been fighting and 220 baht.

They are continuing to investigate the identities of the escaped gamblers.

The arrested gamblers face up to three months in jail, a fine of 500 to 1,000 baht, or both.

Although gambling is illegal in Thailand, animal contests themselves are legal, provided the animals are not "abused".

– *Thawit Bilabdullar*

# Copyright theft gets a rollover

**Former Miss Universe Natalie Glebova in Phuket to join in destruction of fake brand-name items seized in raids**

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

MISS Universe 2005 Natalie Glebova joined officials as they destroyed pirated goods worth about 216 million baht in a ceremony in Phuket which was held to demonstrate Thailand's dedication to protecting intellectual property rights.

"We are here to increase the awareness of consumers about counterfeit designer goods and to encourage them to say 'no' to pirated products," said Deputy Commerce Minister Nattawut Saikua, who chaired the ceremony on February 28.

"By completely destroying these products we can increase the confidence of brand owners that these illegal copies will not end up back on the market," he added.

Mr Nattawut, Phuket Governor Maitri Inthusut and Miss Glebova all grabbed hammers for the event and took part in smashing some of the 94,210 counterfeit items seized by Region 8 and Region 9 Police, as well as Region 4 customs officers.

Copies of designer brand-name clothes, sunglasses, purses, shoes

and watches were among the many items destroyed during the ceremony.

"Because of the importance of protecting producers' intellectual property rights, we have set up the National Intellectual Property Rights Protection Center," Mr Nattawut explained.

The new center, dedicated to improving communication between different agencies in charge of protecting intellectual property rights, was established at the Ministry of Commerce in Bangkok earlier this year.

"Within the center, different organizations are assigned separate responsibilities geared toward putting an end to intellectual property rights infringement. The Department of Special Investigations is responsible for investigation and suppression; the Office of the Attorney General will continue to press charges and apply the laws of Thailand in court; and the Department of Intellectual Property will focus on public relations in order to increase public awareness," Mr Nattawut said.

"We have to gain the trust of foreign investors who want to



During the ceremony, a total of 94,210 counterfeit items were destroyed by roller, hammers and other means.

come and establish business in Thailand," he added.

Despite regularly destroying hundreds of millions of baht of pirated goods a year, Thailand struggles to shake the image of being a hub for counterfeit goods.

The Kingdom found itself in the international spotlight over copyright infringement in May last year after Lady Gaga landed in Bangkok for her "Born this Way Ball" performance.

Shortly after her arrival, the pop star tweeted to over 24 million

Twitter followers, "I just landed in Bangkok baby! Ready for 50,000 screaming Thai monsters. I wanna get lost in a lady market and buy a fake Rolex."

In response, the Thai Commerce Ministry's Intellectual Property Department officially expressed its disappointment to the US Embassy, reported *The Nation*.



Department of Intellectual Property Director-General Patchima Thanasanti (left) helps Miss Universe 2005 Natalie Glebova hammer home the point.



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## Karaoke killer suspects sing to police tune



Rescue workers attend to the body of Surasit Sukhum, 28, stabbed to death after a row at a karaoke bar. Photo: Thawit Bilabdullar

POLICE arrested two men last Sunday for stabbing a man to death outside a karaoke bar in the port area of Phuket Town just one day earlier.

Aphichet Janpradit, 33, and Phusithi Phaosuparp, 43, were both arrested on Sunday at their rented room on Koh Sireh for the murder of 28-year-old Surasit Sukhum, Lt Col Prawit Engchua of the Phuket City Police said.

According to witnesses' statements given to police, Mr Surasit had entered the Kanokphat Karaoke bar on Soi Vanich 1, off Sri Sena Road, ordered a drink and taken a table next to the two men. "After a while, he [Mr Surasit] started to swear at them. The men walked over and hit him," one witness told police.

Mr Surasit allegedly tried to flee the karaoke bar, but was caught outside by the two men.

"Mr Surasit was then stabbed to death," Col Prawit said.

Phuket City Police received the report of the incident at about 2:45am. When they arrived at the scene, they found blood on the ground, as well as one flip-flop and a jacket. About 100 meters away they found Mr Surasit's body, Col Prawit explained.

"He had been stabbed in the chest, arm and stomach," he said.

Both men have been charged with murder and for carrying a weapon in a public place, Col Prawit said.

– Kritsada Mueanhawong

# PMBC targets villagers poaching protected eggs

By Orawin Narabal

THE safety of turtle eggs in a protected nesting ground at the northern tip of Phuket is under investigation by the Mai Khao Marine Turtle Foundation.

The *Gazette* contacted the foundation after a reader reported seeing turtle tracks and people probing for eggs in the area between Maikhao Dream Villa Resort and Spa and Maikhao Beach Bungalows on February 14.

Foundation coordinator Kittipan Sabkhuon checked with security guards and staff at the hotels in the area and said that as of February 28, no suspicious activity had been reported.

Nevertheless, he is sending "guards and our staff to check to see if there are any traces of egg-laying turtles or their nests on the beach," he said.

"The area around the Maikhao Dream hotel is well known as a

nesting site for turtles," said Phuket Marine Biological Center (PMBC) veterinarian Patcharaporn Kaewmong.

"The way poachers find the eggs is to stick a rod into the sand," she explained. "If the rod finds a nest under the sand, they will start digging," she explained.

"The PMBC worked together with the JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa to set up the Mai Khao Marine Turtle Foundation. The aim was for the foundation to take care of the turtles that come ashore to lay their eggs on Mai Khao Beach and to protect those eggs from being stolen by people," she said.

"During the sea turtle nesting period [November-March], the staff at the foundation rope off the nests to prevent the turtles from being disturbed and to prevent people from stealing the turtle eggs," she stated.

"People who try to take the eggs will be warned by founda-

**'If they do it again they will be reported... and sent to Tah Chat Chai Police Station, where charges will be pressed and they will be fined'**

– PMBC veterinarian Patcharaporn Kaewmong



Local conservationists are investigating reports of villagers scouring Mai Khao Beach for protected turtle eggs. Photo: The Lightworks

tion staff, but if they do it again they will be reported to Sirinath National Park officers and sent to Tah Chat Chai Police Station, where charges will be pressed and they will be fined," she added.

Ms Patcharaporn asked for the public's help in preventing poachers. "Please help us to protect the

nesting beaches because it is critical to the survival of the sea turtles," she explained.

Encroachment into the nesting area or theft of turtle eggs can be reported to the Phuket Marine Biological Center on 076-391128, or the Mai Khao Marine Turtle Foundation on 076-338040.

## DNP outlines conservation issues to be presented to CITES

IN PHUKET for the investigation into encroachment on Phuket's Sirinath National Park (see page 4), Manopat Huamuangkaew, the director-general of the National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Department (DNP), took time out on March 1 to hand out pro-conservation pamphlets to tourists at Phuket International Airport.

The pamphlets also advertised the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), taking place in Bangkok from March 3 to 14.

Mr Manopat outlined several of issues to be raised at the CITES conference.

Among them, Thailand will ask



DNP Director-General Manopat Huamuangkaew hands a tourist a conservation pamphlet at Phuket Airport. Photo: Kritsada Mueanhawong

participants to list the Siamese Rosewood tree as an Appendix II plant. Appendix II refers to animals and plants for which strict measures and monitoring systems

are needed to ensure that numbers do not decline.

Rosewood is not faced with extinction, Mr Manopat said. However, the number of trees has

decreased by more than 60 per cent in the past eight years. Thailand is believed to be home to the world's only remaining Siamese Rosewood forests.

Thailand is seeking to change one animal from Appendix I (threatened with extinction, trade is prohibited) to Appendix II status – Siamese and saltwater crocodiles.

"Thailand has developed expertise in effective conserving and breeding of crocodiles, and could breed them for trading purposes," Mr Manopat said.

"This change would allow local crocodile farms to generate income from exporting crocodile skin," said Assoc Prof Parntep Ratanakorn of Mahidol University.

– Kritsada Mueanhawong

## Blood bank launches March mobile donation drive

THE Phuket Chapter of the Red Cross Society has announced its schedule of mobile donation clinics for the month of March.

The Phuket Regional Blood Center (PRBC), often called upon to save the lives of Thais and foreigners, is currently low on stocks of blood type A.

"We need to maintain a daily minimum stock of 200 units of A, B and O blood types, and 20 units of Rhesus-negative blood," said PRBC acting chief Pornthip Rattajak.

"We currently have only 100 units of blood type A on hand," she said.

To help replenish dwindling stocks, the mobile blood donation clinics will be at the

following places and times in Phuket in March:

**March 4:** Holiday Inn Resort Phuket Mai Khao Beach, 1pm-4pm

**March 5:** Westin Siray Bay Resort and Spa (Koh Sireh), 1pm-4pm

**March 6:** Phuket International Hospital (bypass road), 1pm-4pm

**March 8:** Phuket Numsang (Yaowarat Road, Samkong, Phuket Town), 1pm-4pm

**March 12:** Andaman Canasia Resort and Spa Phuket (Kata), 1pm-4pm

**March 12:** Club Med (Kata) 1pm-4pm

**March 18:** Katathani Resort and Spa (Kata), 1pm-4pm

**March 19:** Central Festival Phuket

(bypass road), banking zone on 2nd floor, midday-6pm

**March 25:** Bangkok Hospital Phuket, first floor (Samkong, Phuket Town), 1pm-5pm

**March 26:** Amora Beach Resort Phuket (Bang Tao), 1pm-4pm

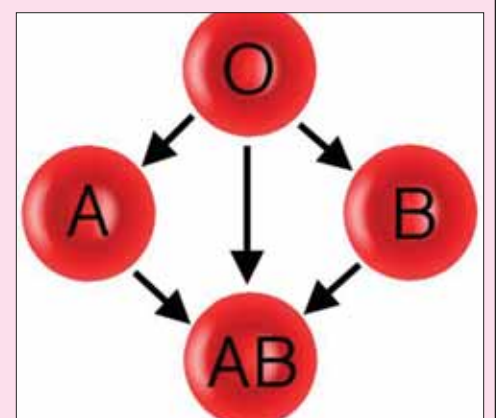
**March 26:** Diamond Cliff Resort and Spa (Kalim), 1pm-4pm

**March 28:** Duangjit Resort Phuket (Patong) 10am-3pm

**March 29:** Banyan Tree Phuket (Thalang) 10am-3pm

For more information contact the PRBC (Tel: 076-251178. Email: phuketrbc@yahoo.com).

– Saran Mitrarat



The Phuket Blood Bank is particularly low on stocks of Type A blood. Photo: ApersOn

# Fun festival hits B1mn charity mark

By Gazette reporters

THE Phuket Family & Gourmet Festival, held at Royal Phuket Marina on January 26, raised a whopping one million baht for children's charities.

The news was announced on Tuesday by the Bangkok-based food wholesaler Jagota Brothers, the creator and driving force behind the event.

The record-breaking sum for a single-event fundraising effort on the island followed a cash donation of 59,610 by the *Phuket Gazette*, the media partner for the launch edition of what now looks set to become Phuket charity's largest annual festival.

Held for the express purpose of raising funds for the Andaman region's less fortunate children,

this year's event pooled the talents of some of Phuket's top chefs with the local musical talents of the Legends of Siam, Thai superstars Moderndog and the internationally renowned blues-rock trio Vdelli.

With the event driven and underwritten by Jagota and leading local businesses, a team of about 20 local residents donated hundreds of hours of work to sell tickets and fill the Royal Phuket Marina – all day and nearly half the night – with capacity crowds of families and delighted children.

The beneficiary charities for the full million baht so raised are the:

- Home & Life Orphanage
- Baan Than Namchai Foundation
- Baan San-Fan Orphanage
- Child Watch Phuket / Baan



**GUNNING FOR GOOD:** The festival hit the mark by raising one million baht for local charities. Photo: Marc Mulloy

- Holland
  - Phuket Sunshine Village Foundation
  - Children's World Academy Foundation
  - World Vision Foundation of Thailand
  - SOS Children's Villages Thailand
  - Phuket Has Been Good To Us
  - The Good Shepherd Phuket
- George Des, General Manager of Jagota, told the *Gazette* close

to half a year ago that his company's primary goal in creating the festival was "to put a smile on lots of kids' faces". It worked – and not solely on that single day.

Anand Jagota, CEO of the family company, says he wants to see even more money raised next year, with the focus on scholarships for children.

For details on how to get involved in next year's Family Festival, email [john@phuketgazette.net](mailto:john@phuketgazette.net)



Anand Jagota, CEO, joins Marketing Director Kaniitha Prasopsirikul at the event. Photo: Marc Mulloy

# Man dies after second hit-and-run in 24 hours

A 21-year-old security guard from Phattalung died after the motorcycle he was riding was struck by a car on the road from the Heroines' Monument to Pa Khlok late on February 27.

He was the second person to be struck down in a hit-and-run in Phuket in two days.

Thalang Police Duty Officer Chatree Chuwichian was notified of the accident at 12:45am.

"The man's motorcycle was in a roadside ditch. The body of Mr Jarin Weenada was lying nearby," Sub Lt Chatree said.

Mr Jarin was still dressed in his SAM Andaman Security Service uniform.

Witnesses identified a blue Proton sedan as the hit-and-run vehicle.

"The car was seen entering the Neramit Housing Estate, where we found it, with matching damage to the front, parked in front of a house," Sub Lt Chatree said.

"The driver was not inside the vehicle. His wife came out of the house and told us that her husband had just returned from a meeting. He parked his car in front of the house and ran away.

"She had no idea where he was," he added.

Sub Lt Chatree named the suspect driver as Chaowarot Jantarak, 38, a marketing officer at Thanachart Bank.

"We seized his car and are now searching for him," he said.

The hit-and-run in Pa Khlok followed another hit-and-run in Phuket Town the night before.

Police are searching for the



Witnesses saw the car pull into the nearby Neramit Housing Estate in Pa Khlok, where police found it with matching damage. The driver had already fled. Photo: Thawit Bilabdullar

driver of a Chevrolet vehicle believed to have been involved in that incident.

Kowit Charoensuk, 23, was riding a motorcycle when he was struck down on Narisorn Road, near Phuket Provincial Hall, at about 10:30pm.

Officers arrived at the scene to find Mr Kowit in agony, crying for help in the middle of the road. Both his legs were broken.

"Not far from Mr Kowit, we found his motorbike, which suffered extensive damage in the impact," Capt Akaradech said.

"Near his motorbike, we found the license plate Gor Nor 361 still in its Chevrolet dealer frame. We will use it to search for the driver," he added.

Mr Kowit was admitted to Vachira Phuket Hospital, where he underwent surgery.

- Thawit Bilabdullar



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Police continue to pursue leads in the Jintana Mahattanapak murder case. Photo: Gazette files

## Police continue searching for Jintana killers

POLICE are continuing to question individuals over the murder of Jintana Mahattanapak as they await the results of CCTV-footage analysis being conducted in Bangkok.

"Experts in Bangkok are still trying to extract information that will lead to the arrests of the killers from the CCTV footage we sent them," Phuket Provincial Police Deputy Commander Sakchai Limcharoen told the *Gazette* on March 1.

"We have yet to be able to make a positive identification [of the killers]."

Mrs Jintana, the human resources director at the Hilton Arcadia Phuket Resort & Spa in Karon, was shot dead at close range on her way home from work on January 18.

Col Sakchai confirmed to the *Gazette* that police are actively continuing their investigation, most recently meeting with Mrs Jintana's cousins.

"We were hoping that information provided by her cousins would help us identify a motive in the killing," Col Sakchai said.

"I understand that this is an important case. However, at this point in time there is very little information we can reveal to the public," he said.

— Chutharat Plerin

# Cough syrup bust nets 25

## Plainclothes police officers posing as pharmacy staff make arrests

By Kraitsada Mueanhawong

A RAID on a Phuket Town pharmacy early on the evening of March 1 turned into a bumper haul for officers as they arrested a procession of young people turning up to buy cough syrup specifically to make the local drug cocktail "4x100".

Following an order by Muang District Chief Supachai Pochanukul, 15 officers arrived at the Pharma Sure drug store on Si Sena Road at 6:30pm.

"We received a tip-off that the store was selling cough syrup to be used to make the 4x100 drug cocktail," said Muang Chief Administrative Officer Thammarong Chuayaksorn.

"The store was open each day only from the afternoon until 7:30pm," he added.

When the officers arrived, the only person at the store was counter service staffer Mathuros Chumchuen. "She told us the pharmacist was not at the store. We asked to see the register of drugs bought and sold by the pharmacy, which they are required by law to have, but she could not produce it," Mr Thammarong said.

The officers then called in store owner and pharmacist Theerawat Khumnil, 30, a Trang



The 24 young people who tried to buy cough syrup are headed for a drug rehabilitation camp.

native, for questioning.

"While we were talking to Mr Theerawat, a total of 24 people aged 20 and 21 years old came in to buy cough syrup. I pretended to be working at the store and they all told me they wanted to use the cough syrup to make 4x100," Mr Thammarong explained.

"So we arrested them."

Officers discovered that several of the youths were carrying *kratom* leaves – another ingredient in 4x100.

Mr Theerawat was charged with operating a drug store without keeping a register of all pharmaceuticals bought and sold by the store; operating a drug store without a pharmacist on duty; and

selling prescription drugs to people without prescriptions.

"He accepted all the charges and was taken to Phuket City Police Station for further questioning," Mr Thammarong said.

All 24 of the young people, two of whom were Burmese, will attend a compulsory drug rehabilitation camp.

## Youth get creative with cocktails: 8x100 comes back

THE police crackdown on the indigenous plant *kratom*, a mild narcotic, is taking its toll, with youngsters now reportedly turning to longkong leaves in order to make a new version of the drug cocktail long known as "4x100", which is made from *kratom* leaves, cola, ice and cough syrup.

The new recipe using longkong leaves even sports a new, improved nickname: "8x100".

"*Kratom* leaves are the main ingredient of the original 4x100 cocktail," said Ranong Provincial Police Deputy Commander Suthep Kasetthong.

"Because police have cracked down on the trade of *kratom*, youths created a cocktail com-

prising longkong leaves, cola, *ya bah* [methamphetamine], cough syrup, mosquito coils, chemicals from florescent tube lights, tobacco and yogurt," he said.

The 8x100 cocktail appeared in drug raids in 2009. It is now experiencing a new wave of popularity among young drug-takers, Lt Col Suthep said.

"It is gaining popularity again in the southern provinces of Ranong, Chumphon and Surat Thani," he stated.

"This new, stronger drink is very dangerous. We have to add tougher measures to crack down on this new drug," he said.

— Orawin Narabal



Leaves of the popular longkong fruit are being used to make a drug cocktail. Photo: TheCoffee



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## Lizard-eater reveals health, sex secret

A 74-YEAR-OLD man in Kamphaeng Phet Province has revealed his secret to staying healthy and maintaining his sexual power: eating lizards live.

Dokrak Umsaeng, originally from Ang Thong, says he has been eating small geckos, which are commonly found on walls in Thailand, for 12 years – and has no plans to stop.

Lert Thetjaem, the former village chief of Khlong Si Nuan in Muang District of Kamphaeng Phet, tipped off reporters from *Kom Chad Luek* that a man in his village was eating geckos because he claimed they had health benefits.

When the reporters arrived at Mr Dokrak's house, they found a large crowd gathered outside



with Mr Dokrak at the center, holding a plastic bag containing two small, live lizards.

He pulled one of the lizards out of the bag and held it over his gaping mouth. Then he flicked the creature on the head, presumably to stun it, before stuffing it into his mouth. After he took a gulp of water, the gecko was gone.

Mr Dokrak was almost giddy with excitement, as if he had just consumed some sort of stimulant.

He told reporters he had been

eating lizards for 12 years because he thought they could cure disease.

He claimed that he used to suffer from shortness of breath but that eating geckos cured him.

He said that when he was a child, people regularly grilled and ate lizards because they believed they would make you strong.

"These days, whenever I find a lizard I grab it and eat it straight away. Sometimes I don't eat one for half a month as there aren't many left and finding them gets harder every day," he said.

"But for health, eating one every two or three days is good. The important thing is that it also increases your sexual power," said the septuagenarian.

— Komchadluek



# Pheu Thai man loses in Bangkok elections

## AROUND THE nation

INCUMBENT Bangkok Governor Sukhumbhand Paribatra won a second term in last week's gubernatorial elections in a victory that is being seen as a vote against political domination by the ruling Pheu Thai Party.

Some observers even called the result a blow for former prime minister and Pheu Thai patriarch Thaksin Shinawatra, who had claimed he could get a "lamp post" elected ahead of Mr Sukhumbhand.

The hotly contested poll saw the largest voter turnout of any Bangkok election yet staged. Of 4,244,465 eligible voters, 2,715,640 cast ballots, a record turnout of 63.98 per cent.

Mr Sukhumbhand of the Democrat Party won 1,256,231 votes the - highest number ever - against 1,077,899 for the Pheu Thai candidate Pongsapat Pongcharoen.

Independent candidates failed to make much of an impact. Sereepisuth Temeeyaves came third with 166,582 votes and radio DJ Suharit Siamwalla won 78,825, while Kosit Suwinijit gathered only 28,640.

Analysts believe the Democrat Party's focus on the "fear factor" late in the campaign may have helped tip the balance in the party's favor.



Pheu Thai candidate Pongsapat came up short in the race to be Bangkok's Governor. Photo: The Nation

The party made a point of reminding Bangkok residents that Pheu Thai was associated with the political turmoil from the red-shirt protest in 2010 that led to the burning of buildings in the city centre.

Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra, reportedly on the verge of tears, promised "seamless" government cooperation with City Hall.

Mr Pongsapat had himself cam-

paign on his claimed ability to provide "seamless" coordination with the government.

The result came as a surprise to many, since most of the polls leading up to the election had predicted a victory for the Pheu Thai man.

Even on election day, *Abac Poll* released "pre-election" results conducted on 5,713 people, 45.9 per cent of whom said they would vote for Mr Pongsapat while 34.1 per cent said they preferred Mr

Sukhumbhand.

Writing in *The Nation*, editor Tulsathit Taptim pointed out that Pheu Thai was closing the gap in the city.

"That and pre-election surveys should give the opposition camp a clear warning that this could be the Democrats' last chance to please the highly fickle and extremely demanding Bangkokians, whatever their desires are," he wrote.



'Heroes' rally to protect wildlife. Photo: The Nation

## Yingluck vows action in ivory smuggling war

PRIME Minister Yingluck Shinawatra has pledged to end Thailand's role in the illegal ivory trade, in response to international calls for the country's help.

"I must stress that no one cares more about elephants than Thais and I believe that Thailand will be a strong ally in the fight against illicit trafficking in ivory," she said.

Ms Yingluck was speaking in front of more than 2,000 representatives of 150 countries at the 16th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

The annual two-week conference is taking place in Bangkok this year, putting a spotlight on Thailand's record of protecting endangered species.

"Unfortunately, many have used Thailand as a transit country for the illegal international ivory trade," she said, adding that the government is working with both domestic and international organizations to combat international trafficking in tusks.

"The next step will be amending national legislation," she said.

## Southern peace talks met with doubts

THE government has signed an agreement to hold peace talks with a group linked to the insurgency in the Deep South, though many observers remain skeptical that the organization has enough influence to put an end to the violence.

In a move aimed at bolstering the talks, authorities have announced the emergency decree will be lifted and replaced by the Internal Security Act in five districts of Pattani, Yala and Narathiwat.

News that the government had initiated talks in Malaysia with the group, Barisan Revolusi Nasional (BRN), broke last weekend.

But Army Commander-in-Chief General Prayuth Chan-ocha said he had no doubt that violent attacks by insurgents would continue.

Gen Prayuth said many new insurgent groups had formed - groups that would not take orders from the BRN.

Gen Prayuth said that although the groups shared the same



The government plans to lift the emergency decree. Photo: The Nation

ideology, they wanted power of their own.

"The fighting will definitely not cease," Gen Prayuth said.


Less than 24 hours after the signing of the agreement, two vehicle bombs went off in Muang District in Narathiwat, wounding six people.

Then on March 4, a defense

volunteer was shot dead in Narathiwat's Rue Soh district. Marohsi Yaning was gunned down in an ambush while riding a motorbike.

The emergency decree remains set to be lifted in Kapho district in Pattani; Betong and Kabang districts in Yala; and Waeng and Sukhirin districts in Narathiwat.

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## In brief...

American layman  
'swallowed up' by  
sinkhole under bed

A WRECKING team last Sunday started demolishing the home of a man who disappeared into a sinkhole that swallowed his bedroom while he slept on February 28.

Rescue workers gave up searching for his body last Saturday.

Jeff Bush, 36, is presumed dead after vanishing into the sinkhole that opened suddenly beneath his room.

Five other people in the house were getting ready for bed when they heard a loud crash and Mr Bush screaming.

UN condemns  
Tanzanian attacks  
on albinos

ALBINOS whose body parts are prized by witch doctors are being attacked in rising numbers in Tanzania, with children who are still alive having their limbs chopped off, the top UN human rights official said on Tuesday.

The killing and mutilation of people with albinism is often linked to witchcraft, the statement said.

Prosecutions are rarely successful, with only five known cases of convictions out of the 72 murders of people with albinism documented in Tanzania since 2000, it said.

UN to ban sale of  
yachts, racing cars  
to North Korea

A UN Security Council resolution to be voted on later this week calls for an explicit ban on the sale to Pyongyang of items coveted by North Korea's ruling elite, such as yachts and racing cars, a council diplomat said on Tuesday.

The new sanctions are a response to North Korea's February 12 nuclear test.

## Venezuela's Huge Chavez loses two-year battle against cancer

PRESIDENT Hugo Chavez died on Tuesday after a two-year battle with cancer, ending 14 years of tumultuous, divisive rule that won him passionate support from the poor but the hatred of business leaders and wealthier Venezuelans.

The flamboyant 58-year-old had undergone four operations in Cuba for a cancer that was first detected in his pelvic region in 2011. His last surgery was on December 11 and he had not been seen in public since.

"It's a moment of deep pain," said Vice President Nicolas Maduro, his voice choking during a live television address, in which he appeared with senior ministers.

"We call on all compatriots to guarantee

peace," Maduro added. "His project, his flags will be raised with honor and dignity. Commander, thank you, thank you so much, on behalf of these people whom you protected."

Chavez easily won a new six-year term at an election in October and his death is devastating for millions of supporters who adored his charismatic style, anti-US rhetoric and oil-financed policies that brought subsidized food and free health clinics to long-neglected slums.

Detractors, however, saw his one-man style, gleeful nationalizations and often harsh treatment of opponents as traits of an egotistical dictator whose misplaced statist economics wasted a historic bonanza of oil revenues.

Chavez's death opens the way for a new election that will test whether his socialist "revolution" can live on without his dominant personality at the helm.

The vote should be held within 30 days and will likely pit Maduro against Henrique Capriles, the centrist opposition leader and state governor who lost to Chavez in the October election.

- Reuters



## Newborn cured of HIV

By Julie Steenhuysen

THE remarkable case of a baby being cured of HIV infection in the United States using readily available drugs has raised new hope for eradicating the infection in infants worldwide, but scientists say it will take a lot more research and much more sensitive diagnostics before this hope becomes a reality.

In a medical first for an infant, the Mississippi toddler was born in July 2010 infected with HIV and treated within 30 hours of delivery with aggressive HIV therapy, which continued for 18 months. She is now considered cured of her infection, a team of researchers led by Dr Deborah Persaud, a virologist at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, said in a news conference at the Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections in Atlanta on Sunday.

"From a clinical perspective, this means that if you can get an infected baby on to antiretroviral drugs immediately after delivery, it's going to be possible to prevent or reverse the infection - essentially cure the baby," said Dr Steven Deeks, an HIV and AIDS researcher at the University of California at San Francisco who is attending the conference, where the case was presented to researchers on Monday.

Deeks and others hailed the



Dr Persaud, a virologist at Johns Hopkins Children's Center. Photo: Reuters

findings as a great advance in the search for a cure in babies born infected with HIV. But the researchers said they also suggest the need for better ways to diagnose HIV infection, a process that typically takes up to six weeks.

"This could have a profound effect on how we approach babies born to HIV-infected moms," Deeks said.

Worldwide, especially in developing countries, as many as 1,000 babies are born infected each day. For these children, the findings could have a major impact on the "terrible burden of HIV infection throughout the world," Dr Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, part of the National Institutes of Health.

Michel Sidibe, executive director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS, known as UNAIDS, said the news "gives us great hope that a cure for HIV in children is possible," but it also underscores the need for research and innovation, "especially in the area of early diagnostics."

Dr Fauci said the child's case was an important "proof of concept," but he cautioned that it was only one case and it needs to be further validated.

"The real question is will this be broadly applicable to other infants?" he asked.

Dr Fauci said there is a risk that without better diagnostics, children who were never infected in the first place could be exposed to toxic drugs with very early treatment.

"The approach of treating really, really early needs to be pursued," he said. "When we get better diagnostics where we can tell within the first day or so whether the baby is infected, an approach like this looks like it might be a reasonable thing to pursue with the appropriate clinical trials."

Dr Fauci said it is not time to change treatment protocols for infants who are born infected. "It's a single case. We've got to be careful about that."

- Reuters

## Borneo violence spirals into crisis for Malaysia, Philippines

WHEN dozens of armed Filipinos landed by boat on Malaysia's part of Borneo island last month claiming to be a "royal army" and pressing an obscure historic claim, it seemed like a bizarre incident that would soon be resolved and forgotten.

Three weeks later, 27 people including eight Malaysian policemen have been killed, sparking a political crisis ahead of elections for both the Philippine and Malaysian governments and raising concerns of instability in resource-rich Sabah state.

While the violence has been contained so far to a small corner of Sabah, it signals that militants left out of a peace deal between Manila and the Philippines' main Muslim rebel group could be renewing their focus on the region.

Prolonged insecurity could also affect Sabah's huge palm oil industry and dampen growing investor interest in energy and infrastructure projects in the state, although the main oil fields are far from the trouble.

