History, Skin and Peter Jackson

The following is an interview with Doctor Peter Jackson, a Research Fellow in Thai History at the Australian National University and author of *Intrinsic Quality of Skin* and *Dear Uncle Go: Male Homosexuality in Thailand*.

**How did you become involved in the study of Thai history?** I have been interested in South and Southeast Asian culture since I was at high school. However, I felt a special affinity with Thailand from my first visit here as a tourist in 1980. For some reason I felt more at home in Thailand than in any of the other Asian countries I travelled in. But my decision to learn Thai and to undertake postgraduate study here (originally on Thai Buddhism) was also a calculated career move.

**What was life like for a gay man or woman 100 years ago in Thailand?**

Of course 100 years ago the category "gay" did not exist in Thailand or anywhere else for that matter. We know from some fragmentary historical accounts that same-sex activity occurred, but the notion of homosexual or gay identity certainly did not exist. It is also quite likely that Thai men and women who engaged in same sex activity in the last century understood their desires, interactions and relationships quite differently from people today.

For example, I suspect that very few homosexually active people would have thought that same sex desire could form the basis of ongoing relationships or partnerships. Most would have thought of themselves as ordinary "men" or "women" who got married, had children and so no but who simply "played with a friend" (len pheuan) now and then.

**Is Thailand as tolerant towards homosexuality as is often claimed?**

Thailand is fairly tolerant of same sex activity compared to many other societies, but it is still fairly unaccepting of homosexuality. This means that there is comparatively little active intervention to prevent or punish same sex activity, but there is a tremendous amount of gossip and innuendo.

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**Gay Rights in New Thai Constitution?**

The draft of the new constitution has been completed and has received parliamentary approval. But does it provide any legal rights for homosexuals? Here’s what is says:

"Human dignity, rights and freedoms of individuals shall be protected." Article 6: "The use of any power by all government sectors must consider human dignity, rights and freedoms of individuals according to this constitution." Article 26: "An individual shall claim his/her human dignity or use his/her rights and freedoms as long as he does not infringe upon the rights and freedoms of other people, violate this constitution, or contradict the good morals of people." Article 28. Although these three articles do not clearly specify the rights of homosexuals, they do offer some indirect protection under the broad umbrella of human rights.

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This Month in Pink Ink

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Shawn Colvin Delights Fans at AUA Gig

Shawn Colvin delighted a group of about 500 fans at the AUA Auditorium last month with a short acoustic concert in promotion of her Sony release “Best EP Selections.”

Concert-goers were required to show the just-released cassette or CD to gain entry to the show.

Colvin, with guitar, microphone and little else, kicked off the show with “Shot Gun Down the Avalanche” followed with a harmonica in mouth Dylan-style rendering of “Get Out of This House”, last year’s Grammy Nominee.

The nine-song set included such favourites as “One Cool Remove”, from her Cover Girl release, “Sunny Came Home”, “You and the Mora Lisa” and “Steady On”. Fans demanded an encore and received the moving “I Don’t Know Why”.

The simply marvelous T-Bone kicked off the affair, proving that he’s been dubbed Thailand’s only reggae performer for good reason.

Steeple and dread-locked T-Bone performed selections off his new Sony release “Gawt” (Hold On).

HELINE Online

Community Services of Bangkok has announced the launch of HELINE, a confidential anonymous service for those in need. HELINE can be reached at 662-4979, and service is conducted in English, 7 days a week, 10am to 11pm.

For more information contact HELINE directly at 662-4979, or contact the Community Services of Bangkok at 238-4998, or fax 263-3563.

Conference Planned

Thailand’s lesbian group Anjaree is preparing to host a national conference for people working in the areas of public health policy, education and mass media. The topic of discussion will be “Psychological Issues and Human Rights.”

All interested people are invited to attend. For further information, contact Anjaree by phone or fax at (02) 477-1776.

Rome Folk-O-Rama

A folk music concert will take place on the stage at the Rome Club December 13th, featuring performances by local singer-songwriters.

Those wishing to join “Folk-O-Rama” should contact Nick at 661-3150 extension 1515 for more information.
Butch Among Straights

Crab Boy with Jennifer Bliss

A personal account of the difficult balancing act of surviving as a lesbian in Thai society.

