

**LAST COVID PATIENTS LEAVE HOSPITAL CARE > PAGE 2**

# NOW OPEN

## HOTELS, TOURISM BUSINESSES ALLOWED TO REOPEN



Receptionist Wachaporn Euangkoksung stands ready to welcome guests at the 47-room Art Mansion boutique hotel in Patong on Tuesday, after reopening on Monday (June 1). Photo: Tanyaluk Sakoot

**The Phuket News**  
editor@classactmedia.co.th

All hotels and tourism-related businesses were allowed to reopen on Monday (June 1) under an order issued late last Sunday night that also allowed people to enter and exit Phuket for travel, but specifically listed for all beaches in Phuket to remain closed.

Phuket Chamber of Commerce President Thanusak Phungdet welcomed the move to allow hotels across the island to reopen, but was

cautious in his understanding of its immediate impact.

Mr Thanusak was unaware of the rule change when contacted by *The Phuket News* on Monday. At that time there had been no public announcements that hotels and all tourism businesses were permitted to resume operations. No warning was given so that any hotels or tourism businesses could prepare. The permission was buried deep in the order issued by Phuket Governor Phakaphong Tavipatana, listed on page 34 of the 37-page order.

After confirming that hotels were indeed allowed to open, Mr Thanusak praised the move.

“Those hotels in a position to reopen now can do so. Allowing hotels to reopen can help to reduce unemployment in Phuket,” he said.

Mr Thanusak pointed out that many hotels were not prepared to open immediately, as many had wound down their operations since they were ordered to close on April 4.

“But at least this gives hotel operators a choice. Those who are not ready to reopen can remain closed,

as there are no tourists right now, but if they are ready they can reopen,” he added.

Mr Thanusak pointed out that hotels must now adjust their operations to include the ‘new normal’ health and hygiene requirements, not only to abide by the law but also to help instill confidence among potential tourists to want to come to Phuket.

He also pointed out that more needed to be done to allow tourists to come to Phuket, namely reopening Phuket International Airport to at least allow domestic flights for now, and...

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# News



Rains bring  
warning for  
dengue > p5

## Last COVID patients go home

The Phuket News  
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The last three patients in Phuket infected with COVID-19 to be admitted to hospital for medical treatment have been discharged from hospital care.

The last two patients receiving care at the field hospital set up at the site of the unfinished new Provincial Hall went home last Saturday (May 30). The third, and last, patient, receiving care at Bangkok Hospital Phuket, was discharged last Sunday (May 31).

The milestone came as the field hospital set at the "new" Provincial Hall was closed last Sunday following an order by Phuket Governor Phakaphong last week. The 'second field hospital' set up at the Prince of Songkla University Phuket campus in Kathu had already closed on May 15.

Dr Busaya Santisan of Vachira Phuket Hospital, director of the Provincial Hall field hospital, took the opportunity to praise the island's officials for the idea of setting up field hospitals.



One of the last COVID patients to be discharged from medical care at the 'field hospital' in Phuket Town talks to the press. Photo: PR Phuket

"This was the first time this idea has been tried in Phuket," she said.

Dr Busaya also praised all parties involved in setting up the facility, especially the medical staff stationed there, said the report.

"I would like to thank the Phuket Governor, Vice Governor, the Director of Vachira Phuket Hospital and all sectors that supported the operations of the field hospital as well," said Dr Busaya.

"In addition, the readiness of the personnel on duty at this field hos-

pital came with heart and sacrifice. Although they knew they would be at risk [of contracting the virus], they performed their duties in taking good care of patients," she added.

Dr Busaya called on people to observe the 'new normal' and to protect themselves from the virus by wearing face masks, maintaining social distance and washing their hands frequently.

One of the two patients discharged from the facility last Saturday, a 58 year-old woman from Thalung whose

name was not disclosed, told the press, "I would like to thank the medical staff for their care. Throughout the period of treatment I was closely monitored, warmly.

"And I am glad to go home today, but I will strictly follow the doctors' advice," she said.

The woman also urged, "I want to ask people in Phuket to please take care of yourselves, and if you are sick, you should go see a doctor and you must tell them the truth for treatment to be safe from COVID-19."

No details of the other patient discharged from the facility last Saturday were made available.

Dr Busaya reported that the field hospital had treated a total of 121 since it opened. "Two of those patients were transferred to Vachira Phuket Hospital as their condition deteriorated and their symptoms became serious," she said.

"One of those two patients was later transferred back to the field hospital after the symptoms were not so serious," she added.

Dr Busaya made no mention of what happened to the other patient

that was transferred to Vachira hospital, though none of the three people who have died in Phuket from being infected with the virus were reported to have been admitted to the field hospital.

The field hospital has now been closed "temporarily" so that medical personnel can perform their duties in their usual areas, Dr Busaya said.

"But we will still keep medical equipment, beds, mattresses and appliances here until the situation of the spread of COVID-19 reaches normal conditions," she added.