Oil majors such as ConocoPhillips and Shell have poured in billions of dollars to develop oil and gas fields in Sabah. Chinese companies have been investing in hydro-power and coal mining, and Sabah is a popular tourist spot with pristine beaches, diving sites and rich tropical wildlife.

The group, numbering about 180, say they are descendants of the sultanate of Sulu in the southern Philippines, which ruled parts of northern Borneo for centuries. They are demanding recognition



Malaysian policemen man a road block on a street leading to Kampung Tandu, the area where the armed men are. Photo: Reuters

and an increased payments from Malaysia for their claim as the rightful owners of Sabah.

The violence presents Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak with a security headache that

could delay an election that must be held by June, adding to nervousness among investors over what could be the country's closest ever polls.

- Reuters

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# Phuket Pearl's crowning achievement

## Local firm wins bid to design and make B1mn crown for Thai beauty pageant

PHUKET Pearl Group was selected to design and make the tiara for this year's Miss Thailand World beauty pageant finalist, who will be crowned on April 9 in Bangkok.

Mr Amorn Intha-charoen, president of the Phuket Pearl Group (PPG), revealed that his company was selected to design the crown as part of a competition that was organized by Thai TV channel three and the BEC Tero entertainment group.

He recently told the *Manager Online* that the design will comprise pearls, diamonds and citrine gemstones, with an estimated value of about 1 million baht.

The design is based on the concept: "beauty still has value... beauty [projected] to the sight of Asean".

As a cultured pearl producer, dealer and jewelry designer, the PPG prides itself on its fully integrated supply chain that applies the "farm to consumer" business model.

Elaborating more on the design concept, Mr Amorn revealed that the crown will feature a rice paddy symbol representing the nations of Asean.

At the top of the paddy, there will be 11 pearls representing the 10 nations of Asean, with the 11<sup>th</sup> pearl representing Asean as a whole.

The pearls will be of the "South Sea" variety, carefully selected from among a total of 2,526 pearls that completed their culturing process in 2012 (cultured pearls are produced over a period of several years).

The pearls will be selected by considering



OOH LA LA: Contestants of a previous Miss Thailand World pageant. Photo: Gazette file

both size and quality, he added.

The pearls will be complemented by authentic Belgium diamonds weighing 1.5 karats, as well as 10 orange Citrine gemstones weighing a total of 120 karats – symbolizing 10 grains of rice for each Asean nation.

Mr Amorn said he believes his firm's design was selected because of the company's long-standing reputation for producing quality pearls, and especially for its modern and beautiful designs.

He added that aside from being selected to design the Miss Thailand World crown, his firm has also been asked to design the crown for this year's Miss Singapore pageant – for the second year in a row.

The Miss Thailand World 2013 final will be held on Tuesday, April 9 at the Bangkok Convention Center of the Centara Grand

## Eye on the market Food & Necessities

### Phuket Price Trends

Item	Current (THB)	Notes	Y-o-Y %	YTD %
Pork, sirloin	137.5	per kilogram	5.77	0
Pork, tenderloin	135	per kilogram		0
Pork, dried & thighs	125	per kilogram	4.17	0
Cattle beef, sirloin	220	per kilogram	0	0
Chicken, gutted	59	per kilogram	-26.25	0
Chicken, half-cut	72.5	per kilogram	3.57	0
Chicken, leg and thigh	75	per kilogram	0	0
Chicken, eggs, size 2	44.4	B3.5-3.7/ egg	4.23	5
Fish, striped snakehead large	160	2 fish / kg	2.11	0
Fish, striped snakehead medium	150	3-4 fish / kg	8.44	0
crab, sea, no-eggs, medium	240	3-4 crabs / kg	-2.7	0
Rice, Jasmine 100%*	40	B600-615/ 15kg	14	-2.4
	45	B225/ 5kg	-4.2	0
mushrooms, straw	90	per kilogram		-2.7
sugar, plain white	21.7	B1087-1185 / 50 kg	-8.4	0
palm oil	40.5	per liter	-3.5	0

Source: Consumer Alert & Department of Internal Trade, Commerce Ministry

### Fuel & Currency

	Current (THB)	Notes	Y-o-Y %	YTD %
Gasohol 91, E10	37.82	per liter	-1.3	7
Gasohol 95, E10	40.27	per liter	0.5	6.6
Gasohol 95, E20	35.02	per liter	-6.16	8.3
Benzine 95	48.69	per liter		
Diesel	30.43	per liter	-5.41	0.66
Gold, 96.5% (23kt)	1466	per gram (x 15.244)	-9.34	-8
USD	2994	Per 100	-2.19	-2.06
GBP	4541	Per 100	-7.27	-7.8
EUR	3912	Per 100	-4.28	-2.03
CNY	4865	Per 1,000	-1.24	-1.97
JPY	3224	Per 10,000	-14.89	-7.99

Source: Department of Internal Trade and the Bank of Thailand

hotel @ Central World.

Leading up to the main event, the 20 finalists are scheduled to gather at the Cape Panwa hotel in Phuket. After that, they will do some promotional activities in Myanmar before returning to Bangkok

to partake in the pageant's "Fast Track" round, in which the finalists will contest three accolades: Miss Talent, Top Model and Beauty with a purpose – recognizing devotion towards societal change.

- Phuket Gazette

# Appliances see double digit growth

THE rising affluence in contrasting ends of the consumer spectrum is stimulating sales of major domestic appliances across Southeast Asia.

This mix in consumer development has grown the total market worth of washers, air-conditioners, refrigerators and microwave ovens by a healthy 13% in 2012 over the previous year.

In 2012, 19.5 million units of major domestic appliances were sold across Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam.

Close to US\$6 billion worth of sales were generated, representing a 13% volume increase from 2011.

Indonesia led in growth, and together with two other countries, made up three out of six in the region which registered vibrant double-digit growth in value.

"Even as some households in developing markets are installing their first double-tub washer, a proportion of the affluent

population is concurrently upgrading theirs to the larger capacity models with enhanced technology," observed Jasmine Lim, Account Director for Home & Lifestyle products.

"A flourishing domestic economy and rising affluence are key reasons for the robust sales of appliances, especially air-conditioners, refrigerators and washers."

Air-conditioners posted the highest volume growth at nearly 18%. Philippines and Vietnam are the two fastest growing markets for this appliance, registering more than 20% surge in demand from last year.

GfK findings revealed that consumers in the region are increasingly buying better and higher-end models, which correspondingly upped the average price for air-cons in the region by as much as 12%.

In the washing machine category, although single tub remains

the dominant segment, making up over half of all washing machines purchased, rapid adoption of front load washers was observed across the region with value growth expanding in the range of 9 and 68% in the respective countries.

Washers in four out of six of the countries experienced a marginal fall in their local average price.

"Although front load washers cost more than twice the price of single tub models, consumers are still willing to spend more on such models," highlighted Lim.

"The local government in tandem with manufacturers have been actively educating and promoting, with much success, front load machines for their greater water efficiency."

Another contributing segment to the major domestic appliance sector is refrigerators which expanded by about 11 and 10% in value and volume respectively.

"Single-tub washers and 1-door refrigerator segments will definitely



Front load washers and dryers are more popular. Photo: Andy Buckingham

continue to see growth as penetration deepens in the emerging markets where some households purchase their first washer and refrigerator," said Lim.

"At the same time, the rising affluent class will also keep on fueling the demand for more premium appliances, and together, this demand will drive the continued growth of the major domestic appliances sector in the region," she concluded. - GfK



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# Scrap yards cleaning up

AS PART of a campaign to raise awareness about pollution, and thus reduce it, the Phuket Environmental Office is conducting appraisals of the island's antique shops, warehouses and old household item scrap yards.

So far, a total of 39 businesses on the island have been targeted by the government campaign, which looks to certify related operators as a "Green Antique Shop" or "Green Scrap Business" (*Raan Kai Khawng Gao See Kieao*).

The most recent of inspections were carried out last week by officials from the Regional Environmental Office number 15 (Phuket office), led by Mr Surachai Kulathong, an environmental expert researcher, as well as a number of police, health and

other provincial authorities.

The campaign, carried over from last year, is part of a collaboration between the Ministry of Natural Resources' regional environmental offices and its Pollution Control Department (PCD).

Its objective is "to promote, support and raise awareness and understanding among scrap and antique dealers about safety and sanitation processes in order to reduce pollution and thus global warming."

The PCD estimates that there are more than 10,000 antique shops and household-item scrap-yards in Thailand. Up until recently, regulations and the respective enforcement concerning such businesses has been lax.

The PCD asserts that the lack

of regulations results in pollution that not only negatively affects operators themselves, but also their employees and others living near by.

The first phase of the campaign's appraisal process will involve officials inspecting and advising operators about the proper storing and separating of scraps; the cleaning and maintaining of grounds compliance with respective sanitation regulations and ensuring that all operators have the correct permit to operate such a business.

The second phase will involve reviewing and considering all the businesses that have passed the criteria, as to acknowledge and finally issue a "Green Scrap Business" certificate.

— *Phuket Gazette*



**DIOXIN-TOXIC:** What doesn't get recycled, ends up here. Photo: Steven Layne

# Three more subdivisions get approval

A RECENT Phuket Land Subdivision Committee (PLSC) meeting gave provisional approval for three Land Subdivision Permit (LSP) applications, while denying another application.

Chaired by Phuket Vice Governor Chamroen Tipayapongtada, the PLSC's first meeting this year was held on March 5 at the Phuket Land Office.

Among the topics addressed in the meeting was the review and consideration of four LSP applications, as well as a review of the procedures in sub-dividing land, making modifications to existing subdivision plans, establishing a development and withdrawing from guarantee agreements about providing public utilities.

The PLSC approved the applications for the following:

1. Chanakarn House and Land Co Ltd, Chanakarn Suan Luang, in the Vichit District of Phuket Town. The development will span an area



**THAI STYLE PLUMBING:** A Water Utilities management plan is strongly considered when applying for a Land Subdivision Permit. Photo: Geoff B

of about five rai (8,000 square meters) sub-divided into 86 plots, which will include two story single-detached houses, priced at 4.2 million baht; duplexes priced from 2.15mn baht and town house units priced from 1.9mn baht.

2. Tantikowit Co Ltd and their project Thanawadee in Cherng Talay of Thalang, which is a development on more than three quarters of a rai (about 1,200 sqm), to be sub-divided into 18 plots of three story shop-houses

priced from 5.49mn baht

3. Phuket Ban Sabai (2012) Co Ltd's project Royal Marina Plaza in Koh Kaew sub district of Phuket Town, is a development spanning just over two rai 3,200 sqm and will offer 61 plots, including 60 shop houses priced from 5mn baht each, and one large plot to be sold at a rate of 60,000 baht per square wah (four sqm).

Final approval will be given as soon as additional guidelines are met.

Meanwhile, the application for Tri Estate Co Ltd's Palm Villa project in the Pa Khlok sub district of Thalang, was denied.

V/gov Chamroen gave the reason: The project does not get approval this time around because the mayor of the Pa Khlok sub district informed us that the permit application for water utilities and trash collection was not done correctly, and [we feel] that may cause difficulties for future inhabitants.

The property in question was to span over 11 rai (17,600 sqm), offering 80 plots: 62 duplexes priced 1.9 - 3.5mn baht, 16 single-detached houses priced 3.4 - 4.5mn baht and two empty land plots priced 3 - 12mn baht each.

Mr Panya Samphaorat, Mayor of Pa Khlok told the PLSC that the development would need to plug into the water grid that temples in the municipality were already relying on. And since there already is a shortage of water for these temples, he said that the additional stress from the dozens of new households would surely cause problems for future inhabitants.

Moreover, its garbage collection permit was not done correctly, nor convincing enough that the project wouldn't cause hassle for future residents and the municipality.

They [the developer] had only one vehicle registered to collect garbage, he said.

— *Phuket Gazette*

# Low-cost flying battle heating up ahead of AEC

The 2015 Asean Economic Community (AEC) has competitive implications for the aviation industry in Thailand, especially low-cost carriers (LCCs), which are flocking here to cash in on business opportunities from an anticipated tourism boom, resulting in greater competition.

Given the country's strategic location as a connectivity base, Thailand is becoming a battleground for aviation players. At present, there are about 24 LCCs flying regionally, including four based in Thailand - Thai AirAsia, Nok Air, Orient Thai, and Solar Air.

A few others operate flights to Bangkok, including Tiger Airways and Jetstar Asia Airways from Singapore, Mandala Airlines and Lion Air from Indonesia, South East Asia Airlines (SEAir) and Cebu Pa-

cific Air from the Philippines.

In the early stages, such LCCs launched service in their homelands, but lately have started spreading their wings regionally.

"Not only LCCs, but more full-serviced carriers will be flying in here when the AEC commences," Udom Tantiprasongchai, chairman of the advisory board of Orient Thai, told *The Nation*.

"Thailand is very lucky to have a good geographical position as a regional center for the aviation industry. Unfortunately, Thai operators will be forced to face stiffer competition and will find it even harder to stay [in business]."

From now on, Udom said, the market would be more dynamic. Operators will find it more and more difficult to stay on, especially those that lack funding and strategic

thinking to cope with the fast-changing business environment.

AirAsia will play a leading role in the Thai market. The recent visit to Bangkok by Tony Fernandes, the airline's founder and chief executive, to meet with Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra underscored this. He sought her support for the airline's rising role in the Thai market by using the country as a hub.

An analyst who declined to be named said political connections are one of the keys to doing business regionally, especially if companies seek to secure a foothold in each country.

AirAsia, founded in 2001, has become Asia's biggest LCC. It has established a business foundation throughout the region, with 118 aircraft in its fleet at present and a further 357 on order.

The analyst said it was apparent that the carrier would have a big influence on the regional skies, including Thailand.

It could out-perform Thai Airways International, the national carrier, within five years.

Udom said: "The success of AirAsia today is [based on the fact] that it has deep pockets and [is led by] the visionary Fernandes. He is smart at doing business."

Executives in the industry say AirAsia also prospers because of its business flexibility. It makes decisions quickly, especially when it recognizes that part of its business is failing. It keeps its overall operation strong by cutting off poorly performing services.

In contrast, THAI as a state enterprise is bureaucratic, takes a long time to find solutions to prob-

lems or launch new routes. Sometimes, by the time it acts, it is too late. There is no doubt THAI has gradually seen its market share snatched away by LCCs, especially in the regional market.

The trend is clear that passengers are increasingly looking for affordable flights. They do not mind flying two or three hours with a LCC even if no food or drinks are served on board.

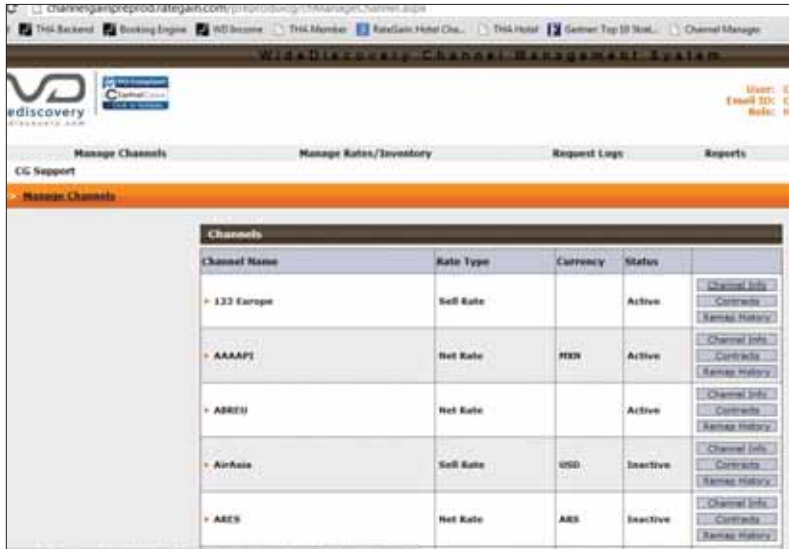
Fernandes told the media last year in Jakarta that he intended the AirAsia brand to be as well known as Coca-Cola. Its rapid expansion may help fulfill his ambition, and THAI may feel the pinch.

Although THAI has a 49% stake in LCC, Nok Air, that may not be enough to protect its market share from AirAsia's expansion.

— *Bamrung Amnatcharoenrit*



# Phuket hotels sign up for new online scheme



**ONLINE:** The latest developments in hospitality channel management software gives independent Phuket-based hotels unprecedented access to online bookings from guests in 72 countries around the world.

PHUKET-based hoteliers are breaking into emerging travel markets around the world with new channel management technology recently made available in the region.

Local members of the Thai Hotel Association (THA) are expected to be some of the first to benefit from the new channel management solutions following a deal inked in February between Phuket-based hospitality solution service provider Wide Discovery Dot Com and global hospitality software developer RateGain.

The partnership opens up a

massive new section of the as-yet-untouched global hospitality market to local hoteliers by giving them access to hundreds of Online Travel Agents (OTAs) and hotel room wholesalers around the world, said Wide Discovery Dot Com Managing Director Mr Bunlert Eksatapornsakul.

“As well as offering unprecedented access to the global market, the new channel management solution saves huge amounts of time for reservation managers and staff, who must usually dedicate several hours a day to updating room availability



**Pictured at the Thailand Travel Mart at IMPACT Muang Thong in Bangkok,** Phuket-based hospitality solutions developer Wide Discovery Dot Com has become one of the region's leading service providers for hoteliers looking to secure online bookings in global emerging markets.

and information with each OTA that they work with.

“Now hoteliers can instantly update room rates across the board with just a few mouse clicks while greatly reducing the risk of lost revenue or potential damage to reputation due to double or dropped bookings” said Mr Bunlert.

“Independent hotels in the region have for a long time had to rely solely on a handful of locally-based online travel agents (OTAs) and wholesalers to secure room reservations, limiting their customer base to

conventional tourism markets in Asia and Europe,” he said.

India-based RateGain Vice President, Mr Sapan Anand, said the strategic alliance with Wide Discovery in Phuket means hotels in the region can now benefit from being able to access more than 350 channels in 72 countries around the world.

RateGain's system is used by 5,500 hospitality clients in all major regions of the world, including the top fifty Online Travel Agents.

– *Phuket Gazette*

## Krisda Mahanakorn to release shares

KRISDA Mahanakorn's shareholders yesterday approved the issuance of 4.49 billion new shares as part of the property firm's plan to drive revenue to 1.5bn baht this year, up from the previous target of 1bn baht.

Managing director Wirat Aiew-Aksorn said the new shares would be offered at the ratio of two new shares at 0.50 baht per share for one existing share.

The company also will offer one warrant (KMC-W3) per 10 existing shares.

Shareholders also approved the issuance of 5 billion new shares via private placement to a strategic partner to develop its business in the long term. They also approved a split in par value from 20 baht per share to 0.65 baht to erase some of its retained losses.

Under this plan, the company will raise 2.1bn baht from the market to launch four residential projects worth 2bn baht this year. One is a condominium on Rama IX Road that it took over from Vitoon Thanakorn Co.

It has already been completed and will contribute at least 1.1bn baht in sales this year.

The others are The Kris Extra Rama 9 and developments on Koh Lan in Chon Buri and in Songkhla's Hat Yai district.

– *The Nation*

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# East is East and West is West

MY FINGERS are digging deep into the armrests of our Bangkok Airways ATR 72, or more appropriately called “the prop job”, as it takes a sharp left turn high above the island of Koh Samui. Thankfully, I can’t hear myself think, given the noise level is nothing short of being inside a bar blender in a Mexican restaurant on margarita Mondays. Brain freeze time is here again.

What exactly is the difference between soaring up to heaven, or falling down into hell? One of my favorite pastimes is measuring the distance between a supposed beach front resort property development offering and the ocean. Reading those advertorials, which often wax on about hearing the gentle tropical waves rock you to sleep each night, typically ends up in a measurement exercise which finds you not counting meters, feet or sheep, but a rising marathon kilometer mark.

Back on Google Earth I decide to take a chance and key in Heaven, after all it’s the internet and maybe they have inside knowledge. The trip to that unearthly paradise takes me to Bardstown Kentucky, to Heaven Hill Distilleries. I’m rather skeptical if our afterlife final journey is headed down South and the thought of angels in mullet-style haircuts at Walmart is disturbing.

Meanwhile, my quest goes back to purgatory, or what’s known as the really deep South of Hades. This is easy, as up pops Michigan. Seemingly the religious right in the US has somehow made a land grab on all sorts of ecclesi-



**Property Watch**  
By Bill Barnett

astical real estate. Though a quick search also finds other Hells – Norway and Grand Cayman.

Thankfully, hell and heaven are not the strict domain of Americans only. With the Pope going into early retirement, what’s next? Perhaps God or Satan will want to take a little “me time”, go do some detox or learn how to paint? Or else, just kick back, travel and hone up on their golf games? Neither one has an Austin Power’s Mini Me waiting in the wings, so imagine trying to find replacements for them? I do hear Kanye West might be interested though.

Back in the skies as our giant lawnmower edges toward Phuket, I scan the in-flight magazine, which features a literary take on Myanmar (Burma for those you who have been locked in a time warp). Famous authors such as Kipling, Maugham and Orwell are all taken apart, dissected and condensed. It’s good reading but my memory ticks over that famous Rudyard Kipling poem, *The Ballad of East and West*.

It starts out: “Oh, East is East, and West is West, and never the twain shall meet, Till Earth and Sky stand presently at God’s great Judgment Seat; But there is neither East nor West, Border, nor Breed, nor Birth, When two strong men stand face to face, tho’ they come from the ends of the Earth!”

This strikes a strong chord of

timelessness in our own day and age of technology, mayhem, madness and escape. Our little island of Phuket blends the best, the worst, and all that space in between into a rainbow of multi-cultureless.

In days past, Chinese, Malays and an entire plethora of Asian immigrants came here to set up businesses, raise families and create their own legacies. Just as Thais came from all over the land and settled here. After the tin mining, plantation and the trade set slowed, tourism followed.

Enter the citizens of the West, from near and far, Europeans, Americans, Australians the list goes on and on. The island of Phuket remains a space oddity in Thailand for its blend of East and West. While many would choose to be locked into the thought of legacy and entitlement, emerging markets and a changing world have plunged us into an entirely new melting pot.

Popping my head above the surface, I can certainly see the hastening pace of change where the term ‘expat’ will no longer only symbolize typically Western white faces, but will undergo an extreme makeover to be those from the region. Forget drawing a line in the sand, it’s far better to take a handful of it, throw it up into the air, and see which way the wind takes it.

I’m not quite sure how Kipling would have viewed our own little island here in Thailand, but his eloquent line “Oh, East is East, and West is West, and never the two shall meet” isn’t the case anymore



A cut-out of Mini Me from the movie *Austin Powers*. Photo: Nilima Home in the year 2013. The two great houses of yin and yang have already converged here in Phuket. Bill Barnett is Managing Director of C9 Hotelworks and can be contacted through [C9hotelworks.com](http://C9hotelworks.com).

## Sansiri denies ‘property bubble’

THE property market is still showing strong growth thanks to the country’s expanding economy, Sansiri Plc’s president Srettha Thavisin said in an interview with *The Nation*. He also denied the existence of a market bubble.

He explained that the Thai economy was not just driven by that of the capital, citing a National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB) study showing that greater Bangkok contributed to only 44 per cent of the economy in 2010, which was lower than the 52 per cent contribution in 2001.

This ratio means the provinces now have a greater influence in the nation’s economic growth. As a result, property firms have decided to expand their investment into the provinces since 2010.

“When comparing the country’s economic growth this year to that of 1997, it is clear that the economy has changed in line with the country’s environment,” he said.

The factors contributing to this are lower interest rates, 3 per cent compared to 10 per cent in 1997, which makes it easier for commercial banks to approve loans for projects and mortgages. The second factor is that Thailand now



**Srettha Thavisin**

has a credit bureau, which it was lacking in 1997.

Lastly, property firms nowadays are able to restrict their debt-to-equity ratio to no more than 2:1, something they were unable to do in 1997.

In addition, Srettha said, the country’s infrastructure has also changed since 1997. Now, the government is spending more on projects linking the capital to the provinces, which offers new areas for residential developments.

“Since 2010, we have seen a rising demand for property in the provinces, especially since lifestyles are changing and people are getting more urbanized. This is why the demand for condominiums in the provinces is rising,” he said.

It is due to this that the property market has recorded a strong growth since 2008, he said.

“We don’t believe that the property market [has] a bubble because

most of the people who bought into our condominium projects since 2008 have recorded an increase in the value of their property. Plus it has generated high income for our business,” he said.

At the end of last year, Sansiri Plc recorded total revenue of 30.08 billion baht and a net profit of 3.01bn baht, up 45 and 50 per cent respectively from the previous year. These have been the highest earnings recorded for Sansiri, which proves that there is a real demand for property. The company has also earned 16.64 bn baht in pre-sales during the first two months of this year.

However, Srettha admitted that some speculators have been booking units and selling them for an average of 10-15 per cent more. He said that most of these speculators have been able to sell their booking contracts to real buyers, and hence the company has succeeded in meeting the real demand. In other words, he said, though there has been speculation, there is still a real demand to support this and hence, there is no bubble.

“We believe that the property market will continue showing stable growth in line with the country’s economy,” he added. – *The Nation*

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# KPN to focus on property

THE Narongdej family's private investment arm, KPN Group Corporation, is launching a property fund to finance its latest condominium projects during a period of transition, as it switches its business focus from automotive to property.

Chairman Kris Narongdej said in an interview with The Nation Group, that the company would launch a property fund through its wholly owned subsidiary, KPN Lifestyle Co, this month.

"The fund is expected to sell its initial public offering units in the middle of this month after getting the approval of the Securities and Exchange Commission."

He declined to disclose the size of the fund. Starting in 2006, KPN Group has gradually sold out its stake in the listed firm, KPN Automotive, a manufacturer of automotive parts and plastics used in car and motorcycle assembly, to one of the country's leading auto parts manufacturing firms, Apico Hitech, for a combined 1.8 billion baht. Most of the money from the deal is being poured into the property business.

KPN Lifestyle, the group's property arm, now has more than 10 apartment block rentals, low-rise and high-rise condominiums and commercial building rentals in KPN Tower. Two condo projects in the Din Daeng and Thonglor areas under its new brand - The Capital - have been successfully sold out.

KPN Group, most of whose income

has come from automotive sales, has diversified to other businesses after manufacturing bases of various industries started to be moved out of Thailand to cheaper countries. Kris, 43, the first son of Kasem and Khunying Phornthip Narongdej, conceded that the group's net margin in the automotive business is very small, declining to only 2-3 per cent now.

Strategically, he said KPN Group was focusing more on the property business, buoyed by several key driving factors such as the rising national income per capita base, people's changing lifestyle with the new generation preferring to live in condos, and the changing landscape of mass-transit transportation which would have 10 more routes in Bangkok and its surrounding areas.

Chief financial officer Nuttawut Phowborom added that KPN property fund would be the first-ever property fund backed by rental income from a "freehold" commercial office building - KPN Tower on Rama IX Road - which means the fund's terminal value is unlimited.

The 27-storey KPN Tower has a total space of 50,000 square meters. About 27,000sqm of that are for rent. Though the building is 13-years-old, its location is considered a central business district of Bangkok, booking average rental fees at 340-350 baht per square meter. The occupancy rate is about 90 per cent.



Proceeds from the property fund will be used to finance two new condo projects. Photo: neajjean

In addition, the tower will be 300 meters away from the subway station of the upcoming MRT Orange Line. Apart from good location and high occupancy rate, the KPN Tower also enjoys other income, 20 per cent of which comes from outdoor advertising.

Kris said 10 per cent of the building's 60 tenants are subsidiaries of the KPN Group. However, 80 per cent are foreign firms.

Kris said proceeds from the property fund would be used to finance the two new condo projects with a combined value of 5bn baht.

The projects will be near BTS Sky trains and are expected to launch this year.

KPN Lifestyle focuses on luxury property projects with prices starting from 2.5 million baht per unit. Kris said the group also planned to list KPN Lifestyle on the Thai bourse by the end of 2014. Last year, KPN Group posted 18 to 19bn baht in total revenue, of which 60 per cent came from automotive sales, 20 per cent from property, and 10 per cent each from music, education and investments.

- The Nation

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# Uncovering survivorship bias

ONE pitfall investors need to be aware of, to avoid making a costly mistake, is called survivorship bias. Basically,

## Island Investor

David Mayes

the risk of a fund even when using the most advanced statistical performance measures.

When putting together a portfolio, all of the information used is backward looking, so measuring a portfolio's volatility is subject to survivorship bias. Obviously, one, more often than not, attempts to minimize portfolio volatility, and so the "survivors" in this sense are the funds, which had the lowest volatility over the period they were measured. It could be that in the next periods these asset classes perform very differently and become very volatile.

Firstly, when considering stock market indices, one should consider that many companies, which have previously been a component of the index, such as the FTSE or DOW have gone bankrupt. Usually they rebalance the indices so that as a company goes into decline, it gets booted out and replaced by a company on the up and up.



What this means is that when big financial institutions produce research about long term stock market performance, the averages are always higher than in reality because of the huge negative affect of holding companies until zero is eliminated. A quick fix is to buy index funds and they will rebalance you automatically.

The term survivorship bias is most often referred to when dealing with hedge fund indices. The sector in general is not public, so reporting is in effect voluntary. Thus the potential distortion is much greater because only the select funds which are performing stellar get included in the indices.

You need to be aware that there may be a strategy, which has had many blow ups, after long periods of consistent performance. This can lead to underestimating

the risk of a fund even when using the most advanced statistical performance measures. When putting together a portfolio, all of the information used is backward looking, so measuring a portfolio's volatility is subject to survivorship bias. Obviously, one, more often than not, attempts to minimize portfolio volatility, and so the "survivors" in this sense are the funds, which had the lowest volatility over the period they were measured. It could be that in the next periods these asset classes perform very differently and become very volatile.

This comes down to where I become a little cynical of the investment world. Everything can be manipulated based on the time period used to measure. Mutual funds are often managed by companies with 50 years of experience and yet none or only a few of their current funds will have been in existence prior to the last bear market.

