

In Loving Memory

KING BHUMIBOL ADULYADEJ

December 5, 1927 – October 13, 2016



With the Greatest Respect  
Phuket News

# The Phuket News

Your Island – Your Paper

LIVE  89.5

Phuket  NEWS TV

f thephuketnews  
▶ thephuketnews1  
W thephuketnews.com



Friday, October 13 – Thursday, October 19, 2023

Since 2011 / Volume XIII / No. 41

20 Baht

PATONG TUK-TUK DRIVERS ASSAULT TOURIST > PAGE 3

## BACK AGAIN



Tourists enjoy the tables and chairs provided by vendors at Surin Beach just one week before the vendors presented their request to the Governor. Photo: Supplied

## VENDORS PETITION NEW GOVERNOR TO RETURN TO SURIN BEACH

The Phuket News  
editor@classactmedia.co.th

New Phuket Governor Sophon Suwannarat had been on the island just one day when vendors hit him with a petition to allow them to return to Surin Beach, where they were vacated by force nearly 10 years ago.

Governor Sophon arrived in Phuket with his wife, Ms Busadee, on Oct 4 (see page 2). The next day some 40 vendors from Surin beach

descended on Provincial Hall to present him with a formal petition calling for the newly arrived Governor to rescind the provincial orders that had declared Surin Beach reserved purely for public use without vendors, and for the beach to be declared a "King's Beach".

The vendors plainly asked to be able to return to their previously allotted spaces along the small beachfront road at Surin to set up their businesses.

Pradub Koliyanon, assistant to Thitikan Thitipruethikul, Member

of Parliament for Phuket District 3 (all of Thalang District plus Tambon Kathu), was joined by the group of disgruntled vendors, many brandishing hand-written signs, to submit the formal request directly to Mr Sophon.

The letter explained that 20 years ago vendors were allowed to set up shop and make a living at Surin Beach, with appropriate taxes being paid to the Chong Talay Tambon Administration Organisation (OrBorTor).

However, subsequent changes by

Order (NCPO), under the military government established by Gen Prayut Chan-o-cha, had abolished these rights which saw shops at the site demolished and notice boards installed detailing the closure and restrictions.

The letter further explained that during COVID-19 villagers who were desperate to provide for their families had returned to the site to sell goods to residents and the few tourists stranded in Phuket at the time.

However, shortly afterwards,...

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

NEWS PAGE 5

Daniel, 10, still fights for life – but help needed



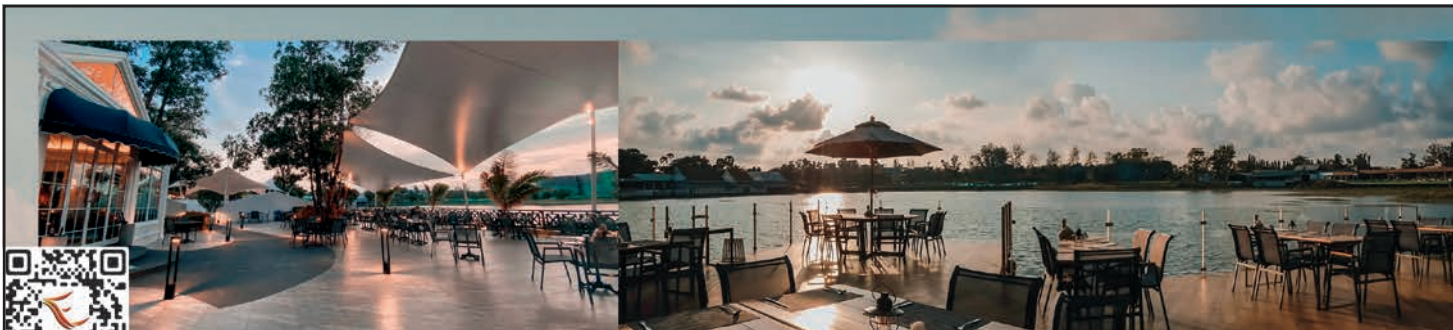
LIFE PAGE 8

Vegetarian Fest set to take over Phuket's streets



SPORT PAGE 16

Thai megastar Stamp Fairtex creates history



EDEN GRILL

THE FINEST METROPOLITAN GRILL RESTAURANT IN BOAT AVENUE, PHUKET

OPEN DAILY 1 PM - 12 AM

RESERVATIONS

☎ 092 658 5899

EDENGRILLPHUKET

INFO@EDENGRILLPHUKET.COM

@thepuketnews

LIVE  89.5

Phuket  NEWS TV



execeditor@classactmedia.co.th

# News



**B300mn new  
'Cancer Center'  
on its way > p6**

## Vendors revive battle for Surin

Continued from page 1

...a group claiming to be from the Internal Security Operations Command (ISOC), the political arm of the Royal Thai Armed Forces, had intervened and ordered the vendors to vacate. The 'ISOC' officers allegedly did not possess or present any form of official documentation or identity cards to the merchants.

It was also stated that the same ISOC team were scheduled to return to the site again to demolish any shop structures that were still remaining.

As such, the group request assistance from Governor Sophon as to the following:

1. To cancel Provincial Order No. 1/2014, Provincial Order No. 1/2015, Provincial Order No. 1/2016, and Provincial Order No. 2/2016.

2. For the Governor to issue an immediate order to delay the demolition of the shops until there is an alternative solution.

3. To include the villagers in discussions relating to an appropriate solution. The villagers are ready to cooperate with local government to establish a satisfactory plan whereby shops are allocated and taxes are then paid fairly and correctly.

The delegation further explained that the fair allocation of space for them to operate would be a major advantage for tourists in the local area too and that taxes paid from their business would help further develop the areas around Surin Beach.

Regulation on the use of public toilets and similar facilities also needs to be

clarified, they added.

After receiving the letter and in response, Governor Sophon explained that he needed to thoroughly check all the facts and liaise with all relevant departments to ensure all parties and operations are in accordance with related laws and regulations.

Governor Sophon spent the majority of his first days conducting meetings with relevant government officials as he officially declared his plans for the future development of Phuket.

### GLARING OMISSIONS

One key omission by the vendors presenting their latest appeal to Governor Sophon was that vendors have already returned to the beach, serving tourists with plastic chairs and tables that are removed each day – on the pretense that each business is not a permanent feature at the beach. Each business has its own area, and serves its own customers.

The request submitted to Governor Sophon also omitted a long history of abuse, corruption and the ground rules laid out when the Army ordered all businesses to be removed from Surin Beach in 2014.

Even the claim that vendors were allowed to operate businesses at Surin Beach 20 years ago was not true, according to MaAnn Samran, Chief of the Cherg Talay Tambon Administration Organisation (OrBorTor) at the time.

In 2014, when faced with enforcing the Army order to remove all businesses from Surin Beach, Mr MaAnn



**Governor Sophon faces the vendors at Provincial Hall.**  
Photo: Eakkapop Thongtub

explained that the structures along the east side of the path were originally built by the OrBorTor after the 2004 Tsunami as housing for people who had lost their homes.

In the following 10 years, the structures had changed hands many times and none of them were houses anymore – all were occupied by businesses. "The OrBorTor charged no rent [at the beginning]; we just allowed local people to live there. But later they sold their [right to occupy the] places until the places became something else entirely," Mr MaAnn said.

However, *The Phuket News* was told that although Cherg Talay OrBorTor managed the land on the east side of the path, it did not own it. The land belonged to the state, just like the strip along the beach. In essence, Cherg Talay OrBorTor had no right to allow people to live on public land

along the beachfront, never-mind operate businesses there. As such the OrBorTor had no right to levy any taxes, or as was commonly understood at the time, charge each business rent according to the size and nature of the venture.

The OrBorTor's original aim to help local people in distress after the tsunami would be legitimate provided the relevant permits were obtained. But the occupants never owned the buildings and could not legally sell, rent, or assign their occupation rights to anyone else, a legal expert explained to *The Phuket News* at the time.

Mr MaAnn in 2014 also said that the Phuket provincial government, with the Army's direction and support, did not want to see beach chairs on public land anymore. "There will be no beach chairs or beach beds in the future [along Surin Beach]." Mr

MaAnn said.

However, the chairs and businesses returned time and again, with very little action by Mr MaAnn, who repeatedly claimed he had to keep waiting for provincial officials to take action – even though he had been directly ordered to remove the businesses.

Of note, only last month an investigation by the National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC) deemed Mr MaAnn guilty of corruption for illegally issuing building permits for the New Nordic Phuket Water World project in Bang Tao.

Regardless, tired of delaying action further, in April 2016 the Army moved in and razed all remaining businesses at Surin Beach to the ground and removed the rubble. Among the businesses whose structures were removed by force were branded franchise beach clubs and large-scale restaurants and bars.

### RAJABHAKTI PARK

The clearing of businesses at Surin beach in 2014 coincided with plans announced to spend B800 million on creating a 'Rajabhakti Park' public area covering nearly 200 rai.

At least 50 rai was to be transformed into a botanical garden and the rest of the area was to include a museum, monuments and other attractions. The monuments were to comprise seven statues honouring past Thai kings from the Sukhothai period to the current royal house of Chakri, as featured at the original the Rajabhakti Park built at Hua Hin in 2014.

"We want this new park to be a place to honour Their Majesties The King and Queen because HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej and HM Queen Sirikit visited Surin Beach in 1959," said Chokdee Amornwat, Phuket Vice Governor at the time.

However, the B800mn plan was scrapped in 2017 after the Army faced intense pressure over high-priced 'concession fees' and even 'finder's fees' given to friends of high-ranking military figures for construction of the Rajabhakti Park at Hua Hin.

Instead, the Phuket Government opted for a 'Surin Public Park' costing B12mn.

The Army attempted to revive the B800mn Rajabhakti Park plan in 2018, but the project failed to gain traction.

### BACK AGAIN

All the while still the vendors returned time and again, and issued more eviction notices in December 2019. In January 2020, before the pandemic and tourism restrictions were introduced, some 40 vendors from the beach submitted yet another formal request to return – after they had been served multiple eviction notices throughout the preceding month.

By March, vendors returned in open defiance of the order, and despite repeated threats by Mr MaAnn, faced no legal action for setting up businesses on state land without permission.

Today, vendors have again returned to the beach, while asking the new Governor for permission to do so.

## New Governor arrives, outlines plans for island's development

IT WAS THE FIRST OFFICIAL day in office for new Governor of Phuket Sophon Suwanarat on Oct 5 and he used the occasion to outline his plans for the province moving forward.

Governor Sophon explained that he aspires to create a united Phuket family that can cooperate across all sectors to help further develop the island as a world-class tourist destination to drive the economy and provide a good quality of life for local residents.

Top of the list of priorities, he said, would be a smooth integration of relevant agencies to solve

the two main challenges facing the island currently – namely problems relating to traffic congestion and flooding.

Governor Sophon and his wife Ms Busadee, who now takes on the role of President of the Red Cross Society of Phuket, arrived at Provincial Hall at 8am where they were afforded a warm welcome by Rewat Areerob, President of the Phuket Provincial Administrative Organisation (PPAO) along with selected government officials and civil servants.

Governor Sophon chatted with the group before paying homage to



Photo: PR Phuket

the Royal Monument of His Majesty King Chulalongkorn (Rama V) on the grounds of Provincial Hall. Respects were also paid to the national flag of Thailand, raised on a flagpole nearby.

It was then down to business as a meeting with the PPAO covered topics such as finding a sustainable

solution to the threat of flooding brought about by heavy rain.

The ongoing challenge of traffic congestion that has been suffocating parts of the island recently was also discussed, as was the proposal of developing public mass transit networks to alleviate the issue.

The development of soft power was also part of discussions, with the award-winning Phuket Peranakan Festival cited as an appropriate example of how this can benefit the province economically and culturally to provide a good standard of life for the island's residents.

Following the conclusion of

the meeting, further homage and respects were paid by Governor Sophon and his wife at monuments to Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, Krom Phraya Damrong Rajanubhab, and Phra Buddha Thamrong Ming Muang. Additional homage was paid to the Navarat Bopit Buddha at the Phuket Governor's Office on the fourth floor of Provincial Hall.

Governor Sophon's afternoon consisted of numerous meetings with heads of government agencies to discuss development plans for Phuket, a spokesman said.

*The Phuket News*



# Taxi app drivers warned against airport pickups

The Phuket News  
editor@classactmedia.co.th

Authorities at Phuket International Airport, operated by Airports of Thailand (AoT), have posted a sign warning all taxi drivers not authorised by AoT to pick up passengers at the airport will be fined B2,000.

Confirmation of the warning sign posted at the entrance to the airport was posted online by the Phuket Info Center on Oct 5.

AoT Phuket and the Phuket Land Transport Office (PLTO), which regulates all taxi vehicles operating on the island, at time of press both had yet to announce the warning through their own media channels.

The warning informs that all “public hire vehicles” (taxis) and personal cars being used as taxis that are not authorised by AoT are forbidden from entering the airport grounds. Doing so is punishable by a fine of up to B2,000 under the Land Transport Act 1979, the sign explains.

The only taxi app whose



Image: Phuket Info Center

drivers are currently allowed to pick up passengers at Phuket airport is Grab, which became the first – and remains the only – taxi app service to be permitted to do so.

