



Charter Granted 7 August 1961

SOUTH WIND

THE ROTARY CLUB OF BANGKOK SOUTH



The Crowne Plaza Bangkok Lumpini Park Hotel, 952 Rama IV Road, Bangkok 10500 Thailand
info@rotarybangkoksouth.org • 02 632 9160 • www.rotarybangkoksouth.org

Meetings:
Friday
12.15 pm.

President Michael Schulz
President Elect Michael Doyle
Immediate Past President Nick Pisalyaput
Vice President Dean Outerson • **Vice President** Dana Caron
Secretary Vitool Tantianunanont • **Fund Raising** Douglas Riach • **Treasurer** Nathan Christoff
Communications Tim Cornwall • **Administration** Stuart Lucani • **Service Projects** Chris Thatcher
Rotary Foundation Rakesh Sodhia • **Sergeant-at-Arms** Adrian Topham

Cook-off and Farewell at Witch's Tavern

No 2518

31 January 2014

Nicolas Harris Hypnosis, Happiness and the Workplace

Nicholas Harris holds an honours degree in Artificial Intelligence, advanced post graduate qualifications in Clinical Hypnotherapy, is a Reiki Master/Teacher and has 12 years international experience in private practice.

As well as offering a unique form of personal work, Nick teaches personal development workshops and offers online courses.

Nick's passion is the study and practical application of spirituality in daily life. To this end, he has spent his life studying the wisdom traditions of the planet. The therapy and healing work that Nick offers, integrates knowledge from Modern Psychology, Mindfulness, Tibetan Buddhism, Native American Shamanism and the Kabbalah. Personal therapy work is conducted within the belief system of the client.

Hypnosis is defined as a state in

which the mind is focused on one thing only. There are four states of consciousness, Beta (Waking), Alpha (Dreaming), Theta (Deep Sleep) and Delta (Absolute).

A misconception is that hypnosis means a loss of control, it actually means to gain control. Happiness is a state of mind: Happiness = Power + Purpose.

The cost of stress in the United States is put at \$300 Billion/year, Canada, \$4.5 Billion/year, whilst in the UK it is £3.7Billion/year, which explains why the USA has the most psychiatrists per population.

Hypnosis can help overcome stress particularly in the workplace, and can benefit companies



by improving job satisfaction leading to greater productivity.

A practical demonstration of hypnotizing a chicken, by drawing an 18" line from its beak with a piece of chalk was aborted as too many Rotarians had already tried that trick.

Nick's passion is the study and

practical application of spirituality in daily life. To this end, he has spent his life studying the wisdom traditions of the planet.

After the meeting ended Rotarians headed for Cosmos to further study the practical application of spirits in their daily lives.

Article by CP Geoff Carter



@rotarybkksouth



facebook.com/RotaryBangkokSouth



Flashback...



Rtn Stuart welcomes Rtn Jan Akerman back to the club...



Rtn Joop, Cosmos Student Duang and Rtn Carol kicking off Cosmos for today...



The True Taste of Real Coffee

Dirk Naumann Man on a Mission



"I'm in my ninth year of cancer," Dirk says abruptly, as way of explaining why he must leave, "before they could control it, but now they can't." The German Embassy has already made a decision on his replacement, a 45-year-old woman, but the official announcement is pending approval by Thai authorities. Once she is given the green light, she will take over.

The recent news that German Honorary Consul Dirk Naumann would be leaving his post so soon after the Australian Honorary Consul, Larry Cunningham, departed his, was met with worried whispers that the 'other' most outspoken honorary consul had given up amid an avalanche of antipathy for the work that they were doing, or at least attempting to do.

The decision to leave, however, is not one that was taken lightly. Sitting down with Dirk in his little office on the Bypass Road – the same place where I first interviewed him several years ago – he is a little slower on his feet and a little softer spoken.

There's a tinge of sadness when Dirk speaks, but it is more melancholy than morbidity. "I've had a very good life and have no regrets. Some people fear death, but I don't. I fear the pain associated with death, but now that Thai authorities allow the potent medicine [morphine] into the country, I do not have any pain. "Then, death becomes a very simple matter." Dirk is almost 72-years-old, and has lived more than 40 of his years in Thailand and away from his native city of Hamburg, Germany. It meant that the decision to stay or go was an easy one to make. "My home is here now – I've been away from Germany for a long time. My friends are all over the world. I think I have



one 93-year-old uncle in Hamburg – what am I going to do with a 93-year-old uncle?”

