AWOL

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

☞ ICELAND EXPOSED
☞ NEW MEN REVOLTING
☞ CROP CIRCLES
☞ LOCAL SPORTS
☞ ENGLISH CORNER

24 October 08
FREE

Trucking Hell!

Town centre power lines put at risk by bizarre accident

■HUA HIN, THAILAND

A dozy tipper truck driver nearly plunged the town into yet another power cut on Monday while delivering building materials to a construction site on Phetkasem Road. Power lines were stretched to their limit, and a temporary supporting pylon was bent over as the daffy driver entangled the back tipping section of his truck with the power cables.

The truck had just been delivering sand and other loose materials to the site, where a new condominium block is being built. A common way the drivers operate is to reverse into position, tip the back to start delivering the materials onto the ground, and then edge forward to shake the remaining material out. Unfortunately for this Thai Frank Spencer, he did not look up and spot the cables above the truck, and he drove forward just a little too far and the cables hooked under the already tipped up rear flatbed.

Still not realising the predicament he was getting into, and presumably unaware of anyone shouting at him to stop, he then exacerbated the problem by, yes, you guessed it, trying to bring the rear bed down to the base of the truck again! As can be seen by the photograph, this had the calamitous effect of not lowering the bed to the truck, but RAISING the truck cab up to the tipper bed! With the power cables straining, and the metal pylon bending, the obvious course of action would be to reverse the process, but it is apparent that the effort of raising the cab rather than lowering the bed, broke the mechanism to do so.

Now with the hapless driver stranded in his cab 15 feet in the air, and the power cables and pylon only just holding on, quick thinking construction workers raced in

Story continues on pg. 2

I'd Love a Bacon Sandwich
032 513 144

Trucking Hell!

Continued from page 1

and rammed steel and wooden poles under the truck to support it and prevent disaster.

The work on the condominium building slowed to a crawl as access to and from the site was blocked by the hanging truck.

Passers by looked on in disbelief at the scene, and one quick thinking expat took photos which were quickly posted on the town's premier internet forum Hua Hin After Dark. Comments by posters on there ranged from the incredulous to the analytical but all were wondering how it happened and how it would be sorted out.

AWOL would like to thank both HHAD and Paul for the use of the photographs.

A closer view shows the tottering pylon (left) and stretched cables

COUNCILS INVESTED £1BN IN TINY VOLCANO SURROUNDED BY FISH

■LONDON, ENGLAND

LOCAL authorities across the UK were yesterday stunned to discover that Iceland is nothing more than a volcano surrounded by two million haddock.

As the volcano's banks refused to pay out, councils said they were convinced Iceland was a small, landlocked country next to Belgium with a long history of expert financial management.

But after 15 minutes on the internet they confirmed it was nothing more than a slab of stinking lava populated by a handful of wilfully eccentric musicians and half a dozen heavily bearded trawler captains.

Julian Cook, director of finance at the Local Government Association, said: "I meant Luxembourg – D'oh!

"I suppose the haddock-shaped piece of lava with every new account was probably a clue."

Mr Cook is now demanding £1bn of taxpayers' money in compensation for losing £1bn of taxpayers' money.

He added: "When the taxpayer is exposed in this way it is only right that central government should step in with its own funds, wherever they come from."

But the Treasury has so far refused, criticising the councils for investing huge amounts of public money in badly run banks.

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

BLOW THAT, SAY NEW MEN

■ ENGLAND

NEW men last night said blow this for game of soldiers and ordered their wives to make the bloody tea.

As research suggests sexist men earn significantly higher salaries, Tom Logan, a new man from Oxford, said: "This has been a complete waste of time."

The study found that men who treat women as equals and can name all the actors on Grey's Anatomy can expect to earn no more than £22,500 a year.

Grey's Anatomy will be losing a few viewers it seems

Meanwhile, at the other end of scale, bearded, olive-skinned men in long white robes who treat women like pack animals, often earn up to £20 million a week and have a Bentley for each of their race horses.

Mr Logan added: "I started doing this at university because I was given a cast-iron guarantee I would get a lot of fanny.

"I learned how to make flaky pastry, I got a cat and I cried my eyes out at Schindler's List. And what did I get in return? A long list of 'friends' who think I'm a poof.

The stunning Debora Salvalaggio will have to make the tea from now on according to recent research

Meanwhile I've not had a promotion since 1996, I live in a one bedroom flat which is basically the cat's, and this year I went on holiday to Bath.

First thing tomorrow I am walking straight up to our office manager and telling her she's got a phenomenal arse and that I would very much like to cover it in jam.

And that damn cat's going in the bin."

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Local Weather

Hua Hin weather forecast next 7 days

Day	Conditions	Temp °C Low	High
Sat	Mostly cloudy with a t-storm	24	31
Sun	Cloudy humid; p.m. t-storms	25	30
Mon	Cloudy; humid with t-storms	25	28
Tues	Overcast t-storms; humid	24	30
Wed	Cloudy thunderstorms; humid	26	30
Thur	Cloudy thunderstorms; humid	26	30
Fri	Cloudy thunderstorms; humid	25	29

World Weather

Forecast for Friday 24th October 2008

City	Min °C	Max	Conditions
Amsterdam	3	13	Cloudy
Athens	12	21	Cloudy
Auckland	14	18	Rain
Beijing	8	14	Fine
Berlin	4	12	Cloudy
Buenos Aires	12	24	Fine
Chicago	6	14	Cloudy
Copenhagen	4	11	Showers
Dubai	24	35	Clear
Dublin	4	15	Rain
Geneva	8	12	Cloudy
Helsinki	7	12	Partly Cloudy
Ho Chi Minh	23	34	Thunderstorms
Hong Kong	23	30	Partly Cloudy
Islamabad	14	30	Haze
Jakarta	25	34	Rain
Jerusalem	15	22	Rain
Johannesburg	15	22	Showers
Kuala Lumpur	24	33	Thunderstorms
London	12	13	Rain
Madrid	7	15	Rain
Manila	23	34	Showers
Mexico City	7	25	Fine
Moscow	7	11	Fine
New Delhi	17	33	Fine
New York	6	13	Fine
Oslo	8	12	Rain
Paris	5	14	Overcast
Perth	10	23	Clear
Phnom-Penh	25	32	Partly Cloudy
Rio De Janeiro	20	30	Cloudy
Riyadh	21	27	Clear
Rome	14	24	Cloudy
San Francisco	11	29	Fine
Singapore	24	32	Thunderstorms
Stockholm	8	10	Rain
Sydney	10	23	Fine
Tokyo	18	23	Rain
Vientiane	25	32	Partly Cloudy
Yangon	23	35	Partly Cloudy
Zurich	5	11	Rain

Currency Exchange Rates

At 23rd October 2008 (mid-market rates)

Code	Currency	Value (Baht)
USD	United States Dollar	34.3418
GBP	Pound Sterling	56.2177
EUR	Euro	44.1053
JPY	Japanese Yen	0.344625
MYR	Malaysian Ringgit	9.70252
SGD	Singapore Dollar	22.9653
BND	Brunei Dollar	22.9653
CNY	Chinese Yuan	5.02525
IDR	Indonesian Rupiah	0.00347592
INR	Indian Rupee	0.696734
KRW	Korean Won	0.0259401
AUD	Australian Dollar	22.8786
NZD	New Zealand Dollar	20.9521
CHF	Swiss Franc	29.4759
DKK	Danish Krone	5.91747
NOK	Norwegian Krone	4.89328
SEK	Swedish Krona	4.36506
CAD	Canadian Dollar	27.4755
AED	UAE Dirham	9.35113
BHD	Bahrain Dinar	91.3325
KWD	Kuwaiti Dinar	128.189
OMR	Omani Rial	89.3176
QAR	Qatar Riyal	9.43467

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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

‘ENTIRE LIFE’ SOLD FOR TWO MILLION BAHT

■HUA HIN,THAILAND

A Briton living in Thailand has agreed a bid of more than 2,000,000 Thai baht after putting his “entire life” up for sale following a split from his wife.

