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SAFETY FIRST



Passengers receive hand sanitiser on arrival at Phuket International Airport. Photo: AoT Phuket

CAUTION VITAL AS PHUKET BECOMES TESTBED FOR INTERNATIONAL TOURISTS

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Safety is the key priority in opening Phuket to receive 'travel bubble' tourists from Oct 1 under the government policy 'Safe and Sealed', the Director of the Ministry of Tourism and Sports (MoTS) Phuket Office, Jaroon Kaewmukdakul, told *The Phuket News* this week.

Tourism and Sports Minister Phiphat Ratchakitprakan confirmed the news in Bangkok late last week that Phuket would be the first province in the country to receive international tourists under the plan. The protocols to be deployed in Phuket have been dubbed the "Phuket Model" and are to be used elsewhere throughout

Thailand if proved successful.

Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) Governor Yuthasak Supasorn admitted to international media that opening the island to foreign tourists brought risk of exposing the country to COVID-19 infections.

"There is a risk in the new tourism model, but if we don't open there is a bigger risk for the economy," he said.

Any tourists arriving under the plan must spend their first 14 days at an approved Alternative Local State Quarantine (ALSQ) hotel. "After that they can go anywhere on the island," MoTS Phuket Director Mr Jaroon explained.

Tourists will be tested on landing and again at the end of their 14-day quarantine. "If they want to visit

any other parts of the country, they will have to stay at their ALSQ for a further seven days and be tested again before they will be permitted to leave the island," he said.

However, Mr Jaroon quickly added, "The protocols to be followed have not yet been confirmed. That will not happen until senior officials from the MoTs and the Ministry of Public Health have inspected the island. That is expected to happen in September."

All final decisions will be made by the Centre for COVID-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) in Bangkok, Mr Jaroon noted, including whether tourists will be allowed to move freely within a one-kilometre radius of their hotel or even visit a segregated area

on a nearby beach, as proposed by Minister Phiphat last week.

"We are also waiting for the CCSA to announce what rules we are to apply, and we have to wait for the Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand [CAAT] to announce that Thailand will again be open to receiving international passenger flights. We have yet to hear any details regarding this," he said.

Mr Jaroon explained that as of Monday (Aug 24) many details had yet to be fleshed out, but the basic plan is not to try to re-ignite the short-stay mass tourism market, but instead target long-stay tourists who spend the northern hemisphere winter months in much-warmer Thailand.

"We expect these long-stay...

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Student death on campus spurs hazing probe



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Chris Watson gets the 9th Degree at Boat Lagoon



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News



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'Safe and Sealed' set to begin

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...tourists to stay in the country anywhere from 30 to 90 days," he said.

Such foreigners are expected to arrive on charter flights, which are more easily controlled, Mr Jaroon said.

"Also, after the foreigners have completed their 14-day quarantine, they can stay at any other accommodation they prefer," he added.

Mr Jaroon admitted that at this stage he did not know which countries would be targeted with marketing campaigns, but assured, "Only tourists from countries that are deemed safe will be chosen."

STUCK FOR CHOICE

Mr Jaroon noted that so far only two hotels on the island had been approved as ALSQ venues, despite 55 tourist accommodation venues applying for the privilege.

"These hotels are big hotels and there are only 22 medical teams in the country empowered to inspect and approve ALSQ venues, and each hotel must be partnered with a hospital as part of the process," he said.

"We are focussing on having the



Health officials inspect the Trisara resort for approval as an ALSQ hotel. Photo: PPHO

big hotels approved first, as they have more rooms to accommodate guests. They are also more accustomed to abiding by strict health regulations and they have the space to keep ALSQ guests separated from other guests visiting or staying at the hotel.

"Also big hotels have more staff, which means more people will have jobs by these hotels being open. And as staff serving ALSQ guests will have to remain at the hotel, they will not be permitted to transit back and forth from home to work, the big hotels have accommodation

where their own staff can safely stay," he added.

However, how the hotels are to attract tourists to want to stay at their establishments will be solely up to the hotel managers themselves.

"The tourists will be staying at the hotel for at least 14 days, so the hotels will need to offer something to attract guests. Whatever the hotel wants to create – food buffets, entertainment and wellness activities – that is all up to the hotel to create its own marketing plan to reach their target market," Mr Jaroon said.

Mr Jaroon admitted that the news had spurred mixed reaction among the public, from open support for the move to many people voicing their fears that re-opening to tourism will spark a COVID-19 outbreak on the island.

"That is up to Phuket Governor Narong Woonciw to communicate with the Phuket people, so they understand what is being done and to unite us together.

"But whatever we do with this, we need safety to be our first priority for Phuket province," he added.

CONTAINMENT

Phuket Tourist Association President Bhumikitti Ruktaengam this week defended the move to reopen the island to tourists, and voiced his strong support for the 14-day quarantine required after landing.

He also pointed out that proposal made to Royal Thai Army Deputy Commander-in-Chief Gen Natthapol Nakpanit – who also serves as the chairman of the CCSA's ad hoc committee to consider easing the enforcement of measures to prevent

the spread of COVID-19 – was not made by the hotel industry alone during his visit to the island on Aug 13.

