

**TSUNAMI-WARNING BUOY BACK FOR REPAIRS > PAGE 2**

# READY NOW



From left: Phuket Airport General Manager Thaneer Chuangchoo, Phuket Governor Narong Woonciw; and Tassayu Dechachote, chief of the Department of Disease Control (DDC) team at the airport, after inspecting the COVID-19 testing lab at Phuket airport on Monday (Sept 28). Photo: AOT Phuket

## FIRST TOURISTS TO ARRIVE SINCE LOCKDOWN TO LAND IN PHUKET ON OCTOBER 8

**The Phuket News**  
editor@classactmedia.co.th

The first tourists to arrive in Phuket since the COVID-19 lockdown began six months ago will be 120 Chinese nationals from Guangzhou, the capital of Guangdong province, who will be landing at Phuket International Airport next Thursday (Oct 8).

Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) Governor Yuthasak Supasorn announced the news on Tuesday (Sept 29), assuring that the arrivals will be safe.

“Guangzhou has not had any new COVID-19 infections for months. This group of tourists must be tested for COVID-19 no more than 72 hours before entering Thailand and they must stay in alternative state quarantine for 14 days,” he said.

The tourists will be tested for the virus on arrival, he assured.

All of the arrivals must have health insurance coverage to the equivalent of US\$100,000, Mr Yuthasak added, but he did not specifically confirm whether the tourists will be entering Thailand on the recently approved Special Tourist Visa.

The new arrivals will be initially granted 90 days to stay in the country and will have the option of renewing their stays twice more, each time for a period of 90 days, he said.

The Special Tourist Visa allows tourists to stay in the country for a period of 270 uninterrupted days.

“They must follow public health measures, wear masks, wash their hands regularly and strictly maintain social distancing,” Mr Yuthasak said.

Phuket Provincial Health Office (PPHO) Chief Thanit Sermkaew told *The Phuket News* on Tuesday,

“We are ready to receive tourists in Phuket province.”

“The health protocols have been prepared for the first group of tourists, which will come in October,” he added.

Dr Thanit on Tuesday also confirmed that Phuket was now home to nine hotels that have been approved to serve as alternative local quarantine. The nine hotels are the Anantara Mai Khao Phuket Villas, Trisara, Metadee Resort and Villas, Phuket Graceland Resort & Spa, Anantara Phuket Suites & Villas, JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa, The Senses Resort and...

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VAR plays big hand in latest EPL controversy



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# News



DSI to probe hotel land claims > p5

## Confidence brims for new tourists

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...Pool Villas, Banyan Tree Phuket and the Laguna Holiday Club Phuket Resort.

"They had 918 rooms at the time they applied, but now some of them are adding more rooms, so in the end these nine hotels together offer about 1,200 guest rooms right now," Dr Thanit explained.

Phuket Vice Governor Phichet Panaphong explained at a meeting of the Phuket Communicable Disease Committee on Monday that tourists who had completed 14 days quarantine will be required to move to another tourist accommodation hotel or condominium for the remainder of their first 30 days' stay.

"This is to ensure that the income generated by tourists is shared across the province," he said.

Under the conditions laid out so far by the CCSA in Bangkok, tourists who land in Phuket must spend the first 14 days in quarantine before they can venture out to other areas in the province.

They must stay in Phuket for their first 30 days, after which they



Women playing the role of tourist arrivals have their temperatures checked during a test run of the COVID-19 protocols at Phuket airport earlier this month. Photo: PR Phuket

can visit other areas in the country, but only after being tested for COVID-19 again.

Phuket had not had any new COVID-19 cases for 126 days, V/ Gov Phuket also noted on Monday.

However, Tourism and Sports Minister Phiphat Ratchakitprakarn last week announced plans to reduce the quarantine period to just seven days, if the initial groups of tourists

prove that the COVID-19 preventative measures prove effective.

If the first two groups of 300 foreigners complete the 14-day quarantine without a positive case, then the ministry plans to propose an increase in the number of tourists per week by Nov 1, he said.

National Health Minister Anutin Charnvirakul on Monday made the public declaration, "We are ready

to welcome tourists to Thailand."

Phuket Governor Narong Wo-onciew last week already made his public statement of confidence, explaining that the last hurdle for Phuket to be fully cleared to receive tourists was for a new laboratory set up at Phuket airport to be inspected and approved by experts.

Governor Narong on Monday (Sept 28) personally inspected the laboratory, where tourist arrivals will be tested for COVID-19.

Following the inspection, Phuket Airport General Manager Thanee Chuangchoo told *The Phuket News* that Ministry of Health Medical Sciences Division experts already stationed in Phuket were to inspect the laboratory on Wednesday (Sept 30).

Mr Thanee was also very confident the lab would pass inspection.

"Each tourist will be tested for COVID-19 at the airport. The test will take about two hours, and the laboratory has the ability to test about 50 people per hour," he said.

Last week Governor Narong pointed out that Phuket was suffering

heavily from the impact on tourism from the COVID-19 pandemic, with nearly 70% of all tourism businesses across Phuket still closed.

According to data collected by the Digital Economy Promotion Agency (DEPA), 30.4% of businesses in Phuket are now open as normal, he told a meeting at Phuket Provincial Hall held to discuss strategies to accelerate economic recovery and tourism to expedite aid to people affected by COVID 19.

Citing the data, Governor Narong explained that 66.8% of all tourism business are still "closed temporarily", and 2.8% had closed permanently.

"By the end of September, the number of businesses to be closed will increase up to 70% for sure," he said.

The DEPA report also marked that 50% of staff working in the Phuket tourism industry were Phuket natives, while 34.3% of staff came from other provinces in Southern Thailand. The rest, 15.7%, were from other parts of Thailand, Governor Narong explained.