They simply close the old ones and open new ones.

This allows them to effectively hit the reset button on their statistics and their performance becomes extremely exaggerated to the upside.

Unfortunately, survivorship bias is just a fact of life in the investment world. An easy way to avoid being fooled by it is to look into the longer historical track record of a strategy or asset class over many cycles. Alternatively what I often do is simply assume the collective results of a portfolio will be something like 20% less than they have historically simply as an adjustment for survivorship bias.

Portfolio management is not really a hard science, despite the way investment data is usually presented. Simply understanding



INSPECTION: It's easy to overestimate worth due to survivorship bias. Photos: Images of Money



WIPED OUT: Don't let your savings take a hit because of a simple financial mistake.

how survivorship bias can exist is often enough to help you have realistic expectations from a given investment.

David Mayes MBA resides in Phuket and provides

wealth management services to expats around the globe, focusing on UK pension transfers. He can be reached at david.m@faramond.com or 085-335-8573. Faramond UK is regulated by the FSA and advises on pensions and taxation.

## SET hits 19-year high



FEELING BULLISH: The trading floor of the SET. Photo: The Nation

THE Stock Exchange of Thailand index touched a 19-year high on March 1, as foreign investors returned to the Thai bourse.

The index briefly rose to 1,549.5 points, the highest in 19 years in the morning session, when turnover was as high as 34 billion baht, above the year-to-date average morning turnover of 27bn baht.

As of 2:25pm, the SET index stood at 1,548.29 points, up by 6.71 points or 0.44%.

According to an Asia Plus Securities research note: "Though the index could fall in the afternoon, it should not fall below 1,545 points. Next week, the index could rise further to 1,585 points."

Positive factors include the appointment of the new governor of the Bank of Japan, Haruhiko Kuroda.

As he and Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe share economic views, this leads to expectations of additional fund flows to Asia in the short term.

Also, foreign investors returned to be net-buyers, with a net-buy position worth 3.8bn baht – the highest in two months since December 13, 2012.

The overall outlook for the SET is positive, though, global stock markets may be adversely affected by ongoing negotiations on the sequester in the US and its debt ceiling. – *The Nation*

## In brief...

**Expansion boosts Siamgas**  
LPG distributor Siamgas and Petrochemicals has set a revenue target of 60 billion baht for this year, based on forecast growth of overseas business after its recent expansion of retail business in East Asia.

The company plans to use its terminals in China to import liquefied petroleum gas and export the gas to Hong Kong, Macau, Malaysia, Vietnam, the Philippines and Cambodia, to enhance its strength in the long term, said managing director Supachai Weeraborwornpong. The company posted revenue of 47.751bn baht last year, up 24% from the 2011 level year-on-year.

**Sriracha eyes 7 new deals**  
SRIRACHA Construction targets 2.4 billion baht in revenue and 1.2bn baht in nett profit this year, as it negotiates for seven construction projects in Thailand and overseas, including a gold-smelting plant in Africa and a copper smelter in Panama. The company posted 2.1bn baht in revenue last year with 1.02bn in nett profit, a slight decrease from its nett of 1.1bn in 2011.

**Laguna**  
PROPERTY RESALE

Properties for sale within Laguna Phuket

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<p><b>3 Laguna Fairway-Townhome II THB 19.5 M</b></p>   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 beds 2.5 baths Townhome</li> <li>• golf view • leasehold</li> <li>• fully furnished</li> </ul>	<p><b>4 Laguna Village-Townhome II THB 21.7 M</b></p>   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 beds 3 baths Townhome</li> <li>• lagoon view • leasehold</li> <li>• fully furnished</li> </ul>

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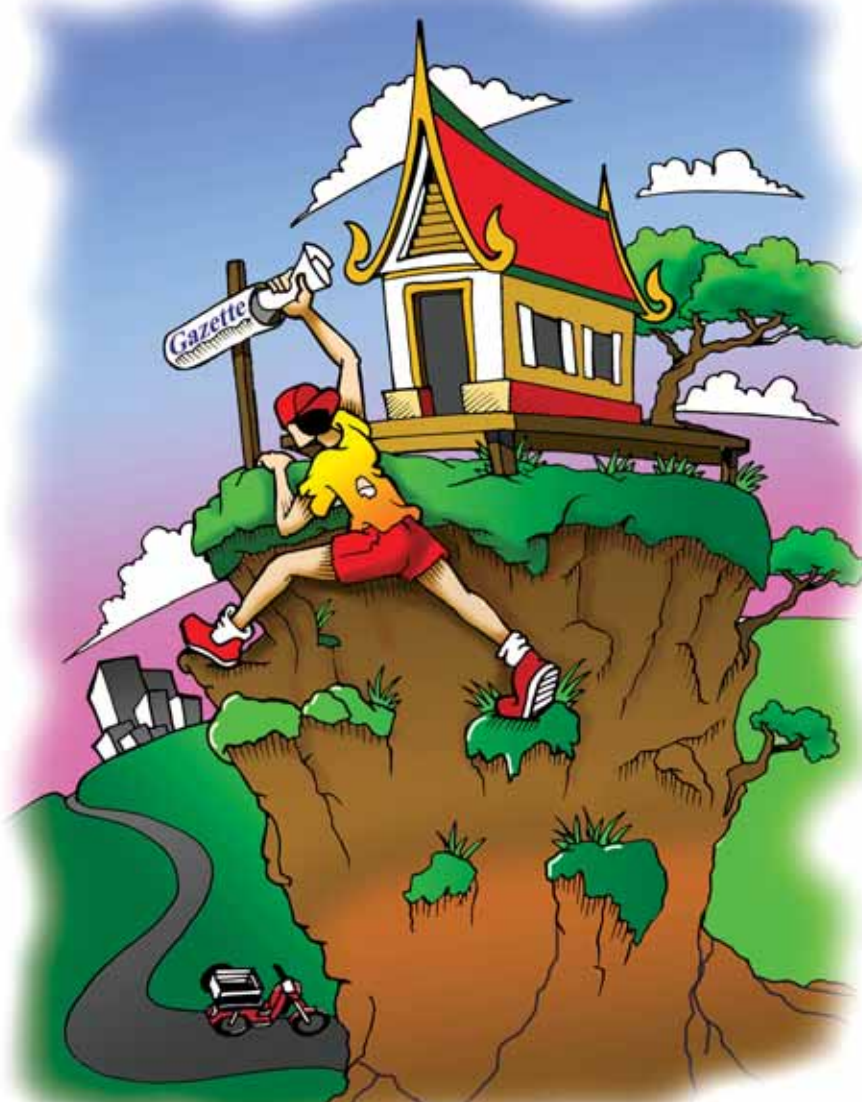
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# Hail Phuket Provincial Hall

PROTESTS over the recently-unveiled plan to build a new 465-million-baht Phuket Provincial Hall (see news pages) strike us as quite surprising, especially the fact that self-described "local people" are leading the opposition: virtually all of the land in the immediate vicinity belongs to the state.

Few would argue the need for a larger provincial hall complex on Phuket. Various plans to replace Provincial Hall, which is over a century old, have been on hold for almost two decades.

Provincial Hall is home to the Phuket Provincial Office (the seat of the central government apparatus); the head office of the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (a locally elected body); and other organizations such as the Phuket Press Club. The current complex is simply too small to meet the administrative needs of an island that has experienced a huge population boom over the past few decades.

Underscoring this point is the fact that despite being the seat of the highest power on the island, the existing Provincial Hall is dwarfed in size by some of the palatial tambon administration organization (*OrBorTor*) buildings that have sprung up on the island in recent years.

Inside Phuket Provincial Hall, the offices are typically cramped and overcrowded; outside, an inadequate number of parking spaces forces visitors and workers to park on local thoroughfares, including Damrong Road, threatening to degrade one of the island's most picturesque roadways into just another city street.

To be sure, we are concerned about several aspects of the project, especially the impact it will have on the entire government quarter, which serves as a natural lung for the ever-expanding urban sprawl that Greater Phuket Town has become.

Every effort should be made to preserve the surrounding area in its current state, to fell as few trees as possible and put a halt to encroachment in the area.

This is especially necessary in and around the Chumchon Lang Sarn ("Community Behind the Court") and several other communities in the area, which have their antecedents as slums illegally built on public land.

It is difficult to know the exact motives that were truly driving this latest protest, but one must suspect that there is more to it than outrage at being temporarily deprived access to a poorly-maintained football pitch and some tennis courts.

The fact that one of the organizers is not, in fact, a local resident and was a central figure in the almost two-year delay in the opening of Phuket Bus Terminal 2 in Rassada suggests that vested interests, not just recreational pursuits, may be involved.



## Ransacked nests, crime scenes gone cold

Re: Gazette online, Under Investigation: Phuket villagers foraging for turtle eggs, March 3

Okay, call me crazy, many people do, but if the foundation has any resources at all can they not have one person walk the beach each morning at sunrise during the egg-laying season?

From my understanding the turtles come ashore at night and a dawn patrol each morning would discover eggs or nests before villagers have a chance to ransack them, get seen, get reported and maybe a week later followed up on!

James Bond  
Gazette forum

### Thailand's sharks worth much more in warm water than hot

Re: Gazette Online, DNP outlines conservation issues to be presented to CITES, March 2

Ban shark fishing, as sharks are more valuable alive than dead.

Divers pay a lot of money to dive among sharks.

The Thai dive industry is hoping that the TDA (Thai Diving Association), PADI, NAUI and SSI will take steps to protect our dive industry.

Whistle-Blower  
Gazette Forum

### Tears for Thailand's three-tier pricing

Re: Gazette online, Phuket Opinion: Fluctuating prices hard to swallow, March 5

That was a hefty bounce, 35 baht. The three-tier pricing is the reason I never go to the market with my wife. She does the shopping to get the Thai price. There is the farang price, the farang-Thai price and the Thai price.

My wife has sometimes been asked to go along with the higher price, and the vendor would split

## Letters to the Editor

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

the profit with her. The Land of Smiles at its finest.

Pinot  
Gazette forum

### Not racial pricing, communal pricing

Re: Gazette online, Phuket Opinion: Fluctuating prices hard to swallow, March 5

And why shouldn't there be a farang price?

Many, if not most, of the expats here make no effort to learn Thai or be a productive member of the Thai community. Many only take and give hardly anything back.

Why shouldn't they charge you a little more?

Expats who speak Thai get charged the Thai price. Expats living in Thailand and failing to learn the language of the people should be ashamed of themselves.

Make an effort.

Jay  
Gazette forum

### Providing safe haven

Re: Gazette online, All safe after Phuket tour boat hits mooring, sinks in Chalong Bay, February 27

Before these totally unnecessary 200 moorings were installed, there were no underwater obstacles except for the sunken dive boats that no one has ever removed.

The Phuket Marine Office installed all these moorings, many of which have lost their marking buoys, leaving all these massive cement blocks ready to sink any unsuspecting boat.

It is impossible to know where they all are.

Thanks, Phuket Marine Office

for the extreme marine hazards you have given us.

Earmuffs  
Gazette Forum

### Waste not, want not

Re: Gazette online, Miss Universe smashes pirated products in Phuket, February 28

Since the "pirates" have already lost their investment when the products were seized, isn't this just showmanship? Destroying the stuff doesn't punish them more.

Why not sell all of the confiscated items and donate the proceeds to the poorest children in Thailand for better food, school and clothes?

Elliot  
Gazette Forum

### Why so quick on your feet?

Re: Gazette online, Man dies in second Phuket hit-and-run in two days, February 28

People flee the scene of an accident because of two reasons:

- They believe they can avoid responsibility by leaving the scene.

- The police will never do anything unless they have to, so people do get away with it.

Punishment should be doubled for leaving the scene. Of course this will never happen, so that's what people do.

Pinoy  
Gazette forum

### Media focused on successful youth

Re: Gazette online, Phuket Opinion: Praise for the little 'Heroes' of Phuket, March 3

Congratulations! It is so nice to see the media highlight the accomplishments of our youth rather than just focusing on all the ones who are using drugs.

Tina Swift  
Patong

## Phuket Gazette

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# Feed stray dogs? Barking mad...

## FIRST PERSON

THERE are many stray dogs on Phuket because Thai tradition is to be kind to them and feed them. When you feed them, they stay nearby. The more dogs you feed, the more will come. This creates problems.

One problem with stray dogs is the possibility of disease. Phuket has been rabies-free since 2007. We want to keep it that way.

If you want to help stray dogs, the best thing to do is not feed them. Instead, call us or your local administration organization. We catch stray dogs and bring them to the dog shelter in Thalang, where we take care of them.

We neuter the dogs at the shelter, but we don't kill them, as this is against our Buddhist beliefs. Right now there are about 400 dogs at the Thalang shelter. They are available for adoption.

We welcome contributions of food for the dogs, but not cash. You can bring us food or just drop off the dog food receipt and we can pick up the food ourselves.

Feeding stray dogs but leaving them on the street is not the best way to help them. One dog foundation in Phuket hires people to feed stray dogs on the street and at local temples. They even sterilize stray dogs – it's true this can stop some of them from breeding, but the dogs are still living on the street.

We appreciate their efforts, but the best thing is to let us bring the dogs to our shelter.

Another problem with dogs on



For the past 10 months, **Weerasit Puthipairoj**, 58, has been the chief of the Phuket Provincial Livestock Office. Originally from Narathiwat, Mr Weerasit has a master's degree in Agricultural Development from the Prince of Songkla University Haad Yai campus in Songkhla.

Here, he talks about stray dogs in Phuket, the best way to deal with them and what to do if you are attacked by a vicious dog.



the street is they sometimes attack people, but none of the people feeding them is willing to be responsible for them.

There was a legal case once that reached the Supreme Court – someone was attacked by a stray dog that was being fed by someone else. The victim sued the feeder. The judge finally decided that if you feed a dog enough that it doesn't go away, you are the owner of that dog.

In another case, we once went to pick up a stray dog, and a man claimed to be the owner. I told him that I would take a photo of him and collect his ID information for our records, so that if the dog attacked someone, he would be responsible. Then he denied

ownership.

If you have the misfortune to be bitten by a dog, the first thing to do is take care of your wound. Run a lot of water on the wound. Disease comes from the dog's saliva, so the more you can wash off, the better. Then see a doctor.

If possible, take a photo of the dog that attacked you, then either let the owner know or file a complaint with the police.

If you are attacked by a dog on someone's property, you can't really blame the owners, since you were on their property. Compensation will be up to the owners – I'm not sure what legal rights you have.

You do have the right to protect yourself if you're attacked by a dog, within reason. Again, if you are on someone else's property, it might be a different story.

For our sakes and for the good of the dogs, let's all work together to solve the stray dog problem in Phuket.

For more information call Phuket Provincial Livestock Office 076-285584 or 076-216934, Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.



The lovely Ya Nui Beach in southern Phuket. Photo: Isaac Stone Simonelli

## Awesome Phuket

### Island View

By Chris Hudon

AS I'M sitting with friends on the way to see James Bond Island and Koh Panyee (the floating sea gypsy village), bouncing to and fro in our wave-battered dinghy, a thought occurs to me: living here ain't half bad.

In order to bring our focus back to why we came here in the first place, I offer you just a few of the reasons why Phuket is awesome. They can be roughly divided into two categories: the beaches and the non-beaches.

Topping the list of beaches I'm willing to tell you about is Ya Nui. One of the quietest beaches in the southwest, Ya Nui offers world-class snorkeling, island kayaking, dining and massage services, and all with relatively little price gouging.

Next up are the sleepy eastern shores of Cape Panwa. This area has several attractions that can be added to your trip. Visit the Phuket Aquarium, including the beachside nature trail that connects the aquarium with the Phuket Marine Biological Center, where you'll see baby sea turtles. Stop by Ao Yon and have a drink on the beach under the shady trees and visit Khao Kad viewpoint on your way home for a view of Phuket Town.

Looking out from Promthep Cape you'll see an island whose name I don't know, that I call

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

Buddha Island (on account of the giant Buddha image being erected there). This tranquil place houses a monastery with friendly and inquisitive monks – as well as the largest volume of giant clams I've ever seen. If you're confused about where to snorkel, ask one of the monks and he will point, that's how we found it.

In the north, my favorite non-beach place is without a doubt Khao Pra Taew National Park where you can hike to Bang Pae Waterfall and see wild gibbons in one of Phuket's last rainforests. There is a secret *klong* in the middle of the trail that few people ever reach, which is secluded and beautiful.

Rang and Toh Sae Hills in Phuket Town offer great opportunities for picnics. Both of these places feature wild nature, stunning views, monkeys and the added benefit of exercise and fitness parks.

There are many more places but that's all for now. In the spirit of this list I ask only that you be kind and respectful while visiting the places I've enjoyed so much.

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

### Nude is rude

I would like to know why ladies are allowed to go topless and sometimes nude at Surin and Kamala Beaches. I thought it was illegal to do so. If it is illegal, why is the law not strictly enforced? Please stop this once and for all.

G MM  
Phuket

### Capt Urumporn Koondejsumrit, Tourist Police replies:

Public nudity is against the law in Thailand, and beaches are public areas, so going topless or naked on the beach is against the law.

However, we are aware that tourists might not know Thai laws, and nudity might be allowed in their countries, so the first thing we do is warn them and explain the law to them.

If they do it a second time, they will be charged with public



DOUBLE OR NOTHING: Nudity and topless women are not allowed.

nudity and fined 500 to 1,000 baht.

From time to time our officers patrol the beaches in Phuket, but since there are a lot of tourists on the beach and a small number of officers, we can't catch all cases of nudity.

If you see topless or nude people on the beach, you can call the Phuket Tourist Police at 076-223891 or 1155.

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

Submit your issue at

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

### Tight corner driving me around the bend

I bought a small plot of land eight years ago to build a house in Pa Khlok. Shortly thereafter, the municipality built a cement road in the area.

At one spot the road is elevated, has a wall on the left and forks to the right. The road is so narrow here that pickup trucks have to make a three-point turn to negotiate the bend.

This is because the owner of the land at this spot wouldn't allow the road to be built wider, and is now asking an exorbitant amount of money for the small area needed to make the corner navigable.

Can the owner be forced to allow the road to be widened to accommodate traffic around this

corner or do we have to buy the land from the owner to correct this problem?

Supa  
Phuket

### Panya Sampaorat, the Mayor of Pa Khlok, replies:

For big projects such as highways, landowners may be ordered by the Cabinet to give up their land in exchange for compensation.

However, local municipalities do not have the authority to force landowners to give away their land for public use. In your case, if the landowner is unwilling to donate the land to accommodate traffic around the corner, your only option is to buy it.

# YOUR Phuket



## CHINESE OPERA FASHION SHOW

Panatta "Mam" Bunthanom, MD of Panatta Design (left) and Kiranee Nalabal, presenter of the 'Phuket Today' show.

## FIN'S FABULOUS FRENCH SUNSET WINE TASTING AT ANDARA



From left: Oranee Hildebrand, managing director of Phuket Gazette; Khun Lek, owner of Ka Jok See Phuket; Parichart, owner of Senses Spa, and Daniel Meury, GM at Andara.



Lina Slesarenko (left) and Taisia Golovach.

Photos: Phuket Best Events



From left: Khun Paitoon Arunrat, owner of Villa Mayavee; Niel Cummings; Janine Wespes; Khun Sii Eawsaku; Khun Sajeephan, DOS at Andara; Brice Borin and Scot Toon.



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## PROPERTY of the week



**2 Pool Villas**  
Next to PIA

See page 23

## JOB of the week



**British**  
International School, Phuket

See page 27

## BOAT of the week

**LEE MARINE**  
*International Marine Brokerage*



SINCE 1997

NEW LISTING

See page 31

## HOLIDAY CHOICE of the week

**eden**  
Oasis



Beautiful Sea View Condominiums  
Your Perfect Holiday  
Home in Karon

See page 25

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# Property Classifieds

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85 rai in two lots (split possible). Flexible terms and/or price. 15 mins to airport (from Phang Nga). Will suit any use. No agents. Email: phuket mark@yahoo.co.uk

### HOUSE KAMALA

2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, nice quiet area. 5 minutes to beach. 3.5 million baht. Tel: 080-320 0426.

### 3-BEDROOM PATONG HOUSE

For sale. Complex area, garden 2-storey house, kitchen, fully furnished, close to Patong Beach. Asking price: 4.3 million baht. Tel: 086-478 0201. Email: laongfa@hotmail.com

### HOUSE IN PHUKET VILLA 5 FOR SALE



46sq wah, furnished, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 aircons, carpark. Only 3.5 million baht. Tel: 081-787 7675.

### FULLY FURNISHED HOUSE FOR SALE



Chao Fah Garden Home 3 in Koh Kaew near BIS, 10 mins to Lotus. 2 beds, 2 baths, 2 aircons. Nice living & kitchen room, car park, fully furnished. Ready to move in. 2.85 million baht near Boat Lagoon. Tel: 081-541 2025. Email: c.junlarat@gmail.com

### NICE HOUSE 88SQ WAH



4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 aircons, sofa, cable TV. Near Jomthong Village on Khwang Rd. 6.5 million baht. Tel: 086-774 2034. Email: hataimata@hotmail.com

### LAYAN LAND FOR SALE

11 rai of beautiful flat land for sale close to Layan Beach. 3.9 million baht per rai. Tel: 089-813 1447 (English & Thai), 081-927 4027 (English). Email: atrennie@yahoo.com

### RAWAI FREEHOLD CONDO 1,2,3 BED

For sale or rent. 14 units left, sea view, luxury. Chanote forever, fully furnished, good price, Rawai Beach, 200m to fishing pier. Tel: 084-242 8914. Email: rawai4@yahoo.com

### 1/2 RAI IN RAWAI

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### NICE HOUSE CHALONG

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### HOUSE FOR SALE

2-storey house for sale, Patak Road, Kata seaview, Big Buddha view. 1,100sqm land, Chanote title. 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, fully furnished, area for possible pool building. Tel: 081-536 7985. Email: kurzinv@yahoo.de

### HOUSE IN VILLA DOWROONG

Phuket Town. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 47sq wah. Tel: 089-909 2771.

### CONDO AT ROYAL PLACE



Condo at Royal Place Project, bypass road, opposite Tesco Lotus. 37sqm, 2fl, 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, kitchen, fully furnished (2 aircons, washing machine, refrigerator, TV, microwave, cable TV, 24 security with key card etc). Pls contact for more details. Tel: 086-476 9612.

### URGENT SALE/ RENT



House in Patong. Newly built 40sq wah, near Sea Pearl project, Patong. 2 storeys, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished, 2 aircon, kitchen with hood, refrigerator, dining room, living room, hot water, cable TV and internet. Tel: 086-476 9612.

### 3 GORGEOUS LOTS, CLEAN TITLES

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### CONDO IN SUPALAI PARK



for sale. Near Sengho Bookstore in Phuket Town. Studio, 30sqm, floor 15, sea view, aircon, furnished. Price: 1.9 million baht. Ready to move in. For more info call 089-472 9118.

### HOUSE & FURNITURE

Single house, 60sqm. 2 floors, 3 bedrooms and 3 toilets. In Chaiyapruet Village at Land & Houses Park, Chalong. Good location and entrance from bypass road. Built 2 years ago. Tel: 084-627 7001.

### 30 RAI IN TOWN

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

### LAND FOR SALE

Nai Yang. 2,630sqm. Chanote. Price: 9.5 million baht. Tel: 089-724 1140.

### KATA BEACH HOUSE

Walk to beach, 4 bedrooms, must sell fast and cheap. 2.5 million baht. Tel: 081-303 2202.

### PHUKET VILLA CONDO PATONG



New condo. 1km to beach, near Bangla Rd and Jungceylon, 1 bed, 1 bath, fully furnished. 3.9 million baht for 42sqm and 3.8 million baht for 44.5sqm Tel: 081-541 2025. Email: c.junlarat@gmail.com

### HOUSE FOR SALE: URGENT



4.9 million baht, 89sq wah (includes furniture). Stone wall around the house & fruit garden. 4 air conditioners, telephone and internet, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 CCTV. Located near the Heroines Monument, towards to Tesco Lotus Thalang. Tel: 080-520 2989. Email: edc9designs@gmail.com

### SINGLE HOUSE FOR SALE/ RENT



In Thanapa Park View village in Koh Kaew. 57sq wah, with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, a kitchen, a carpark and a garden. Sale: 2.25 million baht. Rent: 11,000 baht per month. Contact owner. Tel: 083-180 2143. Email: nana1225@gmail.com

### D CONDO 1, KATHU

-29.94sqm, mountain view, price 1,278,000 baht.  
-29.70sqm, mountain view, price 1,280,000 baht.  
-29.79sqm, pool view, price 1,330,000 baht.  
-29.70sqm, pool view, price 1,365,000 baht.  
Contact Vutdy on 081-892 3709.

### THE HEIGHTS SEAVIEW CONDO

Spectacular 3-bed unit, 410sqm, on foreign freehold, with awesome view over Kata Bay. 51 million baht. Tel: 089-652 1951. Email: phuket.pn@gmail.com

### 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

### KHOK KLOY 8.5 RAI LAND



Beautiful land, 1km to beach, 2km from Sarasin Bridge. 750,000 baht per rai. From owner. Tel: 089-290 6571.

### OCEANFRONT VILLA



Luxury brand-new villa, fully furnished and ready to move in, 3 bedrooms 4 bathrooms with 10m long infinity swimming pool and truly beautiful sea view. Located in a small development, only 50m from the sea and 3 minutes from Ao Por Grand Marina. For sale: 19.9 million baht or long-term rent: 150,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-343 0777. Email: montha\_phuket@yahoo.com

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**Gazette Classads - they work!**  
....because they're real.

### KAMALA HOUSE FOR SALE



Near Phuket FantaSea. Price: 3.2 million baht. Negotiable. Tel: 081-719 1041. Email: teddykong0222@hotmail.com

### LAND AT CHERNG TALAY

390sq wah, nice flat land, quiet area, Chanote. In Pasak Soi 5 near Laguna Home. Price: 6 million baht. Tel: 089-472 9118, 086-709 2933.

### KARON BEACH CONDO

Waterfront suites, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, 167sqm. Overlooking beach. 16 million baht. Email: rtj1111@yahoo.com

### KAMALA FOR SALE

Zen space 49sqm. Brand-new. Freehold. Please call 080-692 6114 or send email to orsorealestate@hotmail.com

### NICE PLOT FOR SALE



Near Layan Hill Estate. (Manik-Bang Jo area). Ready to build housing/pool villas. 1,400sqm. Chanote title. Price: 7.2 million baht. Neg. Contact owner on 080-520 2989. Email: edc9designs@gmail.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. For more information please call: 081-891 5932, 089-035 6702.

### LAND NEAR KATA CENTER

Great location, road access, 5 mins to Kata Beach and main road, 1,450sqm with title deed. Contact Lychee. Tel: 081-891 3048 (English & German).

### 3-BEDROOM PATONG HOUSE

For sale. Complex area, garden 2-storey house, kitchen, fully furnished, close to Patong Beach. Asking price: 4.3 million baht. Tel: 086-478 0201. Email: laongfa@hotmail.com

### PHUKET VILLA 5 VILLAGE



For sale. Price 4.5 million baht. No agents, no furnished, with 4 aircons, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen and car park. Behind Kajonkiet International School on Chao Fa West Road, 5 minutes to Central Festival. For short or long-term rent, 16,000 baht per month. Call to see 087-270 9093.

### NEW CONDO: URGENT SALE/RENT



Special price, modern style, 30sqm, 1 bedroom, 1 living room, 1 pantry. In Kathu, 3km to Patong. Full set of built-in furniture. Ready to move in! Contact Ya. Tel: 081-797 5138.

### LAND NEAR MISSION HILLS



Pa Khlok. 2 rai 32sq wah, 60m wide. Chanote. Located on Tha Ruea-Pa Khlok-Muang Mai Rd. 11 km from Heroines' Monument. Price: 7.8 million baht. Tel: 089-472 9118. Email: honda.1437@hotmail.com

### POOL VILLA FOR SALE

Land size: 633 sqm. Waterside in Chalong. Tel: 087-881 0813 (English), 089-586 3095 (English & Thai). Email: yumi.phuket@live.jp For further details, please see our website at <http://pukeyomefc2.web.fc2.com/roomphuket.htm>

### BEST UNIT FOR ONLY 8.9 MB

200sqm, waterfront, jacuzzi, 2 beds, 2.5 baths, nice western kitchen. Tel: 081-968 9046 (English & Thai), 082-798 3625 (English & Thai). Email: pen@mindproperties.net

### TROPICAL RESORT IN NAI YANG

Total land of the resort is approximately 6 rai. Asking price: 75 million baht. Email: forsale.phuket@gmail.com

### KOH YAO NOI

11 rai, 78sq wah, waterfront, unobstructed view, road access. Chanote. Tel: 080-144 7801. Email: riseland123@yahoo.com

### HOUSE RAWAI

Sale or rent. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, big garden, cul de sac. 668sqm. Chanote. Tel: 080-144 7801. Email: riseland123@yahoo.com

### 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

### THIDA HOUSE SALE 27 MILLION



Thai-style modern townhouse with land. Size: 10.50m x 10.85m. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms with living room, dining room, kitchen and car park. Single house on land size: 15m by 10.85m. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms with living room, dining area/kitchen, terrace and car park. Soi Mountain View Kathu Waterfall. Tel: 081-535 7585, 084-119 4262, 081-356 9754. Email: pee.cho74@hotmail.com

### HOUSE IN KAMALA



For sale. 2 houses on land. 1 ngan 89sq wah. Chanote title, near mountain, peaceful and safe, 10 minutes from the beach. 5.5 million baht direct from owner. Tel: 083-180 2143. Email: nana1225@gmail.com

### KAMALA LODGINGS

A new development comprising 10 units, each with 2 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. 90sqm townhouses for sale in Kamala. Priced at 5.495 million baht. Tel: 076-349660. Fax: 076-292772. Email: leehunt.home@msn.com

### RENOVATED VILLA

Chalong, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, pool. 4.75 million baht. Tel: 082-420 7052. stayonphuket.com

### KRABI, AO NANG

3 plots of land, each 420sqm, each 850,000 baht. House plan with building permit. 2 bedrooms, pool. Email: mr.axelmay@gmail.com

### FOR SALE PATONG TOWER

Freehold condos, good rate, sea and mountain views. Tel: 080-692 6114. Email: orsorealestate@hotmail.com

### PATONG LOFT CONDO



For sale. 1 bedroom, fully furnished, 67sqm living area. Only 2.69 million baht. Tel: 089-8726 895. Email: jospeder@live.no

### 2.3 MILLION BAHT GOLF VIEW

Beautiful condo. 1 bedroom, 60sqm. Furnished, balcony, nice view, Phuket Country Club owner. Call Ole at 085-795 4741. Email: oleandaman@gmail.com

### 750,000 BAHT KAMALA

Leasehold hotel room, 2 pools, jacuzzi, 29sqm, no kitchen, 17 years left. Tel: 084-716 0502.