The move was supported by no less than 12 industry representatives on the island, he said.

"Only if there are clear steps, details, conditions and processes that are thoughtful and clear, will we agree [to receive foreign tourists]," Mr Bhumikitti added.

"There is no way for us to agree to any model that cannot ensure people's safety. The details have yet to be announced. We are hoping to hear more explanations this coming week," he said.

"We are confident that the tourists will not go home on the 15th day of their stay. I think they will keep travelling in Phuket province, and that will be better for our economy.

"Also, I expect this to start slowly, with the first group of tourists to arrive in Phuket being only a small group.

"Then Phuket people can learn and adjust to the new processes, and the number of tourists coming can grow slowly and safely," he added.

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Police probe student's death

Senior student charged over cheerleading practice punishment

Eakkapop Thongtub
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A student at Phuket Rajabhat University is facing a charge of negligence causing death following the death of 20-year-old first-year student Pornpiphat "Mint" Iaddam at the campus north of Phuket Town last Wednesday (Aug 19).

"Police are also investigating whether any other persons are to be held accountable," deputy national police chief Pol Maj Gen Suchart Theerasawat announced at Phuket City Police Station on Monday (Aug 24).

Maj Gen Suchart had flown to Phuket to be updated in person about the case, which had gained national attention. Present at the meeting this afternoon were Phuket Provincial Police Commander Pol Maj Gen Rungrote Thakurapunya-siri, Phuket Provincial Police Deputy Commanders Col Witoon Kongsudjai and Pol Col Arayaphan Phukbuakhao, Phuket City Police Chief Col Teerawat Liamswan and the team of police officers



INSET: Pornpiphat 'Mint' Iaddam. MAIN: The building where the university says Nong Mint collapsed after running only a few hundred metres. Photos: Eakkapop Thongtub

tasked with investigating Nong Mint's death.

Nong Mint, a Phuket native, was enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts Thai-language program under the Faculty of Humanities. She began her studies at the campus in June. She collapsed while running during a training session with the cheerleading squad, led by senior students, at the campus. She was rushed to hospital by friends, but was pronounced dead soon after arrival.

The university has repeatedly announced through public statements that Nong Mint's death was not the result of any hazing of first-year students, despite confirmed reports that the first-year students in the cheerleading squad were singled out for "extra exercise" for making mistakes during practice.

Initial reports in the media consistently reported that Nong Mint collapsed after completing five of eight laps around

the campus pond, as ordered by a senior in the cheerleading squad. Each lap of the pond is about one kilometre long.

However, a student last Sunday told the press the same series of events that matched the university's public statement, that Nong Mint collapsed after only a few hundred metres while completing several laps around the car park area where the cheerleading practice was being held.

Maj Gen Suchart on Monday said that this particular factor was being investigated thoroughly by police.

"There are no CCTV cameras covering the area in question [where Nong Mint collapsed]. There are CCTV cameras inside the building, but they do not cover the area in question," he said.

Students, especially those involved in the cheerleading practice, as well as doctors, had already co-operated with police and given witness statements, he said.

"We cannot reveal what they said in their statements as the investigation is still ongoing," he said.

The statements did include testimonies about what activities were ordered and how far the students were ordered to run, he added.

"Now there is evidence to report that one female senior student has been charged with negligence resulting in the death of another person," Maj Gen Suchart said.

The student had already surrendered to investigating officers, but had denied any

negligent action, he noted.

"Whether the person will be allowed temporary release is at the discretion of the investigation officers," he added.

Other people are also under investigation for their possible action or inaction that may have led to Nong Mint's death, Maj Gen Suchart added.

"At this stage, we do not know how many people it will be as the results of the medical examination are not finished and the questioning of the relevant students and faculty members is not yet complete," he said.

Maj Gen Suchart cautioned all people against making presumptions about the case.

"It is the right of each person to testify, and the investigating officers must act in accordance with the law to determine whether the issues of forcefulness and negligence led to the death or injury of another person," he said.

"This investigation requires subtlety. The person had no intention of [Nong Mint] dying, but there is the question of whether it was a reckless act and whether or not proper first aid was provided," he added.

The Phuket News

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Scores turn out for Job Fair

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The concourse at the Baan & Beyond shopping mall on the bypass road was bustling with job seekers last Thursday (Aug 20) as the Phuket Employment Office held its Phuket Job Fair 2020.

More than 1,200 job vacancies were available at the event, where people seeking work and potential employers could discuss job opportunities with each other in person, explained Santi Nantasuwana, Chief of the Phuket Provincial Employment Office (PPEO).

The aim of the event was to accelerate the [economic] recovery, to stimulate the local economy and promote employment in the area, Mr Santi said.

The job vacancies promoted at the event were not only in Phuket, he added. Employers present offered jobs in the neighbouring provinces of Phang Nga and Krabi, and as far away as Ranong, Surat Thani, Nakhon Sri Thammarat and Songkhla provinces.

Applicants at the event could even register their availability to work abroad, he said.

A total of 30 businesses took part in the job fair, offering a variety of positions,



Job seekers flocked to the Phuket Job Fair in search of work. Photo: Eakkapop Thongtub

including public relations and marketing, sales and administration. Also presented were courses in skills development training, Mr Santi explained.