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## 'Missing' tsunami-warning buoy recovered for repairs

THE TSUNAMI-WARNING buoy left adrift after presumably being struck by a boat has been recovered and is now in Phuket under inspection to determine which parts need repair.

The buoy, designated 'Station 23461' in the multinational tsunami-warning array west of Phuket, was confirmed on Sept 15 as missing from its anchored location in the Andaman Sea some 280km northwest of Phuket.

Dr Prasong Thammapha, Acting Director of the Information Technology and Communication Center at the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM), explained to *The Phuket News* that the buoy was likely set adrift after being struck by a passing boat or ship.

However, while the buoy was floating aimlessly in the sea, the GPS locator was still functioning and the buoy was still transmitting real-time data, he confirmed.

A team of experts from Thailand's Department of Disaster Prevention and



The tsunami-warning buoy has been recovered and brought back to Phuket for repairs. Photo: DDPM

Mitigation (DDPM) has now recovered the missing buoy and brought it back to Phuket, Dr Prasong told *The Phuket News* last Friday (Sept 25).

The team departed the Royal Thai Navy base at Thap Lamu in Phang Nga on Monday (Sept 21), Dr Prasong explained.

"The DDPM team left the port at Thap Lamu at 2pm on Monday. They stayed overnight at Tha Chai island, then continued their journey the next day and found the buoy at 10:30am," he said.

The team had the buoy on board by 2pm and began their journey home, he said.

"They stayed at Koh Tha Chai [on the Tuesday night] to avoid the strong wind and waves, and left there at 5am [Wednesday]. They arrived at Thap Lamu at midday that day," Dr Prasong added.

The buoy has now been brought back to Phuket and is being inspected by DDPM experts to determine which repairs need to be made.

"We have not yet set a date for having the buoy repaired and installed back at its original location," Dr Prasong said.

"We have to wait for the experts to make their assessment and for the repairs to be made," he said.

Meanwhile, Thailand's only other tsunami-warning buoy among the international network in the 'Bay of Bengal array' remains silent after being scavenged for parts.

"The Indian Navy still has the buoy. At this stage we do not know when we will be able to recover it so repairs can be made, and have it returned, fully functioning," Dr Prasong said. *Tanyaluk Sakoot*

# Visa amnesty extended

**The Phuket News**  
editor@classactmedia.co.th

After weeks of foreigners scrambling to have their permits to stay extended by Immigration before the ‘visa amnesty’ deadline expired last Saturday (Sept 26), the Centre for COVID-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) in Bangkok on Monday (Sept 28) announced that the government had extended the visa amnesty for foreigners stranded in Thailand to Oct 31.

The Phuket News was informed of the news by a message in Thai sent directly by the Prime Minister’s Office.

Bernhard Stoeber, a German long-stay tourist staying in Phuket who published an open letter to the Royal Thai Government on behalf of all tourists still stuck in Thailand, also received a message directly from the Prime Minister’s Office, in English, saying: “Hi, Good news, the government just announced today that foreigners holding tourist visa who wishes to stay can do so until October 31. For those who would like to stay longer than October they



An officer processes another application to extend a permit to stay at Phuket Immigration last week, when Phuket officers were processing some 190 applications a day. Photo: Tanyaluk Sakoot

can file for visa extension with immigration and do so before Oct. 31 So, good luck.”

Phuket Immigration Deputy Chief Lt Col Udom Thongchin on Monday told The Phuket News that he was aware that the Immigration Bureau had requested that the ‘visa amnesty’ be extended through to Oct 31. However, he added that he had yet to

hear confirmation that the extension had been approved.

Reports from Bangkok cited CCSA spokesman Taweesin Wisanuyothin confirming the visa amnesty extension, noting that extension was still formally subject to Cabinet approval on Tuesday.

Immigration Bureau Deputy Commissioner Pornchai Kuntee told Reuters that after

October, a new immigration regulation will allow foreigners to apply for 60-day extensions to remain in the country if they are unable to leave due to limited flights or other issues.

According to notices published by the Public Relations of Thailand on Monday, in order to stay in Thailand after Oct 31, foreigners had to again

apply for an extension – before Oct 31.

On Tuesday morning, Immigration Bureau Deputy Commissioner Maj Gen Pornchai Kuntee announced at a press conference at the Immigration Bureau headquarters in Bangkok, “Right now in Thailand there are two groups of foreigners: People who already applied for extensions before Sept 26, and those who did not... Today Cabinet will approve the second group of people to stay until Oct 31.

“But for the first group, the Immigration Bureau will extend their stay until Nov 30,” Maj Gen Pornchai said.

“However, these foreigners [already approved an extension of 30 days’ stay from Sept 27] must present themselves at their nearest Immigration Office to have the correct stamp entered in their passports,” he added.

In the runup to the Sept 26 deadline, officers at Phuket Immigration were processing some 190 applications a day, with crowds of foreigners filing “last minute” applications having to be processed outside the immigration office to prevent overcrowding inside.

The rush followed clear warnings that any foreigners caught overstaying after Sept 27 would be fined B500 a day. Serious cases could see the foreigner being deported and banned from re-entering Thailand, in accordance with existing regulations.

Last Saturday alone, when the immigration office opened especially to receive late applications, the office processed some 200 applications for extensions to stay. The last application was received at 4:30pm, but officers continued working until 9pm in order to clear the workload.

Any foreigners who did not have all the correct documents still had their applications accepted, and were told to return to the immigration office later with them.

