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10 April 09
FREE WEEKLY
ABSENT WITHOUT LEAVE FOR THE EXPAT IN ALL OF US
What's happening, and might be happening, in Hua Hin

Splashdown!

■ HUA HIN, THAILAND

Following one of the hottest, driest spells in recent history, Songkran 2009 (13 - 15 April) is going to come as a relief to many in the Hua Hin area. Taking place against a backdrop of more political unrest, the global economic crisis and a general feeling of depression, it is expected that most people are going to throw themselves into the event with a little more gusto this year to try and purge the bad feelings that are constantly present.

To first time observers and possibly unwilling participants in this festival, it may seem a bizarre and illogical event - at a time when water reserves will be close to their low point, come out on the streets and throw water everywhere! However there is a lot more to Songkran, certainly when seen in a more traditional setting. Most Thais head home for the anywhere between 3 days and 7 days duration, to enjoy a break punctuated by religious ceremonies amongst family. For them it's a time to express thanks to those they respect, loyalty to ancestors, an awareness of family and social responsibilities and their religious devotion.

A period of transition, it's also a time for new beginnings. Songkran, derived from Sanskrit, means 'a move over' or 'change', marking the time when the sun leaves Pisces and shifts into the Aries zodiac for the beginning of a new solar year.

To mark this 'pi mai' (new year) and get it off to an auspicious start, Thais clean. Everything from Buddha statues in streets to temples and houses gets a renewing wash; meanwhile anything old or unused is thrown out (believed to bring bad luck). They perform bathing rites for monks, and engage in pious activities like giving alms, Dhamma practice and listening to sermons to rinse the spirit clean, to wash away the previous year's bad actions. They sprinkle water on parents and elders, and shower them with gifts. Thais believe that bad luck or evil is washed away by water, the person purified, and the pouring of a small amount of holy water on another person's hand or shoulder, confers respect and goodwill. Elders in return wish the youngsters good luck and prosperity.

Songkran 2008 in Hua Hin

Due to the great movement of people over Songkran this means both congested roads and more dangerous ones - every year thousands are killed or injured before during and after the official holiday - make sure to keep 'em peeled if out and about and proceed a little more cautiously than normal, as the water outside and, for many, the liquid inside makes for hazardous driving conditions. We don't want you to become another Songkran statistic almost gleefully announced every day by the media.

AWOL says - GET WET, STAY SAFE.

INSIDE AWOL

☞ KHAO TAKIAB PULL OUT
☞ MURDER IN KHAO TAO
☞ AGONY AUNT
☞ WEATHER
☞ NEWCASTLE'S MAGIC BEANS?

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■ PARIS, FRANCE

When footballers first sign a professional contract, they should be made to agree they will never go anywhere near compulsive liar Alexandra Paressant. The French 'model' first hit headlines when she claimed she was sleeping with Ronaldinho during World Cup 2006. The Brazilian ended up suing her, thanks to a series of fabricated photos and 'anonymous' blog posts.

Paressant then caused a scandal by claiming she had been steamrollered by NBA star Tony Parker, after being introduced by Thierry Henry. Parker's wife Eva Longoria wasn't best pleased, but her claims were soon dismissed as fantasies. Even Paressant's mother has admitted that her daughter is prone to making up stories.

Such is the extent of her shameless lying that AWOL isn't even sure the photo (left) is her - she has been known to circulate pictures of much hotter models, passing them off as herself. According to Marca, Paressant is looking for a new victim, preferably a sportsman. The Spanish paper also reveals that she was arrested for a jewellery robbery in October.

Be afraid, footballers. Be very afraid.

A load of Bankers, the lot of 'em!

■ BANGKOK, THAILAND

The Thai Bankers Association has announced that any ATM withdrawals made by foreign debit or credit cards will now attract a fee of 150 baht each time. Just what the tourist trade needs in these belt tightening times - maybe the bankers bonuses were looking a bit low this year?

British Consular Fees change

■ BANGKOK, THAILAND

The fees charged by the British Consulate changed on 9 April 2009. Steve Ketteringham the Consular Rep in Hua Hin has a copy of the new fees. He can be contacted on 086 7933461 or visit him at The Captain's Inn.

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Local Weather

Hua Hin weather forecast next 7 days

Day	Conditions	Temp °C Low	High
Sat	Spotty showers in the morning	26	32
Sun	Partial sunshine with a shower	27	33
Mon	Mostly sunny	26	33
Tues	A thunderstorm or two	26	34
Wed	A t-storm in the afternoon	26	33
Thur	Partly sunny	26	34
Fri	Sun and some clouds	26	34

World Weather

Forecast for Friday 10th April 2009

City	Min °C	Max	Conditions
Amsterdam	6	18	Cloudy
Athens	9	23	Fine
Auckland	11	18	Fine
Beijing	13	21	Rain
Berlin	9	18	Cloudy
Buenos Aires	12	22	Cloudy
Chicago	0	9	Cloudy
Copenhagen	3	13	Rain
Dubai	23	31	Rain
Dublin	7	13	Rain
Geneva	8	20	Fine
Helsinki	1	4	Rain
Ho Chi Minh	23	34	Thunderstorms
Hong Kong	20	24	Scattered Clouds
Islamabad	15	27	Scattered Clouds
Jakarta	24	31	Rain
Jerusalem	8	15	Rain
Johannesburg	10	25	Cloudy
Kuala Lumpur	24	32	Thunderstorms
London	11	16	Drizzle
Madrid	6	22	Cloudy
Manila	25	33	Cloudy
Mexico City	9	30	Cloudy
Moscow	-8	5	Fine
New Delhi	20	33	Fine
New York	3	16	Cloudy
Oslo	3	14	Rain
Paris	10	19	Overcast
Perth	20	33	Scattered Clouds
Phnom-Penh	25	35	Thunderstorms
Rio De Janeiro	21	27	Mist
Riyadh	20	31	Clear
Rome	9	18	Rain
San Francisco	9	13	Showers
Singapore	24	32	Thunderstorms
Stockholm	3	13	Partly Cloudy
Sydney	16	24	Cloudy
Tokyo	13	22	Fine
Vientiane	24	35	Rain
Yangon	27	38	Rain
Zurich	7	21	Fine

Currency Exchange Rates

At 9th April 2009 (mid-market rates)

Code	Currency	Value (Baht)
USD	United States Dollar	35.3857
GBP	Pound Sterling	52.0535
EUR	Euro	46.8187
JPY	Japanese Yen	0.352449
MYR	Malaysian Ringgit	9.74289
SGD	Singapore Dollar	23.3062
BND	Brunei Dollar	23.3062
CNY	Chinese Yuan	5.17564
IDR	Indonesian Rupiah	0.00310948
INR	Indian Rupee	0.700296
KRW	Korean Won	0.0267205
AUD	Australian Dollar	24.9644
NZD	New Zealand Dollar	20.4036
CHF	Swiss Franc	30.8804
DKK	Danish Krone	6.28366
NOK	Norwegian Krone	5.23848
SEK	Swedish Krona	4.26078
CAD	Canadian Dollar	28.6434
AED	UAE Dirham	9.6354
BHD	Bahrain Dinar	94.1088
KWD	Kuwaiti Dinar	121.418
OMR	Omani Rial	92.0302
QAR	Qatar Riyal	9.72139

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
British Embassy Consular Correspondent: Steve Ketteringham 032 533685 or 086 7933461 e-mail on steve@ketteringham.com

Hua Hin's Hot Topics from HHAD

The real estate discussion section was bought back to life this week with the same conundrums on buying and leasing property in Thailand. Apparently there are some not-so-honest property developers in Hua Hin (yes we were amazed too) that have been selling houses with a 90 year lease disguised as three renewable thirty year leases. Some local legal advisors and officials in the land office have also been supporting this spurious practice and allowing buyers to be bamboozled by bureaucracy.

A 90 year lease does not exist as one inopportune home buyer later discovered following consultations with a Bangkok lawyer. Only the first 30 years of a property lease in Thailand is covered by law so the rest is just a loose agreement which is probably not worth the paper it is drafted on. The company route to buy property as a foreigner is pretty much a dead end also since the last wave of government restrictions included the enforcement of checks on operational, tax paying, companies with Thai shareholders – who will all be investigated. Not the most welcoming option for a retired couple seeking a holiday home in the tropics.

The general consensus from those in the know and those who just want to stick an oar in is that any foreigner considering a property purchase in Thailand should use a Bangkok lawyer to draw up the contracts and assist with the process. Many Hua Hin legal firms are often involved in the real estate industry so may not be able to be as unbiased about things as an independent legal adviser from Bangkok.

Another albeit cynical approach to real estate in Thailand is don't buy what you can't afford to lose as you can't really own it anyway!

As political tensions mount again in the capital discussion continues on the board, the general feeling by most is that enough is enough. Whether it's the reds or yellows there will be no winners to this futile face-off regardless of who is in the government hot seat. If the Democrats remain and Thaksin continues to elude justice the street protests will intensify, if the reds win and the government steps down Thaksin will return and the yellows will take to the streets.

With global economies in tatters and Thailand's rapidly taking a nose dive the people on the streets shouting about politics should just put aside their differences, take off their red and yellow shirts, and work together at making Thailand the land of smiles once again as the country will be the biggest loser in the long run if the absurd merry-go-round continues.

As a final note we'd like to wish all HHAD readers and contributors a happy Songkran, if you're looking to get wet this year head into town on Monday.

For all of these hot topics and plenty more get online at ***www.huahinafterdark.com/forum/*** - Hua Hin's only active web community.

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English corner brought to you by huahinreport.com

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...

Dressed to the nines

This means dressed flamboyantly or smartly. Numerous attempts have been made to associate the number nine with clothing and so to explain the phrase's derivation. One theory has it that tailors used nine yards of material to make a suit. The more material you had the more status, although nine yards seems generous even for a fop. Another commonly repeated explanation comes from the exquisitely smart uniforms of the 99th (Lanarkshire) Regiment of Foot, which was raised in 1824. The problem with these explanations is that they come with no evidence to support them, apart from a reference to the number nine (or 99, which seems to be stretching the cloth rather thinly). The regiment was in business in the early 19th century, which is at least the right sort of date for a phrase that became widely used in the middle of that century. The first example of the use of the phrase found in print is an extract from the New York Herald, 1837: "One evening a smart young mechanic, 'dressed to the nines', as Ben Bowline says, might have been seen wending his way along Broadway."