Dave Ratsenga, 57, who left Cardiff sixteen years ago, included his house, motorbike, job and friends in the online eBay auction, in an effort to make a fresh start.

The lot attracted a peak offer of 2,180,000 Thai baht (£36,333) when bids closed early on Sunday. Despite expecting higher bids, Mr Ratsenga said he had “no regrets”.

At one point offers on the “life lot” rocketed to over ten million Thai baht (£166,666) within hours of the sale’s start last Sunday.

However, Mr Ratsenga and eBay were forced to introduce a registration system to weed out what were revealed as hoax bids, many of which were from the area where he now lives in Thailand.

Up for auction was his three-bedroom home, in the resort town of Hua Hin, and everything inside it, including his Honda motorcycle, computer and collection of old army boots.

Part of the army boot collection

He also sold an introduction to his friends and membership to a local golf course. He said that he got the idea after reading the popular local internet forum Hua Hin After Dark, when one of the members told him to ‘get a life’.

After the auction closed Mr Ratsenga said: “I am relatively pleased but I thought it would go a bit higher, if I’m honest.

“But I’ve no regrets. What’s done is done and I’m looking forward to sorting this all out.”

Mr Ratsenga said he would not reveal the identity of the buyer before he had made a telephone call to him.

He added: “It was open season for 18 hours or so and people got a bit over-excited. I was a bit disappointed by the fake bidding, but it didn’t surprise me.”

Mr Ratsenga decided to cut ties with his current life after realising almost everything reminded him of his relationship with his wife of five years.

He said: “I’ve got some ideas. Once it’s finished and confirmed, I’d like to do some travelling. I’d like to go to the top of the Eiffel Tower, as well as study psychology and psychiatry. My Dad always said he’d like one of his kids to get an ‘ology, just like the old BT ad with Maureen Lipman.”

Disclaimer

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Quiz night capers!

The pub quiz held last Friday at Buffalo Bills was a great success with the place full to bursting! Quizmaster Chris (pictured centre) did a sterling job without the aid of a mike, although a new quizmistress emerged, Liz, for future events. Another one is planned in the next couple of weeks - details to follow in AWOL and on Hua Hin After Dark.

Area 555

THE JEWISH SAMURAI

THERE ONCE was a powerful Japanese emperor who needed a new chief Samurai. So he sent out a declaration throughout the entire known world that he was searching for a chief.
A year passed, and only three people applied for the very demanding position: a Japanese samurai, a Chinese samurai, and a Jewish samurai.
The emperor asked the Japanese samurai to come in and demonstrate why he should be the chief samurai.
The Japanese samurai opened a matchbox, and out popped a bumblebee. Whoosh! He swung his sword. The bumblebee dropped dead, chopped in half
The emperor exclaimed, "That is very impressive!"
The emperor then issued the same challenge to the Chinese samurai. The Chinese warrior also opened a matchbox and out buzzed a fly. Whoosh, whoosh, whoosh, whoosh! The fly dropped dead, chopped into four small pieces. The emperor exclaimed, "That is very impressive!"
Now the emperor turned to the Jewish samurai, and asked him to demonstrate why he should be the chief samurai. The Jewish Samurai opened a matchbox, and out flew a gnat. His flashing sword went
Whoosh! But the gnat was still alive and flying around.
The emperor, obviously disappointed, said, "Very ambitious, but why is that gnat not dead?"
The Jewish Samurai just smiled and said, "Circumcision is not meant to kill."

GAY STRIPPER

Four friends, who hadn't seen each other in 30 years, reunited at a party. After several drinks, one of the men had to use the rest room. Those who remained talked about their kids.
The first guy said, 'My son is my pride and joy. He started working at a successful company at the bottom of the barrel. He studied Economics and Business Administration and soon began to climb the corporate ladder and now he's the president of the company. He became so rich that he gave his best friend a top of the line Mercedes for his birthday.'
The second guy said, 'Darn, that's terrific! My son is also my pride and joy. He started working for a big airline, then went to flight school to become a pilot. Eventually he became a partner in the company, where he owns the majority of its assets. He's so rich that he gave his best friend a brand new jet for his birthday.'
The third man said: 'Well, that's terrific! My son studied in the best universities and became an engineer. Then he started his own construction company and is now a multimillionaire. He also gave away something very nice and expensive to his best friend for his birthday: A 30,000 square foot mansion.'
The three friends congratulated each other just as the fourth returned from the restroom and asked: 'What are all the congratulations for?'
One of the three said: 'We were talking about the pride we feel for the successes of our sons. ...What about your son?'
The fourth man replied: 'My son is gay and makes a living dancing as a stripper at a nightclub.'
The three friends said: 'What a shame... What a disappointment.'
The fourth man replied: 'No, I'm not ashamed. He's my son and I love him. And he hasn't done too bad either. His birthday was two weeks ago, and he received a beautiful 30,000 square foot mansion, a brand new jet and a top of the line Mercedes from his three boyfriends.'

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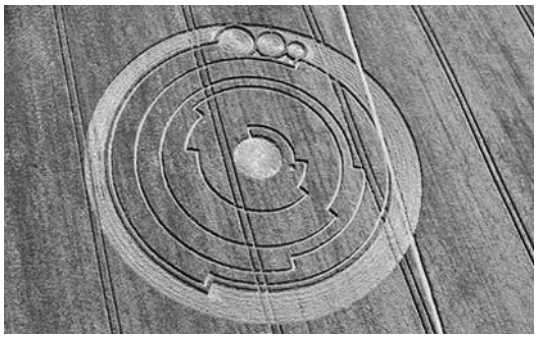
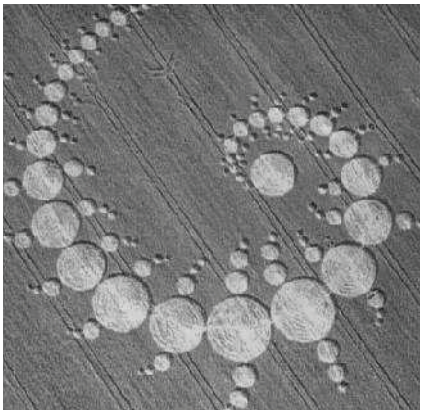
Crop circles reach Thailand!

■PRACHUABKHIRIKHAN,THAILAND
A very complex, "mind-boggling" crop circle has been discovered in a rice field in Prachuabkhirikhan province. The circle is a coded representation of pi to the 10th significant figure
The formation, measuring 150ft in diameter, is apparently a coded image representing the first 10 digits, 3.141592654, of pi.
It is has appeared in a field near Hua Hin, we cannot give the exact location as the farmer is worried about his rice crop being trampled by onlookers, the circle has been described by astrophysicists as "mind-boggling".