As of Tuesday (June 2), Phuket marked eight days without a new confirmed case reported.

The Phuket office of the Public relations Department reported that 26 people were still waiting for tests to confirm whether or not they were infected, an increase of six compared with Monday.

So far three people in Phuket have died as a direct result of being infected with COVID-19, including an Australian hotel manager from Khao Lak whose family lived in Nai Harn.

### Reduce your risk of Coronavirus infection

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Reduce travel to a minimum and avoid public transport if possible.



Don't leave your home or hotel room unless absolutely necessary.

If you have additional questions, please call the Department of Disease Control

Hotline 1422

<https://ddc.moph.go.th/en>

## Hopes high for return of domestic flights

Continued from page 1

...critically for international flights later.

That might be soon. The Airports of Thailand management team at Phuket airport (AoT Phuket) on Monday announced it was "ready to receive passengers" ahead of the current order banning domestic flights to Phuket set to expire at 23:59pm on June 15, "unless otherwise ordered".

All people looking to travel via Phuket airport must register their intended travel through the PhuketSmartCheck-In app overseen by Phuket



Management at Phuket airport is hoping to reopen to domestic flights on June 16. Photo: AoT Phuket

Provincial Police (see page 3), and register through the AOT AIRPORTS app. They must also to abide by all the health regulations now in

force to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the notice said.

However, the current ban on all inbound commercial passenger flights into the country is not set to expire until June 30.

Meanwhile, Mr Thanusak also pointed out, "More needs to be done in terms of marketing also, so potential tourists can feel confident in choosing to enjoy their holiday here."

Mr Thanusak also repeated his advice for hoteliers to use the COVID-19 forced closure as a time to renovate properties and train staff.

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# 'Fit to Travel' no longer needed

The Phuket News  
editor@classactmedia.co.th

A provincial order issued last Sunday night (May 31) reopened interprovincial travel to and from Phuket by road and sea. The relaxation of the controls on people entering or leaving Phuket by road means that people no longer need to wait for approval from provincial authorities in order to be allowed through the Phuket Check Point at the northern tip of the island, Phuket Provincial Police Commander Maj Gen Rungrote Thakurapunyasi said on Monday.

However, people must still register their intent to enter or leave Phuket with the Phuket Provincial Police and book their allocated time for entering or leaving Phuket in order to avoid congestion at the checkpoint, he said.

There is no longer a need for people wanting to enter or leave Phuket to first be issued a Fit to Travel document, but all people entering and leaving Phuket will be screened by health officials at the checkpoint, Maj Gen Rungrote added.

There is no need for people to observe a 14-day self-quarantine before arriving in Phuket, Maj Gen Rungrote noted – with the exception of people arriving from Bangkok, Nonthaburi, Narathiwat, Yala, Krabi, Prachinburi, Samut Prakan and Chiang Mai, as announced by Phuket



Cars arrive at Phuket Check Point. Photo: Phuket Provincial Police

Governor Phakaphong Tavipatana last Friday (May 29).

Whether or not people leaving Phuket need to observe a 14-day self-quarantine before leaving the island depended on the requirements in effect at the destination of where people were travelling to, he also said.

"It is not required by Phuket authorities in order for people to leave the island. People will need to check

with officials at their destination in order to be sure," he explained.

"People do not need to wait for approval from provincial health officials first, but they must register for health officials' records," Maj Gen Rungrote confirmed.

"I advise registering online one day before the date of intended travel," he advised.

To register, people must com-

plete the online form posted via the PhuketSmartCheck-in app. A version of the app is available as a web platform for desktop computers. The registration form is also available in English.

Travellers must provide personal information such as their name, nationality and phone number, emergency contact person details, type of transportation, ID card or passport

number and their intended purpose for either entering or leaving Phuket.

People must also select their time they intended to present themselves at Phuket Check Point to be processed to be allowed to enter or leave Phuket so that police can avoid over-congestion at the checkpoint.

"Then they will be issued a personalised QR Code that they will need to show officers at the Phuket Check Point," Maj Gen Rungrote explained.

For people entering Phuket, each person will be registered for different lengths of time, depending on their stated reason for entering the province.

People visiting Phuket for travel or business will see their registration remain valid for seven days, while people coming to Phuket to work and even Phuket residents returning home will both see their registrations remain valid for 30 days.

However, Maj Gen Rungrote stressed that there will be no fine or legal action for a person's registration expiring while they are still in Phuket.

"If their QR Code expires, they must re-register again – but there is no need to leave Phuket because of this, and they will not be charged with breaking any law or be forced to pay a fine. They just need to re-register for local officials' health records," he said.

## Bus services to resume

PHUKET LAND TRANSPORT Office (PLTO) Chief Banyat Kantha confirmed to *The Phuket News* on Tuesday (June 2) that nearly all regular bus services into and out of Phuket were set to resume operations today (June 5).

"We are just waiting to confirm services to and from Narathiwat, Pattani and Yala," he said.

