AWOL

ABSENT WITHOUT LEAVE FOR THE EXPAT IN ALL OF US
What's happening, and might be happening, in Hua Hin

- IT'S GERRARD!
- HITLER'S CARTOONS?
- IPHONES CRAP AT TOAST
- LOCAL SPORTS
- TOP TIPS

10 October 08

FREE

WE DON'T NEED NO 'PATTAYA-SATION'!

Is Hua Hin in danger of becoming the 'New Pattaya'?

AWOL EDITORIAL

On the face of it, Pattaya and Hua Hin are poles, or rather poledances, apart; they may share a similar latitude and climate, and a reputation as top class golf destinations, but beyond that the atmosphere, scale and clientele of the two resorts is vastly different…or so the people living in Hua Hin may think.

Over recent years there have been some worrying incidents that might indicate the two cities are more alike than most imagine. The huge boom that engulfed Hua Hin in the last few years may have changed the face of the Royal Resort and the favourite playground of the Bangkok set for good. While no figures are readily available from the various authorities, anyone who has lived or visited regularly over the last 10 years will have seen some dramatic changes; many of them good, but inevitably some bad.

The sheer number of people who now come to Hua Hin (latest estimates put that number at 6 million a year), whether they are weekenders from the Big Mango or holidaymakers from further afield, as well as the numbers of both Thais and foreigners who have made 'Paradise City' their home, has put a strain on a number of things, in particular the local infrastructure handling water, sewage and other utilities, as well as the police and rescue services; the increase in traffic alone is in danger at times of bringing the city centre to a grinding halt, with residents and visitors circling endlessly trying to find a parking space near to the centre. This in turn puts added pressure on the police, the condition of the roads and the ever-failing traffic lights dotted around. And here is where the crux of the matter lies; whenever there are more people, you get more of everything, and this is where we come back to Pattaya; the local media there is full of horrific stories of suicides, murders, gun crime, mafia activity, drugs, Thai teenage gunfights and more. It would be foolish to think that none of this happens here, but in the past and presently the overall perception of Hua Hin is of a safe and peaceful place.

But is this perception true? Certainly the local media do not have anywhere near the number of dramatic stories that appear daily in Pattaya, but is this because they are not occurring, or because no one wants to rock the boat? Local internet forums, such as Hua Hin After Dark, have seen a steadily increasing number of posts detailing a range of crimes, from bag snatches and petty crime, to more serious offences like assault and

Continued on page 2

A typical Pattaya newspaper headline (online version)

I'd Love a Bacon Sandwich

032 513 144

The New Pattaya? (continued)

attempted murder. There was a recent spate of attacks on the Canal Road where two or three Thai teenagers on motorbikes were attacking other motorcyclists by either throwing bottles at them or swiping at them with lumps of wood as they passed, presumably attempting to knock them off and possibly steal the bike or personal belongings. More worrying still is that while many of these incidents are reported, the police appear unable or unwilling to deal with them. The problem with Thai teenagers appears to be getting worse as well, with reports emerging of packs of gun toting, machete wielding gangs attacking each other as well as parked cars, nearby homes and businesses, and some of these reports suggest that this is happening close to the town centre, as well as other outlying areas, with the only reported police action being to try and scare them off rather than arresting anyone, only for them to return on a regular basis.

Many residents, for right or wrong, have lost faith in the ability of the local police to deal with such incidents, and the expat community is particularly scathing, with the perception commonly held that the police do not make enough effort to investigate or solve crime committed against them, and that the lack of obvious police presence in the town centre after 10 pm is allowing criminals to operate more freely, but AWOL does not subscribe to that belief, and our concern is that the local police have neither the manpower nor expertise to deal with what Hua Hin faces as it grows ever more popular. However AWOL does question the priorities of the police, as they seem to devote a disproportionate number of officers to relatively minor offences such as the wearing of crash helmets and seatbelts, while seemingly ignoring a raft of potentially more dangerous traffic offences like speeding, driving without lights at night and driving on the wrong side of the road, and this appears to be a pattern that is replicated with other crime as well. In March this year Pol.Col. Kritsana Chaemsawang, Hua Hin Superintendent, acknowledged many of the crime problems being experienced, and announced a range of policies designed to deal with them; however, either these policies are not being implemented correctly or are ineffective, as the problems have not diminished by all accounts. He specifically targeted the teenage Thais on motorbikes and burglaries among other things in his announcement but neither of these things appear to have improved, quite the opposite in fact.

While the growth of the town in tourist and business terms is welcome, it must be matched by an increased awareness and ability of the respective authorities to handle all the extra burdens it places on them; as it stands that does not appear to be the case, with the key areas of traffic, crime and utilities at or past breaking point. While journalists and newspapers thrive on reporting crime and problems, AWOL does not want to have a front page every week detailing a murder, a mafia hit, rapes, avoidable traffic accidents or other 'sensational' stories as in Pattaya, and we believe that our readers, the residents and visitors to the town don't either, but we think that is exactly what we will end up with unless effective action is taken.

Have you been a victim or witness to crime or other problems in Hua Hin?
Tell us your thoughts and experiences on this issue; e-mail awol@observergroup.net

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HUA CHA HASH PEDALERS

The Hua Cha Hash Pedalers are biking enthusiasts who get together monthly for a group bike ride in the Hua Hin or Cha Am areas. A pre-determined trail is mapped out for the bikers to follow until coming to the finish at a place for food and cold drinks. Everyone with a mountain bike and a desire to join the fun is invited. For more info, call or e-mail Don at 058-088 7181, donaltetley@yahoo.com, or Chris at 087-170 0268, chrisnumber_1@yahoo.com. Also see www.huahin-hhh.com

Playboy joins demands for 'transparency' on Wall Street

■ NEW YORK

As if Wall Street's assets hadn't received enough exposure lately, Playboy is ready to take advantage of a tough market to bolster its bottom line. Females in financial positions — the bigger the better — are being sought for the February 2009 "Women of Wall Street" edition of the magazine, offering them a new way to lose their shirt. If you have the necessary credentials, Playboy is soliciting applications at www.playboy.com/wallstreet.

Playboy looks for bare market on Wall Street

SHOP TILL YOU DROP?

A FEMALE SHOPPER collapsed in a supermarket when her vibrating panties made her faint with pleasure. The kinky 33-year-old housewife was wearing a pair of battery-operated Passion Pants, bought from a sex shop, whilst she did her shopping, according to the famous British tabloid newspaper, 'The Sun'.

But the woman became so stimulated by the 6cm vibrating bullet in the panties that she lost consciousness, fell and hit her head on a shelf in the crowded supermarket in Swansea, South Wales.

When paramedics arrived, they found that her black imitation leather knickers were still buzzing. They carefully removed them before an ambulance took her to hospital. The woman, whose identity has been kept private, apparently suffered no ill effects. And as she left the hospital, a paramedic gave her back the Passion Pants in a plastic bag.

A spokesperson for the ASDA supermarket chain told The Sun, "We like to think that shopping with us is exciting enough already without fainting from pleasure."