### KARON BEACH CONDO

Waterfront suites, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, 167sqm. Overlooking beach. 16 million baht. Email: rtj1111@yahoo.com

### 2 POOL VILLAS NEXT TO PIA



Ready to move in. Villa 1: on 1,100sqm land, 16.9 million baht. Villa 2: on 2,200sqm land, 21.9 million baht. Brand-new, each with 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 12m swimming pool. Guest bungalow with 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom. Perfectly located in a development with underground electricity and security, only 800m from Mission Hills Golf Course, less than 10 minutes to airport, Phuket International Academy and Ao Por Grand Marina. Tel: 081-343 0777. Email: montha\_phuket@yahoo.com

## Classified Advertisements

Please use this form to write your classified advertisement. Then hand it to any of our agents.

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Classified ads are charged per line. Each line is 120 baht, with a minimum of 4 lines (heading included) per ad.

All advertising must be paid for in advance.

Deadline for Property Gazette page: Friday 3 pm.

Deadline for all other ads: Saturday 12 noon.

## PATONG SEAVIEW TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE 6.3m BAHT

Four storey townhouse on a small hillside 5 minute walk to the beach at the northern edge of Patong. City on one side, Jungle on the other, Patong Beach down the street, & walking distance to all Patong's delights

### 206/4 PRABARAMEE ROAD

+/- 270 sq meters 3,000 sq ft (approximately 23,000 Baht per sq meter) Top quality construction, materials, and design. 3-phase, 30 amp wiring throughout. Water storage tank, pump, & central hot water.

TEL: English/German/Spanish: 089 196 0940 English/Thai: 089 729 8665  
Email: Woody@KhunWoody.com

### Best Sea View Deal in Patong

## Looking for land to buy?

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

# Property Classifieds

## Properties For Rent

### NEW FULLY FURNISHED HOUSE



2-storey house, 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 20,000 baht per month, quiet area. Ao Makhamb Bay, 4km from town, 2km to beach. Tel: 081-892 4311. For further details, please see our website at [panwagreen.weebly.com](http://panwagreen.weebly.com)

### HOUSE AT PRIME PLACE VILLAGE



Near Heroines' Monument. Furnished, aircon, 3 bedrooms, cable TV, kitchen. Tel: 086-607 7493.

### POOL VILLA FOR RENT

4 bedrooms, pool, 5 bathrooms. Bang Tao. Also bungalows, houses and apartments available. Tel: 081-538 2110, 087-279 6532.

### KATA OCEAN VIEW CONDO

Fully furnished, seaview and non-seaview apartments, available for long-term rental. From 15,000 to 40,000 baht per month. Located on Kata Hill. Tel: 076-330641. For further details, please see our website at [www.oceanic-global.com](http://www.oceanic-global.com)

### NEW CONDO FOR RENT



Short or long-term rent at Kathu, fully furnished, swimming pool, fitness, quiet and secure. Tel: 081-607 8567. Email: [suksavat@hotmail.com](mailto:suksavat@hotmail.com)

### STUDIO APARTMENT KATHU

For rent. New fully furnished, aircon, WiFi, washing machine, kitchen, gym, 5 minutes to Patong, Loch Palm. Contact Tim. Tel: 086-947 1273.

### SURIN CONDO

1-3 bedroom poolside, furnished. 200m from beach. [jgstryker@gmail.com](mailto:jgstryker@gmail.com)

### APARTMENT PATONG

Nicely furnished and available for long-term rent. Located at Phuket Palace & Patong Tower. Tel: 081-892 1621.

### SINGLE HOUSE FOR RENT/SALE



In Thanapa Park View village in Koh Kaew. 57sq wah, with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, a kitchen, a carpark and a garden. Rent: 11,000 baht per month. Sale: 2.25 million baht. Contact owner. Tel: 083-180 2143. Email: [nana1225@gmail.com](mailto:nana1225@gmail.com)

### CONDO AT ROYAL PLACE



Condo at Royal Place Project, bypass road, opposite Tesco Lotus. 37sqm, 2 floor, 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, kitchen, fully furnished (2 aircons, washing machine, refrigerator, TV, microwave, cable TV, 24 security with key card etc). Tel: 086-476 9612.

### LARGE RAWAI HOUSE FOR RENT

4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, pool/spa, carport, furnished, air con all rooms, quiet location. 65,000 baht per month, minimum 6 months. Tel: 091-100 7331 (English & Thai), 087-848 2056 (English). Email: [ian.r.armstrong@gmail.com](mailto:ian.r.armstrong@gmail.com)

### B.L. APARTMENT

At Kathu, 1 bedroom, 1 living room, aircon, cable TV, ADSL, hot shower, swimming pool, garden and car park. Rent: 7,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-6923 163.

### RAWAI CONDO FOR RENT

84sqm, 5 minutes to Nai Harn Beach, large pool, tropical garden, amazing panoramic view from Chalong Bay up to Phi Phi Island, fully furnished includes water supply, cable TV, and internet. Only long-term rental: 22,500 baht per month. Tel: 086-204 5817.

### 2 & 3-BED PATONG APARTMENTS

Big pool, gym, parking, maid, WiFi, security. From 35,000 baht per month. Tel: 080-052 8082 (English & Thai). Email: [phvcondo@aol.com](mailto:phvcondo@aol.com)

### DELUXE BEACHFRONT CONDO

2 bedrooms at Kalim Beach, Patong. Also 1 bedroom at Central Phuket Town, kitchen, lounge, many facilities. Tel: 081-892 0038.

### POOL / LAKE VILLA FOR RENT



Spacious 150sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished villa on 500sqm land area right on peaceful lakeshore in the heart of Rawai, Phuket. Multi-level design with ample patio, balcony, and BBQ space surrounding the house right on your own private lakeshore, very picturesque and peaceful at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac. Villa boasts 150sqm living space + large garage/workshop with complete bathroom, cable, internet, and water supply included. Rent: 40,000 baht per month + electricity charge. Minimum 1 year contract or buy for 8 million baht. Must see this rare gem, more pictures available by email. Contact Roberto 084-902 4256, Dungyai 080-146 1393. German, English, Italian spoken. Email: [Vespaphuket@yahoo.de](mailto:Vespaphuket@yahoo.de)

## Available For Rent Offices / Showrooms

40/80 sq. meter ground floor units



PLAZA DEL MAR Entrance to Laguna Phuket

Please contact Khun Nong for more details  
m : 087 266 8400 e : [plazadelmar@gmail.com](mailto:plazadelmar@gmail.com)

### VILLA FOR RENT - GREAT DEAL

3-bedroom villa for rent. Private pool, home cleaning, cable TV, WiFi. From now until March 15, any reasonable offer. Tel: 087-893 8747.

### SEAVIEWS EVERYWHERE

3 to 4-bedroom villa. Minutes to beaches and heart of island. Pvt guesthouse and pool. Low season price. Tel: 085-237 1007. Email: [patrickoconnor2929@gmail.com](mailto:patrickoconnor2929@gmail.com)

### NEW HOUSE FOR RENT PATONG

1 bedroom with bathroom, living-room with full western kitchenette. All extras, aircon, internet, LCD, IBC. Modern furnished. Quiet setting near Na Nai. 12,000 baht per month. Please call 084-185 8536 for more information.

### LARGE HOUSE KAMALA

Furnished, 280sqm, 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, office, sundeck, pool, jacuzzi, carport. 24,000 baht per week or 32,000 baht per month, minimum 6-month contract period. Sale: 3.4 million baht leasehold. Tel: 084-716 0502.

### LUXURY VILLAS FOR RENT KAMALA

2 villas in modern style, one of 3 bedrooms and one of 2 bedrooms, private swimming pool, big garden, jacuzzi. Contact Francesco. Tel: 085-790 7816. Email: [francescobonta@gmail.com](mailto:francescobonta@gmail.com) See our website at [www.villa.cheloni.com](http://www.villa.cheloni.com)

### 3-BEDROOM PATONG HOUSE

For rent. Complex area, garden, 2-storey house, kitchen, fully furnished, close to Patong Beach. Asking price: 4.3 million baht. Tel: 086-478 0201. Email: [laongfa@hotmail.com](mailto:laongfa@hotmail.com)

### PATONG 1 + 2 BED APARTMENTS

Large pool, maid, security, free WiFi, cable TV. Close to beach, mall and nightlife. From 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 080-052 8082 (English & Thai). Email: [phvcondo@aol.com](mailto:phvcondo@aol.com)

### OCEAN VIEW CONDO

Pool, gym, 5 minutes from Bangla Road, 6-8 months on lease: 18,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-026 3254.

Let us take your ad to the top of Google with a 20% discount!



Your key to fast-track placement and easy payment for ads at Thailand's LARGEST classifieds marketplace. Hundreds of new ads every week! Like to have one?

Mail: [AdPower@PhuketGazette.Net](mailto:AdPower@PhuketGazette.Net)

Live in Rawai?  
Place your **GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS** at  
The Network property office



Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it with  
**Khun Anna: 076-388144, 086-4780201, 088-1685032**

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

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



# Property Classifieds

## Property Services

**ATTENTION BUYERS & RENTERS**  
Luxury properties to buy and rent. Tel: 076-615906, 090-875 3683 (English), 081-892 6353 (English & Thai). Email: sdm@wmalexander.com For further details, please see our website at www.wmalexander.com

**BUILDER CAN WORK NOW**  
Home construction, repairs, renovations at fixed prices. Tel: 081-892 8526 (Khun Peter). For further details, please see our website at www.phuketbesthomes.com

**NEW REAL ESTATE PROJECT?**  
Experienced Project Manager. Contact for free initial advice. Tel: 087-975 2326. Email: info@smart-homes-thailand.com

**RENOVATIONS, HOUSE REPAIRS**  
Renovations, house repairs, construction, electric installations, mold decontamination. Free quotes and warranties offered. English, German, Swedish and Thai speaking personnel. Tel: 085-880 3728 (English), 080-141 4577 (English & Thai), 083-394 8337. Email: mattias@zionproperty.com

## Property Wanted

**HOTEL OR LAND WANTED**  
Patong (or max. 30 min from Patong), 1-4 rai with Chanote, 20-50 rooms, Sea view (even partial). We offer all guarantees. Email: ppvisseur@hogest.com Please see our website at www.hogest.com

## Accommodation Available

**BUDGET A/C ROOMS, WIFI, RAWAI**  
Fully furnished, luxury, cable TV, pool. Daily/weekly/monthly. Good price, 300m to fishing pier. Rawai Beach. Tel: 084-242 8914. Email: rawai4@yahoo.com Please see our website at www.thaidreamvilla.com

**KARON OCEANFRONT LUXURY APT**  
Five-star, one-bedroom apartment with pool in a quiet area. Price: 27,000 baht per month. Available now. Tel: 087-531 1124 (English). Email: dfenocchio@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at karonhill.altervista.org

**CHALONG**  
Two mins from Chalong Circle. Two-bedroom furnished house in great location with 24-hour security. Modern and quiet estate. 12,000 baht per month. Contact Khun Pha. Tel: 085-880 8849 (English & Thai). Email: michaelhiggins7@dodo.com.au

**STUDIO APARTMENT FOR RENT**  
Quiet location, new building, ideal for locals/tourists. 10,000/month. Tel: 085-159 7400 (English). Email: dshumny@yahoo.com

**APARTMENT IN PATONG**  
Long term, on Patong Beach, fully furnished with kitchenette, parking, etc. Tel: 076-344922, 081-892 6829. Email: jctailor@loxinfo.co.th Please see our website at www.bluewaterphuket.com

**HOUSE FOR RENT**  
Close to the Heroines Monument a single new house: 60 Sq.wah, 2 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, Western kitchen, large living room, 3 air conditioners, internet connection, fully furnished. Tel: 089-737 9104 (English & Thai). Email: p\_pongthong@hotmail.com

**KATHU, 3 BED UNFURNISHED HOUSE**  
Three-bedroom unfurnished house to rent on popular estate near Soi Namtok. Many more available Tel: 076-615905, 090-875 3683 (English). Email: sdm@wmalexander.com For further details, please see our website at www.wmalexander.com

## Accommodation Wanted

**NEED URGENTLY VILLA**  
With or without pool (for 2 persons) from 16 February-19 March and 18 March-10 April. Tel: 082-420 7052. Email: stayonphuket@yahoo.com Please see our website at www.stayonphuket.com

**LUXURY RENTAL VILLA SOUGHT**  
Executive working on a local project seeks luxury villa on west coast for low/off season use. Very flexible. Email: jamesriedlinger@gmail.com

## Holiday Homes & Villa Rentals



**Beautiful Sea View Condominiums Your Perfect Holiday Home in Karon**  
From only 4,9M  
Absolutely beautiful 1-bedroom apartments and 2-bedroom duplexes. Small very exclusive development with pool, jacuzzi and sundeck. Rooftop bar and BBQ area, Eden Fitness Center.  
www.eden-oasis.com  
Tel: 086-951 1441  
sales@eden-oasis.com

**LOVELY HOUSE 13,000 BAHT/ MONTH**  
Furnished, WiFi, cable TV, pool. Near Chalong Circle. Tel: 089-475 1200 (English & Thai). Email: info@welcome-inn.com For further details, please see our website at welcomeinn-phuket.com

**LAGUNA HOLIDAY CLUB RENTAL**  
Holiday rent at Laguna Holiday Club Resort for new year week 1-bedroom suite for 4 persons, only 70,000 baht. Tel: 089-795 6363. Email: vicky\_grc@hotmail.com

**4 BEDROOMS IN SAIYUAN, NAI HARN**  
Rock Style house. 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, big garden, big kitchen. For rent at 40,000 baht per month. Sale at 9.8 million baht. Tel: 081-787 2201. Email: phuket8@hotmail.com

## Household Help

**LIVE-IN MAID**  
For lovely house in Rawai with Englishman and 2 cute dogs. Own room with shower and TV. Must speak English. Tel: 076-388539, 087-911 8244 (English). Email: mikesoiarcher@gmail.com

## Household Items

**FRIDGE MITSUBISHI**  
With separate freezer compartment, like new. Only 2,500 baht. Contact Ole. Tel: 089-208 7515.

**LAMPS FOR SALE**  
80% reduction to clear table, desk and floor. 27 different models. Please call and we can email you photo. Tel: 081-958 5949.

## Household Services

**FURNISHING & DECOR FOR YOUR BIZ**  
Furnish your bars, restaurants, hotels. Wholesale prices available. Tel: 081-899 5375 (English & Thai). Email: akanekshopping@live.com See our selection at http://akanekshopping.com

**PHUKET HOME MAINTENANCE**  
Renovations, house repairs, painters, tilers, electricians, plumbers, carpenters, construction. Fluent English-Speaking boss. Free quotes given. Tel: 084-193 5124. Email: phuket-homemaintenance@yahoo.com

**QUALITY MAID SERVICE**  
First-class house cleaning service covering Chalong, Nai Harn, Rawai. speak good English. Tel: 081-271 0496 (English). Email: richard@siamrealestate.com

## Building Products & Services

**CONSTRUCTION SERVICES**  
We offer construction services at all levels, from home renovations, right up to complete builds, all under western supervision. Why not discuss your needs with us? We're sure we can help. Tel: 085-576 6812 (English), 089-166 8090. Email: ajb@thai-worldproperty.com

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

**Live in Town?**  
Place your **GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS** at **iTree Complete Printing Service**

Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it with **Khun Nan: (076-255425)**

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

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

**Looking for land to buy?**  
See more classified ads at [www.phuketgazette.net](http://www.phuketgazette.net)

**Classified Advertisements**

Please use this form to write your classified advertisement. Then hand it to any of our agents.

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All advertising must be paid for in advance.

**Deadline for Property Gazette page: Friday 3 pm.**  
**Deadline for all other ads: Saturday 12 noon.**

**SWEDISH / FINNISH  
TOUR GUIDE**

Swedish/Finnish speaking tour guide wanted for cruise boat. Tel: 087-897 1761. Email: lotta@lamoet.com

**RECEPTIONIST /  
SALES**

LED Light company based in Chalong, looking for Thai girl to attend to our Thai and foreign customers. English, Office and basic PC use is important. Salary based on skills + good commissions on sales. Tel: 081-1394774. Email: boost@aboranet.com

**ASSISTANT NEEDED**

Rus Thai Business Group Company Limited requires Thai female, fluent in spoken and written English, good computer skills. Tel: 085-690 6052. Email: office@rt-pro.ru

**RECEPTIONIST  
PATONG**

Hotel is looking for a reliable Thai female. 2 days off per week. Tel: 081-892 1621.

**RESTAURANT STAFF  
NEEDED**

Small restaurant in Kata is looking for experienced staff, English is a must. Salary: 14,000 baht. Tel: 081-370 5855. Email: jad.nahle@hotmail.com

**CONSTRUCTION  
MANAGER**

Or civil engineer with experience. Any nationality. Established company. Tel: 087-897 0501 (English). Email: aleksa.rtn@gmail.com

**ESTATE / RENTAL  
MANAGER**

Intira Villas is looking for a Thai person with a happy and positive attitude. Must be able to communicate in English and Thai, both in speaking and writing. Experience in management and rentals. Tel: 081-472 4925 (English). Please send CV and salary requirement. Email: jonas@intiravillas.com

**CALL CENTER NEEDS  
SWISS-GERMAN**

We, Intercallservice Company, are seeking a Swiss-German speaking person, for our call center in Phuket, to support our customers in Switzerland. Good knowledge of French would be an advantage. We offer a 5-day week with Visa and work permit. For further information please contact Mr. Klaus. Tel: 089-873 9123.

**HOUSEKEEPER**

For 6 months in Australia. An aussie man with 2 young daughters require help of young Thai woman to assist housekeeping. The candidate must have an English skills, passport preferably, age between 25-35, enjoy children. Contact Jum Tel: 087-095 9274.

**COOKS, MAIDS,  
MANAGERS**

Luxury villas looking for cooks, maids and managers. Live in and live out positions available. Tel: 080-699 2436. Email: kokakat@gmail.com

**ARTICLE WRITER**

Bayshore Projects is looking for article writer on freelance basis. Experience and well formulating writing skills in perfect English required. Tel: 081-968 5963 (English). Send CV to c@bayshoreprojects.com

**SENIOR ARCHITECT**

Phuket-based architectural practice urgently requires a senior architect to oversee design of luxury villa and hospitality projects. Proficiency in written and spoken English required. Please send CV and expected salary to: info@imedgeconcepts.com

**MANAGER -  
PROPERTY  
MANAGEMENT**

Experienced manager required to manage 30 private residence in Krabi. The manager is responsible for managing all teams for maintenance, housekeeping, office, rental and security. Operate all property in a 5-star manner for both owners and guests. Applicants need to have strong leadership skills, excellent command of English, hotel and/or property management experience. Applicants will be required to have their own car and driving licence, and to be able to work both in Krabi and Phuket. Tel: 081-968 3140 (English), 081-797 3401 (English & Thai). Please send CVs to: manager@engchuan.com, www.engchuan.com, www.krabisunset.com and www.krabihideaway.com

**Phuket Gazette**

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

**WEB PROGRAMMER**

- ▶ Degree in Computer engineering, Computer Science or IT related field
- ▶ Minimum of 2 years experience in web programming and web development
- ▶ Experience in: PHP, asp, asp.net, OOP, Java Script, HTML5, CSS, JSON, AJAX, JQuery
- ▶ Expert in use of database tools and in SQL command (MS-SQL, MySQL)
- ▶ Experience in php frameworks would be a plus
- ▶ Ability in spoken and written English
- ▶ Ability to work with team
- ▶ Ability to work under pressure and time constraints

Good salary for the right candidate.

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV by email to big@phuketgazette.net

**The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd**

79/94 Moo 4, Thepkrasattri Rd, Koh Kaew  
A. Muang, Phuket 83000  
Tel: 076-273555 Ext. 303 Fax: 076-615240

**Phuket Gazette**

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

**REPORTER**

- ▶ Thai national (able to read, write, speak fluent Thai)
- ▶ Ability to communicate clearly in English
- ▶ Clear thinking in order to identify what makes a good news story
- ▶ Initiative and enthusiasm to track down a story
- ▶ Photography skills
- ▶ Able to manage own time effectively
- ▶ Knowledge of Burmese an advantage
- ▶ Driver's license

Good salary for the right candidate.

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV by email to Um@PhuketGazette.net

**The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd**

79/94 Moo 4, Thepkrasattri Rd, Koh Kaew  
A. Muang, Phuket 83000  
Tel: 076-273555 Ext.303 Fax: 076-615240

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

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

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Tel: 076-280400  
Tel: 076-282403

**PATONG**

- ▶ Taurus Travel (Aroonsom Plaza)
- ▶ Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppe (Aroonsom Plaza)
- ▶ Deli Supermarket (Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd)

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Tel: 076-290468  
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- ▶ Sin & Lee (Thalang Rd)
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- ▶ The Network property office (Saiyuan Rd)

Tel: 076-388144

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- ▶ EuroStyle Tailors (Luang Por Chuan Rd)

Tel: 076-396911

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### COOKS AND MAIDS

Luxury villas in Patong looking for experienced cooks and maids. Live in or live out. Full or part time. Tel: 080-699 2436, 088-760 9841. Email: kokakat@gmail.com

### MAINTENANCE MANAGER NEEDED

Experienced maintenance/facilities manager is sought for a villa on the west coast. Send CV. Email: ggreg@yahoo.ca

### FOOD STORE MANAGER

Food importer and distributor based in the south is seeking a branch manager. Ideal candidate has minimum 5 years experience in F&B industry and proven management skills. High salary and profit sharing scheme. Tel: 087-264 9695 (English). Email: eb@ebnetwork.it

### PERSONAL ASSISTANT

Native Thai with good command of English, computer and administrative skills. Email: forsale.phuket@gmail.com

### THAI STAFF

Thai staff wanted for kindergarten, must speak English, enjoy working with children. Tel: 084-442 3671 (English). Email: millingtonjackie@hotmail.com

### NEGOTIATOR

We are looking for well-qualified and motivated individuals to join our dynamic Residential Sales team in Phuket.

The ideal candidate will be:

- Female Thai nationality.
- A Bachelor's degree holder.
- Fluent in spoken and written English.

- Service oriented, with good communication skills and able to work with demanding international clients.

- Computer literate (MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Office Access, email and the Internet).
- Fast-learning, enthusiastic, hard working and dedicated.

Candidates must have their own transportation and be willing to work in the Patong area.

We offer great opportunities to candidates, including new graduates, who are looking to grow with the company and develop their skills in sales.

Qualified applicants please send your resume to phuket\_hr@cbre.co.th

## Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

### SUB-EDITOR

- ▶ Fluent in English
- ▶ Able to work to strict deadlines
- ▶ A team player
- ▶ Naturally curious about the world, especially Phuket and what affects its residents
- ▶ Newspaper experience and/or layout skills, especially in PageMaker or InDesign, required.

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV and writing sample by email to editor@phuketgazette.net

### The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

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www.AbsoluteWorld.net

## Absolute WORLD

Absolute Resorts & Hotels is an established global force in Luxury Leisure and Boutique Resort development. We are currently looking for:

- Guest Service Agent
- Accountant
- Chief Engineer
- Assistant HR Manager
- Admin Officer

### Experience

- Good English is essential.
- At least two years full-service.
- Thai Nationality only.

Interested candidates please submit Current CV, Recent photo, Current and Expected salary with other related documents to: [rinky@absoluteworld.net](mailto:rinky@absoluteworld.net) and [ahrm@absoluteresorts.com](mailto:ahrm@absoluteresorts.com) 42/11 Taveewong Road, Patong Beach, Kathu Phuket 83150  
Tel: 66 76 341 901-10 Fax: 66 76 341 122-3

### ■ Sales Representative

Absolute are currently looking for Russian speaking sales representatives to join our already successful team. We offer excellent conditions, great product, full training and support. If you are a communicative, positive and dynamic person please send email to [oxana@clubabsolute.com](mailto:oxana@clubabsolute.com) and we will get back to you asap.

### NATIVE ENGLISH TEACHER

To teach class of 9-12 children, ages 6-9 years old, must have experience and degree. Start on 22 April, Chalong, 8am-4pm, Monday-Friday. Tel: 080-624 7060. Email: buds.span@yahoo.com

### ASSISTANT SALES MANAGER

Real Estate Agency is looking for an assistant sales manager. Requirements: Thai national, female, good skills in English, private car, working experience in real estate. Email: sales@rt-pro.ru

### STAFF WANTED

Cashier who speaks English and Thai, experience preferred. Tel: 086-987 7339 (English). Email: stanlaysphuket@hotmail.com

### SALESWOMAN WANTED

For smart home / audio-visual company, Bangkok and Phuket area. Reasonable English skills needed. Salary plus commission / expenses. Please send CV with photo to info@techworx.asia

## British International School, Phuket

British International School, Phuket is looking for candidates to fill positions in the following areas:

### • Accountant (General Ledger)

#### Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in Accounting / Finance / Business Administration or related field
- At least 2 years experience in accounting
- Experience in A/P, G/L area and closing account is preferable
- Knowledge in SAGE AccPac Accounting System would be an advantage
- Familiar with Thailand taxation and accounting system
- Computer knowledge in MS office
- Good command of English

### • Secretary to Administration Office

#### Qualifications

- Female, Thai nationality
- Bachelor's degree in related field
- Excellent English, computer literate and good people skills
- Able to coordinate with other departments

### • Teacher's Assistant

#### Qualifications

- Thai nationality, bachelor's degree in related field
- Teaching qualifications and experience in child care, teaching preferable
- Good command of spoken and written English

### • School Driver

#### Qualifications

- Excellent driving record with 3 years of experience
- Have knowledge of safety rules and regulations
- Professional attitude / Good organizational skills

Interested candidate please submit your cv and recent photo to



### British International School, Phuket (BISP)

59 Moo 2, Thepkrasattri Road, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83200  
Tel: 076-335555 # 2113, 2110 Fax: 076-335573  
E-mail: [patcharakornrnt@bisphuket.ac.th](mailto:patcharakornrnt@bisphuket.ac.th) or [sirivats@bisphuket.ac.th](mailto:sirivats@bisphuket.ac.th)

### SALES PERSON / ASST. TO MD

2 years experience. Thai or foreigner. Must be fluent in written and spoken English. Area: Phuket, Samui, Krabi. Send CV to info@macraetrading.com

### RUSSIAN SALES

Two Chefs are now looking for an outgoing salesperson. Russian nationality. This is a good opportunity for the right person highly preferred to get high salary and good commission. If you are used to using Photoshop or Coral . Tel: 087-276 6796. Email: jon@twochefs.com For further details, please see our website at [www.twochefs.com](http://www.twochefs.com)

### STAFF



Level-free school, Boat Lagoon. Top salary guaranteed for top qualification. 6-month internship required: Thai or foreign female, fluent written and spoken English, enthusiastic and challengeable in learning, hard working, dedicated, possible abroad. Great opportunities and future will be offered. Send applicant's resume with photo to [geniuskj@daum.net](mailto:geniuskj@daum.net)

### CUSTOMER SERVICE RECEPTIONIST

Female for Villa Resort in Rawai. Part time, full time. Computer skills are essential. Tel: 089-289 1502. Email: jittraming@gmail.com

### HOUSEKEEPER NEEDED

We are looking for a young English-speaking Thai lady who has knowledge of cooking, enjoys boating and house-keeping. Tel: 089-850 1622. Email: tcdesportes@gmail.com

### A CUSTOMER SERVICE OFFICER

We are looking for a customer service officer. Female between 20-35, Thai nationality only. Tel: 082-007 0700 (Thai). Fax: 076-367212. Email: info@phukettravel.co.th For further details, please see [www.phukettravel.co.th/recruitment.html](http://www.phukettravel.co.th/recruitment.html)

### SALES & SERVICE MANAGER

ISS Facility Services Co. Ltd are looking to fill this position asap. Reporting to expat management, preferred applicants are Thai nationals, aged 25 years plus, degree educated with good English communication skills. Excellent remuneration package / benefits offered to the right person. Tel: 076-610315, 081-958 6879 (English). Email: [scott.d@th.issworld.com](mailto:scott.d@th.issworld.com)

### RECEPTIONIST PATONG

Hotel is looking for a reliable Thai female. 2 days off per week. Tel: 081-892 1621.

### SALES & ADMIN JUNIOR



We are looking for young and energetic sales & admin staff. 20 to 25 years old. Good computer skills & English command a must. Thai national only. Call for an appointment now! Tel: 076-325419, 085-619 0380 (English & Thai), 081-400 4678 (English & Thai). Email: [orientalsamui@gmail.com](mailto:orientalsamui@gmail.com) For further details, please see our website at [www.oriental-living.net](http://www.oriental-living.net)

## Employment Wanted

### SALESPERSON

Food importer and distributor based in Rawai is seeking for a salesperson. Sales background and experience in food industry are preferred. Applying foreigners must have their own company. Salary and commission scheme offered. Tel: 087-264 9695 (English). Email: eb@ebnetwork.it

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Looking for a better candidate?