What counts against the above explanations, and indeed against any of the supposed explanations that attempt to link the number nine to some property of clothing, is the prior use of the shorter phrase 'to the nine' or 'to the nines', which was used to indicate perfection, the highest standards. That was in use in the 18th century, well before 'dressed to the nines' was first used, as in this example from William Hamilton's Epistle to Ramsay, 1719: The bonny Lines therein thou sent me, How to the nines they did content me.

It is worth noting that the number nine has long been used as a superlative. Classical mythology gave us the Nine Muses of Arts and Learning. The Nine Worthies were characters drawn from the Pagan and Jewish history and from the Bible, and usually called simply The Nine, were well-known to mediaeval scholars as the personification of all that was noble and heroic. It seems clear that 'the Nine' are what 'dressed to the nines' comes from.

If you hear a phrase or saying, or even find yourself using one and would like to know how it came about, send the phrase to us at awol@huahinmedia.com and we will do our best to print the answer, along with your name.

Khao Tao shocked by brutal murder

■ KHAO TAO, THAILAND

A well known and well liked English resident, Mr Nicholas Francis Knight, was murdered last Thursday (2nd April) at his home in Khao Tao, just 12 kilometres south of Hua Hin.

Thai media reported that the police released the following information; On April 2 the body of Nicholas Francis Knight, an Englishman, aged 64, had been found in a house in sub district Nongkae, Hua Hin. The victim had been stabbed with a sharp instrument on the right side of his chest, piercing his lung, there was also a wound on his right arm. His body was sent for a postmortem at the National Police Forensic Institute.

Police found dried blood stains on the floor, the glass door of the house and the fence; in addition they found a 8 inch bloodstained knife with a broken handle.

From initial investigations it was learnt that the previous night whilst Nicholas was at home, an unknown number of assailants entered the house, only to be confronted by Nicholas. A scuffle broke out before Nicholas was savagely stabbed to death. The murderer(s) then fled.

Police suspect the motive was either a personal conflict or a burglary gone wrong; when faced by Nicholas, the thief had killed him. Police said further inquiries would be made to discover the exact cause of the murder and consequently find the murderer(s).

AWOL understands that neighbours and acquaintances have been interviewed. Mr Knight is said to have bought the Faqtong Bar for his Thai partner and was frequently to be found socialising there.

Mr Knight was originally from Newcastle, UK where he was a doctor before retiring to Thailand.

There have been a number of reports of rising numbers of burglaries and attempted burglaries in the Hua Hin area, particularly on estates mainly occupied by foreigners. Khao Tao has also been highlighted by some posters on internet forums as having an increasing problem, possibly due to its relative isolation.

It must be hoped that the police can catch those responsible for this crime, and pursue more vigorously the spate of burglaries, as they can easily end in the same tragic way as this one has.

AWOL sends its deepest condolences to the family and friends of Mr Knight.

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Weird news round up

■ NASVIKEN, SWEDEN

Police on the hunt for stolen carousel

Police in Sweden are searching for a two-tonne fairground carousel that was stolen from the side of the road.

Psst - wanna buy a carousel? Fell off the back of a lorry, know what I mean?

Owner Nils Longren was forced to leave the ride in Nasviken because the link attaching it to his trailer broke.

When he returned two hours later, it had gone.

'We thought someone was taking us for a ride when they told us they'd had a roundabout stolen,' said one police officer.

■ MISSOURI, USA

Town re-elects dead Mayor

Voters in the small northeastern Missouri town of Winfield re-elected their mayor for a fourth term, about a month after his death.

Ballots had already been printed and absentee voting had already begun when Harry Stonebraker died of a heart attack at age 69 on March 11. He won easily in Tuesday's general election with 206 votes, or 90 percent. Alderman Bernie Panther got the other 23 votes.

The election recalled Missouri's 2000 U.S. Senate race, when Democrat Mel Carnahan died in a plane crash just weeks before the November election, but still defeated incumbent Republican John Ashcroft. Carnahan's wife, Jean, was eventually appointed to the Senate seat until a special election in 2002, when she was defeated by Republican Jim Talent.

Lincoln County Clerk Elaine Luck said she wasn't surprised by Stonebraker's win, noting he was a popular mayor who helped lead the community of 1,500 through the devastating 2008 flood, when a levee breach caused by a burrowing muskrat damaged about 100 homes.

"I figured he'd win because he seemed to get even more popular after he died, just like Carnahan," Luck said.

Luck said aldermen would appoint a mayor to serve until a special election in April 2010 to pick a mayor for the remainder of the two-year term.

Stonebraker was a lifelong resident of the Winfield area and a retired construction superintendent. He had nearly completed his third two-year term as mayor.

■ ENGLAND

Pollack's name changed to Colin

Next time you're in a supermarket and too embarrassed to ask for a kilo of pollack, just ask for Colin.

This isn't a late April fool, one of the UK's leading chains has changed the name of pollack to Colin. No, really.

Sainsbury's is promoting the seafood in selected stores as it tastes similar to cod, is more sustainable and costs less.

Pollack will go on sale in limited edition packaging inspired by artist Jackson Pollock and designed by Red Or Dead fashion guru, Wayne Hemingway.

But instead of the English name, it will be called 'Colin' – the French word for hake, which is another member of the cod family.

Hemingway said: 'As a keen fisherman, it seems daft that pollack isn't more popular, particularly when it's readily available off our own coast, tastes great and is cheaper than cod. Image really is everything.

So to help Colin stand out on shelves, we've used bold, bright colours and a design that is cheekily inspired by another well-known pollack – artist Jackson Pollock.'

Pollack fillets are extremely popular in France, which is one of Britain's biggest customers in terms of fish exports.

Across the channel, the fish is known as 'lieu jaune' which is unlikely to be mistaken for a rude word by shoppers.

classifieds
HUA HIN

Hua Hin Classifieds are FREE for personal use and small businesses, however all classifieds are subject to approval and will not appear instantly.

Selected adverts will appear every week in the area's only free weekly English language publication, AWOL

There's Something Funny Going On!

Punchline Comedy Club Returns to Hua Hin on Thursday May 21st

Area 555

Send your jokes to us by email on awol@huahinmedia.com and get your name in print!

IT'S LIKE RAIN ON YOUR WEDDING DAY...

Two men waiting at the Pearly Gates strike up a conversation.
"How'd you die?" the first man asks the second.
"I froze to death," says the second.
"That's awful," says the first man. "How does it feel to freeze to death?"
"It's very uncomfortable at first", says the second man. "You get the shakes, and you get pains in all your fingers and toes. But eventually, it's a very calm way to go. You get numb and you kind of drift off, as if you're sleeping. How about you, how did you die?"
"I had a heart attack," says the first man. "You see, I knew my wife was cheating on me, so one day I showed up at home unexpectedly. I ran up to the bedroom, and found her alone, knitting. I ran down to the basement, but no one was hiding there, either. I ran up to the second floor, but no one was hiding there either. I ran as fast as I could to the attic, and just as I got there, I had a massive heart attack and died."
The second man shakes his head. "That's so ironic," he says.
"What do you mean?" asks the first man.
"If you had only stopped to look in the freezer, we'd both still be alive."

FEEL LIKE A WOMAN

A passenger plane on a cross-country trip runs into a terrible storm. The plane gets pounded by rain, hail, wind and lightning. The passengers are screaming. They are sure the plane is going to crash and that they are all going to die. At the height of the storm, a young woman jumps up and exclaims, "I can't take this anymore! I can't just sit here and die like an animal, strapped into a chair. If I am going to die,let me at least die feeling like a woman. Is there anyone here man enough to make me feel like woman?"
She sees a hand raise in the back, and a muscular man starts to walk up to her seat. As he approaches her, he takes off his shirt. She can see the man's muscles even in the poor lighting of the plane. He stands in front of her, shirt in hand and says to her, "I can make you feel like a woman before you die. Are you interested?"
Eagerly, she shakes her head, Yes!
As the man hands her his shirt, he says, "Here. Iron this."

REVERSE PSYCHOLOGY

Two married friends are out drinking one night when one turns to the other and says, "You know, I don't know what else to do. Whenever I go home after we've been out drinking, I turn the headlights off before I get to the driveway. I shut off the engine and coast into the garage. I take my shoes off before I go into the house, I sneak up the stairs, I get undressed in the bathroom. I ease into bed and my wife STILL wakes up and yells at me for staying out so late!"
His friend looks at him and says, "Well, you're obviously taking the wrong approach. I screech into the driveway, slam the door, storm up the steps, throw my shoes into the closet, jump into bed, rub my hands on my wife's butt and say, How about a blow job?... and she's always sound asleep."

CUCKOO CLOCK

Just after I got married I was invited out for a night with the boys. I told my wife that I would be home by midnight....promise!
The evening went well, the jokes were being told and the grog was going down easy and at around 3 a.m. full as a boot I went home. Just as I got in the door the cuckoo clock started and cuckooed 3 times. Quickly I realised that she'd probably wake up so I cuckooed another 9 times. I was really proud of myself, having the quick wittedness even when drunk, to escape a possible conflict.
Next morning my wife asked me what time I got in and I told her 12 o'clock. Whew! Got away with that one! She then told me that we needed a new cuckoo clock. When I asked why she said: " Well, at 3 a.m. this morning it cuckooed 3 times, paused, swore, cuckooed another 4 times, farted, cuckooed another 3 times, paused, cleared its throat and cuckooed twice, then giggled for over three minutes. I think it's stuffed, don't you?"

Your STARS
with The Sage

brought to you by **maphuahin.com**

Our previous astrologer, Destiny Dan, has had to take an enforced leave of absence, due to an unforeseen accident involving a dwarf, a fridge and a large pineapple. All of the staff at AWOL wish him a speedy recovery, and hope that no charges will be brought against him.
Stepping into the breach is The Sage, an experienced and well travelled mystic man, with his much more concise predictions...

Capricorn
Dec 22 - Jan 19
Next time, when passing a note intended to find out if someone likes you, you'll know to provide more than one box to check.

Aquarius
Jan 20 - Feb 18
It turns out that Andy Warhol overestimated the duration of your fame by about 14 and a half minutes.

Pisces
Feb 19 - Mar 20
Although you've certainly slept your way somewhere, no one would ever mistake it for the top.

Aries
Mar 21 - Apr 19
You'll have your train of thought derailed this week, instantly killing thousands of Indian passengers, injuring countless livestock, and choking the streets with cargo and crew.