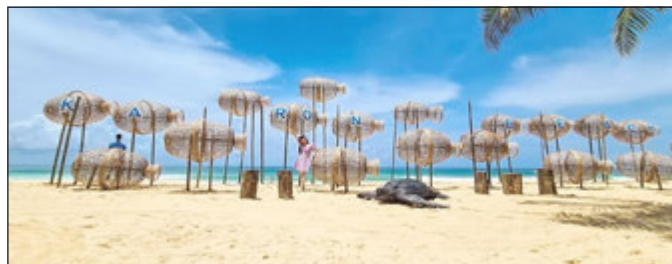
Asked how he felt about his officers being overworked for weeks making sure foreigners’ applications to extend their permits to stay were being accepted before the Sept 26 deadline expired, to only now have all their hard work rendered pointless by a single decision in Bangkok, Lt Col Udom said, “What else can I do? This is Thailand.”

## Cabinet approves more long holidays

THE CABINET HAS APPROVED two long-weekend holidays, one in November and the other in December. The approval of the long weekends holidays was proposed by the Ministry of Tourism and Sports in order to spur the economy.

The first break will be Nov 19-22, with Thursday, Nov 19 and Friday, Nov 20 to be declared special public holidays.

The next break comes with the substitution public holiday of Monday, Dec 7 to be observed for the Dec 5 National Father’s Day, which falls on a



The long holidays are hoped to bring more tourists to Phuket. Photo: Karon Municipality

Saturday, being deferred to be observed on Friday, Dec 11.

With Thursday, Dec 10 already a public holiday to mark Constitution Day, the move creates another four-day weekend.

Tourism and Sports Minister Pipat Ratchakitprakarn said before the Cabinet meeting, held on Sept 22, that he hoped the long holidays would help spur domestic tourism and the economy. The Phuket News

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MON OCT 5

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TUE OCT 6

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formaldehyde board. All of Kvik's wrapped doors are finished in material made from recycled PET, produced from the recycling of plastic drink bottles.

So with great Product, Service, Quality, Value and Sustainability, what else can there be? Well next month sees two exciting new ranges arriving, hot from the design desks of Kvik Denmark.

## OMBRA

In association with award-winning Danish design duo SaysWho, Kvik has developed Ombra, a super cool new design, inspired by nature and Danish retro design. Reminiscent of the round handles seen in kitchens of the 1960s, Ombra reinvents this look with a modern twist.

Interiors designers are all talking about pastel green being the current colour trend and so Ombra comes in a Lush Green and also a classic Fresh White. Both doors are finished in a super-matt, velvety, mark resistant, recycled PET foil. Beautiful, functional, durable and responsible

## PAVIA

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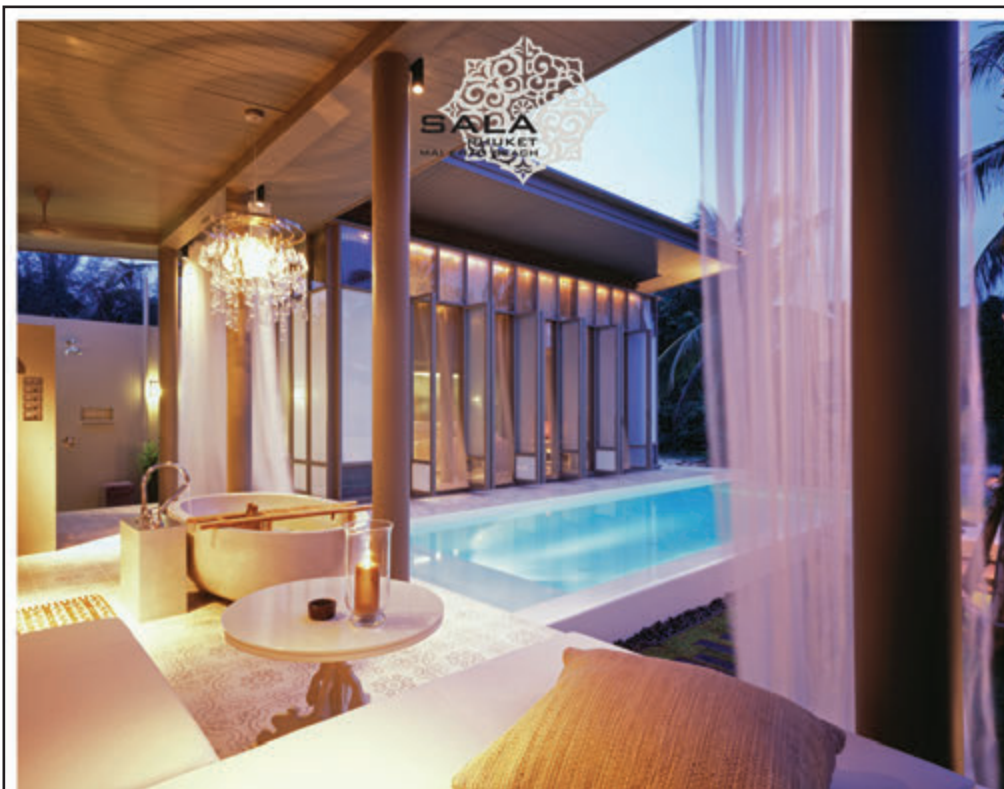
solid wood drawer boxes and beautiful lighting.

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Visit Kvik's Hafele showroom, open Monday to Saturday 9.00am to 6.00pm, call 076-390331 or visit [www.kvik.co.th](http://www.kvik.co.th) to book a showroom, home or online meeting.



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# DSI to investigate Sripanwa land

The Phuket News  
editor@classactmedia.co.th

The Department of Special Investigation (DSI) has agreed to investigate the land ownership of the Sripanwa resort located on Phuket's Cape Panwa and to reinvestigate cases related to former Phuket Land Office chief Tawatchai Anukul.

