

BAYON



Pearnik

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Bits from the Beach

Well it has happened. The large bars on Ochheateal beach have been pulled down as per the notice given to them by what is essentially the Royal Group. New Years eve was a party, but subdued and many of the places had started to run out of stock and food. After the hangover cleared the owners and staff started moving almost anything that was not fixed down and then started to dismantle the structures over the next few days. During this time a green metal fence was erected around the site, preventing public access to this exceptionally large piece of land. It is not just the beach, but all the restaurants on the toad backing that area have gone as well, as has the new (now gone) container market. The Tuborg arch is still there, apparently Angkor Brewery will be allowed to salvage that. Everyone was out on Jan 4th but removal of more building material was permitted for a couple of days. So there ended what most tourists and the majority of expats considered to be life on the beach. The real sorry thing is the several hundred workers who worked in these establishments. Most of them worked, and lived there and had their food provided for them. They are now left without a job or a place to live. Apparently many have headed back to the villages that they were supporting with their wages and to work out what to do with

their lives. A couple of weeks later some banners went up on the fence showing what was planned for the site. It looks like a very large boomerang shaped multi story hotel with all the bells and whistles will go up along with several blocks of unimaginative condominium buildings, which appears reminiscent of the Soviet Era in the eastern block countries. So much for the rumour that the bar



owners would be allowed back in smaller nicer buildings. No idea if there will be a casino associated with it but you would be a brave person to bet that there will be no casino incorporated into the development. The construction of, and opening of new Casinos in Sinoukville continues to advance at a rapid rate, well moreso the construction of them as only a couple of new ones have opened this month. The skyline is littered with high rise buildings under construction. They range from announced hotels, to casinos, to condominium buildings to mixed use developments. The count is believed to be about 10 under construction right now. The huge one between Sokha and Independence Beaches that looks like a phallus nestled between to balls has topped off and the condom like wrapping is coming off as we write. Many of the developments have huge signs in Chinese characters which has angered some Prov-



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WHAT IT MIGHT LOOK LIKE!



ince officials, who have announced that the Chinese will be forced to put up signs in Khmer script, which, according to law must be larger than the foreign script. Many of the locals are rejoicing at this announced (no action yet though) strong enforcement of important laws, while the new overlords cause havoc to the communities.

Many business mentioned that it was the quietest Calendar New Years Eve in ages, as out of town Khmers, predominately from the Capital stayed away in droves. Word of the transformation of their premier beach resort into a satellite of China has reached their ears and they know there is now limited accommodation options available to them. Many of the remaining bars on Ochheateal, which used to primarily have a Khmer weekend trade, has beginning to suffer. The town continues to resemble a mega construction site, interspersed with piles of rubbish, lining the potholed street, as rubbish collection company continues to struggle. Small houses are being pulled down at an alarming rate as modern larger small rise apartment buildings arise and houses are turned into pop up Chinese restaurants, especially the street near the Missing Monkey. Gold Crown micro brewery and restaurant near the Golden Lions has closed and is being remodelled. Many new private rooms are being installed as this is a desired feature of the new overlords. Also the seafood restaurant on Makara street, which until recently catered to busloads of Chinese tourists has also closed, supposedly for renovation. Both of these places are less than two years old.

On the positive side we have not heard of anyone being Chineseed for a few weeks, but accommodation remains tight and rents are skyrocketing, often doubling from just on a year ago. Rents of up to \$400 per bedroom are being asked by the local owners of current tenants, at least some of the locals are benefiting from the changes.

In other Sino related news, Mick and Craig's have had the remainder of their lease purchased by the owner who offered decent compensation, expect that icon, the first barang place to be on beach road before it was a road, to close its door soon, just like the Kama Sutra Indian Restaurant has closed. The Coolabah

hotel has also apparently gone to Sino related interests. It will be interesting to see what that strip looks like in a year, especially after the handover of Beach Road hotel in May. The adjoining business from the hotel up to Utopia are included in the deal. There are not many available sites for businesses that need foot traffic to relocate to near the beach. The pace of relocation from Sinoukville to Kampot continues to quicken and the reports are that the rents there are growing significantly. Also van loads of Chinese have been seen driving around and looking at buildings and businesses, especially the nice bar/restaurant area around the old market. Reports are that a few owners have been approached by quizzical Chinese who are asking if the business owners are wanting to sell as there is a shortage of suitable commercial accommodation. Luckily there is ample land available close to town for

redevelopment, although the prices are rising quickly. It is said that rice paddy land near the Kampot train station is now selling for as much as \$50 per square metre.

Meanwhile the old derelict casino at the top of Bokor Mountain is being renovated and bought back to life by the Sokha group at a very impressive rate. Tourists who go up the mountain to wander around that impressive old building will be sorely disappointed. It will probably be a casino again, let us hope with more success than the current cavernous new casino and hotel which is largely empty.



In other Kampot news, local weather guru and columnist for this august publication, Stan Khan is back in town from a trip to deaths door and Callmete hospital with pneumonia. Good luck with the recovery Stan and we hope you have the energy for your daily weather reports and your column here soon.

IN BAD TASTE

Sucking on a banana in Egypt is forbidden in pop videos, sucking hairy coconuts is OK though!

Female Egyptian pop stars have been banned from eating, sucking, or peeling bananas in their videos after a young, Egyptian, female pop singer, feeling hungry on set, decided to suck on one, and was imprisoned for the pleasure!

The Egyptian authorities claimed it was an offence for young females to suck on bananas in public, and sadly this young, beautiful pop star was caught on camera doing just that!

