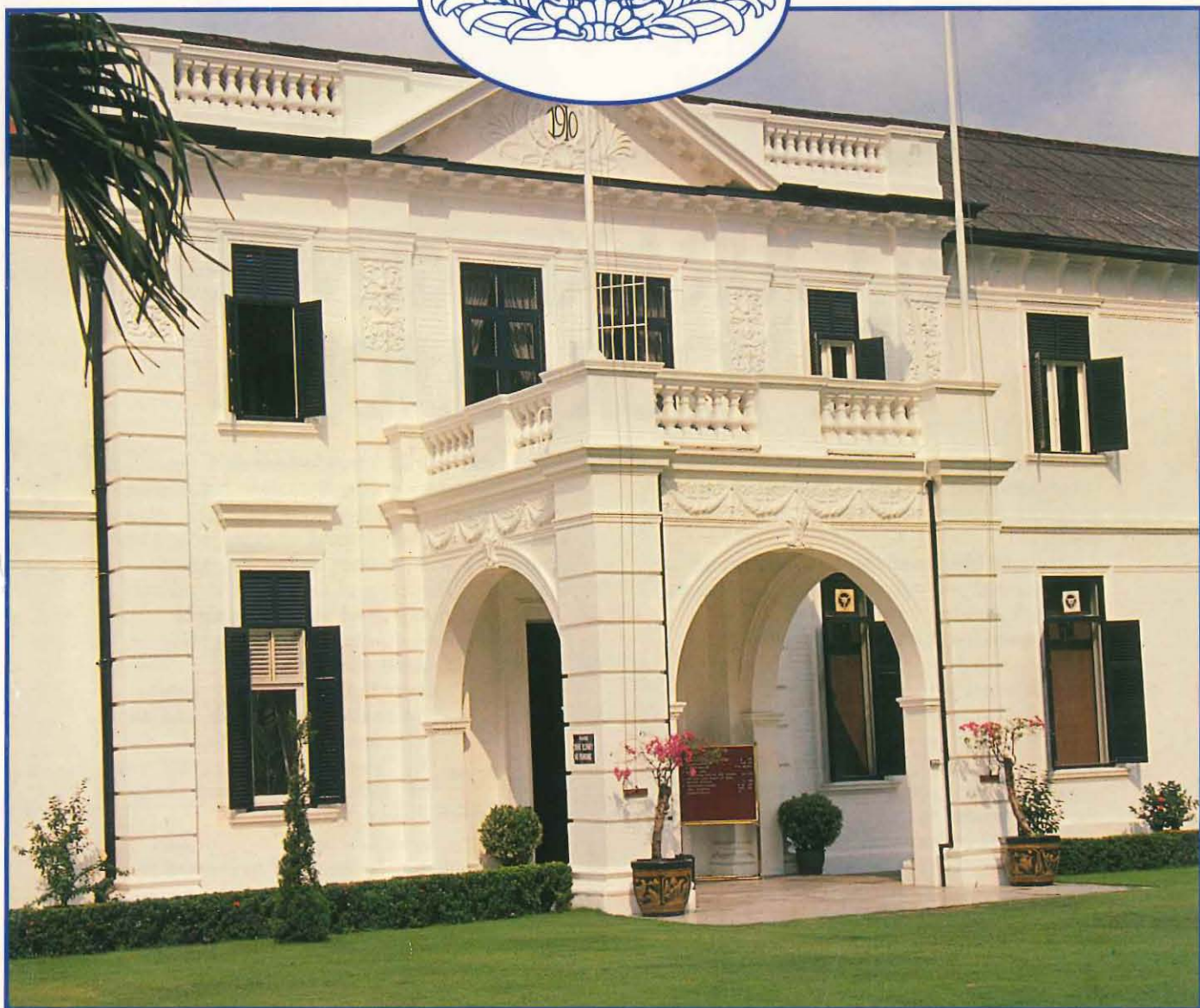
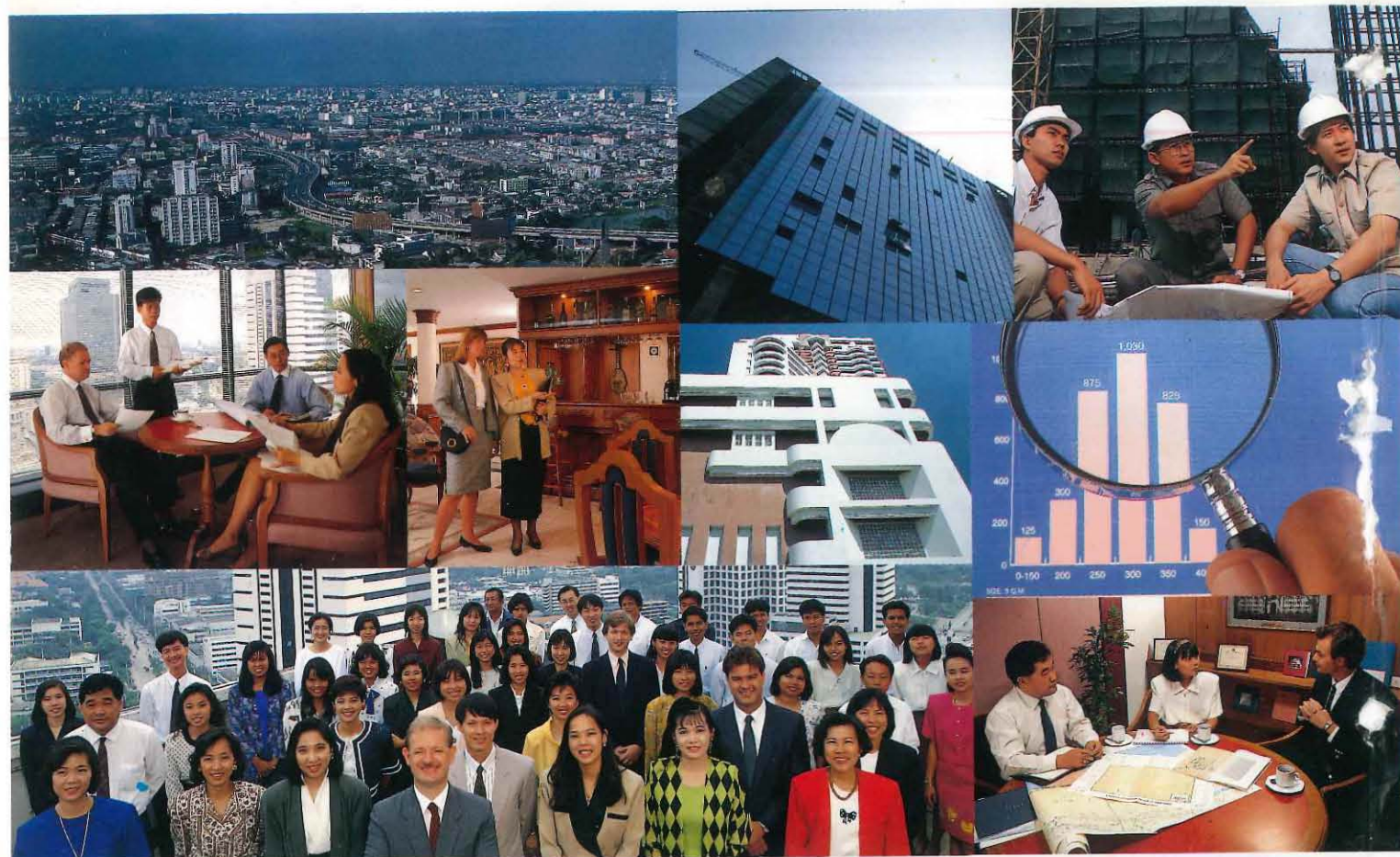