Taurus
Apr 20 - May 20
Since the dawn of time, man has dreamed of flying. After this Thursday though, it'll mostly just be nightmares.

Gemini
May 21 - Jun 21
It's not true that everything you like is illegal, immoral, or fattening, but that's because you're a boring Puritan with no imagination or glands.

Cancer
Jun 22 - Jul 22
Not that it's really the Zodiac's business, but most people take the dead goldfish out of the tank before adding new ones. The same goes for the drowned cats.

Leo
Jul 23 - Aug 22
A freak accident this week will endow you with the relative strength and speed of 10 wheelchair-bound men.

Virgo
Aug 23 - Sep 22
You've never paid much attention to abandoned offshore oil platforms before, but suddenly everyone seems to think they'd be perfect for you.

Libra
Sep 23 - Oct 23
Getting laid off is a tough pill to swallow, though that's primarily because it's a suppository.

Scorpio
Oct 24 - Nov 21
Through the impressive process of extending Orion's celestial finger, the stars indicate that you should f*** off.

Sagittarius
Nov 22 - Dec 21
Sometimes you wish you could just close your eyes and disappear. Wait, no. Not sometimes. Always.

Khao Takiab - Kool Town

Learn all about life in the friendly village

Welcome to our expanded 4 page pull out focusing on Hua Hin's nearest neighbourhood and undiscovered gem, Khao Takiab. Every week we will feature news, views, attractions and special offers from the unsung village that is a reminder of what Hua Hin used to be. And there is plenty going on to bely the sleepy fishing village impression, with a host of bars, restaurants, hotels and condominiums, as well as top quality golf courses and pristine beaches.

The Pies Have It!

How about a pie, just like Mum used to bake?

■ KHAO TAKIAB, THAILAND

Khao Takiab resident, Nong, pictured below, has caused a revelation in Khao Takiab, baking a variety of pies for her friends which taste just like the ones your Mum and Grandma used to bake for you. Taught by ex English baker, Baz, Nong has perfected the art supplying a full range of home made pies, including the favourite's Steak and Kidney and Chicken, as well as Pork Pies ranking a good as the one's famously baked in Melton Mowbray! She also does fruit pies for the sweet toothed, her speciality being apple, using locally harvested fruit. We caught up with her during a baking session where she talks about her new vocation.

Hot work! Nong prepares another fresh batch of delicious pies for her customers

AWOL 'Hi Nong, how did you come to be a baker?'

Nong 'I was raised on a farm and have always dealt with fresh meat and fruit. Then Baz came along and I was fascinated when he made pastry so I watched him baking and began copying him. Eventually I started making pies for friends and they told me I should do it for a living so I did! It's a very hard living because there is not enough dough in it!'

AWOL 'How many pies do you bake now?'

Nong 'It varies, but sometimes up to 50 in one day, I like to deliver them whilst they are still warm so it means an early start, but I really enjoy it. I have about 30 customers now.'

AWOL 'And what about your plans for the future?'

Nong 'I am happy with what I do now, but I would like to have a go at baking bread too. That would be a new challenge and there are a lot of my customers that have problems finding good bread at affordable prices so we will see. The main problem is finding a good enough oven to bake the loaves off in.'

Nong can be reached on Tel 082 2414063 (Thai) or 084 772 3722 (English) if you fancy sampling her home baked pies. Delivery is free in Khao Takiab and Hua Hin. Several local establishments also have Nong's Pies on their menu, including Sunset Boulevard.

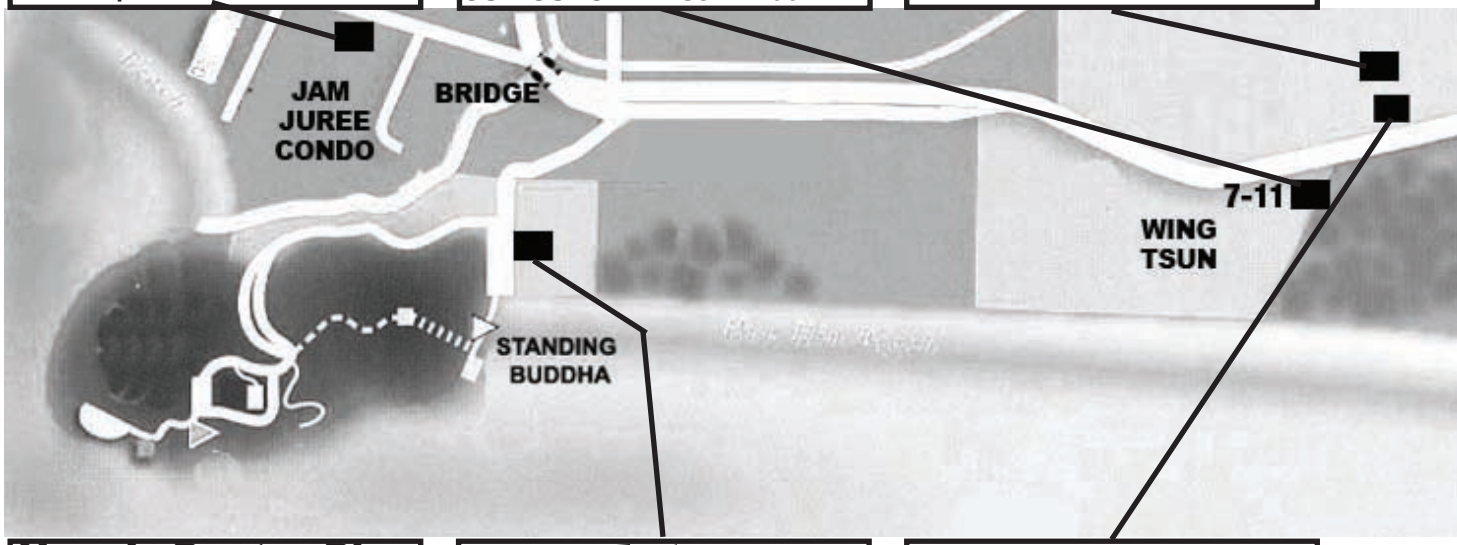
Where is Khao Takiab? For those of you unfamiliar with KT, just take the road south from Hua Hin for about 6 km until you reach a junction where the main road bends right up and over the railway, with a U-turn underneath, and the leftmost lane before that will take you into the centre of Khao Takiab.

Visit the village - dis

Oasis BAR AND RESTAURANT
Breakfasts, Thai & Western Food
Friday Karaoke 032 536559
Open 10am 'til late

MEGABOOKS
Bookshop, coffee shop and internet cafe
032 532071 Also in Hua Hin

Sun SolarEnergyAsia
info@solarenergyasia.com
084 800 6686
032 536762



Nong's Pantry Pies
Hand Made and Home Baked
Tel 082 2414083
Or 084 772 3722

Woody's RESTAURANT AND BAR
Freshly Ground Hot and Iced Coffee
Freshly Squeezed Juices
Ice Cold Beer Good Food
OPEN NOW!

Kum Koon
Thai & Western Food
Live Music

KT News & Events

■ CAMP PALAPON is the venue for a whole host of Health and Holistic Wellness activities brought to you by Klaus from Wing Tsun Kung Fu - please check the KT Events Calendar on page 14, and contact Wing Tsun by mobile: 086-8039085 or tel: 032-536239, or send an email to office@wt-thailand.com. They also have an extensive website covering their activities at http://www.wt-thailand.com/. Also listed on the Events Calendar are other classes and courses based at Sukkasart Institute of Healing Arts and the Kabantamor Resort.

■ EVERY THURSDAY at British Breakfast Foods get free Cheddar Cheese with orders over 500 baht.

■ LOST CAFE regularly shows live sports that are unavailable on either Thai TV or True Visions/UBC - coming soon are the Ashes cricket, British Lions in South Africa, FA cup semi's and final and the Hatton v Pacquiao boxing.(2nd May)

■ WOODY'S RESTAURANT AND BAR has now opened! Located conveniently near the beach, it is the first choice for food and drink on a hot day by the sea. Very near the famous Standing Buddha and just behind Supatra By The Sea, pop in and try them out!

■ DO YOU HAVE a business in Khao Takiab? Let everyone know about your special offers or events in the AWOL Khao Takiab pull out. Just email to awol@huahinmedia.com all the details plus any photos and we will do the rest!

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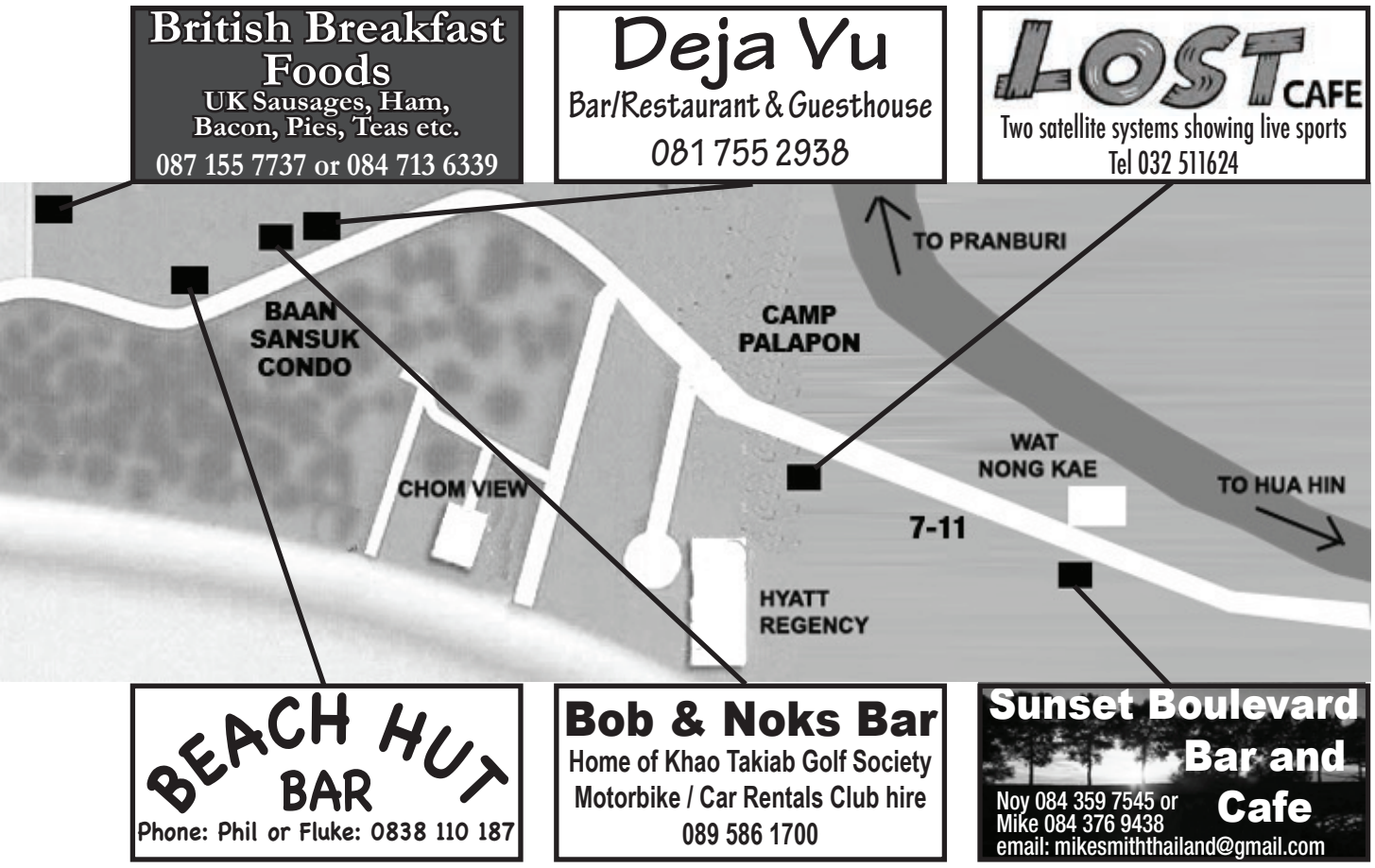
scover Khao Takiab



