

# Welcher & Welcher

Pro Bono Legal Advice

## SO YOU'VE BEEN SENTENCED TO LIFE IN A THAI PRISON!

Thailand – nowhere in the world will you find a larger concentration of Thai restaurants. The Thai people have certainly taken this most spicy of cuisines to heart, and it's no wonder – it's delicious! But if you're considering opening up your own Thai restaurant in Bangkok, my advice to you is simple: don't. The marketplace is already saturated. Better to open a fish and chipper, pizzeria or perhaps a fondue parlour. Anyway, all of this is of little consequence to you, drug courier, as you rot in your dank, stinking prison cell dreaming of freedom and, if you're lucky, a pair of cheap, fake Levis from Chatuchak Market.

### Common Questions

- **Can you get me out of here?**

We're trying, believe me. Unfortunately the Thai authorities seem to want to make an example of you, in much the same way as Turkish officials sought to exemplarise (a new word I've made up) Billy Hayes in the movie *Midnight Express*.

- **Can you contact my family and tell them that I'm alive?**

This service is possible for a small fee.

- **What can the government do to help?**

I'm afraid that the Thai government is not in the habit of helping Australians who are detained at Bangkok International Airport with 3 kilograms of heroin strapped to their chin.

- **No, I mean the Australian government!**

Oh, right. Um, don't know.

- **Is singer Peter Gabriel available to compose a political song (like Biko) designed to draw attention to my plight?**

Unfortunately Mr Gabriel is busy working on the soundtrack to the sequel to *Dude, Where's My Car?* and cannot spare the time. Have you considered Nicki Webster?

### Thailand at a glance

Capital: Bangkok

Monk rating: high

History: old

Turn ons: chocolate, guys who know exactly what they want, tropical waterfalls

Turn offs: hairy chests, superficial people, cinema popcorn, Buddha-haters

### How we can help

Most staff members at *Welcher and Welcher* have the potential to speak fluent Thai, given enough lessons. Quentin also cooks a mean Tom Yum (if you're not sick of that already!).