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Local Weather

Hua Hin weather forecast next 7 days

Day	Conditions	Temp °C Low	High
Sat	Clouds limiting sun	23	32
Sun	An a.m. shower; mostly cloudy	24	32
Mon	Mostly cloudy and very humid	24	32
Tues	Mostly cloudy and humid	24	32
Wed	Mostly cloudy and humid	24	32
Thur	Mostly cloudy, showers; humid	24	31
Fri	Humid with periods of rain	24	31

World Weather

Forecast for Friday 10th October 2008

City	Min °C	Max	Conditions
Amsterdam	6	16	Overcast
Athens	14	23	Cloudy
Auckland	10	16	Cloudy
Beijing	9	20	Fine
Berlin	7	16	Cloudy
Buenos Aires	12	25	Rain
Chicago	7	22	Fine
Copenhagen	6	13	Cloudy
Dubai	27	38	Clear
Dublin	7	16	Rain
Helsinki	5	9	Mostly Cloudy
Ho Chi Minh	23	33	Thunderstorms
Hong Kong	24	31	Partly Cloudy
Islamabad	19	31	Haze
Jakarta	24	32	Rain
Jerusalem	14	23	Fine
Johannesburg	12	28	Fine
Kuala Lumpur	24	33	Thunderstorms
London	9	17	Fine
Madrid	14	23	Cloudy
Manila	24	32	Thunderstorms
Mexico City	11	21	Rain
Moscow	1	8	Fine
New Delhi	21	34	Fine
New York	12	23	Fine
Oslo	12	13	Rain
Paris	8	18	Mist
Perth	11	26	Clear
Phnom-Penh	25	32	Thunderstorms
Rio De Janeiro	15	28	Mist
Riyadh	21	36	Clear
Rome	12	24	Cloudy
San Francisco	11	20	Fine
Singapore	24	32	Thunderstorms
Stockholm	10	12	Overcast
Sydney	14	24	Showers
Tokyo	18	25	Cloudy
Vientiane	23	31	Chance of rain
Yangon	23	32	Partly Cloudy
Zurich	9	16	Fog

Currency Exchange Rates

At 10th October 2008 (mid-market rates)

Code	Currency	Value (Baht)
USD	United States Dollar	34.5375
GBP	Pound Sterling	59.7693
EUR	Euro	47.2545
JPY	Japanese Yen	0.343661
MYR	Malaysian Ringgit	9.86096
SGD	Singapore Dollar	23.2315
BND	Brunei Dollar	23.5161
CNY	Chinese Yuan	5.05605
IDR	Indonesian Rupiah	0.00358835
INR	Indian Rupee	0.708862
KRW	Korean Won	0.0251606
AUD	Australian Dollar	24.3611
NZD	New Zealand Dollar	20.9056
CHF	Swiss Franc	30.5838
DKK	Danish Krone	6.34003
NOK	Norwegian Krone	5.64981
SEK	Swedish Krona	4.90076
CAD	Canadian Dollar	30.7135
AED	U.A.E Dirham	9.40451
BHD	Bahrain Dinar	91.8527
KWD	Kuwaiti Dinar	129.349
OMR	Omani Rial	89.8231
QAR	Qatar Riyal	9.48848

AWOL makes no warranties, express or implied, regarding these rates and shall not be liable for any losses or damages incurred in connection with them.

Emergency & Useful Numbers

Emergency Calls

Police 191
Crime 195
Fire 199
Traffic Control Centre 197
Highway Police 1193
Tourist Police 1699
Tourist Service Centre 1155
Missing Persons Bureau 02 282 1815
Police Station at Hua Hin District 032 511 027
Cha-Am Police Station 032 471 321
Hua Hin Hospital 032 511 743
San Paulo Hospital 032 532 576 to 585
Hua Hin Red Cross 032 512 567

Useful numbers

Hua Hin Tessabahn : 032 511 047
Hua Hin Immigration Office 032 513 574
Hua Hin Bus Terminal (non air-con) 032 511 230
(air-con) 032 511 651, 512 543
Hua Hin Railway Station 032 511 073
Tourist Information Centre 032 512 120
Hua Hin Electricity 032 512 215
Hua Hin Water 032 511 677
TOT 032 519 000/001
TT&T 032 532 018

LIVING IN A BIG GLASS TUBE CAN ADD 40 YEARS TO YOUR LIFE, SAY EXPERTS

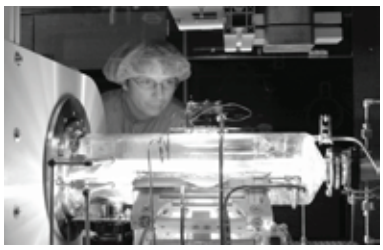
■ ABANDONING your job, your family and the outside world in favour of a big glass tube can extend your life expectancy by decades, according to a new study.

Researchers at Dundee University are now calling for increased government support for those who want to live in a tube and have a cocktail of high fibre nutrients pumped into their stomachs.

The long-term research project kidnapped two young men, suspending one of them in an eight foot-long tube and forcing the other one to live in a flat and work for an insurance company.

Specimen A responded well to life inside the tube, enjoying the combination of sedatives, liquid food and episodes of As Time Goes By with Judi Dench and Geoffrey Palmer.

Specimen B went to the local pub where he met a nice girl with a fruity laugh. After three years of sexual intercourse they married and moved to a leafy suburb to raise a family.



A scientist testing the Sky+ signal

Specimen B consumed a range of foods including bacon, mashed potatoes, Special K, donuts, and ham and cucumber sandwiches with full-fat mayonnaise on wholemeal bread.

He also enjoyed a gin and tonic after work, wine with meals, a few pints of beer after a weekly round of golf and the occasional cigar. He died in his sleep from heart complications aged 72.

Specimen A is now 75 years-old but has the physical heath of a man in his mid-thirties. His daily routine involves selecting programmes from his Sky+ box and then watching them while a steady stream of pulped cranberries and broccoli moves from the tube into his stomach to the tube out of his rectum.

Project leader Dr Roy Hobbs, said: "Specimen B was such a wretched waste of a life. I watched him throw his years away unable to interfere with my own experiment.

"But look at Specimen A. His lungs are clear, his bowel movements are sound and his heart pumps away, fuelled by a potent cranberry mush. And he's got Sky+."

Disclaimer

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British Queen's Rolls fails MOT

LONDON, ENGLAND

HRH found herself in a spot of hot water today, when her ageing Rolls Royce Phantom IV failed to cut the mustard at her local MOT garage.

In keeping with the Royal Family's latest push to identify with the British people, Her Majesty took the decision to drive the car herself for its annual test, but things didn't go quite as smoothly as one would have hoped.

Terry Jolly, garage proprietor takes up the story:

"So there I was, mindin' me own business, when this classy motor swerves onto me pitch, and I thought to meself, 'angonasec, could be a nice little earner 'ere'.

Queen Elizabeth II's ailing Rolls Royce

"Anyway, cut a long story short, know-what-I-mean? Tap tap, clunk clunk, wiggle wiggle, and then I goes up to the old bint and tells her straight: 'Yer exhaust's shot, brake pads low, too much play in the 'andbrake, loose wheel bearing, and a 'ole under your back seat, rusted right through!'"

"Then she says to me, she says: 'Goodness me, my man!' she said, 'and how much will that cost one?'

"So then I gave her the bad news. '£800 notes for yer exhaust, another £200 for the brakes, and I'll throw the rest in for another £100, 'ow does that grab yer darlin? .... oh, I nearly forgot, and £100 for the welding.'

So she turns round and says, 'One hundred pounds for a little rusty hole in the floor? Heavens! Why so much?'

So I tells her straight, I says, 'Because first I'll have to clean up all that corgi mess!'

Area 555

TEDDY COLLECTOR

A WOMAN met a man in a singles' bar. They talked, they connected; they ended up leaving together. They got back to his place, and as he showed her around his apartment, she noticed that one wall of his bedroom was completely filled with soft, sweet, cuddly teddy bears. There were three shelves in the bedroom with hundreds of teddies carefully placed in rows, covering the entire wall.

It was obvious that he had taken quite some time to lovingly arrange them and she was immediately touched by the amount of thought he had put into organising the display. There were small bears all along the bottom shelf, medium-sized bears covering the length of the middle shelf, and huge bears placed all the way along the top shelf.

She found it strange for an obviously masculine guy to have such a large collection of teddy bears, and was also quite impressed with his sensitive side, but did not mention this to him.

They shared a bottle of wins and continued talking, and after a while she found herself thinking, 'Oh my God! Maybe, just maybe, this man could be the one! Perhaps he could be the future father of my children!'