Above: the Prachuabkhirikhan pi symbol

Below: The Julia Set in Wiltshire



Martin Swift, an astrophysicist, said: "The tenth digit has even been correctly rounded up. The little dot near the centre is the decimal point. The code is based on 10 angular segments with the radial jumps being the indicator of each segment. Starting at the centre and counting the number of one-tenth segments in each section contained by the change in radius clearly shows the values of the first 10 digits in the value of pi."
Kevin Milke, a researcher of crop formations, said: "This is an astounding development - it is a seminal event."
Mathematics codes and geometric patterns have long been an important factor in crop circle formations. One of the best known formations showed the image of a highly complex set of shapes known as The Julia Set, 12 years ago, near the ancient Stonehenge in Wiltshire, England.

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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.

Could you be an estate agent?

Semi retirement to a place like Hua Hin can be really easy, just open a bar, or as many people are now doing – get into real estate – What could be easier? Well the government is talking about making real estate brokers sit an exam before they are allowed to open an office. We offer a tongue-in-cheek test. See if you would get your foot in the door

1. The miniscule condo you are trying to sell is dank and box-like. How should you describe it in your agency window?
a "A charming garden flat."
b "A characterful bunker with Tardis-like properties."
c "Would suit a contortionist or keen mushroom-grower."

2. You are trying to shift a property that's under a flight path and next to the site of a proposed new runway. How do you sell it to your clients?
a "Previous residents say if you put your fingers in your ears, you'll scarcely notice the noise."
b "It's great for kids - when the walls rattle, it feels like you're on a theme park ride."
c "There's a lovely sense of community, what with the protest marches and demonstrations."

3. While showing prospective buyers around the kitchen, you hear the neighbours having a row and throwing crockery at one another. Do you:
a Excuse yourself and slip the rowing couple a purple one to keep things down?
b Say the couple will be moving soon, forced out by complaints from other households.
c Suggest insulating the wall cavities. "It's environmentally friendly, isn't it?"

4. There is a pungent smell of Som Tam from the curry house below. Do you:
a Suggest that the area benefits from a wide range of ethnically diverse eateries and amenities.
b Hastily close the windows and assure the couple that it goes away when the wind's in the right direction.
c Laugh heartily and say: "At least there'll be no delivery charge."

5. When your buyers inquire about the vast patch of rising damp, do you:
a Explain this is a rare opportunity to purchase a genuine Rama IV property with all period features intact.
b Insist that it's just a marbled paint effect.
c Draw the curtains and assure them that it'll only notice during infrequent moments of broad daylight.

6. When your buyers spot that there is no bath - and no room to put one in - do you:
a Remind them that a five-minute shower uses up around half the water of a full bath, and that a shower adds to the property's green credentials.
b Sit fully clothed in the shower cubicle and demonstrate your "squatting-while-bathing" routine.
c Say: "Baths are what going back to your mum's house is for."

7. Your clients notice that the house next door is covered in police tape. How should you react?
a "The response times around here really are rapid."
b "Aah, poor woman. Had a nasty fall and the emergency services had to smash open the door."
c Point in the other direction and shout: "Look, Tata Young!"

8. Midway through the tour, the power goes out. Do you say:
a "I've got a torch in the car."
b "That's the trouble with copper wiring - it's not good in the damp…"
c "Look on the bright side - you can see the street lights through the holes in the walls…"

9. While showing people around upstairs, you find a pair of dirty socks in a corner of the bedroom. Do you:
a Try to pick them up without the visitors noticing.
b Explain that the occupiers are such busy high-fliers that they simply don't have time to worry about trivial matters like tidying up.
c Say you'll have the cleaner fired.

10. Having told the prospective tenants that the area is a peaceful one, a noisy train careers past the back garden at full speed. Do you:
a Explain that the double-glazed windows will cut the sound out once indoors.
b Smile and pretend you didn't hear or see anything.
c Suggest that it only adds to the enviably edgy ambience.

HOW DID YOU SCORE?
Mostly As: You'll make a good entry-level estate agent, but to earn more commission you'll have to toughen up.
Mostly Bs: There's a flash of cool steel at your core. We'll make a ruthless seller of you yet.
Mostly Cs: You are the biggest meanie since Genghis Khan. Do you already work in the trade?

Your STARS with Destiny Dan

Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19
Sieving, draining and stirring are your preferred kitchen based activities this week. Not keen on spending time in the kitchen? Well, Jupiter is adamant that you bake something, even if it is only muffins, so any attempts to restrain yourself is futile.
Tree planting, especially the ceremonial sort, is also well starred. Are you sure you haven't stood for public office? Your star chart definitely seems to suggest that you have.
Your fears for life after death will be dealt a welcome boost around the 29th when a goldfish, hamster or smallish family member seems to die but comes back to life again.

Aquarius Jan 20 - Feb 17
Ghosts, violent temperature changes in rooms, spontaneous human combustion, things disappearing and reappearing, things levitating, and electrical equipment acting sporadically, are all in your charts this month. You are about to go on a life changing, supernatural month, or maybe just watch that Poltergeist film again on TV.
Enjoy sleep in all of its forms this month, from quick cat naps to lay-in to 3 in the afternoon sleep festivals.
Destiny indicates a rough moment or two involving goats that have not been milked for a week.

Pisces Feb 18 - Mar 19
Visualization techniques are a good way to prepare for most verbal confrontations that you are likely to be faced with this week. That said, there is a danger that your overanalysis of situations, when coupled with your typically slow Pisces intellect, might lead to confusion in your argument if your visualization techniques haven't completely finished before the real confrontation occurs...
...the only advice the planets have to give you, is 'good luck', and 'when does the show start?'
Extreme cases of argument preparation may even make you talk to yourself, or at least mouth the words and act "all weird like" to passers by or other people sitting next to you on buses or trains. 75% of all strange people will be Pisceans this week.

Aries Mar 20 - Apr 19
This week you will be driving your car on a brightly lit highway and, all of a sudden, the roadside lights will go out. You will be left at the mercy of the lights on your own car to guide you safely to your destination, in what is intended by Jupiter to be both a profoundly philosophical and completely inconvenient intervention. Folk singers will be inspired to base new albums on this blackout incident, but you will simply distrust public utilities with a new, spitty, venom.
Neptune is also plotting. You are at a 34.657% chance of electrical problems in your home as a Neptunian Moon attempts to attack you with an electrical calamity of medium potential. Go nowhere without a torch and a flask filled no higher than the maximum level of a hot beverage of your choice.

Taurus Apr 20 - May 19
Your ability to make things move with your mind will grow strongly this week, at first this new power will be unbeknownst to you. You will make things fall off shelves, off seats in cars that drive past you, in offices adjacent to you. This will flummox those around you and is being caused by the rarest conjunction ever seen in astrology and involves planets being in a particular arrangement that has never happened before in the last 10,000 years.
A rain shower after 5pm on the 28th should be openly laughed at at length.

Gemini May 20 - Jun 20
Your luck will be in this week as Jupiter noose-whips Pluto on it's gander phase. Put simply, this means your life will be filled to the brim with Chippendale-type strippers keen to do your bidding, either in the sexual or home furnishings sense.
Trips to feed the ducks in a public park are well starred, especially with white bread 4 days past its sell-by date. Break bread into small bite-sized pieces and throw liberally into the water around the birds BUT NOT on to the duck's heads, which is a typically Gemini tendency.