The launch of the investigation follows Weera Somkhwamkit, Secretary General of the People's Network Against Corruption, filing a request with DSI Chief Pol Lt Col Korawat Panprapakorn last Friday morning (Sept 25). The formal request included aerial photos of the resort and a 167-page document detailing the legal processes of cases involving Tawatchai Anukul.

"We want the DSI to investigate how lawful the land ownership of the Sripanwa resort is from the time before the land was registered under a NorSor 3 Kor [land-use document] and sold to the resort owner," Mr Weera said.

Mr Weera added that before the land was registered as privately owned, local people called the area 'Pa Kae', which they generally used together as it was considered public land.

About 10 families lived in the area for 40 years and had already applied to the local Land Department



Weera Somkhwamkit filed the request to DSI Chief Pol Lt Col Korawat Panprapakorn. Photo: DSI

office to issue the land-use documents for them, but officers told them that the area was a national forest area and some parts were reserved for the Royal Thai Navy to use in the future, Mr Weera explained.

"I was also told by relatives of Mr Tawatchai, who was found hanged in the DSI headquarters on August 30, 2016, that he was investigated under Section 157 of the Criminal Code for wrongful exercise of duties, and charged for making fake land documents during the time that he worked at the Phuket office of the

Department of Land, from 1998-2001," Mr Weera added.

"Tawatchai was investigated especially about ownership documents for land plots in Rassada and Kathu which were found to be on slopes of more than 35 degrees, just like the area where the Sripanwa resort is now located.

"I want the DSI to check whether the land title deed issued for the first person is lawful and whether Tawatchai was one of the officers involved in the issuing the land deed," he said.

ments from the Department of Land and examine which type of title deed was issued for the land. Even though some documents may be lost or hard to find, we will try our best," Lt Col Korawat said.

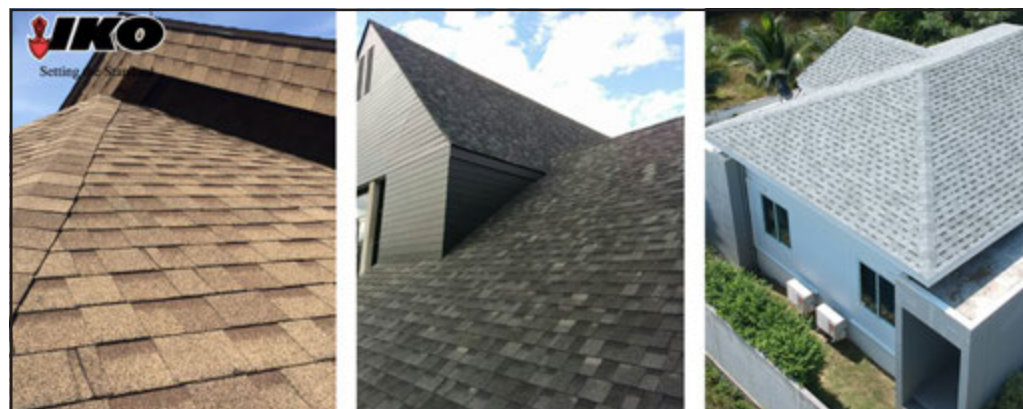
Khwanjai Khumbaan responded publicly by saying that her forefathers owned the land from the area where Sripanwa is located to the Royal Thai Navy Third Area Command, located nearby.

The land used to be owned by her relatives, Ms Khwanjai said, but it was divided and donated to government agencies in order to provide land to build government offices and other buildings. The land was not protected national forest, but had been used for agriculture for many years, she said.

The move to have the DSI investigate the Sripanwa land follows Vorasit Issara, owner of the five-star resort, posting negative comments about protesters in Bangkok disrespecting the Thai monarchy.

The comments prompted a backlash online, and claims that the land the Sripanwa resort is located on was acquired illegally.

The Phuket office of the Land Dept, which rarely provides any comment on any land ownership in Phuket, has already publicly declared that Sripanwa's ownership of the land is fully registered, and fully legal.



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# A Meal with... Mindfulness



## A MEAL WITH...

**Baz Daniel**  
baz\_gunner2000@yahoo.com

**W**e live in times which would try the equanimity of the most well-balanced and centred human being, which in all honesty, I probably am not. So, I decided to catch up with an old friend, Spiritual Counsellor and Mindfulness Coach Tobi Warzinek, at one of the full-day mindfulness retreats he runs through his Dharana Meditation Center.

I first met Tobi in Phuket as part of The Andaman Players amateur dramatic society back in 2008. Tall, slim and... well, radiating tranquility, Tobi always struck me as a man full of compassion, with a serene calm about him.

Tobi's story is a classic example of the human mind's ability to triumph over adversity. Born and brought up south of Munich in Germany, Tobi was diagnosed with Marfan Syndrome, an inherited disorder that damages connective tissue which supports and anchors our organs and other structures in the body. He had to be very careful to avoid stress and couldn't take part in intense sports and activities, making it difficult for him to bond with his peers through these activities.



Radiating tranquility, Tobi always comes across as a man full of compassion, with a serene calm about him.

Tobi, however, became interested in Buddhism in his teens and his mother heard about a month-long training at one of the only centres for higher Tibetan studies in Europe, the Rabten Choeling Monastery in Switzerland, and Tobi decided to attend.

It was a revelatory experience and so fascinated with the study was Tobi that the one-month course turned into a seven-year stay and a new life as a lay student at the Monastery.

Having studied Buddhism for seven years, the logical next thing for Tobi was to go backpacking to Thailand at age 25. He fell in love with the country and subsequently with his lovely Thai partner Khun Parn.