PPEO officers were on hand to provide career and job-seeking advice, as well

as counselling, he noted. Also available was a free haircut service.

"The COVID-19 situation has had a serious economic impact. Businesses across Phuket have had to shut down and lay off workers. Most recently, more than 20,000 workers have registered that they lost their jobs due to such problems," said Phuket Vice Governor Supoj Rotreuang Na Nongkhai, present to officiate the opening of the event.

Events such as the job fair were much welcomed, he added.

"To help people left unemployed by the COVID crisis,

departments under the Ministry of Labour are working with business operators so they can offer any job vacancies directly to those seeking work," V/Gov Supoj said.

Mr Santi pointed out that the relevant officials were present at the job fair to provide advice about labour law in terms of dismissal or forced resignation, and for obtaining government benefits.

Times are tough in the job market, Mr Santi admitted, and the annual influx of new graduates entering the world of work for the first time this month are adding to the problem of the

current economic situation.

Mr Santi urged any people seeking work to register with the PPEO.

"People can even register online through the Phuket Employment Office website. Their information will be entered in the Department of Employment national database, which has more than 50,000 positions available all across the country," Mr Santi explained.

"This will help us to match any registrants with positions being offered by employers, and we can help applicants to call the employer for an interview," he added.



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Victims hold curse ritual as molester roams free

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Angered by a lack of police action after two years, victims and family members of victims of sexual assault and attempted rape in Bara Para, Pa Khlok, held a ceremony last week to curse a man in the village accused of at least 20 counts of sex assault acts with children as young as 5 years old and minors up to 18 years old.

The ceremony, which included the burning of salt and chilies in a pan and the burning of a curse written on paper, was held at the Tha Sak Community Hall in Baan Para on Aug 19.

The man accused, who they referred to only as "Khai", is still seen walking around the village, the women said.

Khai was released on bail after one complaint was taken seriously by police, but has remained free for the past two years, the women added.

A 17-year-old girl at the ritual who asked reporters to call her "Ann" (not her real name) said that after her mother died, her father left her with her aunt's family. However, there was no space in the house, and she had to find somewhere else to stay.

A friend introduced her to Khai, who later invited her to stay at his house, and he promised to give her some money. After Ann moved in, Khai forced her to help him masturbate, prompting her to flee



The curse ritual was held at the Tha Sak Community Hall in Baan Para, Pa Khlok. Photo: Eakkapop Thongtub

the house as soon as it was safe, she said.

Later, when she returned to get her belongings, Khai tried to rape her, Ann added.

She managed to flee by kicking him, and went to Thalang Police Station, but police did not accept her complaint as she had no guardian to sign her complaint as a witness, Ann explained.

Also at the ritual, Chuanpit Ruengdet, 73, said that her granddaughters were molested by Khai two years ago. The children were 8 and 5 years old at the time.

Ms Chuanpit explained that at that time her daughter Sontaya, 20, visited her and let her children play together in front of their house next door.

Later when Sontaya came home, she saw her daughters with Khai, who immediately ran away. Then the daughters

told Sontaya that Khai had touched their genitalia and he had threatened to kill them if they told anyone, Ms Chuanpit said.

Ms Chuanpit also explained that the ceremony was held because Khai today remains free on bail, and is still walking around the village.

"We all hope that the relevant legal officers will deliver justice and send Khai to jail," Ms Chuanpit said.

"We already went to Phuket Provincial Hall and talked to a Deputy Governor, who told us that we have to let police do their work and follow the legal process," she added.

"If we do not see any progress, we will report this to the Pavena Foundation for Children and Women," Ms Chuanpit said.

Tsunami evacuation drill to be held in Kamala

A TSUNAMI-EVACUATION drill will be held in Kamala next month, with the tsunami-warning sirens sounding the alarm at 9am on Sept 9.

The drill is part of a series of tsunami-evacuation exercises being held throughout all six Andaman coast provinces, explained an advisory from the headquarters of the national Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM) in Bangkok.

The series of tsunami-evacuation drills were conducted in Ranong, Phang Nga and Krabi, on Monday and Tuesday (Aug 24-25), and will be held in Phuket, Trang and Satun on Sept 8-9.

The evacuation exercise in Kamala will take place at Rajaprajanugroh 36 School, in Soi Rimhaad, Moo 3, and will last three hours, from 9am to 11am, the DDPM-Phuket advisory noted.

Similar tsunami-evacuation drills were held in Baan Talay Nok in Ranong, at Baan Nam Khem in Takuapa and Baan Tha Payoi in Kuraburi of Phang Nga, and at Baan Laem Kruad in Krabi from 9am to 11am on Tuesday (Aug 25).

On the same days that Phuket will hold its exercise,



A tsunami evacuation drill will be held in Kamala on Sept 9, with the warning sirens sounding the alarm at 9am. Photo: The Phuket News / file

evacuation drills will take place at Baan Laem Makham in Trang and Baan Haadsai Yao School in Satun.

The first day of the two-day exercises is dedicated to training community leaders and local administration officers in how to conduct the drills, with the evacuation exercises being held on the second day, the DDPM notice explained.