OUTPOST

MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB, BANGKOK



JANUARY 1994



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CONTRIBUTIONS

If you would like to contribute to Outpost Contact Bea Grunwell on 2589509. All photographs articles should be received by Bea on 1st of each month.

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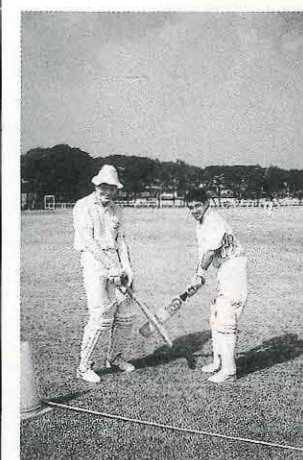
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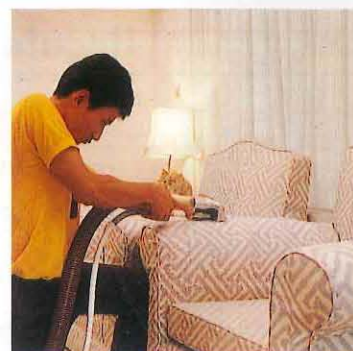
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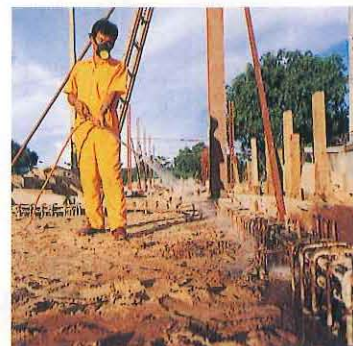
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FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Readers,

First of all a Happy New Year to you all, may it bring only good things to you and may all your New Years resolutions last until 1995.

Outposts New Years Resolutions are quite a few, advertisers need to be found, otherwise the magazine will cost too much for the Club. So please, it is a wonderful inexpensive opportunity to let other members know about your services and products. The Outpost needs your support, phone me on 258 9509 and book a space.

The Yearbook, not around last year, will now make a reappearance, maybe in a slightly less glamorous format, but at least you will be able to find fellow members phone numbers again. That is ... if your home/office address and telephone numbers are correct. Please let the British Club know of any change of address or telephone numbers so our Memberships Register can be kept up to date.

Deadlines for copy from sections and contributors, this year my own special resolution is to NOT accept any copy sent to me later than 1st of the month preceding publication. So boys and girls, if your write-ups are not available on the 1st of Feb-



good shops in Chiang Mai, Penang or anywhere, please tell us about them.

Lastly, I would like to thank all the advertisers who have been in Outpost over the last year, without you Outpost would not be there. The General Committee for their support, the regular contributors for their "prompt" delivery, Blake & Associates for sorting out the type setting, the printers for delivering in time, the Manager David Viccars for writing something from the day he arrived and any others I may have forgotten.

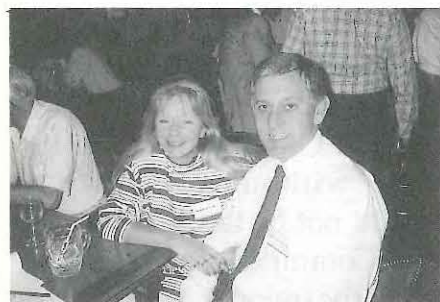
ruary for the March issue, I am afraid your fans and section members will be staring at empty spaces. Also if it is not too difficult, is it possible to provide the copy on a diskette using either WP5.1, Wordstar, with hard copy just in case. Once a routine is established your diskettes will be in your respective pigeon holes in a few days. This is mainly for long reports, not for half page contributions. By the way, thanks to the Football section and Gaynor on occasion, who kindly provide me with their floppies already.

Could I now ask you, regular readers of Outpost, to make one more New Years resolution, please contribute to Outpost. Make it a real Club magazine, send your birth, marriage and engagement announcements to Outpost. Send photographs (with captions) of events you attended for inclusion in Outpost, write a review of a panto you have been to, or tell us about your favourite restaurant or beach resort. Seen any

Bea Grunwell
Editor

New Members

New Members this month was early, on November 29th, and was very well attended. Suzanne helped out once again, thanks very much. No queues for "volunteer" writers and interviewers as yet, but I have not lost faith in the abilities of the Members.



