

LAST OF PATONG SHOOTING SUSPECTS SURRENDER > PAGE 3

CORRUPT



Officers moved in and arrested one of the officials after the B250,000 had been handed over. Photo: Eakkapop Thongtub

PATONG OFFICIALS ARRESTED FOR EXTORTING B250,000 FROM BUSINESS

The Phuket News
editor@classactmedia.co.th

Two officials at Patong Municipality have been arrested for extorting B250,000 from a business owner wanting to change the permit of use for his building under the Building Control Act 1979. The two also demanded an extra B50,000 for 'services rendered'.

The arrests were jointly announced by Niwatchai Kasemmongkol, Secretary General of the National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC), and Royal Thai Police deputy chief Pol Lt Col Prasong Chalermphan at Patong Police Station on Aug 10.

Joining the press conference were Assistant the NACC Secretary-General Sornchai Chuwichian, Suksan Prasarae, Director of the Phuket Provincial

branch of the Office of Public Sector Anti-Corruption Commission (PACC), and PACC Division 2 Director Thad Daoboonsai.

The officials arrested were named as Prasoot Jencharoenkit of Patong Municipality's Tax Mapping and Property Registration Department and Pornsak Kam-iad, head of Patong Municipality's Building Control Department.

An investigation was launched into the two officials after a complaint was filed two months ago, explained Mr Sornchai.

"As the investigation expanded, it was found that Prasoot was assigned by Pornsak to act as a 'coordinator' to collect money from the business owner to the amount of B300,000, claiming that was the cost of issuing a building use permit (Form Or. 5) for...

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

NEWS PAGE 5

Oil slick places 4,000 rai of corals at risk



LIFE PAGE 8

SALA Farmlife brings quality to the table



SPORT PAGE 15

Premier League returns as City signal intent



Lile-itTM

PHUKET'S QUALITY TILE BOUTIQUE

exceditor@classactmedia.co.th

News



Oil slick risks
4,000 rai
of corals > p5

‘SmartLand’ app arrest in Phuket

A 25-YEAR-OLD MAN has been arrested in Phuket for providing a “mule account” for the ‘SmartLand’ scam app, which has duped people out of millions of baht.

The man, named by police only as “Winat” or ‘Oil’, was taken into custody at a popular lifestyle shopping mall in Thalang, reported the Investigation Division Metropolitan Police Bureau (IDMB) last Sunday (Aug 13).

Winat was placed under arrest by officers from the IDMB, which is based in Bangkok. Joining the arrest party were officers from “PCT 5”, the Information Technology Crime Suppression Center operated under the Provincial Police, with Region 5 covering Chiang Mai.

Winat, who police said also went by the name ‘Oil Talad Neau’, was wanted for fraud on arrest warrant No. 461/2566 issued by Nonthaburi Provincial Court on July 19.

The SmartLand app had duped many victims,



Image: PCT 5

including a famous female news anchor who has lost millions. The latest victim had lost B1 million, officers reported.

People were lured into downloading the ‘SmartLand’ app by the claims that it was operated by a Department of Lands officer in Phuket, who could presumably help “facilitate” land transfers and title upgrades.

During questioning, Winat confessed to his role in the crime, police said,

Earlier this year, Chaiwut Thanakamansorn, Minister of Digital Economy and Society of Thailand, issued a warning that people could face up to three years in jail or a fine of up to B300,000, or both, if they are found to be providing “mule” accounts for online scams.

Eakkapop Thongtub

Tourist injured after ATV collides with bus

The Phuket News
editor@classactmedia.co.th

A Chinese tourist was rushed to the hospital last week after the ATV he was driving collided with a tour bus on Soi Yod Sane, a public road leading from Chao Fa West Rd to Big Buddha.

Phuket rescue workers were notified of the accident on Soi Yod Sane at around 5.25pm on Aug 9. An ambulance from Pearl Center was dispatched to provide assistance, reported *The Phuket News*’ Russian-language sister newspaper *Novosti Phuket*.

The case was not reported by Chalong Police, Phuket Tourist Police or local media but was included in the Aug 9 report of the Phuket Provincial Administrative Organisation (PPAO), the operator of Pearl Center.

Upon arriving at the scene, PPAO rescue workers found a damaged four-wheeled ATV that had collided with a small tour bus bearing the logo of a well-known local company.

The Chinese driver of the ATV, who remains unnamed, was conscious despite “a large tear wound on the forehead”. It was not reported if the man was wearing a helmet.

Further injuries included what were described in the report as “disfigured limbs”.



Photo: PPAO

The man received first aid at the scene, was placed on a stretcher and rushed to Chalong Hospital for further treatment.

At time of press there had been no reports about any possible charges against the tourist regarding the operation of an ATV on a public road or against the tour operator that organised the recreational activity which resulted in material damage and bodily harm.

Related to unapproved vehicles using public roads, Phuket Provincial Police Commander Maj Gen Sermphan Sirikong in February last year signed an order banning all electric scooters from public roads as they are not permitted on public thoroughfares by law.

Gen Sermphan warned that people caught riding electric scooters on public roads may be fined for operating an unregistered vehicle on a public road as well as operating a vehicle without a valid licence.

The first violation is punishable by a fine of up to B10,000. The penalty for the second one is up to six months’ imprisonment or a fine of up to B9,000, or both.

For the period from Jan 1-Aug 13 this year, the national Thai Road Safety Committee (ThaiRSC) recorded 92 deaths and 13,362 hospitalisations after road accidents in Phuket. The death toll was already 53.3% higher than in 2022, and the injury toll was already 21.8% higher.

Corrupt officials caught in sting

Continued from page 1

...the amount of B250,000, and the architect/engineer fee for the amount of B50,000,” Mr Somchai said.

NACC officers then moved to set up a sting operation to arrest the two officials.

During discussions in setting up the sting operation it was found that the exchange could be at the Patong Municipality office, or if that was inconvenient for the business owner, Prasoot could meet the business owner at the establishment, Mr Somchai explained.

The latter was agreed, with Prasoot to come to collect the B250,000 in cash and the remaining B50,000 to be handed over the next day.

The investigating officers gathered evidence and obtained arrest warrants for the two issued by Phuket



Photo: Eakkapop Thongtub

Provincial Court.

Later, Prasoot was arrested at a hotel restaurant in Patong when he brought the permit to change the use of the building to the business owner and to collect the B250,000.

Officers moved in to arrest Prasoot after he had received the cash.

Officers then moved to arrest Pornsak at Patong

Municipality.

“The offenders were government officials who had abused their positions and authority in a wrongful and dishonest way by demanding bribes from such victims,” Mr Somchai said.

Prasoot and Pornsak so far have denied the charges against them, he said.

Additional reporting
by Eakkapop Thongtub

Patong tuk-tuks warned against using public parking spaces

PATONG POLICE HAVE issued a warning for all tuk-tuks in the town to stop using public parking spaces, especially along the Patong beach road.

The warning followed a tuk-tuk driver caught using one of the public parking spaces on the beach road (Thaweewong Rd) last Saturday (Aug 12).

It also followed a slew of complaints on social media online, said a report by Patong Police.

Pol Capt Pongpan Tesawit of the Patong Traffic Police arrived and explained to the driver his infraction at 3:45pm last Saturday, said the report.

The driver had parked in one of two parking spaces along the beach road. The section where the tuk-tuk driver had parked provided 24 public spaces.

The warning was marked as under the direction of Patong Police Chief Pol Col Sujin Nilbadi, and the three



Photo: Patong Police

Deputy Superintendents of Patong Police Station: Lt Col Somporn Surin, Lt Col Phum Samem Voranon and Lt Col Wutthiwat Liangboonjinda.

Tuk-tuk drivers were instructed to not to act in a threatening manner to any car that comes to pick up tourists, as it may “cause fear or shock to others by coercion or result in an offense against liberty”.

Tuk-tuk drivers were asked to provide an image of being a good host by providing services in a friendly man-

ner to tourists who come to Patong area.

“Do not take advantage [of people], and charge a fair fare to promote a good tourism image for Phuket and Thailand,” the warning said.

Of note, included in the photos posted online with the warning by Patong Police was a ‘green-plate’ taxi also parked in the same series of public parking spaces.

Green-plate taxis were not mentioned in the warning.

The Phuket News

Farmers claim forest rights

The Phuket News
editor@classactmedia.co.th

Farmers with plantations in the Bang Khanun Protected Forest Reserve will submit a formal request to be granted ownership of the plots they occupy in the protected forest in the name of maintaining their livelihoods.

The news was revealed by Uthai Suksirisamphan, Chairman of the Board of Farmers' Federation of Thailand, at a meeting of those affected at Darul Abideen Mosque in Sakhu on Aug 10.

Presented at the meeting was a copy of a resolution by the Senate Standing Committee on Agriculture and Cooperatives in 2003 requesting that the Royal Forest Department allow 265 farmers in the forest be allowed "ownership" of the plots they occupy through the payment of tax receipts for the land (TorPor 4).

The Senate request was issued after a complaint was filed by farmers in the area in 1998.

The total area that the Senate Standing Committee on Agriculture and Cooperatives requested be handed over to



Photo: PR Phuket

local farmers in 2003 covered 2,678 rai 1 ngan 53 talang wah.

The Bang Khanun Protected Forest Reserve, in the hills inland from Nai Yang Beach, covers a total of 3,763 rai. Many of the elevated areas afford sea views.

Of note, a tax receipt is evidence of possession, but does not confer ownership rights with possession. However, it is useful when applying for a Certificate of Possession (SorKor 1).

Once a SorKor 1 has been issued for a parcel of land, the occupier can then start

the process to elevate the document for land possession status, over time and step by step, all through way through to full ownership through a Chanote.

Also of note, and explained at the meeting last week, the Senate Standing Committee on Agriculture and Cooperatives also requested that "there must be no arrest of people because it is an area that has been conducted with agreement of all parties".

On that basis, the farmers present at the meeting said they had full rights to claim

the land they occupy in the protected forest. Representatives from the group will now take steps to achieve that, the group was told.

However, the representatives at the meeting emphasised that claiming actual ownership of land in the forest was not their goal.

The goal was to maintain use of the land in the forest so that families that rely on the income made from farming areas in the forest can continue to provide for their families. The farmers were even happy to rent the land

from the government, said an official report of the meeting.

The move by farmers to claim ownership of land in the forest comes in response to the Royal Forest Department handing over rights to all 3,763 rai of the Bang Khanun Protected Forest Reserve to the Royal Thai Navy, which plans to build Naval installations in the forest.

The Royal Thai Navy plans to use the forest land to create a new home for the 22nd Anti-Aircraft Battalion, the 2nd Anti-Aircraft Regiment, the Anti-Aircraft Command Unit, an Air Defense and Coastal Defense Center and the 4th Naval Police Battalion of the Naval Police Department.