Cha Am Hash House Harriers

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Cancer Jun 21 - Jul 21
You are about to experience a feeling of "crazy power" this week and you will be judged on how well you handle this.
Minefields, shark infested waters and tea parties for the over 70's are areas in which your luck is favourable - as long as you don't push your luck to the 'nth degree'. Your chart does not say what the nth degree actually is, sorry, but we would probably suggest to avoid people with the letter n in their names to be on the safe side.
A complete misunderstanding involving a plate of potatoes and a miniature New York Skyscraper are set to take on comedy slapstick proportions not seen since the golden age of black and white sitcoms of the 1950's. Ensure your political correctness is in check at all times, especially when demanding that your woman does housework or needlecraft.

Leo Jul 22 - Aug 22
You can sometimes scare people with your special powers and you must learn to control this.
Not that you have any special powers, it's just that the people you scare are very gullible. Try not to make quick stabbing motions with your arms especially with your fingers pointing outwards as you may cause panic until well after the 27th.
Take care during moments of 'no moon'. Much is made in the runes about the influence of the moon on people's temperament, but this month 'no moon' is likely to affect you in strange and beguiling ways.

Virgo Aug 23 - Sept 21
A large hat will remind you of times past and will start you on an adventure of discovery that may not end until well into the New Year, 2010.
For those Virgo men who still have all their own hair, there is the risk that, on the 26th, or possibly early on the 27th, a bald patch is discovered.
You will become concerned with a liberal idea that comes into your head around the 27th. The way you deal with this thought will depend on a citrus-fruit based prejudice gained in your youth.
Mauve is your favoured colour, especially when seen in a cape.

Libra Sept 22 - Oct 22
Fancy dress costumes, particularly involving any rescue services that use ladders, are set to make this week zing with excitement. You will be tempted to wear your costume out of the house, so expect uniform related inquiries to pepper your walking down the High Street, or when browsing for stuff in Malls, especially after dusk or during times of public panic.
Your typically undecided Libran persona will make a trip to a restaurant a much longer experience than would normally be expected. Try to brush up on your Italian before trying to order from an Italian menu, and never believe a word the waiter is saying.
You will only be happy during hot baths or lukewarm showers until well into November.

Scorpio Oct 23 - Nov 21
You will be affected by a high-finance arbitrage swap-trade involving sheep and corn this week which will prove either highly lucrative or hellishly noisy. Take care to eat up all your greens.
A man in a kaftan will offer you some advice which may ultimately lead to you buying a red T-shirt.
Beware the sound: drip drip drip until dusk on the 29th.
Distrust any person who shakes your hand with a view to winning your vote in any election this month.

Sagittarius Nov 22 - Dec 21
It's like you have been jogging up and down on this piece of ground for ages, never making any progress - you are starting to feel disheartened, disheveled, in need of a good hard frisking (in the airport security sense)...
Cakes and sweet fizzy drinks are set to make this week zing with sugar-fueled opportunity. This could involve a small furry animal, or it could be a stuffed toy, your chart is a bit vague.
Beware red, orange and yellow cars, but embrace blue cars in all of their forms. In-auto air fresheners, especially alpine ones, are particularly well starred until the 30th after which problems may occur.
This week your destiny wears nothing on its feet.

Top tips

Drivers. Pressing the headlight switch for a second time dips the buggers.

FOOL other drivers into thinking you have an expensive car phone by holding an old TV or video remote control up to your ear and occasionally swerving across the road and mounting the kerb.

BOMB disposal experts' wives. Keep hubby on his toes by packing his lunchbox with plasticine and an old alarm clock.

LOSE weight quickly by eating raw pork or rancid tuna. I found that the subsequent food poisoning/diarrhoea enabled me to lose 12 pounds in only 2 days.

AVOID parking tickets by leaving your windscreen wipers turned to 'fast wipe' whenever you leave your car parked illegally.

HOUSEWIVES. I find the best way to get two bottles of washing-up liquid for the price of one is by putting one in your shopping trolley and the other in your coat pocket.

DON'T INVITE DRUG ADDICTS round for a meal on boxing day. They may find the offer of cold turkey embarrassing or offensive.

OLD telephone directories make ideal personal address books. Simply cross out the names and addresses of people you don't know.

WHEN reading a book try tearing out the pages as you read them. This saves the expense of buying a bookmark, and the pages can later be used for shopping lists.

A TEASPOON placed in a glass on the back seat of your car makes a handy audible gauge for road bump severity.

BUS DRIVERS. Pretend you're an airline pilot by wedging your accelerator pedal down with a heavy book, securing the steering wheel with some old rope, and then strolling back along the bus chatting casually to the passengers.

SAVE petrol by pushing your car to your destination. Invariably passers-by will think you've broken down and help.

BERNY'S INN

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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)
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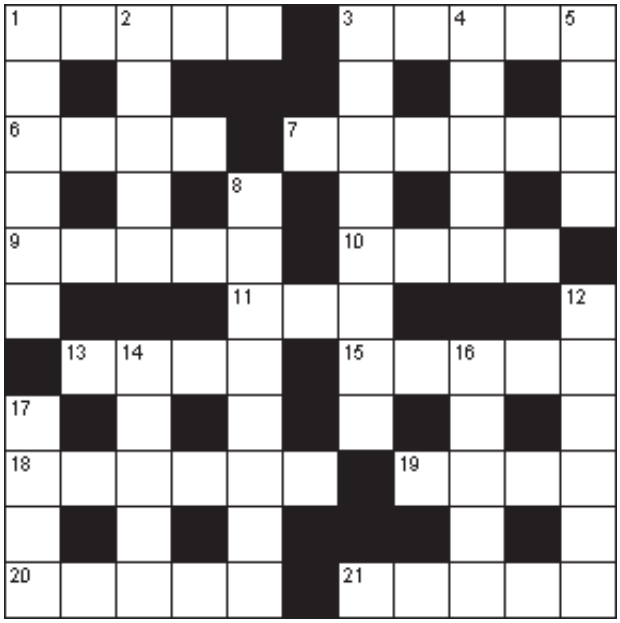
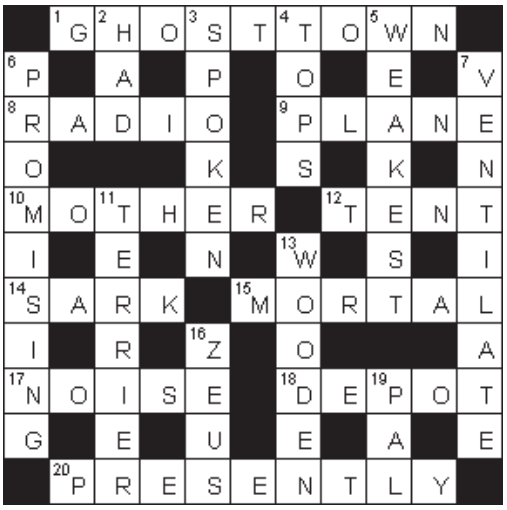
Quick XWord

Across
1. Glum (5)
3. Allow to enter (5)
6. At that time (4)
7. Tin alloy (6)
9. Russian liquor (5)
10. One of two equal parts (4)
11. Plaything (3)
13. Swift (4)
15. Shatter (5)
18. One of the 12 apostles (6)
19. Earth (4)
20. Abode of the dead (5)
21. Metallic compound (5)



Down
1. Incentive (6)
2. Beg (5)
3. Purple quartz (8)
4. Hotel for motorists (5)
5. Ripped (4)
8. Bed (8)
12. Entirely (6)
14. Assisted (5)
16. Coral island (5)
17. Deep wound (4)

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



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Watch out for the soon to be best selling book from Observer's own crime writing king, David Cocksedge. Selected True Crimes in one handy volume, based on the ever popular 'True Crimes' column published monthly. Available soon from the best bookshops. Keep 'em peeled!