Mary and Dick Fruin (a common name in Scotland) are from Nottingham and have been here for 6 weeks. They have just found a place to live on Sukhumvit and enjoy being here. Dick is the M.D. for Kin Sun and it is their first time in Asia. He was warned about the sausages in the BC but managed to devour a plate full anyway and thinks they are delicious. He plays golf and cricket and used to play squash. He enjoys talking to plants and parachuting. Mary has joined the BWG which she thinks is a wonderful institution, she swims and collects antique sports cars in UK she owns a 1947 MGTC. They have one daughter in the UK.



Gloria and Nick Moore have been here for 1 1/2 years and finally made it to the British Club. Of course now they cannot understand why they did not join sooner. They have two daughters Charlotte and Francesca. Nick plays golf, rugby, speaks Japanese, is a famous guitar player and singer (No Talent Night 1993), enjoys scuba diving, rock climbing, parasailing and freeloading. Gloria plays bridge, speaks fluent Thai with an American

accent, loves talking on the telephone and socialising. Outpost will check on Nick's activities in 3 months from today.



Dane and Rosemary Batt have been here for one week. Dane is the Group Personnel Manager for Christiani Nielsen and they come from Surrey. Dane has been to Thailand before on holiday in 1981 and 1982. They imported their 2 cats from England which cost them the princely sum of B10 and their first visitors arrive in 2 weeks. Dane plays golf, cricket and is a fervent Coventry City supporter. He is a recently retired rugby player (20 years). Rosemary wants to learn to play tennis and enjoys needlepoint sewing and aerobics. They lived in Spain and Gibraltar for 3 years.



Leonard C. Johnstone is here with Pasco, a company advising the Government on infrastructure projects. He is Australian and has been here for 2 months this time, but spent the last 5 years on and off in Thailand. He also lived for 18 months in Bangladesh. He is single, joined the Bangkok Community Theatre as he is interested in stage

management. He is the follow spot operator for the Mother Goose production, so call him if you could not follow it.



Ian Willcox - aged 23 but looks like 54 - from the UK. He is a bachelor and loves motorbikes. He works for Castrol in their Engine Testing Department where he instructs Thai staff on how to evaluate and develop Castrol lubrication products. (Hope I have that right Ed.) He enjoys football, rugby, cricket and has been racing Formula 1 motorbikes for 12 years. He has 2 daughters and hopes to eventually retire to Australia.



Charles and Sophie Urbain, South African and French resp. have been here for one year. Charles is the General Manager for Bristol Myers Squibb, a pharmaceutical company and Sophie is in charge of the publication Vivre a Bangkok, a Francophone guide to Bangkok which is for sale everywhere. Charles plays golf, tennis, cricket and is a rugby supporter and Sophie enjoys tennis, golf and snow skiing. They used to live in London and met in West Africa whilst they were both

working for oil companies. They have a 6 year old son who goes to Patana School.



Henry Woodruff works for First Asia Pacific. He comes from the West Country and is married to Lucy who was looking after Henry's brother who was here on a one day visit. He is F.A.P.'s Vice President and he analyses Thai companies. Lucy teaches English and English as a Foreign Language and she is also training to be a guide for the National Museum, she is on the Committee for the National Museum Volunteers. Henry is preparing himself for a baby which he does by playing tennis, reading about babies and listening to his wife who tells him what will be expected of him when there is a baby in the family. All this explained itself when he told me Lucy is expecting their first child in Jan/Feb. He promised a photo for Outpost.



Robert McFeeter is the Group Projects Manager for Tong Gwee Co. Ltd, they are a development and construction company. His wife Colleen was in Chiang Mai to open a new Westin hotel. Robert is Australian and Colleen is American. They were in Hawaii for 3 years and Robert has 2 children in Oz. They met on a corporate jet on the way to USA and got married 1 1/2 years ago. She plays tennis and he enjoys golf.



Jaree Lee (USA) is the Executive Secretary for Sahaviriya Steel Ind. who make hot rod steel. She used to be a Contracts Administrator in the USA for a national pipeline company. Jaree is single and born in Thailand. She enjoys tennis, swimming and Mahjong.



Brian and Pina Davis from the UK. Brian works for Royal Can and they have been here for just over a year. They were previously in Surabaya and Jakarta. Pina is a member of the BWG and plays Mahjong. Brian enjoys drama but has been too busy so far to get involved so he puts on his own productions at home between the sliding doors. They both enjoy Bangkok.



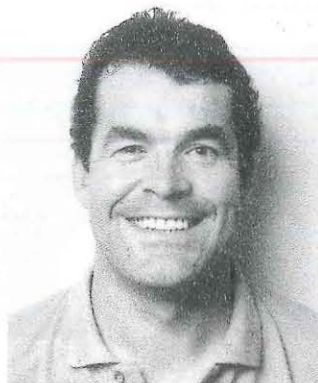
Edward Griffith is Canadian and works for Sahaviriya Steel Industries and has been here for 5 months. He lived in Switzerland before. He works out in the gym regularly. He is a bachelor and enjoys Thailand a lot and

New Members

looks forward to travelling and seeing the country.



Guy and Angela Cooper (Australian). Guy works for the Australian Embassy and they have been here 6 weeks. He previously worked for the Oz Emb. in 1981/83 so they have spotted many changes. They have three children, 2 at Patana and one in boarding school. Both are keen runners and enjoy jogging in Lumpini Park. They were members of the BC before and have now rejoined, Angela is a teacher and is looking for a job. They are very happy to be back in Thailand.



David Viccars

FROM THE MANAGER

viduals can promise to try to remedy a perceived problem. This short article ventures to suggest some resolutions for the club for 1994!

As we left 1993 there was much talk in the media about the likelihood of a water shortage here in Bangkok in the months to come, sadly we already have a water shortage problem at the Club. Simply, the mains in from the Silom Road which supply the poolside facilities cannot meet our requirements, the pressure is just too low. In consequence we are having to buy up to 1,000 litres of water every few days, this really is a huge "drain" - excuse

the pun - on our funds. This also explains the frequent presence of a large fire appliance on our premises.