At the launch of allowing Grab drivers to serve the airport, AoT President Kerati Kijmanawat announced that other taxi app services were being “considered” in being allowed to serve passengers at the airport.

However, that was more on Sept 1, and AoT has yet to announce any other taxi app services being approved

to serve the airport. AoT has also yet to make public any terms and conditions required by AoT in order for a taxi app service to be allowed to serve the airport.

Of note, only a week later, on Sept 6, taxi cooperative drivers, who for decades had an AoT-endorsed stranglehold on serving passengers at the airport, filed a formal complaint of losing income to taxi app drivers. The formal complaint was received by Rewat Areerob, President of the Phuket Provincial Administration Organisation (PPAO).

The same issue was raised at a meeting of top-ranking Phuket officials on Sept 20.

Taxi concession fees at Phuket International Airport was among the long list of issues announced by local officials to be presented to Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin during his most recent visit to Phuket, on Sept 29.

However, since being royally endorsed as the 30<sup>th</sup> Prime Minister on Aug 23 PM Srettha Thavisin has twice visited Phuket to discuss “issues affecting Phuket’s tourism and transport development” – but has yet to even recognise the decades-long issue of cartel-controlled taxis enforced through terms and conditions set by AoT with law enforcement support by Tourist Police, local police and the PLTO.

Instead, PM Srettha has focussed on announcing budget amounts to be spent on improving the airport and the road network on the island – the same road network that tourists will need to use taxis to travel on in order to reach their hotels.

# Van driver fined B5k for dumping tourists

A PHUKET PASSENGER van driver has been fined B5,000 for abandoning two Russian tourists by the side of the road because he did not want to risk driving through a police checkpoint.

The driver pulled over and had the two Russian tourists, both women, get out of the van on the bypass road at about 12:40pm on Oct 3.

What the van driver did not realise was that he had abandoned the tourists right in front of the offices of Somchart Techathavorncharoen, the Member of the House of Representatives, representing Phuket District 1.

Mr Somchart explained that his team provided assistance to the two women, and informed police of their predicament.

Police soon tracked down the van driver, a 31-year-old man named in Phuket City Traffic Police report only as “Mr A”, and brought him in for questioning.

The van driver admitted that he had picked up his two passengers from the Laguna area in Cherng Talay and was to drop them off at the Central Festival shopping mall.



Image: Phuket City Traffic Police

However, Phuket City Police has set up a traffic checkpoint in front of the Keehin outlet on the bypass road. He stopped the van about 400 metres before the checkpoint and had the two women exit the vehicle as he did not want to risk being checked by the police.

Officers later confirmed that the road tax on the van had not been paid.

“Police officers have issued a fine of 5,000 baht and are coordinating with the Provincial Transport Office to summon this taxi driver for further punishment,” Mr Somchart confirmed through a post on his official Facebook page.

The post was marked by the hashtag: #ถ้าวัดไกลประเทศไทยไม่เหมือนเดิม “(As we advance further, Thailand is not the same as before).

The Phuket News

# Tuk-tuk drivers in Patong charged for assault on tourist over fare dispute

THREE TUK-TUK DRIVERS IN PATONG have been charged with “jointly causing harm to another person” after an altercation with a tourist over a B300 fare.

Patong Police reported late last Sunday night (Oct 8) that the three drivers involved in the incident earlier that day had been charged.

The report noted that a video of the assault, right in front of a resort on Rath-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, was posted online.

Patong Police said they had tracked down the primary tuk-tuk driver involved in the incident, named in the report only as “Mr Anuson”, 29, through CCTV.

Anuson was brought to Patong Police Station, where he named two other tuk-tuk drivers involved in the physical attack: named by police as “Mr Apisid”, 26, and “Mr Nasrullo”, 28

The three men were later fully identified as Anuson Sansathan, 28, from Krabi; Apisid Suwanno, 24, from Surat Thani; and Nasrullo Smuhasenito, 27, from Hat Yai.

Anuson picked up a Saudi tourist at the corner of Soi Sansabai and Rath-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd at about 6:15am, police explained.

The tourist asked to be taken to a hotel located near Kalim Circle. The agreed fare was B200.

However, when reaching the destination the tourist said it was the wrong hotel and asked to be taken to another hotel, on Rath-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd.

On arriving at the hotel on Rath-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, Anuson said the fare was B400. The tourist paid only B300, police said.

Anuson called his two friends and fellow



Hotel staff assist the tourist away from the attack. Screenshot: Supplied

tuk-tuk drivers, Apisid and Nasrullo, to help. When they arrived, “the negotiations were not fruitful”, Patong Police explained.

During the argument the tourist took the tuk-tuk keys by force, leading to the three tuk-tuk drivers, Anuson, Apisid and Nasrullo, to assault him, police said.

The video of the incident posted online showed the tourist being assisted away from the tuk-tuk by what appeared to be hotel staff.

While the hotel staff were holding the tourist up and attempting to move him away from the scene of the altercation, two of the tuk-tuk drivers can be seen kicking the tourist. The first kick landed high near the face, the second kick was to the stomach.

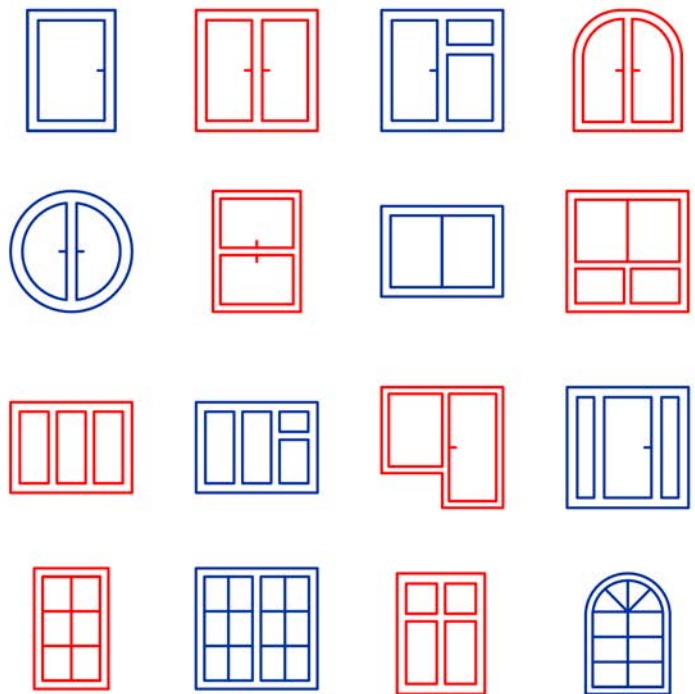
All three were charged with “jointly causing physical harm to another person”, Patong Police confirmed.

Patong Police has also coordinated with the Phuket Land Transport Office (PLTO) regarding the suspension of the tuk-tuk drivers’ driving licenses, police noted in their report.

The Phuket News



Safe, Secure, Soundproof  
Windows and Doors



087 061 7631 @nathan Upvc brown pvcphuket.com



## CONTACT US

editor@classactmedia.co.th 076 612 550

**PURIYA BEAVAN**  
Editor**CHRIS HUSTED**  
Executive Editor  
084 307 7408  
execeditor@classactmedia.co.th**BEN TIREBUCK**  
News / Sport Editor  
061 806 8132  
editor3@classactmedia.co.th**CHUTHARAT 'UM' PLERIN**  
Thai Editor  
088 766 1615  
thai@classactmedia.co.th**JASON BEAVAN**  
General Manager  
086 479 7471  
gm@classactmedia.co.th**SIRIPORN (NOK) SEANGMAS**  
Sales Support  
086 479 7470  
sales@classactmedia.co.th**NIRAVIT 'MOS' VORAVANITCHA  
THANAPONG 'OAK' KHAO-AMPHAIPHAN**  
Graphic designersThe Phuket News  
@thephuketnews

ADVERTISING

ClassAct Media

The Phuket News

WINDOW ON PHUKET

Where to eat in PHUKET

Новости Phuket

ข่าวภูเก็ต

NEWS TV

LIVE 89.5

Phuket TICKETMASTER

076 612 550 ext. 605

Fax: 076 612 553

Info@classactmedia.co.th  
thephuketnews.com99/7 Moo 1 (Billion Plaza),  
T. Kathu, A. Kathu, Phuket 83120

## PHUKET SEVEN DAY WEATHER FORECAST

www.foreca.com

FRI OCTOBER 13



High: +30°

Low: +27°

Wind 11 m/s

SAT OCTOBER 14



High: +31°

Low: +27°

Wind 11 m/s

SUN OCTOBER 15



High: +31°

Low: +27°

Wind 11 m/s

MON OCTOBER 16



High: +31°

Low: +27°

Wind 4 m/s

TUE OCTOBER 17



High: +32°

Low: +27°

Wind 4 m/s

WED OCTOBER 18



High: +30°

Low: +27°

Wind 4 m/s

THU OCTOBER 19



High: +30°

Low: +27°

Wind 4 m/s



Photo: Karon Municipality

## Karon Stadium demolished

WORK IS UNDERWAY TO DEMOLISH THE Karon Stadium, which has stood prominently at the southern end of Karon Beach for 28 years.

The demolition of the small but iconic stadium comes after the Phuket Provincial Public Works Department deemed the arena, officially called the 'Thet Phra Kiat Nawamin Sports Stadium', unsafe to use, explained Karon Mayor Jadet Wicharasorn.

"The Phuket Provincial Public Works Department ordered Karon Municipality to stop using the stadium about six to seven years ago," Mayor Jadet said.

"As the order came before I took office as mayor, orders were finally issued to demolish it... This is because the stands have not been used for a long time and are in a dilapidated condition. Therefore it was deemed appropriate to order its demolition," he added.

Hat Yai Demolition Limited Partnership is carrying out the demolition. Work began on Oct 1 with five backhoes bringing down the structures. The demolition is scheduled by contract to be completed by Oct 31.

Hat Yai Demolition won the procurement contract with a bid price of just B0.01, Mayor Jadet pointed out.

To fulfil the government contract requirements, a deposit of B50,000 was still required, as was a penalty of B10,000 for each day that the work remained not completed on time.

"The company will take the rebar from the demolition and sell it at auction," Mayor Jadet said. *Premkamon Ketsara*



Photo: Eakkapop Thongtub

## Man slain in car park

**Eakkapop Thongtub**  
editor@classactmedia.co.th

Police are investigating the death of a man whose body was found with fatal stab wounds in Phuket Town early on Monday morning (Oct 9).

Phuket City Police were informed at 6am that a man's body had been found in a hotel car park on Kra Rd, along Bang Yai Canal, in Phuket Town.

Officers arrived to find the body of Wirun Inya, a 33-year-old driver for the Phuket Provincial Commercial Office. Mr Wirun was originally from Phatthalung Province.

Mr Wirun was dressed in a red short-sleeved sports shirt and red shorts. He had suffered a stab wound under the left breast and

another stab wound to his back.

Police estimated that Mr Wirun had died some three to four hours before they had arrived.

Mr Wirun's phone was found at the scene, and his body was taken to Vachira Phuket Hospital for further medical examination, police confirmed.

Police reported that the 191 hotline control room in Phuket Town had received a report of fighting in front of a well-known restaurant some 500 metres away at 1:50am.

Officers responded, but when they arrived found no evidence of any fight. Local residents confirmed that the parties to the fight had dispersed.

However, blood stains were later found on the ground in

several places in front of the restaurant. Samples of the blood were taken to confirm whether or not it had spilled from Mr Wirun, police said.

Police surmised that Mr Wirun may have been stabbed by a group of assailants in front of the restaurant and then ran to the parking lot in front of the hotel where he collapsed and died.

Mr Wirun had been confirmed to have been drinking and eating at the restaurant before the report of the fight, police said.

Police are continuing to question employees at the restaurant, including the chief security guard at the venue.

Officers are also checking any CCTV footage from inside the restaurant and the surrounding area.

## Car plunges down the drain

THREE PEOPLE escaped serious injury after the car they were travelling in plunged into a roadside construction hole near the Lotus's outlet on the bypass road on the night of Oct 5.

Phuket City Police were alerted to the accident at about 10pm.

Officers arrived along with rescue workers from the Phuket Kuslodharm Foundation to find the silver Toyota Camry sedan stuck in mud in the large hole, excavated to



Photo: Phuket City Police

install large drains beside the Lotus's shopping mall.

The front of the car had struck large concrete drains already installed in the bottom of the metres-deep pit.

The three people inside the car had suffered minor injuries only, rescue workers

confirmed.

Police reported that the driver, unnamed in their report, was unfamiliar with the road.

The driver had only just arrived in Phuket to start work and was "not used to driving this route", police said.

*Eakkapop Thongtub*

## Cable fire endangers homes

DISASTER RESPONSE OFFICIALS at Phuket City Municipality are calling for people to report any dangerous cable fires by calling the 191 emergency hotline.

The urgent reminder comes after a fire that started among communication cables behind Soi Paniang nearly spread into nearby homes early on Oct 3.

Ronapee Ngernsombat of the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM) branch at Phuket City Municipality said his team was informed of the fire at about 3:45am.

Officers rushed to the scene to find communication wires ablaze in front of a food kiosk. The response team took about 45 minutes to extinguish the blaze.

Mr Ronapee said the fire started because of too many cables being too close together.

"On the night of the incident, there was rain falling, and electrical wires release heat after rain," he said.

