



Our 17th year of Expats helping Expats

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FEBRUARY 19, 2018

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Special Announcements

Information of special interest to members including Thai Immigration updates

Club Announcements

The latest announcements of interest to members and Expats living in Thailand

Upcoming Club Related & Special Events

A list of upcoming Club related and other events of special interest – for an overall list of upcoming events in and around Pattaya & Bangkok, see the latest **Club Newsletter**

Excursions Being Organized

Members often organize excursions which can be one day tours, overnights, and sometimes international travel. If any are being planned, they will be listed here.

Upcoming Holidays

Public Holidays during the next month or two are listed. Main Bank branches and Government Offices including Immigration will be closed.

Information of Interest from the Open Forum and Other Sources

Information of interest is often announced by fellow expats at the Open Forum session during the Club's Sunday Meeting. Items of continuing interest are included here until they are incorporated into the appropriate section of the Club's website.

Government Holidays -

These are the dates that Government Offices and Bank Branch Offices will be closed – Source is Bank of Thailand

REMINDER: If you are not already a subscriber to the Club's weekly Newsletter, to subscribe go to www.pcec.club and select NEWSLETTER from the left-hand column. Enter your email address in the box and click "subscribe." You will receive an email so you can "confirm" you want the newsletter. Once you confirm, you will be in our automated mailing list for receipt of the Newsletter.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS



CHANGES TO PCEC DISCOUNT PROGRAM AT HOLIDAY INN

The Holiday Inn provides discounts based on several different cards, including the PCEC Membership Card (25% Discount). The discount will cease as of 31 March 2018. They are encouraging PCEC members to sign up for their new HiClub member program before that date. The program normally costs 500 baht but has additional benefits including a 500 baht food and beverage voucher that can be redeemed after purchasing the card. This will be a plus for PCEC members as Holiday Inn has agreed to offer the HiClub Card to PCEC members with a currently valid membership card for only 300 baht.

They will have again have representatives available at our Sunday meetings on March 18 and March 25 to provide you with the HiClub Card (300 baht upon showing your valid PCEC Membership Card). This card will still entitle you to a 25% discount at Holiday Inn venues as well as 25% discount on Food and 15% discount on beverages at the Intercontinental Pattaya Resort (formerly the Sheraton) Elements and Infiniti Restaurants.

In addition, they will be hosting 3 parties free during the year for their HiClub members (member guests will be charged 750 baht). For more information, [click here](#) or ask at the HiClub desk at Sunday's meeting.

THAI IMMIGRATION NEWS



[Click Here](#) to read the latest reports we have on what is happening at Thai Immigration in Pattaya (last updated as of **January 25, 2018**).

We continue to receive reports of inconsistent experiences regarding the requirements for filing the TM.30 address report within 24 hours of returning to Thailand. Therefore, we continue to suggest that to avoid the risk of being fined, you should file the report within 24 hours or next business day of your return even if returning to the same residence.

At a previous meeting, someone mentioned they had used a Chonburi (Pattaya) Immigration Office email address to file their TM.30 report - it would be helpful to our members if the person would contact Darrel at darrel-pcec@inbox.com about their experience so that it can be published for others to use.

KEEP US INFORMED – If you experience something different at Chonburi (Pattaya) Immigration office then what we post here and in the Visa& Immigration section of the website, let us know so we can keep our information up to date – we also appreciate notification if you find the information we provide was what your experienced - you can email your information to darrel-pcec@inbox.com.

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REMINDER FOR SUGGESTIONS OR COMMENTS

If you wish to provide a suggestion or comment to the Governing Board, please place it in the suggestion box at the back of the meeting room. If you wish a response from the Board, please include your email address.

You can also send suggestions and comments to: suggestionbox@pcec.club.

Breakfast Raffle



FREE BREAKFAST BUFFET ON FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

A reminder for members to bring their current membership card in order to participate in the drawing. There will be a drawing the first Sunday of each month. Drawing tickets are given out to members. At the end of the meeting, a ticket is drawn for the full breakfast buffet, which can be obtained at the next or subsequent Sunday meeting – be sure to see Judith to claim your “prize.”



DO YOU KNOW OF A BUSINESS THAT YOU COULD RECOMMEND TO YOUR FELLOW EXPATS?

Often during the Open Forum portion of the meeting, someone will recommend a particular business such as a handyman, auto mechanic or body shop, air conditioning service, clothing shop (with large sizes to fit our heftier expats), computer service, etc. To see information on businesses that have been recommended, [click here](#) to visit our webpage listing.

Do you know of a business that you can recommend, please let us know by email to info@pcecclub.org or info@pcec.club.