More concern with regard to costs are centred on our large power bill and the threat by the BMA to dramatically increase rubbish collection costs. In short we are soon likely to be faced with a greatly increased "facilities" bill for running the Club. So here comes the 1994 resolution from the Club Management:

*'ONCE YOU HAVE
FINISHED ... SWITCH IT
OFF!! PLEASE!'*

Firstly, all the very best of luck to all Members for 1994 and secondly a really big thank you for making my transition from the military to civie street so very easy, I am very grateful to all the Members for their welcome and their kindness. The new year is a time for resolutions so that indi-

CLUB NOTICE BOARD

Jennifer Hughes, a member of the BWG, asked Outpost to report on the outcome of the raffle for the hand embroidered table cloth, as she has sold quite a few raffle tickets to BC members.

The beautiful embroidered tablecloth was won by Tammy Haas. The second prize, 2 embroidered pictures were won by Marjorie Berman. Both ladies were very pleased with their wins.

The raffle raised B19,600 which was handed over to Pauline Dalton (BWG) to assist in the purchase of an incubator for Siriraj Hospital.

Many thanks to all the devoted stitchers, and to all of you who so generously bought tickets.

Anyone wanting to join the sewing group who meet on Wednesday from 12.30pm onwards, please phone Jennifer on 261 5423.

POETRY PAGE

This month a poem sent to us by David E. Lee, which is credited to Harry Gant-Bstard. Happy reading.

I WONDER WHY

I meander day by day
I really do not know the way
But then I'll hear a stranger say
I wonder why, I wonder why.

I wonder why they look so pale
I wonder why they look so frail
I wonder why they want to fail
I wonder why, I wonder why.

wonder why we cannot see
Why do we never hear their plea
I wonder why we let it be
I wonder why, I wonder why.

I meander day by day
Content because I know the way
Then as I pass you'll hear me say
I wonder why, I wonder why.

Harry Gant-Bstard, 1993

YEAR BOOK

Dear Members,

The 1994 yearbook of the British Club is due to be published early February. If you are interested in advertising in this please contact Bea Grunwell on 258 9509.

Also, could members please send updated telephone numbers and addresses to the British Club. We need telephone numbers from home and work and a fax number if available. This information should be available to the British Club by 20th January latest.

The advertising orders should be in by 15th of January and completed artwork should be delivered to Bea Grunwell by 25th January.

Please help us make the Yearbook a publication worth receiving by advertising and supporting your club. Without the information necessary from members regarding their telephone numbers etc. it is not possible to publish an up to date helpful book for Club Members to contact each other.

Thanks for your help,

Bea Grunwell
Editor

BRITISH CLUB WIN BANGKOK POST TROPHY



The Pavillionaire All Stars

What a great start to the season for the Cricket Section by capturing the Bangkok Post Trophy at the Thai Cricket League Six's Tournament in November.

The BC have threatened on many occasions to perform well in this tournament and this year once again two strong sides took part in the 10 a-side season opener.

At last the BC lived up to expectations by winning the final in convincing style. The BC first side consisting of Geoff Cooper, Nick White, Craig Price, Steve Francis, Brian Diamond, Andre Tissera, Adam Caro and Peter Young went through the 2 days undefeated,

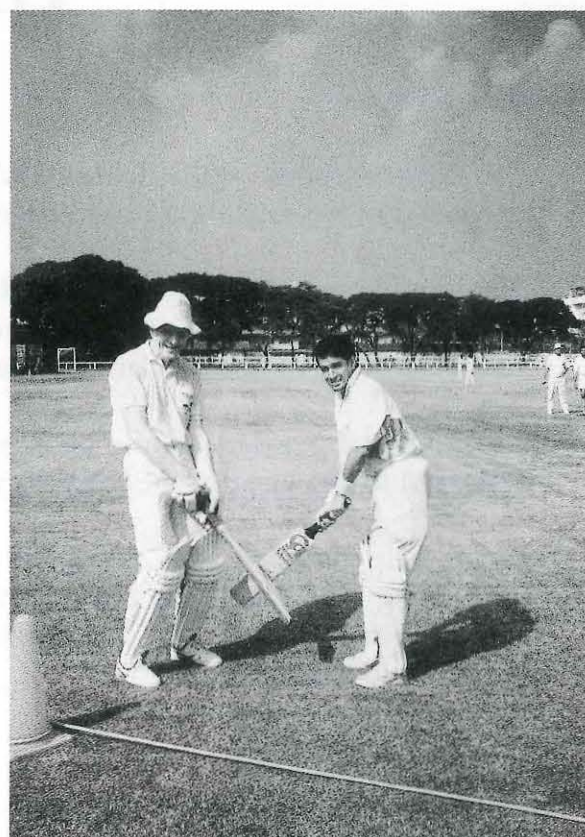
The Pavillionaires featuring veterans David Lamb, Frank Hough and David Rendall did well to make the semi finals of the Plate Competition only to be narrowly defeated by tournament favourites the T.C.C. Actually the Pavs struggled badly on day one - McIntyre and Castledine bowling well wide of the stumps and providing valuable runs to the opposition. However, it must be said the F&B, McIntyre, produced the goods on day 2, and one won't easily forget his Allan Border-like pull over mid-wicket for a splendid boundary. Quite unbelievable!



The victorious BC first side

Anyway a good weekend was had by all.

Next the BC will be heading to Chiang Mai for games against the Chiang Mai Gymkhana Club and the Hong Kong Senators - that report next month (In time please. Ed.).



Andre Tissera and Nick White preparing to bat



Celebrations later that night in the Churchill Bar - before Frank broke the trophy

The fixtures for January and February are:

JANUARY

- Sunday 9th BC vs Wanderers
50 Overs - Polo Club Ground
- Sunday 23rd BC vs RBSC
50 Overs - RBSC
- Sunday 30th BC Pavillionaires vs Indo-Thai
25 Overs - Polo Club Ground

FEBRUARY

- Saturday 5th BC Pavillionaires vs Indian Cricket Club
25 Overs - Polo Club Ground
- Sunday 6th BC vs ABAC
25 Overs - Polo Club Ground
- Sunday 13th BC vs I.C.C.
50 Overs - AIT Ground
- Sunday 27th BC Pavillionaires vs Scribblers
25 Overs - Polo Club Ground

Peter Young
Captain



Good crowd support during tense finals



"Skippy" Young - team photographer?