Before I discovered Anjarse and Utopia, I was alone among straight friends and had only two or three gay friends. If I think about all my different straight friends, male and female, and how they react to me as a woman, I could categorize them into three groups: gay friendly, so-so, and anti-gay.

My gay-friendly friends accept me as a lesbian and never put me down for it. They do not consider homosexuality a sickness or a deviance, but view it as a characteristic found only in some people. Moreover, they are interested in understanding me.

My so-so friends are reserved, and we do not spend time together. They do not consider homosexuality a sickness or a deviance, but view it as a characteristic found only in some people. Moreover, they are interested in understanding me.

My anti-gay friends put me down for it. They do not consider homosexuality a sickness or a deviance, but view it as a characteristic found only in some people. Moreover, they are interested in understanding me.

Singapore Gay & Lesbian Group Banned

Gay and lesbian group "People Like Us" has had their application to become a legally registered organisation turned down by the Singaporean government with no official explanation.

According to Singaporean law, non-registered organisations are considered illegal and members are liable to be fined up to $3,000 or jailed for up to three years. People Like Us have filed a complaint with the Minister of Justice to protest the rejection by the Interior Ministry - Anjarse Newsletter.

Gay Games Coming to Amsterdam in 1998

In the first week of August 1998, more than 200,000 gay and lesbian visitors and competitors are expected to converge on Amsterdam for the 5th Gay Games. The international sports and cultural event, the largest in Europe, is attracting participants from Europe, the Americas, Australia and Asia. To register, or for more information, contact the website at www.dds.nl/gaygames/index2.html. You can email them at office@gaygames.nl or telephone them at 31-20-626-2098.

HK Students Set Up "Homosexual Club"

University students in Hong Kong have set up an underground "homosexual club." According to a report from AFP, the Joint University Queen Union was established by three homosexual students "socialise" and membership is now at 200 or so.

RF Students Staged in Japan

Japanese homosexuals held their first ever public march last month when about 300 women took to the streets of central Tokyo. Organisers said they couldn't resist the humour of turning October 10, National Sports Day or "taihu no hi" in Japanese, into "daiku no hi" - Dyke Day.

Understandings and are supportive in their own way. They read books and see films about gays, and take me as who and what I am. I feel relaxed and warm with these friends. Unfortunately, I only have a few buddies, both men and women, who are so accepting.

The second group is mainly comprised of women who didn't recognise my lesbianism at the beginning of our friendship and, over time, accepted me as a person, but not as a lesbian. These so-so friends don't like gays and express their aversion openly, mainly focusing on physical issues, for example, "You are just a fake," or, "I want a real one." This kind of light-hearted teasing is not meant to hurt me, but at one time, it deeply shook my self-confidence.

I must give this group of friends some credit, though, as they do seem to understand my feelings towards people of the same gender. However, they see my attraction to other women in terms of one having feelings for another individual. To them, a same-sex relationship is not wrong if they think of it in these terms. But when they associate the relationship with gender, they think it is definitely unacceptable.

Finally, the anti-gays. They are mostly male and aggressively homophobic in their views. While the first two groups of my friends accept me as an individual who is different from them, this third group perceives me as a woman who wants to be a man and they treat me as though I were a threat to them.

My gay-friendly and so-so friends have a slight tendency to try to get me to change my sexuality, but my anti-gay friends seem annoyed with my masculinity and take every chance they can to try to change me. Their focus is on the anatomical issues as well as social ones.

The way they tease me is that I'm not just kidding around, but a challenge, and a thinly-veiled threat. Their comments refer directly to the penis - how proud they are to have it and to use it to entertain women.

Their more serious challenges are about physical strength. When we have an argument, they dare me to fight with them so they can prove that they are stronger than me. I've never actually fought any of them, though.

Each time I have risen to their challenges, they have avoided violence by feigning kindness for not beating me. Such intimidation has, at times, undermined my self-esteem.

These so-called friends of mine also suppress me socially by being against every relationship I have with a woman, and by encouraging my other friends to do the same.

Most people probably face similar situations. It's hard to know what is the best thing to do. You could decide that it's just not worth the pain and trouble of relations with your old friends or for some new, gay-positive ones.