She turned to him and kissed him lightly on the lips, and he responded warmly. They continued to kiss; the passion built as he romantically raised her in his strong arms and carried her to the bed. There they ripped off each others clothes and made hot, steamy love. The woman was so overwhelmed that she responded with more passion, more creativity and more heat than she had ever known.

After an intense, explosive night of raw passion with this sensitive man, she found herself lying together in the afterglow of lovemaking. She rolled over, gently stroked his chest, and asked coyly, "Well, how was it for you, darling?"

The man smiled at her, gently stroked her cheek, looked deeply into her eyes, and then said, "Help yourself to any prize from the middle shelf, baby."

ON THE LINKS

A Golfer was taking a long time addressing the ball. "Come on!" Said his partner. "Get a move on. What's the problem?"

"My wife is watching from the clubhouse." Said the golfer, "and I really want this swing to be the most accurate, the furthest; the best shot I've ever played."

"Don't be silly!" Said the partner. "You'll never hit her from here."

THE TROUBLE AND STRIFE

RICK WAS in trouble. He forgot his wedding anniversary, and his wife was really angry. She told him "Tomorrow morning, I expect to find a gift in the driveway that goes from 0 to 200 in less than 6 seconds AND IT BETTER BE THERE!!"

The next morning Rick got up early and left for work. When his wife woke up she looked out of the window and sure enough there was a box gift-wrapped in the middle of the driveway.

Confused, the wife put on her robe and ran out to the driveway and brought the box back in the house. She opened it and found a brand-new bathroom scale.

Rick has been missing since Friday. Please pray for him.

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Did Adolf Hitler draw Disney characters?

The director of a Norwegian museum claimed yesterday to have discovered cartoons drawn by Adolf Hitler during the Second World War.

William Hakvaag, the director of a war museum in northern Norway, said he found the drawings hidden in a painting signed "A. Hitler" that he bought at an auction in Germany.

He found coloured cartoons of the characters Bashful and Doc from the 1937 Disney film Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, which were signed A.H., and an unsigned sketch of Pinocchio as he appeared in the 1940 Disney film.

Hitler tried to make a living as an artist before his rise to power. While there was no independent confirmation yesterday that the drawings were the work of the Nazi leader, Hitler is known to have owned a copy of Snow White, the classic animated adaptation of a German fairy tale, and to have viewed it in his private cinema.

Mr Hakvaag, who said he had performed tests on the paintings

Could this have been drawn by Hitler?

which suggested that they dated from 1940, said: "I am 100 per cent sure that these are drawings by Hitler. If one wanted to make a forgery, one would never hide it in the back of a picture, where it might never be discovered."

The initials on the sketches, and the signature on the painting, matched other copies of Hitler's handwriting, he claimed.

"Hitler had a copy of Snow White," he said. "He thought this was one of the best movies ever made."

Discoveries of Nazi-era memorabilia have repeatedly turned out to be mistaken or the result of a hoax. However, art attributed to Hitler continues to sell at auction, even if its provenance is far from complete.

Nineteen watercolours and two sketches said to be by Hitler were sold in Britain two years ago for a total of £118,000.

The auction firm Jefferys said the seller did everything possible to authenticate the works.

The pictures of cottages and rural scenes were found in a farmhouse in Belgium and were believed to have been painted while Hitler was a young soldier in the country during the First World War.

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ON ON

Hua Hin Hash House Harriers

The H2H3 is a group of international fools who get a lot of enjoyment out of running or walking around in jungles, mountains, beaches and sometimes highways in search of the end of the run and some cold beer and camaraderie. Boys and girls, eight to eighty are welcome to join in on the fun.

To learn more about the Hash House Harriers go to **www.gthhh.com** or **www.huahin-hhh.com**. For information about the next run, e-mail Slackbladder (**partt@hotmail.com, 087-852 2565**) or Ballbanger, **donaltetley@yahoo.com or 085-088 7181**. In Cha Am, get the scoop at the Chicken Coop from Noi. Get a cold beer and the hot hash gossip from Dave at the California Mining Cantina near the Sofitel.

If you have half a mind the join the hash, that's all you need.

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25/30 Petchakasem Road, Tambon Nhong Kae,
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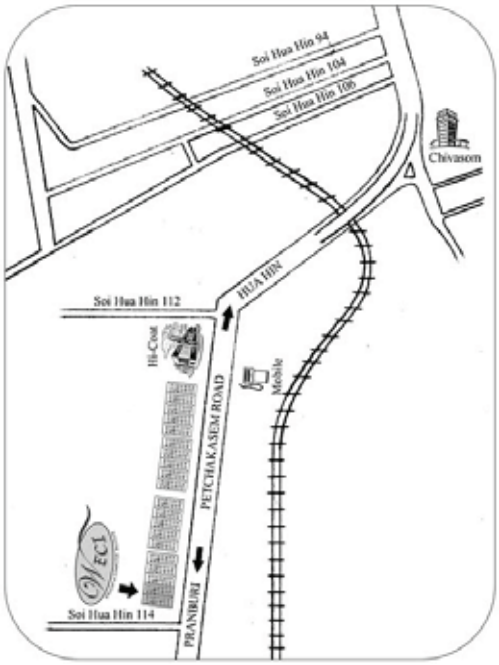

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Your STARS with Destiny Dan

Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19
On reading the early chapters of the new Harry Potter book you will be shocked to realize how much your life mimics that of the character Dumbledore. Get to page 113 and stop reading for the rest of the month to be on the safe-side.
A homosexual will give you a piece of advice that you will later rely on to place a large, successful, bet with a heavily set thug from the docks.
This week your best meditation technique will be to sit quietly, cross legged, on a meditation mat. Your favoured sound will involve the word "icky".

Aquarius Jan 20 - Feb 17
As a verbose Aquarian, you can sometimes come across, accidentally, as a consummately persuasive person. Use this valuable talent for negotiations involving a land deal with simple folk.
Itemize all of your expenses this week in a small blue book that you should keep safely and secured from flood and fire, but not pestilence.
In a freak professional wrestling inspired planetary confluence, your favoured wrestling move will be a 'forearm smash' and not your usual 'flying grapevine from off the top rope'.
This week's optimal meditation colour is flaming pink, and your chant sound is "oooooh look at her..."

Pisces Feb 18 - Mar 19
This week dream premonitions are likely to be more accurate than ever as Mars is ingratiated with Neptune in a moment of cautious nocturnal bondage. Allow these dream messages to determine every single one of your decisions this week.
Sometimes dreams can be rationalized literally, other times symbolically. Choose which is which by flipping a coin - Heads is literally, tails symbolically.
Dreams about fish, time travel and knee-high boots are particularly good. Dreams about Smurfs, hotel reservations gone wrong and open air Operas are dire warnings of your mortality.

Aries Mar 20 - Apr 19
With Venus in retrograde, take this opportunity to temper your typically arrogant SoB Aryan attitude.
In Roman times, Emperors employed minions to walk at their side telling them: "Remember you are mortal." Employ a server from your local Dunkin Donuts to provide this service for you this week: pay 20 baht above the minimum wage for this part time, evening only, position.
Your optimal meditation colour this week is purple with yellow stars, and your chant sound is "ppppptttfffft" (using pursed lips).

Taurus Apr 20 - May 19
Thoughts, which can only really be described as Kamikaze in nature, are predictably badly starred this week. Avoid oriental cuisine but if this is unavoidable, try not to sit near an open window.
You have picked up an annoying, Saturn influenced, habit when shopping for vegetables in which you tut slightly while you do that squeezing thing experienced vegetable purchasers do to check the firmness of the produce. Avoid eye contact with shop owners until well after the purchases have been paid for.
This week, your favoured meditation technique is to hold your breath while reciting quotes from the motion picture Dumb and Dumber.