Tobi started practicing Thai (Thera-

vada) Buddhist mind-training within the "Forest Tradition" and has now dedicated over 18 years of his life to the exploration and refinement of introspection.

So one recent Saturday I dutifully arrived at the Coco Paradiso Resort, dressed in my loose-fitting attire and with as open a mind as I was able to manifest.

The resort itself is a charming boutique bolt-hole, surrounded by greenery with swimming pools and tinkling fountains. It is full of traditional Buddhist decor and icons all of which seem to contribute to the all-embracing feeling of calm and other-worldliness it radiates.

The day unfolded as a series of guided meditations and discursive talks by

Tobi about learning how to comprehend, consolidate and direct the powerful creative force of our minds. Tobi says that nobody seems to enjoy their "monkey-mind" and in fact, most of us use a tremendous amount of energy to avoid facing the chaos within.


Over a charming Thai lunch, I asked Tobi's advice for contending with the current COVID-induced stresses.

"The methods of developing inner strength which I teach have gradually been evolved and refined as a systematic approach to inner calm and profound clarity. It is in this state, that emotional and social turmoil can naturally heal. Moreover, by cultivating greater awareness, we can develop the strength to break free from old destructive patterns. As a consequence, we can create new space for personal and spiritual growth," he said.




"Awareness is at the base of all our experiences. Knowing how to remain centred while living mindfully leads to spiritual health, balance, happiness and fulfilment, even in such troubling times as at present.

"In these times, I am confident that people in Phuket would benefit a great deal from our trainings, so we offer free weekly classes where we collect donations for the local community".

I found Tobi's ideas to be very sage for these tumultuous times and for his free classes, see: <https://phuket-meditation.com/free-classes/>



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# COVID-19 and Metabolic Syndrome: Could diet help?



## HEALTHY HABITS

Craig Burton

Could nutrition play a role in the outcome of this COVID-19 epidemic? Would it make a difference if we were equally focussed on our diet and immune system as much as preventing contracting the virus with social distancing, hygiene, and masks?

Thailand's mortality rate from COVID-19 stands at one of the lowest in the world at 1.7% (global average was estimated at around 6%). However, among the deceased 41% had diabetes, 36% had high blood pressure, 18% had hyperlipidemia, and 14% had heart diseases.

The CDC also recently released statistics that 94% of those who died had more than one underlying medical condition. When this figure is connected with the statistic that people over 70 have the highest rates of mortality, it stands out that health is a key player in COVID Mortality for those under 70 years of age.

Dr Maryanne Demasi noted in the British Medical Journal the now-familiar statistics that the vast majority of people hospitalised and dying from COVID-19 in the UK as having pre-existing conditions includ-

ing: Two-thirds of those who had become seriously infected were overweight or obese; and 99% of deaths in Italy were patients with pre-existing conditions such as hypertension, diabetes and heart disease.

These conditions make up what is known as metabolic syndrome, and include high blood pressure, low good cholesterol, high blood sugar, high waist circumference – and might explain Thailand's lower rate of mortality, as Thailand has about half the Metabolic Syndrome cases of the US and UK (about 16% compared to the US and UK with over 32%).

Metabolic syndrome is related to insulin resistance. The most significant factor that determines blood glucose levels is the consumption of carbohydrates, refined carbs, starches and simple sugars.

I highly recommend people doing an annual health check-up getting their labs done. Some of the tests related to metabolic syndrome include: Fasting Blood Sugar, HBA1c (long term blood sugar), Full lipid (Cholesterol markers), Fasting Insulin along with getting your waist circumference measured (men should be under 90cm, women under 85cm) and blood pressure.

If these markers are high, talk to your doctor about solutions, but here are three strategies to help using diet (regular exercise and good sleep naturally also help):

1. Reduce as much sugar as possible - so cut down or eliminate soft drinks and confectionary.

2. Go lower Carb - especially lowering the refined grains like white bread, pasta, potatoes and rice. Try to replace these with more vegetables.

3. Try Intermittent Fasting (I.F.). I.F. is not for everyone (especially not for kids, pregnant women, and those with low blood sugar issues). But for those with metabolic syndrome, not eating frequently and having longer gaps between meals has considerable research supporting its efficacy in blood sugar balance.

The key to long-term health success comes from firstly ownership of your health, so I highly recommend to get your labs done. If the results are not in your favour then make it very clear why health is important. Then comes the plan. Find the strategies that will work long term and become healthy habits. Finally, you need to make yourself accountable to follow through – maybe also share your goals with a friend, partner or coach and make those strategies become life-long habits. Good health to you!

*Craig Burton (BSc, NASM, CISSN) is a practicing Clinical and Sports Nutritionist with over 20 years' experience as a health practitioner. He holds an array of qualifications in nutrition, as well as in health, fitness, mental and lifestyle coaching. To find out more about Craig or contact him go to [www.craigburtoncoaching.com](http://www.craigburtoncoaching.com)*



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# POP QUIZ

- Charles Ingram made headlines by cheating on which trivia quiz game show in 2001?
- Duxelle are what vegetables, finely chopped, cooked in butter with shallots and wine?
- Which New Zealand city is named after the Scottish Gaelic name for Edinburgh?
- British singer/actor Harry Styles of One Direction features in which acclaimed war film?
- The Amish Christian church fellowships originated in which country?

