

wouldn't have a clue what you are talking about because they are there because some distant relative owns the company, is the only one who knows anything about anything and so happens to be on a skiing holiday to Switzerland.

Whenever a problem arises here it is far quicker to learn all about it yourself than assume someone else knows how to fix it. The Andaman Post has been having huge dramas with their computers for the past few months resulting in the purchase of a completely new system. All was going well, except the internet side of things, and then the new computers went down as well. Unfortunately, every time the computers were taken in or an expert was called out, the response was "Gee, I've never seen that happen before". Not the sort of thing you want to hear and it doesn't give you a great deal of confidence if that's the best they can come up with.

But one thing has come to light recently that has dazed and confused some of the best in the music industry. A musician from the UK has landed on our shores and brought two very nice guitars including one 12-string with him. Within days of arriving he noticed a slight reverberation coming from both of them when played, something he had never come across anywhere else in the world. No problem, he thought, he'll just ask around and find out what is causing it.

The solutions were as varied as the people he spoke to. It started with "I can't hear the difference", which explains a lot about the music industry here, to humidity, to "buy this, this, this and that and the problem will be fixed" (it wasn't), and getting close, the precarious power supply. This seemed to be the best option as there is a certain background hum that comes through the

lines that could create a certain field that sets the guitars off. Being of a technical background our musician figured that that sounded about right and went off to purchase the required hardware to sort the power supply out. After he spent a small fortune on gear he was testing it out and found that the problem was not entirely solved because it was still happening intermittently. He was about at wits end (this had been going on for the past month) and was nearly resigned to not being able to play an acoustic guitar on Phuket when he noticed that the guitars were only reverberating whenever power was being reconnected after renovation work being carried out at the venue. Then he looked up and saw the culprit. Whenever the overhead fan stopped the reverberations stopped. In fact, wherever and whenever he played guitar there was a fan close by and this was setting the guitars off. If anyone saw the footage of the way the wind worked to set up the Tacoma Narrows suspension bridge collapse in 1940 you will know what I mean.

There are, however, two schools of thought on this, one saying the wind and the other suggesting the fans' power supply. If you have any ideas on this email us at andamanpost@yahoo.com and we'll pass it on.

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**A couple of colleagues** were sitting at one of Phuket's finer restaurants overlooking the sea recently when they were introduced to a gentleman who had just arrived from the States. After the pleasantries were exchanged the gentleman was taking an unusual interest in one of the colleagues Rolex watch, which was the same as the one he was wearing. He couldn't quite believe

that this guy would wear a US\$10,000 watch with a 100 Baht shirt. He decided to show up the local expat by walking to the bar and asking for a glass of water. He brought it back to the table and proceeded to take off his watch and drop it into the water filled glass. "I bet you can't do that with your watch" he sneered at the local. Impassively, our colleague slowly removed his watch, looked at it and then promptly tossed it over the side of the restaurant railing into the sea. "Bet you can't do that with yours" he shot back.

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**The Dogs Bollocks** bar in Patong enjoyed a good turnout recently for the end of season darts league party after winning the competition with still two weeks to run. Food was plentiful and a good night was had by all.

One of the highlights occurred during the play-off mini darts competition when a new player for the Offshore Bar was drawn out of the hat to play against one of Dogs Bollocks veterans. Now Donny had never played a game in his life and his only experience was a couple of hours earlier that afternoon at the Offshore Bar. The game progressed but the outcome never looked in doubt. With the Dogs Bollocks on a double to win, Donny stepped up still needing 98. His first dart went into triple 20 leaving him on double 19, not an easy finish for anyone. He had to ask what he had to do next and then promptly guided the dart into double 19 to take the match, much to the astonishment of everyone watching. What happens when he gets a bit of practice behind him is anyone's guess.

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## Lost or Stolen Phones

*Lost your phone but still need your number?*

- (A) Make a police report about the stolen or lost phone.
- (B) You can fax their Head Office with the details of the numbers and put a temporary hold on the SIM cards.

Take the police report to the office of whoever your carrier is AIS (Phuket City office only - 23-27 Chana Charoen Rd), DTAC (Phuket City office Mae Luan Rd) Tell them what happened and they will replace the SIM card with a new one. For pre-paid cards, take a copy of your passport also.

It will, however, set you back 300 Baht\*\* (AIS), 220 Baht (DTAC). Damaged SIM card 100 baht replacement (AIS).

## HUMANITY WRAP

*Continued from Page 5*

Apirak's ambition to cut carbon emissions in Bangkok by 15 per cent within five years is praiseworthy and hopelessly optimistic. Still, the idea that we will progress from carbon-stomping urbanites to 15-watt miserablists makes a pleasant daydream.

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Quote of the week: "Killing a whale for research is like building a coal-fired power station to examine greenhouse gases." Ben Macynre, The Times.

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## LOW SEASON TOURING

*Continued from Page 12*

good, and there are a lot of them, we simply pulled into the beach and took it easy. When we tired of that paradise we moved on to the next one. Too easy... So, if you haven't had the chance or feel you don't have the time, you may be surprised how a trip into the waters east of Phuket can recharge the batteries. Even if it appears to rain every day here there are perfect days in between to experience, as one colleague put it; "the reason for being here".