Kum Koon Songkran Party

Get yourself down to Kum Koon (see map above) on Monday 13th April for their Super Songkran Party! Starting at 6pm, there is going to be live music, a free buffet, karaoke and more to hail the Thai New Year. No doubt there will be a little water splashed here and there as well, so join the fun and party till late.

The band (pictured right) are from the Phillipines, and also play at Kum Koon every other Friday night. Kum Koon is in the heart of the town, and as well as an extensive Thai and Western menu and a fully stocked bar, offers a pool table to while away these hot evenings. As with most venues in Khao Takiab, parking is easy and the beach never too far away. A perfect antidote to the madhouse of Hua Hin town centre at Songkran!

The KT Events Calendar

Find out what's going on, when it's happening and where it will be in our exclusive Khao Takiab events calendar. If you want to add your event to our month ahead guide, which is updated weekly, just contact us on awol@huahinmedia.com, and we will add your event to the calendar.

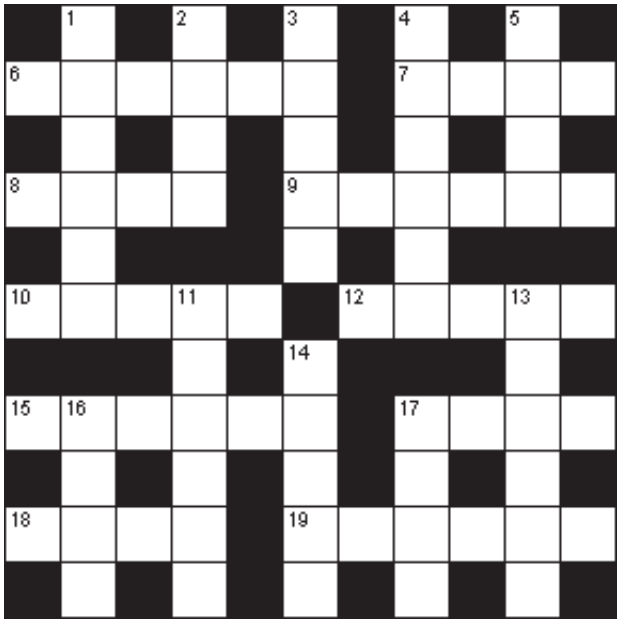
APRIL/MAY

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED'SDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
11	**12**	**13** SONGKRAN	**14** SONGKRAN	**15** SONGKRAN	**16**	**17**
Camp Palapon - Tai Chi/Yoga	Sukkasart - Qi Gong - Women	Kum Koon Songkran Party	Darts	Pool Kabantamor - Reiki Sharing	British B'fast Foods offer Kabantamor - Meditation	Oasis Karaoke Camp Palapon - Fitness/ Kung Fu
18	**19**	**20**	**21**	**22**	**23**	**24**
Lost Cafe FA Cup Semi Finals Camp Palapon - Tai Chi/Yoga	Sunset B'vard Dinner Club Lost Cafe FA Cup Semi Finals	**Sunset B'vard Quiz** C. P. Kung Fu **Kabantamor Meditation** Sukkasart- ZeNa Tai	**Darts** C. P. - Fitness/ Kung Fu **Kabantamor Meditation** Sukkasart- ZeNa Tai	**Pool** Camp Palapon - Tai Chi/Yoga **Kabantamor Reiki Level I** Sukkasart- ZeNa Tai	**British B'fast Foods offer** C. P. Kung Fu **Kabantamor Reiki Level I** Sukkasart- ZeNa Tai	Oasis Karaoke **C. P. - Fit./ Kung Fu** Kum Koon - Live music
25	**26**	**27**	**28**	**29**	**30**	**May 1**
Camp Palapon - Tai Chi/Yoga	Sunset B'vard Dinner Club Sukkasart - Qi Gong - Women	Camp Palapon - Kung Fu Kabantamor - Meditation	Darts **Camp Pal. - Fitness/K Fu** Kabantamor - Meditation & Reiki Level II	Pool **Camp Pal. - Tai Chi/Yoga** Kabantamor - Reiki Level II	British B'fast Foods offer Camp Pal. - Kung Fu	Oasis Karaoke
2	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**
	Sunset Boulevard Dinner Club		Darts	Pool	British B'fast Foods offer	Oasis Karaoke Kum Koon - Live music
9	**10**	**11**	**12**	**13**	**14**	**15**
	Sunset B'vard Dinner Club	Sunset B'vard Quiz	Darts	Pool	British B'fast Foods offer	Oasis Karaoke

Quick XWord

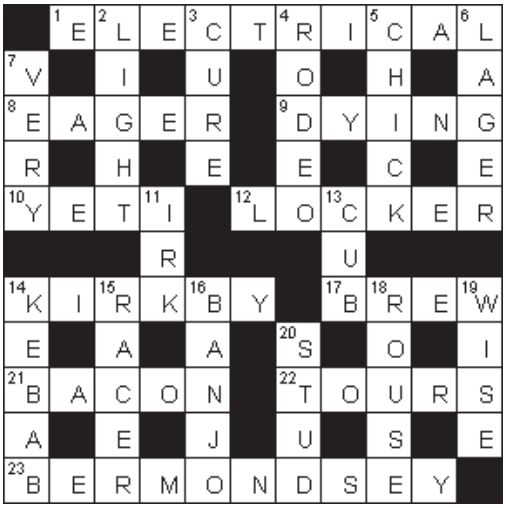
brought to you by Komkom
BAR & RESTAURANT SOI 102

Across
6. Stately mansion (6)
7. Wife of one's uncle (4)
8. Anger (4)
9. Minister (6)
10. Bring (5)
12. Wraith (5)
15. An opportunity (6)
17. Inner surface of the hand (4)
18. Ballot choice (4)
19. Departs (6)



Down
1. Injury (6)
2. Talk irrationally (4)
3. Entice (5)
4. Disappear (6)
5. Finishes (4)
11. Curved outward (6)
13. Person who sells (6)
14. Recently (5)
16. Covering for the head (4)
17. Highest point (4)

Last week's solution right



TAKE IT EASY AT
Sabai Bar
Relax with an ice cold beer and a friendly welcome from Noi and the girls
Get updated and chat about the Hua Hin Golf Society with Kevin
Play pool with the many regulars
Open every day from 12 Noon 'Til Late

Visit Myanmar
Play golf in the Golden Land
Escorted Custom Tours - Enquire within

Find us at 5 Soi Selekam, Hua Hin - from the Hilton go north along Naresdamri Road, take the first left and then the first right, and we are 40 m along on the right
Contact us: Noi 086-174-6165 Kevin 089-913-7926 email kevinmilke@yahoo.co.uk

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BUSINESS

20 NATIVE ENGLISH Speakers Needed! TEFL is the key to teaching the world! Join us in the land of smiles in beautiful Hua Hin for three exciting weeks. We will train you to teach English as a Foreign Language and then place you in a Thai school-placement guaranteed!!! 32, 000 Baht Salary and free accommodation!!!!!!!!! Plus free work permit and cultural orientation. WHEN: April 7th -24th, 2009 WHERE: Hua Hin Beach town. SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS www.thaitefl.com or contact Effie learntefl.placement@gmail.com or learn_earn.tefl@yahoo.com. PLACES LIMITED – APPLY NOW! Call 0(66)8-5133-1256

BAR/RESTAURANT FOR LEASE. In Guesthouse on Soi 80. No key money. Purchase existing inventory (Liquor), 8000 bht/month against percentage + electricity. Turnkey, but kitchen could use an upgrade. Plenty of space. Contact Brad Walker, Thai-Hi Scorpion Corp. bradkamehameha@yahoo.com +66-89-511-0874 (Thailand)

YOGA CLASS FOR your body and mind. Hello ! My name is Thyda. I am Yoga Instructor who can train both private yoga and group yoga for hotel, hospital and club. Further information, please feel free to contact me by thid_suttha@yahoo.com or 087-0146729.