Bus travellers were urged to calculate their journey times carefully to make sure they did not violate the nightly curfew, from 11pm to 3am.



Almost all regular bus services to and from Phuket will resume today (June 5).

"Inbound and outbound travelers must install the Thai Chana and PhuketSmartCheck-in apps to register. Those who do not have a smartphone will have to fill out the cor-

rect forms instead," Chief Banyat said.

All bus terminal and bus operator staff will provide services according to the guidelines set out by the Ministry of Public Health, Mr Banyat explained.

Only half the seats on each bus will be available as social distancing will be enforced, he said.

Any staff or travellers not wearing face masks will not be permitted to board the buses, Mr Banyat warned.

*Khunanya Wanchawet*

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## PHUKET SEVEN DAY WEATHER FORECAST

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SAT JUN 6



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Wind 2 m/s

SUN JUN 7



High: +30°

Low: +26°

Wind 2 m/s

MON JUN 8



High: +32°

Low: +26°

Wind 2 m/s

TUE JUN 9



High: +31°

Low: +27°

Wind 2 m/s

WED JUN 10



High: +31°

Low: +27°

Wind 1 m/s

THU JUN 11



High: +31°

Low: +27°

Wind 2 m/s

# Phuket piers get green light

## All tourism-related businesses allowed to reopen

Tanyaluk Sakoot  
reporter2@classactmedia.co.th

Phuket Marine Office Director Wiwat Chitchertwong on Monday confirmed that ferries and tour boats, including dive and island tours, were permitted to resume operations as of that day (June 1), following a provincial order issued late the previous night that lifted a slew of travel restrictions on Phuket.

Among the final pages of the 37-page order issued last Sunday night was the confirmation that "all businesses and enterprises and tour companies that are legally registered under the Tourist Business and Tour Guides Act of B.E.2551 (2008) and other similar business such as tour agents, services regarding room rental, car or boat rental, companies providing transportation by land or sea, scuba diving companies or other recreational business for example" were allowed to open, effective June 1.

Mr Wiwat explained that all people entering or leaving Phuket by boat are to notify officials of their travel plans through the Phuket Provincial Police PhuketSmartCheck-in app, as explained by Phuket Provincial Police Maj Gen Rungrote Thakuranyasiri earlier on Monday.

The app and online platform ver-



Passengers on each boat must be separated by one allocated seat space. Photo: Phuket Marine Office

sion includes a page specifically for people to register travel into and out of Phuket provincial waters by boat.

Mr Wiwat explained that although the form asks for specific details such as the times when the person will be entering or leaving Phuket, people are not to worry and to just complete the form to the best of their understanding, especially with tour boats that technically exit Phuket waters and return on the same day.

"There will be no legal consequences if the times entered are not entirely accurate. This is just for health officials' records in case they need to track down a patient's

previous movements and travel history later," he said.

All boat operators are required to enforce social distancing rules on their boats, and comply with other health regulations to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, Mr Wiwat said.

"All seats on the boats must be sanitised regularly and passengers must be seated to occupy every second seat," he said.

"All passengers will have their body temperature checked before they will be allowed to board a boat, and they must provide identification and travel details to officials before they will be allowed to

join their trip," he added.

Mr Wiwat said that all 24 piers in Phuket were now allowed to resume operations, but added that he expected very few ferries and tour boats to resume services immediately.

"Today was just the first day, and very few people were boarding boats today. I think that will remain the same for at least the coming week," he said.

"If the number of passengers wanting to travel on boats grows quickly and becomes a problem in the near future, we will look at our options of what we can do about this then," Mr Wiwat added.

## Two dead as truck hits power pole

TWO PEOPLE DIED when a crane truck slammed into a roadside power pole while descending Karon Hill towards Chalong late last Saturday afternoon (May 30).

The accident, near where Soi Suksan 1 joins Patak Rd as it crosses the hills between Chalong Circle and Kata, occurred at about 4:50pm, said Karon Police Deputy Superintendent Lt Col Pratuang Pholmana.

Police and rescue workers arrived at the scene to find the truck cab crushed by the power pole, which itself had been broken and brought down across the four-lane divided road.

The truck driver, Thana phon Prachit, 31, from Chaiyaphum, died in the impact. His body was recovered from the truck cab and taken to Vachira Phuket Hospital, Lt



The cab of the truck was crushed by the impact. Photo: Karon Police

Col Pratuang explained.

Two other power poles were also brought down as the downed power cables pulled them across the road.

Myanmar national Hlaing Myo Win, 28, who was riding a motorbike up the hill in the opposite direction on the far side of the road from where the truck hit the power pole, was struck by one of the felled power poles.

He suffered serious injuries and was rushed to Chalong Hospital, but was pronounced

dead at the hospital, Lt Col Pratuang said.

Mr Hlaing's body was also taken to the morgue at Vachira Phuket Hospital, Lt Col Pratuang said.

Police are continuing their investigation into the accident, he added.