Whatever you decide to do, keep in mind that it's OK to be gay, and that you have the right to love.
**A Virus That Lost Interest**

**Positive Thinking**

Brad Johnston

Every so often I ask myself this question: If a virus doesn't manifest itself physically, does it really exist? This is an uncharacteristically Zen concept for me to be proposing, but sometimes I wonder why, despite my health, I remain stubbornly asymptomatic.

For more than six years I have waged recreational rebellion against an unseen oppressor and I'm beginning to think that it's a futile battle. Unlike many, my medical record has been spectacularly undescriptive. Nothing so much as a sniffle in years. I could attribute this to fortune, a strong constitution, the fact that I have ignored the virus until it has lost interest. I guess I should be happy. Optimism, it seems, is not transmissible.

I suppose I should question the definition of asymptomatic. Does a total lack of motivation count? What about the inability to see beyond tomorrow? Are these symptoms of living in a world where instant gratification just doesn't come fast enough? Now that I'm the proud owner of what might be a chronic manageable illness, it's time to create the future which has until now been unimaginable. You know, quit smoking, build a career. Any evidence that I am actually participating in life will do.

It's a scary thought, one that has passed through the minds of many a dare say.

Of course, we now have the luxury of dealing with life's little details, but it is the larger picture which is giving me trouble. Is it just me, or is the prospect of life almost as frightening as the prospect of death.

Just as youth is an invaluable excuse for bad behaviour, a terminal illness can be extremely handy. It's amazing what a parent can get away with. Unfortunately, we now have a new image, that of the Phoenix rising from the ashes of our friends and lovers. We have been handed the next best thing to a cure and we are duty-bound to accept it with grace, use it correctly and capitalise on its effect.

Sensibleness is something which I have admired in others but never really aspired to. Now that it's a moral imperative, I don't know what to do. Inertia is terribly unfashionable right now.

Death can be taking a holiday, but so did ambition back in 1991. Of course death, like an ex-boyfriend, can turn up at any time, quite unexpectedly and unwelcome. I suppose this is an improvement on the dreaded guest whom you know is due to arrive any minute and I should be grateful that I have time to redecorate before it does. A spiritual spring cleaning? Too bad! I'm living in the vacuum I need to complete the task. - Sydney Star Observer

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**The Pink Ink Postbag**

Dear Pink Ink,

Visiting Bangkok on a recent trip to Thailand we came across your first issue of Pink Ink which we found of remarkable quality. Since April this year we have been living in Singapore but have been living in Bangkok for the three previous years and being regular visitors we are still rather interested in what is going on in Bangkok.

Can you please inform us what the costs will be for a yearly subscription to Pink Ink to be sent to Singapore?

Best regards,

Robert & Greg

Overseas subscriptions to Pink Ink are available for 600 baht; see page 3 for more details and contact information. Local subscriptions are available for 300 baht.

SQUIGGLES

Honey, I'd like this "Khaotom" spiced up...

COMINGGG...

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Dear Pink Ink,

I picked up a copy of Pink Ink from Utopia last Saturday and thoroughly enjoyed it, not to mention how helpful it was. The listings section guided me to a wonderful bookstore in the city. No doubt I will spend many happy moments there amongst the vast and rich collections.

Thanks! I like your concept of community. Indeed, as a gay Farang just recently moved to Bangkok, I do find myself rather isolated. Your publication comes as a timely means for me to know more about the ins and outs of gay life in Bangkok.

I think perhaps I will not feel so alone this way. Your Pink Personals section seems to indicate so. I have just one query. How do I get touch with advertisers in this section?

Cheers,

William

You can reply to the Pink Personals either by the address or telephone number supplied, or to the box number at the end of the ad, in which case we'll forward the reply on to the advertiser at no charge.

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Blow your horn... in Pink Ink Personals
History, Skin and Peter Jackson, Cont...

slander and other forms of character assassination that make it very difficult for the vast majority of Thai homosexual men and women to come out.

What was the inspiration behind “Intrinsic Quality of Skin”?

I tried my hand at writing fiction because I found that there were many issues surrounding living in Thailand as a gay man that I could not analyse satisfactorily intradimensional academic studies. “The Intrinsic Quality of Skin” has a number of themes. Firstly, I wanted to provide an experiential account that debunked the myth of Thailand as a gay paradise. I also wanted to oppose the stereotypical and exploitative eroticisation of Asian men’s bodies that one finds in some Western homo-eroticism. At the same time, I wanted to critique the opposite but very common racist view within many Western gay subcultures that Asian men are not erotically attractive.