Jaggedone, sent his Egyptian, CIA (Cockroach Infiltration Army), fav celeb reporter, Fez Tommy Akbah-Cooper, over to Cairo to find out what all the 'Madness' (Get it?) was about, and here his report:

"Ladies and gentleman, young females, sucking bananas in public results in a 2 year jail sentence but sucking on a hairy coconut is not. The Egyptian authorities claim a banana resembles a male phallus symbol, and sucking that is also forbidden! However, sucking the milk out of a hairy-ball-shaped-nut, is not illegal!

Young females hoping to stock up on potassium in public have been warned not to skin or rub up their bananas! Instead they should replace bananas with walnuts, but due the fact that walnuts resemble testicles, and human brains, which in Egypt are a rarity, (brains that is), have also been told to only crack nuts between their knees under a long skirt, thus preventing gaga Egyptian males for misinterpreting the meaning of cracked nuts (ouch!), and slipping in on a banana skin!

Cleopatra, was last seen turning in her grave sucking 2 coconuts with a banana as dessert!

Brexiter convinced Bayeux Tapestry is wrong

A BREXITER believes the Bayeux Tapestry is bollocks because there is no way the Normans could have defeated the British.

After France offered to lend the famous artwork to the UK, Leave fanatic Nikki Hollis questioned whether French cowards could really outfight British soldiers who are the best in the world.

Office worker Hollis said: "The Normans wouldn't have stood a chance against dead hard British soldiers like the historical Chris Ryan.

"The moment the French jumped out of their boats our brilliant archers would have started mowing them down. Probably Merlin the wizard was there too, shooting fireballs at them.

"I also find it hard to believe Harold was shot in the eye. An experienced knight would have pulled his visor down before skewering loads of Frenchmen on his massive lance like a kebab."

She added: "Plus there'd have been early Spitfires strafing the beaches with their arrow machine guns. It's disgusting that liberals unquestioningly accept a distorted version of history just because they hate Britain.

"I reckon the French came over, took one look at our lads and legged it. Once they were safely back in their chateaus they just made up the whole Battle of Hastings to not look like wankers."

French Mountain covered in arseholes

A FRENCH mountain is covered in snow and smug, excitable arseholes, it has emerged.

Awful humans from across Europe have gathered on the mountain to slide down it, creating what looks like a giant prick vol-

cano.

French mountain Hélène Archer said: "I'm up to my summit in total shits.

"Wankers who think they're gnarly because they've spent two hundred quid on a pair of goggles and strapped themselves to an ironing board.

"Red-cheeked, status-obsessed skiing dicks, quaffing champagne and boasting about their crypto investments.

"It's like I've started sweating cretins. At least I get some respite in the night when they all squeeze into the clubs, get on the gak and jump to around to some awful will.i.am track."

Archer added: "It never ends. A couple of months into spring and I'm crawling with angry dads on mountain bikes. I wish I was a hill or a cloud."

Trump's 'cognitive ability' normal, he's just a prick, says White House doctor

DONALD Trump has no obvious mental health issues, he is just a dreadful bastard, the White House doctor has confirmed.

Dr Ronny Jackson said the President was in very good health for a 71-year-old and that Trump 'kept going on about it in a way that made him come across as an absolute fucking dick'.

Dr Jackson said: "When I was administering the cognitive test he kept saying that he was going to get the best results ever and I'm thinking, 'you're clearly not demented but Christ almighty, you are such a fucking penis, I really hate you'.

"So yeah, he's basically fine, but still the most appalling person I've ever met."

Professor Henry Brubaker, of the Institute for Studies, said: "We have a tendency these days to assume people that we don't like are somehow mentally impaired, when actually the simplest answer is that they are just turds."

Man who can't stop talking shite clearly ideal for important negotiations

BORIS Johnson's incessant flow of unfunny xenophobic remarks is perfect for Brexit negotiations, it has been claimed.

The government is sure Johnson will not only entertain everyone during long meetings, but also help secure a good deal by reminding foreigners the British are superior.

Brexit minister David Davis said: "Boris livens up meetings by saying hilarious yet tactful stuff like 'No need for Gestapo tactics, Angela!'

"Cowardly Italians, sexy Scandinavians, oversexed Frenchmen – the zingers just keep coming. Also he really knows his history so he can effortlessly throw in a joke about Agincourt or Waterloo.

"Once he ran around for 12 minutes pretending to be a Lancaster bomber attacking Dresden.

"The war jokes will remind them Britain always wins so they may as well give in. There's no way they'll just get pissed off and stick massive tariffs on everything."

Johnson said: "I'm looking forward to hammering out a deal with the EU with lots of jibes about 'collaborating' and 'blitzing it', plus some other remarks about things like 'soggy biscuit' that only make sense if you attended a British public school.

"It definitely doesn't make me look like some insufferable sixth-form twat who thinks he's being desperately edgy."

Millions of bottles of piss to go to waste following

cancelled Trump visit

Britain's stockpiles of bottled piss have been accumulated for naught after Donald Trump said he was staying at home.

Following the cancellation of Donald Trump's official visit to the UK, protesters and typically reasonable people have been forced to dispose of their stored bottles by burying them in the woods, nestling them amongst a supermarket shelf full of Lucozade, or throwing them from the upper deck of a moving bus.

"I'm bloody annoyed," confirmed Simon Williams, punting his bottle of piss over a fence and into a school playground.

"I had a wonderful day out planned, right down to the sandwiches I was going to make – ham, cheese and pickle. I was really going to push the boat out and make the most of Donald Trump's visit by drenching him in the piss I've been saving up since the early summer.