Local officials will publicise details of the evacuation drills closer to the dates, the notice added.

"Those living in the evacuation drill areas, please do not panic and feel free to join the evacuation drills at the set locations and times," the DDPM said in its notice.

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'New Mutants' breaks curse, hits the big screens

David Griffiths

Like a sleeping giant coming out of hibernation, the cinematic world is finally starting to awake from its slumber. Some countries, including Thailand, have had their cinemas open for a few weeks now. Other countries including Australia and the United States have some cinemas open while others remain closed in lockdown areas.

The cinemas that have already opened have been drip-fed smaller-release films while Russell Crowe's *Unhinged* being the first film with a notable star at the helm to make its way into cinemas. Of course that all changes next week with Christopher Nolan's *Tenet* hitting cinemas, but while all the focus has been on the Nolan epic the film that has had many comic book fans is the eventual arrival of the latest film in The X-Men franchise, *The New Mutants*, which also opens in selected cinemas on August 28.

The film has had a rocky past. It was originally slated for release in 2018 but then got held up by Disney's takeover of Twentieth Century Fox and then

had a COVID-19 date change as well. But finally the film lands next week and comic book fans right around the world can take a massive sigh of relief.

Of course one of those fans is the film's director, Josh Boone, whose love of the X-Men inspired him to want to make the film. "I finished making *The Fault In Our Stars* for Fox and I knew that they had the X-Men franchise which I had loved since I was a kid," Boone told the audience at the recent Comic-Con At Home fan event.

"My best friend and I had loved this 'Demon Bear' saga that they had done with the comics because it kind of mixed genres a little with dark fantasy, horror and superhero comics, which I had never really seen anything like that before and it looked so different to anything I had seen in the indie comics that I had been reading for years."

Certainly the trailer for *The New Mutants* hints that Boone has captured that crossover of genres very well with the film, with many people commenting on the fact that the trailer shows the film's true horror side and that is something that Boone had dreamed about bringing to the screen even before he was a filmmaker.



"I remember sitting in my apartment in LA before I was even making films and I had a stack of *New Mutant* comics there," he continues. "And I was like 'one day maybe' but it really wasn't working out. But I really thought it would eventually, and ultimately it was the mixing of all those genres that really made this something that I wanted to do."

Of course one of the other reasons that fans are so excited about being able to finally see *The New Mutants* is because they are dying to see *Game Of Thrones* favourite Maisie Williams in one of the first big roles outside of the series that made her famous.

"I was just so excited," Williams says when asked about what it was like stepping into a new franchise and getting to play a character as quiet and reserved as Rahne Sinclair.

"I was really thrilled to be able to play someone like Rahne because I have always seen myself as that kind of character."

"I think she is very uncomfortable in her own skin," she says delving deeper into her character. "She wants to speak up and say how she feels but

she is constantly treading lightly.

"You know when I played Arya Stark I always had to be so commanding and own the room. I had to be brave and strong and that is kind of exhausting and I don't feel like doing that all the time. So it was actually really lovely being able to play Rahne, who is really just sitting, watching and listening, and she only really comes to life when she is with Danni – but in the group she is much quieter and keeps to herself..."

"And I mean the whole X-Men fan-base have just been incredible, or I guess the *New Mutants* family, if they are the same thing. They have been really welcoming though and I guess this whole superhero world is totally bonkers but I am glad to be back again," she said.

The New Mutants opens in Phuket cinemas on August 28. The film has yet to be classified.

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



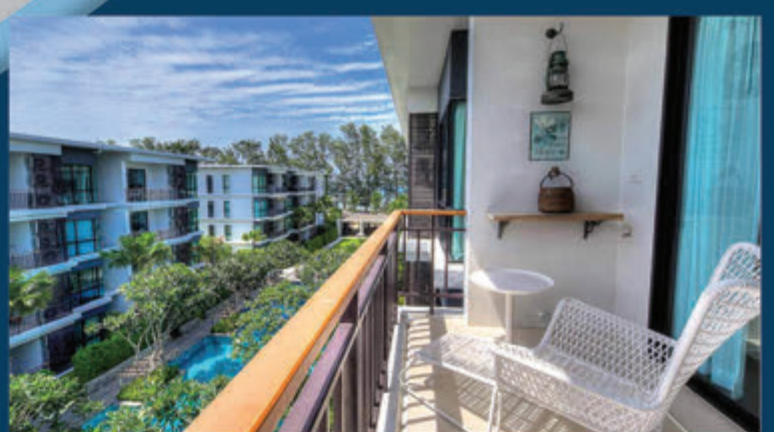
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Getting the 9th Degree



THE CULINARY DETECTIVE

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For those of you who read my culinary column, you will be aware that I was fortunate to visit the 9th Floor in Patong, a legend, not only in terms of quality cuisine but also in its success in what is an undoubtedly far from salubrious part of town, more celebrated for alternative fleshy temptations to the signature boneless Angus short rib available at the former. During my dinner, whilst I did meet the debonair Thomas Brack, who capably runs this outpost, unfortunately, the proprietor, Bart Duykers, was otherwise engaged so I was unable to renew our acquaintance.