While still designated a protected forest reserve, the Bang Khanun Protected Forest has long been classified by the Royal Forest Department as a "degraded forest", with no special characteristics worthy of a higher protection classification.

Vice Admiral Arpakorn Yookongkaew, Commander of the Royal Thai Navy Third Area Command, has already recognised 265 "cases" had been approved use of areas within the forest.

However, more than 100 local residents occupying land within the forest last month presented a formal request for the Royal Thai Navy to remove a barbed-wire fence from the area.

Chamrun Koetdam, President of the Network of Gulf of Thailand-Andaman Conservation Areas, last week submitted a petition to Thalang District Chief Bancha Thanuin, asking the Thalang District Office to specifically order two tambon administrative organisations in the district to enforce the Building Control Act in one particular area of Bang Khanun reserve forest.

Citing information supplied by several groups of environmentalists working in Phuket, Mr Chamrun on Aug 8 said past major flooding at Phuket International Airport might have been caused by widespread deforestation, which had also occurred on mountains close to the airport.

"We have received information about serious encroachment and deforestation in the reserve forest. This is a threat to the country's natural resources and to tourism," the *Bangkok Post* reported him as saying.

Accomplices to Patong street shooting surrender

THE LAST SUSPECT INVOLVED IN the street shooting in Patong on Aug 3 has surrendered to police to be charged for her role in the crime, Patong Police have announced.

The female suspect, named by police as "Ms Sukanya", a 26-year-old resident of Patong, surrendered herself at the local police station on Aug 10, Patong Police reported.

Charges against Ms Sukanya included: accomplice to attempted murder attempt; illegal possession of a gun and ammunition; carrying a gun and ammunition in a public area without reasonable cause; and an accomplice in firing a gun in a public area.

Patong Police have not revealed anything specific about Ms Sukanya's role in the murder attempt which left two people with gunshot wounds.

Just two days earlier, on Aug 8, a suspect named by police as "Mr Supandit", a 26-year-old resident of Ratsada, surrendered himself at Patong Police Station. Supandit was also wanted as an accomplice to the street shooting, which left two people in hospital with gunshot wounds. Nuttawut Hemra, 20, from Trang, was shot in his right leg, and Jirawat Santirak, 20, registered as living in Ratsada, was shot in his left hand.

In a Facebook post on Aug 8, Patong Police denied inaction over the case. Officers were able to track down and arrest two suspects "immediately", they said.

The two were Chalermchon Atsorn, 37,



Photo: Patong Police

registered as living in Srisoonthorn, and Sukanya Suwannoi, 28, from Nong Khai.

Further investigation led to the arrest of two more suspects at a residence where the suspects were hiding, Patong Police added.

By that time officers had already arrested the person wanted for the shooting, Nattapong Nachom, 34, who had been taken into custody on an arrest warrant issued by Phuket Provincial Court on Aug 4.

Nattapong now faces a charge of attempted murder, along with several firearm-related charges.

Patong Police said that Supandit surrendered himself due to the pressure by police in tracking down all people involved in the shooting.

As with Ms Sukanya, Supandit has been charged in accordance with being an accomplice in an attempt to kill others; joint possession of a firearm and ammunition without permission; openly carrying a firearm and ammunition in a public area without reasonable cause; and jointly discharging a firearm in a public area.

The Phuket News

BoConcept®

LIVE EKSTRAORDINÆR

THE NEW STORE EXPERIENCE IN PHUKET

WITH EKSTRAORDINÆR PRIVILEGES
24 AUG 2023 - 24 SEP 2023



SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION



NOW OPEN

1ST FLOOR,
AT INDEX LIVING MALL PHUKET

LIKE US
BoConceptThailand

FOLLOW US
boconcept.thailand

CONTACT US
076-304102

The Phuket News

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-AMPHAIPIHAN
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.com

99/7 Moo 1 (Billion Plaza),
T. Kathu, A. Kathu, Phuket 83120

PHUKET SEVEN DAY WEATHER FORECAST

www.foreca.com

FRI AUGUST 18



High: +30°

Low: +27°

Wind 11 m/s

SAT AUGUST 19



High: +31°

Low: +27°

Wind 11 m/s

SUN AUGUST 20



High: +31°

Low: +27°

Wind 11 m/s

MON AUGUST 21



High: +31°

Low: +27°

Wind 4 m/s

TUE AUGUST 22



High: +32°

Low: +27°

Wind 4 m/s

WED AUGUST 23



High: +30°

Low: +27°

Wind 4 m/s

THU AUGUST 24



High: +30°

Low: +27°

Wind 4 m/s

Police probe 'excessive force' in car repossession

THALANG

Police are investigating the complaint that four men used "excessive force" in repossessing a car for failing to make loan repayments.

The complaint was filed by Kulwit Wong-saratnavut, a 32-year-old resident of Moo 5, Mai Khao, on Aug 7.

In his complaint to police Mr Kulwit said he was physically restrained by the three men while a fourth man removed the car key from his trouser pocket while he was walking back to his car parked at a popular shopping outlet just south of Thalang Town.

Mr Kulwit said that he was also "forced" to drive his car to a used car lot in Baan Lipon, Srisoonthorn, where he was "forced" to sign over ownership of the car.

According to Mr Kulwit's father, Mr Kitt, the bank that provided a loan of B250,000 with the car as collateral had confirmed that 13 installments had been paid on the loan, with six installments remaining amounting to B61,000.

Thalang Police Deputy Chief Pol Lt Col Anukul Nooket has confirmed that the behaviour of the four men described by Mr Kulwit was illegal.

"It is a violation of the law. There was persecution, threats, coercion, harm, he [Mr Kulwit] did not give his consent," Lt Col Anukul said.

"As for the complaint of robbery, we have to look at the evidence again. What were the men's intentions and what are the conditions for seizing property [for non-repayment of loans]?"

"The car is now already with the company that violated the law and used coercion to seize the car,"

"Investigating officers have confirmed that the parties have already been informed of the allegations against them, but they have yet to receive a response," Lt Col Anukul said.

Eakkapop Thongtub



Photo: Eakkapop Thongtub

Chinese 'grey investors' key immigration concern

The Phuket News
editor@classactmedia.co.th

Preventing the rising spread of Chinese "grey investors" while coping with a marked increase in the number of Chinese tourists were key issues discussed at the conference of the 26th ASEAN Directors-General of Immigration Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and related meetings held in Phuket last week.

The conference, held at the Angsana Laguna Phuket resort, began on Aug 7 and concluded on Aug 11.

Speaking to the press at the event, Thai Immigration Deputy Commander Maj Gen Chuchat Thareechat said that efforts were discussed in raising the level of intercepting the movement of transnational crime and strengthening a healthy tourism sector were key issues discussed by the ministers, and immigration chiefs from the 11 ASEAN member countries.

Specifically, blocking the movement of transnational crimes, illegal immigration and human trafficking in the Asian region and nearby regions, were key concerns addressed, he said.

"The current border situation has changed a lot, especially the camouflage of identity used by various nationalities moving to embed in one country to inflict a target effect on another country,"



Photo: PR Phuket

Maj Gen Chuchat said.

"This is especially with cases involving crimes using technology and financial cases. Therefore, cooperation among consular and immigration agencies must be tightened. In terms of technology and law, to create a mechanism for flexible joint practice," he said.

As such, the theme of the meeting was 'Building Security, Fostering Collaboration and Sustaining the Future', Maj Gen Chuchat noted.

Among the related meetings held as part of the conference was the 18th ASEAN Directors-General of Immigration Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs Meeting Plus Australia Consultation, or simply the "18th DGICM + Australia Consultation".

Three dialogue partner countries, China, Japan and the Republic of Korea, also attended the

meeting, said an official report of the event.

"There was a discussion that included China on how to solve the problems of Chinese grey investors to reduce and suppress all transnational crime groups and to elevate sustainable tourism," the report said.

"It is expected that the number of tourists from China will increase by 15%," the report noted.

More than 500 attendees attended the five-day event, which included a gala dinner.

With Thailand the host country for the talks this year, the Royal Thai Police chose Phuket as the host location for the meetings to help stimulate tourism after the COVID-19 crisis, the official report noted.

Thailand previously hosted the conference in 2002 and 2012. The 25th edition of the conference was held in Singapore in August last year.

German man, 52, drowns at Karon

A 52-YEAR-OLD GERMAN tourist drowned at Karon Beach while playing in the water with his 11-year-old son at night last week.

Pol Lt Charat Lempan of the Chalong Police was informed of the incident at 8:50pm on Aug 7.

The man's son said that he and his father went to swim in the water at about 7:30pm, Lt Charat explained.

Both the boy and his father encountered difficulty in the strong surf. The son managed to swim back to shore, but his father was pulled out to sea, he added.

Lifeguards launched a search for the German man, and later found him and brought him ashore near the sports ground.

The man was unconscious, Lt



Photo: Karon Police

Charat explained. Rescue workers performed CPR and rushed him to Chalong, but the man was later pronounced dead.

The German man's body was taken to Vachira Phuket Hospital to confirm the cause of death.

Eakkapop Thongtub

Patong massage shops raided for using minors

PATONG POLICE HAVE RAIDED two massage shops for using minors to provide massage services.

The Hatha Massage shop on Rat-Uthit 200 Pi Rd was raided by officers at 9:40pm last Saturday (Aug 12), Patong Police reported.

The raid followed a complaint that the shop was operating without a licence and using "children" under 18 years of age to provide massage services, the report said.

The officers arrested one suspect, named only as "Ms Onuma".

According to the report, Ms Onuma was charged with only "operating a health establishment without permission".

The raid last Saturday followed Patong Police raiding Aisha Mas-



Photos: Patong Police

sage, located in a small street off Haad Patong Rd, on Aug 7.

Officers arrested the operator of the parlour, who police named only as "Ms Yupin".

Ms Yupin was charged with operating a health establishment without permission and allowing employees under 18 years of age to work in a place where massage services are provided to customers, Patong Police confirmed.

Patong Police revealed no further details of the raid. *The Phuket News*

4,000 rai of corals at risk

The Phuket News
editor@classactmedia.co.th

More than 4,000 rai of corals are at risk of damage by the oil slick that has plagued Phuket's coast for the past week, Department of Marine and Coastal Resources (DMCR) Deputy Director-General Pornsri Suthanaruk has revealed.

Dr Pornsri, a PhD in environmental science, delivered the news during a meeting with Phuket Vice Governor Amnuay Pinsuwan at Phuket Provincial Hall on Aug 8.

The oil slick has affected 125 kilometres of coastline along the Andaman seaboard, Dr Pornsri said.