"When a lot of heat gathers together, vapours form and eventually cause the



Photo: DDPM Phuket City Municipality

communication cables to catch fire," he added.

"There was a risk that the fire would spread to people's homes, causing damage and placing local residents at risk. There are many problems with communication lines that should be resolved," Mr Ronapee noted.

Mr Ronapee also reminded people that the main cause of fires inside homes is due to deterioration of the electrical wires of various electrical appliances.

"People should regularly check their condition. Old or damaged electrical wires should be replaced immediately to prevent unexpected events," he said.

*The Phuket News*



# Daniel still fights for life

The Phuket News  
editor@classactmedia.co.th

A 10-year-old boy who was revived after a drowning incident in Phuket earlier this year is in dire need of an operation to alleviate a condition that is hampering his body's attempt to breathe on its own.

Daniel Andreiev, an international school student from Rawai, was admitted to Vachira Phuket Hospital in critical condition after nearly drowning in a swimming pool incident on May 2.

He was admitted to hospital after suffering cardiac arrest and respiratory failure. Daniel took about 10 minutes to be revived. His diagnosis included severe brain swelling with brain and brainstem dysfunction, acute kidney injury, multiple metabolic disturbance among other medical conditions.

Doctors managed to stabilise Daniel, but he remained in a coma and was transferred to Samitivej Hospital in Bangkok on a commercial medevac flight urgently organised and paid for by local donors. Their vital support significantly increased his chances of recovery.

Medical tests at Samitivej Hospital and doctors' statements encouraged cautious optimism for Daniel's mother, local teacher Liudmyla



Young Daniel Andreiev continues to fight for his life, but pneumonia now stands in his way. Photo: Liudmyla Andreieva

Andreieva. Daniel, his mother and his older sister all live in Phuket. They left Ukraine because of the war.

It was in Bangkok that Daniel began to respond to stimuli, move and show other signs of returning to life, reports *Novosti Phuket*, the Russian-language sister newspaper to *The Phuket News*.

By July, Daniel's condition had improved so much that it became possible to return to Phuket. "We will all definitely get him out, help him and do our best. We can handle it," Liudmyla told everyone who

supported her son's fight for life.

At home in Phuket, Daniel not only increased his motor activity, but also began a real struggle with the artificial respiration device. The brain returning to life insisted that the lungs provide it with oxygen themselves.

Liudmyla explained that Daniel has been in a coma since May, but he is not giving up, consistently showing signs of emerging from a coma. The brain is gradually restoring functions, and the body's attempts to breathe on its own are becoming more active.

However, at the end of September Daniel was hospitalised with pneumonia caused by problems with the functioning of the esophagus, requiring urgent surgery.

Experts from Europe say that the child has a high chance of returning to life, but for this miracle, Daniel's family needs financial help right now to eliminate the cause of pneumonia.

Doctors at first attributed Daniel's problems with breathing to a fight with the apparatus, but then found that due to lying for a long time, the gastrointestinal tract sometimes released food into the lung area. The problem can be solved with surgery, but that requires money.

In her last open appeal, Liudmyla called everyone who supported her family "angels" who performed a miracle for her son. The mother believes that Daniel will come back to life and become an angel of hope for other families who go through a similar experience.

"Dani will succeed, he is a very strong and stubborn boy. The gastroenterologist himself admitted in the last conversation that my child's body is incredibly strong. The problem with the esophagus should have appeared two months ago. But he is an athlete! Even now, even with pneumonia, he continues to wake up!" says Liudmyla.

Through his own efforts and with

the support of his 'angels', Daniel has already come a long way and proved that in any statistics there is room for exception. The 'Help Daniel' support group believes that after five months of struggle, there can no longer be unsolvable problems.

"It is now critically important to raise funds for surgery to eliminate the cause of pneumonia. It requires several hundred thousand baht, which no one else has, but Dani's story shows that many small donations can achieve the impossible. For the same reason, every repost and like on social networks is so dear to us, because the more angels there are behind Daniel, the closer the moment when he opens his eyes," sums up the Help Daniel support group.

You can support Daniel's fight for life by transferring to Liudmyla Andreieva's account in Thailand:

**Bank Name:** Bangkok Bank

**Account Number:** 264-4-690-857

More details about Daniel's fight to live are posted on the websites HelpDaniel.ru and HelpDaniel.info.

People can contact the support group and offer any other assistance through accounts on Telegram, Facebook and Instagram. In particular, the family now really needs support in reaching out to organisations that could provide systematic financial assistance to help the family through these last steps towards recovery.

## Officials warn of floodwater infections

THE DEPARTMENT OF DISEASE Control (DDC) has issued a warning regarding the potentially lethal leptospirosis infection, which can be contracted through physical contact with contaminated water, such as walking through a flooded area or working in a garden after rain.

The warning was issued by the Disease Prevention and Control Region 11 Office and also distributed by the state news agency NNT.

The warning highlights that seven people have already died from leptospirosis from Jan 1 through Sept 23 this year in Ministry of Health Region 11, which includes Phuket, Phang Nga and Krabi.

While maintaining its warnings for monkey pox infections, the Phuket Provincial Health Office has yet to issue warnings about leptospirosis.

According to Dr Kraisorn Tothapthieng, chief of the Disease Prevention and Control Region 11 Office, a total of 583 patients with leptospirosis have been admitted to hospitals within the Region 11 area of authority. Provinces with the highest number of cases were given as Ranong, Nakhon Sri Thammarat, Phang Nga, Surat Thani, Chumphon, Phuket and Krabi.

Dr Kraisorn noted that 465 of the patients were men while 118 were women. The two most common age groups were 35-44 years old, followed by 25-34 years old.

Leptospirosis is a bacterial infection caused by the bacteria *Leptospira* that can infect humans as well as rats, dogs, and other mammals. Rats are known as one of the



most common carriers.

The bacteria are spread to humans through animal urine or, most commonly, through water or moist soil contaminated with animal urine. The *Leptospira* can be found in ponds, canals, puddles, sewers, agricultural fields and moist soil.

The bacteria can infect the target through ingestion of contaminated food, but most commonly, they enter the body through cuts and abrasions on the skin or through contact with the mucous membrane of the body (mouth, nose, eyes or else).

This is why walking through flooded areas without rubber boots or other means of protection can be highly dangerous. Same applies to working with soil without gloves.

"Within approximately one or two weeks after infection, the patient will begin to have fever, headache, body aches and muscle pain. Later there may be red eyes, jaundice, yellow eyes, little urine output, coughing up blood and eventually death," Dr Kraisorn warned.

A person suspecting leptospirosis should urgently contact a medical specialist, Dr Kraisorn stressed. Late admission or self-treatment can lead to a life-threatening development of the disease and death.

*The Phuket News*

AQUELLA  
GOLF • COUNTRY CLUB

## AQUELLA 6'S SERIES

Presented by  
**Kenny Rogers ROASTERS**

**Sunday 22<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

— 12:00 Shotgun Start —

<b>2,550 THB</b> for Visitor	<b>2,250 THB</b> for Thai Resident	<b>1,950 THB</b> for Aquella Club Card Holder
---------------------------------	---------------------------------------	--

Individual stableford competition, using System 36 handicap scoring

- ✓ 18 hole green fee, caddy fee, golf cart & 1 tray of driving range balls
- ✓ Premium dinner buffet
- ✓ Tournament and lucky draw prizes
- ✓ 1 complimentary drink

+66 (0) 76 679 308
 Golfreservations1@aquellagolf.com
 www.AquellaGolf.com



# BDMS to launch 'Cancer Center'

The Phuket News  
editor@classactmedia.co.th

Bangkok Dusit Medical Services (BDMS) is to invest B300 million to open its 'Phuket Cancer Center', marking the first radiotherapy service in Phuket and the Andaman region.

Narintara Boonjongcharoen, Chief Executive Officer – BDMS Group 6, announced the new project on Oct 5.

"Medical technology has developed and a lot of people are living longer, but information from the office the National Economic and Social Development Council (NESDB) in 2021 shows that cancer and tumours are the highest cause of death for Thai people over the past 23 years, and each year the rate continues to increase," Dr Narintara said.

"It was found that both the male and female cancer patients in the southern region – namely those living in the area of the Region 11 Health office, including Chumphon, Nakhon Sri Thammarat, Surat Thani, Krabi, Phang Nga, Ranong and Phuket – each ranked in the top three of their groups.



Photo: PR Phuket

"All of these cancer patients require radiation therapy. However, radiotherapy service centres are mainly located on the east coast of the southern region. As a result, the senior management team of Bangkok Dusit Medical Services Public Company Limited decided to establish a 'Phuket Cancer Center' to provide people in Phuket and in the Andaman area with quick access to effective treatment. It also helps support the Medical and Wellness Destination strategy of Phuket Province as a health tourism destination,"

Dr Narintara said.

Located at Bangkok Hospital Siriroj, on the bypass road, the centre will cover an area of 1,030 square metres, Dr Narintara explained.

"The centre will be designed under the concept of a healing environment (Healing Environment) to make service recipients feel relaxed," he noted.

The centre will comprise a consultation room where specialised radiation oncologists can plan treatments using a computed tomography simulator (CT simulator)

and provide colour therapy services using a linear accelerator (LINAC) as well as short-term high dose rate (HDR) brachytherapy.

The centre will also include an online meeting room through which doctors can coordinate treatment plans in collaboration with the Bangkok Wattanosoth Cancer Hospital, in Bangkok, through teleconferences.

"Construction will be completed and the centre will be ready to open for service in the third quarter of 2024," Dr Narintara said.

"Cancer is an illness that must be treated quickly to control the duration and spread of the disease, but the referral process according to the network system and the density of patient volumes differs in each hospital area, which creates an obstacle to quick access to treatment.

"The Phuket Cancer Center has a policy to care for all patients, and support all treatment rights, including those entitled to treatment under the National Health Insurance (Gold Card), government official health coverage and social security health coverage.

"The centre is also part of the 'Cancer Everywhere' project of the National Health Security Office (NHSO) to help provide care for cancer patients across the country, but especially for people in the Andaman area, so they are able to receive treatment at the Phuket Cancer Center quickly and efficiently" Dr Narintara said.

"There is no need to travel far from home for treatment anymore. For Thai citizens who are not protected under the above treatment rights can be reassured. This is because the service fees of the

Phuket Cancer Center will be at the same or similar rates as government hospitals," Dr Narintara noted.

Prof Dr Thiravud Khuhaprema, Director of the Wattanosoth Cancer Hospital in Bangkok, yesterday highlighted that the Phuket Cancer Center will benefit from direct access to the experience of the specialists at his hospital in the capital.

"The Wattanosoth Cancer Hospital is providing support in terms of relaying its experience in providing treatments to the radiation oncology team, as well as radiotherapy nurses and radiologic technologists, as we as co-designing the building and the service processes that take into account the patient experience, and selecting tools and technology that are safe and environmentally friendly," he explained.

"Wattanosoth Cancer Hospital is very confident that the Phuket Cancer Center will empower people in Phuket and nearby areas to receive treatment in a timely manner. This will help make the treatment more effective, and give patients a better quality of life," Dr Thiravud said.

AustChamThailand  
Business | Connections | Community

27 OCT  
18:00 - 21:00 HRS

BCCT BeLuThai CANTHAM Franco-Thai AHK NTCC

JOINT CHAMBERS

PHUKET  
SUNDOWNERS

Venue sponsor  
SAii PHUKET LAGUNA  
Corporate sponsor  
MEIN-HARDT



Friday 27th October 2023  
18.00 - 21.00 hrs.



Mr. Tomyam  
SAii Laguna Phuket



500 THB for AustCham & partner Chambers' members,  
and Australian Alumni Members\*  
900 THB for non-members

\*\*THIS PRICE INCLUDES COCKTAIL-STYLE FOOD,  
AND FREE-FLOW SELECTED BEVERAGES AND SOFT DRINKS\*\*

EVENT  
SUPPORTER

MEDIA  
PARTNER



REGISTER AT



2023 PLATINUM  
SPONSORS



## AoT outlines B6bn expansion to boost passenger capacity

THE PHUKET BRANCH OF AIRPORTS of Thailand (AoT Phuket) last Friday (Oct 6) celebrated the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 'official opening' of Phuket International Airport, on Oct 8, 1988, with AoT Phuket General Manager Monchai Tanode hailing a great new era for tourism in the region under the new project to expand Phuket airport's capacity and the plan to build a new 'Andaman Airport' in Khok Kloi, Phang Nga.

The number of flights and passengers traveling through Phuket airport has continued to increase, Mr Monchai said.

"From Sept 2022 through Sept 2023, there were 86,741 domestic and international flights and 13,606,638 passengers during the high season of Phuket," he said.

"The number of flights and passengers between October and December 2023 is forecast to see 26,000 flights and more than 4.1 million passengers," he added.

The visa-exemption measures for Chinese and Kazakhstan nationals will be the main driver for tourist arrivals during the upcoming months, Mr Monchai noted.

"It is also an important mechanism for driving the economy and overall tourism of Phuket Province," he said.

"In addition, in the fiscal year 2024, Phuket Airport will accelerate operations in accordance with the Phuket Airport Development Plan, Phase 2 (2023 - 2027), which will be able to accommodate increased air traffic volume from 20 flights per hour to



Photo: PR Phuket

25 flights per hour, and to accommodate no less than 18mn passengers per year using the construction budget of approximately B6 billion," he said.