"I'd even purchased a massive pump-action super soaker, which I would have definitely thrown away after the event... I mean, just imagine.

"I've got another forty-seven bottles of stale piss hanging around the house – most of it in the airing cupboard 'ripening'.

"God knows what I'm going to do with them, but the wife is insistent that they've got to go now that Trump says he's not coming. She's so fussy about stuff like this – it's probably OCD.

"To be honest, I don't know why the President even cancelled.



It's my vague understanding that he likes having piss poured over him.

"This would have been like a day out at a water park for him."

Phnom Penh Pub Page

I was worried the Evil Publisher's patience had finally worn out. He approached me the other day and had very mixed news – he said in a gleefully malevolent voice that there have been complaints that the Pub Page has been very lame lately. Of course, I focused on the very positive message that someone actually bothers to read my obviously excuse for a rolling pub crawl and that up until recently, the page must not have been as

lame as I thought. Well the Pub Page does listen to its readers and instead of hitting a few random hostess bars, I grabbed Shrek and we went on our version of Big Gay Al's Boat Ride – aka Sabay Sabay Street (aka 174 St.) tour.

Before we jump onto the cruise, as you may know Sharkys did open and I have been dropping by for the Joker and got to watch someone win over USD 10,000. The bar is still clearly still a work in progress and there are rumours of what the new Joker draw will evolve into, so the full review will be next month to given things a chance to sort out.

Also, if you are like me and think of the Sports bar on 174 St. for breakfast or very late post pontoon coffees, forget about it. To my chagrin, a few weeks ago I learned that hours are now 8 am – 2:30 am although I understand exceptions are made if you are nice to the manager.

So off we go on our happy happy tour of 174 St. I started at Happy Damrei. Quite like this place. I have eaten a few breakfasts here and the food is good. There are two enclosed floors – place is clean and good A/C and there is a really nice roof patio which I find quite relaxing. Cocktails are USD 4.5, local beer 2, Belgium beer 3.5 There is a buy 2, get 1 free special on Stella draft and happy hour is 6-9 pm with 2 for 1 cocktails on the roof. Of course, the best part of the place is still the games – I need to get a friend to play with – USD 1.5/person for 1 hour and 3/person for 3 hours of fun.

Next up was Ming's. Overall – nice place –comfortable, but since everyone seems to hang at the bar, it can get pretty noisy. It is set up for live music – suspect it would be a bit much in that space. Draft beer is USD 1.5, bottles range from 2.25-3. Cocktails are 4.5 and most spirits range from 3-4.5 with a number available by the bottle. Speaking of bottles – liking the whiskey selection – they had a Macallan 25!!!! Unfortunately, I did not have the USD 1800 for a bottle nor the USD 4800 for the Macallan 1961...deep sigh. One flaw -they do not have cucumber for the fancy ass Scottish gin (Shrek says it is required).

Next up the Pub Page went to the Cabaret. Valentino's has a show every night at 7:30. Tickets are USD 35, 25 and 10. We went for the cheap seats which turned out to include a bottle of beer and a snack, so it seemed a good value. Show was reasonable and had ladyboy apsaras. Place was pretty impressive actually – they clearly spent some big coin on renovations.

After the show, they move the tables and get the club going. They also have a drag show at midnight – Shrek and I argued a bit but decided not to hang out for the 2nd show. House spirits are USD 3.5 with mixes extra, the good spirits are 5.5. Whiskies and Cognacs range in price but can get up. Local beers are 3/bottle with others at 3.5 and 4. The bar itself is huge and I was stoked to see two Jägermeister ice machines.



Next was Generations Sports Bar which used to be another gay bar on 174 St. Apparently, the boy bar thing was not working out – perhaps the competition from the other 3 174 st boy bars with the same owner was a bit much – so it is now “Phnom Penh's first air-conditioned sports bar with hostesses”. There is a pool table and a bunch of small screen TVs that were showing Just for Laughs Gags while we were there. Shrek was quite upset with the price of Jameson.

This is where the Evil Publisher should smile - the Pub Page finally had ramen at The Pub! A Japanese chef takes over in the evening with food being served till 2am. Shrek got into the act with some Japanese fried chicken. Food was quite good and seemed pretty popular based on how busy the Pub was. Skirts is run by an amazing couple and was full of some of Phnom Penh's favourite Walkabout refugees. Great tunes. Good company. Cheap drinks. Amazingly, with no extra payoff from the Evil Publisher, it has been a long while, but I

was really happy to be back at Skirts and expect to be back soon. From there, Shrek and I had a difficult decision, there were four more bars on 174 St and we were getting a bit ragged – somewhere between the USD 4800 bottle of scotch and the Cabaret I think we got over stimulated. So, we decided to hit only 2 more before calling it a night. One of them had to be the Wall so that left us to choose between Unicorn, G bar and Tool Box. Unicorn was closed. We were down to Tool Box or G Bar – one had topless male dancers, the other had topless male security. Shrek balked at getting frisked by G Bar's greeters. Tool Box it is. Turns out the bartender knew one of us, so I was not surprised when we got a bit of extra service. Details will not be discussed here. Place looks pretty good. I liked the new black motif. We recognized the male dancers from the Cabaret and I am not embarrassed to say they were actually pretty good. Although perhaps the other customers appreciated them more than we did. Jugs of beer are on special – buy 3, get 1 free (although they were not in the menu) and there is a happy hour from 6-9 with buy 1, get 1 free for mixer, cocktails and draft beer. Most cocktails are USD 4.5, mixed drinks including mixer at 3.5 and beer was 2/glass or 2.5-3.5/bottle. Staff and customers seemed pretty friendly. Tool box is open 6 pm – 2 am. If this is your scene, seemed like a pretty good place to get a drink.