The oil slick came from the north. It was first observed washing ashore in Phang Nga on Aug 2 and reached Koh Racha Yai, just over 17km south of Phuket, on Aug 6, she said.

A model of the oil slick determined that the slick originated some 80 to 90 nautical miles west of Phuket, Dr Pornsri said.

The affected area was huge, Dr Pornsri noted. An inspection of the beaches in Phang Nga and Phuket's west coast



Dr Pornsri reveals the risk of damage to corals. Photo: DMCR

over the previous two days had found many small tarballs and pools of oil still washing ashore, she explained.

"The concern is the residual oil spill in the Phang Nga Bay area, and the oil sludge that is still very much on the beaches will have an impact on marine life," Dr Pornsri said.

"According to our predictions, the area where the oil slick has flowed may affect 4,000 rai of coral reefs in Phang Nga and Phuket. The DMCR will assign officers to inspect the area to further

assess the damage," she said.

"The information we have is consistent with the data of the Marine Department, which will proceed in its investigation and continue searching for the perpetrators in order to proceed with legal action," Dr Pornsri added.

URGENT ACTION

Urgent action was required to continue cleaning the beaches of any oil and tarballs, Dr Pornsri said.

"The oil slick that has washed up on the beach must be urgently collected, as soon

as possible," she emphasised.

Dr Pornsri on Aug 8 conducted inspections at Kata Beach, Karon Beach, Kalim Beach and Patong Beach. Joining her was Dr Kongkiat Kittiwattanawong, DMCR Specialist in Research on Resources and Environment in Marine and Coastal Ecosystems.

At Patong, she was joined by Patong Mayor Chalernsak Maneesri to discuss what action Patong Municipality can take.

"According to preliminary reports, about five tonnes of

oil and oil debris has been collected in Phuket in total. The most was two tonnes collected at Nai Yang Beach, with about one tonne collected at Racha Island," she noted.

DATA REVIEW

Phuket Marine Chief Natchaphong Pranit last Thursday (Aug 9) joined a meeting with representatives of selected agencies in the hope of learning more about the origin of the oil slick.

Among the agencies represented were the DMCR, the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNRE) and the Environment and Pollution Control Region 15 branch, which is based in Phuket.

The beaches confirmed to have been affected by the oil washing ashore were listed as Khao Lak Beach as well as Khuk Khak Thai Mueang in Phang Nga, then continuing down the west west coast of Phuket to affect Sirinath National Park, Mai Khao Beach, Nai Yang Beach, Kamala Beach, Patong Beach, Karon Beach, Kata Beach and Koh Racha Yai, located south of Phuket.

The team reviewed weather models, including factors such

as wind, tides and waves, and the number of ships passing through the area where the slick is believed to have originated.

All data collected will be forwarded to the Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency (GISTDA) for further analysis, including tests to confirm the type and composition of the oil, Mr Natchapong said.

However, he added that it is expected to take "one to two weeks" before all the samples and test data will be ready to forward to GISTDA.

"This is the first time that there has been a joint discussion of such relevant agencies to collect data and create a model to narrow down the tracking of ships that dumped oil into the sea," Mr Natchapong said.

"All information obtained from existing equipment and any data on ships passing through the area will be delivered to GISTDA to evaluate and use satellite images to ensure we have scientific facts as evidence in prosecuting the offender and for us to continue to take action according to the relevant laws," said Mr Natchapong.

'Still can't take care of the coast'

WELL-KNOWN MARINE LIFE ENVIRONMENTALIST Dr Thon Thamrongnawasawat has called on officials to do more to protect Thailand's coast from environmental disasters, even if only for the sake of preventing massive losses to the tourism industry, following the oil slick that plagued Phuket's west coast beaches last week.

Dr Thon made his call for greater environmental protection through a post on Facebook that featured a distressing photo of a young turtle being cleaned of oil, which he described as, "What hurt me so much and must have hurt my friends who love the sea the most".

"As far as we know, she is the third turtle to be hit by an oil slick in Phuket, and one is dead," Dr Thon wrote.

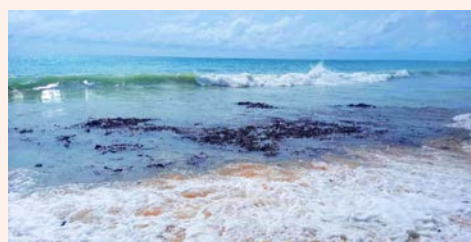
"Since starting to work in the sea until today, almost 40 years, I can't think of any case in Thai waters where turtles have been exposed to this much oil from a slick," he noted.

Dr Thon called on all people involved in responding to the oil slick to not pass off the incident as "just a pity".

"Thailand has joined the Convention on Biological Diversity, but what indicators for SDGs [Sustainable Development Goals] do we use?

"We have also signed up for and participated in many issues related to rare marine animals, but many stranded Thai sea turtles carry garbage with them, whether outside or inside [their bodies], and now they are being afflicted by oil," he added.

"Know that all parties are trying to



Officials are still attempting to identify exactly where and when the oil slick originated. Photo: PR Phuket

find the source of the oil slick in order to pursue the perpetrators to be punished, but knowing who that is is extremely difficult. It was estimated that the incident occurred at a distance of more than 100 kilometres from the coast. With the system we have, how can we tell where the boat went?" he posed.

"Suffice it to say that we still can't take care of the coast. We must keep our little turtles safe from serious pollution in the sea. And if we do not change, coastal tourism worth hundreds of billions [of baht] per year also risks random destruction in the blink of an eye," Dr Thon noted.

"Various animals and marine ecosystems still rely solely on luck to avoid catastrophic events. We need to invest more to understand and protect the seas. We need to understand the tides and wind waves, and identify risk areas so we can find a way to improve surveillance and have an early warning system," he added.

"It's not 'just a pity'. It's more than that because we can still do better," he wrote.

The Phuket News

Explore Phuket's newest Pool Club

SO
HO
POOL CLUB

Let's get social

find us at
Boat Lagoon Marina
Phuket

www.sohophuket.com

- chilled out beach club vibe
- open to everyone, no membership needed
- great Thai and Western menu
- fantastic place for your event or party

B34bn Samui bridge hearings underway

THE EXPRESS AUTHORITY of Thailand (EXAT) has held the first public hearing for its plan to build a 20-kilometre bridge linking the mainland to Koh Samui, with construction due to start in 2028.

EXAT Governor Surachet Laophulsuk said orientation hearings will be held in three areas that are expected to be impacted by the project: Nakhon Sri Thammarat, Surat Thani and Koh Samui.

They were selected as the project will link Koh Samui to either Surat Thani's Don Sak district or Khanom district in Nakhon Sri Thammarat.

The hearings are to focus on the suitability of the project in various dimensions, including engineering proposed, as well as the financial and environmental impact.

A bridge connecting the resort island with the mainland in Don Sak district would provide an overland transportation option in addition to air and ferry



Image: EXAT

links, which are currently the only modes of travel to and from the island.

The bridge is also expected to reduce the time needed to attend to public health emergencies on the island, Mr Surachet said.

The project changed hands from the Rural Roads Department to EXAT by the order of the Transport Ministry in July, he added, as the ministry required a sector that had more availability of technology resources and funds.

It is expected to cost around B33.9 billion. Some B31.4bn will be invested in construction, with the rest for acquiring land.

An impact study is expected to take 24 months, concluding in October 2025, he said. *Bangkok Post*

Domestic tourism slows

Bangkok Post

The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) last week said it expected domestic tourism to slow during the Mother's Day holiday last weekend because of economic constraints.

The agency predicted about 2.6 million trips nationwide between Aug 12-14, generating B8.7 billion.

TAT Governor Yuthasak Supasorn said with lower demand than last year, the number of domestic travellers and their spending would decrease by 4% and 5%, respectively.

In addition to high living costs stemming from surging fuel and consumer product prices, he said the rainy season is another factor hindering locals from planning trips.

A survey by the Tourism Council of Thailand found 23% of local residents did not plan to travel during the long weekend, while 23% planned to travel within their provinces. Around 21% said they wanted to spend the night in the nearby provinces, while nearly 20% arrange day trips to other areas. Only 13% said they would visit other regions.

Meanwhile, TAT reported that Bangkok was the most popular domestic destination for the long holiday weekend of July 28-August 2, with over 600,000 trips totaling B3.13bn in tourism revenue. The eastern region was the second most visited, with 367,190 trips and B1.34bn in tourism earnings. The northern provinces came in third, with 290,350 visits and a revenue of B1.11bn,



Ms Thapanee says that if inbound tourism sees a significant slowdown, it might be necessary to push the new stimulus plan in the future.

During the three-day holiday last weekend (Aug 12-14), the occupancy rate nationwide was predicted to close at 61%, the TAT reported. The Central region would see the highest occupancy rate at 67%, while the North would have the lowest rate at 54% as this month is off-season for tourism in that region.

According to online travel platform Agoda, the most searched destinations on its platform included Pattaya, Hua Hin-Cha-am, Bangkok, Khao Yai and Kanchanaburi.

Given sluggish domestic spending, the private sector, such as the Thai Hotels Association, has been asking for a new phase of the stimulus plan to help spur tourism spending in secondary destinations.

Thapanee Kiatphaibool, TAT Deputy Governor for Domestic Marketing, who will be the new TAT Governor from

September, said implementing a strong incentive campaign like 'We Travel Together' would depend on the tourism situation.

She said even if there's no such mechanism, there are several campaigns to boost the market all year round.

However, if inbound tourism sees a significant slowdown, it might be necessary to push the new stimulus plan in the future.

At present, the agency has yet to see a severe impact and it will have to wait for the new government to make a decision.

She said the TAT still hopes to increase the spending of domestic travellers from B3,200 to B4,000 per trip next year.

The positive trend of local consumption could be observed at the Thailand Tourism Festival 2023 held by the TAT last week, as this event generated revenue of B45.9 million from 74,500 visitors, said Ms Thapanee.

No more FamilyMart for Thailand as retailer withdraws from market

WELL-KNOWN JAPANESE retail chain FamilyMart is leaving the Thai market, with all of its remaining convenience stores to continue operating as Tops Daily, a brand owned by Central Group. The conversion should be finished by the end of 2023.

FamilyMart will completely withdraw from Thailand after its franchise agreement with local retailer Central Group ended in late May, reported Nikkei Asia.

The decision was announced on Aug 10, but by then the conversion of FamilyMart shops into Tops Daily mini-supermarkets will have been underway for some time.

"Unfortunately, the game has been decided in Thailand," an anonymous FamilyMart executive told Nikkei.

According to the Japanese business news agency, around 200 stores need to be converted from FamilyMart to Tops Daily throughout the rest of the year.