The expansion will see the new aircraft parking bays added, the construction of a new Ground Service Equipment (GSE) area and the construction of the expansion of the fence around the airside area.

The International Terminal Extension will see construction at both passenger and support buildings, and a "bridge" connecting main buildings at the airport.

Further work under the project includes 'Airport Support Systems', namely public utility systems, Mr Monchai said.

Work to expand and improve the water supply system, the electrical system and the airport's wastewater treatment plant will start. Bidding for contractors will open early next year, with construction to begin by November 2024, Mr Monchai added.

"The construction period will take three years, which according to the plan is expected to be completed by 2027," he said.

The Phuket News



# Teen held after Bangkok mall shooting spree

## BANGKOK

Bangkok Post

A 14-year-old has been charged on five counts, including murder, following the shooting spree inside Siam Paragon shopping mall in Bangkok that left two people dead and five others wounded on Oct 3.

Pol Maj Gen Nakharin Sukhonthawit, commander of Metropolitan Police Division 6, said on Oct 4 investigators had initially pressed five charges against the boy: premeditated murder, attempted murder, illegal possession of a firearm and ammunition, illegally carrying a weapon and firing shots in a public place.

Investigators were also considering whether the boy's parents should be charged under the Child Protection Act.

He said a search of the suspect's room at his home in Lak Song area had found a BB gun and many rounds of ammunition.

The parents of the boy released a letter to the public



Shoppers flee the Siam Paragon mall following the Oct 3 shooting. Photo: Bangkok Post

expressing their "deepest apologies" for the tragedy, adding they were cooperating fully with authorities in the justice process.

The youngster was arrested shortly after a shooting spree inside the shopping mall in Bangkok's Pathumwan district just before the evening peak hours on Oct 3. Two foreign women were killed, one from China and one from Myanmar, and five people wounded as shoppers fled from the mall in panic.

A total of six people have subsequently been arrested in

Yala, Prachuap Khiri Khan and Bangkok for allegedly selling firearms and ammunition online to the shooter.

Pol Lt Gen Samran Nuanma, assistant national police chief, told a news conference on Oct 4 that the weapon used in the attack was a pistol intended to fire blanks.

"But the barrel was modified for live shooting," he said. "We will increase regulations and laws to control the use of firearms."

Prime Minister Srettha Thavasin offered his government's condolences to the

families of the slain women while vowing "preventive measures" would subsequently be taken.

"Let this be the only time this happens. My government will give priority to preventive measures," he said, without giving further details.

However, repeated promises of tightening gun laws in the past have not prevented tragedies.

The Siam Paragon shooting occurred just one year after the Oct 6, 2022 massacre at a child care centre in Nong Bua Lamphu province that left 36 people dead, most of them children. And in 2020, a former soldier gunned down 29 people in a rampage that climaxed in a shopping mall in Nakhon Ratchasima.

By one estimate, Thailand has 10 million guns in circulation – one for every seven citizens, and one of the highest rates of ownership in the region. Many firearms are smuggled into the country, but Kritsanapong Phutrakul, a former police officer and now academic, said internet sales were becoming a problem.

## THEOS-2 launched into orbit

### BANGKOK

THAILAND'S SECOND earth observation satellite was successfully launched into orbit from the French Guiana Space Centre on Monday (Oct 9), the Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency (Gistda) has announced.

The launch of the Thailand Earth Observation Satellite 2 (THEOS-2) from the site in French Guiana, South America, was at 8:36am Thailand time.

Following the successful launch, Thai staff in the control room at the launch station applauded as the satellite detached from the VEGA Flight VV23 rocket and entered its orbit.

About 10am, THEOS-2 began to transmit signals to Gistda's THEOS Control & Receiving Station at Si Racha in Chon Buri province.

Taiwan's FORMOSAT-7R and 10 satellites of the European Space Agency were also due to be launched on the same day.

THEOS-2 was originally scheduled to launch on Oct 7 but liftoff was postponed due to a technical problem 14 seconds before launch.



THEOS-2 prepares for launch. Photo: Bangkok Post

The 425-kilogramme satellite can produce 50-centimetre high-resolution imagery and is tasked with security goals and disaster management. The satellite is expected to improve Thailand's space technology infrastructure, human resources, space industry, geo-informatics and space technology.

The satellite will also contribute to cartography, agricultural and food management, water management, disaster management, city planning and economic corridors, natural resources and ecosystems, Gistda said.

THEOS-2 replaces THEOS-1, also known as Thaichote, launched on Oct 1, 2008, which has reached the end of its lifespan. Bangkok Post

## Police will still ticket motorists despite ruling

### BANGKOK

MOTORISTS WILL CONTINUE to be ticketed despite the Central Administrative Court (CAC) deciding police have issued traffic tickets unlawfully since July 2020, it was announced on Monday (Oct 9).

The CAC ruled on Sept 27 that a Royal Thai Police (RTP) announcement pertaining to traffic tickets, which went into effect on July 20, 2020, was unlawful.

The ruling came after Supa Chotngam, a motorist, petitioned the court asking the announcement be revoked. She lodged the petition against the RTP and the national police chief.

The court, which made public its ruling last Friday (Oct 6), found the RTP announcement misled Ms Supa into believing she had committed a traffic offence and had to pay a fine with no right to dispute the ticket. It contravened Section 29 of the constitution, according to the CAC.

Section 29 stipulates that an accused person is presumed innocent until proven guilty. No law enforcement authority may treat such a person as though they have already

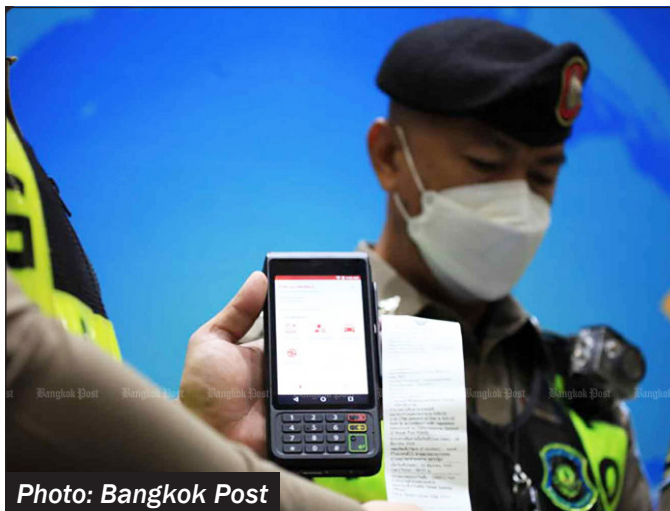


Photo: Bangkok Post

committed an offence.

The CAC decided the announcement was also unlawful in setting fixed rates of traffic fines when the matter should be left to the direction of traffic police. The announcement was made under the Land Traffic Act.

The CAC ordered the announcement be revoked with retrospective effect from July 20, 2020, raising confusion over whether motorists should pay traffic tickets issued since or if the police can continue to hand out tickets.

It was reported that a minority judge in the case argued the petitioner could not be presumed to be devoid of a right to dispute her ticket. In fact, according to the judge,

the petitioner was entitled to refuse to pay the fine and contest the case in court. The announcement, therefore, does not cause her right to dispute the ticket to be forfeited.

The RTP has 30 days in which to appeal the CAC's ruling. If the RTP does not appeal, revocation of the announcement will take effect.

According to deputy national police chief Pol Gen Surachate Hakparn, the RTP will appeal against the ruling, reports said.

Pending the outcome, Pol Gen Surachate said fines will need to be paid at the rates specified in the announcement and traffic police will carry on issuing tickets.

Bangkok Post

## Thais among dead in Israel conflict, evacuations planned

### BANGKOK

AS MANY AS 12 THAI NATIONALS were reported as killed in the violence that erupted in Israel last Saturday (Oct 7), Thailand's Foreign Ministry has said.

The Palestinian militant group Hamas launched a surprise attack as Israel was concluding the seven-day-long Jewish festival of Sukkot that, at time of press, has resulted in 700 deaths and a counter-offensive by Israeli armed forces on Gaza claiming a further 430 lives.

The Thai Air Force confirmed on Tuesday (Oct 10) that it had prepared emergency medical and aviation teams to evacuate over 1,400 Thai nationals from Israel.

The Israeli military has evacuated Thais from the conflict zone to safe areas, and Israeli authorities say they are ready to facilitate the evacuation.

Thai Ambassador to Israel, Pannabha Chandaramya, said the first group of evacuees would be the nine injured who were extracted from high-risk zones.

Citing the Thai embassy in Israel, he said this group of evacuees had been cleared to travel and was expected to leave Wednesday and arrive in Thailand on Thursday.

The number of evacuees would be updated as there are about 30,000 Thais in Israel, with some 5,000 in Gaza.

Citing the Israeli Defence Ministry, Israel intended to evacuate all civilians



Air force crews and aircraft at Don Mueang airport in Bangkok ready for evacuations. Photo: Bangkok Post

from towns near Gaza within 24 hours.

Evacuations would proceed as soon as it was safe to do so and preparations were being coordinated with nearby countries for them to serve as transit points.

The Hamas attackers also captured and held over 100 civilian hostages, including 11 Thai nationals.

The ministry is working multiple channels to negotiate their release, said spokeswoman Kanchana Patarachoke.

"Thai embassies around the world are making their best efforts in securing the safety and release of the captured Thai workers," Ms Kanchana said.

A total of 80 Thai students in Israel had been confirmed safe, she added.

The number of Thai deaths, reported as 12, had not been confirmed by the Thai embassy in Israel at time of press.

Bangkok Post

Additional reporting by The Phuket News





# Honouring the Gods

The Phuket News  
editor@classactmedia.co.th

**M**onths of preparations and weeks of cleaning will come to fruition Sunday evening (Oct 15) as devotees raise Go Teng poles high into the air so that the Jade Emperor and the Nine Emperor Gods may descend from the heavens and walk the Earth while the Phuket Vegetarian Festival for this year takes place over the following nine days.

Some 40 Chinese shrines across Phuket are taking part in the festival this year, but all eyes will be on the Kathu Shrine, the spiritual home of the festival where the purification rituals were first observed 198 years ago.

As is tradition, the festival is held on the first through to the ninth day of the ninth lunar month according to the Chinese calendar.

In the weeks leading up to the festival, devotees and volunteers attended to the shrines, preparing for the thousands of people to arrive to take part in the festivities. Open areas were thoroughly cleaned, as were benches, tables, altars, shrines and images of important gods for the festival, including 'Po Sheng Tai Te', or 'Hong Jin Yin'.

In preparation for the large volume of vegetarian dishes to be cooked at the shrine during the nine-day festival, efforts also focussed on cleaning cooking appliances and kitchenware such as pots and pans, as well as plates, knives, forks and spoons. Also cleaned were items and relics used to perform rituals and ceremonies throughout the festival.

Saffron flags have also been posted at all the participating shrines and along the streets throughout Phuket Town and other areas on the island where festivities will be observed.

Throughout the festival, Mah Song spirit mediums will perform ablutions with bladed weapons while devotees and participants will be invited to take part in a variety of self-purification rituals, including hot oil bathing, fire-walking and bladed-ladder climbing, and the less demanding 'bridge crossing' ceremony.

The shrine administrators have long

asked all people taking part in the festival to observe 10 simple rules:

1. Maintain personal hygiene and cleanliness
2. Clean, use kitchen utensils separately from others not participating
3. Wear white to identify yourself as observing the tradition
4. Be polite (this rule should be followed year round by everyone, anyway)
5. Abstain from eating meat or other animal-based products, including eggs, milk, yoghurt and dairy products in general
6. Abstain from sexual activities
7. Abstain from consuming alcohol and all other fermented foods and substances
8. People in mourning should not take part
9. Pregnant women must refrain from watching the rituals
10. Women undergoing menstruation should not attend festival rituals

Although the COVID-19 restrictions were finally eased for the festival last year, organisers of the festival are still asking people to observe personal hygiene behaviours to help prevent the spread of any disease, namely through coughing or other contagious practices, such as touching with unclean hands any objects to be reused by masses of other people.

Likewise, all shrines have been asked to observe disease prevention and cleanliness measures in line with public health guidelines, and that all mass congregations must strictly follow the measures as before. "Miraculous performances can still be performed normally but within a range that is not very dangerous," one official advisory said.

The official nine days of the festival will draw to a close on Oct 23 with processions from all participating shrines arriving at Saphan Hin after making their way through Phuket Town for a final bonfire during which thousands of prayers for ancestors and the Gods are burnt as offerings for the Gods.

The final night of the festival has long been renowned as spectacular, and noisy, with thousands of people lining the streets of Phuket Town to watch as each major shrine taking part in the festival has devotees carrying an image of their key god to be honoured at

the 'mass farewell ritual' at Saphan Hin.

The mass rituals call the Jade Emperor and the Nine Emperor Gods to return to the heavens with bonfires of notes of prayers and blessings. The rituals conclude at midnight with a blaze of fireworks.

On Oct 24 the final ceremonies are held with the lowering of the Go Teng poles, formally bringing the festival to an end.