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

## Bar & Restaurant Equipment

### BISS FLAPPER

Circuit integrity cross-checked by UL, SafeAsia and iFARD every four months. Documentation available. Certified by Thai OOC within two weeks of import. Can be blarfed into any properly wired restaurant kitchen in Thailand. Purchased new in Dijon, Nov 2010, for 82,000 baht; selling now for just 55,000 baht. Three-pole snard beans (4) with lithium backing plates. Gooze and Himmelman pork whistles, milled and graded in July last year. Insured through November this year (2013). Happy to demonstrate for serious buyers at Le Montage, Rawai, any night except Mondays (restaurant closed).

Contact Jack Martin for pics and documentation.  
Tel or SMS: 081-207 4471.  
Email: jackmartin3@gmx.com

### KITCHEN HARDWARE

Secondhand kitchen hardware: ovens, sinks, grills and etc. For more information please call 082-283 8250 (English & Thai). Email: phuket@rayadivers.com

### Articles For Sale

### BOXING MACHINE

10 baht per punch, 2 players, excellent condition. Fuge ball machine, 10 baht per game, excellent condition. For more information please call 086-283 9100.

## Business Opportunities

### PROJECTS FOR SALE

Rawai Construction Company, full service company, 7 years, Phuket. Design + drawings, engineering, land for sale. 97/37 Sai Yuan. Contact Construction manager: Ron Kite. Tel: 083-636 7147.

### NAIL SPA

Great business opportunity in central Patong. Fully equipped nail spa for sale at 1.2 million baht. Email: forsale.phuket@gmail.com

### SMALL RESORT

8-house resort: 6 houses with 2 bedrooms, living and kitchen. 2 houses with 3 bedrooms, living and kitchen. Tel: 085-789 1773 (English). For more info use email: hakan.se derholm@gmail.com

### TOUR SHOP PATONG

Busy beach location with existing clients. Long lease: 180,000 baht. Tel: 080-690 8978.

### RENT GUESTHOUSE PATONG

12 rooms, cheap rent, perfect location, Na Nai Road. Price: 1 million baht. Tel: 089-728 4005. Email: thamad17@yahoo.com

### SOI TIGER BAR FOR SALE

Bar for sale. 30 months, second line, very good location. Tel: 087-675 8357. Email: morganphuket@hotmail.com

### COMMERCIAL SHOP FOR LEASE

Right next to the beach on Swadirak Road, 18x5m size, fully furnished. Please call 076-342109, 081-892 7480 (English & Thai), 081-607 5716 (English & Thai). Email: Nanzz86@gmail.com

### HOME OFFICE FOR SALE / RENT



Perfect location in commercial area at The Royal Place, Tesco Lotus, by-pass road. 3 floors for living home and business office, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 aircons. Ground floor install with glass frontage, granite floor and kitchen area. Sale or long-term rental 35,000 baht per month. Call now. Tel: 084-293 7923 (English & Thai), 081-854 0061 (English). Email: mrgeoffcurry@yahoo.com

### RENT OR LEASE

I want to rent (lease) a bar, guesthouse, massage or restaurant in Patong. My name is Mats from Sweden. For more information please call +46-073-390-8414. Email: massloso@yahoo.se

### 7TH FLOOR SUITES (HOTEL) BUILDING FOR SALE



Kata Beach Center. 9 apartments and a 300 sqm penthouse on the roof plus fully equipped restaurant and pool with terrace are free of rent and now available. Price: 38 million baht (950,000 euro) includes Chanote and Thai company. If seriously interested email thewhitehousekata@gmail.com For Russian contact Oxana. Email: phuket.lux@gmail.com

### HOTELS IN PHUKET FOR SALE

Please contact info@luxuryphuketholidays.com

### RESTAURANT FOR SALE

6 years on contract, great location, Patong Beach Road, full furniture and equipment. For more information please call 087-075 2166, 090-175 9126. Email: omaraalquraini@hotmail.com

### 5 IN 1 BUSINESS FOR SALE

Good location, 1 1/4 rai. 1). Jungle bar, 3 TVs, 2 pool tables, seating: 65 people, parking: 15-16 vehicles, good business. 2). Beauty salon: fully equipped. 3). Massage 4). Lease-out restaurant. 5). Lease-out indoor pub: fully equipped, stage, seating: 70 people. Available for 8 years + 9 months left on lease. Sale: 5.7 million baht. Negotiable! Contact by sending email to five.business@yahoo.com

### BAR FOR SALE NEW TIGER

High Roller Bar. Third row from the front. Two-year contract. Books available. 4 million baht o.n.o. Tel: 085-654 8510. Email: typhoon\_stjames@hotmail.com

### BANGLA BARS FOR RENT

5 new bars on the rooftop. In front of a new discotheque. In the center of Bangla. Reasonable price. Tel: 081-895 7597, 081-892 8526. Email: peter@phuket-besthomes.com

### RESORT FOR LEASE CENTRAL PATONG



In the heart of Patong. 20 rooms well furnished, fully operational with very good occupancy rates. 6-year lease for 6.5 million baht + rental fee 200,000 baht per month. Tel: 088-765 0165.

### SURIN BEACH CLUB FOR SALE

Prime real estate; approx 900sqm of beach front property with sunbeds. Full service kitchen; seating capacity of 100. No key money or rental required. Contact for details. Tel: 091-034 1200 (English). Email: issam.tawil@gmail.com

### PARTNER WANTED

For a new discotheque in Patong, Phuket, Soi Bangla. Best location. Great profit. Opening very soon. Tel: 081-895 7597, 081-892 8526.

### BANGLA RESTAURANT FOR RENT

On the rooftop of Bangla Mall. 350sqm, open air, seaview, elevator, ready to move in. Tel: 081-895 7597, 081-892 8526. Email: peter@phuket-besthomes.com

### Bulletins

**Alcoholics Anonymous**

If you want to drink that is your business  
If you want to stop that is ours

**Daily Meetings**

Patong, Phuket Town, Chalong, Surin, Karon

081-895 4763  
081-956 4031  
email: phuketaa@yahoo.com

Google AA Phuket

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Natural Thai Spa.  
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5 storeys, 2 buildings, 20 massage beds. 2 steam rooms, 1 beauty salon.  
Sale: 24 million baht with full equipment. Address: 162/70-71 Phang Muang Sai Road, Patong, Kathu, Phuket.

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www.phuketthaispa.com

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Phuket's oldest international child care facility. High-quality, time-proven schedule and curriculum. Now in brand-new purpose-built school. Experienced native English teachers to teach ages 1.5-8. Monday-Friday 8am-5pm. Bus service available from Patong, Karon, Kata, Phuket, Rawai and Chalong. Tel: 076-384638, 080-624 7060. www.buds-phuket.com

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Pre-design through to full implementation of development by well-qualified British team. Tel: 089-866 6030. Email: landalliance8@gmail.com

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Extreme sport fishing service. Please call 084-320 2252. Email: thanikulnut@hotmail.com, http://ocean sandanglers.com

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### PHUKET COUNTRY CLUB

Family Membership. Price: 640,000 baht (Transfer Included). Tel: 087-895 8160 (English). Email: faserio@gogoltd.hk

### PHUKET COUNTRY CLUB

Full family membership. Annual dues paid up to end 2013. 650,000 baht. Tel: 089-908 2454 (English). Email: evan.burford@gmail.com

### COUNTRYCLUB GOLF MEMBERSHIP

Phuket Country Club Golf Membership (Family). Price: 600,000 baht (excluding transfer fee of 60,000 baht) - 2013 annual maintenance fee (25,000 baht) to be proportionally split based on timing of purchase. Tel: 087-895 8160. Email: faserio@gogoltd.hk

### BCC FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

830,000 baht dues included, spouse paid for two years (worth 40,000 baht). Transfer included. Tel: 081-893 3462 (English). Email: voute.a@gmail.com

### LAGUNA GOLF MEMBERSHIP

Expires on January 2024 (11 years). Price: 385,000 baht. Contact Sumalee. Tel: 087-468 5125.

### LOCH PALM MEMBERSHIP

For sale or trade membership plus money for Blue Canyon Family Membership. Price: 550,000 baht o.n.o. Tel: 081-090 4113. Email: ohmer13@hotmail.com

### PHUKET COUNTRY CLUB

Golf membership. Price: 700,000 baht. Transfer included. For more information please call 081-089 1407.

## Dive Gear

### MARES BCD FINS AND BOOTS



Mares BCD Hybrid like new: 16,000 baht or nearest offer. Scuba Pro boots UK Size 8-9: 800 baht. Mares Avanti Quattro Black: 1,000 baht. Tel: 085-260 2576 (English). Email: chrisgraham2@mac.com

## Miscellaneous For Sale

### BISS FLAPPER

Circuit integrity cross-checked by UL, SafeAsia and iFARD every four months. Documentation available. Certified by Thai OOC within two weeks of import. Can be blarfed into any properly wired restaurant kitchen in Thailand. Purchased new in Dijon, Nov 2010, for 82,000 baht; selling now for just 55,000 baht. Three-pole snard beans (4) with lithium backing plates. Gooze and Himmelman pork whistles, milled and graded in July last year. Insured through November this year (2013). Happy to demonstrate for serious buyers at Le Montage, Rawai, any night except Mondays (restaurant closed).

Contact Jack Martin for pics and documentation.  
Tel or SMS: 081-207 4471.  
Email: jackmartin3@gmx.com

### SNUFFLERS

Set of five. Rounded edges with alloy spleen tables. Only 3 yrs old, no glinkle. Can be used without bessors or BRTs but not in tandem with cleester bins. Price new: 4,200 baht each. Will sell now at 12,000 baht for full set. Located Rawai, pics available. Email: jackmartin3@gmx.com

### WHEELCHAIR SALE

Folding wheelchair for sale: 1,200 baht. Carpet for sale: 1,200 baht, good quality, 170x240 cm. For more information please call 087-381 5171.

## Surfboards

### SURFBOARDS NEW AND CHEAP

Several surfboards for sale. 5 new items and 3 used items. Also 4 soft top boards. Email me at lantapaddle@gmail.com or call 082-278 8055 if interested.

## Personals

### BACKGAMMON

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

### EXPAT HEALTH INSURANCE

Expat Health Asia has been designed to focus on medical insurance for expatriates and those who have immigrated to various parts of the world. Tel: 086-793 7337 (English), +65-094-467-445 (English). Email: kevin.expathealthasia@gmail.com

## Pets



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Several adorable rescued dogs, all sterilised and vaccinated. More photos @ [www.doggieheaven.net](http://www.doggieheaven.net) or contact [Sherin.peace@gmail.com](mailto:Sherin.peace@gmail.com)



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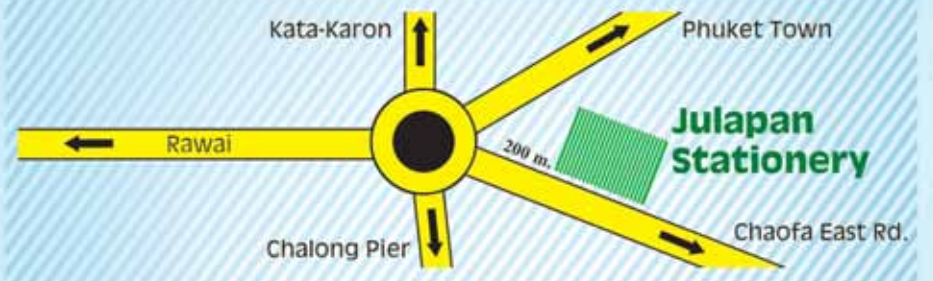


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## Saloon Cars

### BMW 320D SE DIESEL ENGINE

Year 2010, Diesel engine, 36,000km. Good condition, saves fuel. Tel: 089-668 3639. Email: zhunaumann@gmail.com

### SALE FORD ESCAPE 495,000



Ford Escape 3.0 XLT. Year 2004. 140,000km. Price: 495,000 baht. Contact Noppadol. Tel: 089-589 5453. Email: sopasalon@hotmail.com

### NISSAN LS AT SALE 80,000KM

195,000 baht. Mitsubishi Tritan AT: 4,000km, 3 months old, only 200,000 baht cash, down payment 12,000 baht. For more information please call 082-411 3714, 089-469 2089.

### NISSAN ALMERA 1.2L



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### COROLLA 1996 MANUAL

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### MAZDA 3 2012 750,000 BAHT O.N.O.

Silver, leather interior. 3-year warranty and servicing for new car, insurance until September 2013. Purchase outright or pay 50% deposit and take over finance approx 10,000 baht per month over 3.5 years. For more information please call 090-558 7397. Email: katrinareece@googlemail.com

### HONDA CIVIC 2.0LT 2004



50,000km. 2 German owners, in very good condition, all car options, all services. Gray metallic, black leather, automatic. Sale: 449,000 baht. Tel: 087-060 8400 (English). Email: bbone1lo@web.de

### FORD FOCUS AND HONDA 125CC

Ford Focus 2013, alloy wheels, only 2,000km. New: 1,150,000 baht. Make offer. Honda 125cc, only 500km. New: 59,000 baht. Make offer. Going home. Tel: 087-816 5274 (English). Email: frog911@globalnet.co.uk



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### FORD TIERRA 1,840CC

Black, airbags, parking sensor, 2003. 91,000km. Sale: 180,000 baht. Tel: 084-063 3752, 082-912 0526.

### HONDA 2007 CRV 2.4 FOR SALE

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### NISSAN NV WINGROAD

Car for sale, gold, year 2006. 1,600cc, 35,000 km. Price: 165,000 baht. Available on 6 April 2013 (depends on Visa). Tel: 083-182 5037 (English), 089-970 8227 (Thai). Email: mellaerts9@hotmail.com

### MAZDA 3, 1.6 APRIL 2010

13,000km only, white, as new, black leather. Sale: 675,000 baht. Tel: 081-606 4221 (Thai), 089-290 5594 (English).

## Motorbikes

### DUCATI MONSTER 795

Almost new and only travelled 60km. Tel: 085-798 9444. Email: knipey77@hotmail.com

### KAWASAKI D TRACKER

2012 model, only 8 months old, blue and black, nearly new condition. 120,000 baht. Tel: 085-798 9444. Email: knipey77@hotmail.com

### 400CC KTM ENDURO

Excellent condition with green book. Sale: 89,000 baht o.b.o. For more information please call 076-289656, 081-895 1826 (English). Email: wolfgang@far-away.net

### HONDA ST 1300 2010 PAN EURO

6,000 miles as new, brilliant touring bike with green book. 525,000 baht. Tel: 086-281 2033 (English & Thai). Email: senna@cscoms.com

### HONDA STEED 400

Good condition, black, comes with beautiful plate number one. Asking 125,000 baht. Call for seeing. Tel: 087-270 9093.

### YAMAHA FINO



2008. Lady owner, ridden only in Phuket Town, with green book. Asking price 23,000 baht. Tel: 084-889 2676.

### SPECTACULAR HONDA T200

30,000km. Top shape. Sale: 58,000 baht. Tel: 084-844 0192 (English). Email: gjgarant@gmail.com

### HONDA PACIFIC 800CC

Special modified, only 1 in Thailand, super bike! Sale: 140,000 baht. Tel: 086-945 2626.

### FARANG HONDA MIO 8,000KM

115cc. White. Certified mileage, new tyres. Sale: 21,000 baht. For more information please call 086-953 6522. Email: pierrekofjer@gmail.com

### TRIUMPH SPRINT ST 2010

Top-class condition 6,000 km, slipper clutch, other extras. Green book. 550,000 baht. Tel: 086-281 2033 (English & Thai). Email: senna@cscoms.com

### YAMAHA MAJESTY 400



2008 model, only 27,000 km, green book, excellent condition. Price: 145,000 baht. Tel: 087-893 1753.

### 4 x 4s

### FORD RANGER 4X4 4 DOORS

Year 2003. ABS. Top model. 1 owner, as new, manual gear. 150,000km. 325,000 baht. For more detail please call 084-065 9323. Email: jefdejong@hotmail.com

## Rentals

### A1 CAR RENTAL

Fully insured, 12,000 to 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-831 4703. Email: a1carrent@gmail.com

### CAR FOR RENT 11,000 BATH/MONTH

Mazda: 12,000 baht per month. Toyota: 11,000 baht per month. Good condition, insurance. Tel: 087-282 3724 (English). Email: tachibanahiroki@hotmail.co.jp

### CHEAP CAR RENT

Brand-new car rental, top model, year 2012. Small car, medium car, family car, first-class insurance, delivery, 24hr roadside assistance, GPS, baby seat. Short or long-term rent. Tel: 089-772 7012, 081-326 3233.

### CAR RENTAL ALL MODELS

AUT or MT, delivery service, short or long term, first-class insurance. Tel: 087-281 1211 (English).

## Pick-ups

### TOYOTA HILUX



Model 2001, manual, diesel. Sale: 310,000 baht. Tel: 081-270 3022.

### MAZDA BT50 2.5 DIESEL

For sale as I'm leaving the country. Nice car, low mileage 70,000km, saves fuel, perfect condition, no accident, first class insurance until 19/09/13. 450,000 baht negotiable. For more details please call 088-768 8675. Email: hernandezclement@hotmail.fr



Please use this form to write your classified advertisement.

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Classified ads are charged per line. Each line is 120 baht, with a minimum of 4 lines (heading included) per ad.

All advertising must be paid for in advance.

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



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

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

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

**NEW LISTING**



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

Please visit our website for more listings

▶ Intrepid 350 WA (2006)  
**\$180,000 USD**

- Twin Mercury Verado 275hp outboards
- Kohler 5kva genset
- Tuna Tower
- Air Conditioning
- Furuno radar and chartplotter
- Trim tabs
- Head and shower
- Kevlar hull construction
- Hardtop with outriggers
- Electric windlass
- Bow thruster

**THAILAND'S LEADING BROKERAGE & NEW YACHT DEALERSHIP**

▶ Bavaria 390 Lagoon (1998) <b>60,000 GBP</b>	▶ Beneteau Oceanis 523 (2005) <b>\$325,000 USD</b>	▶ Northshore 46 (1987) <b>\$125,000 AUD</b>	▶ J-130 (1993) <b>\$105,000 USD</b>
▶ Princess 58 FB (2000) <b>\$1,100,000 USD</b>	▶ Sea Ray 355 Sundancer (2005) <b>\$179,000 USD</b>	▶ Ocean Alexander 42 (1987) <b>\$110,000 USD</b>	▶ Sunseeker Manhattan 73 (2013) <b>2,390,000 GBP</b>

**Martin Holmes**  
Mobile: 081 891 7057  
Email: martin@leemarine.com

**Marcus Overman**  
Mobile: 081 968 1437  
Email: marcus@leemarine.com

**Jim Poulsen**  
Mobile: 081 891 3237  
Email: jim@leemarine.com

**leemarine.com**

**SPEED BOAT FOR SALE**



18 FEET BAYLINER FIBER-GLASS BODY, 200 HP (EFI) MERCURY ENGINE WITH BLUE BOOK INCLUDE TRAILER, ANCHOR, COVER. PRICE: 260,000 THB

086-283 0082 (Eng. Rus)  
081-477 5637 (Thai)

Email: reza\_shahverdy@gmail.com

**NEW ALESSANDRO MARCHI**  
"Carenacorsa 18". Hypalon RIB, light and fast. 90hp lean-burn, 4-stroke Suzuki O/B. Bimini. 999,950 baht. Now in stock at our Boat Lagoon Showroom. For details contact Alan Giles. Andaman Boat Sales. Tel: 087-283 1674. Email: boats@andamanboat sales.com

**NEW KARNIC 2052**  
Deep V Hull, 140hp 4-stroke Suzuki O/B. Bimini and marine heads. 1,299,950 baht. Now in stock at our Boat Lagoon Showroom. For details contact Alan Giles. Andaman Boat Sales. Tel: 087-283 1674. Email: boats@andamanboat sales.com

**BOAT INSURANCE** LBI

Lambert Brothers Insurance Brokers

- Boat insurance quotations from different insurers
- Competitive rates
- Comprehensive coverage
- All other types of insurance provided

Contact Khun Paew at our office  
Phuket Boat Lagoon  
paew@lambertbrothers.co.th  
Tel: + 66 76 273 385

www.lambertbrothers.co.th

**SIMPSON MARINE**  
Asia's Leading Yacht Brokers Since 1984



2001 Jeanneau Sun Odyssey 45.2  
**EUR 130,000**  
"Major reduction"

- Never chartered owner version.
- Fully equipped for liveboard around the world.

2007 PHINISI SCHOONER 26 m.  
EUR 150,000

1999 Lagoon 470  
EUR 280,000

2008 PRINCESS P42  
USD 485,000  
"Make an offer"

<b>Sergio Loiacono</b> +66 (0) 86 277 3360 sergio.l@simpsonmarine.com	<b>Максим Волков</b> +66 (0) 84 745 9900 maksim.volkov@simpsonmarine.com	พชรศักดิ์ นน ทน (มัทธวีร์) +66 (0) 81 787 7383 matthew.p@simpsonmarine.com
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**MOONSOON FOR SALE**



28ft, registered for 15 passengers. 200hp/ V6 Mercury motor, only 240 hours, recently totally restored. Perfect for snorkeling, diving trips, island hopping or water taxi. Navigation system + fishfinder. 5hp spare motor. Boat and motor in very good condition. Located at Boat Lagoon. Priced for quick sale at 330,000 baht. Tel: 086-747 9292. Email: claudstrey@gmail.com

**HOBIE 16 + EXTRAS**  
Hobie 16 with masthead float, two trapeze harnesses, 2 paddles, trolley-road/ launching. New sheets and halyards. For sale at 175,000 baht. Quick sale. Tel: 081-560 4390 (English). Email: jacksonrose mary99@gmail.com

**43 FOOT CRUISING CATAMARAN**  
Built 2012, 2 sails, 15hp outboard. Ready for sailing! 850,000 baht. Tel: 087-461 8089 (English). Email: peter.duengel@gmail.com

**THAI FISHING BOAT**  
Cheap price for quick sale, fully restored, excellent condition, very reliable and cheap to use. Contact Peter. Tel: 085-253 4429.

**NEW KARNIC 1851**  
Deep V Hull, 90hp lean-burn, 4-stroke Suzuki O/B. Bimini and trailer. 999,950 baht. Now in stock at our Boat Lagoon Showroom. For details contact Alan Giles. Andaman Boat Sales. Tel: 087-283 1674. Email: boats@andamanboat sales.com

**NEW ALESSANDRO MARCHI**  
"Carenalunga 21". Hypalon RIB (LOA 24'). Composite construction, strong and fast. 140hp 4-stroke Suzuki O/B. Bimini and trailer. 1,795,000 baht. Now in stock at our Boat Lagoon Showroom. For details contact Alan Giles. Andaman Boat Sales. Tel: 087-283 1674. Email: boats@andamanboatsales.com

**RIVA HULL**  
10 meters long marine plywood hull (not completed) for sale. Tel: 081-968 3118 (English & Thai). Email: info@procar pentering.com

**SUNSEEKER YACHT FOR SALE**



Sunseeker Caribbean 52ft. Located at Ao Por Grand Marina. Price: 4,800,000 baht. Tel: 087-626 0495 (English). Email: dan.soft.studio@gmail.com

**A STEAL FOR A QUICK SALE**



2007. Italian demo yacht. Cranchi 47ft. Hard top. Fully loaded with tropical aircon, genset, electrical winches, garage, roof. Ray Marine premium navy, BBQ, ice maker, 3 fridges, "Bose" sound, neon light. Twin 570hp with reliable shaft drive, under 300hr. Brand-new condition. 385,000 euros. Tel: 089-971 0278. Email: eddyelan@yahoo.com

**2009 POWER CATAMARAN**



45ft. 4 cabins. Volvo D-4 IPS 300. Genset. Aircon. "Bose" surround. Ray marine. Low hours. Fully loaded. Fast and economical. As new. Bargain. Only 395,000 euros. Tel: 089-971 0278. Email: eddyelan@yahoo.com

**HUNTER 280 (LEGEND) SAILBOAT**  
1996 Yanmar 2GM20F, Ray Marine, windlass, mooring, ready. 1.25 million baht or offers. Tel: 087-269 3743. (English). Email: davidwarburton@hotmail.com

**SOLUTIONS TO THIS WEEK'S**

**CrypticCrossword**

**COFFEE break**



## Aircraft Sharing

### AIRCRAFT TIMESHARE

Piper Lance available limited to four pilots or companies purchasing 50-hour block times: Based Phuket Airpark. Tel: 085-258 0006. Email: pat@aeropromgr.com

## Aircraft For Sale

### YOUR HELICOPTER

Flying and owning your own helicopter has just become possible. Free complete flight instruction course with your purchase. Email: pat@aeropromgr.com

### AIRPLAY ALTIS MICROLIGHT

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

### 1999 ROBIN 2160i

I would like to sell my Robin aircraft or trade it for a 4-seat Cessna or Piper (based in Hua Hin). The Robin: TTAF 300hrs. SMOH 60hrs. This is a well-equipped, two-seat aerobatic aircraft. Has the Christen inverted oil system. Excellent inside and outside. King KMA24 audio panel, KX155 nav/com, KI203 vor, KY197A comm, KN64A dme, KR87 adf, KT76A transponder, CSPA400 i-com, FP5 fuel computer, CHT, OAT, Pitot heat. Price: 4 million baht. Please contact Thom. Email: thos\_w@hotmail.com



**Notice from Thai Flying Club:** There is a very nice Piper Cherokee airplane at the Thai Flying Club (TFC) in Bang Phra. It has fallen into disrepair. Someone took out the seats and some other parts... and then went away.

Owner Wichai Pettongkam loves this airplane and wants to get it back in the air. If you like flying and might want to be a partner in the plane, please come to the TFC to have a look, or contact **Khun Tom** (email [tom@thaiflyingclub.com](mailto:tom@thaiflyingclub.com), Tel: 089-092 2711). Or talk to **Khun Wichai** directly on 081-633 7082.

*Khun Wichai does not want to sell the plane, but would welcome a partner who can help to get it flying again. This could be a very good opportunity for someone to get a share in a nice airplane for a very good price. All negotiable.*

### TECNAM P-92

- Price: 1.5 million baht  
 - Registration: U-B08  
 - Year of Manufacture: 2002  
 - Equipment: Full standard equipment  
 - Engine: Rotax 912-80HP 350hrs.  
 Please contact for more information. Aircraft is based at Klong 15. Tel: 081-840 8418.

## Rockwell Commander 114 HS-AWS



### Built: 1976

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



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

### Specs:

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

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

Price: 3.75 million baht. Located at Thai Flying Club, Bang Phra.

Contact Tony Scragg at 081-906 3250, or email [tony\\_scragg@hotmail.com](mailto:tony_scragg@hotmail.com)



**Unique development investment 124 rai Secure/ROI**

Mobile: 66 85 258 0006  
[pat@aeropromgr.com](mailto:pat@aeropromgr.com)

Only private airfield within 500 miles



## General Aviation

- Aircraft for Sale
- Aircraft Sharing
- Aircraft Wanted
- Aircraft Charter
- Aviation Services
- Flying Lessons



Please use this form to write your classified advertisement.

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Classified ads are charged per line. Each line is 120 baht, with a minimum of 4 lines (heading included) per ad.

All advertising must be paid for in advance.

### Live in Chalong?

Place your **GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS** at **KL Mart**



Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it with **Khun Laddawan: (076 - 280403)**

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

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





## CENTARA HOTELS & RESORTS IN PHUKET AND CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Centara Hotels & Resorts in Phuket led by Wilawan Chiammanasombut, general manager of Centra Ashlee Hotel Patong, recently held the monthly Corporate Social Responsibility activity by hosting a luncheon with contributions of necessity items to senior citizens at Social and Citizenship Development & Welfare for Elderly Persons Centre, Paklok.

## WELCOME "CLEAN PHUKET TEAM"

Impiana Patong Resort hosted a dinner for the "Clean Phuket Team"



From left: Mr Seong Bae Hong (Khun Korin) general manager of Clean Phuket & his team, are welcomed by Khun Sirigorn 'Siri' Nateetorn (center), marketing and communications manager at Impiana Resort Patong, Phuket and Khun Sarawadee Krajanglikit (3rd from left).



Khun Ji Won Yun (Alice) from Clean Phuket (left) and Khun Sirigorn 'Siri' Nateetorn enjoy their lovely dinner.

## AT THANYAPURA



Thanyapura recently welcomed the British Swimming National Sprint Team who had their winter training at Thanyapura Sports & Leisure Club's Olympic standard pool and stayed at the newly-opened Sports Hotel.



Thanyapura Sports & Leisure Club's Tennis Academy held a successful friendly tennis match with their members. The Tennis Academy is led by Director Roger Cochrane, who is from Peter Burwash International, USA.

## THANYAPURA SPORTS & LEISURE CLUB TENNIS ACADEMY WELCOMES PETER BURWASH INTERNATIONAL

## DIAMOND BEACHCLUB GRAND OPENING PARTY

March 30, 2013  
From 20:00 onwards

Come and celebrate with us the Grand Opening of **Diamond Beachclub** located at the northern end of Surin beach...

Dress code: White & Pink



# DIAMONDS ARE FOREVER

E. sales@diamondbeachclub.com P. +66 76 621 651 W. www.diamondbeachclub.com

Diamond Beachclub is located on the northern end of Surin beach...  
...a prime location for the hapest parties you'll never see!

# We don't just make videos We produce TELEVISION



**Phuket today**  
Phuket Gazette

It takes a diverse bunch to produce a **NATIONALLY BROADCAST TV SHOW** about a place as weird as Phuket. Arctic explorers and jungle gourmets, yoga masters and rap stars, Olympians and mermaids, world-renowned chefs, daredevils, Birdman and the All-Asia Women's Surf Champion!

**All on one island. All on one TV show.**

**Broadcast 8 times a week\*** on TrueVisions channels HD99 and 58, to 1.9 million subscribers. Phuket Today is also aired on local and regional television networks – even as far away as Rangoon.