FamilyMart at its peak boasted a chain of over 1,100 stores, but then dropped to just over 400.

Although far behind 7-Eleven's retail legion of



As of last Saturday (Aug 12), this FamilyMart on Soi Palai in Chalong had not yet been converted to Tops Daily. Image: Anton Makhrov

over 10,000 minimarkets, FamilyMart was still a noticeable player in 2017 when it had 1,132 shops, according to Statista.

By the end of 2022, the number of FamilyMart locations had shrunk to just 415 shops, while the number of 7-Eleven stores grew to 13,800, representing around 80% of the market.

FamilyMart entered Thailand in 1992 through a joint venture, opening its first store there in 1993. The company only partially localised the business, which slowed down the expansion.

In 2020, Central Retail Corporation (part of Central Group) acquired 100% of the shares of the FamilyMart chain in what the company declared

to be a step towards "developing a new business model to cater to modern consumers".

Central Retail had partnered with Japan FamilyMart Co since 2012 owning some 51% of shares. The 2020 deal saw the Thai side acquire the remaining 49%.

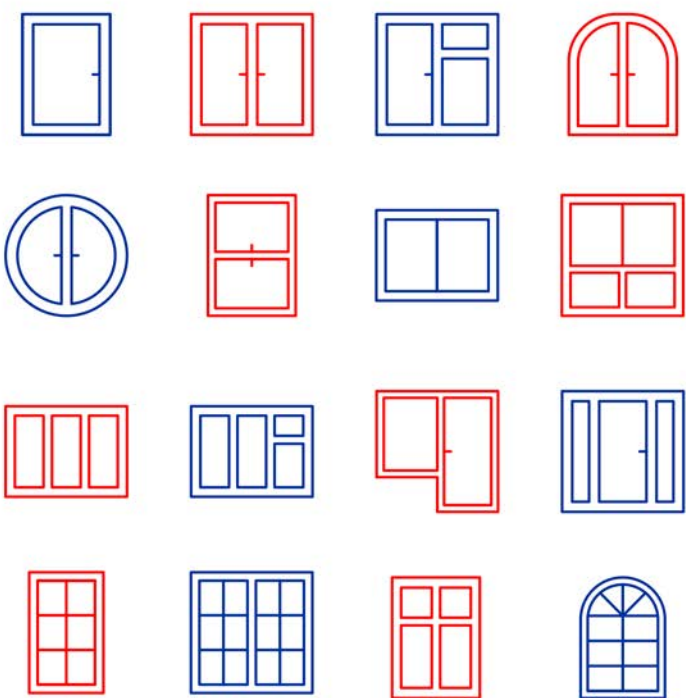
"Currently, FamilyMart has 1,000 stores nationwide, and we plan to continue expanding our stores, as we are committed to investing for our future growth," Central Retail Chief Executive Officer Yol Phokasub said at that time.

Mr Yol said the acquisition should develop Central's "full-scale services through customer-centric omni-channels". FamilyMart introduced 24/7 coin washing machines to cater to consumers' busy lifestyles and launched Food Drink Container Mart machines, as well as automated vending machines to offer more convenience to consumers.

The expansion of FamilyMart never happened as the number of FamilyMart-branded stores continued to contract amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Meanwhile, 7-Eleven continued to increase its market share. *The Phuket News*



Safe, Secure, Soundproof Windows and Doors



087 061 7631 @nathan Upvc brown pvcphuket.com

Pheu Thai, Bhumjaithai slammed for military ties

BANGKOK

Bangkok Post

A group of protestors rallied in front of Pheu Thai and Bhumjaithai party headquarters last Sunday (Aug 13) to denounce their efforts to form the next government with military-linked parties.

The protestors first gathered at the BTS Mo Chit station on Phahon Yothin Road at about 1:30pm. Rally leaders criticised both parties for potentially teaming up with political parties connected to the May 2014 coup d'état.

About an hour later they moved to the Bhumjaithai Party headquarters on the same road where they criticised Bhumjaithai's policies related to COVID-19 and cannabis decriminalisation. They scattered leaflets, splashed paint and attached glue traps normally used to trap mice. Bhumjaithai leader Anutin Charnvirakul is also known by his nickname "Noo" (mouse in Thai).

The demonstrators then moved to the Pheu Thai headquarters on Phetchaburi Road



A protestor splashes paint in front of the Bhumjaithai Party headquarters in Bangkok last Sunday (Aug 13). Photo: Bangkok Post

where they dumped and destroyed Pheu Thai souvenirs including stickers, cups, calendars and shirts. They also demanded Pheu Thai restore its coalition partnership with the election-winning Move Forward Party (MFP).

Pheu Thai came second in the May 14 general election with 141 House seats and Bhumjaithai came third with 71 seats. Both announced their joint effort to form the next government after Pheu Thai withdrew from its previous coalition alliance with MFP which won 151 House seats.

SRETTHA DOUBT

Meanwhile, senators are still divided over whether to back Srettha Thavisin, a Pheu Thai Party prime ministerial candidate, in the next PM vote in parliament.

Sen Seree Suwanpanont said on Monday (Aug 14) the 250 senators must check the qualifications of the candidate as well as ask how Pheu Thai's election pledges, such as the B10,000 "digital money" giveaway, will be funded.

"If a prime ministerial candidate fails to meet the qualifications stipulated by

the constitution, the nomination may be pulled out," Sen Seree said.

Asked to comment about a group of 40 MPs from the Palang Pracharath Party (PPRP) who earlier said they would vote for Srettha, Sen Kittisak Rattanawaraha said the two parties have not yet announced a formal agreement to work together.

"But this could be seen as a signal of bargaining for what they want," he said. "If they don't get what they ask for, Pheu Thai may not receive enough support."

"It looks like they are trying pressure Pheu Thai into relying heavily on Gen Prawit Wongsuwon [the PPRP leader] because Pheu Thai can no longer turn to the MFP."

"Right now, those who have the upper hand are Gen Prawit and Bhumjaithai leader Anutin Charnvirakul. If either or both of them pull out, the Pheu Thai-led coalition will collapse."

"If Gen Prawit is not part of the government, the senators who are close to him will not vote for Mr Srettha," he said.



Tourists hail a taxi on Khao San Road. Photo: Bangkok Post

Time to buckle up for taxi passengers

BANGKOK

PASSENGERS WILL NEED to buckle up while riding in a taxi or other public transport vehicles starting from Nov 6, according to the Royal Thai Police.

The announcement, published in the Royal Gazette on Aug 8 and signed by national police chief Pol Gen Damrongsak Kittiprapas, cited Section 123/3 of the Land Transportation Act and focused on the requirement for taxi drivers to ensure all passengers wear seatbelts.

The warning may be made verbally, by a sign or signs present and visible inside the vehicle, through an audio recording played inside the

vehicle or via other means, reports the Bangkok Post.

The driver must also inform passengers they must sit in designated seats, as well as never allow more than the legally permitted number of passengers into the vehicle on each trip.

No supplementary seating installed without official permission may be offered to passengers to sit on, either. No passengers may stand inside a moving vehicle unless there is a designated area for standing.

Also, passengers may not stick any part of their body out of a moving public transport vehicle.

The announcement will take effect 90 days from its publication in the Royal Gazette, Nov 6. Bangkok Post

Cabinet approves trials for opium, magic mushrooms medicinal use

BANGKOK

THE CABINET HAS given the green light to a draft royal decree that permits the cultivation of opium and magic mushrooms for medicinal use on a trial basis, it was confirmed on Aug 9.

The proposal, presented by the Justice Ministry, received unanimous support from key government bodies including the Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation Ministry, Interior Ministry, Office of the National Economic and Social Development Council, and the Royal Thai Police.

The draft decree, upon announcement in the Royal Gazette, will mark the commencement of the ambitious project. Carefully reviewed by the Council of State, an advisory body on legal matters, the decree has been designed to foster innovation and reduce the nation's dependence on imported morphine and anti-depressants.

Under the new regulation, the International Narcotics Control College,



Photo: NNT

situated within Chiang Rai's Chiang Saen district, will be authorised to cultivate opium for medicinal purposes. This college, overseen by the Office of Narcotics Control Board, will facilitate the extraction of morphine by the Government Pharmaceutical Organisation in their laboratories located in Bangkok and Pathum Thani.

The decree also aims to enable the growth of magic mushrooms in designated universities and educational institutions across four regions of Thailand.

Institutions approved for the project will be those deemed ready to embark on experimental projects

to create anti-depressants from the extracts of magic mushrooms.

Magic mushrooms contain essential compounds, psilocybin, and psilocin, which possess promising potential for developing anti-depressant drugs.

Thailand has witnessed a significant rise in the number of depression diagnoses, with approximately 1.76 million cases recorded between 2015 and 2020.

Experts said the initiative is expected to pave the way for cost-effective domestic production of these crucial drugs, thereby saving the country a substantial amount of money. NNT



SATURDAY BRUNCH AT SALA BEACH BAR

FRESH SEAFOOD, LIVE STATIONS, UNLIMITED A LA CARTE, GUEST MIXOLOGIST, LIVE MUSIC AND BEACH GAMES

1,885* BAHT PER PERSON

26 AUG | 30 SEP | 28 OCT 2023
1PM UNTIL 4PM

076 338 888

events@salaphuket.com

www.salaphuket.com



The future's green with SALA Farmlife!

The Phuket News
editor@classactmedia.co.th

With the ever-increasing transition to a greener and more sustainable world, it was with interest that my partner and I recently headed to SALA Phuket Mai Khao to check out their new eco-friendly initiative 'Farmlife'.

As part of an official tour to introduce the facility, something that all guests have access to, it becomes clear almost immediately how smart the project Farmlife is. SALA Phuket Mai Khao sits in gorgeous, picturesque, beach-facing grounds with classy dining facilities and stylish accommodation, yet has always had a wealth of under-used scrub land at its disposal. Recognising this and aligning to the objective of creating a more sustainable business model is how Farmlife came about.

Sectioned off by bamboo fencing, the area is quaint and well planned. Entering the facility through a decorated archway, one is immediately struck by the scale and range of fresh produce grown in the beautiful herb garden. You name it and the chances are it is being grown there: long green, purple and apple eggplants; hot sweet and Italian basil; long green beans, chillis, pumpkins; kaffir limes; rosemary; parsley, green pepper corns; okra; corn; lettuce, ginger, snake gourd; betel leaf; galangal, and many more. It is a visual delight offering an eclectic mix of scents.

To showcase this wonderful range of fresh produce a cooking class is organised in the grounds of the herb garden where chefs from the hotel fuse ingredients to create a range of delectable dishes that guests can enjoy, a great way to experience Thai cuisine in the freshest of all possible environments.