## ON THE STREET

Phuket officials have advised motorists to be ready for the street processions to be held as part of this year's Vegetarian Festival, with the first of the street processions taking place on Monday (Oct 16).

The affected streets will be partially or entirely closed to traffic while the street processions pass by. The processions will affect people living in nearly all parts of the island, and will continue through to Oct 23.

While most of the processions take place in the early morning, some local shrines will be holding their street processions in the afternoon.

The official programme of events published by the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) gives route maps for only four of the main processions, all to be held in the heart of Phuket Town on Oct 20-23.

The full list of street processions to be held, according to the official schedule of events, is as follows:

## MONDAY, OCT 16

7:30am Jchoor Su Gong Naka Shrine (better known as the Naka Shrine, Wichit)

## TUESDAY, OCT 17

5:45am - Sapam Shrine  
6:30am - Bang Koo Shrine (Koh Kaew)  
7:00am - Hai Yian Geng Shrine (Baan Mai Khao)  
7:30am - Seng Leng Tong Shrine (Muang Mai)

## WEDNESDAY, OCT 18

6:45am - Lim Hu Tai Su Shrine (Samkong)  
7:00am - Thee Gong Tua Shrine (Phuket Town)

7:00am - Sam Sian Tong Shrine (Chalong)

7:00am - Guan Yu Shrine (Ban Nabon)

7:00am - Ngore Choon Gend Baanya Shrine (Baan Ya)

8:15am - Tai Houd Tong Shrine (Surin Beach)

8:30am - Bu Seng Tong Shrine (Baan Kian)

## THURSDAY, OCT 19

6:09am - Bangjo Shrine (Srisoonthorn)  
6:09am - Ban Tha Rue Shrine (south of Heroines Monument)

6:30am - Jeng Ong Shrine (near Vachira Phuket Hospital in Phuket Town)

7:00am - Tai Seng Oud Jor (Chalong)

7:15am - Tae Gun Tai Tae Shrine (Baan Pasak)

7:30am - Hok Ong Tong Shrine (Chalong)

3:00pm - Seng Leng Tong Shrine (Muang Mai)

6:45pm - Sapam Shrine

## FRIDAY, OCT 20

6:30am - Gim Su Ong Shrine (Baan Don)

7:00am - Cherng Talay Shrine

7:00am - Bang Liao Shrine (Bang Neow, Phuket Town)

5:15pm - Tai Houd Tong Shrine (Surin Beach)

## SATURDAY, OCT 21

6:00pm - Lee Sian Tong Shrine (Srisoonthorn)

6:30am - Gim Su Ong Shrine (Baan Don)

8:00am - Guan Tae Gun (Baan Pon)

8:00am - Jui Tui Shrine (Phuket Town)

## SUNDAY, OCT 22

6:00am - Yok Kae Geng Shrine (Soi Panniang - Samkong/Ratsada)

6:45am - Kathu Shrine

7:00am - Hai Yian Geng Shrine (Mai Khao)

7:00am - Guan Yu Shrine (Ban Nabon)

7:45am - Baan Kian Shrine (Thepkra-sattri)

8:00am - Jong Nghi Tong Shrine (near Tonsai Waterfall, Pa Khlok)

3:09pm - Lee Ong Tong (Tha Chatchai)

## MONDAY, OCT 23

8:00am - Bang Koo Shrine (Koh Kaew)

8:00am - Sui Boon Tong Shrine (Lorong shrine, Phuket Town)



# Have a Nice day!



## BLAZING SADDLES

**Baz Daniel**  
baz\_gunner2000@yahoo.com

I awoke to the seductive aroma of freshly baked croissants and brewing coffee and realised that despite the dream I'd just been having about a gang of bikini-clad ladyboys fighting a pitched battle against a rabble of unregistered taxi mafiosi in Soi Bangla, I was in fact a long way from Phuket!

Throwing open my 8am curtains I was regaled by the beauteous lines of the Nice Opera House, surrounded by early morning strollers of various types taking in the sights of Nice Old Town. Some of these wanderers, I couldn't help but notice, seemed to be wearing skirts... the hairy, broad-chested male ones that is!

Oh, of course, I'd forgotten that on this particular Sunday in September, Nice would host the Rugby World Cup Scotland versus Tonga game at the Stade de Nice and these early morning carousers were out in their kilts and dirks taking in the sunshine amidst the food stalls and accordion-playing chanteurs of the Old Town.

Once thoroughly and deliciously coffee'd and croissant'd up, I set off for the famous Promenade des Anglaise... the fabulous Mediterranean-hugging strip that runs along one of the world's most iconic beaches. Well, good news all ye Phuketians, the beach at Nice is as

rocky, stony and rammed with tourists as any I've ever seen and not a patch on Nai Harn, Kata or Bang Tao.

The vast paved promenade that runs alongside this world-famous beach, gets its name from the English expat patrons who paid for it to be constructed in 1822. It runs along the whole four-kilometre sweep of the Baie des Anges with a dedicated lane for cyclists and skaters. Indeed, if you fancy a be-wheeled canter along this sun-drenched strip you can rent skates, scooters, bikes or even an electric segway!

I had in mind hiring an online Velo Blue bicycle for a sunny morning ride south along the Promenade, then out past Nice Airport and onward for about 20 kilometres around the Baie des Anges to Antibes, followed by a sea swim and then back in time to watch the kickoff of the rugger match at one of the myriad sports bars in Nice's Old Town.

I strolled amidst the other Flaneurs down to the Promenade and met an exceeding smiley and helpful French damsel named Elodie who explained that because of the imminent BIG GAME, they were giving the bikes out free of charge today, so people could cycle all the way to the stadium, drop the bike off and then see the game, without clogging up the roads with traffic.

How very enlightened and generous, to promote health and wellness, while cutting down on traffic and pollution. Could our Phuketian overlords learn a lesson or two from this I wondered?

It was 26°C during my mid-morning



Baz and his bike on the Promenade des Anglaise, the fabulous Mediterranean-hugging strip that runs along one of the world's most iconic beaches.

ride under an azure sky and I was besotted with abundant distractions in the shapely shapes of beach-bound lovelies in bikinis, which helped keep my mind in deep focus on my cycling and the gorgeous environment through which I was passing.

Opposite the romantically-named Neptune Beach I cycled past the beautiful Negresco Hotel, possibly France's most luxurious and iconic hostelry. A favourite of royalty, billionaires and film stars escaping that ghastly place called Cannes! This year the Negresco was celebrating its 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary having opened in 1913, the romantic project of Romanian ex-restaurant director, Henri Negresco. He established it as a point of reference on the Côte-d'Azur, its façade white and imperious rising to a pink dome which is said to have been inspired by the perfect breasts of his mistress. Then again, they say that sort of thing about most domes in France... that's the French for you!

It was a glorious ride, sea swim and return which left me musing upon the

neglected possibilities of such a cyclist and stroller-friendly beachside promenade in Phuket.

Why hadn't the TAT (Tourism authority of Thailand) and many governments who had banged on about "cyclist-friendly" tourism actually spent the relatively small amount to construct such a facility? Easily monetised through adjacent cycle rental, massage and food shops and cafes, it would be a boon for our island. But then again much as the French Riviera is said to be a dreamers' paradise, maybe Phuket exceeds even that iconic realm for leaps of fantasy.

One thing we didn't have to dream about was a Scottish win. Yes, being half-Scot, I am delighted to report that the men in tartan skirts beat the men in grass skirts by 45 points to 17... What a Nice day!

*'Bicycling' Baz Daniel has been penning his Blazing Saddles column, chronicling his cycling adventures in Phuket and beyond, since 2013.*



**THAI**  
RESIDENTIAL

Phuket's No.1 Trusted Real Estate Advisor

## Are You Trying To Sell Your Phuket Property?

List Your House, Villa or Luxury Condo with  
**Thai Residential**  
and Increase Your Chances  
of a **Successful** Sale.



PHUKET@THAIRESIDENTIAL.COM | +66 94 8411 918 | WWW.THAIRESIDENTIAL.COM  
THAIRESIDENTIAL CO., LTD. 82/37 SAM PAO COURTYARD, MOO4, PATAK ROAD, T.RAWAI, PHUKET, 83130



# POP QUIZ

- Which ASEAN countries are run by communist governments?
- Lewis Allan Reed was better known by which name?
- Which city is the capital of Nigeria?
- Godzilla is an official citizen of which country?
- A hybrid knife and fork is called a what?

Answers below, centre

## SUDOKU

Hard

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

## Crossword by Myles Mellor & Sally York

Across

- Austronesian language
- Assist, in a way
- Grinder
- City in northern Syria
- Actor Green of "Buffy the Vampire Slayer"
- Collector's suffix
- Will be obedient
- Pkg. deliverer
- Doesn't go on
- Female hare
- Rock bottom
- Court matter
- The long way
- Satisfy
- Compass
- Pool problem
- \_\_\_ de Triomphe
- French vineyard
- Fails to please
- Stain
- Ground breaker
- Painting holder
- Bass
- Con
- Travels on the Mississippi, perhaps
- Latin I
- "Wellaway!"
- Listener

58. Latitude

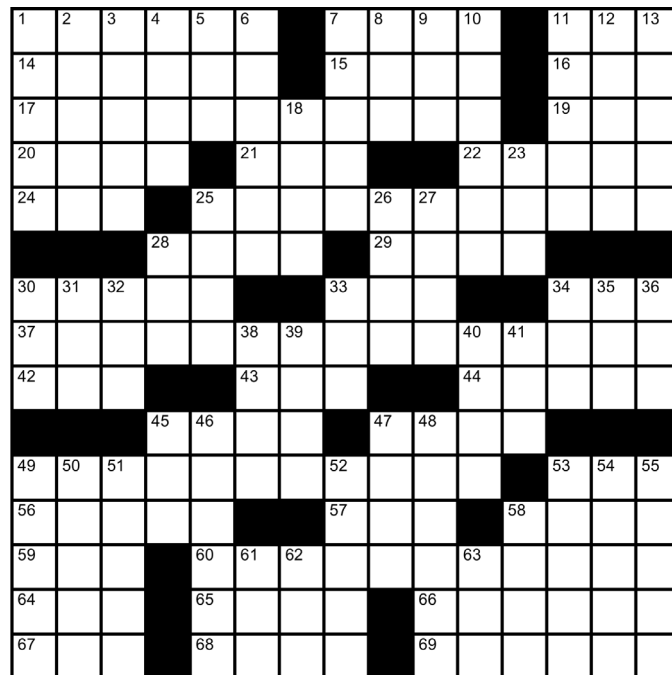
- Paul McCartney, for one
- Shares a set of circumstances
- Make lace
- Temper
- Bivalve mollusk
- Spots
- Encumbrance
- Three czars

Down

- Woodcutter
- Companionless
- Darns
- Prefers, with "for"
- Natl. Humor Month
- Noggin
- Crooked
- Track action
- Numerical suffix
- From there
- Meccan, e.g.
- Remove a brooch
- Iraqi port
- Codger
- Revelation response
- Caught in the act
- Poi source
- Marine menace
- Bell and Barker
- Append
- Actress Myrna

32. "Holy cow!"

- Sierra Nevada, e.g.
- Businesses: Abbr.
- Bewail
- Website address
- "\_\_\_-Team"
- Fancy dressers
- Santa's reindeer, e.g.
- Sweet potato
- Datebook abbr.
- Alaska native
- Accommodate
- Drive-in employee
- Haile Selassie disciple
- Homeric epic
- Dashes
- Ministers
- Buoy
- Player
- Bond hearings
- "Hey, buddy!"
- George W., to George
- Letters on a chit
- Pupil's place



Visit: [www.ilovecrosswords.com](http://www.ilovecrosswords.com)

## Solutions to last week's puzzles:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
I	N	A	P	T	B	L	A	H	H	A	L	E			
C	E	L	L	O	P	H	A	N	E	E	N	O			
B	A	B	Y	G	R	A	N	D	P	I	A	N	O	S	
M	R	S	I	K	E	O	R	A	T	E					
			16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
			H	U	N	T	E	O	N	S					
28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	
A	C	O	U	S	T	I	C	G	U	I	T	A	R	S	
			43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	
			S	A	R	E	E	R	I	S	C	W	I	T	
			55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	
			P	I	G	S	B	O	O	S	T	P	A	N	
			67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	
			I	R	A	D	A	N	A	A	L	I	S	T	
			79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	
			C	O	N	T	R	A	L	T	O	F	L	U	T
			91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	
			H	O	L	I	E	E	L	S					
			103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	
			A	C	A	R	I	H	U	T	N	I	P		
			115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	
			B	A	R	I	T	O	N	E	V	I	O	L	I
			127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	
			E	V	I	L	B	O	A	R	D	W	A	L	K
			139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	
			T	E	A	L	I	D	L	E	E	G	E	S	T

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

## GOT YOUR NUMBER

6

-pack rings created by Saltwater Brewery in Florida are edible and feed, rather than kill, marine life if the rings end up in the ocean.

80

percent of Major League Baseball players over the past 25 years have fallen into the overweight or obese category.

95

percent of the world's population has health problems, with more than a third having more than five ailments.

5

million hairs the average human has on his or her body.

86 billion

neurons the average human brain contains, which can form trillions of synapses, which is why a computer is so much slower.