I last met Bart 25 years ago, when we were both in the midst of establishing our hospitality careers, neither sure whether they would eventually be deemed a success or not. So, when Bart reached out to me regarding his recently opened outlet in his trio of Ninths, it was with anticipation that I looked forward to meeting up and experiencing this new addition to the fold.

Bart took over The Ninth Floor a number of years ago, followed this a couple of years later, with The Ninth Glass, a more casual bar and bistro in



Tom Yum Risotto



The Ninth Floor Lamb Ragout



Smoked Salmon Carpaccio

Surin and now he informed me he had acquired a site in the Boat Lagoon and named it the Ninth Degree.

Arriving for lunch, I am never really sure whether the host will join or leave us to their staff. I am delighted to say that remained. Seated, I observed that our effervescent host looked depressingly not much different from our last meeting, many years ago, whilst I have indeed aged considerably with the inevitable loss of hair and put on weight in all the wrong areas!

At a rustic table overlooking the many monstrous boats moored in the lagoon, the restaurant has been given a much needed makeover, lending it a bright Mediterranean ambience.

Bart orders a number of dishes for us and I see the latest menu includes a tapas platter of sizzling prawns, chorizo

and arancini, a classic croque monsieur, fresh New Zealand oysters and a tempting, antipasti sharing plate. Main courses include a mix of Thai and European dishes; an intriguing khao soi salmon, a signature tom yum risotto, a timeless stroganoff and Mexican nachos with chilli beef, guacamole, sour cream and pico de gallo. Truly an international menu that has something for everyone.

The lunch calls for something pink and our host chooses a stellar example. Over the course of the next few hours we chat incessantly, catching up on the past; enjoying tapas, a 9th Floor recipe of lamb ragout, gently braised, low and slow with a sprinkling of goat cheese, a moreish salmon khao soi and a refreshingly different salad of oranges, fennel, olives and onions.

Bart informs me that business has initially been very positive, which based on the quality of what we have experienced at lunch, I am not surprised. We end on a home-made Belgian waffle and a flourless chocolate cake. Both impeccable.

Time has flown past and I must depart but we won't be waiting a further 25 years for our next catch up as I have a lunch penciled in for my next visit to Phuket. Whilst, the third Ninth is definitely a valued addition to Bart's burgeoning empire, will there be a fourth?

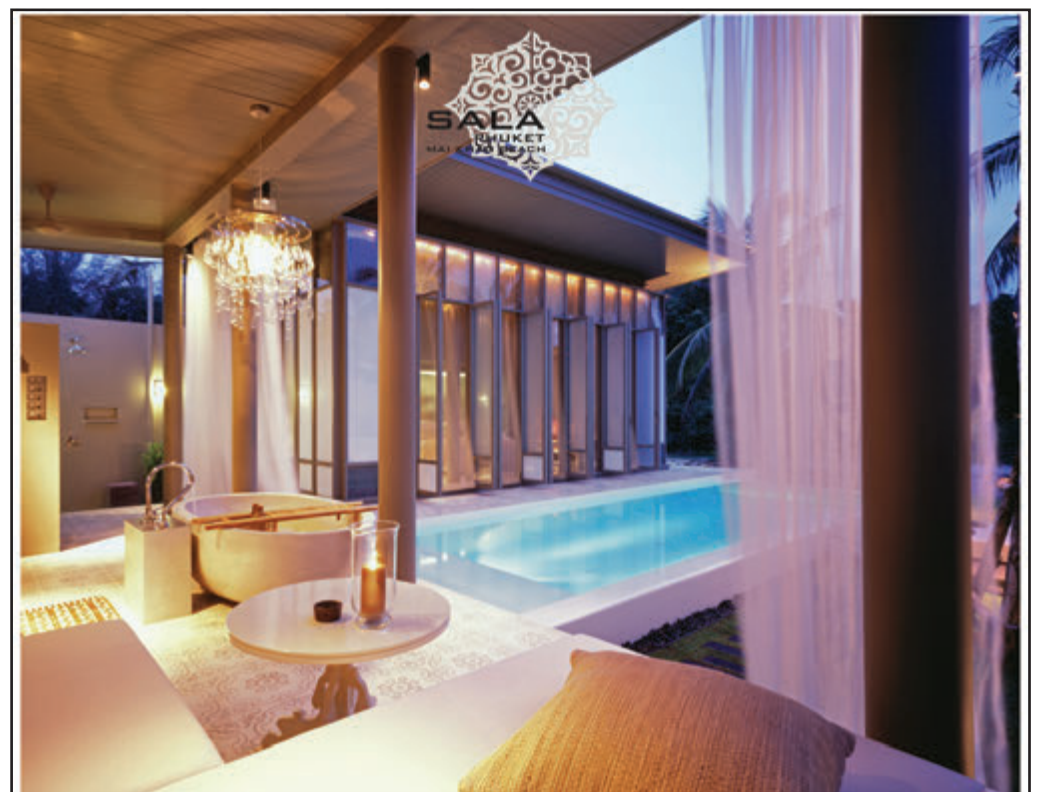
Chris is a former Michelin Guide Inspector who following an international career in hospitality spanning 30 years in both the Middle East and Asia, has now settled in Thailand and contributes a monthly restaurant column.