Ladies in Waiting, L/R Pauline, Girllys, Wanna, Margo

B 56,140

Yes, that's how much we raised at the Badminathon in November, the superb result of a lot of hard work and sweat put in by many members and an absolutely fantastic pre-Christmas boost to the Incubator Fund!! An achievement of which we should all be proud. Congratulations and well done to all those who took part!!

As we roll into 1994, we can look back on this event as the end-of-year boost to what has been a great inaugural year for the Badminton Section. Many thanks to all those who went around scrounging for sponsorship, to those who sponsored (and paid up) and of course, to those who played for several hours at Soi Klang. A special thanks to go to Pauline Dalton for organising this successful event and for sticking it out at the courts despite the corsetry giving gyp all afternoon! There was an amazing demonstration of mental arithmetic in summing up the sponsorship as it came in... is she sure that Siriraj only

operated on her back? Anyway, a round of applause to the following players:

Janet Atkinson, Anne-Marie Beasley, Katie Cherdumphai, Peter Dalton, Leng Eng, Stephen Forbes, Gaynor, Eirlys Hughes, Kamal (who turned up far too early; keen these Americans), Maurice Lamb, El Leicester, Margo, Peter Simpson (hubby of Jackie, I'm supposed to mention this for some reason), Amanda and Tommy Telford and last but not least Barry and Wanna Whittaker.

This is the 'Special' special mentions department:

Thanks must go to Sun Paratech Co Ltd and Baker Hughes

Intec for adding to the sponsorship total; to Peter Simpson for picking this event as his first stab at Badminton in Thailand, and a pick-in-the-jaw-off-the-floor highlighting of Stephen Forbes; not only the youngest player on court, but also the most persuasive with a massive Baht 12,450 worth of sponsorship!!!

Finally, Pauline voted the Match of the Day as split between two games where Anne-Marie Beasley and Wanna Whittaker played for the BCB and Janet Atkinson and Eirlys Hughes played for the BWG. Both games were extremely close, well-fought and both went to set point. It was

tiring just to watch them! Pauline, of course, 'backed' out of playing due to her somewhat restrictive injury, but had managed a fair old whack at sponsorship anyway.

Phew!!

Apologies to all concerned about the postponing of the Jomtien weekend, this victory was not to be ours in December due to a sudden exodus of players from the Section. We are hoping to be able to rearrange this match within this beautiful cool season to take advantage of the lack of humidity while on the coast. More as I have it.

On the subject of players leaving it has to be said that the sudden departure from the scene of people like Pauline Dalton, Cathy Thompson and Eirlys Hughes will cause a serious dent in the Soi Klang hard-core group. As reported in the last ish of Outpost, Pauline has become spineless of sorts and has been advised to take up tennis in 2 months (!), meanwhile Taew (Chitchavee) has gone and gotten herself married to Bart, who is carrying her off on a white charger (747 model) to the Netherlands, Cathy is actually returning to Blighty (although Alain is heading into the wilderness of what used to be part of Russia, poor soul), while Eirlys is following hubby to Singapore. All of them are/will be greatly missed, and on behalf of the Section I hope Pauline is able to leap and bound around soon and that Taew, Cathy and Eirlys enjoy their new postings.

Also as reported in last ish, Pinky and Perky Dalton will be moving down to Pattaya some time in the New Year, which will no doubt do Pauline's R&R no end of good in comparison with the delights of Bangkok's roads, traffic, pollution and other moans, but will come as a serious blow to the



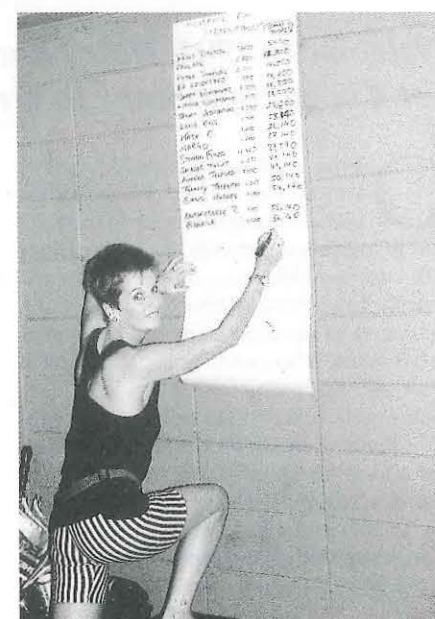
Tommy practises the "Lambeth Walk Overhead Squash" as Stephen and Maurice stand poised...

Badminton Section. As you should all be aware, Pauline has been the 'leader' (for want of a better word) from the word go, with copious help from Peter, and will be greatly missed by me in particular, coz I'll have to find someone else to tease.... No, seriously, we wish her and Peter all the best and look forward to playing against them in a future Jomtien match.

With Chairperson Pauline leaving, of course, we had to think ahead to 1994, so would you give a big welcome to your new Committee, exact constituency unknown at the time of writing - the AGM will have been held on Sunday 12th December while this mag was off to the printers. Full details in the next ish, with hopefully the mugshots to show you who they all are. At this point I should like to issue a vote of thanks to this year's Committee for all their hard work, ideas and motivation and let's hope we have as dedicated a Committee this coming year so that we can take this Section from strength to strength.

Hope you all had a marvelous Christmas and New Year!

Lek Farang



"Pauline totting up the grand total!"

GAYNOR GUIDE TO BADMINTON

Um... I'm afraid I >hic< got a little tiddly over the, er, festive season and I >hic< kind of forgot all I ever knew about sports, except perhaps >hic< tankard raising. Besides, I kind of figured that you didn't want a lecture first thing in the New Year, so I'll leave the one about tips and tactics until next month ... cheerio!



"The Tough Guys - BCB and the American men Rambos all round"

Welcome to 1994! Now I know I normally start off with what's happening this month, but I'm going to have to break with tradition here coz of November...