Elsewhere, two separate, spacious coups host 60 chickens and 60 Khaki Campbell ducks, who produce 30 and 40 fresh eggs respectively a day. Both are fed



homemade organic food, ensuring the eggs are laden with healthy omega-3 fatty acids, while two attentive geese watch on and serve as 'security guards', seeing off any unwanted pests or intruders. In addition to producing fresh eggs for the hotel kitchen, the chickens also serve as perfect natural garbage disposals, eating up discarded scraps that would normally just be thrown away.

There are also four mixed-breed goats, Kim, Khloe, David and Karen – the first two named after the Kardashian sisters, the second two named after regular guests to the hotel. In time they will produce offspring which will either be used in the kitchen or sold, but for now they graze happily while being fed by guests. Shipped over from Koh Samui late last year, they are curious and extremely friendly and leave me convinced that goats would make for perfect domestic pets!

Further features include a comprehensive composting station and a charcoal production facility which is used to fuel on-site barbecues in addition to producing

wood vinegar which is used for pest control. Also, all the robust animal enclosures are made from recycled wood and materials from the hotel.

Head Chef Tony Wrigley explains that all of the goods from Farmlife are now regularly used in the impressively exotic menu at the hotel. In the evening, he creates a delicious 'tasting menu' to showcase the range and quality of what is being grown and produced, while further demonstrating efforts to close the gap from farm to table.

"SALA Farmlife is an essential part of our commitment to sustainability and preserving the environment," says General Manager Anthony Van Sleeuwen. "Our guests will experience fresh and organic produce that is grown locally while minimising the impact on the environment. Food is such a vital part of the culture in Thailand, and here we are able to connect our guests to the incredible ingredients and flavours that the country offers."

Generating home produce is impressive but it is also the wider impact this has in cutting down costs and reducing the carbon footprint associated with transporting the goods to the hotel. Home produced, organic eggs ensure a grasp on quality control and not having to worry about shelf life or what may have happened to the eggs during processing or shipping. Similarly, organic fertiliser and charcoals eliminate the reliance on harmful chemicals in the cultivation of fresh produce.

The whole Farmlife initiative is extremely impressive and supports the hotel's commitment to sustainability and a greener future while offering a genuinely fun, engaging and rewarding experience that guests can engage in and assimilate during their stay in this little corner of paradise. Both accommodation and dining guests are welcome to visit the SALA Farmlife project free of charge and can make their next overnight stay or dining booking via www.salaphuket.com.

Homes & Interiors | Phuket living | Boating | Tide tables | Dining | Travel | Thai law

WINDOW ON PHUKET

August-September 2023
windowonphuket.com | [/windowonphuketmagazine](https://www.facebook.com/windowonphuketmagazine)
an IMAGE ORBIT publication

DIGITIZING THAILAND'S YACHT AND BOAT CHARTERS INDUSTRY WITH YACHT ME CORPORATION

Free copy

สแกน QR เพื่ออ่านบนเว็บไซต์ของเรา windowonphuket.com/thai

- ★ ระดับน้ำทะเล
- ★ การแล่นเรือ
- ★ กิจกรรมบนจังหวัดภูเก็ต
- ★ บ้านและการตกแต่งภายใน
- ★ ที่เที่ยวและที่พักภูเก็ต
- ★ อาหาร ร้านอาหารและโปรโมชั่น
- ★ ท่องเที่ยวภูเก็ต
- ★ เทรนด์ความรู้กฎหมายไทย

WINDOW ON PHUKET

August/September 2023 issue

Out now in over
600 locations

windowonphuket.com

Soi Dog ramps up vaccination drive

Soi Dog Foundation

Soi Dog Foundation carried out its annual vaccination drive at the Phuket Stray Dog Shelter in Thalang – also known as the government dog pound or GDP – this month.

In collaboration with the Phuket Provincial Livestock Office, all 847 dogs at the shelter were vaccinated against six common diseases, including rabies, distemper and parvovirus, as well as protected against ticks, fleas and parasites.

The vaccination drive forms part of Soi Dog's long-standing commitment to the health and wellbeing of the dogs at the shelter and also feeds into a wider cross-agency effort to establish Phuket as Thailand's first rabies-free province by the end of the year.

In addition to annual vaccinations, the foundation sends veterinary staff to the shelter each week and community outreach staff each day to ensure that all dogs housed there are spayed/neutered, dewormed, protected against ticks and fleas and treated for any health issues, with the most common being dog bite wounds, mange and diarrhea. Any dogs suffering from more severe conditions are transferred to the Soi Dog hospital in nearby Mai Khao for further treatment.

Speaking on the improvements he has seen at the shelter, Phuket Provincial Livestock Office Director Suthat Niyomthai said, "The shelter makes every effort to improve dog welfare. Cleaning has been more organised, and the dogs are generally in good health."

"Vaccination is a key element of maintaining the dog's wellbeing, building immunity and increasing the possibility of having someone adopt them," he added.

While improvements continue to be made, the foundation is firm in its position that sheltering is not the answer to the overpopulation of stray animals and that the primary focus must be on sterilisation and education, particularly surrounding responsible pet ownership.



The Soi Dog Mobile Clinic at Wat Phra Mahathat Woramahawihan in Nakhon Sri Thammarat. Photo: Soi Dog Foundation

"Many of the dogs housed at the Phuket Stray Dog Shelter are abandoned pets, and we have seen time and time again that these dogs fare terribly in a shelter environment. Going from the centre of attention in a comfortable home to one of hundreds of dogs in a concrete building overnight is extremely stressful for them," said Soi Dog CEO Louise Rose.

"We strongly urge anyone considering bringing a dog into their family to be absolutely certain first that they can care for that dog's needs for the duration of their life so they do not end up suffering this fate."

"No dog wants or deserves to be in a shelter," she added.

SOI DOG DOWN SOUTH

Soi Dog Foundation last month was proud to join a sterilisation and vaccination event in Nakhon Sri Thammarat as part of Her Royal Highness Princess Chulabhorn Krom Phra Srisavangavadhana's "Disease-Free Animals, Rabies-Free People" project.

Held at Wat Phra Mahathat Woramahawihan on July 20-24, the event brought together HRH Princess Chulabhorn's Veterinary Volunteer Unit, of-

ficials from Regional Livestock Office 8, Nakhon Sri Thammarat Provincial Livestock Office, Nakhon Sri Thammarat Municipality, Walailak University and Soi Dog Foundation to help reduce the population of stray dogs and cats in the area and to stem the spread of disease, including rabies.

The management of the stray dog and cat population in the area also forms part of the Fine Arts Department's bid for Wat Phra Mahathat Woramahawihan to be designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site by 2024. A total of 242 dogs from the temple and surrounding community were sterilised and vaccinated at the five-day event.

Soi Dog has been supporting HRH Princess Chulabhorn's project in Nakhon Sri Thammarat since 2018, working with local government organisations to sterilise and vaccinate animals using the CNVR (Catch, Neuter, Vaccinate, Return) approach. Their two mobile teams move around the province systematically and will continue to do so until they have reached all 23 districts. They are currently stationed in the districts of Sichon and Chalermprakiat.

"In the nearly six years that we have been operating [in Nakhon Sri Thammarat], the number of stray puppies born into a short life of suffering has decreased significantly," said Dr Patcharee Pipatdirekkul, Soi Dog's Southern Mobile Manager. "In addition, as the dog population has steadied and declined, we've noticed that people's attitudes towards dogs have improved too."

Soi Dog has seen similar results in other provinces where their mobile clinic teams operate. There are currently 14 such teams in Thailand – nine in Greater Bangkok and five in the south. Combined with the external CNVR projects they support, the foundation currently sterilises and vaccinates close to 20,000 animals every month and are approaching the milestone of a million total animals sterilised and vaccinated since their founding in 2003.



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

1. Is actor Tom Hanks American or Canadian?
2. What is Phuket's official mascot?
3. Which famous scientist appeared in Apple's first logo?
4. What does the acronym AIDS stand for?
5. Gymnophobia is the fear of what?

Answers below, centre

SUDOKU

Easy

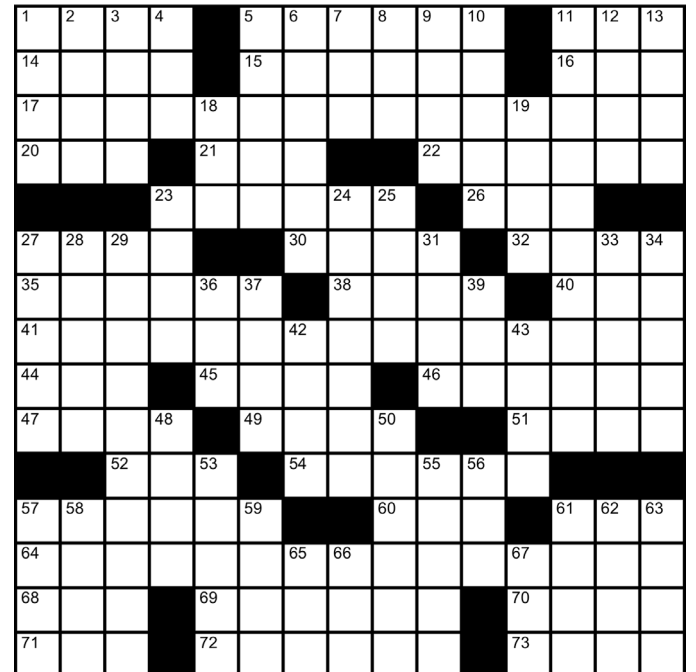
2		8				4		6
			5		1			
7				4				9
		4	7		8	3		
1		7				5		8
		2	6		5	9		
4				3				5
			2		4			
5		1				7		2

Crossword by Myles Mellor & Sally York

- Across
1. Drive
 5. Zambian monetary unit
 11. Cartridge holder
 14. Close, as an envelope
 15. More icy
 16. Helm heading
 17. Yellowstone sights
 20. Canny
 21. Drivel
 22. Judge
 23. Elastic suspender
 26. Absorb, as a cost
 27. Kashmir clan
 30. Organic compound
 32. Word on a gift tag
 35. Enter uninvited
 38. Cleaning cabinet supplies
 40. Penn. is one
 41. 1956 Elvis song
 44. Possessive pronoun
 45. Riding the waves
 46. Pacific
 47. Minus
 49. Twisted one
 51. Start of North Carolina's motto
 52. Pulitzer Prize-winning play
 54. Tolls slowly
 57. Trifle
 60. Not paleo-
 61. College frat.
 64. Quaint stopover
 68. Brouhaha
 69. Spiny-finned fish
 70. Eastern military rank
 71. Scrape
 72. Accompany to a party
 73. 1992 Robin Williams movie
 24. Forget
 25. Kind of bean
 27. Aught
 28. Mountain ridge
 29. Divorced woman
 31. Albanian currency
 33. Pizzeria fixtures
 34. Donnybrook
 36. Mom-and-pop grp.
 37. Recipe abbr.
 39. ____-wolf
 42. Need a bath badly
 43. Smeltery input
 48. Part of the Hindu trinity
 50. Plywood layer
 53. Bit of color
 55. Smallest
 56. Dusty planet in Star Wars
 57. Way up the mountain
 58. Word processor command
 59. Tumults
 61. Palm starch
 62. Far from ruddy
 63. Terminal info
 65. "Monty Python" ailer
 66. Guanabara Bay city
 67. Lucrative
- Down
1. Fed. agency
 2. Authentic
 3. Busey
 4. Antlered animal
 5. Village of huts
 6. Nun's wear
 7. Band aid
 8. Smoke
 9. Mother of Ares
 10. Appeared
 11. Gets through
 12. Partner of odds
 13. Cape
 18. Busy bee in Apr.
 19. One of seven branches
 23. Wild ox