Answers below, centre

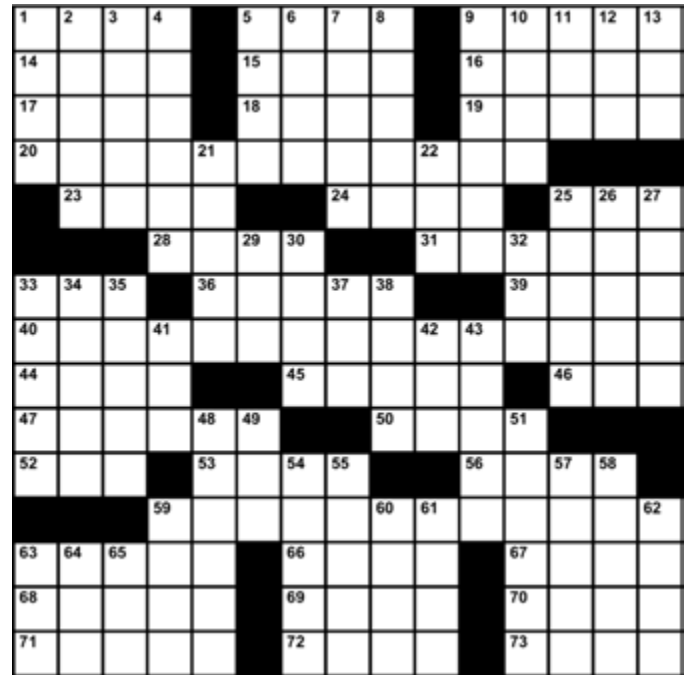
## SUDOKU

Medium

			8					
				9	7			4
9		7			6	8		3
7		6						8
	3		2		9			
8				1				3
3	8	9		2				1
5		4	8					
				1				

### Crossword by Myles Mellor & Sally York

- Across**
- Kind of cat
  - Pool exercise
  - Skater Lipinski and others
  - Side squared, for a square
  - Map or diagram
  - Poem of lament
  - Severed
  - "\_\_\_ life!"
  - Append
  - Cuban imports
  - Modify
  - Workplace safety org.
  - Onetime Jeep mfr.
  - Rules on plays
  - Weather map feature
  - There are some big \_\_\_ with this project
  - Tons
  - Slangy denial
  - It runs through California
  - Ravel's "Gaspard de la \_\_\_"
  - Maria Callas songs
  - Titleist supporter
  - Recorded
  - Army training group
  - Prof. helpers
  - Theater box
  - Leak
- Down**
- Algebra or trig
  - Clamorous
  - Courage
  - Kubla Khan's region
  - Org. for Annika Sorenstam
  - Actor Guinness or Baldwin
  - Place for a barbecue
  - Hurdles
  - Bright fish
  - Regrettably
  - Coffee order, abbr.
  - Way back when
  - Dict. listing
  - "\_\_\_ is an island ...": Donne
  - Yellowfin tuna
  - "\_\_\_ you" Mary
- J. Blige**
- Syrup tree
  - Greek Island
  - College degree
  - "Buona \_\_\_" (Italian greeting)
  - "Not \_\_\_ bet!"
  - Playground retort
  - It's a part of life
  - Foul moods
  - \_\_\_ Lingus (Irish airline)
  - Couple
  - "Now \_\_\_ theater near you!"
  - \_\_\_ Paulo, Brazil
  - Camera setting
  - Double agents
  - Ages and ages
  - Rum drink
  - Blooper
  - 2001 scandal subject
  - Web mags
  - Old lab heaters
  - Big pig
  - Eagle's roost
  - "\_\_\_ good example"
  - Posted a letter
  - Pop \_\_\_
  - Hung. neighbor
  - Genetic info carrier



### Solutions to last week's puzzles:

P	P	B	L	E	A	R	W	I	Z	Z	E	W		
A	N	I	O	K	R	A	O	N	E	I	D	A		
C	O	Z	B	E	L	L	W	A	N	G	U	P		
W	E	Z	O	S	O	P	H	A	N	O	S			
A	B	L	E		H	O	V	E						
W	E	E	L	E	R	T	E	R	R	A	C	E		
			I	P	O	S								
P	U	Z	L	I	N	G	P	R	O	B	L	E		
O	T	I	S		T	A	M	P						
R	E	N	A	M	E	D	T	O	T	H	M	U	S	
			T	O	N	E	D			V	I	O	N	A
W	A	Z	F	E	S	T	I	V	A	L	S			
L	E	W	A	Y		U	N	U	M	T	I	S		
I	N	F	O	R	M		C	U	B	A		E	V	E
S	V	E	L	T	E		E	G	A	N		D	E	S

9	4	2	8	1	6	7	5	3
6	7	1	5	4	3	8	2	9
8	5	3	2	7	9	4	1	6
2	6	8	7	9	4	5	3	1
5	1	7	3	2	8	9	6	4
4	3	9	1	6	5	2	7	8
7	9	4	6	5	1	3	8	2
3	2	6	4	8	7	1	9	5
1	8	5	9	3	2	6	4	7

### Answers to this week's Pop Quiz:

1) Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?; 2) Mushrooms; 3) Dunedin; 4) Dunkirk (2017); 5) Switzerland

## GOT YOUR NUMBER

**1**

in three homes in the US with kids, have guns.

**80**

percent of the animals found in Madagascar do not exist anywhere else on Earth.

**373**

people in the United States are actually named "ABCDE" as of 2018.

**20,000**

people is how many the Aztecs killed every year to appease the gods.

**52.1 million**

US dollars is how much Taser International was paid to provide US police departments with body cameras in the first three months of 2016.

Source: Uberfacts

## ISLAND VIEW



Moon shot over Kathu. Photo: Brian Stamm (taken Feb 10, 2020).