What are your future plans concerning Thailand and the study of homosexuality here?

I’m working on a number of projects at the moment, but unfortunately they are progressing a little more slowly than I would like. My main project is a history of how gay, lesbian and kathoey issues have been treated in the Thai press and media over the past 5 decades. A second project is to record the lives of Thai men of different ages and from diverse social backgrounds who are breaking with the expectation to marry by...

Debunking Thailand’s gay paradise myth...

building their social, erotic and emotional lives around other men.

How would you characterise the current gay community in Thailand?

I do not think that Thailand or Bangkok has a gay community in the sense of a group of people who share common goals, aspirations, rituals, celebrations, etc. Most gay men in Thailand remain very closeted and until many more are prepared to be visible in public I do not think a true gay community will develop.

However, there is a definite gay subculture and there are many networks of friends, and so on. I am not a futurologist, but if the trends of the past decades continue I think we can expect increasing numbers of homosexually active men to avoid marriage and seek to find and live with a male partner.

At this point in time there seems to be no sign of a Thai gay movement developing or of a mass coming out of gay men.

Do you think Thailand will ever allow legal gay/lesbian marriages?

Unless a public movement develops advocating this legal change, I don’t think that it will happen in the near future.

What advice would you give for young people coming to terms with their sexuality?

I always tell my Thai gay friends that they should not feel ashamed of their feelings for other men. I see them more as emotionally independent friends. I think that a gay friend is worth his weight in gold. In my experience gay friendships last a lot longer than the average relationship and so nurturing friendships is perhaps the most important thing a gay man can do to maintain his mental health and a positive outlook on life.

People come up to me and talk after shows to share their experiences. One guy once said to me, “Well I’m straight, but I’ve had a homosexual experience.” I’m like, “Exactly what did you do? Buy a pair of shoes and a belt that matched?”

Gay Comedian Scott Silverman

Mouth

Monkey See, Monkey Do?

The Rajahat Institute’s reprehensible and futile attempt to ban gay men and lesbians from enrolling in its teaching courses was based on the “misunderstanding” that students would consider homosexual teachers as role models. Perhaps they think that bigots would set a better example for the Kingdom’s youth.

Can Gays and Lesbians be Good Role Models?

Pink Ink loitered around the now rather uncrowded Silom Sai 4 and asked punters whether gay men and lesbians could be good role models for children. Here’s what we heard:

Sure. In fact, I think sometimes they can be better role models for children than heterosexual people because they have a more flexible sexuality to work with.

It’s not as stereotypical so there’s not the same sort of demands on a male or a female child that there might be in a hetero-sexual environment.

Jennifer, 29, Australia

Definitely. I don’t think sexuality is an issue, either as parents or teachers. It’s who you are, your personality. If you’re a good person, that’s all that matters. If children are getting positive messages from an adult, it doesn’t matter if they’re into men or women. As long as you don’t hurt any one, then anything goes.

Melissa, 26, Australia

They could, if they wanted to be. Anyone could, if they wanted to be. But whether they want to be or whether they want to live a life that children could imitate and learn from, that’s another matter.

By the same token, I’m not so sure that a lot of parents these days are worth imitating. It’s not really a gay/lesbian thing, is it?

Mark, 29, California

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Mark, 29, California

Dreaded Ned's

the web site with a bucket on its head

For Gay Thailand, point your Web browser to www.dreadedned.com.
Tinkerbell Convention in Banglamphoo...

I was planning to regale you with some steamy tales from the saunas this month, seeing as two new ones have recently opened their steam valves, but I haven't been quite able to dislodge this overloaded tire tube from around my waist.

Bouncing off the wall may be appropriate behaviour at a techno rave or drag-queen clawdown (similar to a country and western hoedown but with bigger hair and more spangly clothing), but I want to be looking svelte and sleek if all I'm wearing is a hanky that passes as a towel. Besides, another month will give both Heaven and Cat the chance to perfect their respective acts (and the chance to slim down).