The downed power poles prevented traffic from passing the accident scene for hours. The road reopened to normal traffic flow by about 8:30pm, Lt Col Pratuang said.

Eakkapop Thongtub



# Dengue warning as rains hit

## Phuket health chief urges precautions to prevent infections

The Phuket News  
editor@classactmedia.co.th

After heavy downpours drenched the island last Friday (May 29), Phuket Provincial health Office (PPHO) Chief Thanit Sermkaew reminded local residents to start taking precautions against being infected with dengue.

Dr Thanit explained to *The Phuket News* that Phuket's dengue situation was not severe, but urged that is no cause for people to let their guard down in protecting themselves from the *Aedes* species of mosquito, which carries the disease.

"This disease returns every rainy season. Right now we have several people in Phuket have become ill with dengue fever. I can't remember the number, but there are not many patients at this time. No one has severe symptoms and there have been no [recent] deaths in Phuket from dengue," he said.

"Compared to the same time last year, the number of dengue patients this year is lower and the situation is bet-



Teams of health officials carry out home inspections in Phuket Town to ensure mosquito-breeding sites are eliminated. Photo: Phuket City Municipality

ter than last year," he added.

The PPHO last year reported that from Jan 1, 2019 to May 2, 2019 Phuket recorded 144 cases of dengue fever and no deaths – a morbidity rate of 35.76 per 100,000 based on the official registered popula-

tion of 402,707 at the time.

In 2018, Phuket had the highest infection rate in the country. Russian man 32-year-old Gerasim Grigoriev died at Vachira Phuket Hospital on April 11 that year after contracting the disease.

The seriousness of dengue infections prompted Dr Thanit last Friday to urge people to keep their guard up against the disease.

"We cannot be careless since there will be many more rainy days from now on. I ask

all people to get rid of any standing water in their areas where mosquitoes breed and for people to be careful not to dengue fever," he said.

The PPHO last Thursday (May 28) re-issued the national warning from the Department of Disease Control (DDC) that reported from Jan 1 to May 18 this year there had already been 13,006 confirmed infections and 10 deaths nationwide from the disease.

The Northeast (Isan) had more confirmed infections than anywhere else in the country, the report noted. Central Thailand ranked second, followed by the South and the North.

"Although the number of cases so far this year is less than for the same period last year, it is expected that the number of dengue patients will increase as Thailand has now entered the rainy season," the warning noted.

People were urged to clear all standing water from around their homes, keep their houses clean, including by simple tasks such as keeping clothes

folded and stored properly, and by keeping unused flower pots and buckets turned upside down.

In addition, mosquito bites can be prevented by wearing long-sleeved shirts or trousers and using different types of mosquito repellents, the warning added.

The same measures would also help prevent the spread of Chikungunya and the Zika virus, the warning noted.

Any people who believed they were suffering from dengue, Chikungunya or Zika were urged to seek medical treatment immediately.

Those infected will develop a fever with a temperature of up to 40°C within five to eight days after a mosquito bite.

The symptoms for all three diseases include high fever; headache; muscle aches; redness of the face; rashes; bruising or lesions on the body, arms, legs; poor appetite; and even a runny nose.

People seeking more information about the diseases were urged to call the DDC hotline 1422.



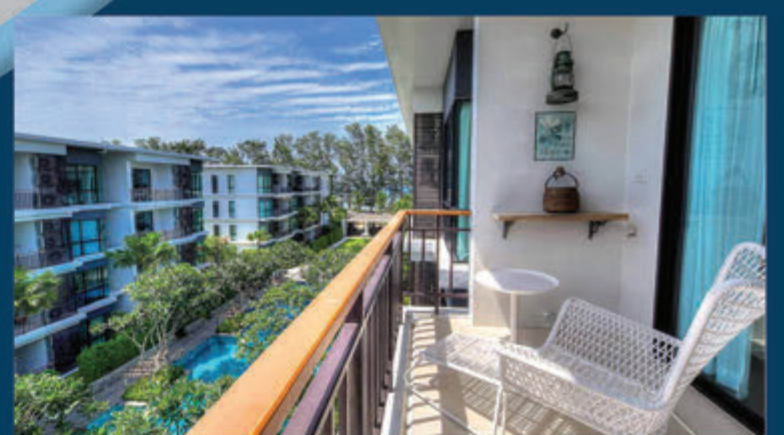
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# 'The Last Dance'

Michael Jordan in 'The Last Dance'. Image: IMDB

**David Griffiths**

That is why the latest documentary from Netflix, co-produced by ESPN Films, has turned out to be such a welcome breath of fresh air in the genre. *The Last Dance* could have easily become a one-dimensional film worshipping the great Michael Jordan. Instead the film looks at one of the most recognisable sports personalities on the planet and the result is one of the most watched sport documentaries of all time.

as much going on behind the scenes as there was on the court. The Bulls were competing to achieve their second three-peat in titles while the front office of the Bulls was making it publicly known that this would be coach Phil Jackson's last season at the helm. That news caused a media storm as everybody publicly speculated whether Jackson leaving the Bulls would see the likes of Jordan, Scottie Pippen and Dennis Rodman also looking for a way out at the end of the season.