It can't be yours

Recent a law has been passed that denies any foreigner from registering a moto in his/her name. It is no longer possible to become a registered owner of a used moto if you do not obtain Cambodian citizenship. The only exception being, when foreigners purchase a brand new, or newly imported moto being registered for the first time.

If you have a spouse, partner or someone you trust, who is a Cambodian citizen, you may register in their name. This being said, there is no

current law that states you must be the registered owner of the vehicle you are driving.

Driving licence fun

Its an ordeal that may take a few visits. The traffic out there is terrible making a valid point that if you survived driving there the licence should be presented to you on arrival just for surviving the journey!

If you are taking the big bike test you have to drive out there as they have no big bikes to do the test on. Beware. Don't take a really big bike just a 250 dirt bike as the course is so tight you won't be able to weave

between the bollards. They probably laid it out using a Honda Dream.

Do as we say

Not as we do.

Nice to see a large group of traffic cops going down street 63 to set up a traffic stop at the junction of 214. Then busting people for driving infractions and confiscating their bikes.

Pity the stupid gits were heading the wrong way down 63 to do this and most didn't have helmets on.

Visa update

If you have overstayed your visa you can pay the \$10 dollars a day but now your new visa starts when your old one ran out.

If you have overstayed your visa more than two weeks chances are you will have to pay the overstay but will be deported.



Old Adult Truths...

1. Sometimes I'll look down at my watch 3 consecutive times and still not know what time it is.
2. Nothing irks me more than that moment during an argument when you realize you're wrong.
3. I totally take back all those times I didn't want to nap when I was younger..
4. There is great need for a sarcasm font..
5. How the hell are you supposed to fold a fitted sheet?
6. Was learning cursive really necessary?
7. Map Quest or Google Maps really need to start their directions on # 5. I'm pretty sure I know how to get out of my neighborhood.
- 8.. Obituaries would be a lot more interesting if they told you how the person died.
- 9.. I can't remember the last time I wasn't at least kind of tired.
10. Bad decisions make good stories.
11. You never know when it will strike, but there comes a moment when you know that you just aren't going to do anything productive for the rest of the day.
12. Can we all just agree to ignore whatever comes after Blu-Ray? I don't want to have to restart my collection... again..
13. I'm always slightly terrified when I exit out of Word and it asks me if I want to save any changes to my ten-page technical report that I swear I did not make any changes to.
14. I keep some people's phone numbers in my phone just so I know not to answer when they call.
15. I think the freezer deserves a light as well.
16. I disagree with Kay Jewelers. I would bet on any given Fri-

day or Saturday night more kisses begin with Miller Light than Kay.

17. I wish Google Maps had an "Avoid Ghetto" routing option.
18. I have a hard time deciphering the fine line between boredom and hunger.
19. How many times is it appropriate to say "What?" before you just nod and smile because you still didn't hear or understand a word they said?

20. I love the sense of camaraderie when an entire line of cars team up to prevent a jerk from cutting in at the front.. Stay strong, brothers and sisters!
21. Shirts get dirty. Underwear gets dirty. Pants? Pants never get dirty, and you can wear them forever
22. Even under ideal conditions people have trouble locating their car keys in a pocket, finding their cell phone, and Pinning the Tail on the Donkey - but I'd bet everyone can find and push the snooze button from 3 feet away, in about 1.7 seconds, eyes closed, first time, every time.
23. The first testicular guard, the "Cup," was used in Hockey in 1874 and the first helmet was used in 1974. That means it only took 100 years for men to realize that their brain is also important.



FAUX NEWS

Kim Jong-Un Reveals His Threats to the U.S. Were Just to Keep Trump From Visiting

Pyeongyang, North Korea A refugee from North Korea recently informed the press that the whole country of North Korea understands why fat-but-not jolly dictator Kim Jong-Un has been threatening the U.S., non-stop, ever since Trump became President.

"Everyone in the whole country understands why Great Leader does not like big orange blowhard. He has learned all about Trump from his great friend, Mr. Rodman. Mr. Great Leader Kim says the only reason he doesn't nuke the U.S. right now is because Mr. Dennis Rodman lives there," spoke the refugee.

"Our negative feelings about Trump are the only thing that the country has in common with Mr. Great Leader Kim Jong-Un. We have all disliked him since he fired Mr. Rodman on his half-assed TV show" said the refugee.

President Trump Wondering What the Heck He Has To Do To Be Impeached

Sources close to the President say he's become increasingly unclear what he has to do to be impeached by Congressional Republicans.

According to a White House insider, Trump originally thought that a simple, deranged inauguration speech would do the trick. He is said to have genuinely believed Republicans would realize immediately the terrible mistake they'd made and that he'd be able to go home. "I'm sure he understands now how naïve that was," said the source.

The President also believed a continuous stream of unhinged tweets would be sufficient get him removed from office. Although he hasn't completely abandoned the idea, he has privately admitted that he wouldn't mind sleeping in at the weekend, instead of having to wake up in the middle of the night and make lunatic comments on social media.

By the time August had come and gone and Republicans were comfortable with him endorsing Nazis, Trump's mood had soured. It became clear the President had no idea what he was up against. Aides detected the first signs of panic.