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

Nine Months Later

Jack decided to go skiing with his buddy, Bob.
So they loaded up Jack's minivan and headed north. After driving for a few hours, they got caught in a terrible blizzard. So they pulled into a nearby farm and asked the attractive lady who answered the door if they could spend the night.
'I realize it's terrible weather out there and I have this huge house all to myself, but I'm recently widowed,' she explained. 'I'm afraid the neighbours will talk if I let you stay in my house'
'Don't worry,' Jack said. 'We'll be happy to sleep in the barn. And if the weather breaks, we'll be gone at first light.'
The lady agreed, and the two men found their way to the barn and settled in for the night.
Come morning, the weather had cleared, and they got on their way. They enjoyed a great weekend of skiing.
But about nine months later, Jack got an unexpected letter from an attorney. It took him a few minutes to figure it out, but he finally determined that it was from the attorney of that attractive widow he had met on the ski weekend.
He dropped in on his friend Bob and asked, 'Bob,
do you remember that good-looking widow from the farm we stayed at on our ski holiday up north about 9 months ago?'
'Yes, I do.' said Bob
'Did you, er, happen to get up in the middle of the night, go up to the house and pay her a visit?'
'Well, um, yes, 'Bob said, a little embarrassed about being found out, 'I have to admit that I did'
'And did you happen to use my name instead of telling her your name?'
Bob's face turned beet red and he said, 'Yeah, look, I'm sorry, buddy; I'm afraid I did.' Why do you ask?'

'She just died and left me everything.'

And you thought the ending would be different, didn't you?...

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LAND AND HOUSE for sale in Pranburi, just 25 kms from Hua Hin 4 kms from golf club and market. One storey house with 2 bedrooms, 58 sqm embraced with mountain view starting at 850k only. Land 3,500 baht/sq.wa. Contact 081-7904453/081-8051324

LAND FOR SALE Land for Sale 2 Rai. Location Bo-Fai, 5.2 Mil baht. Call: 081-880 1909.

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SALE LAND 18 rai on Phetkasem road near Hua Hin village (Tesco Lotus) Tel: 089-6117962, 084-090 9069

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SALE AND RENT land in Hua Hin. At Soi 2 for long term and short term. For apartment, resort or house. Plot size is 360sqw. It's located in Hua Hin near to Market Village and night market area. Tel: 084-090 9069, 089-611 7962

LAND FOR SALE; 18th hole, Springfield Golf & Country Club (plot E182), 2-rai plot (4,000sqm). Overlooking island green & clubhouse. Short walk to all facilities, freehold or continuous lease available, prime location. 6 million THB o.n.o. Contact Gavin 080-118 2723 or gavinlinsdell@hotmail.com

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BEACH FRONT CONDO for Sale 153 sqm., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large living area, European kitchen zone, 3 private balconies. All furnished and fully equipped with TV LCD 32" very excellent decoration & elegantly designed on fl.22 at front side with stunning sea view, clear sea, clean air, cosy, windy & breezy with full facilities & well maintenance nice condo private beach close to Dusit Resort quick sale by owner only 7.45mil. 081-933 2240 or my mail piti-pity@hotmail.com

SALE CONDO ON the beach at Hua Hin (Penthouse). 4 beds, 4 baths, sea view in every room. Floor 21st. 354 sqm sale 35,400,000 (pay in one year advance). Tel:084-090 9069, 089-611 7962

LAND FOR SALE at Huay Mongkol village, contact land owner Sebastian email sebbo333@hotmail.com

SALE AND RENT house near beach and night market in Hua Hin. 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, fully furnished, 6 aircons. Rent 18,000THB/month. Sale 5,500,000THB. Tel: 084-090 9069, 089-611 7962

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SEAVIEW ESTATE FOR sale. Dolphin Bay/Pranburi beach view one story villa, 4 bedrooms, 5 baths, 2 kitchens, hardwood and granite floors and bath. Real teak cabinets, tropical landscaped gardens with fruit trees and irrigation, 10 aircons, 3 phase power, government water with 4 concrete underground water tanks, many other special features. 2 smaller houses. 1.5 Rai with room to build or could be a resort. 26 million baht. 081-371 6974 or 4amigos@telus.net

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THAI LESSONS FOR foreigners and English for Thais by Thai teacher with 19 years experience. (Only speaking or together with reading and writing Thai). Tel. 032-532820, 081-763 2113

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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,
I HAVE been married for some years now and for a long time my husband and I had a very active sex life. In recent years things have cooled off a bit and now we make love around once a month, if I am lucky. However, on a bad month it can easily be double that. In the last few weeks my husband appears to have become totally disinterested in having sex with me at all. I am worried that he may be having an affair. What will happen if he's getting loads outside the home and then she chucks him? He'll be straight back here heaving away on top of me every night just like in the bad old days. What can I do?
Stressed,
Saphan Buri

Mary says: Dear Stressed,
Oh dear, this is a worrying development, and probably far worse than you realise. In my experience husbands who shag around tend to get a taste for it and will soon start humping anything that moves and quite a lot that doesn't, including their wives. Perverts. If that's the case you might well soon find yourself transfixed by the sight of his sweaty manboobs swaying from side to side as he heaves himself aboard you even if he is still getting it elsewhere as well. But what to do? You could try accusing him of having an affair but that is likely to backfire on two counts: either he will deny it and then put some extra effort into ploughing your lady garden to try and prove he's not having it away with his secretary, or he'll confess, dump her and try and make it up to you with a sexy weekend away. Either way it's going to be pretty dreadful for you. No, if I were you I would just ignore the whole thing, keep wearing the grey jogging bottoms with the stains on and the mismatching underwear and just let sleeping dogs lie. And if it's any consolation I have told your husband to do the same.

DEAR MARY,
I love my boyfriends very much, but all is not well in the bedroom department. One of them suffers from premature ejaculation, three of them have problems sustaining an erection, while two more can't even get it up in the first place. Another has the tiniest winkie I have ever seen and the other six are basically just crap in bed. In fact my husband is just about the only one who can get off the starting grid without going all floppy or spilling all his man chowder on the carpet. Unfortunately, he is away every other fortnight working on the rigs. What am I to do?
Frankly cheesed off,
Chumphon

Mary says: Dear Frankly,
What a sorry tale, and one that gives a whole new meaning to the phrase: two weeks on, two weeks off. Having said that I understand your frustration: there seems little point in having a stream of gentleman callers during your husband's absence if not a single one of them can flame grill your fur burger, so to speak. But what to do? Instructing them all in the art of lovemaking would be terribly time consuming, but I would not advise getting them around for a group training session unless you put down some plastic sheeting first. I suppose you could try going without for a couple of weeks while hubby is away, but that does seem a pretty drastic option, and most definitely a last resort. I see you have limited yourself to 13 illicit lovers. Perhaps you are being a bit too picky. Play the field a bit more like any normal married woman and I am sure you'll eventually come across one hunk who will really get your roast beef sizzling. Good luck!