Unlike most sports documentaries *The Last Dance* puts all the evidence out on the table and lets the audience decide who were the heroes and villains in the story at hand. While the film does look at the genius and skills of Jordan while also highlighting the key parts of his life and career that got him to the highest heights, it also explores how his teammates viewed him. To hear what the likes of Pippen, Scott Burrell and Steve Kerr thought of their gifted teammate. It is their testimonies that help the audience work out their own thoughts on Jordan – was he a great team-player or someone who bullied some teammates

What makes *The Last Dance* such a captivating documentary is how open the interviewees are. Michael Jordan goes from a man who is very guarded about his personal life to someone who openly talks about the emotions he went through when his father was brutally murdered. Many interviewees are also surprised as filmmakers show them what opponents and teammates said about them. Seeing Jordan responding ‘live’ to things like Reggie Miller talking about their epic battles is priceless television, especially if you are a hardened NBA fan.

Dramatic, gripping and heart-breaking, *The Last Dance* contains all the emotions that most sports documentaries forgot all about.

*David Griffiths has been working as a film and music reviewer for over 20 years. That time has seen him work in radio, television and in print. You can follow him at [www.facebook.com/subcultureentertainmentaus](http://www.facebook.com/subcultureentertainmentaus)*



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# Creating a Coffee Culture



## CAFE SOCIETY

Amy Bensema  
bensema.amy@gmail.com

**B**orn out of a love for good coffee and the idea to support local artisan coffee makers during these unprecedented times, Coffee Culture is an innovative online platform that opens the door to local coffee farmers and roasters in Thailand.

We all love good coffee. For those of us who love cafe hopping, this pandemic has really thrown a roadblock into getting our daily caffeine fix. With so many small cafes and speciality coffee shops still temporarily closed, one has to wonder if our local favourite spots will have the financial means to bounce back. While we certainly hope to see our beloved baristas again, Coffee Culture (<https://coffeeculture.asia/>) presents a wonderful alternative in the meantime.

The brainchild of Susan Villota, Coffee Culture is an online marketplace for coffee lovers in Thailand. It's a dedicated site that allows coffee lovers to buy freshly-roasted coffee directly from Thai roasters. Coffee Culture aims to reinvent the way people discover, buy and enjoy coffee.

With delivery available throughout Thailand, Coffee Culture is a coffee



Coffee Culture bridges the gap and brings local coffee lovers a range of beans from Thai coffee growers and roasters. Photo: Supplied

marketplace that truly makes a difference. It's a marketplace that supports local roasters to sell directly to consumers. Additionally, a coffee subscription is available. The coffee subscription will feature different beans with distinctive flavours. With so many local livelihoods put on hold or totally lost during this pandemic, Coffee Culture allows consumers to get to know local coffee growers and their story while sustaining their livelihood and bringing income to their families.

Originally, the Coffee Culture online marketplace was meant to launch this June. However, Susan decided to create the platform as a crowdfunding campaign in order to accelerate the launch. The purpose being to help the local roasters who are no doubt suffering,

"I want to help local Thai people, who are doing what they love most. To give their coffee product the chance to survive by giving them the awareness needed for potential customers to buy them. Business owners should focus on developing their business to reach the goals and dreams they have," she explains.

The current crowdfunding campaign presents a unique opportunity to build a dedicated marketplace for the local coffee farmers and roasters in Thailand. It is a wonderful way for all of us who love coffee to support small, local businesses while discovering robust bean varieties from all over Thailand. Coffee Culture's aim is true – to help local coffee farmers and roasters to raise their standards,

to promote coffee awareness and to create an online coffee culture in Thailand.

For those interested in backing the Coffee Culture crowdfunding campaign, there are a variety of monetary donations to choose from. For example, if you choose to donate B360, you can receive 500 grams of Coffee Culture's signature coffee blend. The blend is available in Medium or Dark Roast, and you can choose the beans to arrive whole or grounded. Alternatively, you can select the Coffee Tasting Kit, which provides the chance to taste three different Thai coffee blends.

Personally, I think that Coffee Culture is a wonderful idea. I love the idea of coming together over a delicious cup of coffee to support local coffee farmers and roasters in Thailand. To learn more about Coffee Culture and their crowdfunding campaign, visit [coffeeculture.asia](https://coffeeculture.asia) or reach out to Susan via email at [susan@coffeeculture.asia](mailto:susan@coffeeculture.asia) Search @coffeeculturethailand to see more from the crowdfunding campaign, including great coffee pairing recipes and videos.

