

# Around The Traps

By TT Hun

One would have thought that with the amount of building that has been going on for most of this year, getting hold of a room would be relatively easy. Not so, rooms are as scarce as hens teeth from what we hear. Although, if you speak with the larger hotels (i.e. more expensive) you will find rooms available. Most have reported full occupancy through to after the new year but not a lot after that. Probably the best deals around can be had at the newly built guesthouses that are eager to build a client base. And the rooms are brand new. Even so, most of them are filling up pretty quickly as we discovered when we tried to get some late accommodation for someone who just couldn't stand being away from here. After trying nine mid range priced hotels we finally came up with one that had a room left, and only one at that. One of the things we did notice is that many are seeking the rooms a little further back from the beach this time around, can't imagine why.

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**Recently a lot of young faces** have turned up in Patong for as we found out "Schoolies Week". Normally these party goers would head for Bali but were offered deals to head here instead. It prompted one Australian newspaper to send a journalist to Patong to check up on the antics of the final year school leavers. One group didn't want their photo taken but were quite willing to talk about what they were up to. One young lass even went as far as saying that she thought her mother would understand but her father would probably kill her. When the story appeared in the Australian newspaper a couple of days later a copy was shown to her. Sure enough there was no photograph, but the lass had given her full name to the journalist and it was printed there for all to see, including dear old dad. Oops!

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**The Two Black Sheep** changeover has finally concluded with Scott being joined by John, Debra and Mike. The new partners have been involved in the music industry for many years and will be looking to use their knowledge in this area to enhance the

pub's appeal. We welcome them to Phuket and hope it all works out. It is already showing positive signs if the quiz nights and acoustic music evenings are anything to go by.

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**Golf enthusiasts** are welcome to join in the twice weekly games by arriving at Legends



*Loy Krathong was held in slightly windier conditions this year but the sight of hundreds of rice paper balloons rising into the night sky was impressive.*

Bar & Restaurant in Patong at 11am Tuesday or 10am Thursday. There are quite a few members there to sign you in at the Phuket Country Club course and if you don't have clubs there are sets available to use. Green fees are 1200 baht and they have prizes and after golf snacks on as well. You also get to play with a golfing pro.. err let me rephrase that, a Pro golfer but don't think that you have to be good as the days are run on a fun and enjoyment basis.

The Winchester Club in Soi Sea Dragon also runs golfing days and through their association with PEGS (Phuket Expats Golf Society) play at different courses around the island. Steve is the man to see down there.

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**If you have ever** had someone on the back of a motorbike who doesn't know how to

balance or has had a little too much to drink (same result) then you will understand what the motorbike taxi drivers go through on a daily basis.

One motorbike taxi rider based in front of a well known bar had the pleasure of one such customer one evening recently. Not only had he had a little too much to drink he was a bit heavier than the rider was used to. Bar patrons were surprised to see the taxi rider back in front of their premises inside of a minute. When they asked the wide eyed rider what happen he told them that after two near misses due to the swaying passenger, he told him to get off and find a more appropriate form of transport, preferably something with more than 10 wheels.

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**Lonely Laundry** - A couple recently decided that enough was enough and decided to go their separate ways. She was Thai and he a farang. It was all very amicable, but just prior to the decision being made a load of combined laundry had been dropped off at the local laundry shop. Who needs a washing machine when you can get the local shop where they wash, dry and press for around 6 baht per piece, good value.

The farang rang her the next day to inform her the laundry was ready for pickup and did she want to drop in at some time later and pick her clothes up. "No problem" was the reply. A couple of hours later he headed off down to the laundry, picked up the clothes and headed home. When he went to sort them out he discovered that none of her clothes were there. He then rang her again and asked about the laundry. "No problem" she replied again and said she would be there in 10 minutes. A little perplexed, he wondered why she would want to come over if she had already picked her lot up. Sure enough she arrived at the house 10 minutes later and knocked on the door. He opened it and saw her standing there dressed up to the nines and looking extremely gorgeous. "Why are you here?" he enquired, "You have already picked up your laundry." She looked at him with a puzzled expression, "laundry?" I thought you said you were lonely."

*Continued Page 16*