Besides the uncle, who Dirk quips may outlive him, he has children in Germany, one of whom, along with his granddaughter, is coming back to Thailand to take care of him.

Dirk first arrived in Thailand around 46 years ago, when he was sent by a German pharmaceutical company to expand operations in the country.

“I eventually became the youngest ever managing director of the company at 23. I still am to this day.”

Dirk then continued to work for different pharmaceutical companies until retiring at the age of 59.

His work didn't stop there though, and a couple of years later he was approached by the German Embassy. In 2003, he moved to Phuket and started work as the island's German Honorary Consul.

“The role hasn't changed significantly,” says Dirk after a moment of contemplation, “but I have become more outspoken and aggressive [during the ten year tenure] and less patient.”

“Why have I become more aggressive?” asks Dirk, anticipating my next question. “Well, it's because I've watched this beautiful island in the Andaman Sea suffer a slow and certain death.”

Dirk tells *The Phuket News* that throughout his appointment, he has remained consistent with two main issues: tuk-tuks and taxis; and water pollution. “Unfortunately with regards to water pollution, nothing has changed, nothing has been done and very little has been done regarding the taxi and tuk-tuk situation,” he says with an air of disappointment.

The pollution of Phuket's waters are especially a sore point with Dirk, as the ocean was one of the main reasons why he moved to Phuket in the first place.

“When I came 11 years ago, my primary objective was to sail, because I loved the sea, beaches and the sun.”

Unfortunately, Dirk's main pastime was to come to an abrupt end in 2007 when he received a visit from a fellow German. “He came to me to tell me that he'd come to Phuket with his own water testing kit and showed me the results, he said that almost all of the beaches in Phuket were unsafe to swim off.”

From that day onwards Dirk never went into the waters off Phuket again. He was also instrumental in setting up and assisting two separate German TV programme makers to visit to investigate water pollution levels, one of which was *Wir Retten Ihren Urlaub* (We Save Your Holiday).

Their own investigation verified that water pollution levels were completely unsafe for swimming.

The situation has not improved, believes Dirk – if anything it's probably become much worse. “The Phuket government just does not have enough funds to fix the problems,” says Dirk.

“The central government, in fact, has never allocated sufficient funds, regardless of whether Abhisit or Shinawatra [is in charge], they only take, take, take. Now the scars on the Phuket environment are very evident and horrendous.”

Dirk adds that it's wrong to equate visitor numbers with success, and believes the statistics quoted by the Tourism Authority of Thailand are not only probably inaccurate, as they make no distinction between whether arrivals stay in Phuket or go elsewhere, but also do not factor in the type of tourist who is visiting.

“We need to stop being so self congratulatory about things. There needs to be proper studies done, proper statistics [gathered], it's not just about visitor numbers. “We need to look at how much the Russians and Chinese are actually spending, and how many Phuket restaurants, owned by Phuket people, they are going to!”

“Chinese buy food at 7/11 and go back to their Chinese-owned hotel and play mahjong. They don't spend money or stay for the same kind of nights in hotels like Europeans did.

“People will one day wake up: the Europeans are leaving and finding other places like Bali, the Australians are leaving, and the Russians and Chinese will eventually leave. The congestion and pollution will eventually take its toll.”

Dirk references Italy in the 1970s, “It was incredibly popular until 1972, when there were numerous reports of the beaches being polluted, the food being terrible, and the waiters being rude. For the next few years, explains Dirk, visitor numbers plummeted and Italy realised it needed to wake up. “I guess that's




indus
contemporary indian dining
Spice things up a bit



#71 Sukhumvit Soi 26. | Tel. 02-258-4900 |
www.indusbangkok.com | indus@indusbangkok.com



PACIFIC
ORIENTATION
www.pacificorientation.com

- Relocation Services
- Cultural Awareness Training
- Immigration Services
- Furniture Rentals
- Residential Property Rental