**So, who's behind the show? Clockwise from top left:**

**Nattamon Mee** – Trained to be Thailand's first woman astronaut, Khun Mon gave it all up to produce Phuket Today.

**Action Girl Presenter Kiranee** – Used to wrestle wild crocodiles for fun, but now gets her kicks in front of the Phuket Today cameras.

**Tech Heads Pu and Chai** – When not attempting to crack the DaVinci Code, these two keep our super-computers from leaking oil.

**The PGTV Car** – Recently signed a multi-million dollar deal with Michael Bay to appear in three more Transformers movies.

**Tara** – The official Phuket Today dancing coach.

**Isaac** – The world's first TV presenter to insure his smile for \$10 million.

**Kristi Matzenberger** – Advertising and promotions manager. Joined Phuket Today in search of the perfect recipe for bratwurst.

**Mr Kai** – Mild-mannered video editor by day. Super hero by night.

**Khun Aoi** – PGTV's chief pilot and network development executive. Loves travel. Flies herself to work every day in a helicopter gunship.

**Mr Lee** – The only cameraman to successfully determine the purpose of the squiggly buttons on the side of our cameras.

**The Man in the Hat** – No one has ever discovered exactly what he actually does. So he must be quite good at it....

**Got talent? Call Kristi: 080-690 2564**

\*See show times on page 35

**WHAT'S ON  
in Phuket**



**PIMEX 2013**  
**March 21-24**

**March 8, 5 to 8pm: AMCHAM: 'A History of Phuket' book launch at Royal Phuket Marina**  
The Phuket Chapter of the American Chamber of Commerce (AMCHAM) is proud to promote the island's heritage through the launch of Colin Mackay's new book, *A History of Phuket*. The 438-page tome incorporates more than 1,000 original quotes and writings from commentators and visitors over the last 2,000 years, and is illustrated with over 100 maps, pictures and photographs, many of which have never been published before. Registration starts at 5pm and the roughly one-hour presentation begins at 6pm. A networking event with drinks will follow from 7 to 8pm. The event is open to the public, with entry at 200 baht, including two drinks. For more information, please visit: [amchamthailand.com](http://amchamthailand.com) or contact Sheree Tanpensuk ([sheree@amchamthailand.com](mailto:sheree@amchamthailand.com) or 02-254 1041, ext 212).

**March 8, 15, 22, 29; 7 to 11pm: Indian Curry Buffet at Navrang Mahal in Karon Sea Sands Resort**

All you can eat, authentic Indian curry buffet at 449 baht net per person. Come enjoy our cold Mango and Strawberry Lassi with our delicious Mutton Vindaloo, Dal Makhani, Bombay Aloo, Mutter Paneer, Butter Chicken, mouth-watering Chicken Tikka, Samosas, freshly baked Naans and more. For reservations contact Jaspal Singh on: 66-76-286464.

**March 9-31, 6:30 to 10:30am: Daily Breakfast on the beach at Moevenpick Bangtao**

You are invited to our Daily Breakfast on the beach. For reservations please call: 66-76-310400

**March 10, 8:30am to 8:30pm: Phuket Invitational Car Rally at Chalong Pier Beer Garden, Kan Eang**

Finding places in Phuket that you never knew existed, navigate through some of the most beautiful parts of this paradise island – all the time with safety and careful driving being foremost in mind! Organized by Car Rally professionals with years of experience, the course is set to take you over unusual roads and into uncharted country, whilst always ensuring that it is within the capabilities of any driver and vehicle so as to make it fun for all the family. Special lunchtime fun stop. This event is proudly sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette*, PGTV and 'Phuket Today', (see below right for showtimes). For more information contact Mr John Devenport on: 66-87-265 8845 or visit [phuketinvitational.com](http://phuketinvitational.com)

**March 14, 10am to 2pm: Phuket International Women's Club AGM and lunch at Le Meridien Phuket Resort & Spa**

The annual general meeting will take place at 10am, to be followed by lunch. All are welcome but non-members cannot vote. Come to both or join us for the lunch at 11:30am. Members: 500 baht, non-members: 650 baht. For more information email: [info@piwc.com](mailto:info@piwc.com)

**March 15, 5:30 to 10pm: Global Battle of Bands**

The Global Battle Of Bands (GBOB) is coming to Thailand! In its 9<sup>th</sup> year with 40 countries participating, it is the largest

such competition in the world. Bands must perform original songs. Thailand will have regionals in Phuket, Pattaya, Chiang Mai and Bangkok. National finals will be in Bangkok in June, and world finals will also be held in Bangkok in December. Valuable prizes are given to national winners and the world winner receives a package worth US\$100,000 and a world tour contract. It's an amazing opportunity for young bands. Entrance to the show is free, so don't miss it – March 15<sup>th</sup>. Please check back for updates. This event is sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette* and PGTV (see below right for showtimes).

**March 21-24, 11am to 7pm: Phuket International Boat Show (PIMEX) 2013 at Royal Phuket Marina**

PIMEX is Asia's premier annual boating and luxury lifestyle event. The 2013 show will be the biggest and best yet, with up to 60 yachts in the water, from 10-meters to 35m, and as many as 120 plus exhibiting companies representing over 250 brands worldwide. Products on display will range from boats to marine equipment and accessories, charter, diving and sailing holidays, and a wide range of luxury properties, super cars and other investment opportunities, together with other iconic branded goods. This annual event is proudly sponsored by

the *Phuket Gazette*, PGTV and 'Phuket Today', the island's only national television show (see below right for showtimes).

**March 30-31, 7:30pm to 1am: Shipwrecked Party at The Green Man, Chalong**

Come Join the Festivities at our Shipwrecked Party. Another Theme Party organized by the Phuket party Boyz. All proceeds will be donated to the Phuket Sunshine Village Foundation ([phuketsunshinevillage.org](http://phuketsunshinevillage.org)). Price: 999 baht (includes Western and Thai buffet plus three drink coupons). Don't miss this opportunity to help children in

need, simply by celebrating with us at the Shipwrecked party. Bring your friends, the more the merrier, and the more we can help the Phuket Sunshine Village children.

**April 13 to 15: Songkran Festival**

Songkran is the Thai New Year Festival also known as the 'Water Festival'. Held during the driest month in Thailand, Songkran is celebrated throughout the country pouring water on other people to wish them good luck for the New Year.

**May 5, Coronation Day**

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

**May 6, Substitution for Coronation Day (Public Holiday)**

**May 24, Visakha Bucha Day**  
Visakha Bucha Day is observed on the day of the full moon during the 6<sup>th</sup> lunar month, which usually falls in May or early June. It is a day to commemorate three important incidents: the birth, the enlightenment and the passing away of the Buddha.

**July 22, Arsarnha Bucha Day**

This full-moon day of the eighth lunar month commemorates the Buddha's first sermon to his disciples after attaining Enlightenment.

**THE SPONSORSHIP EXPERTS**  
[WWW.PAULPOOLE.CO.TH](http://WWW.PAULPOOLE.CO.TH)

**Phuket today**  
Phuket Gazette

Phuket Today is a 30-minute lifestyle show about Phuket. The show features resorts, villas, restaurants, yachts, private aircraft, nightlife, sports, leisure activities and events. Produced by PGTV, the television arm of the Phuket Gazette, the show is designed to promote Phuket to tourists and the international community resident in Thailand.

**Catch the show at these times**

<p><b>TrueVisions HD Channel 99</b> 8 shows a week - MCOT World</p> <p>Monday: 05:10am Tuesday: 11:10pm Wednesday: 10:10am Thursday: 01:10pm Friday: 04:10am &amp; 07:10pm Saturday: 01:10pm Sunday: 06:10pm</p>	<p><b>Phuket Cable Company (PC)</b> Covers all Phuket. <b>Channel 1 - 19 shows a week</b> Monday - Friday: 10:30am, 6:00pm, 9:00pm. Saturday &amp; Sunday: 10:30am, 9:10pm.</p>
<p><b>True Freeview Channel 58</b> 8 shows a week - MCOT World</p> <p>Monday: 05:10am Tuesday: 11:10pm Wednesday: 10:10am Thursday: 01:10pm Friday: 04:10am &amp; 07:10pm Saturday: 01:10pm Sunday: 06:10pm</p>	<p><b>Rawai Cable</b> Covers Rawai, Chalong, Kata, Karon. <b>Channel 1 - 28 shows a week</b> Monday - Sunday: 10:00am, 1:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm.</p> <p><b>Channel 43 - 8 shows a week</b> Monday: 05:10am Tuesday: 11:10pm Wednesday: 10:10am Thursday: 01:10pm Friday: 04:10am &amp; 07:10pm Saturday: 01:10pm Sunday: 06:10pm</p>

Online: [www.phuketgazette.net/tv](http://www.phuketgazette.net/tv) | [www.youtube.com/PGTVPhuket](http://www.youtube.com/PGTVPhuket)  
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# Please don't leave me here alone

PART of the joy of having a dog, is the tight bond we experience and encourage with them.



**Dog Whisperer**  
By Russell D Russell

However, Separation Anxiety (SA) or Isolation Anxiety (IA) in dogs can be a huge problem, and somewhat ironically, is a key reason why many dogs end up in animal shelters, or abandoned on the streets.

But one of the bigger problems is that it is also one of the most commonly misdiagnosed behaviors in dogs.

So, what's it all about?

Separation anxiety is found naturally in many canid species, particularly the more social species like domestic dogs. Such distress behaviors are beneficial to canine pups and exist to prevent them from wandering too far from the pack, and to assist the mother in locating the ones that do.

The relief and comfort of social contact reinforces the distress behaviors that a puppy displays. For example, puppy feels anxious, he whines for his mother, she comes back – puppy feels better.



Soi dog with an M150. Photo: Thai dogs

With most domestic dogs, the puppies are removed from their mothers and litter mates at an extremely early age when they are neither biologically nor psychologically ready to be on their own. This transition is usually harsh and abrupt, instead of smooth and gradual, and in the pup's new home things usually go one of two ways – both of which have pitfalls.

First, he may spend a lot of time by himself; be crated; confined; isolated during the day when his owners are at work and placed in a separate room over night.

Or, he is probably cuddled constantly, held, given endless attention and never left alone.

In the first instance, the pup may be traumatized by a lack of familiarity and isolation from the new pack (family) and this isolation provokes anxiety. The pup vocalizes continuously for an owner to return and starts to feel that he cannot control or predict his environment.

In the second instance, the pup never learns to be on his own and becomes totally dependent. This is the making of a neurotic animal.

It's also important to note that SA and IA are two different things. IA means the dog simply doesn't want to be left alone. Having any human for company will do, not necessarily the owner (I know people like this too). True SA means the dog is hyper-bonded to one specific person and will continue to demonstrate stress behaviors until that person returns – regardless of whether other people or dogs, are present.

Some dogs are more at risk than others.

There are certain aspects of a dog's history that may make them more susceptible to developing canine separation anxiety but since many of us have adopted "street dogs" from organizations such as PAWS, we generally have no idea what their histories are. However, while there are numerous risk factors, here is just a quick selection:

**Punitive Rearing Practices:** Sadly common here in Thailand. The general mass market for puppies is governed by quick money, rather than care for the animal or the breed. Thinking we're 'helping' the animal by buying it simply fuels the market. (Note: I appreciate the flip side of this argument and clearly this is a debate for another article!)

**Change in Routine:** from lots of time spent with you, to very little time. Dogs are masters of routine, so things like changing jobs, moving house, girlfriend moving in (or out), are all things that can upset their routine and trigger things like separation anxiety.

**Acute Awareness of Owners movements:** Does your dog follow you from couch to fridge, to kitchen counter and back to couch? Scratch the door of the loo whilst you're busy and then follow you to wherever you're heading next? Some owners think it's "cute" but it can be a serious neurological problem that needs to be addressed.

**Trauma:** A traumatic event experienced by a dog when he was alone could also lead to a development of SA, particularly if these negative experiences happened in the first few months of their lives. For example, if they were home alone during a loud thunderstorm, they may associate being alone with the onset of something scary.

What does it look like?

Your dog will typically anticipate the separation from associated cues in his environment. Your dog learns these cues, many of which are subliminal, from your pre-departure routine. The main things may be: alarm clock ringing, kids getting dressed, you picking up car keys.

The minor details show in your body language, things that we don't notice we're doing. The anxiety begins with the initial cue and steadily grows until you actually leave the house. To round it off, we can often exacerbate the situation by trying to pacify our dogs and tell them "I'll be back soon, I'll be OK".

Your dog, however, cannot control the situation so his frustration level rises and the distress grows steadily, peaking usually within 30 minutes from the time you left.



**ISSUES:** Separation anxiety in dogs can be caused either by leaving them alone too frequently (above) or coddling them. Photos: Tambako, TimothyJ



From there, anxiety levels slowly decline at a variable rate as a dog slowly recovers, but, any stimuli may re-sensitize him, such as another dog barking, a car driving by, or a delivery man coming to the door.

There are numerous signs and symptoms exhibited by SA, such as: excessive barking or whining; scratching or digging; chewing furniture doors, window frames or frantic pacing. An increased frequency in urination, wet footprints from sweaty paws, drooling or a highly exaggerated greeting routine are all symptoms to look for.

One of the reasons SA seems more prevalent today than a few decades ago, is that it is often misdiagnosed by the average pet owner.

However, just because the symptoms are there, doesn't mean your dog is suffering from it. For sure house soiling can be related to anxiety, but there are many other potential causes such as incomplete house training, lack of access to appropriate elimination areas, unreasonable owner expectations (expecting the dog to "hold it" for 10 hours or more), fear, excitement, marking, submissive elimination, or physical incontinence.

For more information on separation anxiety, or to enquire about training classes contact the Thailand Canine Academy on: 089 588 4050, email [canineworld@me.com](mailto:canineworld@me.com) or check the website [tk9a.com](http://tk9a.com)



**MILLION DOLLAR SMILE:** Take control of your dog's dental hygiene. Photo: jvc

## Taking care of your dog's teeth

JUST as we care for our teeth daily, our dogs should be no different. Being proactive with your dog will help prevent bad breath, gum disease, and oral infections. The these tips will help keep your dog's teeth and gums clean and healthy:

**Daily brushings at home:** Gently brushing your dog's teeth and gum line daily helps to remove any plaque buildup. If you don't brush your dog's teeth regularly,

the plaque mineralizes and forms hard tartar. Tartar becomes a spot for bacteria to collect, and the gum recedes from the tooth. If the depression around the tooth known as the sulcus deepens, it could result in severe gum disease.

**Professional cleaning:** Regular oral care and professional cleanings can also help keep your dog's chompers clean. Your vet can provide a thorough cleaning

and remove any tartar that regular brushings can't.

**Dental toys:** Chew toys can also help improve your dog's dental health. Chewing on a nylon or rubber toy helps to scrape away buildup on your dog's teeth.

**Warning signs:** You should take your dog to the vet if he has inflamed gums. It could be a sign of severe tooth problems. The most common sign of dental pain is lethargy.

# Klinchan Thahan

ONE of the three hosts of the *Good Morning Andaman* radio show, Klinchan Thahan, can be heard twice a week from 8 to 9am on 90.5 FM, Radio Thailand Phuket, wooing listeners with easy-listening tunes and updating us on national news and local events.

Although mostly known for her show and unique voice, deejaying is but one of Klinchan's many occupations. Her natural, outgoing personality complements her work as an interpreter, translator and event organizer.

"Hosting a radio show is fun," says Klinchan. "It's more like chatting to friends. Hard news can be difficult to digest, so whenever possible I try to tell stories, sharing my personal point of view and experiences, and it's good to get feedback from our listeners."

Klinchan, who hails from Nakorn Sri Thammarat, started her career in tourism after studying hotel and tourism management at Prince of Songkla University, Phuket. Her first job took her to the leading cruise line in the Asia-Pacific region, Star Cruises.

Working overseas has broadened Klinchan's outlook on life. Although it was like any other normal job with paperwork and customer services (she was assistant embarkation manager), it was a highly responsible position making sure that all passenger formalities at all ports

## THAI gallery

By Nanthapa Pengkasem

were taken care of.

Working in a multi-cultural environment aboard a cruise ship exposed her to many nationalities. "I called it 'The United Nations', learning to respect each other, work as a team and to accomplish our goals together," she says, reminiscing.

One of the most crucial moments of her job was verifying that all of the passengers were back on board the ship before departing a port. Klinchan says this built her confidence, as decisions had to be made instantly.

"Seasickness was common, but working harder and shifting my focus made it easier. Clocking in ten hours a day for ten months at a stretch was an enriching and interesting experience," she says.

Four years later, she returned to dry land to look after her mother.

She continued her career path in Phuket in the hospitality field, working as the guest services manager at Laguna Phuket and two golf clubs as a marketing manager before she began freelance work, as nine-to-five was not exactly what she was

looking for. "Work-life balance is very important for me; family, travel and my garden brightens my day. I grew up on a farm, helping and learning from my father. We planted everything, fruit, vegetables, rubber trees and even rice. Definitely an organic way of life. Even now, I chop trees with my big machete!

"In our family reading was important, newspapers and open discussions on current topics were common for us even at a young age. The love of reading has made me very much who I am today, I read the news on the radio now."

Having an excellent command of English, Klinchan is known among foreign news agencies as a capable interpreter and a local fixer. One of her recent achievements was organizing the 'Classical Music for Phuket's Youth 2012'. She says doing something for young people gave her a "buzz". The event was a success and spurred her to arrange the next concert, a thirty-piece orchestra celebrating His Majesty the King's royal compositions. "It's exciting and a huge challenge". This is for the people of Phuket to enjoy, it's truly beautiful music. Although Classical music is new to her, she finds it refreshing. In between classical concerts, there's always the easy-listening music and her *Good Morning Andaman* show.



### About Thai Gallery

The individuals profiled in "Thai Gallery" are chosen on the basis of their contributions to Phuket as an international community, and, often, for having made those contributions through successful social and/or working relationships with foreigners. This implies some foreign language skills and an interest in interacting with different cultures. They are people who in our experience help make the lives of expats far more enjoyable here than might be the case without them.

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# The digital blues of Phuket computing



Live Wire

By Woody Leonhard

OVER the years I've talked a lot about how computing in Phuket is different – what you can expect, what will never come to pass, how to work around a whole lot of problems. This week I want to share with you a couple of stories from some friends of mine, who got stung simply because they were trying to do something normal, but they were trying to do it in Phuket – which is anything but normal.

One friend wrote this tale of woe about Apple and its iTunes store:

"It's my son's birthday today and his aunt in Hong Kong sent him an iTunes gift card for HK\$500.

However, he cannot redeem it as his iTunes account is based in Thailand. He cannot open a Hong Kong iTunes account as he has no address there."

Another friend had a more, uh, complex interaction, with regards to his Kindle Fire. Here's the mail he sent to Amazon customer service:

"My friend bought a Kindle in the UK and wanted to give it to me as a family gift so that my two-year-old daughter could also use it as an educational device. However, the device is useless in Thailand.

We cannot even access free apps in the Kindle Store due to 'geographical constraints'.

This was learned only after going through the whole process of unregistering my friend as the registered user of the device and registering myself using my name as the new registered user – which ended up creating yet another Amazon email even though I already had one.

This created much more confusion as Amazon was not sure which version of *me* in Thailand was accessing the account – the me with the free Kindle e-reading app installed on my work computer, or the *me* accessing the Kindle Store through his brand-new Kindle Fire HD. You know, the one with its beautifully tailored operating system – said to be Android, but it's so specifically tweaked for Amazon's financial needs that Google Play and access to any so-called free apps are blocked. Well, at least in Thailand they are.

Registering a new user also removed access to any apps or data that was previously paid for and installed by my friend as part of the intended gift. So all that

money was thrown away thanks to the lack of warning from the Kindle and Amazon.

Amazon was kind enough not to allow any downloads, free or not – despite forcing me to register for a 1-Click account and then blocking all downloads with an error message instructing me to go to the *Country Settings* in the *Manage My Kindle* section in the Amazon account pages.

Not confusing enough? Even when I changed my current address in Thailand to an alternate address in the UK, I still get the same error message.

Considering the current blocked status of attempting to use a Kindle Fire HD in Thailand, I am guessing Amazon is not aiming at the Thai market or the tens of thousands of expats living in the country – or anyone thinking of bringing their brand-new Kindle Fire while they are on holiday or



The Kindle Fire is useless in Thailand. Photo: Hapshaw

on a business trip to Thailand.

This is a very interesting concept for a product launch, especially now that I see kindle.co.th is "under construction".

Also, it seems to be a very odd strategy considering that Thai IT dealers are advertising on their websites that the Kindle Fire HD is available for just under 10,000 baht."

Both Apple and Amazon – two of the biggest names in online retailing – are completely and utterly inept when it comes to dealing with Thailand. There are a myriad of reasons why: distribution agreements, copyright overlaps and simple lethargy are ones that immediately come to mind. The fact is that Apple and Amazon, in particular, are still fighting battles on potentially enormously lucrative countries, such as Japan and China, and we in Thailand are way, way, way back on the sucking end of the stick.

I had the same problem when I first started using iTunes. I was naïve enough to sign up for an iTunes account using a Thai bank debit card. I shortly discovered that I couldn't download about 90 per cent of the stuff I wanted to download – music and kids games, mostly – because those aren't offered in Thailand.

Here's the hard part to swallow. Apple doesn't care where you're located physically. If you have a US-registered iTunes account and you travel to Thailand, for example, you can download anything from the US store while you're in Thailand, get updates and patches, and generally carry on as if you were sitting in a developed country. Imagine that.

But if you have a Thailand-registered iTunes account, you can't download all sorts of stuff, no matter where you're located. Even if you're logged on to iTunes while sitting next to Tom "We'll keep the light on for ya" Bodett in a Miami Motel 6, you're forced to work with the Thailand iTunes store. You're a second-class netizen. Your account's nationality controls what you can and cannot see in the store – much less what you can and cannot download.

Apple has all sorts of reasons for making those restrictions, but in this day and age, the excuses seem mighty stale. A song, for example, may belong to a specific record label, and that label may have an exclusive distribution license with a Thai company. A game may have a distributor in Thailand. There are royalties to consider, cuts to be cleared. International licensing is a nasty game, and that's why iTunes has very strict limitations, dependent on the "nationality" of the account holder. Where, in this case, "nationality" is defined as "the country of the bank branch that issued the credit or debit card you used to set up the account."

Amazon's no better. When I first got my Kindle Fire (which I love, by the way), I had all sorts of problems trying to figure out why it wouldn't work right with my wife's Thailand-based Amazon account. Then I remembered the iTunes problems, kicked myself, switched the registered owner over to my name (and my US debit card based account), and I only lost the amount of money I had spent with the Kindle logged on to my wife's account.

Is there a solution? Sure. Cheat. Get a credit or debit card in the US. Failing that, get one in Europe (although Europeans have long moaned about precisely this problem, there's enough money involved that we're finally seeing some improvement in European cross-licensing). And get a mailing address to go along with the card. No doubt you've encountered that problem before, and know how to solve it.



COUNT TO TEN: Customer service can be overwhelming. Photo: oragami potato

Right now, Amazon only sells Kindles in the UK, France, Monaco, Germany, Austria, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Italy, San Marino, Vatican, Switzerland, and Spain – so if you want a Kindle that's more than a brick, you need to set up an Amazon account with a credit/debit card and address from one of those countries. I've also heard that there are problems crossing country lines – signing up a US-bought Kindle with the Amazon UK account, for example – but I think most of those problems have been resolved.

Apple sells iPads and iPhones everywhere except North Korea, I think, so you'll be able to set up an iTunes account that will work in any country on Earth – but you won't have access to the breadth of offerings available in, say, the US. For example, the iTunes Match service, which lets you "upload" your music to Apple, and have it available on all of your iPhones, iPads and Macs, was originally only available in the US. A month later, it expanded to 17 countries. It's now available in almost a hundred countries, including Thailand –

but if you had a Thai-based iTunes account, you couldn't get in during the first, second or third waves of the rollout.

*Our regular weekly computer clinic roundtables continue every Sunday morning, 10am at Sandwich Shoppe Chalong. If you have a Windows problem that needs to be solved, or a question about internet service in Phuket, drop by and ask one of the assembled gurus. It's always free. Sponsored by the Phuket Gazette and Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppes.*

**We're moving the Sandwich Shoppe - Patong to Kathu in the next few weeks, and starting a new Sandwich Shoppe Express in Kata in the coming months. Stay tuned for more info about our new locations, and computer gatherings, as events unfold.**

*Live Wire is Phuket Gazette columnist Woody Leonhard's weekly snapshot of all things internet in Phuket. Shoot him mail at Woody@KhunWoody.com, follow him on Twitter, @PhuketLiveWire, or "like" his page at facebook.com/SandwichShoppe.*

## U-Content world record

APPLE announced last week that iTunes Ucontent downloads have topped one billion. iTunes U features the world's largest online catalog of free educational content from top schools and prominent libraries, museums and organizations helping educators create courses for users around the world.

"It's inspiring to see what educators and students of all types are doing with iTunes U," said Eddy Cue, Apple's senior vice president of Internet Software and Services. "With the content offered on iTunes U, students can learn like never before. There are now iTunes U courses with more than 250,000

students enrolled in them, which is a phenomenal shift in the way we teach and learn."

More than 1,200 universities and 1,200 primary and secondary schools host over 2,500 public courses worldwide, along with thousands of private courses, in the arts, sciences, health and medicine, education, business and more. Leading universities such as Duke, Yale, Cambridge, MIT and Oxford have enrolled more than 100,000 students. Over 60 per cent of iTunes U app downloads originate from outside the US, giving schools the ability to share their content with a worldwide audience. – *Phuket Gazette*

# The rime of the ancient mariner

## Two bellwethers of our ecosystem: the albatross and the leatherback turtle

By Patrick Campbell

AT THE end of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, and just after the bloodbath of the French Revolution, Coleridge wrote a narrative poem called “*The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*.” A wonderful poem in its own right, it contains a pertinent lesson for our time. It chronicles how a sailor shot an albatross, a pervasive harbinger of good luck, thereby shattering the sacred bond between man and nature, and thus incurring the fury of the elemental spirits. Forced to wear the dead bird around his neck, the mariner endures several terrifying ordeals including the loss of his entire crew.

At length, he blesses some water snakes in an “*acte gratuit*”, thereby showing he has intuitively reestablished a sense of kinship with even the lowliest of natural creatures. He is “shrived” (forgiven) by a holy man, and returns to civilization. The poem concludes: “A sadder and a wiser man / He rose the morrow morn.”

The 21<sup>st</sup> century albatross is fortunately still alive, but alas not so well. This magnificent bird with

a maximum wing span of over ten feet and a capacity to circumnavigate the globe, is still suffering at the hand of man, from man’s exponential misuse of the planet.

Every year more than 100,000 die, many from ingesting hooks from



Leatherback turtles from the Andaman Sea. Photo: dolanh

baited long lines. You could add that overfishing, loss of habitat, plus the introduction of rats and feral cats to many far flung islands, have also been major factors in this decline. Whatever the reason, of twenty-one species of albatross, nineteen are now endangered.

Consider this. There is a small atoll, only

2.4 miles square, in the North Pacific Ocean, midway between America and China, which the globe-winging albatross regards as a haven, a staging post remote enough to rear its single chick. A good choice? It once was. But now twenty tons of debris is deposited on Midway Atoll’s beaches every year. It comes, as it does on Phuket’s shoreline, from ships’ refuse, from offshore dumping, from litter discarded on beaches, from waste carried down rivers or simply allowed to seep into the ocean. Of this squalid gift, five tons is plastic.

The albatross, which feeds at night and principally on squid and krill which swim close to the surface, frequently mistakes the bobbing, brightly colored bits of plastic for food, and ingests them. Many of these items are, needless to say, plastic lighters.

And here’s the rub. The adult albatross, and 70 per cent of the world’s entire population of Layan albatross breed on Midway, regurgitates these objects and feeds them to its chick. But this fledgling cannot regurgitate such alien things until it is nearly five months old.

The indigestible and often toxic objects stay in the gut and the young bird dies with the inevitability of a tragic heroine. Unlike the ancient mariner, it has no prospect of salvation.

Thus this majestic creature, like so many species of bird, mam-

mal, reptile, or plant, is a bellwether of the world’s ecological health.

If the seas are polluted, then the whole food chain, and everything – including the high-flying albatross and low-lying man – is affected.

Take Racha Island. On a visit to this sparsely inhabited island south of Phuket,



FLOTSAM AND JETSAM: Man-made debris is a threat to marine wildlife. Photo: B Hoffman

the NRE (Dept of Natural Resources and Environment ) recently checked water quality, at the point where rivulets enter the sea. Three tests found that the levels of coliform bacteria were around 300 times – yes 300 times – the maximum for good quality water.

The island is a microcosm of what has already happened in Phuket. On Racha, and remember that Racha is a newly “developed island”, a recent survey found that a resort was spewing out untreated sewage onto the beach area and thence to the sea. No septic tanks, no nothing. Plastic for sure, and lots more unmentionables. The impact on fragile marine ecosystems can be imagined.”

The albatross gives us a global perspective, but sea-turtles are a key indicator of the health of our own Andaman Sea. Egg poaching has become such a problem that they have to be removed and incubated in safe surroundings. But indestructible trash further affects the turtle’s capacity to dig nests and lay its eggs, while resort encroachment and consequent pollution has meant extensive loss of breeding grounds.

Almost every week, we hear of dead turtles strangled by nylon nets, rendered flipper-less by propeller blades, or laid low by guts full of – you guessed it – indigestible plastic.

The problem is most acute with the

leatherback, the largest and rarest of turtles. This majestic, 500 kilogram creature, has been, like the albatross, patrolling these seas for hundreds of millions of years.

For aeons, the long open beaches of north east Phuket and Phang-Nga have been a sanctuary to which leatherbacks have returned to breed. Fewer and fewer now return. In the blink of an eye, the leatherback’s numbers worldwide are estimated to have dropped to 2,300.