Source: *Uberfacts*

## ISLAND VIEW



Sunset flotilla. Photo by Chris Pahlman

Got an unusual or particularly beautiful picture of Phuket? Email it to [exceditor@classactmedia.co.th](mailto:exceditor@classactmedia.co.th)

## This week in history

Oct 13, 2010

The mining accident in Copiapó, Chile, comes to an end as all 33 miners arrive at the surface after surviving a record 69 days underground awaiting rescue.

Oct 14, 1973

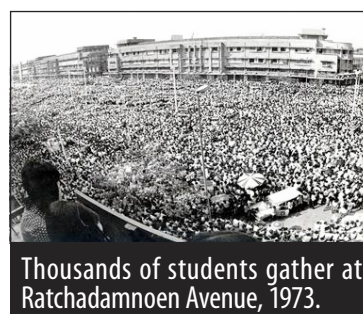
In the Thammasat student uprising over 100,000 people protest in Thailand against the Thanom military government, 77 are killed and 857 are injured by soldiers.

Oct 15, 1529

The Siege of Vienna ends as the Austrians rout the invading Turks, turning the tide against almost a century of unchecked conquest throughout eastern and central Europe by the Ottoman Empire.

Oct 16, 1968

United States athletes Tommie Smith and John Carlos are kicked off the US team for participating in the 1968 Olympics Black Power salute.



Thousands of students gather at Ratchadamnoen Avenue, 1973.

Oct 17, 1091

A tornado of T8/F4 strength, with wind speeds of 330-418km/h, strikes the

heart of London.

Oct 18, 1867

The United States takes possession of Alaska after purchasing it from Russia for \$7.2 million. Celebrated annually in the state as Alaska Day.

Oct 19, 1453

The Hundred Years' War ends with the French recapture of Bordeaux, leaving English control only of Calais.

Source: *Wikipedia*



# Trades & Services

 The Phuket News  
 @thephuketnews

## CORPORATE SERVICES



**VERTIGO**  
VIDEO PRODUCTIONS  
VERTIGOVideOProductions.COM

## HOME IMPROVEMENT

**Waterproofing & Crack Repair**

20 year WARRANTY

under yearly checkup plan...

Drone Survey

Pipe Inspection

TCM Asia Co., Ltd - quality services since 2003  
office@tcm-asia.com 086-9439834

## HOME IMPROVEMENT

ASIA GREEN TECH GREEN TECHNOLOGIES

+6683 394 7430  
www.asiagtech.com

Cherng Talay & Rawai Phuket, Thailand  
bruno@asiagtech.com

**BIOCLIMATIC PERCOLA**

## HOME IMPROVEMENT

ASIA GREEN TECH GREEN TECHNOLOGIES

+6683 394 7430  
www.asiagtech.com

Cherng Talay & Rawai Phuket, Thailand  
bruno@asiagtech.com

**HIGH ELECTRICITY BILL ???**  
WE WILL TELL YOU WHY AND HOW TO REDUCE IT.  
FIRST CONSULTANCY FREE OF CHARGE

SAVE ENERGY BY SMART MONITORING YOUR CONSUMPTION. FREE CONSULTANCY. COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL

## HOME IMPROVEMENT

**WOOD FLOOR PHUKET - 20 YEARS**

Solid wood floors and engineering.  
Decks supplied and installed - Teak & NZ Pine.

/solidwoodfloorphuketthailand  
Matt 081 271 2684 or Jessika 062 372 6624

## HOME IMPROVEMENT

**Tile-it** SMART TILES  
Tile Leveling System

PHUKET'S QUALITY TILE BOUTIQUE

Baan Wana - Cherng Talay  
Tel : 076 620168

www.tile-asia.com | letstalk@tile-asia.com

## HOME IMPROVEMENT

MASTERCRAFTSMAN  
WE REPAIR AND BUILD NEW:

- ALL KINDS OF HOT AND COLD WATER SYSTEMS
- HOT WATER SOLAR SYSTEMS AND SOLAR PUMPS
- POOL EQUIPMENT AND SERVICE
- REPAIR ALL KINDS OF WATER SYSTEMS AND POOL PUMPS
- A VARIETY OF WATER FILTRATION SYSTEMS TO FIT YOUR NEEDS

SHOWROOM NEXT TO WAT CHALONG  
OPEN FROM 8AM TO 5PM

**Plumber**  
German Water Team Ltd.Part  
We repair what your husband fixed

094 594 8868 (THAI)  
089 645 4848 (GER / ENG)

www.germanwaterteam.com  
Email: germanwaterteam@yahoo.de

22/12 Moo 6 Chaofa R.d.west Chalong A.Muang Phuket 83130

## HOME IMPROVEMENT

ASIA GREEN TECH GREEN TECHNOLOGIES

+6683 394 7430  
www.asiagtech.com

Cherng Talay & Rawai Phuket, Thailand  
bruno@asiagtech.com

- ✓ 100% Chlorine Free
- ✓ Water Parameters Check
- ✓ Salt Chlorinator Installation
- ✓ Electric System Check
- ✓ Pump Room Installation
- ✓ Filtration Check

## MARINE SERVICES

**Marine Engineering Specialists**

C & C MARINE®

YANMAR mtu

**C & C Marine (Thailand) Co., Ltd.**  
16/2 Moo 4, Soi Nanai, Thepkasattri Rd., Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83200  
Tel: +66 (0)76 273247 Fax: +66 (0)76 273248 Mob: +66 (0)81 078 4507  
Email: holmes@candc-marine.com www.candc-marine.com

**WANT TO TALK TO PHUKET?**

The **Phuket News** Your Island - Your Paper  
 Новости **Пхукета** Твой остров - твоя газета  
 ข่าว **ภูเก็ต**

**WINDOW ON PHUKET**  
 The map of PHUKET English 中文 Русский  
 Where to eat in PHUKET  
 LIVE 89.5 NEWS TV

Contact: gm@classactmedia.co.th



**FRI 13 OCT**

**MON 16 OCT**

**THU 26 OCT**

**STEAK HOUSE & RESTAURANT**  
98/18 Vises Road, Rawai  
Oli: 081 891 4381  
www.shakersphuket.com  
shakersphuket@gmail.com  
FB: shakersphuket

**STEAK HOUSE & RESTAURANT**  
98/18 Vises Road, Rawai  
Oli: 081 891 4381  
www.shakersphuket.com  
shakersphuket@gmail.com  
FB: shakersphuket

**Friday Mussels Night**

6 PM onwards: Belgian style mussels served with French Fries. All you can eat. Your choice, Your style: Marinier, Selected drinks, Provencale, Garlic & cream, Creamy curry, Blue cheese or Thai style We have a kid's playground zone. Adults: 325 baht P.P. www.shakersphuket.com www.facebook.com/shakersphuket Oliver, Shakers restaurant 98/18 Vises Road, Rawai 83130, 081 891 4381

**Monday BBQ Night**

6 PM onwards: All you can eat BBQ buffet cooked to order. Beef, Pork, Chicken, Burgers, Sausages, Fish, Prawns & Squids, salad buffet and veggies, Choice of potatoes, cold and hot sauces, Bread, Buns & garlic bread. We have a kid's playground zone. Adults: 395 baht P.P. Kids under 12 years old: 195 baht P.P. www.shakersphuket.com www.facebook.com/shakersphuket Oliver, Shakers restaurant 98/18 Vises Road, Rawai 83130, 081 891 4381

**SUN 15 OCT**

**WED 18 OCT**

**STEAK HOUSE & RESTAURANT**  
98/18 Vises Road, Rawai  
Oli: 081 891 4381  
www.shakersphuket.com  
shakersphuket@gmail.com  
FB: shakersphuket

**STEAK HOUSE & RESTAURANT**  
98/18 Vises Road, Rawai  
Oli: 081 891 4381  
www.shakersphuket.com  
shakersphuket@gmail.com  
FB: shakersphuket

**Sunday Roast**

12PM – 9PM: All you can eat Sunday Roast Buffet Beef, Pork & Capon chicken – Cauliflower, Broccoli, Peas, Carrots, Fried mushrooms, Grilled Tomatoes – Yorkshire pudding – Roasted Potatoes, Mashed Potatoes – Gravy, Mushroom sauce, Horse raddish, Mint Sauce. We have a kid's playground zone. Adults: 350 baht P.P. Kids under 12 years old: 195 baht P.P. www.shakersphuket.com www.facebook.com/shakersphuket Oliver, Shakers restaurant 98/18 Vises Road, Rawai 83130, 081 891 4381

**Wednesday BBQ Night**

6 PM onwards: All you can eat BBQ buffet cooked to order. Beef, Pork, Chicken, Burgers, Sausages, Fish, Prawns & Squids, salad buffet and veggies, Choice of potatoes, cold and hot sauces, Bread, Buns & garlic bread. We have a kid's playground zone. Adults: 395 baht P.P. Kids under 12 years old: 195 baht P.P. www.shakersphuket.com www.facebook.com/shakersphuket Oliver, Shakers restaurant 98/18 Vises Road, Rawai 83130, 081 891 4381

**JOBS**

**JOB WANTED!**

Dutch professional (26 y/o) looking for a job in real estate, marketing, or sales. Extremely motivated, positive, and a fast learner. Let's discuss over a coffee if we're a match! Please contact me on Whatsapp: +31649687968 or laszlobraaksma@gmail.com. Laszlo Braaksma, laszlobraaksma@gmail.com, +31649687968

**JOB**

**URGENT**

**Personal Assistant**

Looking for a Personal Assistant to help a British Business man who intends to buy a property in Phuket where he will live part of the year. Duties to include arranging viewings, help organise maids, housekeepers, masseuses, gardener, chef. Arriving October 29th, 2023 and staying in Surin Beach, Phuket. Please email with photo. Phil Solomons: sirround-sound27@gmail.com, +44 7788 725846

**JOBS**

**Part Time Fitness Coach**

Female fitness coach required End of October for busy business man staying in Surin Beach Must arrange diet, food, workout and masseuse during his stay. Please email experience and availability by October 21st. Phil Solomons: sirroundsound27@gmail.com, +44 7788 725846w

**JOBS**

**Marketing Manager**

We are looking for an experienced and motivated individual to join our school's management team. Must have outstanding communication skills, be fluent in English, have a relevant degree and experience of marketing in an international setting. Previous experience of marketing educational programmes and ability to speak more than one language are an advantage. Full Time - 2 year contract. \*Based in Phuket, Thailand. \*Salary: 90,000 +15,000 housing. \*End of contract bonus and flight allowance provided. \*Health Insurance, work permit and visa provided. Applicants should send a CV and Application Letter in English to jedouard@headstartphuket.com and cedouard@headstartphuket.com

**PROPERTY FOR SALE**

**Cha Am Beach Condo for Sale**

72 SqM Unfurnished One bdrm bath kitchen. 1 Air cond 25 mtrs to beach 4<sup>th</sup> floor Cattar-eya Condo Swimming Pool Fitness Parking 24 hr security CCTV. Panadda Sathaisong, 089 635 7311, mypinellasmal@gmail.com

**RPM by owner**

Unique luxury condo 2 bed, 2 bath, 155sqm. Foreign FREE HOLD. Architect remodel in tropical white. Jacuzzi. All round beautiful views. Completely furnished to a high standard. Only toothbrush needed. Very motivated owner living in Phuket. Onsite restaurant, gym, Tennis court, swimming pools and new Russian consulate. Available to agents. Contact Brian (Owner) - bggvirgo@gmail.com

**PROPERTY FOR RENT**

**Luxury Ocean View Pool Villa**

The Cube Villa Kalim, is a modern ocean view pool villa with over 800sqm living space with a private 90 sqm infinity saltwater pool. Ocean Rock Villa Estate, 9/4 Soi Prabaramee 7, Kalim Beach, Patong, hello@the-cube-villa-kalim.com, +66(0)92 870 6065,

**CARS, TRUCKS FOR SALE**



**BMW 320d Luxury 2014**

Excellent condition; purchased 2016 with 8000km; local driving only by elderly driver; 112000km; cameras; BMW service; leaving Thailand. B750,000. John. johnhkt2560@icloud.com, 0869890919

**BOATS, YACHTS FOR SALE**



**Renovated Family Yacht**

Luxury SeaLine Yacht (51 ft). Fully renovated in 2022. Family-friendly. Features movable swimming platform, spacious flybridge. Air-conditioned lounge, 3 bedrooms. Prime location at Royal Phuket Marina. Engines and generator overhauled. 0807case@gmail.com, 10,500,000 baht

**PROPERTY FOR SALE**

**Pool Townhouse best location**

PRUKSA Ville 82/1 Kathu. 24hr security, Corner unit, private pool, big garden, Sala. 3 Bedroom, European Kitchen, 4 Aircon. Covered carpark. 5,980,000 baht, Wernerbeyel2@gmail.com, +66895938690

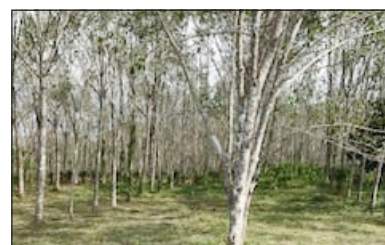
**PROPERTY FOR RENT**

**Yanui Beach Seaview Cabins**



Yanui Beach Seaview are brand-new cabins/Pods. There are only two. On Baan Soi Rawai. Just before the gun club on the way to Laem Promthep. Beautiful seaview sunsets nightly, King-sized bed, small kitchenette. Suitable for couples. 30 square metres. Walking distance to Yanui Beach. 2 kilometres from Rawai and Nai Harn beaches. Available short term and long term. First time listed and brand-new. Negotiable. Ray Dixon, drraydixon@yahoo.com, 062-4488838

**Land for sale near Mission Heights**



Nice plot of land, just over one Rai in small, very quiet private estate, no monthly fees. 10 min to international school, 15 min to airport. Ideal to build 4 rental units. Reduced to 4.2MB. Contact owner direct - 063 743 8595.