Got an unusual or particularly beautiful picture of Phuket? Email it to [exceditor@classactmedia.co.th](mailto:exceditor@classactmedia.co.th)

## This week in history

**Oct 2, 2007**  
President Roh Moo-hyun of South Korea walks across the Military Demarcation Line into North Korea on his way to the second Inter-Korean Summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong-il.

**Oct 3, 52 BC**  
Vercingetorix, leader of the Gauls, surrenders to the Romans under Julius Caesar, ending the siege and Battle of Alesia.

**Oct 4, 1883**  
The first run of the Orient Express.

**Oct 5, 1962**  
*Dr. No*, the first in the James Bond film series, is released on the same day that The Beatles' first single, "Love Me Do" backed with "P.S. I Love You", is released in the United Kingdom.

**Oct 6, 1976**  
Massacre of students gathering



Che Guevara, June 2, 1959.

at Thammasat University in Bangkok, Thailand, to protest the return of ex-dictator Thanom, by a coalition of right-wing paramilitary and

government forces, triggering the return of the military to government.

**Oct 7, 1582**  
Because of the implementation of the Gregorian calendar, this day is skipped in Italy, Poland, Portugal and Spain.

**Oct 8, 1967**  
Guerrilla leader Che Guevara and his men are captured in Bolivia.

Source: Wikipedia

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**FRI 2 OCT**



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Marina on Friday the 2nd of October from 5pm onward. Please contact us if you would like to be our drinks sponsor for the evening. Sponsors can display their products and services on the evening and give a 10-minute presentation on their company. They can also benefit from a generous advertising package from Class Act Media including online, print and radio coverage. Khun Bo will be making the food for the evening, we don't know what it will be yet but we know it will be good. Come and join in the fun, everyone is welcome. There is no entry fee, just drop your business card or register at the bar. We hope to see you there and if you know anyone you think would be interested in coming please invite them along. To join our mailing list please send an email to growboatingphuket@gmail.com The Grow Boating Networking Evening is organised by the Thai Yachting Business Association. Find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ThaiYachtingBusinessAssociation/> or our Website [www.thaiyachtingbusinessassociation.com/grow-boating-networking-evening](http://www.thaiyachtingbusinessassociation.com/grow-boating-networking-evening) Grow Boating is kindly supported by our media partner The Phuket News. Live 89.5 radio and Phuket News TV. See [www.thephuketnews.com](http://www.thephuketnews.com)

**SUN 4 OCT**



**All you can eat Sunday Roast Buffet**

Beef, Pork and Lamb – Cauliflower, Broccoli, Peas, Carrots, fried mushrooms, grilled tomatoes – Yorkshire pudding – roasted potatoes, mashed potatoes – gravy, mushroom sauce, mint sauce. Reservations recommended. B350 P/P. shakersphuket@gmail.com 081 891 4381.

**SAT 3 OCT**



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**SAT 3 OCT**



**All you can eat BBQ night**

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**THU 22 OCT**



**Phuket Hospitality Challenge 2020**

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**The Grow Boating Networking Evening**

The Grow Boating Networking Evening for October 2020 will be held at The Hardstand at Phuket Boat Lagoon

**MON 5 OCT**



**All you can eat BBQ Ribs night**

6pm – 11pm: All you can eat BBQ Ribs served with salad buffet, potato salad & choice of sauces. Reservation recommended. 295 baht P/P. shakersphuket@gmail.com, 081 891 4381.

