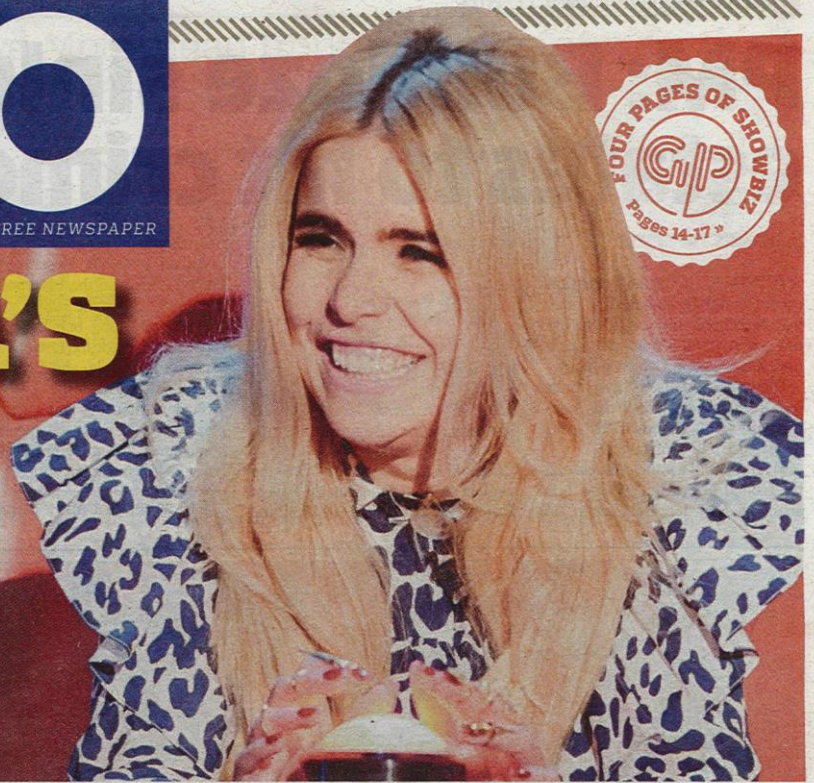




PALOMA'S SECRET HUBBY

Ex reveals how he loved and lost Voice star Faith **Page 7**



NEW TODAY

METRO CROSSWORD IS BACK **Page 50**

Crimes linked to Tinder soar

Users of hook-up apps are raped, robbed and blackmailed by their dates

CRIME linked to Tinder and Grindr is up sevenfold, new figures show.

Rape and attempted murder are among offences reported by people who met their attackers using the dating apps.

Just 55 crime records mentioned Tinder or Grindr in 2013. But the



by **TARIQ TAHIR**

apps cropped up 412 times during the first nine months of last year.

As well as violent crime and grooming, burglaries and blackmail were reported.

Users leave them-

selves vulnerable by letting strangers into their lives, warned Andy Phippen, Plymouth University's professor of social responsibility in IT.

He said: 'If we base the formation of a relationship on a photo and a few lines of text, how do we know that person is who they say they are and has

the right intentions? It is something we tell kids about - don't trust who people say they are online - but the adult population go merrily about their way, thinking it is a good way to hook up.'

Tinder saw the biggest rise in reports

Continued on **Page 5**



PLUS
CHERYL'S MARRIAGE HAS GONE TO THE DOGS

Page 7



PM: PARENTS MUST LEARN TO CONTROL THEIR KIDS

Page 23

Stanley on... New Year's resolutions.

I'm totally OK with not achieving anything this year.



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How grown-ups live the Thai life

A wealth of new boutique properties is helping Thailand shake off its reputation for back-packing and gap-year boozing. **Ashley Pearson** picks its refined highlights

The posh hotel

A SPEEDBOAT hop from James Bond Island, off the coast of Phang Nga, lies the new Nai Harn Hotel. Set on Nai Harn beach, recently named Thailand's best by TripAdvisor, the 130-room hotel offers local traditions, including Thai water blessings, and has distinct touches of indulgence, courtesy of a 'press for Champagne' button on every terrace and a butler service on the beach. There's also private barbecues on the terrace and four-poster daybeds.

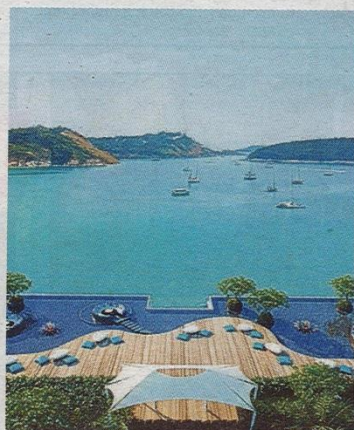
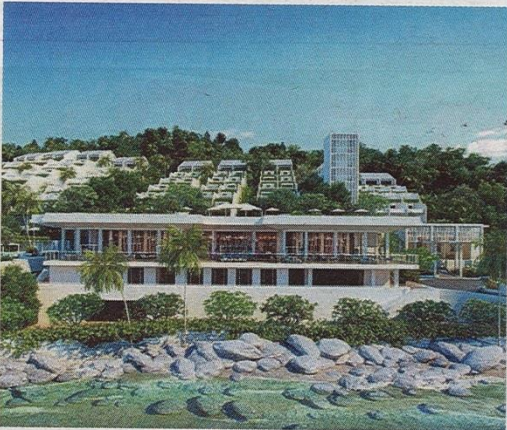
From £221 per night, thenaiharn.com



Indulge yourself: Nai Harn has a butler on the beach and champagne on tap



Sleek style: One of the Sky Villa Ocean Lofts at Kata Rocks



The wow one

THE most surprising opening on Phuket last year was the ultra-chic Kata Rocks. Less than a mile from the centre of clean-cut resort town Kata, the stylish spot has proved a real game-changer for Thai tourism. Bear Grylls (pictured) likes it so much he's even bought himself a private penthouse.