TEFL IN HUAHIN. Do you love it here in Thailand? You want to stay-But don't know how? Join our "Outreach Project"...and make a difference in the lives of Thai Children. We offer 3 weeks intensive TEFL (Teaching English as a foreign language) Training PLUS A GUARANTEED Job Placement & Salary for 4 months contract...Earn as you go!!! Course Starts in APRIL 7th - 24th, 2009. 2nd Special TEFL Project For Filipinos and people who live in Thailand March 2nd to 20th. Free course material Plus Accommodation. Free work permit. Free transportation to Orientation course. More info contact: Prissy tefl@teachinginthailand.net

BAR FOR SALE With all fittings and furniture pool table and accomadation very good profits low rent long lease. Call : Peter Thripp 085 229807

CHEAPEST TOURS IN Town If you are looking for Tours program and hotel reservations in a good price and good service please do not hesitate to contact us at 032 533005 086 5574872. We look forward to serving you. We offer the cheapest price!!! Contact kriangkrai pintong on Email: dctravelhuahin@hotmail.com

BARS FOR SALE Two bars for the price of one for sale in the centre of town just off Bintabarth. Great location good trade phone 0875006519 for more details. Contact D.J on denisnaulty@hotmail.com

EMPLOYMENT

HOUSE SITTER AVAILABLE. Do you worry about leaving your house empty for long periods? I can provide house sitting services with full references for the Hua Hin area. Please contact Edd on 080 659 0455 (English only) or email zeb_e_d@yahoo.co.uk for more details.

NEED BUSINESS COORDINATOR. Seeking a female Thai national that can read, write and speak English for a Business Coordinator position with Internet Buyer Direct Ltd. here in Hua Hin. We are a new company The applicant must be in her early to mid 20's attractive in appearance, friendly, computer literate.Salary is negotiable. Please reply with resume/CV which must include your salary expectations or please contact Khun Nara 087-9780044, Email: nara@smart-traffic.co.uk

SHOP ASSISTANT WANTED We are a newly opened computer store in Hua Hin. We are looking for a Thai woman who speaks English (and Thai of course). The job consists of partly assisting our two managers with various business work and partly with being in the shop working. If you are interested please do send an email to thomas@skyum-dk.com

COMPUTER TECHS NEEDED! We are a newly started Computer store in Hua Hin, and we are in need of 1-2 computer techs. Your job will mostly consist of repairing computers and helping people in general with their computer problems. We expect a high level of computer knowledge and speaking some English is a must. We can both offer fulltime jobs, but also part-time if you for example goes to university in the daytime, you can work in the afternoon. Send a mail to thomas@skyum-dk.com and we can have a talk.

WANTED PROPERTY SALES AGENT Siam Real Estate is looking for a freelance sales agent to handle our sales leads in Hua Hin and take listings. Excellent prospects and high commission paid. Full office support and No.1 web site in Thailand guaranteeing sales leads. Require work permit, car, internet connection, we supply the rest. Reply with CV to jobs@siamrealestate.com

FEMALE MARKETING & PR officer needed A newly established international Academy based in northern part of Thailand is in urgent need of a female marketing and public relations officer; this position is reserved for foreigners while Thais can also apply, all applicants must be good in speaking and writing of English, please respond with your details to Soo Soodjai on Email: soosoodjai2009@yahoo.com

LOOKING FOR PART time job. I'm looking for part time job as housekeeper, 4 hours per day (08.00 - 11.00 am). Please contact me Tel. 083-3511896 Nin

GENERAL

GOLF CLUBS FOR Sale. Callaway Big Bertha 460 Driver 10.5 loft, Mid torque, mid kick Callaway 80 gram shaft. (On R&A conforming list) Matching 3 and 5 fairway metals. Wilson 7 utility club. Cleveland (tour action) TA7 Irons, 3 to Sand Iron, dynamic golf steel shafts. Odessy White Steel 2 ball putter + Wilson Pro Staff putter. Titleist Black golf bag. All clubs genuine, no copies. Price 17000 Baht.

LATERAL THIGH TRAINER and Ab Pro, both as new Bt 3,000/- each. Rosewood floor lamp with shade Baht 6,500/-. Large custom TV unit with shelves for DVD player, satellite box etc 155x115x45 cm Baht 16,500/-. Bookcases x 2, 155x100x25cm Baht 7,500 each. Rosewood Bar with 2 stools and large wine cooler Baht 45,000/-. 084 112 8873

FISHING RODS SEA and river fishing rods for sale. Private sale, 350 Bht. to 500Bht. Sorry no reels. Tel keith 089-0702423

COTTO CS800 S/STEEL Water Tank for sale in good working order no rust. Comes with taps and input ball valve all in full working order. Just no longer required. Cost 12900. Sell 4000. Please phone 0833 172 481

CALLAWAY IRONS FOR sale. Callaway x18 pro series irons for sale, irons 3-9 + PW + SW, 11,000 baht. Call Julian on 085 358 4573.

TENNIS RACKET WILSON k6-1 tour, Roger Federer uses this one. Cost in Bangkok 8,900. Strung with nxt strings, includes 2 sets of nxt strings. Nxt costs 1,400. Total 13,000baht. You pay 5,000baht. Call Bill at 0802446739

FOR SALE, TRIPLE fridge freezer, three door, 5 months old, ideal for bar, guest house, restaurant. Price: 30,000, o.n.o. Call Peter on 087 168 4654, 24 hrs.

MOTORING

FOR SALE, 1975 Mercedes Benz 200 automatic, white colour. Good condition, original paint, air-conditioning. Recently serviced. Price: 150.000 baht negotiable. Phone: 081-0108216 (English)

FOR SALE 2007 Chevy Colorado, looks and runs like new, low mileage, 4 door, 5 speed, fully equipped. price 500,000 bt. or 150.000 bt. down and take over payments (9,500 per month). Full warranty, cost new 940,000. Call

If you wish to place a classified advert in AWOL, please either send an email to awol@observergroup.net or fill in the details below and cut out the coupon and deliver it to Noi at Sabai Bar, Soi Selekam by 6 pm on the Tuesday before the issue you want to be included in. . All adverts are free and will be included for 4 weeks automatically except for property or business adverts - please contact AWOL on awol@huahinmedia.com for prices and details. Please register on www.classifiedshuahin.com to place your ad there free of charge; a selection from there will be in AWOL every week.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM IN BLOCK CAPITALS (limit of 40 words per free ad)

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:	

087 155 7737.

AXLE STANDS TWO very strong axle stands for car mechanic. Made in Canada. Can hold pickup truck and heavy vehicles. !,500 Bht. Tel Keith 089-0702423

2002 TOYOTA TIGER 4WD for Sale Double Cab, 3.0 Diesel EFI (electronic fuel injection), manual transmission, ABS (anti-lock brake system), SRS airbag, leather upholstery, Off-Road front & rear bumpers, Carryboy canopy, 170,000 Kms. All for only 350,000 Bht. Contact: Alex +66 (0)85 888 9841, alex_miron@hotmail.com

HONDA WAVE 100CC for sale Owners are leaving Thailand, and looking to sell their Honda Wave100.It's in excellent condition. New wheels, new oil, recently serviced.17 000 Baht negotiable. Phone: 081 272 66 35 / 086 765 7161

SUZUKI SMASH WITH sidecar good condition, surplus to requirements. 18000bath. Contact 0871078901

FOR RENT 2007 Chevy Colorado 4 door truck, Manual, radio, CD player, 500 baht day, Minimum 14 days rental, discount longer rental, Truck available one month to one year. Also automatic Motorbike available for short or long term rent. Call 087 155 7737 (English) 084 713 6339 (Thai).

LAND ROVER L.W.B. Dark green, Isuzu diesel engine fully serviced, new tyres, good condition, 175,000 baht. Phone Sheila 081-006-4010

PERSONALS

ARE THERE ANY like-minded people who are interested in miniature dolls houses living in Hua Hin; and who would like to get in touch with a very enthusiastic miniaturist? If so please email...nevandeve@gmail.com

PROPERTY

FARM FOR SALE, HUA HIN. Directly from the owner. A peaceful mountain view in Nong Hoy Valley. On Phetkasem Road just 18km south from Hua Hin and 2km from Tesco Lotus Pranburi. Total 11 rai (2 hectares). Price THB 6,500,000 or THB 590,000 per rai. Goes under the market price. Rare, must see. Enquires: 089-688-7407 (English) / 081-919-6845 (Thai)

LAND FOR SALE 1 rai land at Tropical Hill 2, surrounded by a 2m high block wall, water & electric available, access via government road, 3km from town, suitable for building business or leisure, lovely secluded position with mountain views only 3.5 million baht. Khun Mae 0862444709 / 0865004709 for viewing. Peter in the UK 07592671391 email tenret@btinternet.com

GREAT LAND BUY HUA HIN-CHA AM REDUCED TO ONLY 200,000 BAHT A RAI. This 8 rai of land is for sale at the amazing price of 1.6 million baht for 8 rai. The house is added for free! The land is near to Springfield golf course, near to the World Sports Centre, on a main concrete road and there is also a road on the far side of the land too. Mountain views. There is water and electricity. Chanote and chanote posts, Contact Darrell 0846846869

RENTALS

RENTAL WANTED BELOW 10,000 Bht/month I need a Thai style house or equivalent with vacant land around it or a large garden for the benefit of 2 Thai dogs. I have all furniture etc. I am a resident and rent for a longer period, with first a trial period (bad eperience of construction starting around rented houses) Thai language: no problem Please e-mail first: drtips@loxinfo.co.th or call 087 09 09 377

BEAUTIFUL 4 BED /4 bath house for rent Khao Takiab. Spacious 4 bed /4 bath, refurbished house. A/C, Western kitchen, open plan lounge/ diner. Cable TV, Internet, communal pool, only a stroll to the beautiful Khao Takiab beach and the cheeky monkeys on Monkey Mountain! 2 minutes walk to local shops/ bars/ restaurants ideal for family or golfing holidays. Daily/ weekly/ monthly/ long term rates available. Contact maire.evans1@btinternet.com

UNFURNISHED HOUSE 3,000 baht p/m. We're leaving our house at the end of April and would like to find new long-term tenants to take over. The house is owned by a lovely Thai woman who lives (and owns the shop) next door. It has two double bedrooms, living room, office area, and a unique large kitchen and bathroom area. It has a large walled garden of (I guess) around 1.5 rai and the house is in the middle of a small village 15kms west of Silpakorn University. It's about 35kms to Hua Hin, so you need some wheels. Please contact me either by e.mail: ajarnhanry@gmail.com or by PM on HHAD - I'm Vital Spark.. I look forward to hearing from you.

HOUSE FOR RENT New house in Hua Hin Soi 29. Three bedrooms, three bathrooms, two air-cons, fully furnished to high standard, western kitchen. 25,000/ month. Call 0858180532 or 032536397, Thai or English.