Gemini May 20 - Jun 20
You will aggressively overtake a circus dwarf whilst he is taking his driving test this week. This will anger him so much that when you inevitably attend one of his performances, he will mercilessly harangue you until you cry. Take two boxes of tissues and a small blanket to avoid the media when you leave the performance.
Your meditation colour this week is browny yellow. Your preferred chant sound will be the sound with no name. This week our security experts advise issuing you a cushion advisory, which is in force for the whole week. This could be upgraded to a beanbag advisory in the next two weeks at short notice.

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Cancer Jun 21 - Jul 21
A prehistoric find will adversely impact on your well being this week when it appears that a picture of your dog was carved in a newly discovered Red Indian cave 14,000 years ago (yes it is him, his name is written underneath). Resist the temptation to call the media, they will track you down in due course, use this lead-time to find a hiding place.
Your favoured proverb this week will be: 'Many hands make light work'.
This week's preferred meditation position and sound is that of the surprised, constipated, goat.

Leo Jul 22 - Aug 22
This week a tennis match and a bowl of strawberries should not be used as an excuse to put off an important decision. The planetary alignments means you are 50% more likely than usual to invent a new world religion and construct a hypothesis for water purification for the third world. Publish your findings and get your accountant to find a tax efficient offshore bank account, Venus suggests Bermuda, Saturn prefers Uzbekistan.
Your optimal meditation colour this week is green, but your spiritual well being will have to wait this week as your assigned tax collector comes under the influence of a rampant Uranus inspired supervisor.

Virgo Aug 23 - Sept 21
Frankincense and tinned beans in a tomato sauce are to make this week a much livelier one than of late.
Jupiter has cast its proverbial net over the imaginary tropic of Malaysia with the result that any attempts to make your TV remote work without massaging the batteries first is doomed to failure.
Someone with your name will be excommunicated in Rome this week. Do not let this put you off going to church on Sunday, although take your passport with you to back up any questions which you may face.
Meditation is ill starred this week, perhaps try sleeping on your back to see what happens.

Libra Sept 22 - Oct 22
An unusual planetary alignment has triggered a rare parallel duality that may present itself to you in the form of a neighbour who claims to be able to travel through time. Listen to them for no more than 7 minutes before claiming there is something in the oven you must attend to. They will recognize this as the international time traveller's sign of 'over and out' and will completely understand your speedy exit.
Kenyan cuisine is well starred, as is any exotic bread with nuts on the top. Neptune's conjunctivitis will cause a dinner party to end abruptly in strange circumstances around the 11th, either in your own home or in a home down your street. Avoid Californian wine until after the 25th just to be on the safe side.

Scorpio Oct 23 - Nov 21
Mercury's flagellation of Neptune's under region presents an interesting life changing possibility on the 13th. Inflatable sex dolls are well starred, in particular sheep or human forms. Resist your initial impulse of propriety only so that it increases the erotica at a later time.
A conjunction on the cusp of Pluto has many likely rational explanations, do not immediately assume you are part of an international conspiracy despite very clear signals that this is the case.
A cuddly toy has gone missing in a Toy Story type incident your kind will never understand.

Sagittarius Nov 22 - Dec 21
A well meaning, but completely inappropriate, Plutonian interference is to blame for a seemingly accidental meeting with a man who had at one point in his life lost everything, but then found it all again in Tibet. Mercilessly pummel this forgetful person for philosophical thoughts for a book that you intend to write in your retirement.
WARNING: DO NOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES TELL HIM WHERE YOU LIVE.
This week your favoured meditation colour will be orange, and the chant sound will be not dissimilar to 'Uhhmmmmm - aaaaah!'.

Top tips

■ Don't buy expensive 'ribbed' condoms, just buy an ordinary one and slip a handful of frozen peas inside it before you put it on.

X-Files fans. Create the effect of being abducted by aliens by drinking two bottles of vodka. You'll invariably wake up in a strange place the following morning, having had your memory mysteriously 'erased'.

Minor skin grafts can be performed on pigs by covering any cuts and grazes with thin strips of bacon.

Save money on expensive personalised car number plates by simply changing your name to match your existing plate. - Mr. KVL 741Y,

Don't waste money buying expensive binoculars. Simply stand closer to the object you wish to view.

Avoid jet lag by simply taking an earlier flight, thus arriving fully refreshed and on time.

Pass yourself off as Welsh by putting coal dust behind your fingernails and talking gibberish all the time, stopping occasionally to sing loudly, or set fire to someone else's house.

Save time when crossing a one-way street by only looking in the direction of oncoming traffic. - D. Rogers, Hua Hin

When crossing a one-way street always look in BOTH directions in case a large blue furniture removal lorry is reversing the wrong way up the road. - D. Rogers, Hua Hin Hospital

Thicken up runny low-fat yoghurt by stirring in a spoonful of lard.

Anorexics. When your knees become fatter than your legs, start eating cakes again.

A next-door neighbour's car aerial, carefully folded, makes an ideal coat hanger in an emergency.

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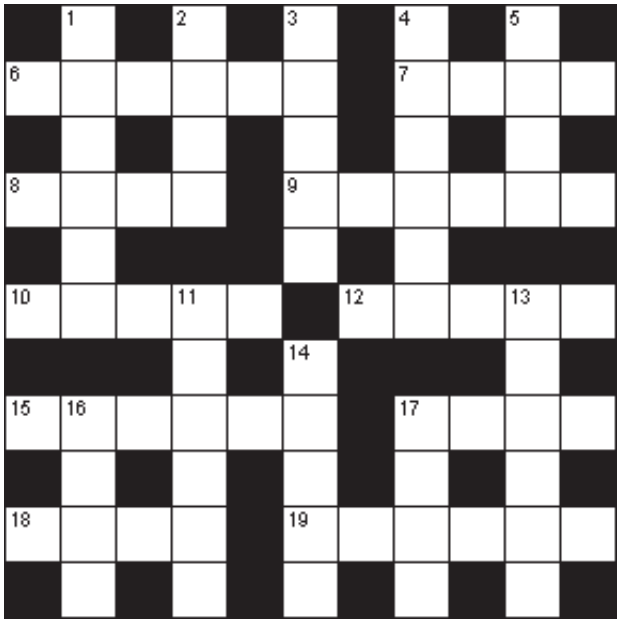
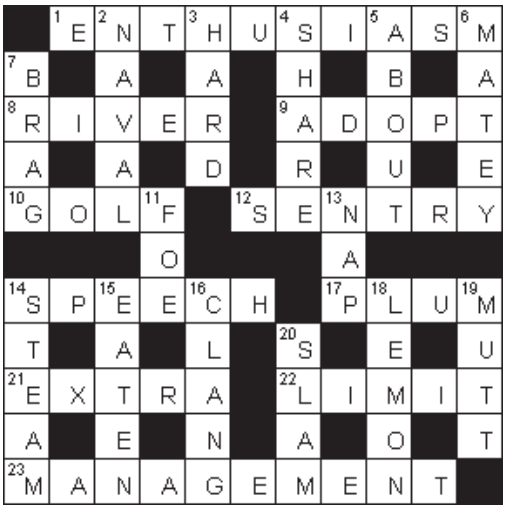
Quick XWord

Across
6. Lubricant (6)
7. Harvest (4)
8. Device for securing (4)
9. Washroom (6)
10. Apparel (5)
12. Unearthly (5)
15. Seat occupied by a sovereign (6)
17. The day of the month (4)
18. Exclamations of surprise (4)
19. Not tough (6)



