



# THE SCOTSMAN

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## Hitler ordered Hess to Scotland

70-year secret revealed Page 3



## Home movies: new way to sell a house - fast

How videos entice buyers Pages 36-39

# Scottish football dragged into Fifa scandal

■ Boss Blatter controversially cleared by corruption probe

■ SFA criticised for failing to oppose his re-election this week

ANDREW WHITAKER

SCOTTISH football's leadership is under pressure to oppose the re-election of controversial Fifa president Sepp Blatter as a row over corruption at world football showed no sign of abating.

Mr Blatter, who has won the body he has led for 13 years here by allegations of fraud and vote-rigging, was presiding over a day of wrongdoing by a Fifa ethics committee investigating allegations of bribery during the organisation's presidential-election campaign.

But the man who had been his friend for the top job and a third member of the body's ruling elite were "suspended" from all football activities and will face a full inquiry into claims that they offered delegates cash for votes during the leadership contest. His last night said

Mr Blatter would stand as the sole candidate when Fifa representatives vote on Wednesday.

Senior figures in the Scottish game called on the Scottish Football Association to adopt the same position as the English FA and withdraw their support for him.

Former first minister Henry McLeish, who was commissioned by the SFA to carry out a review of the country's football strategy, said Mr Blatter had "betrayed" soccer.

And Lord George Yoolies, a former chairman of Heat of Midlothian and government minister, accused Fifa of conducting a "whitewash" of the claims against their leaders.

A dramatic day at the headquarters of world football began when Mohammed bin Hammam, Mr

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



## Biker chic: Palin for president?

THE well-to-do/rich saga of Sarah Palin's "bid" for the White House stepped up a gear yesterday as she embarked on a tour of New England and Washington DC.

The 45-year-old tin hatty favorite rode pillion on a Harley Davidson and joined thou-

sands of bikers on Memorial Day weekend as speculation grew over whether she will put herself forward as a potential Republican candidate to challenge Barack Obama next year.

FULL STORY, PAGE 23

## Mladic: massacre wasn't my fault

RATKO Mladic, the former general accused of the massacre of 8000 people in Srebrenica, has claimed he did not order the killings.

Mladic claims he had instructions to evacuate women and children, and any blood-letting happened behind his back.

The arrested war crimes suspect has also sought to shift blame for the bloody conflict in the former Yugoslavia on to all Serbs. Referring to Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic, Mladic said: "I didn't vote for him, you did."

Last night Mladic's supporters gathered at his childhood home in a remote Bosnian village to protest against attempts to extradite him to face genocide charges at the Hague.

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

## Twitter forced to unmask UK user

TWITTER, the social networking site at the centre of a legal row over spy-investigations, has released personal details of a British user through a court in California.

South Tyrone Council obtained the information after receiving one of its own members, Councillor Ahmed Khan, of making defamatory remarks about the authority on the site. In what could be a key decision for freedom of speech online, the council took the case to the Superior Court of California, rather than through the British justice system, which has no jurisdiction over the firm.

Mr Khan said the row was "unavoidable".

FULL STORY, PAGES 10&11

# Kick back and relax

There's a fab chilled out vibe to Vietnamese beach resort Mui Ne, writes **Kate Wickers**

It was Happy Hour at Anantara Mui Ne Resort, so I ordered a lychee martini and settled on a beach lounger to watch the aerial gymnastics of the 30 or more kite-surfers riding the late afternoon waves. Enthralled, I traced one in the sky as he made a leap of 20 feet, somersaulted and crashed into the ocean. "Woahhhhh," my three sons, aged 16, 15 and 11, shouted. "He did a 360. That was mental. Did you see that, Mum?"

"Let's stick to flying kites the traditional way," I told them, before they got any ideas.

Adrenalin junkies aside, Mui Ne in the southeast province of Phan Thiet, 220km north of Saigon, has a reputation for its laid back vibe – partly due to the surfers who first discovered its steady winds, impressive breakers, and low rain fall in the late 90s. In recent years it has become South East Asia's premier kite surfing location.

Geography-wise it's interesting; flanked by a vast expanse of red and white sand dunes, which have been sculpted into phenomenal shapes by the incessant South China Sea winds. Accommodation, which ranges from backpackers' lodges to swanky hotels, is low-rise and the town has managed to escape (so far) the trappings of

other Vietnamese beach resorts such as Nha Trang.