A new possibility presented itself in the wake of Hurricane Maria. "He perked up noticeably after he saw all the damage to Puerto Rico. He saw real opportunity there," said an aide. "So he did nothing for two weeks, yelled at the San Juan mayor, then did that weird Hispanic accent thing. Republicans didn't even flinch."

Since then, a new desperation has taken hold.

White House staff have confirmed that on Tuesday the President is scheduled to sneak into Mitch McConnell's bedroom in the middle of the night wearing socks and a Huckabee-Sanders mask.

Pubs to offer 'professional lanes'

BRITAIN'S pubs will have a section of the bar reserved for people who know what they are doing this year.

With festive hostilities full of people buying coffee with a debit card, sections of the bar will be solely for drinkers who want to get hammered and know precisely how they would like that to happen. Pub owner Nathan Muir said: "While I'm giving samples of our real ale to some twat who's just going to order a half of Fosters, I could be serving some very determined piss artists."

Would-be users of the professional lanes will be assessed on whether they order Guinness before their other drinks, can demonstrate awareness of how long others have been waiting and are able to carry three drinks without a tray.

Festive drinker Nikki Hollis said: "A big glass of white, or a G&T? Or maybe a Tom Collins? I've never had one of those before."

"Can you just run through the wine list for me, again?"

No, really, what's the plan, though? May asked

THERESA May has been told that yesterday's speech was great fun but she now needs to announce the real Brexit plan.

Despite zingers in May's speech about having no plan being a good thing and holding Europe to ransom by threatening to set fire to her own hair, economists believe Britain now needs a strategy that is not insane.

Backbencher Denys Finch Hatton said: "Brilliant, absolutely classic stuff, but seriously how are we going to unfuck this?"

"I enjoy having a laugh about how we're going to intimidate over half a billion people by selling some jam, but at some point I'll have to tell my constituents what we're actually doing."

"Because if I can't, they'll soon become somebody else's constituents and I don't find that funny in the least."

Researchers have scanned any previous utterances by the prime minister for the faintest trace of humour without success, with one possible bon mot being revealed as a sneeze.

Labour hit back at yesterday's speech by saying they would have told broadly the same 43-minute joke but their punchline would have mentioned worker's rights.

New Minister of Loneliness immediately assigned to 61-year-old female Downing Street resident

A new government minister, appointed to tackle the problems faced by those who have become detached from society has been assigned to look after Theresa May, a 61-year-old Prime Minister from London.

Tracey Crouch admitted today that her new role – helping those who have no friends or find themselves floundering helplessly after making unwise life choices – looked to be 'challenging', particularly her first case.

Speaking to our reporter earlier she said, "Having met Mrs May on more than one occasion I feel that my main challenge will be persuading her that she needs the type of assistance that we can offer."

"She can be a stubborn lady, which can often be the case when they get to that age, but it's up to me to get her out of her rut."

It is thought that Ms Crouch's other role, as vice-chair of the All Party Parliamentary Groups on Dementia will help her greatly in this particular case.

Mrs May, a vicars daughter gone bad, started to hit problems around two years ago, when she got herself into a pattern of biting off more than she could chew, thinking over and over again that it was a good idea.

She went from being 'quite unpopular' to 'unpopular' before making some poor life choices which resulted in many of her friends leaving her and going to stay with her Uncle Jeremy.

Having chosen some new friends, she thought all was well, until these were revealed to be a bunch of deviant pervert types who dropped her firstly to 'very unpopular', through 'extremely unpopular' and down to 'despised'.

Ms Crouch, however, remains upbeat, assuring us that she is confident that she can get Mrs May back up to the dizzy heights of 'unpopular' or even, in time, 'quite unpopular'.

It is thought that the government will review the role following such a difficult trail case

Brexiteers to send France a Battle of Britain tea towel in response to Bayeux Tapestry loan

Brexiteers are planning to send a commemorative Battle of Britain tea towel to France after learning the Bayeux Tapestry is set to be loaned to the UK.

Angry, red-faced Leave voters have decided that delivering the gift across the Channel would be the perfectly obnoxious thing to do after discovering the 11th century artefact was set to leave Gallic soil for the first time in 950 years.

"We didn't vote to take back control to let these Frenchies start lecturing us about the Norman conquest," said Brexiter Nathaniel Mason-Seymour.

“Our great nation has won battle after battle since William the Bastard got extremely lucky that one time in 1066.

“They can have this commemorative tea towel for starters, just to remind them of all of our great British victories across the globe, showing that Britain is definitely the best at everything.

“It’s one in the eye for France!”

The move was inspired by news that MEP Steven Woolfe somehow thought it would be hilarious to deliver a hamper of British goods to EU chief negotiator Michel Barnier last week.

“You might think we’ve peaked with this tea towel, but we’ve got plenty more where this came from,” added Mr Mason-Seymour.

“We could even send them some tea towels commemorating all sorts of British magnificent victories against their little European nation; there’s Waterloo, Trafalgar, and obviously Le Tournoi.

“It’s time that we showed the rest of Europe that living off past glories is pathetic and completely at odds with the views of the modern Brexit voter.”



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TECHNOLOGY PAGE

How to set up on your brand-new Windows desktop or laptop computer

Congratulations, you're the proud owner of a new Windows PC! Maybe you decided to upgrade your gaming rig, finally decided to ditch that old laptop you've been hauling around since college, or maybe you decided to freshen up with a clean install of the Windows 10 Creators Update. Regardless, you've got some work ahead of you.

Getting that PC into fighting shape, paring down all that bloatware, and getting your apps installed is always a bit of a pain, but we're here to ease that transition. We've amassed a codex of everything you need to know, and need to do, to get your new PC up to speed.