Thai Chamber (FTCC), German-Thai Chamber (GTCC), Netherlands-Thai Chamber (NTCC), Phuket Chamber of Commerce and Thai-Swedish Chamber, invite you to join us for Sundowners at SAii Laguna Phuket from 18.00 hrs. Make new connections and catch up with familiar faces in the Australian-Thai business community. Also get to know our corporate sponsor, Meinhardt, an engineering consultancy service which offers full engineering consultancy services. • 500 THB for AustCham members, partner Chambers' members • 900 THB for non-members. Includes cocktail-style food, and free-flow selected beverages. Register in advance, walk-ins are not allowed, via office@austchamthailand.com or 02 109 9616.

**TUE 7 NOV**

**Skål International Phuket Dinner - October**

We are delighted to extend an invitation to you for the Monthly Skål International Phuket Dinner, hosted at the exquisite Le Méridien Phuket Beach Resort on the 26th of October, from 6pm. This exclusive event is tailor-made for hoteliers, tourism, and travel professionals. It's an opportunity to connect, collaborate, and celebrate in an atmosphere that perfectly mirrors the spirit of Skål International. To find out more visit - facebook.com/SkalPhuket

**FRI 27 OCT**



**Joint Chambers Phuket Sundowners by AustCham Thailand**

AustCham Thailand, in collaboration with Australian Alumni, British Chamber (BCCT), Belgian-Luxembourg/Thai Chamber, CanCham Thailand, Franco-



**Melbourne Cup 2023 at Casa Boho**

Fabulous Fun Fundraiser at Funky Casa Boho at the Hyatt Regency Kamala - The Melbourne Cup 2023. From 9:30 to 14:30, guests will enjoy free-flow selected beverages & brunch with: - Fashions on the Field to find the most stylish guests - with prizes awarded for Best Hat, Best Dressed, Best Suited, and the Chicest Couple. - Exclusive prizes to bid on and raffles to win. - Screening of the famous thoroughbred horse race. - Dancing with resident DJ. Casa Boho is the perfect party venue, with aircon, ocean breezes and panoramic views across Kamala Bay. Dress code: At the races. Hats a must! Venue: Casa Boho, Hyatt Regency Phuket Resort, Kamala. Donation: 3,500 baht. For tickets, please contact Tina Hall tina@phukethasbeengoodtous.org Phuket Has Been Good To Us must raise 450,000 baht from this fundraiser to pay for an English Teacher for 2024, so PLEASE join us for this party with a purpose





## GROW BOATING PHUKET MONTHLY NETWORKING

Gathering on the first Friday of every month, the Grow Boating Phuket networking evening was held this month at the Boardwalk Bistro and Bar, who provided great pass-around snacks, at Phuket Boat Lagoon. Drinks sponsor for the evening was Wade from Thai Marine Guide. Lots of new and regular faces made for an enjoyable evening.





# Magic Max wins third title

## FORMULA ONE

AFP

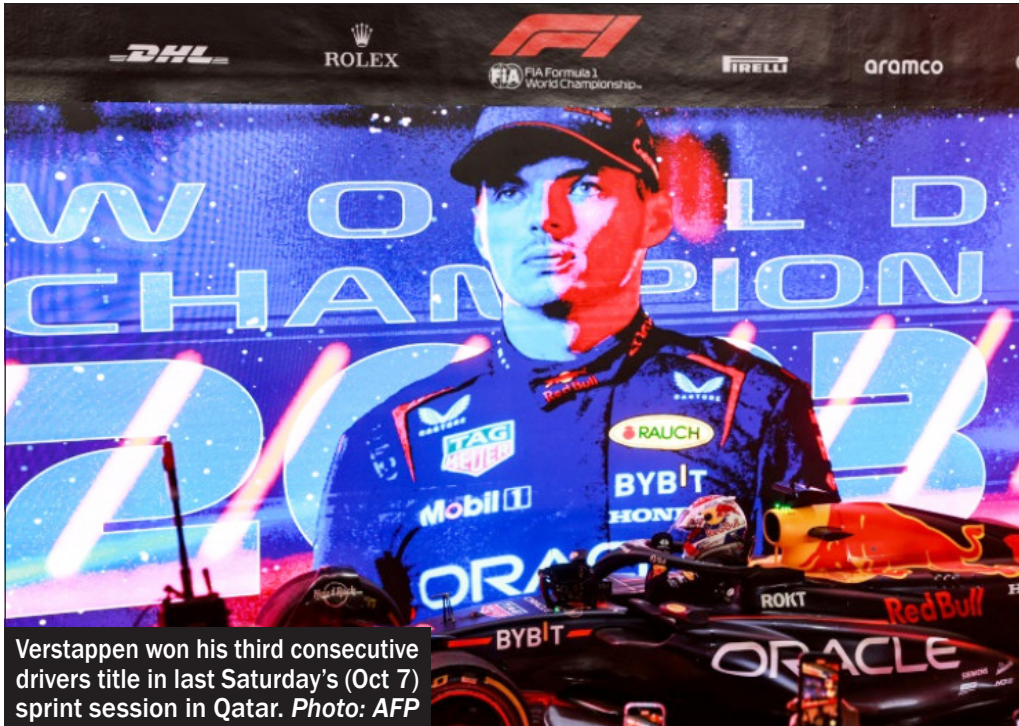
Newly-crowned three-time world champion Max Verstappen cruised to his 14<sup>th</sup> win of an outstanding season for Red Bull last Sunday (Oct 8) when he won an exhausting, frantic and often confusing Qatar Grand Prix.

The 26-year-old Dutchman, who secured his third straight title win in Saturday's sprint race, came home 4.838 seconds clear of McLaren's rookie Oscar Piastri, while also lapping his Red Bull team-mate Sergio Perez.

Lando Norris finished third in the second McLaren ahead of Mercedes' George Russell, the survivor of a first-corner crash with team-mate Lewis Hamilton, who retired in the gravel.

Ferrari's Charles Leclerc, the Italian team's only runner after Carlos Sainz withdrew due to fuel issues before the start, finished fifth ahead of Aston Martin's Fernando Alonso and Esteban Ocon of Alpine.

Valtteri Bottas of Alfa Romeo was eighth, Perez



Verstappen won his third consecutive drivers title in last Saturday's (Oct 7) sprint session in Qatar. Photo: AFP

came home ninth and Zhou Guanyu was 10<sup>th</sup> in the second Alfa Romeo, but their positions were reversed due to the Mexican's time penalties.

It was Verstappen's 49<sup>th</sup> career victory and came complete with pole position and fastest lap, giving him a classic hat-trick to mark his triple title triumph.

"I think what made my race was my first stint," said Verstappen. "After that I could manage the pace and

keep the tyres in a good window, but the McLarens were quick and really pushed me."

The Dutchman has won 14 of this year's 16 Grands Prix to date, seizing the title with six races to go – a rare measure of supremacy not achieved since seven-time Michael Schumacher won for Ferrari in 2002.

Piastri, reflecting the feelings of all the drivers, said: "It was so hot. With three stops, it was flat out every lap

so it was like 57 qualifying laps... I'm happy, but it was the hardest race of my life."

Verstappen had made a perfect start and Hamilton, the only front-runner on soft tyres, attempted to sweep round the outside of Russell, but succeeded only in steering his rear-right tyre into his compatriot's front wing.

The impact sent both cars spinning. Hamilton flew off, but Russell recovered to continue and make a pit stop as

a safety car was deployed.

After four laps, the safety car came in and the race restarted with Verstappen blasting clear of Piastri to open up a lead of 1.2 seconds.

This move followed Saturday's revision of the marked track limits and kerbs that had damaged the walls of several cars' tyres on Friday and meant all the teams had to adopt a minimum three-stop strategy.

## DEMANDING CONDITIONS

In addition to the frantic tactical challenge of the new tyre rules, several drivers were shown a black and white warning flag for exceeding track limits – meaning a repeat transgression would bring a five-second penalty.

By lap 30, Verstappen was 22 seconds clear of Russell as he set a record for laps led in a season with his 740<sup>th</sup> in command, beating the 2013 record set by four-time champion Sebastian Vettel.

The demanding conditions took their toll on the drivers. Alonso went off at Turn Two and survived a gravel trap before re-joining via an escape road and then Logan

Sargeant reported feeling nauseous and vomiting in his helmet.

"I don't feel well, man. I need to stop," said Sargeant before retiring on lap 42.

Meanwhile, Aston Martin driver Lance Stroll said he was "passing out" and suffering from blurred vision during the race.

"It's ridiculous," he said. "These temperatures – everything goes blurry. The last 25-30 laps it's just blurry in the high-speed corners.

"Blood pressure dropping, just passing out, basically, in the high-speed corners with high loaded G-forces. The kerbs are now painted because they're worried about punctures.

"I couldn't see where I was going because I was passing out. I was fading in and out. The temperature was too much."

Alex Albon was admitted to the medical centre for treatment after the race.

In a statement, his team Williams said: "Alex was taken to the medical centre to be treated for acute heat exposure. He has now been assessed and cleared by the medical team."

## Cricket World Cup off to mixed start

### CRICKET

DESPITE INDIA BEING renowned as a cricket crazy country with millions of diehard fans expected to be jostling for tickets, the opening matches of the marathon seven-week cricket World Cup were played in eerily empty arenas.

Organisers optimistically estimated around 40,000 fans watched the opener between New Zealand and England on Oct 5 at the 132,000-seater Ahmedabad Stadium, the world's largest cricket ground, while around 10,000 watched South Africa beat Sri Lanka last Saturday (Oct 7) inside New Delhi's 40,000-seat Arun Jaitley Stadium.

"Crowds are looking very poor at the World Cup .. Surely we should be giving tickets away to make sure the stands are full?" said former England captain Michael Vaughan.

On the pitch, it is early days but India's famously batting-friendly pitches have been as generous as ever.

New Zealand's Devon



Markram celebrates his century. Photo: AFP

Conway and Rachin Ravindra both cracked centuries in the win over defending champions England, while Quinton de Kock, Rassie van der Dussen and Aiden Markram all made centuries for South Africa in their win against Sri Lanka, the first time a team had boasted three centuries in the same innings.

South Africa's 428-5 was the highest ever total made

in tournament history, with Markram scoring his century off just 49 balls, while Sri Lanka's reply of 326 all out made the game in New Delhi the highest-scoring World Cup match ever.

The first four days also saw 12 fifties made, including by Virat Kohli (85) and KL Rahul (97 not out) after India slumped to 2-3 chasing 200 to defeat Australia last Sunday. AFP

## Failure to meet Asian Games target upsets SAT

### ASIAN GAMES

THE SPORTS AUTHORITY of Thailand (SAT) is unhappy that its athletes failed to meet the minimum target of winning 15 gold medals at the 19<sup>th</sup> Asian Games, which ended last Sunday (Oct 8) in Hangzhou, China.

Ahead of the tournament, the target was set at between 15-23 golds although only 12 were eventually won.

"We had about 900 athletes – more than China – but failed to reach our target," Prachum Boonthiam, SAT deputy governor for elite sports development, said.

He said the criteria to select athletes to compete in the Asian Games should be changed with only those with proven achievements picked.

"There should no longer be sending athletes to gain experience," Prachum said.

Thana Chaiprasit, Thailand's delegation chief, said certain associations claimed they had to send a lot of athletes to take part in Hangzhou 2022 because some events were also Olympic qualifying rounds.

He said Thailand's medal tally was "acceptable" although involved parties will have to



Taekwondo champion Panipak Wongpattanakit lived up to expectations. Photo: Bangkok Post

discuss what went wrong.

Sepak takraw was again Thailand's most successful sport, while sailors, taekwondo fighters and golfers also had impressive results at Hangzhou 2022.

The Thai sepak takraw contingent made a clean sweep of four gold medals in the men's and women's team and individual regu events.

The Thai sailing and windsurfing team also had a good spell at the Games with three gold medals, with windsurfer Siripon Kaewduangngam crowned champion in the women's RS:X.

In taekwondo, Olympic champion Panipak Wongpattanakit lived up to the expectations as she retained her Asian Games title in the 49kg division, while Banlung Tubtimdang won gold in the men's 63kg class.

Thai golfers exceeded

expectations with two gold medals in the women's competition and a silver in the men's event.

Thailand could only bring home three silver and four bronze medals from boxing, however.

Once a boxing powerhouse in Asia, Thailand have failed to win a gold medal in two consecutive Asian Games now.

Looking on the bright side, several Thai fighters have earned their tickets to the 2024 Olympics in Paris thanks to their Hangzhou performances.

The athletics team got two silvers from Puripol Boonson in the men's 100 metres and the women's 4x100m relay although Athletics Association of Thailand (AAT) chief Sant Sarutanont quit as its president after 23 years at the helm, to shoulder responsibility for the team's poor results.