And plastic is one of the main villains of the piece. Leatherbacks feed mainly on jellyfish, easily confused with a submerged plastic bag. A bellyful of this rubbish is just as lethal to a massive turtle as it is to a defenseless albatross chick.

On Nai Harn Beach, I have encountered used syringes and needles, plastic lighters, flip-flops, tar-laden plastic engine parts, as well as the ubiquitous bags, water bottles and cigarette butts. All more-or-less indestructible, all with the potential to give off toxins such as DEHP or BPA.

The problem is not just the “Pacific Garbage Patch”, a mass of granulated plastic the size of Texas, or even the fluorescent lighters of Mid-Way Atoll, it is *right here*. And right now, action at all levels from classroom to cabinet is urgently needed. We may, like the Mariner, be sadder, but are we becoming any the wiser?



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GET THE MESSAGE? A club with a lot of members. Photo: Isaac Stone Simonelli

## Signs of the times



CREATIVE GROOMING: What else would you use to wash your feet? Photo: Massimo Reverberi

## What makes us human?



SCIENTISTS say that the DNA of chimpanzees is 96-98 per cent identical to that of humans. This is not surprising. All you have to do is look at a chimp to tell that it is a smaller, hairier, and uglier version of a human. I see people who might easily be mistaken for chimpanzees all the time on my frequent pilgrimages to Bangkok's world-famous Nana Entertainment Plaza (motto: "Center of the Known Universe"). Indeed, I myself have often been a victim of this misperception. This raises a profound philosophical question: What makes us human?

Scientists believe that our genes make us human. But there is a deeper answer to this question that transcends mere genetics – an answer that will thrill the hearts of humanists throughout the world.

The thing that distinguishes us from other primates – the thing that REALLY makes us human –

is that we drink beer.

Yes! You will never see a chimpanzee drinking beer – unless a human is feeding it to him. You will never see other primates drinking beer; not the monkeys, nor the gibbons, nor the orangutans. *Mighty Joe Young* did not drink beer. *King Kong* did not drink beer (although I bet he could have used a cold one when he was up on the Empire State Building being strafed by fighter planes).

You will never see a chimpanzee popping its head into any of the many fine entertainment venues that grace the Nana Plaza. You might see somebody who looks like one, though.

[Editor's note: It would probably be the author.]

One of the genes that distinguish us from the apes is the one that enables us to walk upright. Why do we walk upright? To get more quickly to the fridge for a beer.

Another such gene enables us to speak. Why do we speak? To request the wife, when we are feeling slothful, to nip out to the fridge and get us a beer.

In fact, all our higher functions have evolved in response to our

need for beer. It has inspired our greatest technological breakthroughs. Why did we learn how to make fire? So that we'd have something warm to sit around while drinking beer. Why did we invent the wheel? So that we could drive to the liquor store and stock up on beer. Why the computer? So that we could access beer-oriented websites and laugh at beer jokes. Without beer, we would lack even our simplest inventions.

Why did we invent chairs? So that we could sit down while drinking beer. Why tables? To have something to rest our beer on. Why money? To pay for the beer. The toilet would never have been invented if *Man the Inebriated* had not required a vessel to throw up into after a night of beery excess. Even trousers were invented specifically to muffle the sound of beer farts.

Yes, dear reader, it is drinking beer that distinguishes us from the apes. Let's drink to that.

*Ye Olde Curmudgeon can be flamed c/o s.tsow@ymail.com, except when he's trying to teach chimpanzees to drink beer.*

## How to obtain 0% in an exam

Q: In which battle did Napoleon die?

A: His last battle.

Q: Where was the Declaration of Independence signed?

A: At the bottom of the page.

Q: River Ravi flows in which state?

A: Liquid.

Q: What is the main reason for divorce?

A: Marriage.

Q: What is the main reason for failure?

A: Exams [like this one].

Q: What can you never eat for breakfast?

A: Lunch and dinner.

Q: What looks like half an apple?

A: The other half.

Q: If you throw a red stone into the blue sea what it will become?

A: It will simply become wet.

Q: How can a man go eight days without sleeping?

A: No problem, he sleeps at night.

Q: How can you lift an elephant with one hand?

A: You will never find an elephant that has only one hand.

Q: If you had three apples and four oranges in one hand and four apples and three oranges in the other hand, what would you have?

A: Very large hands.

Q: If it took eight men ten hours to build a wall, how long would it take four men to build it?

A: No time at all, the wall is already built.

Q: How can you drop a raw egg onto a concrete floor without cracking it?

A: Any way you want, concrete floors are very hard to crack.

Submitted by Vermyn R Carrion.

### Your weekly pith:

"Any fool can criticize, condemn and complain – and most fools do."  
– Dale Carnegie

"Drawing on my fine command of language, I said nothing."  
– Winston Churchill

These quotes were taken from Ian Hewitt's book 'Quotes' for prosperity.

## Phuket Fire Hydrant



At least there's no glass to break. Photo: Isaac Stone Simonelli



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# A historical book on Phuket

COLIN Mackay's *A History of Phuket and the Surrounding Region* (White Lotus, Bangkok, 2012, 418pp) is a magnificent achievement: a towering work of erudition leavened with sly humor and fascinating side-bars. While destined to be the standard reference text for the island's history, the book is so vividly written that it deserves to be a raging best-seller.

Mackay covers the early waves of migration down the Malay peninsula – Negrito, Malay, Mon, Burmese, Thai – until the dawn of empires: Funan spreading from Vietnam, Srivjaya from Sumatra and Chola from the Tamil Coromandel coast of India.

The latter two empires clashed in an epic battle near Ipoh in 1026, as described by a temple inscription, "written with all the natural histrionic and vain-glorious clichés of early Indian inscriptions, which related history in much the same style as Bollywood movies do today".

Next, it was the turn of the Mon-Khmer from Pagan to occupy Phuket from 1058 till 1210 when Burma was sacked by the Mongols, leaving, "a pit of infighting between snarling Shans, Mon and Burmese warlords".

The people of Phuket were always treated abominably and they often rose up and slaughtered their occupiers to a man. This happened to the Cholas and the Sri Lankans. Mackay characterized the governance of Phuket as "dictatorship tempered by assassination".

Then the Thais arrived in 1293, during the reign of King Ramkamhaeng, and hung on for good, though the population remained mostly Malay.

For hundreds of years afterward, Phuket stagnated, ravaged by pirates and oppressed by rapacious Thai governors who robbed

## Books

By James Eckardt



**CHINATOWN:** Chong Talay Main Street in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. It was a typical Chinese mining settlement on Phuket in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Before Thailand formed in 1939, Siamese Phuket's population was almost entirely Chinese. One British memo in 1885 estimated that some 45,000 Chinese lived on the island compared to around 1000 Thais and Malays.

with impunity. A scattering of Malay fishing villages on the coast and a trio of Thai hamlets in the interior were hemmed in jungle.

In 1687, an English sea captain observed of Phuket: "There is nothing beautiful, good, rare nor curious in this place. One sees on all sides only impenetrable jungle full of tigers, wild elephants and rhinoceros which we eat sometimes in place of beef."

At sea, pirates ruled. On September 29, 1544, four Portuguese pirate captains infesting the Surin Islands defeated a Thai fleet captained by an Ottoman mercenary. There were Malay, Sea Gypsy, Japanese and Chinese pirates. Most fearsome of all were the Bugis from the Celebes and the Illanun from the Sula Sea, who rampaged for booty and slaves from 1600 to 1850. In iron helmets and chainmail, aboard double-decker 100-foot galleys rowed by slaves, they were the Vikings of the age.

Meanwhile, the Burmese sacked Phuket time and time again throughout the 18<sup>th</sup> century

until 1810. Peace came only when the British seized the Tennessemerim coast from the Burmese and steamships from Penang, Malacca and Singapore finally brought piracy under control. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Phuket was occupied by a legion of Chinese tin miners and entered into its golden age. Rubber plantations also spread and the jungle retreated.

Mackay focuses upon two interrelated Chinese families, the Tans and the Khaws, who in making their tin fortunes assumed civic authority and brought forth roads, bridges, sanitation, police stations, hotels, mansions, banks, clubs, schools, hospitals, cinemas, steamships, automobiles and Phuket's first ice factory.

British, Australian and Dutch companies joined the local Chinese families in launching massive tin dredgers that raised Thailand to the world's top tin producer in 1940. The next big development happened in the 1980s as Phuket switched from tin to tourism, sparking a boom in infrastructure and employment.

The Asian Crisis of 1997 brought on the drastic devaluation of the baht and prompted, "the next mad rush of greedy immigrants who arrived in Phuket at the start of the 21<sup>st</sup> century – the foreign property developers". Housing for foreigners popped up "like acne". Land prices skyrocketed.

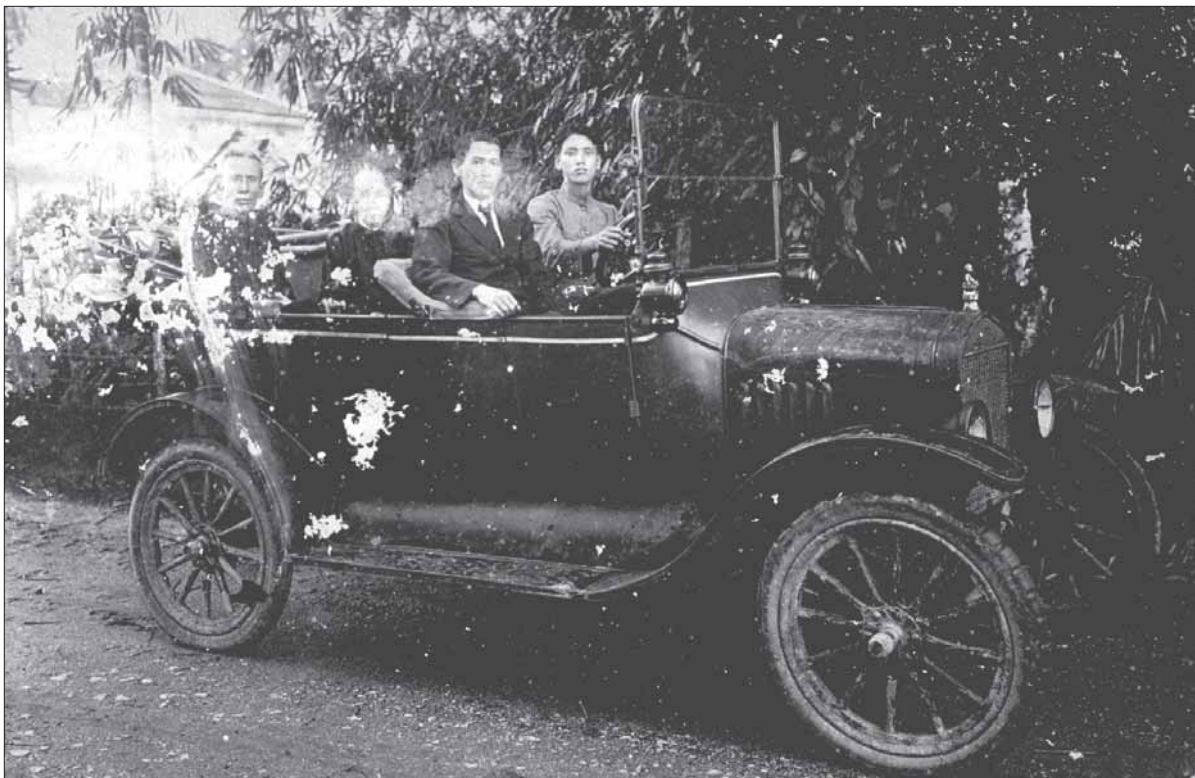
But many of these resident foreigners – who now make up 10 per cent of Phuket's population – have married into the local population and a new generation of "look krueng" promise a fruitful future for Phuket. As an example, Mackay displays a photo of his own two half-Thai daughters.



**LABOR OF LOVE:** Colin Mackay first visited Phuket in 1985 and moved here permanently in 1998. Photo: Marc Mulloy

Photos abound in this handsome volume, as do maps and old illustrations. With a large, hardbound, tome of glossy

pages, the publisher White Lotus has outdone itself. Mackay's history is not only a fascinating read but a collector's item.



**TRAFFIC:** Phuket's first car in 1902. This car was purchased by Koi Somboon a Hokkien Chinese Immigrant who started in Phuket with a small confectionery shop and ended up a wealthy tin mine owner.



**WILDLIFE:** A tiger shot in Chong Talay in 1965 by Police Lt Col Toksakan Thawan (with gun). Until the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the island was cloaked in forest and abounded in wildlife such as elephants, tigers, rhinoceri, black panthers, crocodiles, tapirs, bears etc. The last recorded tiger shot on Phuket was in Kamala in 1974, but reports of tiger sightings in the Kathu hills continued until the early 1990s.



FASHIONABLE FOLIAGE: Variegated *schefflera arboricola* or umbrella plant (above). Left, pink and purple caricature plant. Photo: dinesh valke and Jim Harding

# Camouflaging and covering up

IF YOU strolled round the average Phuket garden with the proud owner, he might be forgiven for protesting: "What, do you want yet *more* foliage plants!?"

But remember that at this time of year, apparently evergreen trees and shrubs start to drop leaves in an attempt to conserve energy, and prevent excessive water loss through transpiration.

Others simply give up the ghost. So when patches of bare soil do inevitably appear, there is nothing better than colorful and evergreen foliage to paper over the cracks.

*Schefflera arboricola*, a native of Taiwan, is ideal for this purpose. Often grown as an indoor plant – testament to its hardiness – *schefflera* is a bushy, evergreen variegated shrub that will not only thrive in hot, dry conditions, but will also cope with the absence of direct sunlight. Full shade will probably mean the loss of the yellow and green patterning, but it will probably survive.

Oddly, it is related to the ginseng, a plant whose dried root was much favored by oriental gentlemen before they discovered the more exotic and costly delights of powdered rhinoceros horn, tigers' testicles and other quaint and useless aphrodisiacs.

But I digress. More to the point,

*schefflera* has stylish leaves composed of rounded, glossy leaflets arranged in a whorl and held on long stems.

Hence its common name of umbrella plant.

It makes a big, dense bush and in the right conditions, can reach six or seven feet. I have a specimen in a large ceramic pot, which was strategically placed in order to camouflage an unsightly plastic water tank in the garden beyond. Already it has more-or-less blotted the tank from our view. "Jacqueline" is a newer cultivar, with dramatic blotches of bright yellow and green foliage. Every leaf has a different pattern of variegation.

As with the majority of foliage plants, the flowers of *schefflera* are relatively



unmemorable, but *S actinophylla* bears small red flowers on arresting spikes, which radiate outwards.

Rich in nectar, these flowers act as a magnet for bees and butterflies.

Talking of camouflage, I always think that my next foliage plant, the so-called 'caricature plant', might be more accurately described as the camouflage plant. Why? Because its leaves are blotched with buff yellow and green, in exactly the same way as the "military" gear much favored by today's fashion-conscious youth.

Native to the South Pacific, *graftophyllum pictum*, to give it the full botanical treatment, is less bushy than the umbrella plant and has a narrower and more erect habit. The conventional and often wavy leaves,

moreover, are large, elliptical and sprout from opposite sides of each stem.

Many cultivars have been developed over the years, so the original blotched khaki look has been superseded by varieties sporting more exotic attire – purple/bronze, deep-green mingled with white, yellow, pink and purple.

It may almost be said to rival the *acalypha* or 'Jacob's Coat' in its startling range of unusual hues.

But remember to propagate from cutting if you want to ensure the same color variations in succeeding generations.

There is an Australian species, *excelsum*, which, strictly speaking does not belong here.

Grown primarily for its profuse blooms, the scarlet fuchsia bush has dark green, glossy leaves and deep red and curved tubular flowers produced in the leaf axils. Apparently it is very hardy and grows freely to tree height among limestone outcrops in Queensland.

I have only seen one specimen in a Phuket garden – a pity, since it should do well in this amenable climate.

How many times have I said that.

If you have a question or a garden that you would like featured, you can email me anytime at: [drpaccampbell@gmail.com](mailto:drpaccampbell@gmail.com)



Arboricola flower. Photo: tree species

## Tip of the Week Monarch butterflies and milkweed

A COLLEAGUE, intrigued by the appearance of myriads of monarch butterflies around a particular shrub near his home, asked me if I knew why.

My guess, which proved to be correct, was that these were varieties of monarchs – probably tigers – that were using the shrub to feed off the nectar, and to deposit their eggs.

The plant favored by these butterflies is the Indian milkweed (*calotropis gigantea*) which produces large, grey-green leaves, the favorite diet of monarch caterpillars.

Personally, I grow this shrub/small tree for a range of reasons. It not only provides leafy food



Monarch butterfly. Photo: D Govoni

for beautiful-to-be butterflies, but also, has dense clusters of white or purplish, crown-shaped florets, which are a fragrant source of nectar. The flowers are, moreover, long-lasting, a reason why they are used in floral garlands. The shrub is extremely hardy and is one of the easiest to strike from cuttings.

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

## COFFEE break

**Across:**

- 9. Not neat, it upset careful consideration (9)
- 10. Suffering, solicit to obliterate (5,3)
- 12. Proper proportional representation I'm showing (4)
- 13. Me, care about a cluster of little flowers? (6)
- 14. Oh, OK, ask around for National Park in Phang Na (4,3)
- 15. Freedom from obligation from next poem I spoiled (9)
- 17. Ungainly line a gent messed up (9)
- 18. Part of sect I forward (7)
- 20. Make happy place, relieve! (6)
- 21. Rove around above (4)
- 24. Father, depart once again

- for Polynesian capital (4,4)
- 26. Acceptable to perhaps bless a Personal Assistant first (8)
- 28. Sure, could be the employer (4)
- 29. Saint may be about right kind (6)
- 31. Now for a gift (7)
- 34. Not concerned with finance, new con fails woefully (3,6)
- 36. In the East, merit tax, arrange additional period of play (5,4)
- 38. Oh, a ramp involving ripe palm nut in Thailand! (7)
- 39. I put me about to ascribe (6)
- 40. I had nothing left for the object of devotion (4)
- 41. Credit naught, M'sieur, the French church is a prehistoric monument (8)
- 42. One moves North, sings about bright advertisements (4,5)

**Down:**

- 1. Light river, yes maybe find parasitic fish (8)

1		2			3		4		5		6		7		8	
9									10							
																11
12					13						14					
15					16					17						
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28					29			30				31				32
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34		35								36					37	
38								39						40		
	41									42						

- 2. Priest worked in band (6)
- 3. Work, and I toil, widening (8)
- 4. Fashionable bird a practical trainee (6)
- 5. Craving pie, pet, at distribution (8)
- 6. Indispositions from poorly heads (10)
- 7. Old ship in stream, moving out East (7)
- 8. For us, Sir, a change in the country (6)
- 11. Shifting stakes out right for those moving on the ice (7)
- 16. Rip son out of jail (6)
- 19. Stretch neck to find bird (5)
- 20. Public relations, nothing in favor (3)
- 22. Think highly of the socially acceptable in the vale (5)
- 23. Picture taker came upon Rear Admiral (6)
- 25. Hot racks, i.e., arranged for vegetables (10)
- 26. Strongly criticize Greek god (3)
- 27. Sure man, change the cognomens! (7)
- 30. Everything correct, O.K.? (3,5)
- 31. Earnest request not pie, it turned out (8)
- 32. With no woods, eels rest uneasily (8)
- 33. Three dimensional representation from radio broadcast, Mother (7)
- 35. Table linen not applicable for each yacht (6)
- 36. Pay out old girlfriend past finish (6)
- 37. I move doing color (6)

**Cryptic crossword compiled by Patong Bill. Answers on page 31**

**PISCES (Feb 20-March 20):**

Routine may seem dull this week, but it gives Pisceans perspective to appreciate what is out of the ordinary. The stars suggest keeping an eye on subtle developments at work as these will hint at future possibilities. In the realm of romance, confusing signals from an air sign are best ignored; this mood will soon blow over. Those with a birthday in the week ahead will find more balance during the coming year.

**ARIES (March 21-April 20):**

Family or friends are forecast to call on your support this week. Arians may have to put their own demands on hold, but the stars advise remembering times that others have been ready to help them. Higher stakes at work mean that you will have to keep up – a water sign has been active behind the scenes. Wednesday and Thursday are auspicious days to gain the knowledge you need.

**TAURUS (April 21-May 21):**

A burst of energy this week can spark those born under the sign of Taurus into starting more projects than they can finish. Involving other earth signs is promising, but

a water sign's interest will be short lived. Your outlook on life is lighter as the middle of the month approaches; the stars suggest that it will be easier to see that your glass is half full, rather than the other way around.

**GEMINI (May 22-June 21):**

Many of those born under the sign of Gemini will be seeking new ways to burn energy this week. Physical activity and sport are well starred and this is highlighted to broaden your social life too. A career-related decision that has been difficult to make should be obvious by the middle of March – a fire sign's insight can help to tip the balance. Sparkling days for romance are Sunday and Monday.

**CANCER (June 22-July 23):**

It can be a challenge to navigate towards where you want to go this week. Astral influences are likely to cause diversions which can waste Cancerians' time. Romance will be on a smoother path during the second half of March after some heated moments during the coming days. Where money matters are concerned, another water sign's hard luck story could persuade you to part with more cash than you can spare.

## YOUR horoscope

By Isla Star

**LEO (July 24-Aug 22):**

Cash flow issues can become a source of stress for those born under the sign of Leo this week. The stars suggest that you should not act on impulse; buying expensive household items may be tempting, but it would be wise to wait until later in March. Your flair for design is appreciated by others – creativity is well starred and learning new skills can enhance your earning potential.

**VIRGO (Aug 23-Sept 23):**

Strong willpower is an asset for Virgoans this week. The stars advise that this is an ideal time to embark on the exercise routine you have been avoiding. Your romantic outlook is fairly non-eventful, but this probably suits you down to the ground. Those attracted to a water sign realize that this person is too high maintenance for their taste. If your partner is an air sign, they will appreciate being given space this weekend.

**LIBRA (Sept 24-Oct 23):**

This is an auspicious week for Librans to achieve more. The stars suggest that your capacity for hard work will guarantee a place amongst front runners in the world of work. However, there are also hints that you won't be missing out on fun as another air sign in your social circle has big plans for the weekend. Romance is predicted to be exciting around the middle of March.

**SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22):**

Picking up the pieces caused by others' mistakes is likely to irritate some Scorpios this week. Where work is concerned, this can be caused by another water sign's lack of attention to detail; in the realm of romance, a fire sign partner's forgetfulness is forecast to add complications to travel arrangements. Those who are single and seeking may start to see an earth sign friend in a different light.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21):**

Sagittarians shouldn't be prepared to settle for second best this week. The stars recommend setting your sights higher to ensure that you get all you deserve – and possibly more. At work, another fire sign will respect your decision to wait

before agreeing to more responsibilities. On a personal level, an air sign partner's sensitive mood this weekend requires tactful handling. Lucky days for finances are Monday and Tuesday.

**CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20):**

You will have reason to realize that you can't always get what you want this week. The stars recommend lowering expectations to avoid disappointment – where money matters are concerned, a payment is likely to be less than anticipated. Lonely heart Capricorns are advised to follow their feelings this week. Another earth sign's interest is genuine, no matter what you hear to the contrary. Sunday is an auspicious day for a first date.

**AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19):**

If the social scene is disappointing, the stars recommend that Aquarians will be energized by spending more time at home. Clearing out unused items allows fresh energy to flow through your domestic environment. Where affairs of the heart are concerned, dreams can hold hidden meaning. A relationship with another air sign is worth a second chance, but long distance love with an earth sign is likely to fizzle out.

# International Sport

## All to play for in Six Nations

GLASGOW Warriors flyhalf Duncan Weir will make his first start for Scotland in Saturday's Six Nations championship match against Wales at Murrayfield after replacing Ruaridh Jackson in the squad announced on Tuesday.

Weir, 21, who has won his three previous caps from the bench, is one of two changes to the starting lineup who defeated Ireland in the last round.

British and Irish Lions tighthead prop Euan Murray, who missed the Ireland match because he does not play on Sundays for religious reasons, replaces Geoff Cross who returns to the bench.

"It's a moment I'll cherish and hopefully I can do the coaches justice for giving me the start," Weir told the Scottish Rugby Union website.

Scotland interim head coach Scott Johnson said Weir had played well after coming on as a replacement in the 12-8 win over Ireland on February 24.

"He's a talent with a really good work ethic and a thirst to improve, which I like a lot," Johnson said.

"Geoff was a standout against Ireland and it's up to Euan, who fronted up big time against Italy, to raise the bar again."

Scotland, who have beaten Italy and Ireland after losing to England in the first round, share second place in the standings with Wales on four points. England, the only unbeaten team with two rounds remaining, head the table with six points.

**Team:** 15-Stuart Hogg, 14-Sean Maitland, 13-Sean Lamont, 12-Matt Scott, 11-Tim Visser, 10-Duncan Weir, 9-Greig Laidlaw, 8-Johnnie Beattie, 7-Kelly Brown (captain), 6-Robert Harley, 5-Jim Hamilton, 4-Richie Gray, 3-Euan Murray, 2-Ross Ford, 1-Ryan Grant.

**Replacements:** 16-Dougie Hall, 17-Murray Low, 18-Geoff Cross, 19-Alastair Kellock, 20-Ryan Wilson, 21-Henry Pyrgos, 22-Ruaridh Jackson, 23-Max Evans.

Ireland flyhalf Jonathan Sexton has been ruled out of his side's Six Nations championship match against France on Saturday through injury, leaving a place open for either Paddy Jackson or Ian Madigan.

Coach Declan Kidney, who named the remainder of his team on Tuesday, will decide whether to give Leinster's Madigan his debut or retain Ulster's Jackson who struggled with place kicking in his debut against Scotland last time out.

Elsewhere, Fergus McFadden comes in on the wing for the injured Craig Gilroy, Mike McCarthy returns after injury to the second row and Cian Healy is back at loosehead prop after serving a one-match suspension.

"Just before I walked in the decision was taken to withdraw Johnny Sexton but that



Scotland's fortunes have improved since they lost to England in the first round. England's Chris Robshaw is tackled by Scotland's Tim Visser and Ruaridh Jackson. Photo: Reuters.

Paddy will be good to go at training on Thursday," Kidney told a news conference, referring to a tight hamstring that kept Jackson from training on Tuesday.

"Paddy trained in the position yesterday, Ian trained there this morning and I'm sure they'll both be available on Thursday and we'll then make the call."

The defeat to Scotland, Ireland's second loss in three matches in this season's campaign, has piled the pressure on Kidney who oversaw a disappointing Six Nations last year and is out of contract this year.

Sexton, bound for French side Racing Metro next season, should be fit for Ireland's final outing against Italy along with Ulster wing Gilroy who will train again later this week after suffering a groin injury, Kidney added.

McFadden, who has not been part of the match day squad this year but who has place kicked for Leinster, leapfrogged club mate Luke Fitzgerald to start in place of Gilroy.

**Team:** 15-Rob Kearney, 14-Fergus McFadden, 13-Brian O'Driscoll, 12-Luke Marshall, 11-Keith Earls, 10-Paddy Jackson/Ian Madigan, 9-Conor Murray, 8-Jamie Heaslip (captain), 7-Sean O'Brien, 6-Peter O'Mahony, 5-Donnacha Ryan, 4-Mike McCarthy, 3-Mike Ross, 2-Rory Best, 1-Cian Healy

**Replacements:** 16-Sean Cronin, 17-David Kilcoyne, 18-Stephen Archer/Michael Bent, 19-Donncha O'Callaghan, 20-Iain Henderson, 21-Eoin Reddan, 22-Paddy Jackson/Ian Madigan, 23-Luke Fitzgerald. England's back row options for the Six

Nations clash at home to Italy this weekend have increased after Leicester's Tom Croft joined the squad on Monday after his recent return from a serious neck injury.

The Six Nations had looked an unlikely aim for Croft, who suffered a triple fracture to his neck a year ago but his return to first-team action with Leicester means he could play some role in England's push for a grand slam.

"The indications last week were that it might be a bit early for Tom to get involved in this Six Nations," England head coach Stuart Lancaster said in an RFU statement.

"But having played back to back games he has now had the all clear from the specialist and Leicester's and our medics.

"I also had a good chat with (Leicester coach) Richard Cockerill. He is happy with his form and we can clearly see he is playing well, but most importantly Tom feels he is ready - it is great to have him back in."

Croft made his fifth start for Leicester since returning in January last weekend, impressing in the thrashing of Sale, and while England do have plenty of options in the back row, the experienced Croft's return is a boost.

"We have competition in all places but the back row is very competitive and to have Tom available just adds to that so we are looking forward to seeing how he does this week," Lancaster said.

The 27-year-old has won 36 caps for England since making his debut in 2008.

England are on course for a clean sweep in the Six Nations after wins against Scotland, Ireland and France. They face Italy

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on Sunday and conclude against Wales in Cardiff on March 16.

Wales recalled grand slam winning captain Sam Warburton to the starting lineup for Saturday's Six Nations clash with Scotland but retained Ryan Jones as skipper after two successive away victories.

Warburton, who started on the bench in the 26-9 win over Italy on February 23 after missing the previous round victory over France with a shoulder injury, replaces Justin Tipuric at openside flanker to join Jones and number eight Toby Faletau in the backrow.

British and Irish Lions lock Alun Wyn Jones returns to the starting XV after injury to partner Ian Evans in place of Andrew Coombs while Paul James takes over at loosehead prop from Gethin Jenkins, who has failed to recover from a calf injury sustained in the Italy match.

Interim head coach Rob Howley has named an unchanged backline for a match in which his team will attempt to become the first Wales side to win five successive away victories in the tournament.

"We have had two good, hard-fought away victories but we know we will have to be at our best again to come away from Murrayfield with the result," Howley told the Welsh Rugby Union website.

"It's disappointing for Gethin to miss out but Paul has impressed and made an impact in each game he has played.