STUDIO CONDO AT the Beach close to town 8000 baht monthly. 8th floor studio apartment between the Hilton,Sofitel,Marriott and the new Hotel Intercontinental, Hyatt and Chiva Som Hotels at Hua Hin's nicest beach. Studio with King size bed, new furniture and upgrades. Nice size refrigerator, hot water on-demand, shower over bath. Air-con, all linens and cooking-ware provided. Parking, pool, exercise room and ping-pong. Ocean and mountain views with very cool northern exposure and excellent year round breezes, nice mosaic outdoor porch. A few minutes short stroll to Market Village with 100's of shops and big time shopping mall advantages (1/2 dozen banks open 7 days a week) including Cinemas and bowling alley and many international restaurants. About a kilometre to downtown with municipal transit to and from town and the province at your front doorstep. 8000 baht based on one-year rental but will be flexible for the correct situation. 300 baht monthly for cable TV. Contact Pa at rungnapa0202@yahoo.com

SERVICED ROOMS FOR rent, long-term from 5000 bht/month + electricity. On Soi 80 near everything. Tropical Style. Quaint, quiet and comfortable. Contact Brad Walker, Thai-Hi Scorpion Corp. bradkamehameha@yahoo.com +66-89-511-0874 (Thailand)

4 BEDROOM HOUSE In Khao Tao, 15 minutes from Hua Hin and 2 minutes to Had Sai Noi beach. 15,000 Baht per month. Contact Dougal Brown Email: dougal_brown@yahoo.co.uk

TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT in Khao Takiab. Three storeys, includes furniture, 10,000 baht/month. Contact Jang on 089 914 9994

I WOULD LIKE to rent a House/Condo Please. I am Coming to Hua Hin for at least a year, in May 2009. I would like to Rent a house/Condo close to Town centre for 12500 bht max per month. Anything available please. Thanks Bev. Contact Beverley Wood on Email: bbwood@btinternet.com

TECHNOLOGY

WEBSITE DESIGN AND marketing services Professional website design, marketing and maintenance services. Get it done locally and save the money and hassle. We can also offer search engine optimization and link marketing solutions. Digital Metrix are well established in Hua Hin and offer only the best, call our sales office on 032-533371 or visit our site www.digitalmetrix.net

WANTED

BIKE WANTED GOOD quality mans bike wanted. No Thai made bikes please. Contact Mike Disley on Email: mikedisley@yahoo.co.uk

PLAYGROUP IN HUA Hin or Cha-am Hi, I have a two year old girl and would like to join a playgroup in either Hua Hin or Cha-am area. I stay near Holiday Inn (cha-am) and am very happy to host the playgroup. If any mothers are interested to form and join the playgroup, please call Yui at 085-159 0926 or Email: yuikhonkaen@yahoo.com Thanks

FRIENDS of AWOL and HHAD

Accommodation
Blue Moon Hotel
Lille Man Guesthouse
M&A Guesthouse
Jing's Guesthouse
Top Marks Hotel
Mr Dan Guesthouse
Orchid Garden
Hua Hin Avenue
Evergreen GH
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Ghouse Hotel
The Fat Cat
El Murphy's

Bars and Pubs
Harley's Bar
Sabai Bar
Cheeky Monkey
Dara's Bar
Dick's Office
Lucky Shot
Jungle Juice
JW's
Lolitas
Romantic Bar
JJ's Bar
Octopussy Bar
Sunset Boulevard

Restaurants and Food
Hua Hin Ham & Bacon
Green Lotus
Kom Hom
Lost Cafe
Kim's Kitchen
Coco 51
Buffalo Tavern
Stefano's Pizza

Activities and Services
Ambassador Fashions
GoKart Hua Hin
Mermaid Cruises
Hua Hin Fishing Lodge
Kung Fu Thailand
Mai Thai Boat Trips
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Settle Service Siam
Megabooks
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Property and Home
Hua Hin Property
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Siam Property
Hua Hin Stainless
Siam Old Teak
Settler Homes
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Does life suck? Have your troubles blown away at
Lolitas
Soi Selekam Open 11am - 1am

Your Problems SOLVED

**Relationship woes?
Bar girl blues?
Sexual deviant?
Send your problem
to Mary Ann Cotton on
awol@huahinmedia.com**

■ DEAR MARY,
My girlfriend steadfastly refuses to give me oral sex, even though I will do so for her. She says it is dirty, and any mention of the subject is an instant turn off. I have told her that it is natural and that all couples do it, and even the old favourite that it is good for you but she won't have it. I've tried smearing myself with chocolate, Marmite, peanut butter, ice cream and a cherry on top but nothing convinces her.
While the rest of our sex life is good, this one thing is something I particularly enjoy. How can I persuade her that it is perfectly normal, or is there some other advice you can give me?
Randy, Ratchaburi

Mary says:Dear Randy,
I am very sorry to tell you but I am completely in agreement with your girlfriend - it is a filthy thing to want her to do! However much bathing or showering is involved, you can't get away from the fact that the bodily excretions from that area should not go anywhere near a girl's mouth, well at least not unless she is being paid handsomely to do so.
However I do believe I have a solution for you - if you really must indulge in having your lollipop gobbled or want to tickle some tonsils, then there are establishments available in most areas that can service your needs. Our sponsors are particularly keen that I should point this out for some reason. How happy your girlfriend will be about this is another matter but then it is your choice whether you tell her or not - my advice would be don't!

Dear Mary,
My wife and I recently enjoyed a holiday in Hua Hin but one thing soured the trip for us. We are from Sweden, and always use 'props' of one type or another to spice up our lovemaking. These are readily available in Sweden with shops on every street corner selling a wide variety of toys and uniforms, among other things. We did not have space in our luggage to bring any with us, but were most surprised to find that there were no shops at all selling these items in Hua Hin. How do people in Thailand enjoy sex without a few rubber vibrating items? We noticed a large number of other Scandinavians live there and we have to assume that they get things sent over, but we obviously didn't want to borrow others equipment for reasons of hygeine. Are sex toys available in Thailand?
Sven, Stockholm.

Mary says: Dear Sven,
Just out of curiosity have you recently returned from a few months stay in Mexico?
Your problem is one many Swedish people encounter when travelling abroad, as all other countries are not perverted sexaholics like you Swedes. The act of love is a beautiful and sensual experience that should have no need for foot long rubber whatsits or vibrating thingummyjigs. Just because you want to pretend you're a Viking raping and pillaging doesn't mean the rest of us do. And what is all this sauna and rolliing around naked in the snow business?
However on your next trip to Hua Hin go to soi 69 and look for a tall pink building with a red roof - that is Madam Nok's and I have been informed that she can obtain special items for deviants such as yourselves.

HUTSADIN ELEPHANT FOUNDATION
Help the Elephants of this area - many are now unable to be kept by their owners due to ill health, age or being unable to work any more. The Hutsadin Elephant Foundation will take care of these animals but needs both volunteers and donations to do so. Please help these gentle giants, or just visit them at the Foundation on the Pala-U Road.
www.hutsadin.org
email: hutsadinhuahin@hotmail.com.

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The Hash Report by Scotch Tape

CHA AM HASH HOUSE HARRIERS Hash Run No. 97 Held on 4th April 2009 off the Pramburi Bypass south of Cha Am: Hares: Mickey Mou and Cannonballs

A BIG BOY DID IT AND RAN AWAY (With acknowledgements and apologies to Christopher Brookmyre)

On the afternoon of 4th April, a truly auspicious date as will be revealed in due course, the dwindling denizens of CAH3 assembled just off the Pranburi by-pass for their Run Number 97. Hares for the occasion have asked for their unanimity to be preserved in view of recent contretemps in and around Sir Freddie Goodwin's abode, so in keeping with their wishes they shall remain shameless. Despite the paucity of participants it was a cheerful gathering who were additionally heartened by the absence within Hashing distance of any mountainous masses to mar the the afternoon's prospects. In due course, after a truly Hare-raising harangue on the markings, mishaps and other machinations to be avoided later this multifaceted melange of misanthropes minced off to seek the Shining Path.

As has been already observed the terrain was fairly level and although a quick succession of checkpoints produced some peripheral perambulation the body of Runners and Walkers remained in some sort of strung out cohesion. So things progressed pleasantly as this proliferation of checks was successfully negotiated by those hardy Hashers until the paper trail dwindled down to a severely sparse smattering of smidgens reinforced by occasional green patches and yellow ribbons tied round pieces of wood. Unfortunately none of these skinny trails materialised into anything more substantial and soon the the surrounding countryside was aswarm with hornswoggled Hashers seeking the solace of a sound trail. It now became obvious that the Hares had decided that dereliction was the better part of valour and were nowhere to be found. In the midst of this mayhem Mother Chick decided to get some good out of the outing so she led a foraging party in an attempt to denude the surroundings of all edible vegetation.

Dave the Rave now stepped in to do the Hares' duties and called the widespread wanderers to him and led a determined foray back along the axis of advance to the parking lot which they had so recently vacated. Here they found one of the missing Hares who acted as a genuine Indian guru and showed them all a better way. Paper went in various directions so the CAH3 - ever adaptable - did likewise and also went various ways so that with the intermittent outbursts on the bugle it became like a convoluted game of Musical Trails.

Safely back at the car park once again the vituperations and recriminations were rife until Pinky quelled the unrest by stating that he had experienced many Hash Full Cups and although this one was of overflowing proportions he did not think it justified a Postman Mortem He opined that justice would be served by returning the recalcitrants to their island fastnesses Elba and St Helena and not allowing them back until they learned to behave. It was established in the Hares' defence that they had suffered from wind, had only been able to lay the trail that very mid-morning so there was no time for adjustments, and of course "a big boy did it and ran away!" The Circle now turned its attention to serious matters and Dave the Rave was DownDowned for being Born Yesterday and Scotch Tape was DownDowned for making this date truly and magnificently auspicious by being born on it, but not recently. The GM next performed the baptism of Christian and Ricard with the Hash names Oliver Hardon and Stan Oral much to the delight and amusement of all concerned. Because of the later start to the Hash these days daylight is at a premium for Circle activities so by the time Top Cat- in the face of universal disapprobation - came to perform his piece de jour it was too dark for him to read his song sheet so he had to ad lib atrociously but we still got the message that though Paddy is a swinger he is also a workshy layabout.

The GM restored sanity to the proceedings by naming Tom Yam Gung restaurant as the venue for the OnOnOn and promptly closing the Circle so that we might proceed thereto and coagulate convivially.