Oh my giddy aunt, was November a month or what?! We had dramatic competitions, sad farewells and joyous engagements, an after dinner talk, croquet like you wouldn't believe, a charity fund-raising effort and we even managed to squeeze some quality tennis in between! Who needs Coronation Street with all this going on? I tell you, this section gets no shorter to write each month!

Before I really let rip about November and all its splendours, here's a quick run-down of the first events of 1994; January 1st, of course has officially been titled Hangover Day (translation from the Sanskrit), there's even a public holiday in its honour. On Wednesday 5th is the final teenagers' mix-in, assuming that most are off back to school in the next week or so, and on Thursday 6th Matthijs starts another Paradise Sports coaching clinic. Onto competitions, and we kick off 1994 with the Ciba-Geigy weekend handicap tournament on the 8th and 9th of this month, with the highlight of the competitive year, the Annual Club Championships, commencing from Wednesday 12th when the draws are pinned on the board. There is a match on Sunday 16th against the Silom Club, and for all of those interested in getting away from it all (not from tennis, mind), there is the Club Aldiana weekend tour from Friday 21st to Sunday 23rd - hopefully you will have signed up for that by now, the sheet has been up on the board for over a month and places usually go fairly quickly. So as you can all see, yet another deathly quiet month in store.

But back to November, I'm bursting to get all this out!

PETER NORMAN - WEDNESDAY 3RD NOVEMBER

Seasoned veteran Peter Norman was back in town again for most of this month, and we're very grateful he was willing to give us a talk on a subject close to his heart; umpiring. Peter, for those who missed him, started umpiring tennis at this very Club back in yonder days and went on to do it officially at places like Wimbledon, Eastbourne etc. A fascinating talk followed the mix-in on this Wednesday and yes, there was an anecdote about how close his head nearly go to being bitten off by McEnroe!

CHARITY TOURNAMENT AND CROQUET - SUNDAY 14TH NOVEMBER

A superb day for all involved: 14 couples took part in this event and it has to be said that the standard of tennis was very reasonable indeed, which made it that bit more competitive. Many thanks to British Gas for kick-starting the sponsorship with a donation of B20,000 towards the Incubator Fund for Siriraj Hospital, great stuff and good work by Chris Aspden and John Bueno for organising that. All in all, the Section managed to raise B40,000 in total for the Fund, which (along with the Badminton the previous day) pushed the total to a point where Pauline Dalton can go shopping for an incubator before Christmas, which is fantastic news. Onto



"Single 'B' finalists" Owen and Chris

the tennis, there were three divisions and therefore three sets of winners of the new super dooper section t-shirts, and they were as follows:-

GROUP A 'Lady' Maurice and Man Sven, 21pts

GROUP B Lady Alessandra and Man Malcolm, 14pts (won by 1 point!)

GROUP C Lady Thamtip and Man Roy (a somewhat strong team), 24pts, beating a 'Lady' David and Man David easily... but who was who?

In fact, it was "Man Sven"'s day on Sunday, for not only did he narrowly grasp victory off me 'n' Steve in Group A with his lovely partner Maurice (looks good in



"The commemorative plaque for the Embassy mantle piece"



"Group winners Alexandra and Malcolm receiving the new Section T-Shirt"

a skirt), but he also walked off with the B2,000 first prize in the raffle! I reckon it's a fix, what with his new job and all, but I am not one to spread nasturtions. Other winners were J. Beaumont with the second prize of B1,000, Lena Patterson with third prize and our own Carol Young strolling off with the bottle of ancient Scottish medication (not to be taken with alcohol).

All this excitement was followed by several games of croquet on the front lawn, culminating in the Tony Freeman Master Class, whereby his students were thoroughly put through their paces in outstanding style. According to Grandmaster Tony, "It's all in the aiming of the balls"... ain't that the truth!! Quotes of the day included Bernadette Bueno who, upon picking up the mallet, asked: "What do you do, do you have to go through the hoops?"; and Simon Fox's mum who, on finding that John Bueno had been to the same school as Simon (and brother Richard), asked "So have you been successful at all?..." Well, there is no answer to that, is there?!!

A great day, this, let's hope for plenty more like it this year.

ONE DOOR CLOSES AND ANOTHER ONE OPENS - WEDNESDAY 17TH NOVEMBER

This is about the best way to describe this evening; officially billed as the "Farewell to Sven" night - Man Sven is soon to be installed as the Bosnian Ambassador in Washington, a natural progression from process engineering in Thailand, I suppose - but it turned out to be a night of surprises as His Excellency Sven announced the engagement of two stalwarts of the Tennis Section Chris Aspden and Carol Young on the night!! There must have been around thirty people from the Tennis Section to wish Sven all the best in his new 'job' and then to congratulate the Happy Couple, definitely one of the memorable nights of the year.



"Peter Norman with sack full of goodies after his umpiring talk"



"Singles 'C' finalists Gisi and Grace"

MATCH VS AMERICAN MEN - MONDAY 22ND NOVEMBER

Nicknamed 'Clash of the Rambos', this was the second of our recent innovation; evening matches against other expat groups. Many thanks to Dave Seldon for organising the American team and to Simon for drafting a report PDQ.

Well, I am delighted to report that the match was not only very enjoyable for both sides but resulted in victory for the BC by 5-3 (Aaaaaaaarrrgggh!! - G), this despite the efforts of some spectacular Monday night traffic - 2 hours from Wireless Road - and the court lighting obviously envious of all the Noeltide twinklers and attempting to follow suit, not to mention the backdrop of Highland drone, sorry, 'jolly dance tunes' for most of the match!

Our pairings were: Surin/David, Pat/Roger, Henry/Ron and Howard/Simon.

Simon reports that these teams probably benefitted from having had at least some prior experience of playing

together during the Monday night men's tennis, especially as several of our opponents had to be introduced to one another upon arrival. This did not seem the case for their 'A' team, however, who started by clobbering Henry and Ron 6-0, 6-0 and then went on to beat Surin and David 6-2.

