



Top: (Left) Joe and Tsunami Lecturer: Nick Manning, (back) Louise Stahly, James Pool, Jeannette Stark, Lorna Heisler, Tsunami Lecturers: Valerie Austin and Tim Gorski.



Seen at the Tsunami lecture: Paul Kangas of Channel 2 Business Report fame, Valerie Austin and Penny Kangas.

Tsunami Survivors Lecture About Ordeal

Survivors of the 2005 Boxer Day tsunami spoke at the Surf Club recently.

Among speakers was Valerie Austin, author of five successful books on hypnosis. She is also a leading trainer of hypnotists in England who worked in London's prestigious Priory Clinic, famous for treating CEOs for stress-related disorders.

Another tsunami survivor who spoke was award winning filmmaker Tim Gorski. Film directors Alex Rosenberge and Nick Manning, who were in Thailand with Valerie Austin to film the recovery efforts, were also on hand to speak about the tsunami.

Austin was caught in the tsunami while on vacation in Malaysia with her son, grandson and

daughter-in-law. When the tsunami struck, she felt what she now calls "primal fear" — a fear so great that you can actually taste it. She believed her grandson had drowned when the first wave filled the hotel swimming pool with mud and debris. He was later found to be safe. It took months for her and her family to recover and to be able to look at the sea again without dread.

Valerie divides her time between her Harley Street Clinic in London, and her South Florida home in winter. Her husband, James Pool, is the author of the book, *Who Finances Hitler* and teaches medical hypnosis. He has a successful private practice in Florida specializing in hypnosis for weight loss, stress-related problems and increasing productivity.