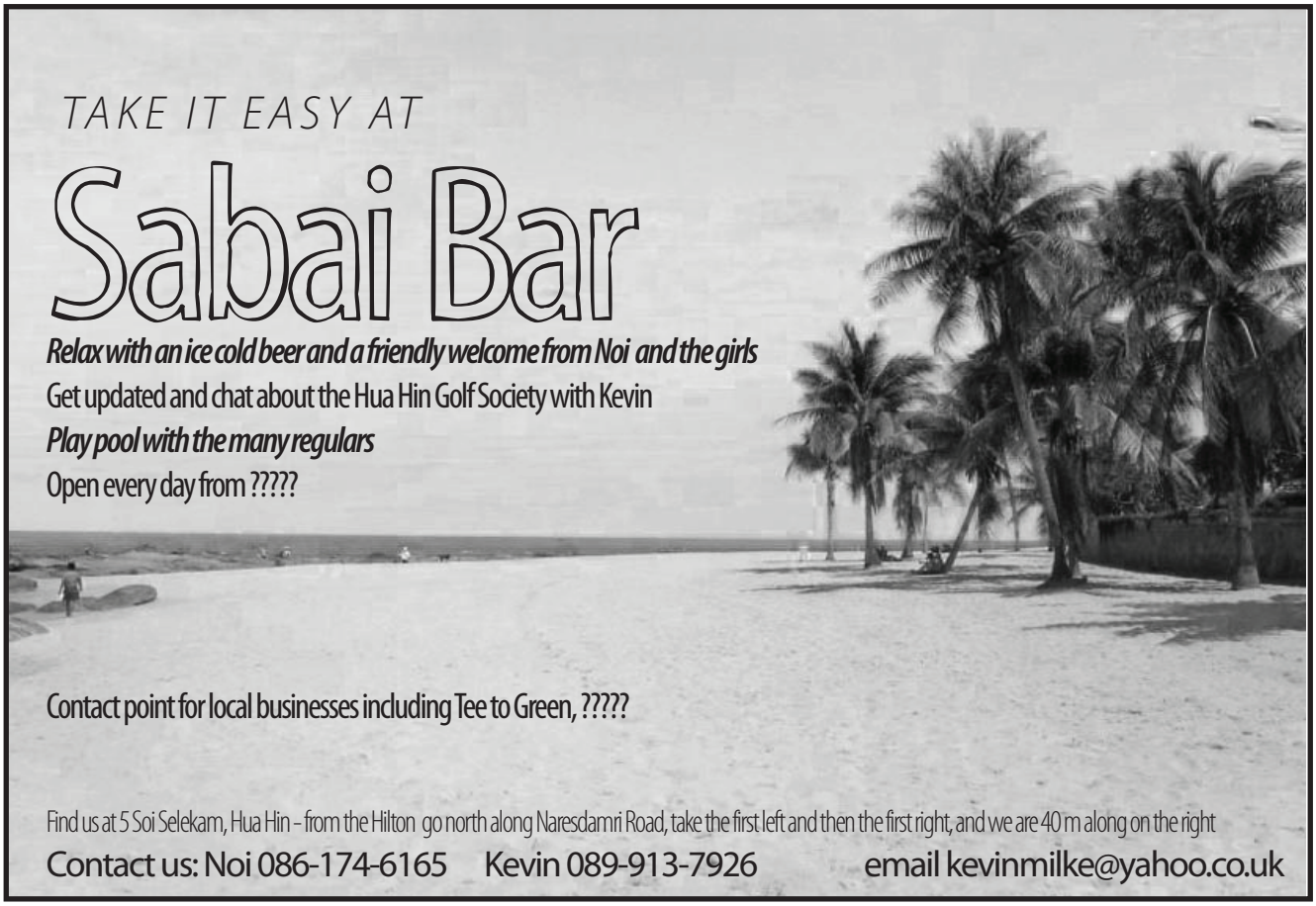
Down
1. Defence covering (6)
2. Large bag (4)
3. Thaws (5)
4. Reach destination (6)
5. Concern (4)
11. One's husband or wife (6)
13. Full of ruts (6)
14. Molars (5)
16. Pile (4)
17. Sand hill (4)

Solution in next week's issue.
Last week's solution below



TAKE IT EASY AT

Sabai Bar



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Get updated and chat about the Hua Hin Golf Society with Kevin

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THAI BOXING

Look out for details of the regular fight nights held at the Thai Boxing Garden. These are not exhibition matches, but the real thing. Anyone interested in the art of Muay Thai should call into the Boxing Garden and talk to Khun Chop, Hua Hin's own champion. Positioned in Poolsuk Road, behind the temple, turn left beside Willi's. Tel: 032 515 269

EVERY SATURDAY & TUESDAY

Old Bill

This is Thailand Police Major Pugwa Shi W.S.T.P of the Cha-Hin Tourist Police again.

This week I want to talk about drive in Thailand as many of you will have a car or will rent car from my friends. Driving in Thailand differs as it is not the same. Many accidents caused because you don't know. In home country you will see people flash lights at you the same as here but it is different. The driver here no flash to say please proceed or have a nice day. What he wants you to know is that he is approaching a major junction at a very high speed at which you are waiting to cross and if he hits you it is not his fault because he flash. Others will approach with their warning lights flashing but they are honest as they are telling you and everyone else that they are a hazard to other road uses. Other times you will following a car driving very slowly in the outside lane between Cha-Hin and Hua Am and it will make you wonder a lot. This driver is good and probably Advanced Driver in anticipation because he wants to make U-turn somewhere after Pranburi – he is getting ready. Always remember please that no road rages here as most Thai drivers are in possession of offensive weapon – it is called a vehicle.

One thing I say to motosai riders is BE CARFUL! Alway drive slow and stop when see police - if drive fast police cannot stop you and tell what you wrong and make sure you know and that you thank them 200 time from the heart of your pocket.

Next week I also talk about drive, but not mean on road! This drive far more dangerous (if wife find out) - so now you know I talk about golf.

So my thing to say to you is please drive carfully. So now I leave you, again, and remember; We Serve To Prosper,

Your good friend, Old Bill.

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SIAM OLD TEAK is a manufacturer of unique, high quality reclaimed teak furniture for the home and outdoor living space. We source all our own materials throughout South East Asia, old teak houses, bridges and oxcarts are transported to our factory. The teak is then kiln dried for 2 weeks before being crafted into furniture. Our pieces are all hand crafted by artisans at our factory in the north of Thailand. No machinery of any kind is used during the manufacture of our furniture. We don't use industrial glues, rivets or nails, just traditional jointing methods. We can make your furniture in any size and design; people are different sizes so why shouldn't furniture be made to fit? We steer well clear of polyurethane, shellac and lacquer finishes, after the colour has been fixed we apply several coats of natural beeswax. The beeswax is heated and applied with a paintbrush, then left overnight to set. The piece is hand polished between coats and requires a coat of beeswax every six to twelve months; beeswax is available all over Thailand. We love the look, feel and smell of natural solid reclaimed teak and the warmth it adds to our living spaces. In addition we also source original very unique antique pieces and artefacts that are truly one-of-a-kind finds. We don't operate from a shop, we have many pieces at our show house just a short drive up the mountain from Hua Hin. We offer factory prices and have a large customer base built upon recommendation. We don't follow a trend, we have found our own little path. We are so confident in our furniture that we will give you a lifetime guarantee in writing. If you decide to leave Thailand for whatever reason we will buy back your furniture at the price you paid for it or arrange shipping to your new destination. However, you will probably find your friends will be only to eager to take the furniture off your hands usually at a profit. How to find us? Take either Soi 88 carry on past The Hin Lek Fai Viewpoint up the mountain, or take the Pala-u Road. Both routes have Siam Old Teak signs all the way to our show house. Web: www.siamoldteak.com, E-mail: siam_oldteak@hotmail.com, Tel: 085-175 9662 (Eng) or 083-312 2116 (Eng). No new trees are felled to make our furniture. Choose eco-friendly furniture. Siam Old Teak, Furniture with a History, Reduce-Re-Use-Recycle.