WE ARE ALWAYS ON THE LOOK OUT FOR INTERESTING SPEAKERS

The Club's needs your assistance in finding interesting speakers for the Club's Sunday meetings. If you know of someone with an interesting topic, please let us know along with how to contact them. To make suggestions for speakers or topics, please email speakers@pcec.club.

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Upcoming Special & Club Events

CLUB RELATED EVENTS

Thai & International Cuisine



Breakfast • Lunches • Evening Dinner

Jomtien 2nd Road (Between Soi 11 & Soi 9)
Tel: 035-233099 Email: info@laongs.com
facebook: laongsbistro

CLUB DINNER THIS MONTH WILL BE AT LAONG'S BISTRO ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Laong's is a very popular restaurant of many of our members and offers PCEC members a 10% discount on food. We previously held a Club Dinner there a couple of years ago and the Governing Board held their January 2017 dinner there.

This month, Michel and Darrel have decided it was time to be returning to Laong's for another evening of great food and camaraderie beginning at 7pm. Since some arrive early and others a bit later, arrangements are to place your orders when you are ready, no waiting on everyone to arrive. Likewise, the food will be served when it is ready. Separate check bins are provided for individuals or groups of more than one.

Miss Terry Diner from Pattaya Mail also agrees, [click here](#) to read the review. Their [menu](#) is extensive – be sure to scroll down to see it all. They serve both international and Thai food. To keep up to date on their offerings, visit their [Facebook page](#) (plenty of pictures of their food). To see their You Tube video, [click here](#).

If you are interested in having a great evening, please put your name on the signup sheet at the Sunday meeting – it is not restricted to members only, all are welcome. Please include the number in your party and show your contact information legibly in case of the need to notify you of any last-minute changes. The signup sheet is used so that Michel and Darrel can advise the restaurant on the number to prepare for. If you sign up and find you cannot attend, please scratch your name off the signup sheet. If you can't make the meeting to either signup or cancel, please email info@pcec.club with the necessary information so we can notify the organizers.



Located on Jomtien 2nd Road between Jomtien Soi 9 and Soi Bun Kanchana (traffic light). The restaurant is on the ground floor of Asava Duo Residence Building C, next door to 7/11). If coming from Thapraya Road, you will see the Duo buildings opposite the median, take the next U-Turn and you are there.



DRIVER LICENSE ASSISTANCE TRIP FOR PCEC MEMBERS ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

[This is a change in date]

Monthly assistance trips are provided to the Land Transport Office for obtaining Thai driving licenses. This assistance is for PCEC Club members only with a current membership card. Member Henk Hauer usually conducts the trip on the last Wednesday of the month. The trip departs at 8am from parking area opposite IBIS hotel - on same Soi off 2nd Road that goes to Holiday Inn - [click here](#) for map. The trips departure time is 9:30am. He has also scheduled the next trip to be on Wednesday, December 6. He will revert back to the last Wednesday of each month beginning January 2018. You should contact Henk beforehand to confirm the trip date, time, meeting location, and let him know you wish to participate in the trip. Telephone 085-309-0603 or email henk2223@gmail.com. See the [Driving License](#) page on the Club's website for information on the process and the documents needed.



CHANGES AT BANGLAMUNG LAND TRANSPORT OFFICE

Henk advises that there have been changes in the Medical Certificate and in obtaining a license after one has expired. We will be updating the Club Website soon.

Update renewal of 5 year license – Renewal can be done a maximum of 3 month before the expiration date. The new license will have the starting date of the expired date of the old license. Renewal after the expiration date now has a big risk having to take a new written examination; also it is possible a practical (driving) examination will be required.

New Medical Certificate being used – A new medical certificate is now being used and they will not accept the old one. The new one relates conditions Epilepsy, Diabetes, Intermittent loss of consciousness, Heart- and blood-related diseases, Visual impairment, Deafness, Parkinson's, Mental disorders, Sleep disorders, and Drug addiction. [Click here](#) for a copy that Henk photographed during his visit on 31 January (it is in Thai). A medical certificate is required for the initial 2 year and 5 year license. It is not required for renewals.



BRUNO'S INTERNATIONAL WINE DINNER ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Bruno's Restaurant will be serving a six course dinner with specially selected Wines from Italy , Argentina and France. The dinner starts at 7pm and the price is 2,800 baht. Please note that the PCEC discount does not apply to the Wine Dinners.

[Click here](#) to view the menu. For more information about Bruno's and location, [click here](#).