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POP QUIZ

1. How old is famed movie director Ridley Scott?
2. Which is the only planet that rotates clockwise?
3. The hairdryer, stapler and neon lighting were all invented in which country?
4. Which of New York City's five boroughs is home to JFK International Airport and LaGuardia Airport?
5. Who was the last Pharaoh of Egypt?

Answers below, centre

SUDOKU

Hard

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

Crossword by Myles Mellor & Sally York

- Across
1. Expert
 5. Catch, in a way
 10. Center of authority
 14. Cuckoos
 15. Impede
 16. Bridge toll unit
 17. Easy to pick up
 20. Baffled
 21. One of the Simpsons
 22. Supply with ammo
 23. Marriage, for one?
 26. Raw liquors
 28. "China Beach" setting
 31. Capture
 33. Lagerl f's "The Wonderful Adventures of ____"
 34. "Right away!"
 36. Applications
 38. Hotel posting
 41. Ghost whisperer?
 44. Money in the bank, say
 45. Case
 46. Peeved
 47. "How ____ Mehta Got Kissed, Got Wild, and Got a Life" (Kaavya Viswanathan novel)
 49. "My ____!"
- Down
1. Apple variety
 2. Condo, e.g.
 3. Fixes, in a way
 4. "Confessions" singer
 5. Grassland
 6. Balaam's mount
 7. Attempt
 8. As yet
 9. Genetic material
 10. Took a load off
 11. Extreme fatigue
 12. Notify
 13. College units
 18. Detective, at times
 19. Clothing
24. Drawn tight
25. Arise
27. Sword lilies, for short
28. Astronaut's org.
29. Deadly biters
30. Small house, in London
32. End
35. Warms up
37. Turned sideways
39. 100 cents
40. Old World duck
42. Bologna home
43. Bog
48. Chinese fruit tree
50. "That hurt!"
52. Full of gossip
53. Son of Simon the Just
54. Noblemen
56. Bundle
59. Minus
61. Diamond Head locale
62. Some Olympians, nowadays
63. Eye affliction
65. "____ Town Too" (1981 hit)
66. Go for the gold
67. Appetite

Answers to this week's Pop Quiz:

1) 82 (born Nov 30, 1937); 2) Venus; 3) France; 4) Queens; 5) Cleopatra (in full, Cleopatra VII Philopator)

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20							21					22		
				23		24	25		26			27		
28	29	30		31			32		33					
34			35		36			37		38			39	40
41				42					43					
44						45					46			
		47			48		49			50		51		
52	53				54		55				56			
57				58			59			60		61	62	63
64			65					66	67					
68					69						70			
71					72						73			

Solutions to last week's puzzles:

LEAF	CEASE	GRAF
ECRU	AEGIS	RAVE
THE	JACK	OF
TATGA	TEUTONS	
GOHS	RINSE	
BAYOU	UNBARS	
ECLAT	NOES	ESP
THE	KING	OF
HEM	ORZO	MINUS
SPRYER	BRENT	
PISTE	REAL	
INTENSE	BELIE	
QUEEN	OF	DIAMONDS
USED	STOIC	OLIO
EELS	OSTIA	MYTH

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

GOT YOUR NUMBER

3

years is how long a snail can stay asleep.

9

days is how long it would take to binge-watch every episode of *The Simpsons* without sleeping.

75

percent of people with IQs over 160 are introverts, a factor that strongly associates creativity with intelligence.

6,371

kilometres is the distance from the surface to the centre of the Earth.

393 million

guns are in circulation in the United States – approximately 120.5 guns for every 100 people.

Source: Uberfacts

ISLAND VIEW



High noon at Chalong Pier. Photo: Michael Lee

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

This week in history



The Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr.

Aug 28, 1963

March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom: The Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. gives his 'I Have a Dream' speech.

Aug 29, 1895

Rugby league is founded by 22 clubs at a meeting in the George Hotel, Huddersfield.

Aug 30, 1945

Hong Kong is liberated from Japan by British Armed Forces.

Aug 31, 1422

King Henry V of England dies of dysentery while in France. His son, Henry VI, becomes King of England at the age of 9 months.

Sept 1, 1952

The Old Man and the Sea, the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by Ernest Hemingway, is first published.

Sept 2, 1666

The Great Fire of London breaks out and burns for three days, destroying 10,000 buildings including St Paul's Cathedral.

Sept 3, 1189

Richard I of England (a.k.a. Richard "the Lionheart") is crowned at Westminster.

Source: Wikipedia

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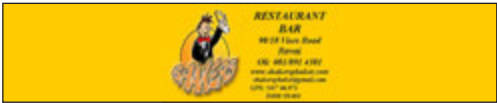
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FRI
28
AUG



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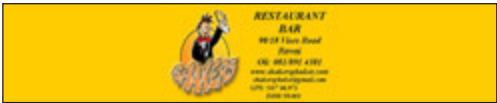
1.2kg mussels served with French fries, your choice, your style: natural, marnière, Provençale, garlic and cream or Thai style. Reservations recommended B295 P/P. shakersphuket@gmail.com 081 891 4381.