Whether it's a sleek new laptop, or a big bad gaming desktop with lights and sound effects, your PC is going to start asking you all sorts of questions when you first set it up. The first of which is one of the most important.

First steps

Setting up a Microsoft account — or not

One of the first decisions you'll have to make when setting up a new PC a crucial one: local account, or Microsoft account? No doubt when you first started up your new PC, Windows 10 asked you to login and it's now pestering you about setting up a Microsoft account.

Now, you might already have one. If you have an Xbox Live account, an Outlook email account, a OneDrive account, or even a Skype account, then you already have a Microsoft account. Should you use it to setup your new PC? Probably, but if you don't it's not going to make a huge difference in your Windows 10 experience.

Using a Microsoft account is a little more secure, because it allows you to receive notifications related to your PC. Plus, it's just easier in the long run. If you forget your password, you can always reset it online or from a different device.

If you don't want to use a Microsoft account, open your Start menu, and click Settings (the gear icon right above the power icon on the bottom left), then Accounts, and click "Sign in with a local account." If you do want to use a Microsoft account, click the other option, "Sign in with a Microsoft account," from the same menu.

Once you're signed into your Microsoft account, if you opted to use one, tuning your security settings can be done by clicking "Manage my Microsoft account," and then clicking "Security & Privacy" on the navigation bar of the web page that pops up.

Make it yours, with personalization

Before we get to any of the other important security and driver updates, we need to make sure you can actually tolerate looking at your new PC, and that means picking a wallpaper and adjusting your display scale. Windows 10 comes bundled with a standard array of wallpapers, and for this step we're just going to use one of the defaults.

Right click your desktop, and click "Personalize." From the window that pops up, just choose one of the available wallpapers or

hit "Browse" to open one you downloaded — then choose an appropriately sized image (probably 1,920 x 1,080).

You have some other options here, down where it says "Choose a fit," you can decide how Windows should fit your chosen image to your display. Now that we have a wallpaper, it's time to check on your display scale. Just like before, right click on your desktop, but this time click "Display Settings".

If your text and icons seem a little too big and stretched out, you might want to turn your scale down. Similarly, if everything is tiny and hard to see, turning it up should take care of that. Warning: This scaling feature only works with apps updated to take advantage of it. Older applications won't change size.

Next, click on "Advanced display settings," and make sure that your resolution is set to the maximum available for your display. If it isn't, then your text, windows, and pretty much everything will look pixelated and weird.

After upping your screen resolution, you might have trouble reading smaller text on your display, which can be an issue if you have a big (1440p or 4K) display. In which case, your best bet is increasing your display scale to compensate. That way images, videos, and multi-media will display properly but you'll also be able to keep your text and display elements nice and large.

While you're in there, take note of what your display's resolution is. That's the number you want to keep in mind when you're looking for wallpapers in the future.

Security and updates

Use Windows Update to get the latest features

Now you need to decide how often you want your PC to check for, download, and install updates. Not if — when. You need to keep Windows updated in order to keep your PC secure and running properly, and setting aside time for your PC to keep itself up to date is the first step.

In the Settings menu, click on "Update & security." From here you can check for updates manually, and decide when your PC will download and install updates on its own. Under "Change active hours," you can tell your PC what times of day you're typically using it, so Windows Update will download and install updates outside of those hours.

So if you tell your PC your active hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., it'll only download and install updates outside of those hours. Under "Restart options" you can also determine when your PC will reboot itself to install updates, instead of bugging you when you're trying to work.

Similarly, under "Advanced options," you can determine whether or not Windows Update should update other apps, and if you want to let Windows Update login by itself to finish the setup process.

If you're a little daunted by all the options and settings here, just set them up as follows:

Set active hours to 8AM and 11PM

Under "Advanced options," check both boxes.

That's it. Windows Update should take care of itself from here on out.

Secure your PC

Another way that your PC will take care of itself is by periodically scanning for malware, and Windows Defender does an admirable job at keeping your PC secure.

Let's make sure it's enabled. Open your Settings menu, then click through to "Update & Security."

On the left, click on Windows Defender. Here, you'll notice a

series of toggle buttons. Make sure that Limited Periodic Scanning, Real-time Protection, Cloud-based Protection, and Automatic sample submission are all enabled.

User Account Control

While we're here, let's take a look at "User Account Control," or UAC. This is the system that pops up those windows every time you try to install an app or game. Though annoying, it's designed to keep your system safe by ensuring a program can't install itself in the background. Open your Start menu and type "user account control," the first result should be the one we're looking for.

In this menu you can change how frequently the UAC system will notify you when apps try to make changes to your PC. You should only mess with these settings if your apps or games are giving you trouble.

For the most part it never hurts to get a pop up when an app wants to make changes to your PC, so let's keep this setting at the second bar from the top. This way, your PC will notify you when apps try to make changes, but won't bug you when you try to make changes.

Finishing touches

Start talking to Cortana

Before we get into fun stuff like installing apps and games, you have one more big decision to make: do you want an invisible robot to live inside your computer?

Microsoft's AI assistant, Cortana, is integrated into Windows 10 by default, and she's pretty handy. It can control video and audio playback, set reminders, tell you the weather, answer questions, and even tell jokes. When it's enabled, all you have to do is say "Hey Cortana," then tell it what to do.

If you've had enough of these so-called smart assistants, just move right along. Its voice feedback is off by default so you don't have anything to worry about. But if you want your PC to behave like Apple's Siri and Amazon's Alexa, then read on.