HOLIDAY INN'S KIWIANA WINE NIGHT ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Holiday Inn Pattaya invited to experience a "Kiwiana Wine Night" at Havana Bar & Terrazzo Restaurant featuring seven premium wines from New Zealand are launching on from 6:30 to 9:00pm for only 1,690 baht net/person. Enjoy a tantalizing buffet to match from their Executive Chef, Jason Large. The ambiance will be complemented by a live band, the Respect band. Also present will be Mr. Theera Weerawan, Thailand's most prestigious Sommelier.

Hi-club Members and PSC, PCEC and PILC card holders will get a special price at 1,590 baht net/person. For more information or reservations call us 038-725-555 or E-mail: FB.Holidayinnpattaya@ihg.com. Advance reservations are strongly recommended as these are popular events.



PINK POLO -THE ORGANIZERS HAVE SET SATURDAY. MARCH 3, 2018 AS THE DATE FOR THE PINK EVENT THIS YEAR

The event details are not available yet, but the PCEC will organize round trip transportation from the Markland and from locations in Jomtien to the Polo Grounds. If you want to use the minivan transportation, please list yourself on the "PINK POLO" sign-up sheet so we know how many to plan for.

The Minivan transportation will cost 120 baht per person. Details of the transportation and any information we receive about the event will be sent to those who have signed up and included their email address and phone number.



HOLIDAY INN'S FARMERS' MARKET ON SATURDAY, MARCH 10

A Farmers' Market is held every 2nd Saturday of the month at the Holiday Inn hotel, our Club meeting host, on Pattaya Beach Road from 10:30am – 3:30pm. Products range from wellness items, jewelry, freshly prepared food, organic vegetables and fruits.

EVENTS OF SPECIAL INTEREST



PATTAYA PLAYERS INVITES YOU TO A MYSTERY PLAY & DINNER IN FEBRUARY – FRIDAY THE 23RD, SATURDAY THE 24TH, AND MONDAY THE 26TH

Pattaya Players says why not come along to this short light-hearted murder mystery play and dinner opportunity. Maybe you and your table companions can win “Sleuth of the Evening” prize.

“The Little Willey Murder”, by Ian McCutcheon, takes to the stage with performances at two of the finest Pattaya restaurants, Suggestions on the East side and Sandbar by the Sea on Dongtan Beach, Jomtien. Directed by Ray Lightbown, the cast includes Charles Elwin, Ann Ensell, John Ensell, Chris Harman, Wendy Khan, Arthur McNeil, and Georgina Milton. For further information, call Gary at 085 913 1827 or email pattayaplayerstake2@gmail.com. For Bookings:

Suggestions Restaurant, Pattaya performances on Friday, 23 and Saturday 24 at 7pm. Edwin Lormans (lormansedwin@gmail.com) Mobile: 086 558 0491

Sandbar by the Sea, Dongtan Beach Road, Jomtien on Monday 26 Feb., 9pm Stanley Pao (shcpao@sandbarbythesea.com) Mobile: 081 583 7269

BEN'S THEATER PRESENTS PIANO CELLO RECITAL ON SATURDAY, MARCH 3



Vannophat Kaploykeo, cello and Tanchanok Yimsomboon, piano perform music by Bach, Bloch, Brahms, Rachmaninoff and Schumann. Ben's Theater presents non-profit-making concerts that bring quality musicians to Pattaya. There are no sponsors and income from ticket sales goes directly to the performers.

Tickets are 900 baht; concert starts at 8pm. Reservations may be made by email to benstheaterjomtien@gmail.com. Please include your name, number of tickets and mobile number.

BEN'S THEATER PRESENTS OPERATIC DELIGHTS ON SATURDAY, MARCH 17



Ayano Schramm-Kimura, mezzo-soprano; Brendan Keefe-Au, lyric tenor; Ami Napawan, piano. Ben's Theater presents non-profit-making concerts that bring quality musicians to Pattaya. There are no sponsors and income from ticket sales goes directly to the performers.

Tickets 900 baht; starts at 8pm. Reservations may be made by email to benstheaterjomtien@gmail.com. Please include your name, number of tickets and mobile number.

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Excursions Being Organized



The following are announcements about any excursions being organized by member(s) or others. Excursions are usually open to all, but Club members may receive priority if limited space is available.

RIVER KWAI ADVENTURE BEING ORGANIZED FOR MONDAY, MARCH 12 TO WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14

Roger Fox is inviting others to join him for a 3 day 2 night adventure on the River Kwai providing a nice break and a refreshing taste of northern Thailand. Even if you have been on this trip before, he has twice and says you will enjoy it all over again.



The train through the market, boat to the floating market, a jaunt to Myanmar, elephant riding, rafting on the river, visits to waterfalls and temples...a real adventure.