Speaking of claws, they must be the UGLIEST drag queens I ever did see. "They" being the "welcoming committee" at the Hole in the Wall, that long popular watering hole on Khao San Road that has become the latest, favorite, early morning hang-out for the city's queens. Packed from midnight on with Khao San irregulars, with boppers bopping to the latest hits played by music meister Chok, it takes an eagle eye to spot the fake femmes fatales lurking in the shadows under the flashing rainbow-coloured lights. (Fans of old horror movies should have an easier time of it - just look for the pancaked makeup effect.) But it's not until Patpong closes down that the Hole really gets a thrushin'.

 Suppressing a shudder is difficult while watching the look of bemusement gradually change to consternation on the faces of the irregulars as a seemingly never-ending swarm of fairies rushes through the door, changing the entire composition of the room within moments. You can almost hear them asking themselves, "What the hell is this, a Tinkerbell convention?"

The party usually goes on until dawn or beyond. When I discreetly enquired of the owner which days of the week this was most likely to occur, she said with a slightly pained expression, "Every night." See you there...

Still on the subject of cross-dressers, I reverted over to Mambo recently fora quick look at what it had to offer. In case you don't know, Mambo is the new cabaret venue that opened on June 1 in Sukhumvit 33. Managing director Gerson Sarginahan, who previously managed Calypso's touring road troupes for 10 years, filled the 40-member troupe to open his new establishment. He was mum about what exactly precipitated his hasty departure from Calypso.

After seeing the show, I can't help but wonder if he shouldn't have started from scratch (pun intended). Although the brilliantly bedecked dancers put on a spectacular show, they totally lack soul. A couple of impressive numbers stand out - notably the old standby with a performer playing, literally, a double-faced role, but generally the performers are so icy professionally they freeze out the audience.

At Bahg 500 a pop, this is nothing to sneeze at. The entrance fee includes one free beverage or cocktail, with each additional costing Bahg 100. Showtimes are at 8.30pm and 11pm nightly, and the show lasts approximately 65 minutes.

Currently tour groups from Japan make up 90 percent of the clientele. Because of this, reservations are recommended, although the auditorium was only half full the night I attended.

Queer Reads

What Your Mother Doesn't Know

Homosexuality: The Secret a Child Dare Not Tell.

When I came out to my mum, her main concerns where my religious well-being had I talked to a priest? Did I need to? Did 'this' affect my faith? - and to let me know that she still loved me. What she didn't say was "Yes I know, I've known for years, since you were in nursery school, from the way you dressed, the games you played, the presents you asked for, the friends you had, and a million other things." What she didn't say is one of the themes of the book Homosexuality: The Secret a Child Dare Not Tell.

Mary Ann Cantwell is 74 years old and mother of ten children including her gay son, Mike. When he told her that her knew in "some vague way when he was five or six about his homosexuality but at the same time he knew he needed for circumcision" she was shocked to realize that she was a factor in Mike's need for secrecy.

This book, in part, is her attempt in coming to terms with her collision in his silence. Cantwell sent out surveys to gays and lesbians and the parents of gays and lesbians. The questions are as interesting to answer yourself as they are for the replies she received.

Typical of the questions she asked were, "At what age did you have an inkling that your emotions and interests did not match familial and societal expectations of one of your sex?" and "How do you think, or imagine, your childhood would have been different if you were born into a society where sexual orientation made no more difference than say, hair color?"

On the central theme of the book about gays and lesbians first realized they were in some way different, Lilly said: "I was very young (4th grade). I just remember playing house with my neighbor friend and liking it. From that point on I would have dreams about being with the same sex. These dreams made me feel good inside."

Some of the voices in the book show us just how emotionally and mentally damaging that cover-up can be.

This book should be essential reading for doctors, social workers, teachers, politicians and religious leaders.

More importantly, it should be essential reading for all parents.

Nuala O'Sullivan

TURKEY EASTER BABY: What the lesbian shock brings a child of a female couple conceived through at-home artificial insemination.
BOX: Crutches of a cloned man ("nice butt, but no box")

Also: pushing box, meaning to arrange one's endowment in order to create the most impressive presentation.
- From When Drag is not a Car Race, Jeff Fessler & Karen Rauch.
Dealing with Dust

Question: What can I do to protect myself from the terrible pollution in Bangkok?

Answer: First of all, I am limiting myself in this answer to the three forms of pollution we are most commonly exposed to in Bangkok: water, air, and noise pollution.