We're hoping this evening expat feature will take off and become a regular, so if anyone has any ideas on potential opponents please contact Simon Fox (or his replacement - see Committee Witterings).

FINALS OF THE GRADED CHAMPIONSHIPS - SUNDAY 28TH NOVEMBER

The climax of a couple of months of some interesting matches and praise-worthy attempts to book courts during an unusually heavy playing schedule, this long Sunday saw some cracking matches, the results of which are as follows:

LADIES DOUBLES Chalati/Joy beat Megan/Robyn 7-6, 7-5

MENS DOUBLES James Y/David H beat Surin/David I 6-1, 4-6, 7-5



"His Excellency Sven announces the engagement of the Happy Couple"

MIXED DOUBLES 'A' Chalati/Sur in beat Megan/Pat 6-2,6-1

MIXED DOUBLES 'B' Anke W/Chris T beat Grace/Ueno 6-3,6-1

SINGLES 'C' Grace beat Gisi 6-1,6-2
SINGLES 'B' Owen Beat Chris A. 6-0,7-5

SINGLES 'A' Surin beat Pat 6-3,7-5

The finals were followed by the ubiquitous barbecue on the lawn with the presentation of some beautiful Benjarongware as prizes for the winners and runners-up (or should that be runners-up? - G.). This tournament kept people on their toes in the run up to the Xmas pig-out and the impending Club Championships in the New Year.

A footnote to this - any of you remember reading in a prior Outpost about my ravings about this tournament and how it meant that we lowly souls on the bottom half of the ladder wouldn't meet your Chalatis and Surins in the first round? Unfortunately, due to too few entrants in certain categories, some of them had to be merged into larger categories (hence the Singles divisions comprising both men and women of relevant standards)... so guess who I met in the first round of the ladies doubles...??!!

By the by, the match against the British Embassy was postponed due to the latter being unable to raise a team. Hopefully this match will be rearranged for early in the New Year. There were mutterings going around that the Embassy shower were incapable of raising a laugh, let alone a team, but as I said, who am I to spread such gossip?

Another change in schedule is the finishing of the Pennant Ladies League at the end of this month, with no finals to be played in December as previously believed, but a jolly mix-in on what was due to be finals day, the 9th December. The final placings of our girls were unknown at time of scribble, but rest assured we have more than justified our existence in this inaugural event and have done the Club proud. More as I have it.

To round off November there was a mixed doubles league, for which results next month, but here's the results of Oc-



"John Burno cries as he parts with the British Gas donation"

tober's singles league:

LEAGUE 1 Surin D 35 pts

LEAGUE 2 Chalati D 36 pts

LEAGUE 3 Chris A 36 pts

LEAGUE 4 David Henton 37 pts

Surin and Chalati have certainly excelled themselves this year, congratulations to the two of them for maintaining such a high standard of game throughout 1993. Of course, we can't leave October without the results of the ladder draw at the end of the month, so those lucky winners of the bottles of booze were:

1st Bruno Straub

15th Sven Alkalaj (that name again!)

30th John Sands

45th Maria McIntyre (to be generously accepted by Paul)

60th Guy Hindley

The winner of the B500 lucky draw was Archie Cook, and I feel compelled for a reason I know not why to mention this this was drawn by, er, Mrs. Eileen Cook.

COMMITTEE WITTERINGS

Four items to pass on:

a) As from the day someone found the 2-year supply of Dunlop balls in some stockroom somewhere, there is to be NO signing for tennis balls on behalf of the Tennis Section for these mix-ins unless officially cleared by the Committee. The staff at the Fitness Centre have been instructed not to allow such signing on behalf of the Section for the time being. Those wanting new balls for the mix-ins must contact a member of the Committee who will have a key to the Tennis Storage Box.

b) The repainting of the courts, as reported in a previous lab, did not go ahead in November due to lack of funds, but apparently we are at least 3rd in the pecking order once the Club can scrape some dosh together.

c) The fact that some of the floodlights are on the blink again ('scuse the pun), as reported in the Match report above, has been noticed by your beagle-eyed (sic) Committee and is "in hand". A comforting thought.

d) We are hoping to recruit some



"The Freeman Masterclass"

new Committee members when certain of our dedicated number disappear in the New Year, namely Simon and Stella Fox (Men's Captain and Secretary resp), off to Mexico, Howard Neville off to Hong Kong. Anyone interested, please give Maurice a yell. Thanks to the timely intervention by Chris with the presentation of a ring, Carol will now be staying on in the New Year!

A quick eyeball at December's events before I hand you over to the New Year; it's holiday time all round this month, and I don't know about you lot but boy, did I ever need it!! On the 12th is a match against the OESA (explanation and corny joke in the next ish) in the morning followed by that old fave the Team Tournament in the afternoon, with the English taking on the Celts, the Colonials and the Rebels with a vengeance. The Teenagers Mix-ins are held during this holiday month, and then of course there's all them parties, chief of which must be the Tennis Section Christmas part on the 15th. Hopefully there will be abundant photos from this event, especially from the game with golf balls and the nah, I'm not going to spoil it, we'll wait for the photos!!

So Happy New Year to you all, hope you didn't get too rolling drunk, and that if you did, you were still singing in tune by the end of it. January is billed to be another fun packed month, with February hot on its heels with the Mardi Gras Fun Tournament on Sunday 13th, including those unique Pancake Races! And then there's the Bangkok Inter-Club Ladies Tournament, aka THE OLYMPICS!! Yes, this great extravaganza is coming to the BC, and judging by a leaked document seen by your intrepid reporter, it should be glitz, glamour, balloons, team signposts, official walk-rounds, doves and torches all the way!! Be prepared for the media event of the year and don't forget to wear your best smile (if nothing else) for all the TV cameras!

Right I must really go, my hand is knackered. Keep up the challenge!

