



Phuket International Women's Club

February 2009

e-newsletter

Two months into the new year and the work of PIWC continues apace.

Last week the Scholarship Committee began their round of interviews of applicant students for the next academic year. The first meeting was at Phuket Wittayalai School where about 20 impressive young women and a few young men presented themselves to talk about their life plans and to ask for our help.

What an impressive group they were. Some have already been supported by PIWC during their secondary cycle and are now asking our help to go further; others were new applicants.

It will be a difficult task to select from so many high achievers with such heart-warming ambitions.

Some of the 17/18 year olds have already been accepted into Thailand's finest universities; now all they need is to be able to afford the tuition, accommodation and maintenance costs. Others are waiting to hear or will sit the public entrance examination in due course.

The list of courses they want to study include Computer Programming, Aviation Business Programme, Pharmacy, "I want to be a teacher", one smiling girl told me and in that moment I could see her being just that, others wanted to study Accountancy, the law "because lawyers make a lot of money and are powerful", said that young man who has secured his place already, Environmental Engineering "because I am worried about pollution, the quality of air and water", Medicine – this girl has already been offered a place and hopes to become a surgeon, Architecture, Chemical Engineering, Nursing, Tour Guide and so on.

Most of these young people already speak at least 2 languages – depending on the final programme they opted for in secondary school. Some had really good English, others a smattering, others spoke Korean, Chinese, French, Japanese and more.

Without the help of PIWC scholarship fund these and other young people would not have had such hope for the future. Let's keep up the good work.

[CLUB NEWS](#)

[LAST MONTH'S ACTIVITIES](#)

49 members and guests turned up to our lunch at Gan Eang@the pier – used to be called Gan Eang1, on Chalong pier, where the owner Khun Wallee, in conjunction with our own Khun Wipa, arranged for us to be served a sumptuous array of traditional Phuket cuisine. Hugely successful in terms of food and setting, a total of Baht14,150 – Baht 6.200 in the raffle – was raised..

This month's lunch will be at Mom Tri's new outlet, Regatta at Royal Phuket Marina on 19 February. 11.30 as usual. **Bookings please to Carole Dux: mummydux@hotmail.com**

And a word to those of you who “forget” to book. Please don't. It's impossible for restaurants and the organisers to deal with casual arrivals at the last minute and you may have to be turned away. Imagine how embarrassing that could be for all concerned.

[UP AND COMING](#)

February Coffee Mornings

This month's first coffee morning is as usual the meet-and-greet at Starbucks in Central, next Thursday 12th, 10am-12. It's a casual way of making your first acquaintance if you've just arrived on the island. Everyone welcome.

Our second coffee morning this month is open to offers. Usually held in a member's home it is planned for Thursday 26 February. Contact Khun Wipa or Carole Dux if you want to offer your place.

Another date for your diary is the AGM which will take place on 19 March at Le Meridien between Patong and Karon.

[SUPPORTING FRIENDS](#)

John Dux, husband of Carole, is planning yet another golfing fund-raiser, donating funds to PIWC, to be held at Laguna Phuket Golf Club on the last week-end in April. 96 golfers will take be invited to take part.

Phuket International Blues Rock Festival (Feb 19 – 22 at Hilton Hotel, Karon) promises another exciting line-up this year. As in other years this charity event offers all its profits to PIWC. Go to its website (www.phuketbluesfestival.com) and you'll find us mentioned.

[MEMBERS NEWS AND NEW MEMBERS](#)

This month we welcome Claire and Barbara Lester.

- At the last count we had 120 fully paid up members consisting of 22 different nationalities.

OTHER NEWS

As members increase so have activities. There are now 2 golfing groups on Tuesdays and on Saturdays. Bridge has gone from once a week to 2 groups on Monday and Wednesday afternoons and Mah Jong has grown in its original format to about 12 people and a second group has begun on the north side of the island on Wednesday mornings – near Laguna/Layan/Nai Yang. Interested in joining other beginners at this early stage then contact Carole Dux: mummydux@hotmail.com

The informative and oh-so-useful Information Booklet – compiled by Christine Robinson, Jennie Speed and Joyotee Smith – is about to be updated. If you have anything you'd like to add, correct or eliminate contact Christine before 28 February.

Murmurs of another ball have been heard, date mentioned 20 November. As this is our 20th anniversary a gala ball might be a good way of marking it. However, all decisions will fall to the new ball committee elected at the AGM.

And finally, Heather will organise a sale of old books at the AGM. If you have any you want to rid yourself of, contact her. heather2r@gmail.com

Have a good month

Website: www.phuketiw.com

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Feb 12	Meet and Greet	Starbucks. Central Festival	10 a.m. – 12 a.m.
Feb 19	Monthly lunch	Regatta at Royal Phuket Marina	Carole: mummydux@hotmail.com
Feb 20	Joint project with Rotary/US navy to paint Baan Pakrong Cheep School. Gifts collected to be given at this time.	Baan Pakrong Cheep School. Thalang	Sue: president@phuketiw.com
Feb 26	Morning Coffee	Coffee at Renate's house in Kata	Renate hirtefamily@hotmail.com
March 12	Meet and Greet	Starbucks. Central Festival	10 a.m. – 12 noon
March 19	AGM followed by monthly lunch	Le Meridien, Patong	

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Day	Activity	Place	Contact
Mondays	Mah Jong 9.30 a.m.	Member's House	Christine sweetpea_robinson@yahoo.com
	Bridge 1.30 pm	2Gusti, Central	Christine: sweetpea_robinson@yahoo.com
Tuesday	Golf 1.00 p.m.	Laguna Golf Club	Marion: m_tideman@yahoo.com
Wednesday	Tennis 8 a.m.	Hilton Hotel	Christine: sweetpea_robinson@yahoo.com
	Bridge 1.30	Skippers, RPM	