The 43-room property is formed of big, bright and beautiful Sky Villas stacked up the hillside, a mix of one- to four-bed with a sleek minimal style that brings a touch of Miami to the East. Each room has a

private pool with Andaman Sea views, fully fitted kitchen, living and dining areas and floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors.

At Kata Rocks there are celebrity DJs and you can order private chefs - there's even a 'rock star' concierge service. New for January is a high-end Stay and Sail package (from £7,084), which entails a three-night Sky Villa stay followed by three nights on board a new 200ft superyacht that will take you around the Andaman Islands.

From £380 per night, katarocks.com

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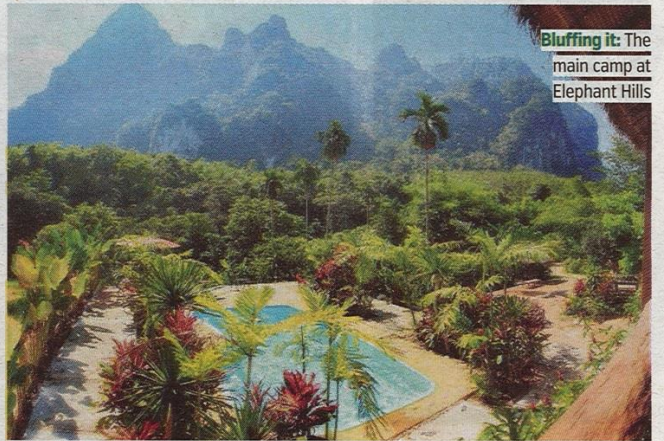


The jungle camp

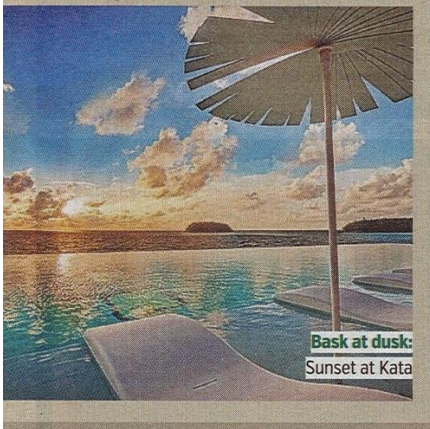
LAVISH tents, en-suite bathrooms, rainforest views, buffet meals and superb service gives roughing it in the wild a distinctively different edge. The award-winning Elephant Hills is a jungle camp offering a mosquito-free experience with Thailand's famous elephants. The camp is located in Khao Sok, part of southern Thailand's largest stretch of primary rainforest, and is home to 12 elephants, each rescued from the logging industry and re-homed. There is no elephant-riding here - guests have a far more respectful interaction such as scrubbing them as they bathe, and prepping and feeding them their meals.



From £330 per person for two nights including transfers, meals and hands-on elephant experience, elephanthills.com



Bluffing it: The main camp at Elephant Hills



Bask at dusk: Sunset at Kata



Affordable spa: Manathai Surin hotel in Phuket

The backpacker upgrade

INDEPENDENT Thai hospitality group Manathai Hotels & Resorts has quickly snapped up a collection of boutique properties, giving each one grown-up, luxury makeovers while keeping that all-important local feel. There are four Manathai resorts all sitting on beaches along the Andaman Sea or Gulf of Thailand. The newest, the 68-room Manathai Surin,



opened two months ago with aromatic lotus ponds and three-metre high hedges. It is also home to a spa and a restaurant that has dishes based on recipes passed down through generations of Thai families - an ideal option for travellers looking for a bit of luxury that won't break the bank.

From £68 per night, including breakfast and transfers, manathai.com

The ultra-luxe private villa

PANACEA Retreat on a grassy hilltop in Koh Samui is about as grown-up as it gets. It is home to just five villas, each one luxurious and secluded, with views of the Gulf of Samui and rolling tropical forests.

Each of Panacea's villas has four bedrooms and an infinity pool, and Praana is the most lavish. At 50,590 square-feet, it's a resort within a resort with 20 full-time staff, six en-suite bedrooms, an HD cinema room, a 300-bottle wine

cellar, two infinity pools, a Thai boxing ring, a private tennis court, plus its own nightclub, spa and kids' club. But, at £4,175 per night, we might have to opt for one of the smaller options.

From £2,012 per night based on eight sharing, including international flights, limousine airport transfers, concierge service, daily yoga and juices plus one massage per guest, Thai cooking lesson and a free baby-sitting service, panaceasamui.com



Lavish: The luxury Panacea Retreat overlooks the Gulf of Samui