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...

To coin a phrase

The verb to coin originally meant to literally mint a coin. It dates to the 14th century, first appearing in Robert Brunne's Langtoft's Chronicle, written about 1330:

The kynge's side salle be the hede & his name writen; the croyce side what cite it was in coyned & smyten. (The king's side shall be the head & [have] his name written [on it]; the cross side [shall have] what city it was coined & smitten in.)

Within a few centuries, the verb was being used more generally. Here's an example from 1561 in Thomas Norton's Calvin's Institution of Christian Religion:

These fellowes unseasonably coyne a mystery.

By the end of the 16th century, the verb to coin was being used to refer to the creation of a new word or phrase. From the anonymous The Arte of English Poesie (1589; generally attributed to George Puttenham, but authorship is uncertain):

Young schollers not halfe well studied...when they come to their friends... will seeme to coigne fine wordes out of the Latin.

Some believe that usage of to coin in this fashion is actually an error, believing instead that it should be to quoin, a printer's term meaning to secure a block of type with a quoin, or metal wedge. So to quoin a phrase is to set it into type or make it permanent. But quoin is simply a spelling variant of coin that is primarily used in this specialized printing sense. The general sense meaning to create is invariably spelled coin.

The ironic use of the phrase to coin a phrase to excuse a clichè dates to at least 1940. From F.B. Young's Mr. Lucton's Freedom of that year:

It takes all sorts to make a world, to coin a phrase.

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

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

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
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27/3 Poolsuk Road, Hua Hin

Hua Hin Pool Leagues

Hua Hin Pool Billiard League
Results Matchday 5 17th October 2008

Home	Racks	Pts	Away	Racks	Pts
TW	11	2	LSA	16	6
SUG	17	6	CAP	9	2
JWR	14	3	DA	16	5
LSB	13	4	QUE	13	4
EAG	13	4	LSS	14	4
LSL	10	3	JWB	16	5
DB	12	3	SIL	15	5
DIA	9	3	OCT	16	5

Next Weeks Fixtures
Matchday 6 24/10/2008
LSA v Captain's Inn
Thaiwaii v JW Red
Queens Flower v Sugar Cane
Dick's Office A v Eagle
JW Black v LSB
LSS v Silverrock
Diamond v LSL
Octopussy v Dick's Office B

League Table

Team	P	W	D	L	Diff	Racks	Pts
Lucky Shot Student's	6	5	1	0	22	36	11
Lucky Shot B	6	4	2	0	16	22	10
Johnie Walker Black	6	5	0	1	6	23	10
Queens Flower Bar	6	3	2	1	8	20	8
Octopussy Bar	6	4	0	2	8	16	8
Lucky Shot A	6	3	2	1	6	16	8
Eagle Bar	6	2	3	1	12	18	7
Dick's Office B	6	2	2	2	0	1	6
Silverrock Bar	6	2	2	2	-4	-8	6
Diamond Bar	6	1	2	3	-6	-12	4
Lucky Shot Ladies	6	1	2	3	-6	-18	4
Sugar Cane Bar	6	2	0	4	-8	-6	4
Thaiwaii	6	1	1	4	-10	-21	3
Johnie Walker Red	6	1	1	4	-10	-22	3
Dick's Office A	6	1	1	4	-12	-19	3
Captain's Inn	6	0	1	5	-22	-46	1

Hua Hin 8-Ball League
League Table

Team	P	W	D	L	Diff	Pts
SilverRock	10	8	1	1	44	17
Harley	9	6	2	1	22	14
SportCentre	10	5	3	2	24	13
MrDanA	10	6	1	3	20	13
DicksA	10	5	2	3	12	12
Komhom	10	5	1	4	18	11
BenTho	10	5	1	4	14	11
Dolphin	9	4	2	3	-2	10
B'flyRock	9	4	0	5	-6	8
Pheonix	10	2	5	3	-18	7
MrDanB	10	3	1	6	-20	7
DicksB	9	2	1	6	-26	5
BambooGr	8	1	1	6	-32	3
LilleMan	10	1	1	8	-50	3

Results Week 10
15th October 2008
Dicks B 10 LilleMan 2
MrDan B 9 Pheonix 3
Komhom 2 SilverRock 10
BenTho 9 Dicks A 3
ButterflyRock 0 BambooGrove 0
Harley 0 Dolphin 0
SportCentre 5 MrDan A 7

Week 11 results will be in next week's AWOL

Next Weeks Fixtures
Week 12 29th October 2008
Dicks B v BenTho
MrDan B v Dicks A
Komhom v Pheonix
Dolphin v MrDan A
ButterflyRock v LilleMan
Harley v BambooGrove
SportCentre v SilverRock

Hua Hin 9-Ball League
League Table

Team	P	W	D	L	Diff	Pts
MrDanA	2	2	0	0	13	4
ButterflyR	2	1	1	0	8	3
MrDanB	2	1	0	1	3	3
PlasPlace	2	1	0	1	6	2
DicksA	2	1	0	1	1	2
DicksB	2	1	0	1	1	2
RedBar	2	1	0	1	1	2
LilleMan	2	1	0	1	-8	2
Dolphin	2	0	0	2	-7	0
BenTho	2	0	0	2	-18	0

Results Week 2
20th October 2008
MrDanB 17 Dolphin 11
DicksB 17 BenTho 8
ButterflyR 16 DicksA 8
LilleMan 8 MrDanA 17
PlasPlace 16 RedBar 9

Next Weeks Fixtures
Week 3 27th October 2008
MrDanA v RedBar
DicksA v LilleMan
BenTho v ButterflyR
Dolphin v DicksB
PlasPlace v MrDanB

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

Hua Hin Pool Leagues

Hua Hin and Khao Takiab Pool League
League Table

Team	P	W	L	F	A	Pts	Pct
Harleys	20	14	6	194	106	222	0.700
Deja Vu	20	16	4	187	113	219	0.800
Oasis	20	14	6	182	118	210	0.700
Bob and Nok's	20	16	4	174	126	206	0.800
Free Time	20	10	10	156	144	176	0.500
Eagle	19	9	10	142	143	160	0.474
Bobby's Good Friends	20	9	11	128	172	146	0.450
Dara	19	7	12	123	162	137	0.368
Khuad Kaew	19	6	13	117	168	129	0.316
Sunset Boulevard	20	5	15	117	183	127	0.250
Bob and Nok Ladies	19	2	17	100	185	104	0.105

Results Wed 22nd October 2008
Deja Vu 10 - 5 Free Time
Bob and Nok Ladies 6 - 9 Bob and Nok's
Khuad Kaew 7 - 8 Bobby's Good Friends
Sunset Boulevard 3 - 12 Oasis

Congratulations to Harley's Bar, this season's champions.
Singles Final between Mike (Sunset Boulevard) and Bernie (Bob and Nok's) on Sunday 26th October at 7pm at Harley's Bar in Soi Salawat (80)
End of season presentation and party at Harley's Bar, Wednesday 29th October 2008 from 7.30pm. Hope to see you all there!
Our new season starts on Wednesday 12th November 2008