Leo Alexandersen
M: 081 824 8384



Khun Khob's Club Almanac # 2518 – 31 January 2014

Happy Birthdays

PP Don Lavoie - February 2 Tim Cornwall - February 6

Attendance for 24 January 2014: 61%

Present 36, Make-up 13, Absent 31, ExempT27, Total 107

Visiting for 24 January 2014

AG Ateep Maskati RC Bangkok

Mark Wolf RC Woodburn, OR, USA

Invited Guests

Chase Schneier

Finbarr O'Conner

Jim Yarbrough

Lars Hansen

Matthew Christenson

Introduced by

IPP Nick Pisalyaput

AG Andrew MacPherson

Ron Livingston

P Michael Schulz

Tim Cornwall



Recent Makeups

RC Bangrak, 16/01/14: Suhendra Kosim

E-Club One, 17/01/14: Tom Banker

RC Bangkok, 21/01/14: Chip Bowness, Doug Riach

Makeup credits

Golf, 17/01/14: Doug Riach, Juergen Bernhold, Mark Shaw, PP Ole Madsen, Stuart Lucani, Tim Cornwall

Board, 20/01/14: Adrian Topham, Chris Thatcher, Dana Caron, Dean Outerson, Douglas Riach, P Michael Schulz, PE Mike Doyle, Nathan Christoff, IPP Nick Pisalyaput, Rakesh Sodhia, Stuart Lucani, Tim Cornwall, Vitool Tantianunanont

Program, 21/01/14: AG Andrew MacPherson, Colin Hastings, Dana Caron, PP Don Lavoie, Jon Plate, PP Narinder Sachdev, PP Nart Liuchareon, Prasobsook Thawilvejajakul, Prasert Mangkornkarn, PP Renato Porzio, PP Wanit Mekdhanasarn

Membership, 23/01/14: AG Andrew MacPherson, Krin Chammaytesakul, PP Mark Butters, PE Mike Doyle, PP Niti Meyer, PP Ole Madsen, PDG Pr Hutasingh, Rod Vergara, Rui Belo, PP Vichai Tantrativud

Club Calendar

7 February 2014 - Luncheon

Thitinan Pongsudhirak

14 February 2014 - Luncheon

Marco Maldoni

Staying ahead of the waves (tsunamis)

21 February 2014 - Luncheon

Chris Coles

The Colors of the Bangkok Night

Special Dates to Remember

Friday, 7 February 2014

Delegation to RC Hua Hin and a weekend of fellowship

Thursday, 13 February 2014

Paul Harris Dinner

Hyatt Erawan Hotel

Thursday, 20 February 2014

25th Annual Golf Tournament

Thana City Golf Course

Thursday, 20 March 2014

Kids Day Out

Saturday, 28 June 2014

Installation Ball

Dusit Thani Hotel

For Bangkok South Events

rotarybangkoksouth.org/calendar-of-events

what will happen in Phuket," he says. It is for this reason that Dirk believes it is the duty of media in Phuket to never shy away from pointing out the negative aspects of life here, the elements that he says are destroying Phuket – without destroying Phuket as a tourist destination. This he says is, of course, a delicate balance.

Although he believes Phuket is not yet at the point of no return, he says it is still headed down the same unsustainable road it has been ever since being discovered as a tourist destination.

"I've not seen a substantial difference between the first governor I worked

with and the one I'm working with now," says Dirk, adding that he is at least happy that the tri-monthly honorary consul meetings with the Governor are now back on.

"Perhaps he [Phuket Governor Maitree Intusut] realised speaking to hon cons is not an all bad thing, but I've always wished the meetings were a little smaller and a little more intimate really.

"That way people could speak more openly and every word doesn't carry such weight. There are too many people involved."

Although the time for Dirk to be worrying about such things is drawing to an

end, this doesn't mean that he will not stop caring about Phuket or Thailand – his home. "Why do I still love Thailand?" he says, "It's very easy for me. It's very warm and I like the food and the people – especially the ladies. And I love the *mai pen rai* attitude – I like this attitude a lot."

So how will this hard-working honorary consul be spending his long overdue retirement? "I'm going to be spending my time with my daughter and grandson now, and I have a feeling that they're going to be taking up a lot of my time," he says with a smile.

**Article Courtesy of The Phuket News
Written by Jody Houton**



MODENA
BEACHFRONT CONDOMINIUM & POOL VILLAS, HUA HIN, PRANBURI

LUXURY BEACHFRONT CONDOS
PRANBURI - HUA HIN, THAILAND

27 Stylish Condominiums and 4 Pool Villas

www.modenacondos.com

For more information, please contact
email: info@modenacondos.com - Tel: +66(0) 88.495.6455



The **BEST** deals in Asia are **ONLINE!**
Homes|Condos|Cars|Boats|Businesses|More!

CLASSIFIEDS

www.AsiaSold.com