



Our 17th year of Expats helping Expats

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DECEMBER 11, 2017

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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**

Upcoming Holidays

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

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.

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.

DON'T WANT THE BREAKFAST BUFFET AT THE MEETINGS?

If you do not wish the full buffet available at the Sunday meeting, you may purchase coffee, pastries, etc. at the FLOW Cafe on the ground floor of both Towers of the Holiday Inn and bring it up to the meeting room. Club members receive a 25% discount at the FLOW as well as all other Holiday Inn Restaurants & Bars (other than promotional items).

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 **November 30, 2017**).

We continue to receive mixed reports about the requirement to file the TM.30 Address Report within 24 hours of returning from travel outside Thailand. Although recent reports note there may be long lines, we still advise filing the report within 24 hours of return (or next business day) to avoid the risk of being fined. Please follow the above link for more information.

Our latest report on November 27, 2017 confirms that the lines at desk 10 (room to left of information desk) where the TM.30 form is filed were very long and suggested to those reporting to expect it to take at least one hour. He also mentioned that queue numbers for Desk 10 are not displayed on the electronic board, thus you have to listen closely for when the number is called out from the desk. The page linked above has more information from his report.

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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IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DUE ON DECEMBER 31? IF YES, IT IS REQUESTED THAT YOU RENEW EARLY

At one time, PCEC memberships were on a calendar year basis; thus expiring on 31 December. For the past few years, new memberships were for one year from the application date. But, we still have a substantial number of members whose card expires at the end of the calendar year.

Consequently, if everyone waits till their renewal date, Judith, our membership secretary is faced with a huge number of renewal requests being made on 31 December; thus she requests that if your membership expires on 31 December 2017, that you see her early to renew which will allow her sufficient time to make your new card and have it to you before your current one expires. All she needs is your name and membership dues – your photo should already be in the database. She will then print out and laminate a new card and have it available for you before your present card expires.



YOU CAN STILL CONTRIBUTE FOR THE PATTAYA ORPHANAGE AT THE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17 MEETING

For the past several years, the highlight meeting of the year is the Christmas Program. Each year, the Pattaya Orphanage arranges for their Children's Choir to entertain us with Christmas Carols along with some dancers. This year, the program will be on Sunday, December 17. At the end of the program, Santa gives presents to the children and Judith gives any additional funds to the Orphanage. Although presents have been bought, contributions are still appreciated as all monies collected over the cost of the presents is donated to the Orphanage. Judith wishes to remind everyone that Pattaya Orphanage is not part of the Father Ray Foundation, thus their funding comes from donations direct to the Orphanage.



PATTAYA CLASSICAL MUSIC WISHES TO THANK PCEC MEMBERS WHO SUPPORTED THEIR TWO RECENT CONCERTS

[Pattaya Classical Music](#) (PCM) is a non-profit group promoting classical music concerts organized by PCM or others. Surplus funds from PCM's concerts are donated to charities. They wish to thank PCEC members who supported their last two concerts, one featuring Gonville and Caius college, Cambridge and the other, Grand Opera Thailand. Both concerts were held at Pattaya Orphanage. Through these two concerts, they were able to donate the following: 100,000 baht to the [Pattaya Orphanage](#) and 40,000 baht to the [Grace Foundation](#).



BANGKOK HOSPITAL PATTAYA ANNUAL DECEMBER CHECK UP PACKAGES

In December, BHP offers some substantial discounts to their various check up packages.

If you purchase voucher by 31 December 2017, you have until 28 February 2018 to use it.



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



MANTRA WINE EXPERIENCE WILL BE ON FRIDAY DECEMBER 15

The event will be from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. The Wine Experience will feature premium Sparkling wines from several providers, and the International Buffet will be available.

The cost is 1,490 baht, but when you show your PCEC membership card a 15% discount will apply bringing the charge down to 1267 baht + VAT. Reservations are a must please call 089-428-4185 to reserve or email Benjamas.s@amari.com for reservations.



DRIVER LICENSE ASSISTANCE TRIP FOR PCEC MEMBERS ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31

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 9am 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.



HOLIDAY INN'S FARMERS' MARKET ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 13

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

BEN'S THEATER JOMTIEN
presents
"Three Sopranos and Two Pianists"
A rousing start to the New Year



Siri Pariyachart Duangamorn Pijarin Anant

Pijarin Wiriyasakdakul
Duangamorn Fu
Pariyachart Sitthidamrongkarn
Siri Sranoi piano
Anant Changwaiwit piano

8pm Sunday 7th January 2018

Tickets THB 900 pp including free drinks of choice
Reservations strictly by email: benstheaterjomtien@gmail.com

Please state your name, number of tickets required and your mobile number. You will receive a confirmation and a road plan to our venue.

Dress code: smart casual, no shorts, no sandals
Website: www.benstheaterjomtien.com

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.

BEN'S THEATER JOMTIEN PRESENTS "THREE SOPRANOS AND TWO PIANISTS ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

Ben's Theater is giving a rousing start to the New Year with sopranos Pijarin Wiriyasakdakul, Duangamorn Fu, and Pariyachart Sitthidamrongkarn accompanied by pianists Siri Sranoi piano and Anant Changwaiwit. The concert starts at 8pm. Tickets are 900 baht per person including free drinks of choice.

Reservations strictly by email: benstheaterjomtien@gmail.com. Please state your name, number of tickets required and your mobile number. You will receive a confirmation and a road plan to their venue. Dress code: smart casual, no

shorts, no sandals. Website: www.benstheaterjomtien.com.

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.



FREE IMPROVISATIONAL COMEDY WORKSHOP

Prove it to yourself at the Pattaya Players' monthly **FREE COMEDY IMPROV WORKSHOP** at the Robin Hood Tavern at the Avenue Mall on Second Road, Pattaya. Create original theatre comedy instantly, under the direction of award-winning playwright and director Sheldon Penner.

Play theatre games and perform for one another in a friendly, no-pressure, supportive environment. Everybody welcome, ages 12 or over. No experience necessary. Just the desire to play, laugh and have fun! For dates and more information to reserve a place at their next session, please sign up for the Pattaya Improv Meetup at Meetup.com, email Sheldon at sheldon@sheldonpenner.com, or call him at 092.413.7876.

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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.

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 allanmridell@hotmail.com. [Click here](#) for more information on Tanzania Safari including links to itineraries and [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 religious Holidays and their Majesties Birthdays, there may be a prohibition on the sale of alcohol (hotels are usually exempt); consequently, some entertainment venues may be closed.



Sunday 31 December New Year's Eve

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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 - 2017 - 2018

2017

Tuesday	5	December	H.M. King Bhumibol's Birthday (also Fathers' Day)
Sunday	10	December	Constitution Day
Monday	11	December	Substitution for Constitution Day
Sunday	31	December	New Year's Eve

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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