All meals are included (7), all entrance, activity fees, a pick up at your hotel or residence, two relaxing nights in a bungalow right on the river and of course all transport. For a fee of 5,700 baht Roger says this is a steal and it is only 800 baht additional for a single supplement. He is looking forward to going ...and says *come and join us!*



If you are interested, place your name on the signup sheet at Sunday's meeting including your contact information so Roger provide you with the details.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN GOING ON A SAFARI IN TANZANIA OR A VISIT TO BHUTAN?



Club members Pasit Foobunma and Allan Riddell both are on the Board of the South African Thai Chamber of Commerce and in that capacity visited and toured other countries. As a result, they are enthusiastic about providing the opportunity for others to have the opportunity to visit these countries. Currently, they have updated the popular Tanzanian safari for 2017.

If you think you may be interested, then contact Allan Riddell by email at allanriddell@hotmail.com.

[Click here](#) for more information on Tanzania Safari including links to itineraries. For latest information, [Click Here](#) Flyer 1 and [Click Here](#) for Flyer2. [Click here](#) for more information on Bhutan with links to specific itineraries.

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UPCOMING HOLIDAYS

During Public Holidays, main Bank branches and Government Offices, including Immigration, will be closed. Also, for Buddhist Holidays, there may be a prohibition on the sale of alcohol (hotels are usually exempt); consequently, some entertainment venues may be closed.



Thursday 1 March Makha Bucha Day (Religious)

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Information of Interest from the Open Forum and Other Sources

WEBSITE FOR US CITIZENS/RESIDENTS RESIDING OUTSIDE USA TO VIEW TV PROGRAMS IN USA – “USTV Now” provides regular TV programming from the USA over the Internet free of charge. They require that you register by confirming you are a US Citizen or Resident currently residing outside of the USA and then providing your email address and a password you want to use. Go to <http://www.ustvnow.com/index.php> and click on the Sign Up for Free button – the registration process is self-explanatory. After you are registered, you can go to the same URL and Log in with your email address and password. They do offer some cable channels and other services for a fee; but most broadcast programs are available, e.g., ABC, CBS, NBC, Fox, and others.

ANNUAL CAR REGISTRATION IN PATTAYA – Many car owners trek to the Land Transport Office off of Highway 36 to pay their annual tax and get a current “sticker” to place on their windshield (windscreen). But, it isn’t necessary. Every Saturday from 10am to 4pm, they have staff available at Big C South (Sukhumvit Road) to do the registration. They are on the 2nd floor near Customer Service counter. But, if your car is 7 or more years old, you will need to have it inspected before you can register it at Big C or the Land Transport Office. This can be done on Sukhumvit Road about 200 meters north of Pattaya Orphanage. This establishment will also handle the annual registration for you – pick up the registration and new sticker a couple of days later. There is another on Sukhumvit near Bangkok Hospital Pattaya entrance – See Below:



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Government Holidays in Thailand - 2018

1.	Monday	1 January	New Year's Day
2.	Tuesday	2 January	Substitution for New Year's Eve (Sunday 31 December 2017)
3.	Thursday	1 March	Makha Bucha Day
4.	Friday	6 April	Chakri Memorial Day
5.	Friday	13 April	Songkran Festival
6.	Monday	16 April	Substitution for Songkran Festival (Saturday 14 April and Sunday 15 April 2018)
7.	Tuesday	1 May	National Labour Day
8.	Tuesday	29 May	Wisakha Bucha Day
9.	Friday	27 July	Asarnha Bucha Day
10.	Monday	30 July	Substitution for H.M. King Maha Vajiralongkorn's Birthday (Saturday 28 July 2018)
11.	Monday	13 August	Substitution for H.M. the Queen's Birthday (Sunday 12 August 2018)
12.	Monday	15 October	Substitution for H.M. King Bhumibol Adulyadej Memorial Day (Saturday 13 October 2018)
13.	Tuesday	23 October	Chulalongkorn Day
14.	Wednesday	5 December	H.M. King Bhumibol Adulyadej's Birthday National Day and National Father's Day
15.	Monday	10 December	Constitution Day
16.	Monday	31 December	New Year's Eve

Note: When the Holiday occurs during the weekend (Saturday or Sunday) the following Monday (substitution day) is when Banks and Government offices will be closed.

Observance of a Buddhist (religious) holiday – usually the sale of alcohol is prohibited and some entertainment venues may subsequently be closed. Usually, hotel restaurants and bars are exempt from the ban.

The Cabinet may designate additional days for a holiday, we publish this information in the Club Newsletter. [Click here](#) for a website that lists the Holidays along with a link to get more information about the Holiday.

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