First, click on the little circle on your taskbar, the one right next to your Start menu. This is Cortana. Unlike Siri, you don't have to interact with it using your voice. You can type questions and commands right into the little box that pops up, which is a nice little addition. But what we're looking for here is the gear icon on the left, click on it and the settings menu will pop up.

There are a lot of options here, but all we're going to worry about is letting Cortana hear you. Click the little toggle button under "Hey Cortana" to let her respond to your voice, anytime you say "Hey Cortana." Further down you'll find options for fine-tuning her performance, but for now, just enabling it is enough to get you started.

Even if you don't enable Cortana, you can use the Windows Search field to find files, websites, and other information. This function, though tapped into by Cortana if it's turned on, is not part of Cortana. And it's one of the best ways to find files, applications, and other information you've lost track of.

Clearing out the clutter, revealing the unseen

Okay, so we've setup your basics, and we're almost ready to get started on the fun stuff. But first, let's take out the trash. Click your Start menu, and type the word "Uninstall." Now, what's going to happen is your PC will just start searching for settings and apps which contain that word. The first one that should pop up is Programs and Features. That's the one we want, so click it, and let's get started.

The window that pops up contains a list of every application and game installed on your PC. What we're looking for here is "bloatware," applications that don't really serve any purpose which manufacturers include in order to promote their own products and try to get you to use their software – even if you don't need it.

The problem with bloatware is it can make your PC slower, it can take up unnecessary amounts of space, and in some cases might

even gather data on your usage habits without your express consent.

There are two ways to get rid of bloatware. You can do it manually if you're confident you can spot it and remove it safely, or you can do it automatically with tools like Decrap.

If you're going to do it manually, here are a few pointers. On the programs and features window, sort the apps by name, and look for anything that starts with the name of your PC manufacturer (Dell, Toshiba, Razer, etc).

Standard Dell bloatware, for instance, includes applications like Dell Stage, Dell Digital Delivery, and Dell DataSafe. Make a list of these, and then open to see what each does. Sometimes the apps are useful. For example, gaming laptops usually have an app that controls customizable keyboard lighting, and if you delete it, you won't be able to change the lighting. But most apps aren't of much use.

While we're tooling around in settings, let's disable hidden files. There will come a day when you'll need to dig into your PC's file structure and access the AppData or Windows files, and when you do it's going to be easier if your hidden files are laid bare for all to see.

Click your Start menu and just type the word "hidden." The setting we're looking for will pop right up. Click on Show hidden files and folders, then in the window that pops up just click "Show hidden files, folders, and drives." All done!

Installing useful applications

Next up, we're going to cover some of the most useful apps your PC should have, and that's going to put a lot of them in direct competition. First up, it's time to pick a browser. A year ago, we probably would've just told you to download Google Chrome and call it a day, but the browser landscape has changed in 2016. You not only have more options than ever, a few of them are pretty good.

We put together a detailed breakdown here, where we compared the strengths and weaknesses of Chrome, Firefox, Vivaldi, and Microsoft Edge, and put them all through a series of tests. Chrome still came out on top as the all-around winner, but if you're in the mood for something different, there are a number of solid, reliable, options available to you.

Staying secure

Next up, it's time to pick an antivirus. Just like browsers, you have a lot of really reliable options available, so head over to our breakdown to check out a full analysis of the top antivirus and anti-malware apps on the market today.

After your PC is all setup, you're probably going to sign into your social media accounts, your bank accounts, and all those other services you use on a daily basis, right? Well, with that in mind, you should consider a password manager.

Instead of keeping all your passwords in your head and potentially using the same password over and over, a password manager allows you to generate unique passwords for each service you use and store them securely within the app. We highlighted some of our personal favorites over here, if you're interested but a little unsure of which manager you should choose.

Last looks

Well, that about covers it. Before you go, be sure to check out Ninite for any apps you still need to download. There you can find Java runtimes, messaging apps, even some of the apps we mentioned above.

It's a great tool for just grabbing common software in one neat, tidy package without having to navigate a bunch of seedy websites with big "download" buttons all over the place.

Good luck with your new PC!

Street Legal

Being guests in this country it is nice to do things nice and legal, especially in the area of driving or owning a car or a bike. However recent changes to government legislation have made what was once a relatively simple and quick and painless task the exact opposite.

It used to be an easy process to get and renew your Cambodian Driving Licence. To get your first one you took your home licence, a copy of your passport and visa and 5 photos into an agent. A few days later it came back with a slip of paper as a temporary licence, your nice plastic card licence came a few weeks later. To renew it was the same but you did not need your home licence. Each year you popped into the agent and were done in a couple of minutes, at a cost of around \$35.

Fast forward to 1 September 2017 and things changed. As at that date, agents could no longer handle your renewal of new licence issue. You now have to do it yourself, in person at the General Department of Public Works and Transport in RusseyKeo, which is about 12 kilometres north of the centre of town. To fight your way there through traffic takes anywhere from 25 minutes to 45 minutes, depending on the route you take and the ever increasing amount of traffic, much of which is composed of local drivers without a licence.

It does not matter where you live in the Kingdom of Wonder, this is the place to which you must come to renew your licence. So here is a guide. The best bet to find the place is to use google maps. Remember it is the General Department of Public Works and Transport, not the ministry. How you get there is up to you, but it is off road 598 and easy to miss the turnoff.