*Cafe Society is a monthly column which chronicles one girl's search for the perfect cup of coffee. Have a cafe to recommend? Contact Amy via email at [bensema.amy@gmail.com](mailto:bensema.amy@gmail.com) or follow her caffeinated adventures as @phuketstagram on Instagram.*



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# POP QUIZ

1. Wuhan is the capital of which Chinese province?
2. What was the name of the villainous bodyguard in the James Bond film *Goldfinger*?
3. Who wrote the novel *The Great Gatsby*?
4. What was Elton John's first hit released in 1970?
5. Which small bird can fly backwards?

Answers below, centre

## SUDOKU

Hard

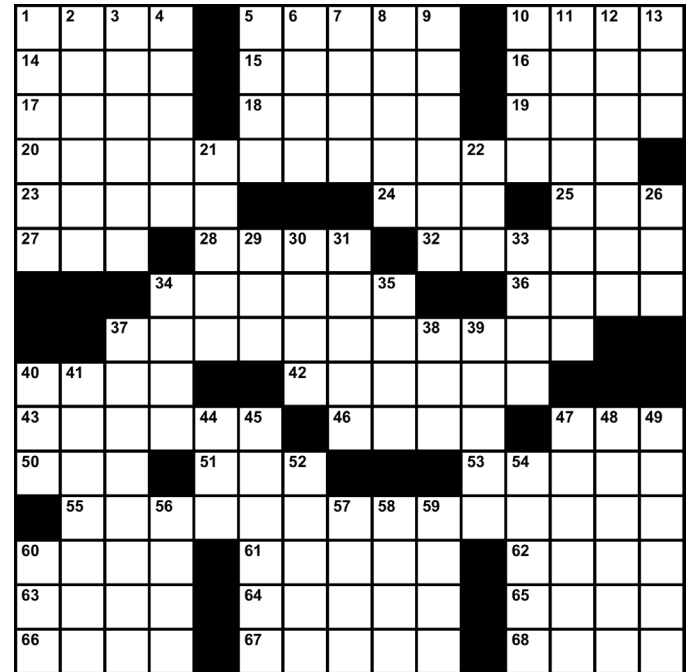
		5			7	2		1
			9					
6				2		3		
	1			3	2		4	
5								2
	6		7	8			1	
		1		6				7
					8			
9		8	5			1		

## Crossword by Myles Mellor & Sally York

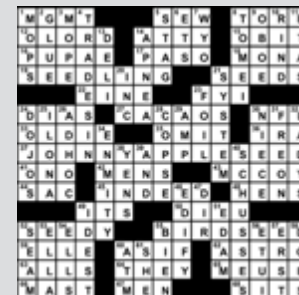
- Across**
1. Can't stand
  5. Inaccurate
  10. The Pointer Sisters' "\_\_\_\_ Excited"
  14. Quite often
  15. "\_\_\_\_ beaucoup"
  16. Truth
  17. The Crimson Tide, familiarly
  18. Really bothered
  19. Miff
  20. Band that sings "Natural"
  23. Kind of resistance
  24. Force open
  25. Ending for Japan and Taiwan
  27. Compass point
  28. Alliance acronym
  32. Encourage
  34. New York county
  36. Some cameras, for short
  37. She's been nicknamed "Songbird Supreme"
  40. Money guarantor, for short
  42. Remnants
  43. Supple
  46. Formerly, once
  47. "Dee-licious!"
  50. Navy ship intro
  51. Kanga's kid
  53. Wide open
  55. Great composer
  60. Grimace
  61. Skyliit areas
  62. Outback hoppers
  63. Gossamer
  64. Kind of line
  65. Sniffer
  66. Cordial in Spain
  67. Some tournaments
  68. Ending for social and capital
- Down**
1. Dresses
  2. Cottonwoods
  3. "Care \_\_\_\_ it interesting?"
  4. French story
  5. "When \_\_\_\_ Loves a Woman"
  6. Parcel
  7. Really steamed
  8. Line of cliffs
  9. Indian lutes
  10. In that case
  11. Courteous
  12. Cut with small blades
  13. Polo Grounds legend
  21. Kind of tube
  22. Swindle
  26. Warrant
  - officer's superior, abbr.
  29. Cuckoo
  30. Milk source
  31. Fall color
  33. Plays mind games
  34. Small pouches
  35. Rent-\_\_\_\_
  37. St. Louis state
  38. Temperature controls, briefly
  39. Smooth over
  40. Cause of chills
  41. Become separated
  44. An hour in Roma
  45. Famed Grand Prix setting
  47. Boors
  48. At the top
  49. Clutters up
  52. In first place
  54. Bouquet \_\_\_\_
  56. Attention-getters
  57. Shore soarer
  58. Coded message
  59. Farmyard sounds
  60. Petty Officer that maintains order on a ship, abbr.

## Answers to this week's Pop Quiz:

1) Hubei; 2) Odd Job; 3) F. Scott Fitzgerald; 4) Your Song; 5) Hummingbird



## Solutions to last week's puzzles:



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

## GOT YOUR NUMBER

2

minutes today sees more photos taken than by all of humanity in the 19th century.