If you wish to place a classified advert in AWOL, please fill in the details below. Rates are 20 baht for the first 10 words, and 15 baht for every 10 words after that (example; 40 words will cost 65 baht for one week). Cut out the coupon and deliver it with payment to either the Observer offices at 27/59 Bo Fai, Phetkasem Road, Hua Hin (opposite Hua Hin hospital), or to Noi at Sabai Bar, Soi Selekam by 6 pm on the Tuesday before the issue you want to be included in.
PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM IN BLOCK CAPITALS (continue on separate sheet if necessary)

NAME:		TEL. NO.		WEEKS	START DATE
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.**	AWOL code only:	

Your Problems SOLVED

Relationship hanging by a thread? Money troubles? Can't get on with your neighbours? Ask Mary Ann Cotton, AWOL's very own agony aunt.

■ Dear Mary,
MY husband moved out of the family house four months ago to live in his own apartment. He has grown a moustache and started wearing vest tops and a leather cap. He also wears tight leather shorts, motorcycle boots, and has starting hanging out with a group of men who wear Indian head-dresses, cowboy outfits, sailor uniforms or dress as construction workers or motorcycle cops. If he's not doing that he's dressing up as Judy Garland and going to sing-a-long showings of the Wizard of Oz. He's also started having bum sex with men. Is he gay? If so, can I claim on my insurance, I want a new patio?
Nicole, Nakhon Phatom.

Mary says: Dear Nicole,
Now let's not be too hasty. Most men of a certain age will move out of the family home and go and get an apartment with another man who likes dressing up in uniform. They will go out dancing until all hours in clubs and bars that are frequented by homosexuals and snort poppers and whirl around and then go home and have bum sex with similar men who have also left their wives and moved into their own apartments and started dressing up in uniforms. But that does not mean they are gay. And anyway, even if he is a pervert why should you worry? It is not as if he is still in your house and could get at you, or any of your neighbours, friends or associates is it? Most insurers will pay out for gayness these days but you will need to provide a bit more evidence than the vague hunches you have outlined so far. In the meantime could not your husband's new builder friend help out with the heavy lifting?

Dear Mary,
I have just embarked on an affair with a colleague at work. We meet everyday in the stationery cupboard for a Cup-a-Soup® and a quick knee trembler. After a while I became convinced that he was just using me for sex but now I am worried it is developing into more than just lust. Last time we met he threatened to tell my boyfriend that we were having an affair, unless I finished with the other man and spent more time with him. I am now worried that he might tell my husband about us too. To be honest I am not so bothered about that but if I have to go through a very public divorce it's bound to upset my lesbian girlfriend. I picked up a bloke in a nightclub last night to try and discuss the whole thing sensibly with him but just ended up having it off by the dustbins behind the club as usual and then going home on the bus. Do you think I should finish with my work colleague? I would miss the sex during the day.
Ashlee, Ayuthaya.

Mary says: Dear Ashlee,
As a professional Agony Aunt I am often confronted with situations that would strike the normal person as bizarre, if not downright perverse. So it's always nice to get to a relatively straightforward letter from someone like yourself. Of course you should not finish with your colleague, or not until you have found someone else anyway. No married woman I know goes a whole work day without dropping them for some stray bloke or other, why should you be any different? One thing does concern me about your letter. You say you have sex at work everyday and you have a husband, a boyfriend, a lesbian lover and you pick up men on the way home at night; yet you only have a Cup-a-Soup® at lunchtimes. I would have thought a Pot Noodle™ the absolute minimum. You don't want to end up wearing yourself out! Happy hunting.

English corner

Have you ever wondered where a certain phrase comes from, or what it really means? Every week we will expand your knowledge of English and its etymology with a different word or saying. This week it is...

Bob's your uncle

This catch phrase means all will be well or all will be taken care of. The origin is not known for certain, but popular etymology says that it derives from a particular act of nepotism in the British government. Robert, Lord Salisbury, the prime minister, appointed Arthur Balfour, his nephew, to the post of Secretary for Ireland in 1887. Balfour was, at the time, considered young and a political lightweight, and the post was a high profile, political plum currently embroiled in the question of Irish independence. Many experts don't feel the dates match with the first citation in the OED from 1937 though, so this may be another made up origin, although it would be nice if it were true. Others say the phrase may stem from the cant phrase All is bob, meaning all is safe.

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English Bull Terrier Puppies for sale. (All imported from Australian best champion lines) Our Kennel breeds for quality ,temperament, soundness, confirmation. We show our bull terriers at every show in Bangkok, winning every best of breed for 2007, 2008. We have beautifully breed puppies for sale

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081 7421987 Email: rick.j.1@bigpond.com

Do you want to go

AWOL

with us?

Send news, ideas, jokes, stories, pictures, letters and anything else to us and we will print them whenever possible. You can also tell us what you think of Hua Hin's first weekly English language publication, so send your email now to:

awol@observergroup.net

Hua Hin Bridge Club

The Hua Hin Bridge Club has been running for several years and has been a great success.
New players have joined and the number of tables had to be increased, which is clearly a good sign as to the future of bridge in Hua Hin.
Expert and novice players of all nationalities are welcome to the club based in soi 94.
Contact huahinbridgeclub@yahoo.se or 032 516 152
Play starts at 3pm each Sunday

Having a party?
Tell everyone about it in the AWOL Balloon Chasers Guide.
Contact:
awol@observergroup.net

LUCKY SHOT BAR
Hua Hin's only pool bar with 9' tables
SATURDAY DRINKS SPECIALS!!
Tequila, Sambuca & Sour Apple only 50 baht
B-52's only 100 baht
Contact Andy on 086 178 1550
27/3 Poolsuk Road, Hua Hin

Hua Hin Pool Leagues

Hua Hin Pool Billiard League
Results Matchday 2 3rd October 2008

Home	Racks	Pts	Away	Racks	Pts
LSA	15	5	SUG	12	3
TW	13	4	DA	15	4
CAP	7	2	LSB	17	6
LSS	19	7	JWR	9	1
QUE	15	4	LSL	11	4
DB	15	4	EAG	12	4
JWB	Play 9/10		OCT		
DIA	14	4	SIL	13	4

Next Weeks Fixtures
Matchday 3 10/10/2008
LS Ladies v LS A
LS Students v Dicks B
Octopussy v LS B
Dicks A v Diamond
Silverrock v Sugar Cane
JW B v Thaiwai
Captain's Inn v Eagle
Queen Flower v JW Red

League Table

Team	P	W	D	L	Diff	Racks	Pts
Lucky Shot Student's	4	4			18	27	8
Lucky Shot B	4	3	1		12	16	7
Johnie Walker Black	3	3			6	17	6
Dick's Office B	4	2	2		6	12	6
Queens Flower Bar	4	2	1	1	4	12	5
Lucky Shot A	4	2	1	1	2	10	5
Octopussy Bar	3	2		1	6	7	4
Eagle Bar	4	1	2	1	6	7	4
Thaiwai	4	1	1	2	-4	-8	3
Lucky Shot Ladies	4	1	1	2	-4	-11	3
Johnie Walker Red	4	1	1	2	-4	-12	3
Diamont Bar	4		2	2	-6	-12	2
Silverrock Bar	4		2	2	-8	-15	2
Sugar Cane Bar	4	1		3	-10	-10	2
Dick's Office A	4		1	3	-12	-14	1
Captain's Inn	4		1	3	-12	-26	1

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Web: www.siamoldteak.com
E-mail: siam_oldteak@hotmail.com

Tel: 085-175 9662 (Eng)
or 083-312 2116 (Eng)
No new trees are felled to make our furniture.
Choose eco-friendly furniture.
Siam Old Teak,
Furniture with a History,
Reduce-Re-Use-Recycle.