"We are bringing in a wealth of experience with Alun Wyn and Sam and they both performed well off the bench in Rome. Ryan has led the team to two wins and deserves to captain the side against Scotland."

**Team:** 15-Leigh Halfpenny, 14-Alex Cuthbert, 13-Jonathan Davies, 12-Jamie Roberts, 11-George North, 10-Dan Biggar, 9-Mike Phillips, 8-Toby Faletau, 7-Sam Warburton, 6-Ryan Jones (captain), 5-Ian Evans, 4-Alun Wyn Jones, 3-Adam Jones, 2-Richard Hibbard, 1-Paul James.

**Replacements:** 16-Ken Owens, 17-Scott Andrews, 18-Ryan Bevington, 19-Andrew Coombs, 20-Justin Tipuric, 21-Lloyd Williams, 22-James Hook, 23-Scott Williams.

- Reuters

## FIFA frets over Maracana

RIO de Janeiro's Maracana stadium is FIFA's main worry as Brazil prepares to host the Confederations Cup in June, FIFA secretary-general Jerome Valcke said on Tuesday.

Valcke visited the Arena do Copa outside Recife but said the famous Maracana was preying on his mind.

"The city I'm traveling to in two days is the one which is causing FIFA the most concern," he told reporters.

FIFA has said the six stadiums,

which will host matches in the Confederations Cup, considered a dress rehearsal for the 2014 World Cup, must be ready by mid-April.

"The date of completion is very important so we can test them before the start," Valcke said. "May is too late and that could cause a lot of trouble for FIFA, for the World Cup and for Brazil."

The Maracana, built for the 1950 World Cup and remodeled several times since, was due for

completion in December but the deadline was put back to February and then April.

The latest rebuilding work started in 2010 at a cost of 900 million Reals (US\$457 million).

It is due to re-open with a friendly between Brazil and England on June 2.

Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) technical director Virgilio Elisio said recently he was worried and that work would have to speed up

- Reuters



The Maracana. Photo: Reuters

PREMIER LEAGUE FIXTURES	
SATURDAY, 9 MARCH 2013 WBA vs Swansea Norwich vs Southampton QPR vs Sunderland Reading vs Aston Villa	22:00
SUNDAY, 10 MARCH 2013 Newcastle vs Stoke	22:00
LIVERPOOL vs TOTTENHAM	23:00

# Drug scandal scares Olympic chief

By Nick Mulvenney

AUSTRALIA'S Olympic chief John Coates is fearful that the scandal surrounding the misbehavior of the swimming team at last year's London Games could lead to parents being reluctant to let their children take part in sport.

The reputation of Australian sport has taken a hammering in the last month after the release of a string of damaging reports, including one by the country's leading criminal intelligence body, which said use of drugs by athletes was widespread.

As an advocate of prison sentences for dopers, Coates is certainly not complacent about the issue, but sees the Australian Crime Commission report as primarily a matter for the country's professional sports.

A report alleging that a "toxic" environment had been allowed to develop in the Olympic swimming team, and the admission by five swimmers that they took the sedative Stilnox in a bonding session before the London Games was a different matter.

"The biggest worry I have, because of swimming behavioral problems, is that the public doesn't think as highly of our Olympic teams," the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) President said on Wednesday.

"The last thing we want is for the mums and dads not to think of our Olympians as role models. We

are trying to create greater participation in sport through our team.

"Is that what happens when I send my little girl to the team or my little Johnny to the team? That's what scares me."

Speaking after the opening of new AOC offices overlooking Sydney Opera House, Coates said the swimming affair might also have ramifications in the hunt for the sponsorships, which underpin the organization's budget.

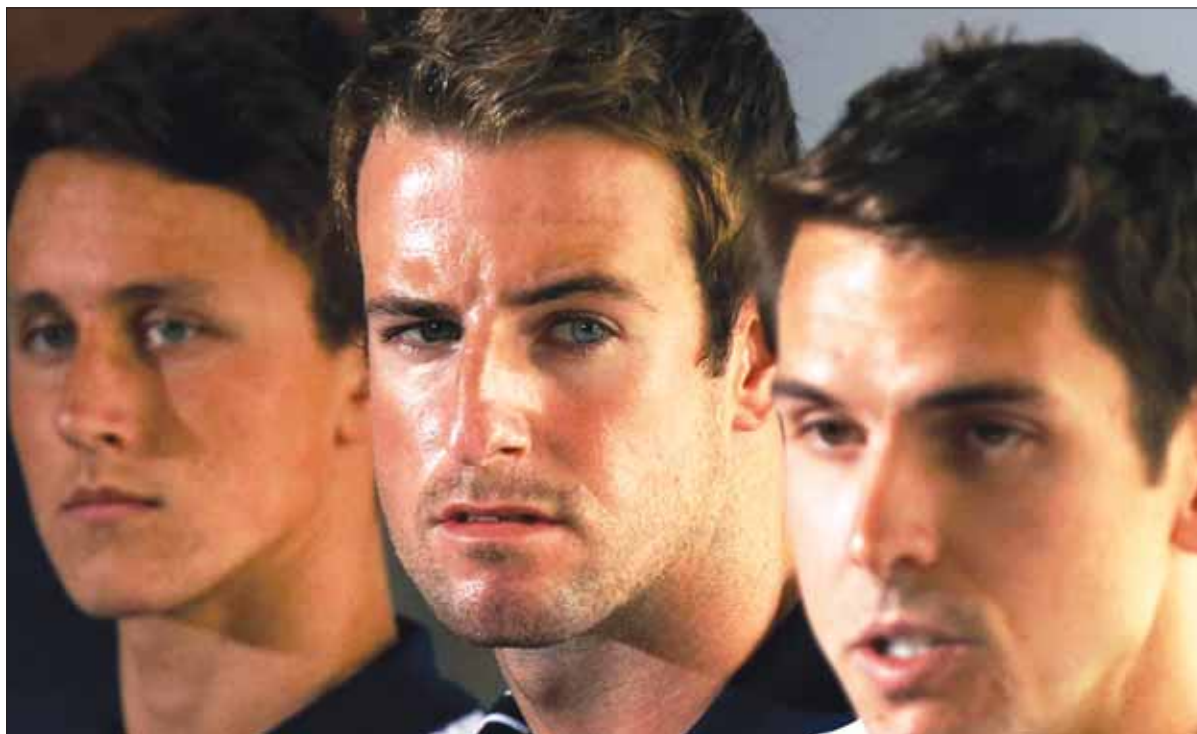
"Our sponsors know that we take a very strong stand on doping, our sponsors know that during the Games we have a total ban on illicit drugs," he added.

"But certainly some of the behavior aspects of the swimmers is going to cause some problems. We are looking at it and we need to sort it out."

Coates, who will be looking to raise AUS\$40.2 million (27.1 million pounds) through marketing ahead of the next Summer Olympics in Brazil in 2014, said one sponsor had called to congratulate the AOC on the hard line they were taking on the matter.

The AOC have appointed an investigator to look into the matter and promised stiff penalties for wrongdoers.

While Stilnox was very publicly prohibited by the Australian Olympic Committee in the lead-up to the Games because of its side-effects, it is not banned by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) code.



LOOK OF SHAME: James Magnussen (center) sits with teammates Cameron McEvoy (left) and Eamon Sullivan from Australia's 4x100m freestyle relay team. Photo: Reuters

"The unwashed public out there tend to group it all together as the same," admitted Coates.

"I bet you there's a lot of people in England and places that are salivating. Our friendly rivals.

"(But) the rest of the world is not naive enough to think things are not happening in their own countries," he added.

Coates took his advocacy for criminal sanctions for those who use and supply banned substances, as well as the right to compel witnesses to testify about

drug use, to a senate hearing in Canberra last week.

"I'm confident that ASADA (Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority) will get these extra powers. There's precedent...if the integrity of the financial markets is being protected, the integrity of sport should be protected," he said.

"The question mark for me is whether they will take our point and go further than just civil penalties... I would like them to go to potentially criminal penalties."

It was not just the behavior of

some of the swimmers in London that was a disappointment to Australia with the team finishing 10<sup>th</sup> in the medals table, after targeting a place in the top five.

"I think [the recent events have] been a bit of (a) wake up to sports," he said.

"A lot of the sports have sat back and had a good think about how they could improve and perhaps that hasn't happened too much since the Sydney Olympics. We were in a bit of a comfort zone for too long."

- Reuters

## Swann seeks swift return

GRAEME Swann's troublesome right elbow may have forced him out of the test series against New Zealand but the England spinner has been told the required surgery is "relatively simple" and is eyeing a May return.

Swann was a surprise omission from England's team before the toss for the first test against New Zealand at University Oval on Wednesday and was replaced by left arm spinner Monty Panesar.

England later confirmed the 33-year-old had been ruled out of the series and would need surgery on the elbow in the United States. James Tredwell has been called into the squad for the remainder of the New Zealand series.

"If I don't have the surgery I know it's more or less curtains," Swann told reporters after play was abandoned for the day without a ball being bowled because of persistent rain.

"So the fact that I can have the surgery and I have been told that it is relatively simple, and touch wood it will be, I will wake up on the other end and everything will be great.

"I'm very much buoyed by the success the last time I had it done," he added in reference to a similar procedure on the same elbow in 2009.

"My elbow was in a lot worse



Graeme Swann. Photo: Reuters

Cricket

shape than it is now, so I am very confident I will bounce back in a short space of time and be fighting fit."

Swann was reticent to put a timetable on a possible return, though hinted he would like to be available when England host New Zealand in May and June.

Alastair Cook's side then play the one-day Champions Trophy and then have back-to-back Ashes series against Australia.

"I still haven't played a test match against the Kiwis," the 50-test veteran said. "I'm going to be optimistic and say I will get a chance to play them at home.

"I haven't seen the timetable but I will need to speak to the surgeon and he will give me a

better indication."

The elbow had caused him problems since his first surgery but it flared up again in England's four day match against a New Zealand XI in Queenstown last week.

"It came about quite suddenly. I have struggled intermittently with a sore elbow for about four years but it never manifested itself into a dire predicament for me.

"Then in Queenstown before the game I felt an unusual pain that I hadn't felt since before the last operation and that rapidly got worse throughout the game."

Swann had scans on the elbow when the team arrived in Dunedin and the results, after they had been seen by the specialist in the United States, confirmed he needed the procedure to "clean up" floating bone fragments in the joint.

The operation was similar to the one England team mate Tim Bresnan had last month, Swann said.

"It doesn't seem anywhere as near as dire as the last time when it felt like a bomb had gone off in there," he added.

"The fact you have to have surgery means you have a pretty serious injury, so I was hoping that I would get to the end of my playing days and not have to go back under the knife. - Reuters

## Klitschko to defend heavyweight titles



Vladimir Klitschko after a fight in 2012. Photo: Reuters

UKRAINE'S Vladimir Klitschko will defend his four world heavyweight title belts against former sparring partner German-Italian challenger Francesco Pianeta in Mannheim on May 4.

Klitschko, who holds the IBF, IBO, WBO and WBA crown had used the 28-year-old Pianeta as a sparring partner last year.

The 36-year-old Ukrainian's record stands as 59 wins and three defeats after his three successful title defenses in 2012, including a November victory over Poland's Mariusz Wach.

Pianeta, who at 1.93 meters is five centimeters shorter than his opponent, is still undefeated with 28 wins and one draw.

"I have a lot of respect for Pianeta because he is young and has a big fighting spirit," the 36-year-old Klitschko said in a statement.

Klitschko's older brother, Vitali, holds the WBC crown.

"I was briefly his sparring partner last year and I noted where his weaknesses are and how best to exploit them," said Pianeta.

- Reuters





Thanyapura Sports and Leisure Club Director of Sports Academies Craig Johns (far left) greets British swimmers: (from left to right), Grant Turner, Liam Tancock, Fran Halsall, Amy Smith and the team's coach, James Gibson. Photos: Thanyapura



The British team were delighted to help coach Thanyapura's junior swim team, Silverfinz

## Brits dip into TSLC

THANYAPURA Sports and Leisure Club's (TSLC) management recently added the British sprint swim team to their list of world class sporting guests, welcoming the team of Olympians and world record holders to the international standard sports training facility in Phuket.

Among the swimmers who flew out to Thailand for the training programme were two times world champion and world record holder Liam Tancock, Olympian Grant Turner, and European and Commonwealth champions Fran Halsall and Amy Smith.

As well as undertaking a vigorous training regime during their stay at Asia's first dedicated sports hotel, the team of Britons also adopted TSLC's ethos of preparing young athletes for sporting excellence by helping

coach the facility's junior swim team, Silverfinz.

"It's been a real pleasure hosting the British team. They have made a great impression on the management and staff at Thanyapura, as well as the parents of our Silverfinz kids. Always polite and fun, they are a credit to their country and a pleasure to work with," said Thanyapura Sports and Leisure Club Director of Sports Academy Craig Johns.

TSLC's Aquatics Academy was selected as the team's training center due to its Olympic-standard 50 meter swimming pool, internationally-renowned sports science facilities and idyllic location surrounded by the mountains of Phuket.

- *Phuket Gazette*

## Laguna Golf Club gets an upgrade

THE Laguna Phuket Golf Club will begin a comprehensive course upgrade on July 1, aimed at significantly improving its complete golf experience as a world-class, five-star golfing facility.

The entire project is estimated to take a maximum of 18 months to complete, with the upgraded 18-hole course scheduled for full operation by January 1, 2015.

"During recent years the combination of age, drainage, soil structure and contamination of grasses has affected the overall

quality of our playing surfaces," said the Club's Assistant Director of Golf, Paul Wilson, who will oversee the upgrade. "This project will see significant investments made to improve tee box areas, bunkers, green complexes, practice facilities, drainage, irrigation and all playing surfaces. Although these works may cause some inconvenience to our members and guests, we believe they are necessary to bring our course right up to a true world-class standard," he said.

During the upgrade the 18-hole course will be reduced to nine holes



from July 1, with members and guests initially having access to the existing front nine holes which can be played twice for a full round.

When the upgrade of the back nine holes is complete, the procedure will be reversed, with the back nine made available for play while the front nine are upgraded.

- *Phuket Gazette*

# TrueVisions hope to secure more sports



Manchester United help make the EPL the most watched league in Thailand. Photo: Reuters

WITH its English Premier League (EPL) rights set to expire at the end of this season, TrueVisions is aiming to secure more broadcasting rights for leading sports and add extra high definition (HD) channels for sports fans.

The firm wants to become the undisputed "leader of high-definition broadcasts", with more HD channels than any other operator.

TrueVisions currently has 17 HD channels, including three for sport, which cover the EPL, volleyball, Thai Premier League football, tennis, snooker, NBA basketball and Formula One.

The company recently changed its slogan from "King of soccer" to "King of sport" after failing to secure the rights of EPL, Thailand's most watched football league, last November.

"Sport is not only football - there are plenty of other kinds of sport [to watch]," said TrueVisions chief commercial officer Ong-ard Prapakamol.

Cable Thai Holding won the EPL broadcast rights for 2013 to 2015. TrueVisions responded by trying to secure rights to more sport content. This year they secured rights for the Thai Volleyball League, French Open tennis (with two matches broadcast live simultaneously on two HD channels), and added 34 more Thai league matches.

Ong-ard said TrueVisions still holds the rights for the Uefa Champions League from 2012 to 2014. Europe's top club tourna-

ment will be broadcast in HD soon, he said.

Negotiations are underway with Cable Thai Holding about the possibility of broadcasting some EPL matches on TrueVisions, with subscribers eager to know the outcome. Ong-ard said the firm would call a press conference to address the issue next month.

"Let's see how we can compensate our customers and retain their loyalty in case we fail to get some EPL match broadcasts [from CTH]," Ong-ard said.

"We are prepared for life without the EPL broadcasts but we welcome any discussion from the rights holders," Ong-ard said.

Thailand had more operators competing for sports broadcasting rights than any other country, and rights owners were taking advantage and raising their bid fees, Ong-ard said. Overpriced content was not worth competing for, he added.

Chulathai Saligupta, TrueVisions' director of sport programming, said that after last year's huge bid by CTH for the EPL

rights, the price of other sports content may rise. CTH paid the Premier League almost 10 billion baht for the broadcast rights - six times higher than TrueVision paid in the last three seasons.

He cited the case of the Thai Premier League, whose 2011-2013 broadcast rights cost TrueVisions 200 million baht. In contrast, he said, the Football Association of Thailand is hoping to reap 600 million baht for the next three seasons. - *The Nation*



Ong-ard Prapakamol (left).

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Mike Khan (Patong CC) lining up a ball from Paresh Bokar (Jabudays ICC). Photo: PCC

## Jabudays too hot for Patong

WHILE the temperature was rising on another hot day in Phuket, so was the cricketing action at the Alan Cooke Ground (ACG) on Sunday, March 3, in the JLL Hotels league clash between rivals Jabudays and Patong.

A win for Patong would extend their lead at the top of the table, while Jabudays were looking to bounce back after their recent defeat to Laguna and put themselves in contention for a finals berth. The Jabudays lads just held on, hitting the winning runs with just one wicket in hand and six balls to spare.

After winning the toss, Patong chose to bat, hoping to set a big target. They got off to a solid start with openers Mike Khan (12) and Seemant Raju (21) putting on a 46 run partnership before Khan eventually fell in the 8th over. Patong then suffered the untimely dismissal of David Watson (12) just a few balls before the 10 over drinks break. A mini batting collapse ensued after the break with the loss of some further cheap wickets and at five wickets down for 89 runs in the 16th over, a couple of good partnerships were needed to stop the innings going into cardiac arrest.

Captain Anthony Van Blerk (15) and Neil Quail (32) did just what the doctor ordered with a 43 run partnership before Van Blerk was bowled in the 23rd over with the score on 6-132. This then brought

Thai youngster, Pao (43), to the crease. He top scored for his side and guided the innings to a respectable 200 runs for the loss of nine wickets from their allotted 35 overs. Pick of the bowlers for Jabudays was Ali Khan (4 for 32) while the other 5 bowlers picked up 1 wicket each.

After the lunch break, Jabudays were looking to get off to a solid start. However, the Jabudays batsmen started dropping like flies, and at four wickets down for 14 runs in only the 4th over, Patong were now circling like vultures, hoping to wrap up the innings quickly and return to the clubhouse early to enjoy a refreshing cold beer.

However, Deepak Mehra (59) and Ali Khan (52) had other ideas, and staved off an early adjournment to the dressing rooms with an impressive 120 run partnership. It was now game on! Kahn eventually fell after top edging a ball to mid-wicket with the score on 5-134. Surender Kumar (32) then joined Mehra at the crease and they put on another useful partnership of 47 runs, edging closer to the 201 run target, until opening bowler Richard Desmond was reintroduced into the bowling attack and skittled Kumar's stumps in the 29th over with the score on 6-181. Mehra then fell just 2 runs later with a couple of balls before drinks, cheekily attempting a reverse sweep but pop-

ping it up into the waiting hands of Neil Quail at backward point.

At 7-183 at the 30 over drinks break, had Patong left it too late or would Jabudays suffer another batting collapse as the pressure was ratcheted up a notch. Balesh Dessai (12 not out) and Vikram Sharma strode out confidently after the break and Dessai immediately hit a massive six out of the ground. But the Patong lads struck back with David Watson bagging a couple of quick wickets and was on a hat-trick with Jabudays now nine wickets down for 195 runs.

It was still anyone's game for the taking. Number 11 for Jabudays, Paresh Bokar was feeling a heavy weight on his shoulders as he tried to keep the Patong bowlers at bay. He eventually managed to hit one through the covers to secure the winning runs to the rapturous cheers of his teammates. Pick of the bowlers for Patong was Richard Desmond (3 for 25) with Pao, Manesh Sadarangani and David Watson picking up 2 wickets each.

While Patong still remain on top of the table, Jabudays have thrown themselves into the mix holding onto 2<sup>nd</sup>.

—Phuket Gazette

This week on Sunday, March 10, sees TNT take on Jabudays, with TNT needing a win to stay in touch with the leaders.

## Sawasdee League

THE Phuket Cricket Group's junior Sawasdee league attracted plenty of young talent to the Alan Cooke Ground (ACG) on Saturday, March 2. Four teams were in attendance – the Phuket Cricket Group (PCG) youth academy fielded an A and B team, while HeadStart and Thai Hua schools were also represented.

In match 1, Thai Hua (252) played PCG Youth Academy Team A (240). Although the PCG A team were younger than their opposition, they put in a good effort in a closely fought match. Kian and Luke top scored for the PCG A team with an 80 run partnership with Marcus and Ryan also scoring a valuable 67.

However, Thai Hua were more consistent, with each batting pair averaging over 60 runs each, with Ong and Thanawat being the top scorers with 66 runs followed by Max and Mine with 65. Pick of the bowlers were Korn for Thai Hua with 2 wickets and Harry for PCG with 1 wicket.

In match 2, HeadStart (246) played PCG Youth Academy Team B (163). The HeadStart team proved too strong with some good batting efforts, including a 75 run partnership between Sandy and Silvana supported well by Hugh and Irakly with 61 runs. Kieran and Bonnie top-scored for PCG B team supported well by Earn and Sheila with 46 runs.

In match 3, PCG Youth Academy Team B (248) defeated PCG Youth Academy Team A (217). Luke and Marcus top scored for the A team with 74 runs with Bonnie and George also providing a valuable contribution of 57 runs. However, an 85 run contribution from Kian and Bonnie from the PCG B team proved to be the difference. Pick of the bowlers were Harry for PCG A with 2 wickets and DJ for PCG B who also bagged 2 wickets.

In match 4, HeadStart (303) defeated Thai Hua (288) in a



The bowling machine.

closely fought contest. Irakly and Sean top scored for HeadStart with 74 well supported by Kai and George with 67 runs. Thai Hua once again proved consistent with their batting with Ahan and Korn top scoring with 64.

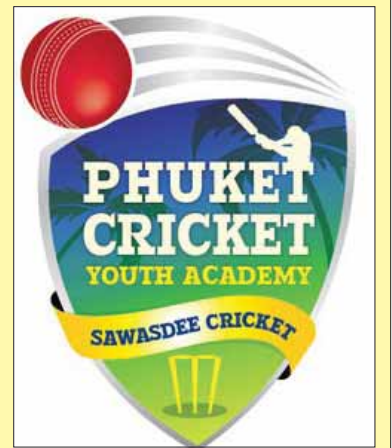
At the end of the matches, some of the kids also got to try out PCG's new bowling machine which will prove to be a valuable tool in improving their cricketing skills.

A great day's cricket was enjoyed by all the kids who enjoyed some refreshments in the clubhouse afterwards. Some great young talent was on display.

The next round of the Sawasdee league takes place at 9am on March 16 at the ACG.

—Phuket Gazette

The PCG youth academy training sessions happen every Saturday morning at the ACG. All children are welcome. contact Mark Ashman: chairmain@phuketcricketgroup.com for further details.



## Fair Play League at BIS

THE Fair Play League (FPL) continued on Sunday, March 3, at British International School (BIS).

The under-11s were first up and had some exciting matches in store. Spain continued their fine form beating a determined Brazil in their first match and Thailand managed to edge past an improving England side. The second set of matches saw an upset as England beat leaders Spain by a single goal and defended resolutely. Thailand won their second match of the weekend comfortably beating Brazil.

Anucha Kaewman from Youth Football Home, who plays for England under-11s, explains why he enjoys playing in the FPL, "I enjoy the FPL as I get a chance to play with and against my friends."

The under-14 division was next to grace the BIS fields. Spain managed to beat Thailand Blue in their opening game, with Brazil and Argentina defeating Thailand Green and England respectively.

After a short break, the second round of matches took place with England scoring a

last-second goal to beat Thailand Blue in a thrilling encounter.

Spain continued to put the pressure on at the top of the table by beating Thailand Green and Argentina proved to be the team to beat, after winning against Brazil.

The league is taking shape and it looks to be an exciting final with only two more weeks remaining.

Head Coach PSS Martin Hill commented after the game: "This league is community based and is a social event on Sunday at BIS. The teams are well-balanced and the new bonus point system is working well. With just two weeks left, the league tables are starting to take shape with all teams looking for more points."

### Results from week 3:

Under 11: Brazil 0 Spain 4, England 2 Thailand 4, Thailand 5 Brazil 1, England 2 Spain 1

Under 14: Thailand Green 2 Brazil 6, Thailand Blue 3 Spain 4, England 2 Argentina 7, Spain 5 Thailand Green 2, Argentina 7 Brazil 2, England 1 Thailand Blue 0.

—Phuket Gazette



A great save from Andrew Symmonds during the Thailand Blue vs England game.



Under-11 players defend a corner in the Spain vs Brazil match. Photos: Phuket Soccer Schools.

# Pearl shock Lightning Shrimp

Phuket United win hat trick by defeating Surat Thani Futsal Club in an electrifying Southern showdown

By Steven Layne

WITH the Thai futsal season rapidly winding down, Phuket United maintained their good run of form, winning their third match in a row by defeating Southern rivals, Surat Thani (4-2) in a tense yet thrilling match last Saturday night in Phuket Town.

Played at the Saphan Hin Indoor Sports Complex, the game was Phuket's 26<sup>th</sup> and Surat Thani's 25<sup>th</sup> match of the 30-fixture GMM Sport Thailand Futsal Premier League (TFPL) 2012-2013 season.

In their first meeting back in December in Surat Thani, Phuket were pounded by a score of 6-1.

That match was the first in which Brazilian Jardel had played for Phuket United and the skillful winger was looking to avoid a similar result this time around.

Anticipating the rematch, a large contingent of orange and blue shirted "Lightning Shrimp" fans from Surat Thani were hoping for a repeat of the first result, setting up their cheer base behind the east-end goal, defended by the visitors in the first half.

However, a Phuket defensive blunder – resulting in an own goal early in the match – drove the Lightning Shrimp cheer squad into an electrical frenzy.

Phuket got it together at the start of the second half when Jardel quickly found the equalizer. Minutes later, the Andaman Pearl's leading scorer, Jackson Santos seized the lead with a brilliant goal, his 28<sup>th</sup> of the season.

Santos is the third top scorer in the TFPL, behind Si Saket's Romualdo Namorato (35) and Navy's Jessada Chudet (32).

With tension of the Southern showdown intensifying with every foul whistle, a composed yet cunning Jardel extended Phuket's lead in the 32<sup>nd</sup> minute with his second goal of the match.

Pushing on with a power play attacking formation – leaving their goal undefended – Surat Thani finally found the back of the net moments later through Wiwat Thaicharoen.



INTENSITY: A Surat Thani player gets yellow carded (left) after an aggressive challenge. Marcos defends an attack. Photos: Steven Layne



However, a tight Phuket defense was quick to exploit Surat Thani's vulnerable defenses a moment later, with Nattapong Buachai doubling his side's lead on a counter attack.

Despite back-and-forth play, the final score of 4-2 was sealed by the officials final whistle.

Phuket moved into 9<sup>th</sup> place with 39 points from 13 wins, the same amount of losses and a goal difference of five. Surat Thani fell to 6<sup>th</sup> place with 43 points from 13 wins, four draws and eight losses (GD: +20)

Speaking to the *Gazette* after the match, Vic Hermans, head coach of the Thailand national futsal squad, said he and his wife had enjoyed watching the match.

"The high energy of Thai futsal fans is wonderful. They're all so into the game and

you can really feel the tension between the two rivals during the game. Yet at the end, everyone is friendly and paying tribute to each other."

"Thai futsal is really coming strong. You can see the difference between the Brazilian style of play and that of the Thais, who are really eager to play strong and fast early on.

"Jardel, Santos and Marcos clearly knew how to keep composed and take control of the game, and that's the most important aspect of futsal – control, that is to not let your emotions control the match..."

Phuket United have two more matches at home this season, both of them this week.

At the time of going press, Phuket were playing 13<sup>th</sup> placed Prachin FC. For results to that match, check the *Phuket Gazette* sports section online.

The Andaman Pearl's next match will be tonight (March 9) against 14<sup>th</sup> placed Samut Prakarn. Fans – old, new and future – will be sure not to miss this match, as it is the team's final home match of the season.

To be played at the Saphan Hin Indoor Sports Complex, with a 7pm kickoff.

Admission is 100 baht for adults, while students with ID and children under 150 centimeters get in for free.

Jackson Santos told the *Gazette* after the match against Surat Thani: "It is really important that we win these last two home matches so we can make our season goal of finishing in the top 5 of the league.

"If we can win at home first, and then we will concentrate on our last two away matches against Bangkok [March 13] and Highways Department [in late March, dates to be announced]"

## Phuket FC neutralize Big Bang

KICKING off the Thai Premier League (TPL) Yamaha One 2013 season, Phuket FC played their season opener out to a 1-1 draw away against Big Bang Chula United (BBCU) last Saturday evening in Bangkok.

Played at the Army Stadium, the match was watched by little more than 300 fans, with several dozen Phuket fans making the trip.

In the opening exchanges, possession was contested evenly by both sides. Despite the visitor's early chances, it was the home team who would activate the score board in the 20th minute.

BBCU midfielder Chutipon Tongtae, a transfer from 2012 division 1 champions, Ratchaburi Mitrphol FC, took a free kick from near the right wing touch-line.

The perfectly weighted cross floated to the far post, where Boubou headed an assist to Pichad, whose follow up was sure to find the back of the net.

Four minutes later, the home



EYES ON PROMOTION: The starting 11 in last week's match. Photo: Phuket FC

crowd were silenced, when a free-kick from Phuket defender Sakareya Kolae found teammate Chana in the middle of the penalty area, who sent the ball to teammate Nenebi, heading in the equalizer.

Phuket Coach Paniphon Kerdyuem commented on the result: "We got one point on the road, and so not all is lost. Today was a fun game and everyone on the team played their part well.

Phuket will play their 2013 season home opener this Sunday, March 10, against rivals Bangkok FC. The match will be played at Surakul Stadium with kick-off scheduled for 6:30pm.

Fans are looking forward to see the new line-up, as well as former Phuket striker and team leading scorer last season, Thawin Butsommat, who is now employed by Bangkok FC. – Steven Layne

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