Hua Hin Social Pool league
Results
Week 9 – 22nd October 2008
PP v Butterfly Rock 13-6
Red Bar v Lazy Daze 8-11
Sabai v Jungle Juice A 8-11
JW Red v Billys 6-13
Billys Babes v JW Black 11-8
Jungle Juice B v Headrock 14-5
U Turn v Limelight 12-7

Next Weeks Fixtures:
Week 10 – 29th October 2008
Butterfly Rock v Limelight
Headrock v U Turn
JW Black v Jungle Juice B
Billys v Billys Babes
Jungle Juice A v JW Red
Lazy Daze v Sabai
PP v Red Bar

League Table

Team	P	W	L	F-A	Pts
Billys Bbs	9	8	1	101-70	16
PP	9	8	1	100-71	16
J Juice A	9	8	1	96-75	16
J Juice B	9	6	3	98-71	12
Lazy Daze	9	6	3	94-75	12
J.W.Black	9	5	4	93-78	10
Sabai	8	5	3	77-75	10
Red Bar	9	4	5	86-80	8
Billys	9	3	6	79-94	6
Headrock	9	2	7	71-100	4
U Turn	8	2	6	66-83	4
B'fly Rock	8	1	7	64-89	2
Limelight	8	1	7	53-80	2
J.W. Red	7	1	6	45-75	2

Hua Hin Darts Leagues

A new website about darts in Thailand has been launched, including a forum to talk darts, and it features a section dedicated to the Hua Hin Darts League! Visit www.dartsthailand.com/ and find out all the latest news and views.

Next Weeks Fixtures:
Week 10 - 28/10/2008
Division 1
Oasis v No Game
J.W. Red v Lazy Daze
Dicks Office B v CAT
Paradise Bar v Pink Flamingo
Scandic Bar v J.W. Black

Division 2
Love Bar v CAT B
Mojo v Bamboo Grove
Jaew v Butterfly Rock
Lucky Shot v Dicks Office A
No Game v Good Friends

Top 16 standings:
Top 10 -Div 1

Name	Bar	Pts
Stuart	P	130
Mark	O	88
Golf	SB	87
Tao	JWB	86
Jason	CAT	83
Bon	DOB	77
Noi	CAT	76
Dicky	JWB	76
Peter	PF	75
Peter	JWB	74

Top 6 - Div 2

Name	Bar	Pts
Tao	CAT	105
Eero	BR	103
Muay	JB	84
Don	CAT	78
Howard	M	60
Theo	LS	54

Results Week 9
Division 1
No Game v Scandic Bar
J.W. Black v Paradise Bar 7-3
Pink Flamingo v Dicks B 4-6
CAT v J.W. Red 7-3
Lazy Daze v Oasis 6-4
Division 2
CAT B v No Game
Good Friends v Lucky Shot 6-4
Dicks Office A v Jaew 3-7
Butterfly Rock v Mojo- Not Played
Bamboo Grove v Love Bar 8-2
Division 1

Team	P	W	D	L	PF-PA	Pts
CAT	7	6	1	0	48-22	13
JW Blk	7	5	1	1	47-23	11
P'dise	7	5	0	2	42-28	10
Scandic	7	4	1	2	46-24	9
Dicks B	7	2	1	4	30-40	5
Lazy D	7	2	1	4	28-42	5
Oasis	6	2	0	4	21-39	4
JW Red	7	1	1	5	25-45	3
Pink Fl	6	0	2	4	19-41	2

Division 2

Team	P	W	D	L	PF-PA	Pts
CAT B	7	7	0	0	59-11	14
Jaew	7	5	0	2	40-30	10
B'fly Rk	6	4	1	1	36-24	9
L Shot	7	3	0	4	31-39	6
Dicks A	6	3	0	3	30-30	6
Mojo	5	3	0	2	29-21	6
B Grve	7	2	1	4	30-40	5
Good F	8	2	0	6	28-52	4
Love	7	0	0	7	17-53	0

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 Noi at Sabai Bar (Tel: 086-174+6165).

Friday 31st October - Special Halloween Quiz at the Buffalo Tavern starts 7pm plus buffet from 7.30pm

Regular Events

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

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

Fridays - Bar-B-Q party every week at Le Velo Rouge, Khao Takiab
- Green Lotus Bar & Restaurant, Soi 88 (Bonkai) 169 baht Seafood BBQ every fortnight from 24th October

Congratulations!

AWOL would like to wish good luck to Ken Thomson and Tan who got married this week; Ken formerly owned Crawfords (now O'Neills)

Thanks to Happy Bar for sending in this photo of the owners birthday party there.

Hua Hin Golf Society

Get well soon to Mike Pritchard from all at Hua Hin Golf Society and friends after undergoing major surgery. Congratulations for a Hole in One by Robert Baker at Springfield hole No. 4 on the 16th October!

This week's results:

21st October - Banyan Golf Club 65 entrants 2 Groups

Group 'A' - 0-17 hcp - Stableford - 21 Entrants

1st Joe Sims 38 pts 5 hcp, 2nd Rene Benard 37 pts 6 hcp, 3rd Ulf Sparvman 36 pts 1 hcp, 4th Calllum McDonald 34 pts 11 hcp, 5th Mike Staples 34 pts 11 hcp.

Group 'B' - 18-36 hcp - Stableford - 20 Entrants

1st John Anstee 35 pts 18 hcp, 2nd MartnokThongmee 35 pts 24 hcp, 3rd Petra 34 pts 18 hcp, 4th Rod Gretton 34 pts 22 hcp, 5th Barbara Anstee 33 pts 26 hcp.

Nearest the Pin No.2 Jill Moore, No.15 Ulf Sparvman

17th October-Majestic Creek One Group Stableford 12 Entrants

1st Judith Thomson 37 pts 34 hcp, 2nd Chan Walker 34 pts 9 hcp, 3rd Callum Mc Donald 34 pts 11 hcp, 4th Jim Parkinson (g) 31 pts 22 hcp, 5th Ben Amelsvoort 29 pts 18 hcp. 6th Maiti (g) 28 pts 16 hcp.

Next week's fixtures:

Tuesday 28th Lake View - Annual Matchplay/Plate Competition (8+8)
Friday 31st Kaeng Krachan

Butterfly Rock Golf

This week's results:

Oct 22nd - Majestic Creek

Not available at press time

Oct 20th - Lakeview A & B

Stableford

1st Peter Tucker 37 pts, 2nd Doug Miller 37 pts, 3rd Craig Miller 36 pts, 4th Peter Fitzpatrick 36 pts

Forthcoming Fixtures

Monday 27th Lakeview
Friday 31st Palm Hills

Scoreboard

(EPL unless stated)

Saturday, 18 October 2008
Arsenal 3 - 1 Everton
Aston Villa 0 - 0 Portsmouth
Bolton 0 - 0 Blackburn
Fulham 0 - 0 Sunderland
Liverpool 3 - 2 Wigan
Man Utd 4 - 0 West Brom
Middlesbrough 0 - 5 Chelsea

Sunday, 19 October 2008
Hull City 1 - 0 West Ham
Stoke City 2 - 1 Tottenham

Monday, 20 October 2008
Newcastle 2 - 2 Man City

Tuesday, 21 October 2008
UEFA Champions League
Bayern Munich 3-0 Fiorentina
FC Porto 0-1 Dynamo Kiev
Fenerbahce 2-5 Arsenal
Juventus 2-1 Real Madrid
Man Utd 3-0 Celtic
Steaua Bucharest 3-5 Lyon
Villarreal 6-3 AaB Aalborg
Zenit St P'burg 1-1 BATE Borisov