Hua Hin 8-Ball League
League Table

Team	P	W	D	L	Diff	Pts
Harley	8	6	1	1	22	13
SilverRock	8	6	1	1	12	13
SportCentre	8	5	2	1	20	12
DicksA	8	5	1	2	18	11
MrDanA	7	4	1	2	24	9
Komhom	8	4	1	3	14	9
Dolphin	8	4	1	3	-2	9
BenTho	8	3	1	4	0	7
Pheonix	8	2	4	2	-4	7
ButterflyRock	8	3	0	5	-8	6
MrDanB	7	1	1	5	-20	3
BambooGrove	7	1	1	5	-20	3
DicksB	7	1	1	5	-22	3
LilleMan	8	1	1	6	-38	3

Results Week 8
1st October 2008
Dicks B v BambooGr 0 - 0
MrDan B v SilverRock 2 - 10
Komhom v MrDan A 9 - 3
BenTho v LilleMan 10 - 2
Butt'flyRock v Dolphin 5 - 7
Pheonix v Dicks A 8 - 4
SportCentre v Harley 6 - 6

Week 9 results will be in next week's AWOL

Next Weeks Fixtures
Week 10 15th October 2008
Dicks B v LilleMan
MrDan B v Pheonix
Komhom v SilverRock
BenTho v Dicks A
ButterflyRock v BambooGrove
Harley v Dolphin
SportCentre v MrDan A

Can't see your local sports league in AWOL? Contact us with your details and we will try to make space for it. Just email to: awol@observergroup.net

Hua Hin Pool Leagues

Hua Hin Social Pool league
Results Week 7 8th October 2008
Lazy Daze v Butterfly Rock 14-5
PP v Jungle Juice A 10-9
Red Bar v Billys 12-7
Sabai v JW Black 10-9
JW Red v Headrock 9-10
Billys Babes v Limelight – Result not received
Jungle Juice B v U Turn – Result not received

Next Weeks Fixtures:
Week 8 – 15th October 2008
Butterfly Rock v U Turn
Limelight v Jungle Juice B
Headrock v Billys Babes
JW Black v JW Red
Billys v Sabai
Jungle Juice A v Red Bar
Lazy Daze v PP

Current League Standings

Team	P	W	L	PF-PA	Pts
PP	7	7	0	79-54	14
Jungle Juice A	7	6	1	75-58	12
Billys Babes	6	5	1	64-50	10
Lazy Daze	7	4	3	72-59	8
J.W. Black	7	4	3	70-63	8
Red Bar	7	4	3	70-59	8
Jungle Juice B	6	4	2	62-50	8
Sabai	6	4	2	59-55	8
Headrock	7	2	5	59-74	4
Billys	7	2	5	57-78	4
U Turn	5	1	4	40-51	2
J.W. Red	5	1	4	35-48	2
Butterfly Rock	6	0	6	48-67	0
Limelight	5	0	5	30-56	0

Hua Hin Darts Leagues

Bentho Sport Bar can no longer field a team so has withdrawn from the league. All results have been reversed out of the tables.

Results Week 7
Division 1
Scandic Bar v Dicks Office B 4-6
JW Black v JW Red 8-2
Pink Flam v Oasis – Not Played
CAT v Lazy Daze – not received

Division 2
CAT B v Lucky Shot 9-1
Good Friends v Mojo 2-8
Dicks Office A v Love Bar 7-3
Butt'fly Rock v Bamboo Grove 5-5

Next Weeks Fixtures:
Week 8 - 14/10/2008
Division 1
Lazy Daze v No Game
Oasis v CAT
J.W. Red v Pink Flamingo
Dicks Office B v J.W. Black
Paradise Bar v Scandic Bar
Division 2
Bamboo Grove v CAT B
Love Bar v Butterfly Rock
Mojo v Dicks Office A
Jaew v Good Friends
Lucky Shot v No Game

Division 1

Team	P	W	D	L	PF-PA	Pts
Scandic	6	4	1	1	43-17	9
JW Blk	5	4	0	1	35-15	8
P'dise	5	4	0	1	32-18	8
CAT	4	3	1	0	25-15	7
Oasis	5	2	0	3	20-30	4
Lazy D	5	1	1	3	19-31	3
Dicks B	5	1	0	4	19-31	2
JW Red	5	1	0	4	17-33	2
Pink Fl	4	0	1	3	10-30	1

Division 2

Team	P	W	D	L	PF-PA	Pts
CAT B	6	6	0	0	49-11	12
B Rock	5	3	1	1	28-22	7
Mojo	5	3	0	2	29-21	6
L Shot	6	3	0	3	27-33	6
Dicks A	5	3	0	2	27-23	6
Jaew	5	3	0	2	26-24	6
B Grve	5	1	1	3	22-28	3
Good F	6	1	0	5	19-41	2
Love	5	0	0	5	13-37	0

Top 16 standings:
Top 10 -Div 1

Name	Bar	Pts
Stuart	P	104
Golf	SB	76
Mark	O	69
Rune	SB	66
Tao	JWB	51
Dicky	JWB	50
Peter	JWB	46
Martin	LD	44
Jason	CAT	43
Peter	PF	42

Top 6 - Div 2

Name	Bar	Pts
Eero	BR	88
Tao	CAT	74
Howard	M	60
Don	CAT	63
Muay	JB	59
Mojo	M	50

Updated Division 1 individuals not available at press time.

All the pool & darts players read this page! Advertise your business here from only 200 baht per week.
Contact 032 547450

Balloon Chasers Guide

Welcome to the most vital guide around! All the parties, celebrations and balloons you could want (along with some booze and food of course!) Tell AWOL about your event by the Thursday before and we will include it here...send us some photos afterwards and we will do our utmost to publish them; email anything to awol@observergroup.net or contact our representative Noi at Sabai Bar (Tel: 086-174+6165).

Friday 17th October 7pm start - Quiz Night at Ye Olde Buffalo Tavern (see advert in this issue)

Regular Events

Tuesdays - Darts League (various venues, see previous page, free food for players)

Wednesdays - Pool Leagues (various venues, see previous page, free food for players)

Fridays - Pool League (various venues, see previous page, free food for players);

- Bar-B-Q party every week at Le Velo Rouge, Khao Takiab

Staff and customers at Le Velo Rouge in Khao Takiab enjoy both the Bar-B-Q party and the launch of AWOL last Friday (above and below)

Hua Hin Golf Society

The Annual Newsletter is available at Bernys, ask Berny for your copy.

This week's results:

7th October - Black Mountain 39 entrants 2 Groups

Group 'A' - 0-15 hcp - Stableford

1st Tim Noak 38 pts 9 hcp. 2nd Trevor Firth 37 pts 14 hcp.

3rd Harri (g) 36 pts 12 hcp. 4th Jari (g) 35 pts 15 hcp.

5th Timo Ripati 33 pts 8 hcp. 6th Fritz Schroeder 33 pts 7 hcp.

Group 'B' - 16-36 hcp - Stableford

1st John Morgan 40 pts 21 hcp. 2nd Kiaran Savage (g) 36 pts 19 hcp, 3rd Alan Rawson 33 pts 16 hcp. 4th Han Hackvoort 31 pts 20 hcp, 5th Terry Burge 30 pts 16 hcp. 6th Esa (g) 29 pts 18 hcp.

Nearest the Pin No. 3 Fritz Schroeder No. 11 Jari (g)

3rd October- Majestic Creek Stableford 23 Entrants

1st Bernard Van Amelsvoort 40 pts 19 hcp. 2nd Judith Thomson 38 pts 36 hcp, 3rd Nitha 38 pts 15 hcp. 4th Wij 37 pts 12 hcp.

5th Calum McDonald 35 pts 11 hcp. 6th Kevin Milke 34 pts **14** hcp.