Answers to this week's Pop Quiz:

1) American (Born in Concord, California); 2) A clawless lobster called 'Nong Joon'; 3) Sir Isaac Newton, sitting under his famed apple tree; 4) Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome; 5) Nudity/nakedness



Visit: www.ilovecrosswords.com

Solutions to last week's puzzles:

S	T	A	G	E	T	U	D	E	V	E	F	T	S
C	O	C	O	M	U	S	E	D	A	R	I	L	
U	R	A	L	B	R	A	N	D	R	E	D	O	
D	R	I	F	T	O	F	F	T	O	S	L	E	E
C	A	D	S						A	S	S		
R	O	S	A	R	Y	T	O	L	U	P	A	S	
E	V	E	R			T	E	N	E	T	I	L	
H	I	T	T	H	E	S	A	C	K	E	A	R	
A	N	I		U	K	A	S	E		V	I	O	
B	E	N		M	E	R	E		C	H	A	T	
K	S	I	P						S	O	A	R	
C	A	T	C	H	F	O	R	T	Y	W	I	N	
A	L	O	E			N	U	R	E	C	A	R	
M	E	N	U			L	Y	S	I	S	T	E	
P	E	E	P			T	E	X	E	A	T		

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

GOT YOUR NUMBER

2

Volkswagen Beetles only were sold in the car's first year of production, 1949.

70

percent of female online gamers chose to play as male characters rather than contend with sexual harassment.

80

percent of office kitchen teaspoons disappear within five months, according to one study.

400

years old is how long that Greenland sharks, a native species of the North Atlantic, can live.

1 million

plastic bottles are sold around the world every minute.

232.5 billion

US dollars is the net worth of Elon Musk, CEO of Tesla Motors and Space X, and owner of X (formerly Twitter).

Source: Ubertacts

ISLAND VIEW



To the rescue at Layan Beach. Photo by Cynthia Tomaszewski

Got an unusual or particularly beautiful picture of Phuket?
Email it to execeditor@classactmedia.co.th

This week in history

Aug 18, 1783

A huge fireball meteor is seen across Great Britain as it passes over the east coast.

Aug 19, 1692

In Salem, Province of Massachusetts Bay, five people (one woman and four men, including a clergyman) are executed after being convicted of witchcraft.

Aug 20, 1940

World War II: British Prime Minister Winston Churchill makes the fourth of his famous war-time speeches, containing the line "Never was so much owed by so many to so few".



Sir Winston Churchill.

Aug 21, 1959

United States President Dwight D. Eisenhower signs an executive order proclaiming Hawaii the 50th state of the union. Hawaii's admission is currently commemorated by Hawaii Admission Day.

Aug 22, 1910

Korea is annexed by Japan with the signing of the Japan-Korea Treaty of 1910, beginning a period of Japanese rule of Korea that lasted until the end of World War II.

Aug 23, 79 AD

Mount Vesuvius begins stirring, on the feast day of Vulcan, the Roman god of fire.

Aug 24, 1967

Led by Abbie Hoffman, the Youth International Party temporarily disrupts trading at the New York Stock Exchange by throwing dollar bills from the viewing gallery, causing trading to cease as brokers scramble to grab them.

Source: Wikipedia

Trades & Services

 The Phuket News
 @thephuketnews

CORPORATE SERVICES



VERTIGO
VIDEO PRODUCTIONS

WE MAKE YOU LOOK GOOD.

VERTIGO VIDEO PRODUCTIONS.COM
f i t y

HOME IMPROVEMENT



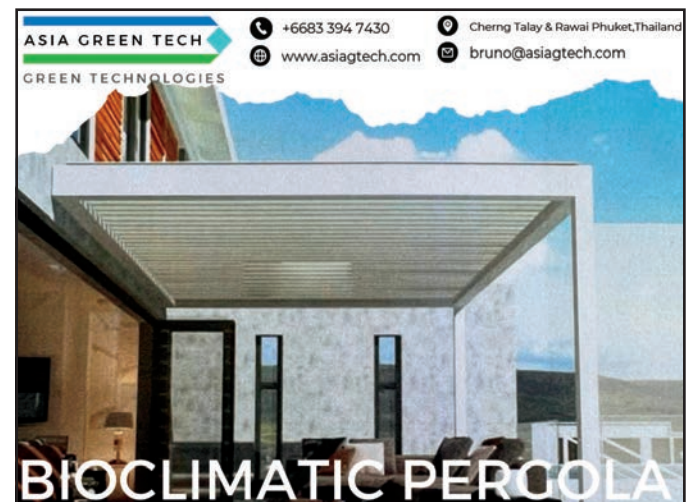
Waterproofing & Crack Repair

20 year WARRANTY

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

Drone Survey
 Pipe Inspection

HOME IMPROVEMENT

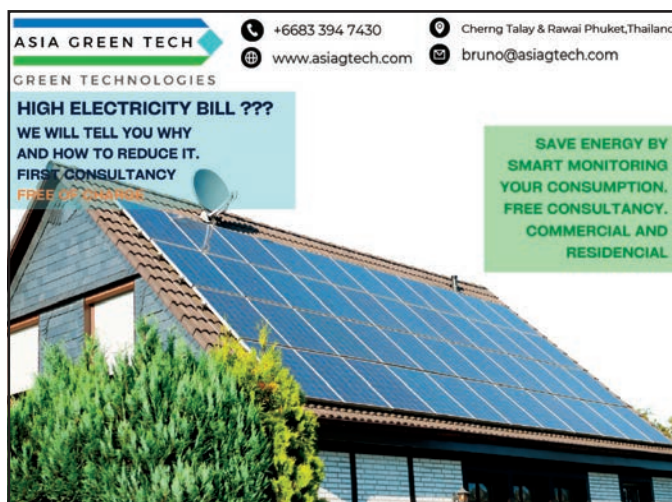


ASIA GREEN TECH
GREEN TECHNOLOGIES

+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.

f /solidwoodfloorphuketthailand
 Matt 081 271 2684 or Jessika 062 372 6624

HOME IMPROVEMENT



Lile-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



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

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

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



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

ASIA GREEN TECH
GREEN TECHNOLOGIES

+6683 394 7430
www.asiagtech.com
Cherng Talay & Rawai Phuket, Thailand
bruno@asiagtech.com

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

18 AUG



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

SAT

19 AUG



Malaysia Independence Day Golf Tournament

Calling all golfers! Celebrate Malaysia Independence Day with a round for Charity at Aquella, Phang-Nga on August 19. Organised by Asia Mice Planner, M C T & Malaysian Thai Friends Group, only THB 4,900 per person, inclusive of cart, caddie and brunch followed by a gala dinner at La Vela Khao Lak Resort. Part of the proceeds donated to a charity later this year. Limited spaces available. Please Contact Asia Mice Planner, Mr. DAVE 081-2712429 for more information today.

SUN

20 AUG



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

MON

21 AUG



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

WED

23 AUG



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

FRI

25 AUG



Joint Chambers Phuket Sundowners hosted by AustCham

AustCham Thailand, in collaboration with Australian Alumni, American Chamber (AMCHAM), British Chamber (BCCT), Belgian-Luxembourg/Thai Chamber, CanCham Thailand, Franco-Thai Chamber (FTCC), German-Thai Chamber (GTCC), Netherlands-Thai Chamber (NTCC), Phuket Chamber and Thai-Swedish Chamber, invite you to the Joint Chamber Phuket Sundowners at NH Boat Lagoon Phuket Resort, on Friday 25 August 2023, from 18.00 - 21.00 hrs. THB 500 for AustCham members, partner Chambers' members, and Australian Alumni Members, THB 900 for non-members, includes cocktail-style food, and free-flow selected beverages. More info - austchamthailand.com



Briefing on Phuket Marine Industry hosted by AustCham

AustCham Thailand, in collaboration with partner Chambers, invite you to an insightful Member Briefing on "Phuket Marine Industry – Charting New Waters" from 17:00 to 18:00 hrs. The event will be hosted at NH Boat Lagoon Phuket Resort. The briefing will feature insightful presentations and dynamic panel discussion, bringing together prominent industry leaders to shed light on key facets of the marine sector. Our distinguished speakers will delve into critical topics that have a profound impact on the marine industry in Phuket including: Marine supply chain, outlook of the charter tourism and local initiatives, outlook of the regattas / sailing events in Thailand & Phuket. Speakers: Ian Lok; East Marine Asia, Shaun Stenning; 5-Star Marine, Simon James; IRC International Race Officer. Moderator: Matthew Cutt; BDO in Thailand and Treasurer at AustCham Thailand. Email office@austchamthailand.com

THU

31 AUG



Skål International Phuket Dinner - August

We are delighted to invite you to our monthly Skal dinner, which will be held at the enchanting Garden Grille at Hilton Garden Inn Phuket Bang Tao. Registration 18:00. contact@skalphuket.org

FRI

1 SEP



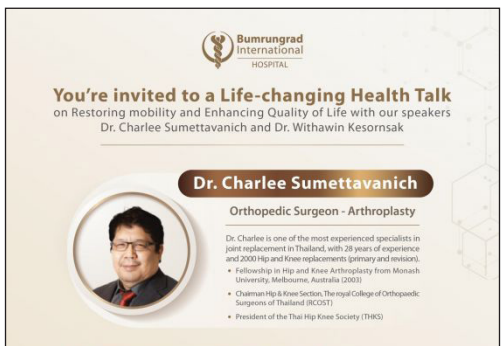
Grow Boating Evening

We look forward to seeing you at the Grow Boating Evening at the Isola restaurant at the Royal Phuket Marina from 5pm on Friday the 1st of September. Sponsorship for drinks is available and includes a generous promotional package from our media sponsors The Phuket News, Live 89.5 FM and Phuket News TV. Send us a message or email growboat-phuket@gmail.com for more details. There will be a delicious buffet sponsored by Isola Restaurant

for all attendees and as always, all your favourite beverages will be available from the bar. Come and join in the fun, everyone is welcome and there is no entry fee. If you know anyone you think would be interested in coming, please invite them along too. A special thanks to our Media Partners The Phuket News, Live 89.5 Radio and Phuket News TV. growboat-phuket@gmail.com