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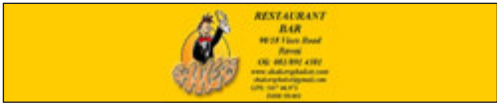
SAT
29
AUG



All you can eat BBQ night

6pm – 11pm: Beef, Pork, Chicken, Burgers, Sausages, Prawns and Squid, Salad buffet, Choice of potatoes and sauces, bread, buns and garlic bread. Reservation recommended. B395 P/P. shakersphuket@gmail.com 081 891 4381.

SUN
30
AUG



All you can eat Sunday Roast Buffet

Beef, Pork and Lamb – Cauliflower, Broccoli, Peas, Carrots, fried mushrooms, grilled tomatoes – Yorkshire pudding – roasted potatoes, mashed potatoes – gravy, mushroom sauce, mint sauce. Reservations recommended. B350 P/P. shakersphuket@gmail.com 081 891 4381.



The Sunday English Family Roast

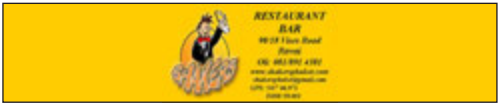
Join us on the boardwalk of Boat Lagoon at The 9th Degree every Sunday for carvery food from 12:30 - 2pm and live music 12-3pm by Noel Da Silva. THB 750 net per person, kids under 12 half price. Advance reservations required 099 269 6272 or the9thdegree@icloud.com



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MON
31
AUG



All you can eat BBQ Ribs night

6pm – 11pm: All you can eat BBQ Ribs served with salad buffet, potato salad & choice of sauces. Reservation recommended. 295 baht P/P. shakersphuket@gmail.com, 081 891 4381.

FRI
18
SEP



Joint Chambers Phuket Sundowners hosted by AustCham

AustCham Thailand is delighted to invite members and guests from AustCham and partner chambers to join our Phuket Sundowners to be held on Friday 18th September, 2020, at the Le Méridien Phuket Beach Resort. Baht 500 for AustCham members, partner Chambers' members, and Australian Alumni Members. Baht 900 for non-members. For registration code for Australian Alumni members, please contact AustCham team at 02 109 9616 or email to office@austchamthailand.com

THU
22
OCT



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The Plantations International Phuket Hospitality Challenge 2020. On Thursday 22nd, October 2020 at Laguna Golf Phuket. Early Bird Pricing 16,000 baht (Team of four players). Entry Includes: Green fee, Caddie fee and shared Buggy. Tournament shirt and On-course refreshments. Prize Giving Dinner at Cassia. Sign up before 31st August 2020. Mark Cameron, mark@asean-events.com, 061 486 6736.

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Bayern kings of Europe

Munich worthy winners in strangest Champions League season

FOOTBALL

Andy Scott

It will be remembered as the strangest of Champions League seasons but it has ended with a familiar name on the trophy after Bayern Munich got the better of Paris Saint-Germain in last Sunday's final (Aug 23) in Lisbon, with their deserved success the result of the remarkable job done by coach Hansi Flick.

There was tickertape at the trophy ceremony and the usual celebratory songs playing over the loudspeakers at the Estadio da Luz as the Bayern players savoured the moment after Kingsley Coman's goal saw them defeat PSG 1-0.

But it was a bizarre spectacle with the 65,000-seat stadium empty, supporters having been barred from attending the biggest match in club football.

The coronavirus pandemic killed the Champions League as we know it, at least temporarily, and UEFA was forced to come up with a new 'Final Eight' format in order to make sure its flagship competition was completed.

UEFA president Aleksander



Bayern Munich players celebrate after winning the Champions League final against Paris Saint-Germain. Photo: AFP

Ceferin told AFP in an interview in Lisbon that the format was likely to be a one-off, and some will be tempted to say that this Champions League should always have an asterisk next to it.

But, against first-time finalists PSG, Bayern were worthy winners of their sixth European Cup, their third in the Champions League era.

They won all their 11 Champions

League matches this season, an unprecedented feat, scoring 43 goals on a run that included a 7-2 win at Tottenham Hotspur and the stunning 8-2 demolition of Barcelona in the quarter-finals in Lisbon.

They just had the better of the final, even if they were fortunate at times up against the French side's formidable attack of Neymar, Kylian Mbappe and Angel Di Maria.

'New faces'

In Manuel Neuer, Jerome Boateng, David Alaba and Thomas Muel-ler, Bayern's line-up featured four survivors from their last final victory, against Borussia Dortmund in 2013.

But this was also about the new faces, such as 19-year-old left-back Alphonso Davies, the Canadian international.

"Moments like these you dream of as a kid," he told DAZN.

Flick deserves great credit. A year ago Bayern were dumped out by Liverpool, the eventual winners, in the last 16, and under Niko Kovac looked a long way off being contenders to win the trophy again.

But Flick replaced Kovac in November, initially as caretaker, and has gone on to win a treble.

Bayern will be a formidable force again next season, which is just around the corner as the Bundesliga starts on Sept 18 and the Champions League group stage in October.