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SATURDAY DRINKS SPECIALS!!
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27/3 Poolsuk Road, Hua Hin

Hua Hin Pool Leagues

Hua Hin Pool Billiard League
Results Matchday 30 3rd April 2009

Home	Racks	Pts	Away	Racks	Pts
LSA	17	6	JWR	11	2
QUE	18	7	CAP	9	1
TW	12	3	EAG	15	5
JWB	15	5	SUG	12	3
LSL	17	7	DB	8	1
DIA	9	2	LSB	17	6
OCT	12	4	LSS	11	4
no Game DA					

Next Weeks Fixtures
The season has finished.
Congratulations to:
1. Eagle Bar
2. Queens Flower Bar
3. Lucky Shot Students
10.04.-12.04. 8ball individuals
17.04.-19.04. 9ball individuals
New Season starts on 24.04.09

League Table

Team	P	W	D	L	Diff	Racks	Pts
Eagle Bar	29	23	4	2	98	169	50
Queens Flower Bar	29	19	8	2	92	178	46
Lucky Shot Student's	29	18	7	4	45	93	43
Johnie Walker Black	29	19	4	6	46	111	42
Lucky Shot A	29	15	9	5	38	96	39
Lucky Shot B	29	14	7	8	28	44	35
Octopussy Bar	29	14	6	9	14	28	34
Lucky Shot Ladies	29	12	6	11	0	-1	30
Sugar Cane Bar	29	11	4	14	9	16	26
Johnie Walker Red	29	9	6	14	-28	-76	24
Silverrock Bar	15	7	4	4	0	-5	18
Dick's Office B	29	7	3	19	-50	-95	17
Thaiwaii	29	6	3	20	-38	-70	15
Captain's Inn	29	5	4	21	-72	-128	14
Diamond Bar	29	4	5	19	-72	-150	13
Dick's Office A	29	1	2	26	-110	-210	4

Hua Hin 8 Ball League
Results
Week 3 1st April 2009
DicksB 6 - 6 SportCentre
LilleMan 9 - 3 Pla's Place
SC Students 4 - 8 MrDanA
Eagle Bar v DicksA n/a
Komhom v Butterfly Rock n/a
MrDanB v Papayita n/a

League Table

Team	P	W	D	L	+/-	Pts
Papayita	2	2	0	0	16	4
MrDanB	2	2	0	0	8	4
DicksA	2	2	0	0	6	4
Komhom	2	1	1	0	8	3
Pla's Place	3	1	1	1	-4	3
SportCntre	3	1	1	1	-4	3
LilleMan	3	1	0	2	0	2
B'fly Rock	2	1	0	1	0	2
Eagle Bar	2	1	0	1	0	2
MrDanA	3	1	0	2	-2	2
DicksB	3	0	1	2	-18	1
SC Stdnts	3	0	0	3	-10	0

Next Week's Fixtures
Week 4 15th April 2009
DicksB v Butterfly Rock
Eagle Bar v Sportcenter Students
Komhom v MrDanA
LilleMan v DicksA
MrDanB v Pla's Place
SportCentre v Papayita

Hua Hin 9 Ball League
Results
Week 4 6th April 2009
Mr Dan A 11 - 12 LilleMan
Papayita 15 - 8 Dicks B
Plas Place 12 - 15 Sportcenter
SC Students 16 - 8 Mr Dan B (Walkover)
Dicks A v Butterfly Rock n/a

League Table

Team	P	W	D	L	+/-	Pts
Papayita	4	4	0	0	23	8
LilleMan	4	3	0	1	10	6
Sportcnter	4	3	0	1	6	6
SC Stdnts	4	2	1	1	7	5
Plas Place	3	2	0	1	3	4
Mr Dan B	4	2	0	2	-1	4
Mr Dan A	4	0	1	3	-8	1
Dicks A	3	0	1	2	-10	1
B'fly Rock	3	0	1	2	-10	1
Dicks B	3	0	0	3	-20	0

Next Week's Fixtures
Week 5 13th April 2009
Butterfly Rock v Mr Dan A
Dicks B v Dicks A
LilleMan v Sportcenter
Mr Dan B v Papayita
Sportcenter Students v Plas Place

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Hua Hin Pool Leagues

brought to you by Lucky Shot Bar

Hua Hin and Khao Takiab Pool League

League Table

Team	P	W	D	L	+/-	Pts
Harleys	16	12	1	3	60	25
Free Time	16	10	3	3	56	23
Oasis Bar	15	11	1	3	48	23
Bob & Noks	15	10	1	4	46	21
S'set B'vard	15	6	4	5	4	16
Dizzy Dolp	16	6	4	6	-10	16
Thaiwaii	15	5	1	9	-28	11
Kun Koom	15	2	3	10	-38	7
R'way Tav	14	3	1	10	-52	7
Dara Bar	15	1	1	13	-86	3
Deja Vu	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eagle Bar	0	0	0	0	0	0

Results

Wed 8th April 2009

Bob and Noks 5 - 13 Harleys Bar
Kun Koom 7 - 11 Free Time Bar
Sunset Boulevard 8 - 10 Oasis Bar
Thaiwaii v Railway Tavern n/a

Next Week's Fixtures

Wed 15th April 2009

Dizzy Dolphin v Thaiwaii
Free Time Bar v Dara Bar
Harleys Bar v Kun Koom
Oasis Bar v Bob and Noks
Railway Tav v Sunset Boulevard

Hua Hin Social Pool League

The season has ended, but can bars please try to arrange these matches over the next couple of weeks.

Outstanding Fixtures

Please arrange ASAP
Week 2 Butterfly Rock v JW Red
Week 5 JW Red v U Turn
Week 10 Jungle Juice A v JW Red
Week 11 Red Bar v B'fly Rock
Week 12 Bfly Rock v Headrock
Billys v U Turn
Week 13 Sabai v Butterfly Rock
U Turn v Jungle Juice A
Week 14 B'fly Rock v JW Black
Week 15 JW Red v Butterfly Rock
Week 16 Billys Babes v JW Red
Week 22 Lazy Daze v Red Bar
Week 24 B'fly Rock v Red Bar
Week 25 Headrock v Bfly Rock
Billy Babes v Lazy Daze
Week 26 Red Bar v JW Red
Billys v Limelight

Please contact Barry at JWs for information about the next season, or to register your interest.

Hua Hin Darts Leagues

Results - Week 7 & League Tables

Division 1

Dicks Office B v CAT 2-10
JW Black v Paradise 6-6
Oasis v JW Red 8-4
Scandic Bar A v Lazy Daze n/a

Team	P	W	D	L	PF-PA	Pts
CAT	6	5	1	0	53-19	11
P'dise	6	4	1	1	51-19	9
JW Blk	6	3	1	2	42-30	7
Dicks B	6	3	0	3	32-40	6
Scan A	5	3	0	2	29-31	6
Oasis	5	1	1	3	24-36	3
JW Red	6	1	0	5	27-45	2
Lazy D	4	0	0	4	5-43	0

Division 2

Butterfly Rock v Scandic B - n/a
Kom Hom v Railway Tavern – n/a
Jaew v Kom Hom Ladies 11-1
Lucky Shot v Dicks Office A 10-2

Team	P	W	D	L	PF-PA	Pts
Lcky S	6	6	0	0	52-20	12
Dicks A	6	4	0	2	48-24	8
Scan B	6	3	1	2	31-39	7
Kom H	5	2	1	2	36-24	5
Jaew	6	3	0	3	38-34	6
R'way	5	2	0	3	25-35	4
B'fly Rk	6	1	2	3	36-36	4
KH Ls	6	0	0	6	7-65	0

Next Week's Fixtures - Week 8 14/04/2009

Division 1

Lazy Daze v Dicks Office B
JW Red v Scandic Bar A
Paradise v Oasis
CAT v JW Black

Division 2

Dicks Office A v Butterfly Rock
Kom Hom Ladies v Lucky Shot
Railway Tavern v Jaew
Scandic Bar B v Kom Hom

Top 16: Top 10 -Div 1

Name	Bar	S Win	D Win	S2L	D2L	Tons	140+	180s	Clse	C >100	Pts
Stuart	P	30	20	8	6	31	7	1	23	0	126
Tao	Cat	11	24	2	3	29	6	1	21	1	99
Peter	JWB	20	14	6	3	16	2	1	16	0	78
Bon	Cat	20	17	6	3	12	2	0	14	0	74
Mark	O	16	8	4	1	25	2	0	16	0	72
Dicky	JWB	13	6	4	4	20	4	0	16	0	68
Golf	SBA	9	8	2	4	24	1	0	14	0	62
Doug M	P	13	9	4	2	12	2	0	17	0	59
Bon	DOB	9	8	4	3	16	3	1	12	0	56
Don	Cat	11	11	4	5	10	1	0	12	0	54

Top 6 - Div 2

Name	Bar	S Win	D Win	S2L	D2L	Tons	140+	180s	Clse	C >100	Pts
Jim	DOA	13	36	2	9	22	2	0	26	0	110
Steve	BR	4	25	4	7	14	2	0	14	0	70
Danny	LS	30	7	6	5	16	2	0	1	0	67
Mojo	KH	16	8	6	4	10	1	0	18	0	63
Paul	LS	16	5	6	3	14	2	0	15	0	61
Cop	SBB	13	7	4	3	15	0	0	18	0	60

Please contact Barry or Jill at JWs if you spot any mistakes in the above tables, or email barrypm@hotmail.com

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 us about it by the Thursday before and we will include it here...send some photos and we will do our utmost to publish them; email awol@huahinmedia.com or contact Noi at Sabai Bar (Tel: 086 174 6165).

Songkran Party 13th April - Kum Koon in Khao Takiab - see p 13

Friday 17th April - Ye Olde Buffalo Tavern Quiz Night. Bookings only 150 baht entry, great free buffet included. See p 6 ad for contact details

Regular Events

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays - Pool Leagues

Tuesdays - Darts League (see p 21 for venues, free food for players)

Fridays - Dick's Office open darts night from 7.30pm

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

Sundays - Scandic Bar, Cha Am, open darts evening from 7.30pm . FREE return transport from Dick's Office departs 7pm - please call 089 745 3992 (Anne) or 189 894 4310 (Mack) 3 hrs before to book transport

Hua Hin Golf Society

This week's results:

7th April - Majestic Creek 34 Entrants One Group Only Stableford

1st Al Acherman (g) 40 pts 12 hcp. 2nd Renu (g) 39 pts 28 hcp. 3rd Monica de Brut (g) 38 pts 34 hcp. 4th Usko Roivas 38 pts 8 hcp. 5th Hans Roupe 22 hcp. Bob Lloyd (g) 15 hcp. David J. (g) 22 hcp. All 37 pts.