THU

7 SEP



Restoring Mobility and Enhancing Quality of Life

Don't miss this Event!!! We are delighted to invite you to a special health talk on the topic of "Restoring Mobility and Enhancing Quality of Life". This informative event will be held on September 7 at The Oceanic Sportel. We have renowned doctors in the field of who will be sharing their knowledge and experiences. You will have the opportunity to interact and ask questions during the dedicated Q&A session at the end of the talk. Please confirm your attendance via email Andaman@bumrungrad.com so that we may reserve a seat for you. We encourage to bring along friends and family who may benefit from this insightful and engaging event. Tel: 02 0115688-89 Line: @bumrungradphuket Email: andaman@bumrungrad.com



La Chaîne des Rôtisseurs Phuket Dinner - Sep 2023

Dîner Savoyard - An evening of food from south-western France stretching from Lake Geneva to the French Riviera paired with beverages from the region, held at Cosmo Restaurant, located at The Nai Harn Phuket, on Thursday September 7, 2023. An amazing menu, with paired drinks, has been created specifically by Chef Mark Jones for the La Chaîne des Rôtisseurs Phuket Dinner. Dress code - Jacket's optional for men, no jeans, with Chaîne ribbon. Members - THB 6,000 p.p., limited invited guests - THB 6,500 p.p.w. To book your seat at this very special dinner, please visit - phuketticketmaster.com *Pay via Bank Transfer and only pay the dinner price, booking fees only apply to other payment options.

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

Cha Am Beach Condo for Sale

72 SqM Unfurnished One bdrm bath kitchen. 1 Air cond 25 mtrs to beach 4th floor Cattaraya Condo Swimming Pool Fitness Parking 24 hr security CCTV. Panadda Sathaisong, 089 635 7311, mypinellasmall@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

BUSINESS

BUSINESS FOR SALE

Non-tourism based business

A genuine opportunity to own a business and live in Phuket, Thailand. 4,000,000+ THB annual turnover with room for growth. Established more than 20 years. 3,w000,000 THB annual net profit. Simple business model. Repeat custom. Mainly involves management of on-going contracts. Work permit + long-term visa attached to business. businessforsalephuket@gmail.com

JOB

Personal Assistant Wanted

Smart, attractive, single female under 35 years old. Reliable and kind. Excellent English. Cooking. Shopping. Act as travel guide for UK/Canadian businessman. 1st-class resort accommodation. More details call 089 054 4354 or email bggvirgo@gmail.com

PROPERTY FOR SALE

FARANG STYLE HOUSE

House for sale 300 meters from Robinson at Baan Suaneramt One; fully furnished and rented to same tenant for the last 5 years. Owner moved to other province must sell! Reduced to 4.3MB, interested party call John on 093 629 4400.

Land for sale near Mission Heights

Land at Mission Vista, over one rai. CLOSE TO MISSION HEIGHTS AND DREAM VILLAGE. Owner moved to other province, must sell! Reduced to 4.2MB. Interested party call John on 093 629 4400.



Photos by Thawat Witthayathumsophon



BABA BABES!

This week, in an explosion of colourful fabrics, a firework display of wildly colourful outfits, the grandest generation of a very fancy culture threw a party for themselves in Phuket Town, and you were not invited.

'The only true aristocracy of Phuket' – the Baba ladies – were having their very posh and private annual shindig.

Of Fujian Chinese origin, these *grande dames* are the descendants of the tin mining barons, many still living in the villas you see among the prettiest of the Old Phuket Town streets, hidden by high walls, high trees and the scent of frangipani, the surviving line of those old moguls and of serious old money.

It was the visual splendour of the Baba ladies that was on display. Gathered annually by the regal Ajarn Pranee, each year threatening to be the last, they show off their finery and applaud each other's sparkly outfits, the basic one a batik sarong topped with a 'yaya' blouse. But there's nothing basic about 'em, vividly coloured and embroidered at great expense.

Now in their 70s, they know that the next generation may well prefer ripped jeans. But these ladies will be damned if their fine Baba Culture is going without a fight. And a party.

– Alan Platt



Charity fitness event to aid stroke prevention efforts

FITNESS

OFFICIALS HAVE confirmed that a walking, running and cycling combination event will take place at Bang Wad Dam in Kathu at the end of October to raise money for charity.

The event on Sunday, Oct 29 is part of the National Sang Nam Jai Thai Project in honour of His Majesty the King and Her Majesty the Queen and will raise funds towards research into stroke and paralysis prevention.

The announcement was made on Aug 9 at Provincial Hall by Phuket Governor Narong Woonciew, who was joined by Vice Governors Anupap Rodkwan Yodrambam and Amnuay Pinsuwan, and Dr Kusak Kukiattikoon, Chief of the Phuket Provincial Public Health Office (PPHO).

The event is being organised in cooperation with Siriraj Stroke Center, part of the Faculty of Medicine at Siriraj Hospital Mahidol University as part of the 9th Sang Nam Jai Thai Nation



Photo: PR Phuket

Project. In addition to raising much-needed funds for medical research the event also aims to raise awareness of the threat of stroke and paralysis while encouraging more exercise and healthy living among Thais.

The event is being held under the banner “No STROKE for all Thais by NEW GEN” and participants can elect to walk, run and cycle the route.

The event will run from 5am to 9am on Sunday, Oct 29 at Bang Wad Dam and the entrance fee is B360 (which is tax deductible). Applications can be made at: <https://race.thai.run/wrb9phuket>.

For further information call 076-212297 ext 1300.

The Phuket News

Toyota Gazoo Racing hits the streets of Saphan Hin

MOTOR SPORTS

The Phuket News
editor@classactmedia.co.th

Saphan Hin Park was alive with the sound of roaring engines on the weekend of Aug 5-6 as the Phuket leg of the Toyota Gazoo Racing Motorsport Thailand event took place.

The ever-popular event is part of a flat car style race taking place across five locations throughout the country with the competition split into four separate categories with men and women drivers participating. The results were as follows:

The Yaris hatchback ECO car class (division 1): Winner: Nipitphon Wattananit; 2nd place: Phuriphan Wechwongsatechawat; 3rd place: Paichayon Thongchua.

The Yaris hatchback ECO car class (division 2): Winner: Phuwaphon Thaweek-aiikul; 2nd place: Sathaporn Weerachue; 3rd place: Thitinat Pumarin.

The Yaris hatchback ECO car class, catering for entry-level racers, saw a new im-



The cars in action. Photo: Toyota Gazoo Racing Motorsport Thailand

proved version of the popular model with a gasoline engine 1,200cc dual VVT-i. Winners of this category qualify to test pilot a Yaris E-fuel car as part of a carbon neutral initiative in the popular TV show ‘Dream Racer Season 2’.

The Yaris ATIV class: Winner: Punnalin Tuadet; 2nd place: Sawitree Kwangkaew; 3rd place: Iris Hofschmidt.

The Yaris ATIV was an all female race in a 1,200cc Dual VVT-i petrol engine model that replaced the VIOS One used in previous years.

The Hilux REVO class: Winner: Ekasit Namsangpha; 2nd place: Mekratchakitak

Kalantanont; 3rd place: Arunpong Sririt.

The Hilux REVO car, powered by a GD Super Power 2,400cc common rail diesel engine, delivers the performance of a tough pick-up truck, emphasising strength, durability and suspension, ideal for drivers who like a more fierce and robust race.

The Corolla ALTIS GR Sport Car class: Winner: Kentaro Chiba; 2nd place: Norarat Apiwat; 3rd place: Sakchai Yeamwatana.

The Corolla ALTIS GR Sport Car is a signature model of quality and durability powered by a dual VVT-i 1,800cc

gasoline engine and a streamline structure that provides perfect balance for engine performance, suspension, steering and braking systems.

Running concurrently with the two-day race was the Toyota Gazoo Racing Thailand Academy Campus Tour which provided opportunity for youngsters interested in motorsports to learn more through a series of talks and meet-and-greet sessions with experts and former race winners.

Additionally there were stalls offering special promotions from car dealers, as well as food and beverage outlets, a Cosplay contest and live musical entertainment.

The Phuket leg is one of five taking place as part of a national tour. The tour opener took place at the Bangsaen Street Circuit in Chonburi between June 30 - July 2, with the next leg scheduled for the Chang International Circuit Stadium in Buriram (Sept 1-3). After that the tour moves to the Chiang Mai 700 Year Stadium in Chiang Mai (Nov 17 - 19), before returning to Buriram for the final race on Dec 21 - 23.

New women's rugby tournament signals the 'start of a new era'

RUGBY

ENGLAND WILL FACE Australia in Wellington on Oct 20 to kick off a new women's international rugby tournament, organisers announced Monday (Aug 14).

Top Pacific Four sides Australia, Canada and hosts New Zealand will play England, France and Wales, the top three from the Six Nations, in a cross-pool format over three consecutive weekends.

The competition, called WXV, will also have two tiers of six lower-level nations, called WXV2 and WXV3, hosted in South Africa and Dubai respectively. The top tier, or WXV1, will see Canada play Wales and world champions New Zealand face France in a Wellington double-header to round off the opening weekend on Oct 21.

The second round of matches moves to Dunedin on Oct 27-28 with Canada v England, New Zealand v Wales and Australia v



Photo: AFP

France.

The three-week tournament wraps up with Australia facing Wales, Canada v France and New Zealand v England - a repeat of the 2021 World Cup final.

“WXV represents the start of a new era for women's rugby, providing opportunities for the best athletes around the world to show their skills,” said Sally Horrox, chief of women's rugby at World Rugby.

“We've seen the rapid development of the women's game in recent years and WXV will push it to another level again.”

WXV2 hosts South Africa, Italy, Japan, Samoa, Scotland and the USA will compete in Cape Town and Stellenbosch.

The third tier, WXV3, will be played in Dubai and feature Colombia, Fiji Ireland, Kazakhstan, Kenya and Spain. AFP

Farrell may miss World Cup opener

RUGBY

CAPTAIN OWEN FARRELL COULD miss the start of England's Rugby World Cup campaign after he was sent off in a come-from-behind 19-17 warm-up win over Wales at Twickenham last Saturday (Aug 12).