The Anantara is easily the most stylish hotel in town and the family villas are spacious with two huge bedrooms, each with rainforest bathrooms, complete with exotic foliage and tiny resident moon

lizards. We all agreed that it was wonderfully novel to enjoy a shower while watching the loquacious Eurasian Hoopoe, with its tapering bill and Mohican of feathers, flit from palm to palm overhead.

By midday temperatures soared to over 30 degrees so trips out were carefully timed. My boys weren't sold on the idea of visiting the Fairy Stream. "Sounds girly," said Freddie, the youngest, but just before sunset, when the dunes that sandwich the creek were all aglow, we set off. It's a beautiful barefoot wade upstream to the source, a natural spring, and they soon forgot to be unenthusiastic and scrambled up the slippery dunes, star-jumping back to the shallow waters. I kept a close look out for enormous spindly water spiders – harmless but scary none-the-less as they zig-zag at alarming speed across the surface of the water.

One morning we set the alarm for 5:30am, just before sunrise, to see the fishermen return to the beach with their haul. Fishwives, in conical hats, paddle out in basket boats to greet their men, ready to sift through the nets to weed out shells and other less valuable sea creatures, in search of prawns and scallops. The fish market takes place right on the beach. Look for the squids hung out to sun dry on wooden racks, used in the local delicacy – squid grilled with lemon, chilli and fish sauce.

There's a string of no-frills seafood restaurants known collectively as Bo Ke, on the main tourist strip. Mr Crab is a buzzy, popular place, where we choose from the live menu on display.

The scallops and muc mot nang were delicious but the sea snails were a mistake (don't be seduced by their lovely shells – they are like chewing tyres). Our seafood feast cost just £18 including side orders of noodles and Saigon Red beer. Other nights we dined beachside at Anantara. Try their roasted honey chicken with bok choy and mango salsa.

I doubted if it was possible to feel more relaxed but did book in to the Anantara's pretty spa for their signature 'synchronised' massage, where two therapists work in tandem. It takes a while to get used

to four hands instead of two but I soon settled in to the rhythm.

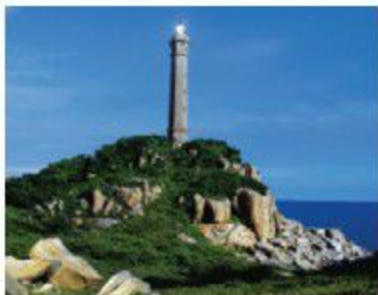
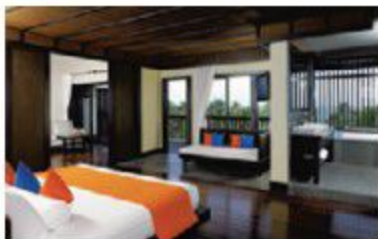
We took a day excursion out to the ornate 19th century brick Ke Ga lighthouse, built by the French, on a small rocky frangipani-clad island, where the lighthouse keeper's only company are geckos. Nearby, Asia's longest reclining Buddha (45m) is found on top of the holy Ta Cu Mountain. For centuries pilgrims have walked to the 649m high summit but now there's a cable car to whisk devotees to the top.

Other days were indulgently lazy; we swam in the Anantara's vast pool and went for shell-foraging walks to beach cafes for sand-between-our-toes lunches of rice paper pancakes stuffed with prawns and noodles. With a new road underway from Saigon and an airport opening at the end of 2019, catch the sea breeze and Mui Ne's loveliness while you can. ■

Vietnam Airlines ([www.vietnamairlines.com](http://www.vietnamairlines.com)) fly direct from

London Heathrow to Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon), with returns from £488. Train fares ([www.reservation@vietnam-railway.net](http://www.reservation@vietnam-railway.net)) from Saigon to Mui Ne cost \$21 each way (£16.50). Deluxe doubles at Anantara Mui Ne ([www.mui-ne.anantara.com](http://www.mui-ne.anantara.com)) start at £125 plus 15 per cent tax.

*We went for shell-foraging walks to beach cafes*



Clockwise from main: the infinity pool at Anantara Mui Ne Resort; one of the bedrooms; Ke Ga lighthouse