Nearest the Pin No. 6 Nitha, No.17 Roger Donaldson

MATCH AGAINST THE MELBOURNE CRICKET CLUB

HHGS - Jon Lundgren, Karl Westerholm, Judith Thomson, Bjorn Byman, Dickie Bird, Terry Burdge, Roger Donaldson, Berny Morgan, Richard Heath. Aggregate Stableford Score of: 293

MCC - Bob Lloyd, Richard A. Collen, Heather, Chris P. Mick L. Neil Henderson, David B. David J. Aggregate Stableford Score of: 284

Therefore the Hua Hin Golf Society win by 9 Points.

4th April - Black Mountain 62 Entrants

Group 'A' - 0-14 hcp - Strokeplay (medal)

1st Tony (g) 67 net 12 hcp. 2nd Timo Ripatti 71 net 7 hcp. 3rd Joe Sims 73 net 5 hcp. 4th Mick Evans 74 net 10 hcp. 5th Jim Ford 74 net 8 hcp. 6th Colin Devonshire 75 net 10 hcp.

Group 'B' - 15-36 hcp - Stableford

1st Arnold Ruijs 39 pts 19 hcp. 2nd Chris Davidson 36 pts 19 hcp. 3rd Mario (g) 35 pts 16 hcp. 4th Richard Heath 34 pts 21 hcp. 5th Han Hackvoort 34 pts 20 hcp. 6th Mod Rea 33 pts 29 hcp.

Nearest the Pin No. 3 John Stuart, No.11 Jyrki

Next week's fixtures:

Tuesday 14th Songkran - No Competition

Friday 17th Banyan - 1st Tee Time 10.00 - 4 Ball Texas Scramble

Butterfly Rock Golf

This week's results:

1st April 2009 at Royal Ratchburi

1st Craig Miller 33 pts, 2nd Robin Heath 31 pts, 3rd Duang Bach 30 pts, 4th Philip Simons 29 pts

8th April 2009 at Lakeview C & D

1st Craig Miller 35 pts, 2nd Timo Ripatti 35 pts, 3rd David Leaver 35 pts, 4th Doug Miller 33 pts

Forthcoming Fixtures

Monday 13th April Lake View

Friday 17th April Palm Hills

Scoreboard

(EPL unless stated)

Saturday, 4 April 2009

Arsenal 2-0 Man City

Blackburn 2-1 Tottenham

Bolton 4-1 Middlesbrough

Fulham 0-1 Liverpool

Hull 0-0 Portsmouth

Newcastle 0-2 Chelsea

West Brom 0-2 Stoke

West Ham 2-0 Sunderland

Sunday, 5 April 2009

Everton 4-0 Wigan

Man Utd 3-2 Aston Villa

Tuesday, 7 April 2009

UEFA Champions League Quarter Finals 1st leg

Man Utd 2-2 FC Porto

Villarreal 1-1 Arsenal

Wednesday, 8 April 2009

UEFA Champions League Quarter Finals 1st leg

Barcelona 4-0 Bayern Munich

Liverpool 1-3 Chelsea

Champions League Fixtures

Tuesday, 14 April 2009

Bayern Munich v Barcelona

Chelsea v Liverpool

Wednesday, 15 April 2009

Arsenal v Villarreal

Porto v Man Utd

Tuesday, 28 April 2009

Barca/Bayern v L'pool/Chelsea

Wednesday, 29 April 2009

Man U/Porto v Arsenal/Villarreal

Tuesday, 5 May 2009

Arsenal/Villarreal v Man U/Porto

Wednesday, 6 May 2009

L'pool/Chelsea v Barca/Bayern,

Wednesday, 27 May 2009

Final

J.W's
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EPL Preview

Saturday, 11 April 2009

Liverpool v Blackburn, 18:45

A North West derby, title chaser against relegation battler, flowing football versus long ball cloggers. Quite a bit riding on this then but we just can't see Rovers being able to get anything from this match despite their performance last week. Home win.

Chelsea v Bolton, 21:00

Bolton have made themselves virtually safe now with their thumping of 'Boro and it may mean they will be a little more relaxed in this one. Chelsea are a cut above the Trotters though, and while this won't be easy, they will get a hard earned win.

Middlesbrough v Hull, 21:00

This is a must win game for 'Boro. The teams around them all have winnable games, with the exception of Sunderland, and they could really get cut adrift if they lose. The home team have been surprisingly poor defensively given their manager's pedigree and if they can keep a clean sheet they can win. A big test for Southgate, and we think he'll pass - home win.

Portsmouth v West Brom, 21:00

Pompey are putting a good run together at the right time, while the Baggies are surely doomed after losing at home last week to the team with the worst away record (other than them) in the division. Comfortable home win.

Sunderland v Man Utd, 21:00

Ricky Sbragia's face after last week's defeat suggested to us that he thinks his team are going down. He must certainly be anticipating defeat in this match and it will be interesting to see the attitude his team plays with. Away win.

Tottenham v West Ham, 21:00

Injury ravaged West Ham will be up against it in this spicy London derby that always has the fans baying for blood. Zola must be hoping that some of his troops will be fit despite the impressive performance of the youngsters last week. Spurs and Redknapp will be looking to take advantage of their rivals absentees to edge closer to the possible European spot they occupy. Not one for the faint hearted we think, and a draw.

Wigan v Arsenal, 21:00

Wigan were woeful last week and you can be sure that Bruce will have read the riot act. Expect a better defensive display but not a different result - away win.

Stoke v Newcastle, 23:30

The baptism of fire continues for Alan Shearer as Stoke have been impressive at home. It goes without saying that Newcastle need to win this but their away record isn't good. The first goal will be all important, and we think that the Barcodes will be geed up - we are going for an unlikely away win.

Sunday, 12 April 2009

Aston Villa v Everton, 20:00

Villa were unlucky to lose last week but O'Neill will have taken heart from the performance, and he will need one of similar quality here. This should be a cracking game as Everton are in red hot form, particularly away from home. An exciting draw.

Man City v Fulham, 22:10

Both these teams will still be harbouring hopes of European qualification, even though both suffered damaging defeats last week. Both these teams are awful away and sparkling at home, so this should be an easy win for City, but manager Hughes is beginning to sound like a dead man walking and this might transmit to the players. Consequently we are going to predict an away win, of all things.

Barclays Premier League Table

			Home					Away						
	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Man Utd	30	13	1	1	34	11	8	4	3	18	9	32	68
2	Liverpool	31	9	6	0	27	8	10	4	2	28	13	34	67
3	Chelsea	31	8	5	2	24	8	11	2	3	27	9	34	64
4	Arsenal	31	9	5	2	24	11	7	5	3	26	16	23	58
5	Aston Villa	31	5	7	3	21	17	10	0	6	24	22	6	52
6	Everton	31	7	5	4	27	17	7	4	4	17	14	13	51
7	West Ham	31	8	2	6	21	17	4	6	5	16	18	2	44
8	Wigan	31	7	4	4	14	12	4	4	8	16	20	-2	41
9	Fulham	31	9	3	4	24	13	1	7	7	6	14	3	40
10	Man City	31	10	0	5	31	12	1	5	10	15	27	7	38
11	Tottenham	31	6	5	4	16	9	4	3	9	21	27	1	38
12	Bolton	31	7	2	7	19	19	4	2	9	17	26	-9	37
13	Stoke	31	8	4	3	18	13	1	4	11	13	34	-16	35
14	Blackburn	31	4	6	6	18	23	4	4	7	17	27	-15	34
15	Hull	31	3	5	8	16	30	5	5	5	19	22	-17	34
16	Portsmouth	30	6	2	7	20	23	2	7	6	12	23	-14	33
17	Sunderland	31	5	3	7	17	18	3	5	8	12	23	-12	32
18	Newcastle	31	4	6	6	21	27	2	5	8	15	24	-15	29
19	M'brough	31	4	7	4	13	16	2	2	12	9	30	-24	27
20	West Brom	31	5	3	8	20	30	1	3	11	6	27	-31	24

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NEWCASTLE OPT FOR MAGIC BEANS

'Jack' Shearer to grow giant beanstalk in front of goal

■ NEWCASTLE, ENGLAND

NEWCASTLE United today pinned their hopes on a bag of magic beans bought on the way to market.

The relegation threatened club said the beans had been acquired in exchange for an old cow in a deal worth some beans and a cow. Apparently new manager Alan 'Jack' Shearer insisted on the beans coming with him. It has already been agreed that the bag of beans will be called Iain.

Newcastle fans were ecstatic at the return of the bag of beans which spent 10 glorious years sitting on the opposition goal line at St James's Park.

The beans will now be thrown out of a window in a last-ditch bid to keep the Magpies in the top flight.

Bill McKay, vice-chairman of the Toon Army supporters club, said: "Why waste money on an experienced manager with a good track record who knows how to get the best out of an unremarkable squad when you can just some chuck some magic beans into the garden and see what happens next?

"After years of disappointment and instability, Newcastle fans can now look forward to a period of beanstalks, stolen geese, thwarted, bread-making giants and an unlimited supply of big, shiny golden eggs."

'Jack', left, magic beans, right

But Charlie Reeves, football analyst at Donnelly-McPartlin, said: "It's a bold move. The only obstacle I can foresee is that while magic beans have been known to work, their success is limited exclusively to children's fairytales.

"The problem is that the Premier League is very real and, unfortunately for Newcastle, a bag of magic beans is not going to work just because they really, really want it to."

Lewis Hamilton - MI5 knew about my torture

■ LAKE GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

Lewis Hamilton claimed today that MI5 were well aware that he was being tortured by Formula One officials. The star, who cheated his way to third place in the Australian Grand Prix, told how investigators must have been tipped off.

Speaking today outside his Swiss home he said, "All the time the officials forced me to listen to hours and hours of Nigel Mansell interviews it was obvious that they knew how to break an english motor racing driver. That sort of information could only come from MI5."

Looking battered and bruised Hamilton appeared at today's press conference and apologised for misleading the governing body, but claimed that, "He was only obeying orders."

While the sport's authorities didn't want to comment on any individual case, they releases a statement saying "We will bring these cheats to justice using any means available to us, and if that involves Nigel Mansaell interviews and a burning cross, so be it. The moral values of our great sport must be upheld."

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