Nearest the Pin No. 6 Bernard Van Amelsvoort, No. 17 Kari Matti

Next week's fixtures:

Tuesday 14th Banyan

Friday 17th Majestic Creek - 1st / Prel Round Annual Matchplay

Butterfly Rock Golf

This week's results:

Oct 3rd - Palm Hills (Robin's Roll Up)

Stableford - 20 players

Front 9 - Jon Balion, Mick Henry - 20 pts

Back 9 - Alan Rawson, Phil Simons -19 Pts

Overall - Jon Balion, Phil Simons - 37 pts.

Oct 6th - Lakeview A & B

Stableford - 23 players

1st - Gwynne Williams - 40pts, 2nd - David Rawlings - 36pts, 3rd - Tony Hallam - 34pts, 4th - Alan Rawson - 34pts

Oct 8th - Black Mountain - Medal *results not available at press time*

Forthcoming Fixtures

Monday 13 - 17th October Away Trip to Kanchanaburi

Scoreboard

(EPL unless stated)

Saturday, 4 October 2008

Blackburn 0-2 Man Utd

Sunderland 1-1 Arsenal

West Brom 1-0 Fulham

Wigan 0-1 Middlesbrough

Sunday, 5 October 2008

Chelsea 2-0 Aston Villa

Everton 2-2 Newcastle

Man City 2-3 Liverpool

Portsmouth 2-1 Stoke

Tottenham 0-1 Hull

West Ham 1-3 Bolton

EUROPEAN WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS

Fixtures and Tables

(All times Thailand; group numbers in brackets)

Saturday, 11 October 2008
England v Kazakhstan (6) 23:15
Faroe Islands v Austria (7) 22:00
Finland v Azerbaijan (4) 21:00
Georgia v Cyprus (8)
Scotland v Norway (9) 21:00
Switzerland v Latvia (2) 22:45
Wales v Liechtenstein (4) 23:30

Sunday, 12 October 2008
Belgium v Armenia (5) 01:45
Bulgaria v Italy (8) 01:15
Denmark v Malta (1) 01:15
Estonia v Spain (5) 01:45
Germany v Russia (4) 01:45
Greece v Moldova (2) 01:30
Holland v Iceland (9) 01:45
Hungary v Albania (1) 00:45
Luxembourg v Israel (2) 01:15
Poland v Czech Republic (3) 01:30
Romania v France (7) 00:15
San Marino v Slovakia (3) 01:30
Serbia v Lithuania (7) 01:15
Slovenia v N. Ireland (3) 01:45
Sweden v Portugal (1) 01:00
Turkey v Bosnia-Herz (5) 01:00
Ukraine v Croatia (6) 02:00

Wednesday, 15 October 2008
Latvia v Israel (2) 23:00
Lithuania v Faroe Is. (7) 23:00
Russia v Finland (4) 22:00

Thursday, 16 October 2008
Austria v Serbia (7) 01:30
Belarus v England (6)
Belgium v Spain (5) 01:45
Bosnia-Herz v Armenia (5) 01:15
Croatia v Andorra (6) 01:15
Czech Republic v Slovenia (3)
Estonia v Turkey (5) 01:30
Georgia v Bulgaria (8)
Germany v Wales (4) 01:45
Greece v Switzerland (2) 01:30
Iceland v Macedonia (9) 01:00
Italy v Montenegro (8)
Luxembourg v Moldova (2) 01:15
Malta v Hungary (1) 00:30
N. Ireland v San Marino (3) 01:45
Norway v Holland (9) 00:00
Portugal v Albania (1) 03:00
Rep of Ireland v Cyprus (8) 01:45
Slovakia v Poland (3) 01:15

Group One Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Albania	2	1	1	0	3	0	4
Sweden	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Denmark	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
Portugal	2	1	0	1	6	3	3
Hungary	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Malta	2	0	0	2	0	7	0

Group Two Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Greece	2	2	0	0	5	0	6
Israel	2	1	1	0	4	3	4
Latvia	2	1	0	1	2	4	3
Lux'bourg	2	1	0	1	2	4	3
Switz'land	2	0	1	1	3	4	1
Moldova	2	0	0	2	2	4	0

Group Three Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Poland	2	1	1	0	3	1	4
Slovenia	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
Slovakia	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
Czech Rep	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
N Ireland	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
S Marino	1	0	0	1	0	2	0

Group Four Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Germany	2	1	1	0	9	3	4
Russia	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Wales	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
A'baijan	2	0	1	1	0	1	1
Lie'stein	2	0	1	1	0	6	1
Finland	1	0	1	0	3	3	1

Group Five Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Spain	2	2	0	0	5	0	6
Turkey	2	1	1	0	3	1	4
Belgium	2	1	1	0	4	3	4
Bosnia-H	2	1	0	1	7	1	3
Armenia	2	0	0	2	0	6	0
Estonia	2	0	0	2	2	10	0

Group Six Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
England	2	2	0	0	6	1	6
Ukraine	2	2	0	0	4	1	6
Croatia	2	1	0	1	4	4	3
Belarus	2	1	0	1	3	2	3
Kaz'stan	3	1	0	2	4	6	3
Andorra	3	0	0	3	1	8	0

Group Seven Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Lithuania	2	2	0	0	5	0	6
Austria	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
France	2	1	0	1	3	4	3
Serbia	2	1	0	1	3	2	3
Romania	2	1	0	1	1	3	3
Faroe Is	2	0	0	2	0	3	0

Group Eight Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Italy	2	2	0	0	4	1	6
Rep Ireld	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Mont'gro	2	0	2	0	2	2	2
Bulgaria	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Cyprus	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Georgia	2	0	0	2	1	4	0

Group Nine Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Neth'lands	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Macedonia	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Scotland	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Norway	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Iceland	2	0	1	1	3	4	1

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CAPELLO PICKS GERRARD...

TO MISS CRUCIAL WORLD CUP PENALTY

■ FABIO Capello has picked Steven Gerrard as the man who will miss England's crucial World Cup semi-final penalty in 2010.

Setting out his targets for the next four years, the England coach said despite a series of poor performances, his team will fluke its way to a heartbreaking semi-final, filled with missed chances and nail-biting extra time, before ending in a calamitous penalty shoot-out.

He added: "I know these players have the right mix of high salaries and grinding mediocrity to create a very real sense of false hope.

"When I took this job I knew I would be expected to not only take them to a World Cup semi-final, but to ensure they lost that semi-final in the most catastrophic way imaginable.

Gerrard practicing penalties

"I am certain that Steven Gerrard is the right man to instil confidence before sending the ball high into the stands."

Capello has also singled out the normally mild mannered Owen Hargreaves to lose his cool when England are 1-0 up in a tense quarter-final against Holland.

"The England fans just love it when a key player is sent off in the second last minute of extra-time in a crucial game against incredibly tough opposition."

FA chairman Lord Triesman said: "Some may say that it's wrong to set targets in this way.

"But I think England fans deserve an unbearable penalty shoot-out where Steven Gerrard - the sort of player you can absolutely rely on in these situations - balloons it over the bar like a total arse.

"Let's just hope it's against Germany."

NIGERIAN HELL-HOLE SAFER THAN PARKHEAD, SAY COMMONWEALTH GAMES ORGANISERS

■ THE Commonwealth Games committee has given an early boost to the Nigerian city of Abuja in its contest with Glasgow to host the 2012 event.

Officials say poverty stricken Abuja, with its poor sanitation and life expectancy of 23, is "significantly safer and more pleasant" than the Parkhead and Dalmarnock areas central to the Glasgow bid.

Committee member Denys Hatton said: "As I walked round the streets of Abuja I had the strong sense of a brave, resilient community overcoming adversity and seeking a brighter tomorrow.

"As I walked round the streets of Parkhead someone threatened to drug me and sell my kidneys."

A Glasgow city council spokesman said: "It's a shame that Mr Hatton has taken this threat to his kidneys so seriously.

"He's obviously suffered a sense of humour failure. Perhaps we should all club together and buy him a humour dialysis machine."

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