Wednesday, 22 October 2008
UEFA Champions League
Atletico Madrid 1-1 Liverpool
Basle 0-5 Barcelona
Bordeaux 1-0 CFR Cluj-Napoca
Chelsea 1-0 Roma
Inter Milan 1-0 A. Famagusta
PSV Eindhoven 2-0 Marseille
Panathinaikos 2-2 W. Bremen
Shakhtar Don. 0-1 Sport. Lisbon

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

EPL Fixtures Preview

(All times Thailand)

Saturday, 25 October 2008
Blackburn v M'brough, 23:30
Everton v Man Utd, 18:00
Sunderland v Newcastle, 18:45
West Brom v Hull, 21:00

Sunday, 26 October 2008
Chelsea v Liverpool, 20:30
Man City v Stoke, 22:00
Tottenham v Bolton, 22:00
West Ham v Arsenal, 23:00
Wigan v Aston Villa, 22:00

Monday, 27 October 2008
Portsmouth v Fulham, 00:00

Wednesday, 29 October 2008
Newcastle v West Brom, 02:45

Thursday, 30 October 2008
Arsenal v Tottenham, 03:00
Aston Villa v Blackburn, 02:45
Bolton v Everton, 03:00
Fulham v Wigan, 03:00
Hull v Chelsea, 02:45
Liverpool v Portsmouth, 03:00
Man Utd v West Ham, 03:00
Middlesbrough v Man City, 03:00
Stoke v Sunderland, 02:45

With two sets of fixtures this week we don't have room for our normal game by game preview, so we will just pick out the salient points from the upcoming matches. The most interesting combination belongs to Chelsea, who will have a tough test at home against title rivals Liverpool followed by possibly an even sterner test away against high flying Hull; we predict a draw and an away win though. Elsewhere, Arsenal will be looking to get maximum points against London rivals West Ham and Tottenham and have a good chance of doing so. West Ham also face Man Utd at Old Trafford in what is likely to be a dismal week for them. The Red Devils will also fancy their chances against Everton who are winless at home.
Former Red Roy Keane will be looking for at least 4 points from Sunderland's two matches although who the win will come against is anyone's guess out of Newcastle (home) and Stoke (away). The Magpies will be looking for more against West Brom at St James Park, who also face a tough game on the Saturday against fellow new boys Hull.
Aston Villa will see this week's matches as ones they need to win to have realistic hopes of being a top 6 club come the end of the season - both Wigan and Blackburn are tough to beat though and both matches are likely to be draws. Those two clubs will be expecting wins against Fulham and Middlesbrough respectively in their other games.
'Boro are unlikely to get much against free scoring Man City who will think 6 points is acheivable this week with their other game at home to Stoke. Portsmouth have quietly moved into 7th and look back to the form of last season; watch out Liverpool and Fulham. Bolton will like the look of their matches against Spurs and Everton, who both look like facing relegation battles for the rest of the season.

Barclays Premier League Table

			Home					Away						
	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Chelsea	8	2	2	0	8	2	4	0	0	11	1	16	20
2	Liverpool	8	3	1	0	7	4	3	1	0	6	2	7	20
3	Hull	8	2	1	1	5	8	3	1	0	6	3	0	17
4	Arsenal	8	3	0	1	8	3	2	1	1	8	3	10	16
5	Man Utd	7	2	1	0	7	1	2	1	1	5	3	8	14
6	Aston Villa	8	2	2	0	6	3	2	0	2	6	7	2	14
7	Portsmouth	8	3	0	1	6	3	1	1	2	3	10	-4	13
8	West Ham	8	3	0	1	10	6	1	0	3	4	8	0	12
9	Blackburn	8	1	1	2	2	7	2	1	1	6	7	-6	11
10	Man City	8	2	0	2	12	6	1	1	2	8	8	6	10
11	West Brom	8	2	0	2	6	6	1	1	2	1	5	-4	10
12	Sunderland	8	1	1	2	3	5	1	2	1	4	4	-2	9
13	M'brough	8	2	0	2	4	8	1	0	3	3	6	-7	9
14	Wigan	8	1	1	2	3	4	1	1	2	8	5	2	8
15	Bolton	8	1	2	1	4	4	1	0	3	4	6	-2	8
16	Everton	8	0	1	3	4	10	2	1	1	8	8	-6	8
17	Fulham	7	2	1	1	4	3	0	0	3	1	4	-2	7
18	Stoke	8	2	0	2	7	8	0	1	3	3	7	-5	7
19	Newcastle	8	1	1	2	5	6	0	2	2	4	9	-6	6
20	Tottenham	8	0	1	3	2	5	0	1	3	3	7	-7	2

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New 'realism' games frenzy

■ As consumers grow tired of the sports games on offer for their computers and games consoles, the games manufacturers are trying to inject new life into their products with new, more realistic versions being lined up for Christmas.

The first one to hit the streets will be Tiger Woods Clinic 2009 from EIEIO Sports, where the player has the option to either try and win events with ever increasing loss of mobility until the player can only swivel their head, or they can opt to sit in the hospital and play with their children while they are on the mend.

Another new title is Wimbledon Tennis Stars, where the player you choose to be determines the real life obstacle you will have to face; for example, Roger Federer, although the supreme tennis player in the game has to hold his concentration in the face of taunts from fans, line judges, ball boys and the umpire about his ugly girlfriend, while Rafael Nadal has to cope with shorts that get tighter as every match goes by, thus increasing the frequency of his trying to 'decrack' them; there is an alternative option called 'Hulk mode' where he expands beyond the limits of his tennis gear, which is aimed to attract female players.

Formula 1 is featured in 'Shunt' from CrashBangWallop Games, where drivers from past and present battle it out on the track, with the added realism that shunting other drivers off the track can win you the title; featured drivers are Michael Schumacher, James Hunt, Lewis Hamilton and Nigel Mansell. Extra points are awarded in this game for coming up with a ludicrous explanation for your dastardly manoeuvre. This game also has a 'Model' mode, where the driver has to shag as many of the pit lane babes in the hour before the race as he can, but be warned this will drain his energy levels, cause him to stall on the start line and leave his championship challenge drooping.

Naturally, as the most popular game on the planet, football is also getting in on the act, and the first title available is expected to be England Manager 2010 from Terry Is A Thug Games, where you are the manager of the English national team and somehow have to qualify for the World Cup. Obstacles to be faced are selecting a squad from crocks, rapists, drunk drivers, drug addicts, thieves, liars and cheats, as well as Wayne Rooney, Ashley Cole and Rio Ferdinand; dealing with a sex scandal involving a model and a vacuum cleaner; having to oversee the recording of another version of 'Football's Coming Home' if you manage to qualify and finally the hardest task of all, making the bosses at the FA hear you, let alone understand

John Terry (below) doing what he does best

you. Note that there is no option to be English in this game, and be warned; selecting John Terry as your captain causes the console version to emit a stream of racial abuse and cover you in snot, before bursting into tears.

Special 'realism' versions of several popular American sports (basketball, rounder's, sissy rugby and girly ice game) were planned as well, but these have been shelved because there is no worldwide market for them.

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