As long as the health crisis does not worsen again, the Champions League will return to normal in the new campaign, and that includes seeing at least some fans return to stadiums.

Istanbul is in line to host the 2021 final, having had this season's showpiece taken away, and hopefully the winning team will be able to celebrate with their supporters.

As Flick said: "It's a pity that the fans couldn't be here with us today. Perhaps they can be back again in the future. A game like this without supporters is not the football that we know." AFP

Boxing coach Fontanills quits

BOXING

JUAN FONTANILLS SAYS he has quit as coach of the national team because top officials at the Thailand Boxing Association (TBA) intervened in his job.

According to Thai media reports on Monday (Aug 24), the Cuban coach said that he was not happy with some TBA bosses.

Fontanills said he was assigned by the TBA to look after the men's, women's and junior teams and that he knew



Cuban coach Juan Fontanills. Photo: Bangkok Post

his boxers better than anyone else but was never given a free hand.

"Certain TBA executives

intervened in my job so much that I was not happy and decided to return to Mexico," he was quoted as saying.

Fontanills first arrived in Thailand in the 1990s and guided three Thai boxers to win Olympic gold medals – Somluck Kamsing (1996), Wijarn Ponlid (2000) and Manus Boonjumnong (2004) – among other achievements.

He returned for a second stint in the Kingdom in 2018 and under his tutorship several Thai boxers have already secured tickets to next year's Tokyo Olympics. Bangkok Post

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Sport

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Coman the destroyer for Bayern > p11

SAILING ON

Phuket youth sailors set sights on National Championships

PYC's youth sail-training program has gone from strength to strength in 2020 operating at or near capacity every weekend. Photo: Mathias Heitmannn

SAILING

The Phuket News
editor3@classactmedia.co.th

Phuket Yacht Club has confirmed it will proudly have at least seven Youth Sailors competing in the Thai National Dinghy Sailing Championships running from the 24th to the 27th of September.

Endorsed by the Yacht Racing Association of Thailand, the regatta will be held in the clear, naval waters of Sattahip in Chon Buri Province, Thailand, and include most of the Kingdom's top-ranked sailors.

Over 100 sailors will be participat-

ing in 10 different classes, including the high-performance O'pen Skiff, the PYC's chosen youth sail-training platform.

"The club is very proud to see these home-grown sailors competing in their first ever major regatta," PYC's Commodore Scott Duncanson told *The Phuket News*.

"Three of these young sailors were supposed to have been in Sardinia, Italy, for the World Championships last month but unfortunately the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent travel restrictions put a stop to that," he added.

"Although initially very disappointed, the World's have now been

rescheduled to July 2021 so we view the Thai National Championship Regatta as a perfect stepping stone for these young sailors towards international-level competition."

The PYC's youth sail-training program has gone from strength to strength in 2020 operating at or near capacity every weekend. The school summer holiday sailing program has been an enormous success with six courses varying from beginners to intermediates being held over the past seven weeks.

The program welcomes children from the ages of 7 to 16 with swimming being the only pre-requisite skill required. What is very encouraging

is that nearly 100 children have now visited the club and taken the opportunity to get themselves on the water and try sailing.

The PYC's location at Chalong Bay is very safe, shallow and near ideal for learning to sail. It is largely protected from the full force of the northeasterly and southwesterly monsoon winds, making sailing all year round possible.

Not letting the kids have all the fun, adult sailing courses were recently introduced and the first three-day dinghy sailing clinic was held in July. This included a short passage sail to Koh Lon and an overnight stay at the Cruiser Island Resort.

Most all of the participants were families and it was fantastic to see them connecting face to face and building relationships through sailing. Hermit crab racing, collecting firewood, a beach bonfire, toasting marshmallows and mostly the simple things in life were very successful in creating lifetime memories and detaching the young ones from their electronic devices for a few days, said Scott.

"They were simply too busy having fun to even ask for them."

For further details about the learn to sail adventure please contact: school@phuketyachtclub.com

Allycia looks to stamp her authority

MMA

PHUKET BASED ALLYCIA Rodrigues takes centre stage in Bangkok tonight (Aug 28) as she challenges Stamp Fairfax for the Atom-weight Muay Thai World Title as part of ONE Championship's latest martial arts extravaganza.

ONE: A NEW BREED! will see Stamp defend her title against Brazilian powerhouse Rodrigues, who fights out of Phuket Fight Club in Chalong.

Rodrigues, who became Ayutthaya Miracle Champion in March last year, holds an impressive 30-5 record and is very much considered reigning champ, Stamp's toughest opponent yet.

Having recently signed to ONE Championship, this will be 22-year-old Allycia's debut fight and she goes into the contest full of confidence and raring to go.

"I am very confident for this fight," Rodrigues said.

"I will try to impose my game plan, walk forward, press on her without letting her breathe, and make her tired.

That's what we're working on in training [camp]. I'll put the pressure on her.

"It will be a tough fight against a very experienced opponent, but I will go in there very prepared. Every day, I have done my best in training. It's a great opportunity, and I don't want to waste it. I'm going to win this belt," she added. *The Phuket News*



Allycia in training. Photo: Helen Tran