To protect yourself from water pollution, I would advise against swimming/bathing in anything but a bathtub or a clean pool. While toxic pollutants, such as heavy metals and certain industrial chemicals, may be present in any body of water they are being dumped into, microbes are more present in stagnant water, but not significantly absent from rivers and streams. Furthermore, it would be most safe in this context to drink only bottled water, even for cooking and making coffee, tea, and soup.

To protect yourself from air pollution in Bangkok is harder. Avoiding places where you are prone to inhale fumes, gases, and dust is your best protection, unless you want to go around with a very advanced gas mask. Good nose/mouth masks made of fabric may not protect against fumes and gases, but do protect you against inhaling dust particles. Some of which, such as cement and asbestos, can cause respiratory illness in the future. Unfortunately it cannot be predicted whether you are prone to develop respiratory illness based upon prolonged exposure to less serious dust particles in the future, so once again, avoiding them altogether is the best protection.

If you want to avoid fumes and dust by staying inside a vehicle or a building, then make sure that the air conditioning is not only circulating the same air over and over again while just cooling it, but actually is filtering or refreshing it. Otherwise the air quality in the vehicle or building might be worse than outside on the Bangkok streets.

Effects of moderate noise pollution on sleeping patterns are well described, but the long-term impact is unknown. What is known is that prolonged exposure to loud noise, such as is the case of road and construction workers, leads to "boilermaker's disease" with severe hearing loss, which can be avoided by using hearing protection aids.

Question: As a lesbian.

15 Provocatively Named Places

1. Gay Head, Massachusetts
2. Dicks Head, Kenya
3. Intercourse, Pennsylvania
4. Dildo, Newfoundland
5. Mount Dick, New Zealand
7. Fort Gay, Wyoming
8. Screw River, New Guinea
9. Cumming, Georgia
10. Dykesville, Louisiana
11. Sarapha's Leap, Levkas, Greece
12. Dykes Crossrosse, Tennesse
13. Oral, South Dakota
14. Big Hole, Montana

What's Up in BKK

Events This Month

ANGELA SAUNA will be celebrating her 40th Anniversary November 4th with a special show, gifts and special cocktails. CALYPSO has moved to the Asia Hotel with its cabaret show. COLONY SAUNA will be having a Loy Krathong festival November 14th, which will include a Beauty Contest, cabaret show and buffet for Baht 250. Join the fun! HEAVEN every Thursday will be having Spaghetti Night. The owner promises a "big surprise" to those who show up - hmmm! LOY KRATHONG with your sweetheart November 14th. ROMANTICHE, held an international 据aardner's contest in Soi 4, starting about mid-month and continuing for 4 weekends. Have a sip SHOWS! Catch the new show at ROME daily 1 am. DJ STATION at 12.15 am daily. BANK STUDIO at 3am. TONIGHT ladies only show Friday and Saturday at 12.30am. COLONY has a show Friday and Saturday, 10pm.

SEA-AIDS MAILING LIST: Sea-Aids is the South East Asia Aids mailing list, aimed at bringing together the people building and shaping the responses to HIV and Aids in the region. To subscribe send a message to major@lists.net.co.th with the message "subscribe sea-aids Your Name <Your Email Address>" (without the apostrophes). STD CLINIC: 1439 Sukhumvit (near Soi 65), 391-0415. Testing facility Tuesday - Thursday 5pm-8pm, and Saturday - Saturday 9am-2pm.

Books

BULL DOG BOOKS, PO Box 135, Broadway, NSW Australia 2001. Publisher of Thai Scene and other titles.

DK BOOK HOUSE: On Sukhumvit near Soi 12, this shop has a good gay title.

Cyberspace

ADVOCATE: One of the best gay and lesbian magazines around. Pay 'em a visit at www.advocate.com.

APLB is an electronic mailing list focusing on issues related to Asian and Pacific Islander Lesbian and Bisexual Women. Messages include various discussion topics, announcements of community events, and networking. The list is open to Asian and Pacific Islander lesbian and bisexual women only. To subscribe to the list send an E-mail request to: apblrequest@kawaj.enrg.sgi

CHAMON: Thai magazine publisher, at www.chamon.com

DATA LOUNGE: Great site to pick up the latest news, participate in opinion polls and read film reviews. www.dataounge.com


FILIPINO QUEER DIRECTORY: Just like the same says, www.toribio.org/akak/bakita.html

GAY DAZE: Visit the gay soap opera on the Web at www.gaydaze.com

OG: Pay a visit to the OG site for Asian gay culture. www.ogusa.com

INK: That's us! www.inknet.com/pinkink

SIAM WEB: www.siamweb.com

SYDNEY MARDI GRAS: www.mardi.gras.com.au

Floating Lotus Communications Co. PO Box 44. Ratchawithi Post Office, Bangkok, Thailand 10406. Also BUA LUANG BOOKS. Publisher of such books as Sex, Longing and Not Belonging, Dear Uncle Go, and The Men of Thailand.

