

"Seasons Greetings"

The festive season is upon us and we look to a whole new year just over the horizon.

I will be holding my **Annual Feng Shui Talk** in mid February when we start to look at returning to normalcy, the dates and times for which will be posted in my first newsletter of 2012, mid Jan. During that evening I will review the main events of 2011 as well as taking a look forward to what we can expect from 2012. But more of that then.....

For now I want to examine an issue much on my mind; that of the **Five Yellows** aroused. This strikes me as an appropriate time to raise this subject as we approach the beginning of a new year and come to the end of one in which I fear the country as a whole has been badly affected by this pernicious and destructive force. As many of you well know (goodness knows I warn against its dangers often enough in my Annual Checks), the **Five Yellows** or **Annual Star Five** as it is also known, is a shifting qi that moves each year from one location to another and once aroused can be very nasty in its effects. Generally speaking, it is not that easy to arouse but disturbing the building by vibrating and shaking it, breaking the surface of land not otherwise normally tilled or shaken in this location/direction is what usually seems to provoke it. Once inflamed alas, it is considered very, very difficult to allay.

Several of you will instantly relate to its damnable consequences, having experienced the effects firsthand. Usually deemed a star of major illness, once roused it can however, be very unpleasant in its extended consequences as has, I believe, been demonstrated in New Zealand since the February 22nd Canterbury earthquake. How did this happen?

For 2011, the **Annual Star Five** has been in the east and as we all know, Christchurch and Banks Peninsula are in the east of the South Island and can be said to define the southern reaches of the east of New Zealand, if we delineate the east of New Zealand as stretching from the northern Bay of Plenty Tauranga – Whakatane to Banks Peninsula in the south. You may recall that at my talk early this year I expressed my fear that any further serious shakes in Canterbury were likely to trigger the Five Yellows which could well then be evidenced by other major events in this broad eastern region of the

country. I am not the only feng shui researcher to draw this conclusion. One *Grand Master* whom I hold in very high esteem told me in June that he thought it likely that both New Zealand and Japan were now suffering from the Five Yellows.

Certainly, there seems to have been little to celebrate this year in either country. For New Zealand with the ongoing saga of the Pike River Mine disaster, the seemingly never ending trauma for Cantabrians as seismologists remain unable to say when the situation will finally, if ever stabilize, there seems little good news for the country. While we all enjoyed the warm fuzzies of winning the RWC, it must also be recognised that obscene amounts of money were cravenly thrown at it simply to satisfy the insatiable avarice of the IRB. The facts remain: Auckland's paltry and woefully under funded transport systems flopped flatter than an egg-less soufflé on Cup opening night. The ensuing scramble to point the finger and avoid blame by everyone involved was hardly edifying. Then came the credit rating downgrade half way through the games, as did Rena's beached carcass stuck on Astrolabe Reef; right on time and right on the northern tip of our eastern zone. We may have won the cup, but it didn't actually provide anything but a passing buzz.

So, what's my point? In domestic and commercial properties, it is to follow the wisdom of ages and do all we can **not** to provoke the **Five Yellows**. Avoid all disturbances in its direction in our homes for the year and hang a copper wind chime **outside** in the appropriate sector which for 2012 is the Southeast. For the rest, I wish it was as simple as blaming the politicians. Unfortunately, it seems that three of our main leaders all have some bad luck against them at present with John Key, Phil Goff and Winston Peter's all in the final year of a three year bad luck cycle known as san sha. Let's hope 2012 sees the last of it! (More at the annual talk!)

Quote:

Never approach a bull from the front, a horse from the rear, or a fool from any direction.

Will Rogers

Bread the Staff of life or?

I came across this a little while ago, thought it rather fun and thought provoking. Not everyone will share my sentiments - but what's life without a little provocation?

“In the West the white-sliced loaf of bread has evolved to greater heights and the staple now includes a wide range of ingredients such as fruits, nuts, and various grains to take away the monotony.



Fresh bread anyone?

In the central Bangkok district of Ratchaburi a 28-year-old art student has taken the challenge of making bread more interesting one step further and crafts bread in the form of bruised and battered heads, limbs and internal organs at his family bakery to emphasize the teachings of Buddha.



Love it or hate it you be the judge.

Kittiwat Unarrom, a fine arts master’s degree graduate said he started making bread sculptures to highlight Buddhist teachings to not accept everything at face value and to look at subjects more intently. The gruesome looking doughy creations conceal an inner blend of traditional bread ingredients, as well as treats such as raisins, chocolates and nuts. Once the loaves are baked he uses his arts-school skills to individually decorate them, giving them an eerie, life-like appearance. Kittiwat said the lifelike appearance of the finished product makes people contemplate their values when they sit down at mealtime, reinforcing what Buddha taught. “People should not accept everything on face value and be quick to judge situations or other people. My bread artwork looks gruesome and repulsive, but

inside is the soft textured bread and sweet surprises that are totally opposite of what people see. “Mealtime’s are a good time for people to reflect because they are free of other distractions and Buddha wanted us all to contemplate every situation and see the beauty of everything he created”, he said. While tucking into a bruised and battered head, a grazed arm or diseased looking pancreas might not be how many people would prefer to start their day, Kittiwat’s crusty treats are guaranteed to stop any boring dinner conversations or children’s’ squabbles when they are brought to the table.

Visitors to Thailand are able to perform their own contemplation of the seen and unseen by heading to the Ratchaburi area and simply asking directions for the bakers shop that bakes human parts.”

By John Le Fevre
Thailand Travel News for August 31, 2009

Of course, there is just one correction to be made to the young man’s logic. Buddha is not and never was a deity; the only thing he ever created was a path of contemplation leading out of the ultimately unsatisfactory cycle of birth, suffering, death and rebirth that is the traditional Buddhist perception of existence. Evidence since, of our evolutionary path has lead us to somewhat different conclusions today perhaps but the lesson of not taking things at face value and being reluctant to judge others is a noble sentiment nevertheless.

QUOTE:

“Too often we give children answers to remember rather than problems to solve.”

Roger Lewin PhD - British anthropologist and science writer.

New Round of Beginner’s Palmistry:

A new eight week beginner’s palmistry class commences Tuesday 31st January. Students learn to identify the fingers, mounts and all the major lines in the palm, estimate timing of events in the life and the primary personality types. This diploma course gives students a solid understanding of traditional palmistry. Class times: from 7pm – 9pm Tuesdays. (A daytime class may also be offered – numbers permitting.) Price: \$350 per person – Course materials inclusive. Please call Danny for details. Registration is essential as class sizes are strictly limited. Ph. (09) 6257-888

Finally my sincerest thanks to all of you for your continued support and patronage throughout the year; happy holidays! Danny

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