

Signs from the South Pacific

Rob's been hard at work in the shade of swaying palms

By Rob Cooper

Things have been going well in Koh Tao since my last article [More signs from a Thai paradise, *SignCraft*, September/October, 2004]. I would like to thank everyone who was concerned about my family and me after the December 26th tsunami. We are in

the Gulf of Thailand, on the eastern side of the peninsula of Thailand, and were totally unaffected by it.

The island is still booming, with plenty of new dive shops, restaurants, pool rooms and upscale resorts—all of which provide







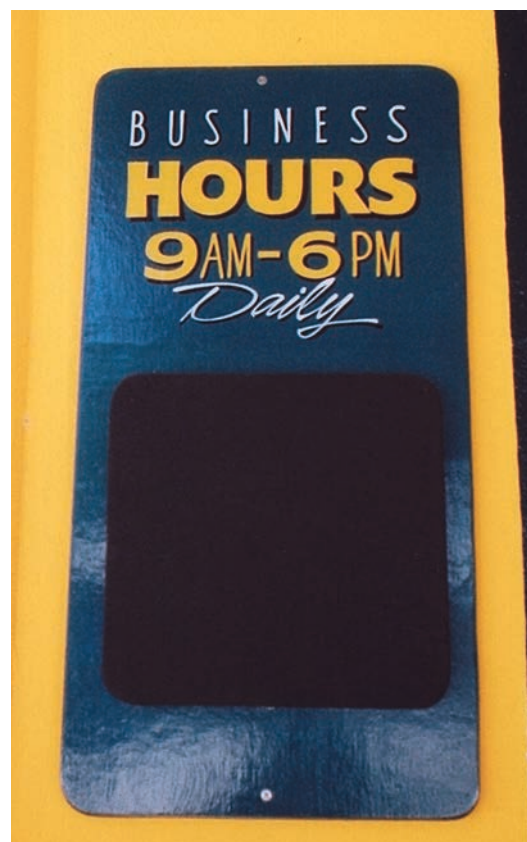
me with more and more work. Still, there are many places to get away from it all. Because of my workload, I haven't had much free time but I try to sneak out occasionally to look for rocks to climb in the jungle.

I recently had a problem with some of my signs prematurely disintegrating. This was caused by poor quality plywood. I now have all my plywood shipped in from the mainland (at three times the cost) and it's as good a quality as is available anywhere. •SC



Rob and son, Wesley
Cha-non Cooper

Calligrapher, carver, designer and sign painter Rob Cooper is a frequent contributor to *SignCraft*. A native of New Zealand, he lives in Koh Tao, Thailand.



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- **Cut in stone: The carved slate sign**, July/August 2001