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SUCCESS FOR ALL

# Handball rule goes too VAR

## Major controversy as new ruling dominates weekend's action

### FOOTBALL

**Ben Tirebuck**

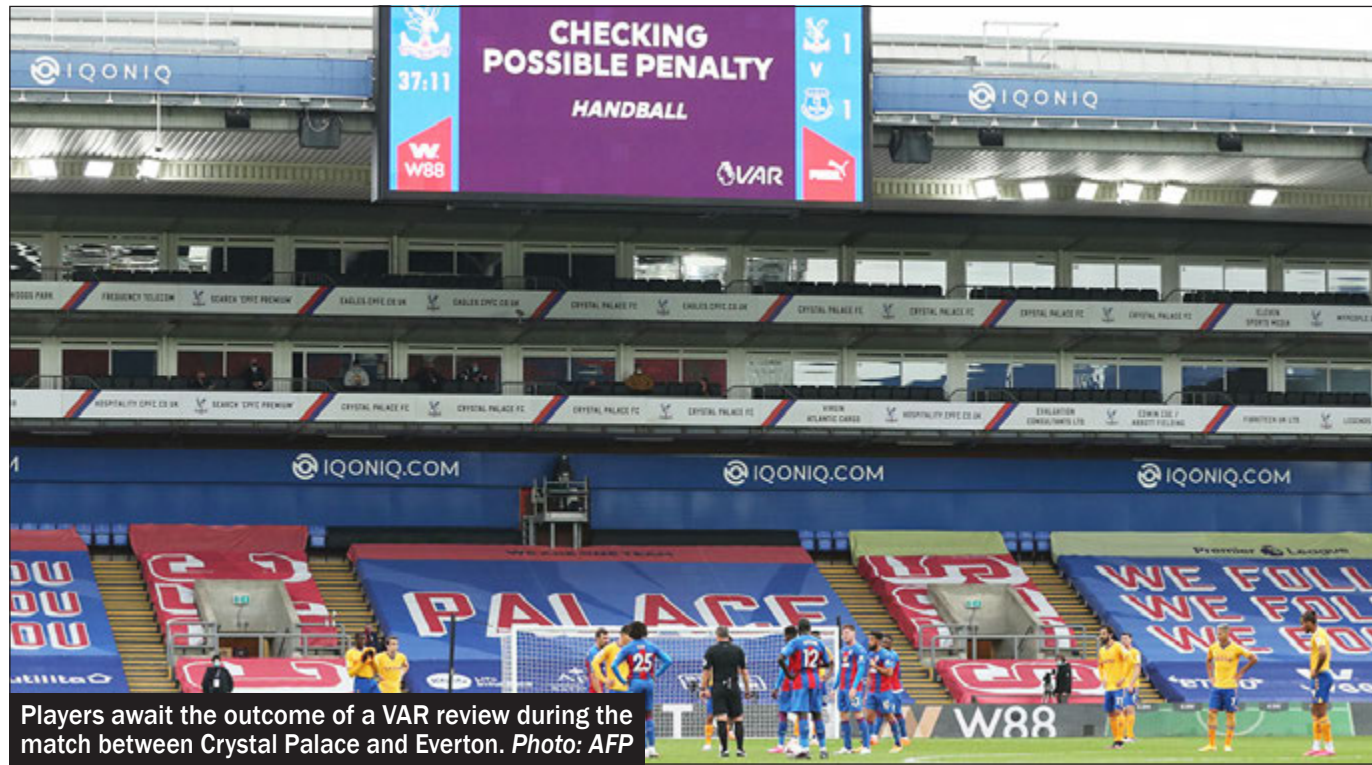
editor3@classactmedia.co.th

The Premier League witnessed a series of surprise results and outstanding performances last weekend that were, unfortunately, overshadowed by the new handball rule which left players, managers, pundits and fans either entirely baffled or incandescent with rage.

In the opening game, Manchester United profited from a 100<sup>th</sup> minute penalty awarded after the actual match had concluded for a questionable handball decision to somehow record a 3-2 victory against an excellent Brighton.

Newcastle didn't register a shot on target throughout the entire 90 minutes at Tottenham yet escaped with a 1-1 draw when Eric Dier was penalised and Everton secured all three points against Crystal Palace thanks to another hotly disputed penalty call.

By the letter of the law all three decisions were correct as the ball did make contact with



Players await the outcome of a VAR review during the match between Crystal Palace and Everton. Photo: AFP

the arm on each occasion. But the law itself is where the issue lies. For a person to jump they need their arms to assist with elevation. It is very challenging to generate much momentum and thus height from a standing start without the use of one's arms. Try it.

Common sense has been taken out of the equation and

that is where the controversy stems from. In the case of Dier, he was mid-air with his back to the ball, looking in the opposite direction. His intervention wasn't a deliberate act to stop or divert the trajectory of the ball, merely a consequence of natural movement.

Critics point the finger

at the Video Assistant Referee (VAR), yet this misses the point. VAR is merely a tool that allows officials to reevaluate the action and any subsequent decision. The rule itself and interpretation is the problem.

### FIVE STAR FOXES

Controversy aside, the actual

football was scintillating.

Leicester annihilated Manchester City 5-2, inflicting on Pep Guardiola the first five-goal loss of his 638-game management career.

The aforementioned Brighton were excellent, setting a new league record by hitting the woodwork five times, and deserved to win

let alone draw; the loss was a travesty.

West Ham trounced Wolves 4-0 with quarantined manager David Moyes directing proceedings from afar due to his testing positive for COVID-19. Clearly working from home suits Moyes as the Hammers had been pitiful in their previous games.

Big-spending Chelsea were expected to blow West Brom away with ease yet found themselves 0-3 down after only 27 minutes. They did manage to comeback and snatch a draw courtesy of a stoppage-time equaliser but it shook them to their core.

Reigning champions Liverpool brushed aside Arsenal aside 3-1 without any problems, extending their unbeaten league record at home to a staggering 61 games.

Let's hope it is the actual football that takes centre stage this weekend. If not, maybe the licensing department at the Premier League should consider using Prince's aptly named hit 'Controversy' as the mandatory pre-game anthem moving forward.

## Phuket Hospitality Challenge ready to tee off

### GOLF

THE 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL Phuket Hospitality Challenge is confirmed to take place at Laguna Golf Phuket on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October.

Brought to you by Plantations International, the Title Sponsor of the event, this charity golf tournament sees hospitality and service industry professionals from Phuket and surrounding areas come together for a fun yet competitive day, with teams battling for bragging rights as the best hospitality golfers in the region.

Being the only event of its kind, it is the ideal networking opportunity for local hoteliers, restaurateurs, landlords, club owners and others involved in the hospitality service industry to come together in a relaxed environment.

"This year is especially trying for many of the service and hospitality personnel and management, due to the severe impact the COVID-19 virus has had on the Industry," said event organiser Mark Cameron of Asean Events.



Photo: Plantations International

"It will be a perfect way for everyone to get back into a fun networking event and might be just what the doctor ordered after being out of action for so long.

"As an end product of the event experience, we also raise funds for local children's charities," he added.

The charity being supported at the event is the Laguna Children's First Fund.

Host sponsor Laguna Golf Phuket will once again provide the perfect venue to stage the hospitality golf event. The unique "Gourmet Golf" concept event will see Laguna Phuket hotel estab-

lishments such as Banyan Tree, Angsana, Cassia, Dusit Thani and Outrigger provide on-course food and drinks for golfers.

In addition, other leading hospitality entertainment venues and Hotels from around Phuket will be involved, including Whisgars - Cigar Hole and The brand-new Intercontinental Hotel in Kamala, to name but a few.

To register your team and/or interest in becoming a sponsor, please visit [www.lagunagolf.com/phuket](http://www.lagunagolf.com/phuket) or email [golf@lagunaphuket.com](mailto:golf@lagunaphuket.com) or [mark@asean-events.com](mailto:mark@asean-events.com) for more information.

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