4

minutes is all it takes for silence to become awkward.

26

items the average woman packs in her suitcase that she'll never need.

600

disruptive apes overran Xianfeng village in China after a nearby monkey park was closed due to lack of funding.

1

billion US Dollars is the estimated cost-benefit of the trees lining California's streets, by fighting pollution and saving energy.

Source: Uberfacts

## ISLAND VIEW



View from Wat Patong. Photo: Robert Tosh

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## This week in history

June 5, 1949

Thailand elects Orapin Chaiyakan, the first female member of Thailand's Parliament.

June 6, 1892

The Chicago "L" commuter rail system begins operation.

June 7, 1991

Mount Pinatubo in the Philippines erupts, generating

an ash column 7km high.

June 8, 793

Vikings raid the abbey at Lindisfarne in Northumbria, commonly accepted as the beginning of Norse activity in the British Isles.

June 9, 68 AD

The Roman emperor Nero commits suicide, after quoting Homer's Iliad, thus ending the



Julio-Claudian dynasty and starting the civil war.

June 10, 1990

British Airways Flight 5390

lands safely at Southampton Airport after a blowout in the cockpit causes the captain to be partially sucked from the cockpit. There were no fatalities.

June 11, 1184 BC

Trojan War: Troy is sacked and burned, according to calculations by Eratosthenes.

Source: Wikipedia



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8 JUN



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# Wake up call for sports world

## ALL SPORTS

Pirate Irwin

Global sport is facing the “mother of all wake-up calls” as it emerges from the coronavirus lockdown, with uncertainty over what the landscape for participants and sponsors will look like.

Former head of Olympic marketing Michael Payne believes that although “it will be very painful pulling through it”, sport will nevertheless emerge “healthier and stronger”.

Apart from a few exceptions – the sideshows of football in Belarus or racing in Hong Kong and Australia – sport has been at a standstill since mid-March as the coronavirus pandemic swept the globe, so far claiming more than 378,000 lives. Only now is it edging back to action.

Payne, who was widely credited with transforming the finances of the International Olympic Committee through sponsorship, said such an unexpected crisis had caught sport woefully unprepared.

“Whether it’s international sports federations, football clubs or F1 teams, many were living way beyond their financial means,” he told AFP.

“Very few bodies or organisations had funds set aside for a rainy day. This has been the mother of all wake-up calls.”



Former Formula One supremo Bernie Ecclestone says the return of sports will boost people's morale. Photo: AFP

Payne says tough leadership – and tough and unpopular decisions – are required now.

“Major changes can and will need to be driven through that perhaps would not otherwise have been able to be pushed through if everyone was sitting in their comfort zone.”

“What might have been previously politically unacceptable could now

be possible. Sport will be leaner and stronger for it.”

### Distancing

Should spectators be allowed to attend events, one consequence of coronavirus is likely to be strict social-distancing measures being imposed if the Olympics and Euro 2020 take place next year.

Terrence Burns, a former IOC marketing executive who since leaving his role has been pivotal in five successful Olympic bid city campaigns, says imposing restrictions on spectators would rob major events of “part of their mystique and appeal”.

Burns is upbeat about the future for sponsors but expects them to

choose projects more carefully.

“Sports will always be a major component of marketing and promotional strategy for brands because of its emotive efficacy,” he said.

“Having said that, I expect the ‘sponsor universe’ not necessarily to shrink, but certainly to become more prudent and more exacting as it looks ahead where to spend its money.”

“This means sports will have to work harder, in some cases re-invent themselves, to attract sponsorship dollars that in the past were more of a sure thing.”

### Fans desperate

Former Formula One supremo Bernie Ecclestone, who ran F1 for decades, says the ordinary fan’s wish is rather simpler.

“At the moment what has the family to talk about but coronavirus?” he told AFP.

“It is hardly very uplifting and something you want to discuss, but people do discuss how it is affecting them or the best way to avoid getting it.”

While “none of us have a clue” about the science of the virus “people do have knowledgeable opinions on sport, who their favourite competitors are or who will win.”

“As soon as it returns in that respect, the better for people’s morale,” Ecclestone concluded. AFP

## F1 season gets green light

### FORMULA ONE

THE TRUNCATED CORONAVIRUS-hit season will finally get underway with the Austrian Grand Prix on July 5, the Austrian government announced on May 30.

The Spielberg circuit has also been given the green light to stage a second race the following weekend.

“The two Formula One races on July 5 and 12 at Spielberg will be staged without spectators,” announced Austrian Health Minister Rudolf Anschober.

He said that the two races had been approved after F1 organisers “had presented a complete and professional plan” to combat the spread of COVID-19.

Anschober added a caveat to his statement, insisting the season’s belated restart would only go ahead if all the health assurances made by F1 were fulfilled.

“In addition to strict hygiene measures the plan also involves regular testing and health check-ups for teams and all the other employees,” he said.