Before you go make sure you have the following: Your passport with current Ordinary visa, a tourist visa does not count, you still valid licence from home, 3 passport photos and 40,000 riel. You will need a photocopy of your passport information page and visa and a photocopy of both sides of your home licence. This can be done there by a nice young lady who operates a photocopier next to the Wing for a 1k riel.

You go through the gates into the developing chaos and find a park. This place is a mass of buildings and in one near the middle is the Driver Licensing office. To save yourself a bit of time have the photocopies with you. In you go and find the man sitting at the window with a register book, usually it is window two. The people here are all nice, sometimes friendly and generally helpful and speak enough English. Having a lost look on your face usually elicits the required help or information. Hand him your Khmer licence and photocopies and passport and home licence. He will stick the photocopies into different parts of a blue folder. Your Cambodian licence will be stapled into this. He will check your details match up.

You will then be directed to get a medical certificate. Go out of the licencing office and turn right, Go to the last building. You go past another building and a vehicle inspection bay and massed of cars waiting for inspection in typical third world chaos. There are two buildings at the end, you want the one furthest from the road. Go in the centre and in the centre of the lobby to the left is a couple of sets of doors. Sometimes there is a long line of Khmers. You can choose to join the line or adopt white privilege and walk in through the exit door holding your blue folder and look lost. There someone may take pity on you and begin to fill in the medical form for you and attach one of your photos to it, or you can wait in line for what could be an hour or so. You need to do an eye test. If Khmers are being done in groups, they politely stop for the bewildered foreigner to push in. It is quick and easy, just like at home. If you need glasses your licence will be endorsed accordingly. You pay the person 10,000 riel, then you go see the doctor who asks you your height and weight. There are scales if you do not know, or if you want to know just how fat you have become. He signs the form and you are away.

The blue folder has space for you to fill in heaps of information on the front of it. Lots of Khmer script and some English. If you are having trouble with this it helps to find a nice khmer official who will fill it in for you. One of the nice people at the medical office may do it for you if you still look bewildered enough.

Back you go to the Driver Licensing office and back to the same window. The man checks your documents and then takes your details including Cambodian Mobile phone number. He then directs you outside

to the wing stand. You place your folder down and the operator eventually picks it up, asks you for 30,000 plus a small fee and wings the money somewhere, supposedly to the government. You get your receipt and go back and see the man again.

He approves the receipt then directs you to another window (usually window 3) where another lady checks your passport and licence details against your photocopies and signs approval. Then you are directed inside the air-conditioned office to a nice young man at a table who makes the same checks and signs accordingly. Then folder in hand you go to see the boss, who makes the same checks and signs accordingly. Then back to the nice young man again who does another check of the details and signs again. This time he will take a photo of your passport and licence, just like the photocopy you have. Then you get to put your licence and passport away and hand over your last photo.

You hand the folder to a nice young lady, who if you are lucky, will pull herself away from her phone. She is the one who scans your photo and prints your licence. Out you go and sit down and wait. Eventually the man you first encountered calls your name. He hands you your new paper licence inside a plastic cover. You fill in your details on the ledger, sign for receipt of your licence and are free to go. The whole process takes about an hour and a half. You walk away safe in the knowledge that same time next year you will go through the whole process again. Your licence is issued for one year from that date. If your Cambodian Licence has expired it is ok, although we cannot say how long it can be expired for, in this case it was 6 weeks with no issues. If your home licence has expired, you currently will not be able to renew you Cambodian Licence, even if you have had and annually renewable licence for over a decade.

The office opens at 7.30 and it is best to get there early. They close at 12.30 for an hour and a half for lunch and if you are not finished by then you get a nice lunch break wait was well. Go too late and you risk being told to come back again the next day to complete the process.

Now here are some caveats. The above is for renewal, for issuing a new Cambodian Licence based on your home licence it is basically the same process but you also need a Certificate of Residence issued by your Sangkat. To get this you need a copy of your passport and visa, a couple of photos, some money and patience. It helps to have a local do it for you. Be aware that the Certificates are only valid for three months. If you have an A2 licence, the one you need to ride a bike above 125cc or drive a tuk-tuk, and it is on your car B licence make sure they renew that licence class as well.

If your home licence has expired you will need to take the test. Both a written theory and driving test. You can either do this through a driving school or direct at the same place but with a different process. However it should be noted that we are unaware of any driving school that issues big bike licenses. Friends who have done this report around 4 to 5 trips are required, including to make the appointment and to do the theory and practical test and one other time because something will go wrong. You will need to do two separate tests for both a car and a big bike and likely end up with two separate licences. Theory information is online.

You can also do this if you want your 10 year licence - or as many years as you have until age 65 when you will need to be re-tested. You can do this to avoid the need for the annual pilgrimage. However if you are doing this do not show them that you already have a Cambodian one year licence as one poor chap who studied hard for the theory test did. He was told he could not get the 10 year licence and had to go back and renew the licence he showed them annually.

So now we are on to the issue of legally owning a vehicle in Cambodia. As at the start of the year, Foreigners can no longer register a second hand vehicle in their name. So no registration card in your name if you buy a car or a bike that already has been registered. For many this is not a problem as they just keep the card showing the original owner to prove that the vehicle is taxed and plated and drive around for years. However you generally cannot cross a border to ride into another country, such as Thailand unless the vehicle is registered in your name. Also with police confiscating bikes for 3 days for minor traffic infringements, it may result in some issues when you go to pick up your bike as you cannot readily show registration or ownership.

There is an exception. You can get a registration card in your name if you buy a Cambodian new car from a dealer. However this is out of the price range for many foreigners here.

So there you go, good luck with patience and perseverance, you too can eventually be street legal.