The fly-half was initially shown a yellow card for a high tackle to the head of Wales replacement Taine Basham in the final quarter.

But under new rules that allow a review panel to consider an act of foul play while the game is in progress, that was soon upgraded to a red.

When Farrell left the field, it meant England, who kicked off close to full strength, were briefly down to 12 men with replacement prop Ellis Genge and full-back Freddie Steward having been shown yellow cards as well.

But England overhauled a 17-9 deficit thanks to Maro Itoje's converted try from a driving maul and a late penalty from replacement George Ford as they avoided a fourth successive defeat and a slump to ninth in the world rankings.

England have two more warm-up games, against Ireland and Fiji. Any suspension could rule talisman Farrell out of the start of the World Cup, with Steve Borthwick's team launching their Pool D campaign against Argentina in Marseille on Sept 9.

Farrell's three-match ban for a similar offence in January may now count against him in any disciplinary hearing.

Adding to England's concerns was an ankle injury suffered by scrum-half Jack van Poortvliet, with the Wales trio of captain Dewi Lake, Taine Plumtree and Basham all going off injured as well.



England captain Owen Farrell. Photo: AFP

“Regarding Owen, we'll wait and see what happens,” England coach Borthwick told Amazon Prime. “The same with Jack van Poortvliet, he'll get a scan. Rather than jump to any conclusions, we'll wait and see what happens.”

England were largely lacklustre behind the scrum but former captain Borthwick said: “The attack is the final building block and takes the longest to come, but that's what we're working on.”

Earlier this week, Borthwick unveiled his World Cup squad, but Wales boss Warren Gatland has still to decide on his 33-man party for the showpiece tournament in France.

An angry Gatland, who made 15 changes to the Wales team that beat England 20-9 on the previous weekend in Cardiff, gave some of his side an ominous warning about their World Cup chances.

“I am furious actually, I am hugely disappointed but we found out about a few people today,” he said.

The New Zealander, who twice led Wales to fourth-place finishes in the World Cup during his first spell in charge, added: “That was a game we should have won and we cost it ourselves.” AFP

City off to a flying start as the Premier League returns

FOOTBALL

AFP

Manchester City opened the Premier League season with a 3-0 win at Burnley last Friday (Aug 11) although the defending champions could be without Kevin De Bruyne for a number of weeks after he suffered the recurrence of a hamstring injury.

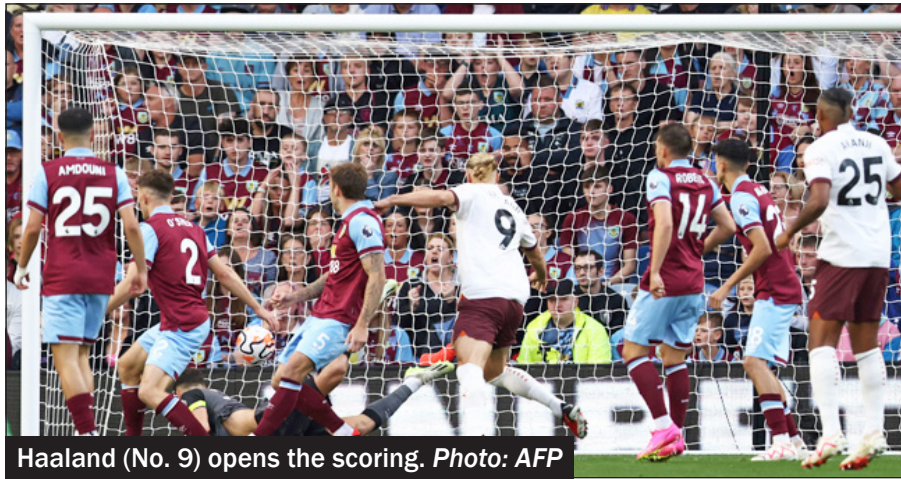
Erling Haaland picked up where he left last season by scoring twice, his first in just the 3rd minute, before Rodri struck to give City a perfect start to their quest to become the first side to win four consecutive English top-flight titles.

But the night was soured for Pep Guardiola's men by the sight of De Bruyne limping off midway through the first-half, in what appeared similar to the hamstring tear he suffered in City's Champions League final victory over Inter Milan two months ago.

Elsewhere, Arsenal began their title challenge by beating Nottingham Forest 2-1 thanks to goals from Eddie Nketiah and Bukayo Saka.

Forest hit back through Taiwo Awoniyi to make the final exchanges anxious for the hosts, although they were able to hang on and secure a valuable 3 points.

Newcastle United finished fourth last season to qualify for the Champions League for the first time in 20 years and their rise under the control of the Saudi



Haaland (No. 9) opens the scoring. Photo: AFP

sovereign wealth fund shows no sign of stopping.

They thrashed Aston Villa 5-1 on Saturday thanks to two goals from Alexander Isak, a Callum Wilson strike and debut goals from Sandro Tonali and Ashley Barnes.

"Everything clicked for us today," said a delighted Magpies manager Eddie Howe after the game as his team sat top of the table.

Liverpool and Chelsea played out a pulsating 1-1 draw at Stamford Bridge where Luis Diaz opened the scoring for the Reds before debutant Axel Disasi levelled.

Tottenham began life after Harry Kane with a 2-2 draw at Brentford, with both their goals coming from defenders in Cristian Romero and Emerson Royal. Yoane Wissa and Bryan Mbeumo replied

for the Bees.

Brighton continued their fine form from last season by beating promoted Luton Town 4-1, while Crystal Palace saw off another promoted team in Sheffield United 1-0.

West Ham and Bournemouth shared the spoils in a 1-1 draw while Everton's need for a striker was laid bare as the Toffees wasted numerous chances before losing 1-0 at home to Fulham.

Manchester United survived an onslaught from Wolves and huge claims for a late penalty to start their season with a 1-0 win thanks to Raphael Varane's header on Monday (Aug 14).

Wolves dominated for long spells at Old Trafford but a combination of wasteful finishing and new United goalkeeper Andre Onana kept the visitors at bay until Varane headed in 14 minutes from time.



Kane. Photo: AFP

Kane joins Bayern

FOOTBALL

ENGLAND CAPTAIN Harry Kane has ended his record-breaking career with Tottenham Hotspur and signed a four-year deal with Bayern Munich until 2027.

Kane moves to the Bundesliga giants chasing trophies after two decades at his boyhood Premier League club without silverware.

After protracted negotiations between Bayern and Spurs' chairman Daniel Levy a deal was finally struck on Aug 10.

The reported fee for Kane is a Bundesliga record 100 million euros (B3.8 billion) plus 10mn euros in bonuses.

"I felt like it was the time to leave," said Kane. "Obviously a lot of emotions going through me right now; sad to be leaving the club I've spent nearly 20 years of my life at, from 11-year-old boy to a 30-year-old man now."

"There's been so many

great moments and special memories, memories that I will cherish forever."

Levy said Tottenham had "reluctantly agreed to the transfer".

Kane, who was out of contract next summer, leaves Tottenham having scored 280 goals in 435 games to become the club's all-time leading goalscorer, but without a trophy. However, silverware is all but guaranteed at Bayern, who have won 11 straight Bundesliga titles.

Kane is also England's all-time top goalscorer with 58 international goals.

He had been linked with a move away from Spurs two years ago but Manchester City failed in their pursuit.

His last appearance for Tottenham came on Aug 6 when he scored four times in a friendly against Shakhtar Donetsk.

Son Heung-min has been named Tottenham's new captain. AFP

Madam Pang to run for FAT top job

FOOTBALL

NATIONAL TEAM Manager Nualphan Lamsam announced last Sunday (Aug 13) her intention to seek the Football Association of Thailand (FAT) presidency to get the trouble-plagued sport out of its crisis.

The FAT election is expected to take place early next year when its incumbent boss Somyot Poompunmuang's current term expires.

Nualphan, who is also chairwoman of Thai League 1 side Port, is backed by fellow Thai League club chiefs Newin Chidchob of Buriram United and Pavin Bhirombhakdi of BG Pathum United.

Nualphan, 57, said Thai football is facing a big challenge in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis and several other problems over the years.

She said she did not want to blame anyone and that unity is needed.

"What we urgently need at the moment is a united effort to seek income and bring faith and popularity back



Nualphan (centre), Newin (left) and Pavin Bhirombhakdi at the press conference on Aug 13. Photo: Bangkok Post

to Thai football," she said.

The FAT failed to find an official broadcaster for Thai League 1 this season.

Led by Nualphan, Newin and Pavin, the 16 T1 clubs are now jointly looking after the commercial side of the game instead of the FAT.

They are relying on AIS Play, True Visions Now and 3BB Giga TV to beam the matches live to the public through paid packages, although PPTV is also showing live a certain number of games.

Without proper funds from broadcast rights, sponsors and other sources, development projects have been halted, she said.

In such a situation, small clubs will not be able to

survive while big teams will also struggle, she added.

"We have reached the point that we have to make a last-ditch effort to get through this crisis," she said.

Nualphan, affectionately known as Madam Pang, has been involved in the sport since 2008 when she was appointed manager of the national women's side who she guided to two Women's World Cup finals in 2015 and 2019.

She was named manager of the national men's team by Somyot two years ago and has since helped the War Elephants win the Asean Cup twice.

She has also been the chairwoman of Port since 2015. Bangkok Post

AQUELLA GOLF FESTIVAL

1st July - 31st August 2023

Aquilla Golf Festival Rates

2,800 THB	2,000 THB	1,700 THB
for Visitor	for Thai Resident	for Aquilla Club Card Holder

Inclusive of 18 hole green fee, caddy fee, golf cart & 1 tray of driving range balls

Special Sports Day: Monday, Thursday & Sunday

1,900 THB	1,700 THB
for Visitor & Thai Resident	for Aquilla Club Card Holder

Inclusive of 18 hole green fee, caddy fee, golf cart & 1 tray of driving range balls

BOOK YOUR TEE TIME NOW!

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

Indexlivingmall

ENJOY
A NEW EXPERIENCE
IN PHUKET
...MORE THAN EVER

DISCOVER A NEW DESTINATION,
THE BIGGEST SELECTION OF
HOME DECORATION, ACCESSORIES,
MATTRESSES, SOFAS & FURNITURE ETC.
FOR YOUR HOME

SCAN ME

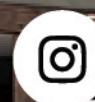


CONTACT US

076 249 541



VISIT US
www.indexlivingmall.com



FOLLOW US
[Instagram@Indexlivingmall](https://www.instagram.com/Indexlivingmall)



Indexlivingmall
Phuket



WATCH US
[Youtube.com/Indexfurniture](https://www.youtube.com/Indexfurniture)



FOLLOW US
[Twitter.com/IndexLivingMall](https://www.twitter.com/IndexLivingMall)