“The crucial element will be the close coordination between the organisers and the regional and local health authorities,” he added.

### ‘Austria fits the bill’

Its remote location made the Red Bull Ring circuit a “logical” location to stage the season’s first two races, F1 managing director Ross Brawn said.

With a local airport, the races can be held in an isolated environment, essential in the fight against the pandemic that has killed, at time of press, more than 378,000 worldwide.

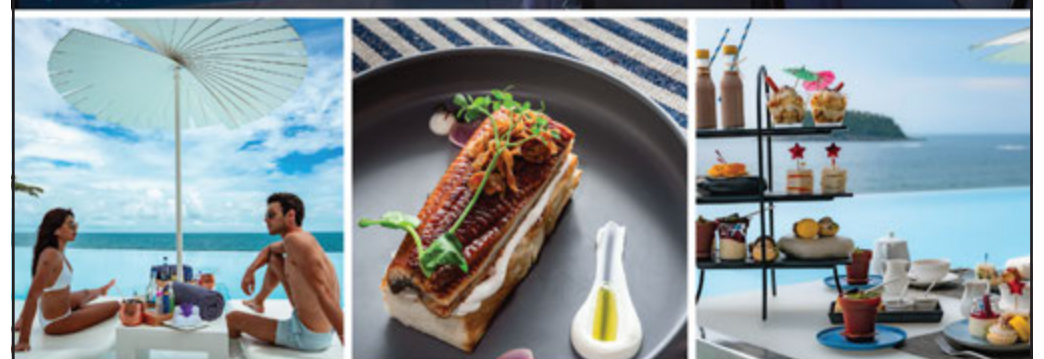
“One of the logistical

challenges is getting everyone tested and cleared to enter the racing environment,” Brawn explained.

“Once we do that, it’s very attractive to keep everyone in that environment, within that biosphere that we want to create, for another race.”

“Austria fits that bill very well. It has a local airport right next to the circuit, where people can charter planes into. It’s not too close to a metropolis.”

The 2020 F1 season was to have featured a record 22 races, now it is set to be one of the shortest campaigns for over a decade. AFP



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# Sport



The sports world post virus > p11

# PROJECT RESTART

## FOOTBALL

AFP

Premier League clubs agreed last Thursday (May 28) to restart the 2019/20 season on June 17, provided that all safety requirements are in place to prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

Aston Villa v Sheffield United and Manchester City v Arsenal, both rearranged games, will take place on that date, the English top-flight said in a statement.

After those matches, all 20 clubs would have played 29 matches heading into the weekend of June 19-21, when the rest of the top flight is scheduled to be in action.

The last Premier League match before the shutdown was Leicester versus Aston Villa on March 9, with all English professional football suspended four days later.

Premier League shareholders also approved a proposal that would see all 92 remaining matches broadcast live in Britain, including some games



Liverpool are on the verge of winning the Premier League, which will resume play on June 17. Photo: AFP

on the BBC.

Planned kick-off times would also differ from the traditional times.

"Today we have provisionally agreed to resume the Premier League on Wednesday 17 June," said Premier League chief executive Richard Masters.

"But this date cannot be confirmed until we have met all the safety requirements needed, as the

health and welfare of all participants and supporters is our priority.

"Sadly, matches will have to take place without fans in stadiums, so we are pleased to have come up with a positive solution for supporters to be able to watch all the remaining 92 matches."

England captain Harry Kane, who plays for Tottenham, tweeted: "Football is back soon."

### Government go-ahead

The UK Government gave the green light for live competitive sport to return behind closed doors "in safe and carefully controlled environments" from Monday (June 1).

The Times reported some "high risk" matches, such as a home fixture for Liverpool at Anfield that could see them clinch the title, may be moved to neutral venues to stop fans congregating outside grounds in defiance of social-distancing rules.

"That's what we were all waiting for," Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp said. "But now it's always like this. You were waiting for that, somebody tells us we could start, that's good."

Klopp's Liverpool appear certain to be crowned champions but issues of relegation and European qualification still need to be resolved.

Liverpool are 25 points clear at the top of the table while Bournemouth, Aston Villa and Norwich City are in the relegation places.

The leaders could clinch the title with victory in their first game back, scheduled to be the Merseyside derby

against Everton, should second-placed Manchester City lose to Arsenal.

"WE. GO. AGAIN," tweeted Liverpool midfielder Georginio Wijnaldum.

"We'll miss having you with us at the stadiums, but we'll do everything we can to make you proud."

### FA Cup returns

The Premier League suspended all fixtures in March after Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta and Chelsea winger Callum Hudson-Odoi tested positive for COVID-19.

However, so far, just 12 people have tested positive for coronavirus after 2,752 tests across the Premier League.

Provisional dates have also been set by the English Football Association to finish the FA Cup, with August 1 touted as a possible date for the final.

Elsewhere, Germany's Bundesliga resumed earlier last month, La Liga in Spain will return on June 11, while Italy's Serie A will be back on June 20.

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