KINO KINURITA: In the new Grand Emporium just opened on Sukhumvit near the Queen's Park Hotel, this shop has a tremendous selection of gay and lesbian literature — and we mean tremendous. Worth a visit!

BE MY GUEST (welcomes women). Sukhumvit 31. Pub. Food, drink, entertainment. Sulo Ashob. Also, check out the new "Thumbs Up" across the street, for high class "Tom Boys".


BODY TALK (gay-friendly). Silom Soi 4 and 2/3 Sam Chat Center. Hot designs for hot bods.


CHARLIES HIDEAWAY (gay): 8/5 Soi Sukhumvit 51. Quiet bar next to DJ Station. Classical music.


HISTORY (gay): 8/10 Silom Road Soi 2, 632-7223. Hosted. Used to be called Harries, now trying a go-go format with hosts. Pleasant interior, hassle-free.


J'Y PARIS (gay): 8-3 Sukhumvit Road Soi 2, 231-247, 215-1227. Pub. Popular with more mature Thai crowds, features a variety of singers every evening doing pop and Thai folk songs.


JUPITER (gay): 31/1-33 Sukhumvit Road (next to Bangkok Bank), 237-4650 est "Jupiter" Hosts. Go go. Quite sexy but elegant.


MASK (gay): 5 Patpong Soi 2, 2nd Floor, Sukhumvit 50-04. Go go bar with naughty show about 12am.


NO BODY CENTER FOR MEN (gay): Sukhumvit Plaza, 4th Fl. (near Soi 12), 251-6367. Massage by handsome staff. Discrete, quality service.


PAK KRUA FM (gay): 39/19 Soi Anuman Ratratchai, Soi Thaniwan, Sukhumvit. Popular establishment, lots of Thai customers.


SPHINX (mixed): 98-104 Silom Soi 4, 234-7249. Pub. Romantic decor, expansive menu, excellent service. Their cozy, romantic atmos-

Learn Thai in your home or office. Translation of personal letters. Call today for reasonable rates.

Khan Gao - Pager (1188) 6186-20.
Pink Personal

Are You Looking for Love?

Lonely hearts, take heart! With the Pink Ink Personals, you can find the man or woman of your dreams.

Life is like a box of chocolates - said the immortal Forrest Gump. "You never know what you're gonna get." But you'll never know if you don't try.

To reply to a Pink Personal:
Send your reply in a sealed envelope to Pink Ink Personals, 167/1 Surawong Road, Bangkok 10500. We will forward your reply to the proper recipient free of charge.

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A Thai guy, 35 yrs, 183 cm, blue eyes with swimmer's build. If you are sincere, looking for someone special, and fun to be with, then pick up a pen and write to me. I'm waiting! Box 1C.

I'm a Thai guy 26, like opera music, movies. I would like to have a nice GWM for friend. If you would like to know more about me, please ask! Box 1D.

I'm 27, Thai-Chinese, professional, looking for straight-acting GWM 20-40. I am interested in fitness, travel and foreign culture. I am sincere, down to earth and would enjoy the companionship of interesting people for friendship and possibly more. Box 1F.

Ladies: if you don't think Stonewall was an American general (or a designer brick for that matter), don't shop for your underwear at the Emopark (but cruise the bookshops and record bars), enjoy supermarket shopping at Pratunam and birdwatching anywhere outside Bangkok, have a bit of free time and a sense of humour, drop me a line. Jan, Box 1F.

Thai, 28, looking for friendship with Thai or Farang. If you are interested please contact me. Thank you! Box 1G.

GAM. Thai-Chinese, 27 yo, 157 cm, 57 kg, normal body, straight-acting, simple life, looking for a caucasian to have possible relationship. I like music, working out at the gym, traveling and cooking. Please reply to Box 1H.

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