The National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) confirmed a total of B244.2 million in financial rewards will go to medallists, their coaches and associations.

Under the NSDF's bonus scheme, an Asian Games champion gets B2mn, a silver medallist B1mn and a bronze winner B500,000.

Bangkok Post



# Ange's Hot-Spurs go top

## FOOTBALL

AFP

Despite playing with 10 men for much of the match, Tottenham Hotspur moved to the top of the Premier League after defeating Luton Town 1-0 last Saturday (Oct 7), while rivals Arsenal laid down an early marker in the title race by beating Manchester City by the same scoreline.

At Kenilworth Road, Spurs midfielder Yves Bissouma was sent off just before half-time, earning a needless second booking for diving.

But Micky van de Ven's first goal for the club soon after the interval clinched unbeaten Tottenham's sixth win in eight league games.

Ange Postecoglou's side sit top level on points with Arsenal but ahead virtue of having scored more goals.

"We showed a lot of character and resilience," Postecoglou said. "The players want to change the destiny of this football club and that is what they are trying to do on the pitch."

Meanwhile, Gabriel Martinelli's deflected strike on 86 minutes handed the Gunners their first league victory over City since 2015, as they leapfrogged the champions into second place in the table.

City have now lost consecutive Premier League games for the first time in five years.

The treble winners were made to pay for a lacklustre performance with Erling Haaland anonymous up front.



Ange Postecoglou has revitalised Spurs, who currently sit top of the Premier League. Photo: AFP

Liverpool missed the chance to also move above City after being pegged back by Brighton in a pulsating 2-2 draw.

Mohamed Salah scored a brace for the Reds but Simon Adingra and Lewis Dunk replied for the Seagulls.

"I think it is the right result to be honest," said Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp.

"If we were better today, we would have really hurt them. But we didn't," he added.

Elsewhere, troubled Manchester United were just moments away from a third defeat in the space of seven days at Old Trafford before substitute Scott McTominay came to the rescue against Brentford.

Trailing Mathias Jensen's first-half goal, McTominay scored in the 90th and 97th

minutes to secure a crucial, if unjust, win.

"This has to be the turning point, the reset, in our approach, our attitudes, as a team and as individuals," under-fire United boss Erik Ten Hag said afterwards.

Fresh from thrashing Paris Saint-Germain 4-1 in the Champions League, Newcastle had to settle for a 2-2 draw at West Ham, while Aston Villa and Wolves drew 1-1.

Raheem Sterling played a part in three of Chelsea's goals in the 4-1 win at Burnley as Mauricio Pochettino's team won for a third successive game in all competitions.

Everton cruised to a 3-0 win against second bottom Bournemouth at Goodison Park, Fulham beat winless Sheffield United 3-1, while Nottingham Forest and Crystal Palace shared a 0-0 draw.



PPFC President Pisut Bunkoy. Photo: PR Phuket

## Youth football development scheme coming to Phuket

### FOOTBALL

A SCHEME TO DEVELOP football skills amongst youngsters in Phuket is set to be launched soon, it was confirmed last week.

Phuket Provincial Football Club (PPFC) President Pisut Bunkoy made the remarks at a press conference held at the Phuket Sports Tourism Office on Oct 3, that was also attended by fellow board members from the club and representatives from PPFC's futsal division.

Futsal would be a key component of the plan, Mr Pisut explained. A condensed version of the traditional 11-a-side game, futsal sees five players per team competing against one another on a much smaller pitch and is widely regarded as an excellent medium for players to develop their technical skills such as ball control, dribbling, passing

and possession.

Without specifying any dates, Mr Pisut explained that a Phuket-based futsal qualifier competition is being considered, where the winning teams would progress into a national tournament.

He further explained that competitions for not only youngsters but general members of the public are being assessed by the club's development team that will allow a broad range of participants to develop their skills.

This would be supported by what Mr Pisut referred to as "an intensive training framework of coaches and referees to support regional youth programs" that PPFC believes can help nurture local talent to help it reach its potential.

Further details on the competitions would be released in due course, Mr Pisut concluded. *The Phuket News*

## Europe, Africa and South America to all host 2030 World Cup matches

### FOOTBALL

MOROCCO, PORTUGAL and Spain will be joint hosts for the 2030 World Cup but games will also be played in Uruguay, Argentina and Paraguay as the footballing showpiece celebrates its centenary, FIFA announced on Oct 4.

Matches in South America – one each in Montevideo, Buenos Aires and Asuncion – were part of the celebration to mark 100 years since the first World Cup in Uruguay.

"In a divided world, FIFA and football are uniting," said FIFA President Gianni Infantino.

"The FIFA Council, representing the entire world of football, unanimously agreed to celebrate the centenary of the FIFA World Cup, whose first edition was played in Uruguay in 1930, in the most appropriate way," he added.

The unprecedented inter-continental format promises complex political and logistical challenges and raises further questions about the environmental impact of major sporting events.



Lionel Messi captained Argentina to a third World Cup victory in Qatar last year. Photo: AFP

The move drew immediate criticism from the influential lobby group Football Supporters Europe, who described it as "the end of the World Cup as we know it".

"FIFA continues its cycle of destruction against the greatest tournament on earth," it said on X, formerly Twitter, adding that the decision was "horrendous for supporters" and "disregards the environment".

However, Pedro Rocha, the interim president of the Spanish Football Federation, declared: "I am convinced that with Morocco and Portugal we will organise the best World Cup in history."

Morocco, which was recently named as host for the

2025 Africa Cup of Nations, will become the second African country to host the World Cup after South Africa in 2010.

Meanwhile, FIFA has announced Thailand as the host country for the FIFA Congress 2024, set to be held in Bangkok on May 17, marking the first-ever FIFA Congress in ASEAN.

The Congress serves as a platform for FIFA members from 211 associations worldwide to nominate themselves to host the FIFA World Cup and propose candidates for the FIFA presidency.

With over a thousand delegates from around the world, the event will also decide the host country for the 2027 Women's World Cup. *AFP*

## Rugby World Cup enters the knockout stage

### RUGBY

FIJI WENT DOWN TO A shock 24-23 defeat by Portugal in Toulouse last Sunday (Oct 8) but still qualified for a World Cup quarter-final and ensured the elimination of Australia in the process.

Fiji, who only needed one point from the game, finished runners-up in Pool C behind Wales and will play England on Sunday (Oct 15).

The result of the 40th and final pool game of the tournament in France also saw Eddie Jones' Wallabies finish in third spot to miss out the knockout phase for the first time.

Despite the guarantee of finishing top of Group D after wins over Argentina, Japan and Chile, England survived a huge scare against Samoa last Saturday (Oct 7), coming from behind courtesy of a late Danny Care try to win 18-17.

The narrow victory also saw captain Owen Farrell eclipse Jonny Wilkinson's 1,179 points record for England.

Argentina beat Japan 39-27 in a thriller in Nantes last



Ireland were impressive in their 36-14 win against Scotland last Saturday (Oct 7). Photo: AFP

Sunday to finish as Pool D runners-up behind England and set up the quarter-final against Wales tomorrow (Oct 14). Wales secured top spot in Pool C with a 43-19 win over Georgia.

Ireland ripped Scotland apart in an impressive 36-14 win last Saturday to finish top of their group and underline that they have what it takes to become the second world champions from the northern hemisphere.

The Irish will now face three-time champions New Zealand in the last eight tomorrow (Oct 15, 2am in Phuket) seeking to reach the semi-finals of a World

Cup for the first time in their history.

Ireland captain Johnny Sexton said his side had made light work of Pool B, probably the toughest of the tournament. "We're delighted to win the pool and we know this is where we want to be now. We're in the quarter-finals against the toughest opposition we could get," Sexton said.

New Zealand secured their quarter-final place with an 11-try 73-0 thrashing of Uruguay on Oct 5.

Hosts France will face South Africa in the fourth quarter-final on Sunday (Oct 16, 2am in Phuket). *AFP*



editor3@classactmedia.co.th

# Sport



**Verstappen wins third F1 title > p14**

## MAKING HER STAMP ON HISTORY

### MMA

The Phuket News  
editor@classactmedia.co.th

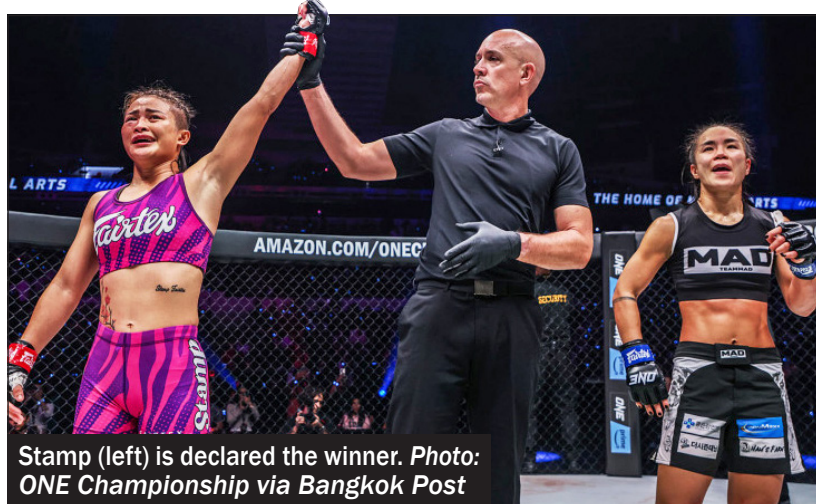
Legendary Thai fighter Stamp Fairtex created history at ONE Fight Night 14 on Sept 30 when she defeated Ham Seo-Hee to capture the women's atomweight MMA ONE world title.

In doing so the 25-year-old became the first athlete to win world titles in three different sports, having previously held the ONE atomweight Muay Thai and kickboxing title.

After long time divisional champion Angela Lee announced her retirement literally hours before hand, the bout between Stamp and Ham at the Singapore Indoor Stadium suddenly carried a lot more significance, with the vacant atomweight title up for grabs.

Such tension appeared to impact the initial stages of the fight itself, with the first round a very cagey affair as both fighters stood their ground, trading cautious, exploratory blows.

However, Stamp came charging



Stamp (left) is declared the winner. Photo: ONE Championship via Bangkok Post

out in the second round with an offensive onslaught that saw her land a series of significant strikes on her South Korean opponent.

Despite this, Ham weathered the storm and retaliated well, landing a left-hand strike to floor Stamp. Shaken but not stirred, the Thai climbed off the canvas to strike back and come close to finishing her opponent with a deep armbar before the bell sounded.

Stamp continued her attack in the third round, landing a punch

to Ham's midsection that sent the winded South Korean to her knees. Visibly shaken, Ham continued but Stamp saw her opportunity to then unleash a series of strong punches before officials stopped the contest to award the Thai fighter the TKO win.

The victory extended Stamp's MMA record to 11-2 and secured her historical status as the new ONE Women's Atomweight MMA World Champion.

The good news did not end there for Stamp, as the Pattaya resident was awarded a US\$50,000 (B1.8

million) performance bonus from ONE Championship Chairman and CEO Chatri Sityodtong.

In her post-fight comments Stamp paid her respects to Lee, who she not only had previously competed against in the ring but cited as a major inspiration.

"I just want to remind you that I love you so much," Stamp said in comments directed at Lee following her win. "And you will always be my idol."

### 'HANDS OF STONE'

The Stamp versus Ham showdown wasn't the only big bout on a night of high drama in the Lion City as 18-year-old Smilla Sundell faced off against Allycia Hellen Rodrigues in the ONE Women's Strawweight Muay Thai World Title.

In a bruising contest, it was Rodrigues who started the stronger before the young Swedish fighter retaliated well, striking a series of devastating blows on her Brazilian opponent to ultimately secure victory in the third round.

In addition to successfully defending the title, Sundell was also

awarded a win bonus of US\$50,000 from Sityodtong.

Elsewhere, Danielle Kelly delivered a sensational performance against Jessa Khan to win the inaugural ONE Women's Atomweight Submission Grappling World Title in a unanimous decision.

ONE Women's Strawweight MMA World Champion Xiong Jing Nan showcased her punching power in a Special Rules Striking Match, outshining Muay Thai star Nat 'Wondergirl' Jaroonsak to win by third-round TKO.

Finally, Former ONE Bantamweight MMA World Champion John Lineker put together a vintage performance, as he outstruck number 2-ranked bantamweight MMA contender Stephen Loman in a high-stakes matchup.

Loman tried his best to keep Lineker on the outside with high kicks from range, but 'Hands of Stone' barrelled his way through with his vaunted power to win by unanimous decision.

*Additional reporting by Bangkok Post*



CELEBRATING THE NEWEST  
RESTAURANT IN TOWN  
**YUE RESTAURANT & BAR**

GRAND OPENING OFFER

**All-You-Can-Eat  
DIM SUM BREAKFAST**

THB 588++ for you  
and THB 28++ for your plus one!

**16 October – 30 November 2023**  
**07.00 – 10.30 AM Daily**



Yue Restaurant & Bar  
2nd floor, Courtyard by Marriott Phuket Town  
076-643-555

f Yue Restaurant & Bar @yuephuketown

**COURTYARD**  
BY MARRIOTT  
Phuket Town