Lotsaluv
Me
XXX

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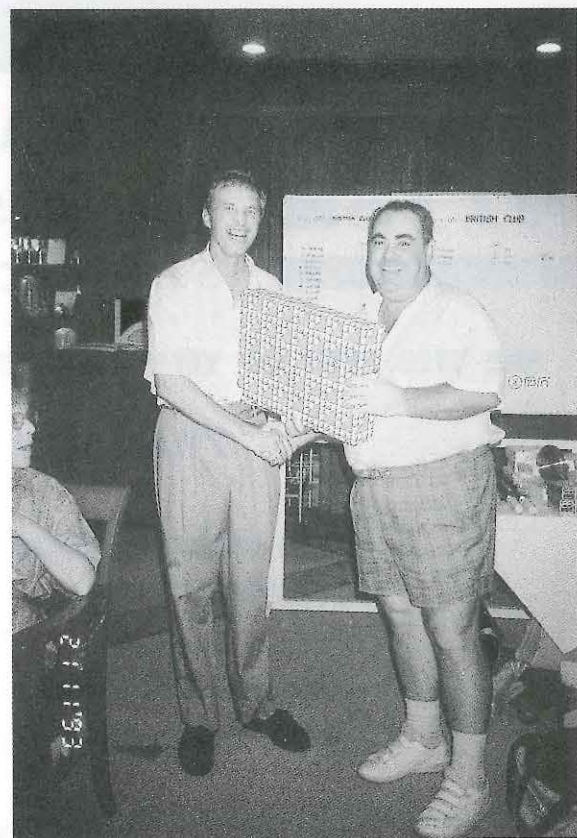


BCGS Capt Receives the Royal Emirate Trophy from Ambassador - Christian Adams

ROYAL EMIRATES CUP - 7.11.1993 - BCGS VS BE ROYAL GEMS COURSE

On the 7th November the British Club and the British Embassy battled for the Royal Emirates Trophy. The competition was sponsored by BRITISH GAS. Our sincere thanks goes to Mike Baker of British Gas who organised a very interesting competition and donated wonderful prizes. Once again, the British Club proved too tough to beat and won the Cup by some 30 points.

The Royal Gems Course was in its usual pristine condition, however, it must be said that it was the longest round anyone had over five hours. A number of members turned up without booking but expecting a game and in true Thai fashion, it was a "mai pen rai" situation. Everyone got a game and some players finished the round in the dark! Our captain ended up playing with 3 Japanese men in BCGS' last group (some members didn't show up) and parring the 18th. At that stage one couldn't even see the 18th flag



Ron sparks receiving his prize from the Captain

but obviously for Peter Ingram it was no problem!

We ended that evening at the Embassy where we were treated to a delicious dinner followed by prize giving with the British Embassy Golf Captain George Atkins, Ambassador Christian Adams, our Captain Peter Ingram and of course our sponsor Mike Baker from BRITISH GAS.

I apologise for not having all the details of the winners, the competition was totally handled by our sponsor. However, from memory winners from the BC were, A. Southcombe, M. Poustie, M. Baker and Pat Copp, Frank Crocker, Cheryl Lamb, Alistair McManus and Eric Hudson.

MEDAL 4 - BANGPAKONG - 21ST NOVEMBER 1993

There was a good turnout for this competition and surprise, surprise, Bangpakong was not overbooked. A number of good scores were turned in but we won't mention the net 62 of a certain gentleman in the "C" Division as this might be too embarrassing for him! I am sure our handicapper will take not of this! All the winners in each division will go onto compete in the Medal Final on 19th December, we wish them all good luck!

FLIGHT A	(0 - 15)	Winner	P. Ingram
		2nd	S. Decho
		3rd	A. Southcombe
FLIGHT B	(16 - 24)	Winner	M. Baker
		2nd	R. Sparks
		3rd	L. Hunt
FLIGHT C	(25 - 36)	Winner	B. Hughes
		2nd	G. Hunt
		3rd	L. Southcombe

Near Pins: P. Ingram, G. Lamb, S. Decho, J. Coxon

Long Drives: Men - Dave Stewart, Ladies - Lynda Hunt

We thank Roy Barrett - INCHCAPE (CALDBECK MCGREGOR) for all the prizes for this competition.

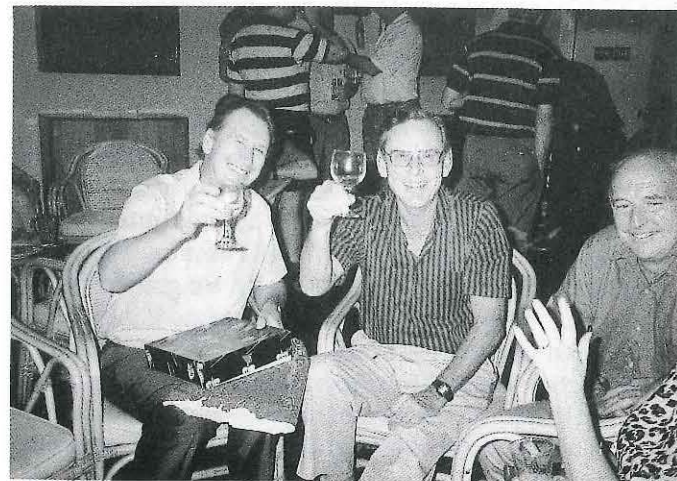
Happy golfing and don't forget the "Kitchen



The Sponsor too won a prize!



Some of us have a lot to smile about.



Cheers to the winners!!

"Sink" competition in February against the BCLG Ladies when BCGS can seek revenge. More details in the next newsletter.

FOOTBALL DECEMBER/JANUARY

A GUID NEW YEAR TAE ANE AND A from the Football Section but especially to our regular readers. Well another month of frenetic activity which still sees us at the top of the League. A case of deja vu for we were in the same position last year and fell away badly. Forewarned is fore-armed.

MATCH REPORT :

The first league game since our last report was against a promising ISB team which, this year, combines the youthful pace, stamina and enthusiasm of the students with the guile and experience of four teachers. We scored an early goal through a long range punt from Chris Davin which the ISB goalie seemed to fumble into the back of the net. They all count. Chris was accused of being on parabolic steroids after this one as the ball had ice on it when it came down. An early score had been the catalyst in our previous two games for a feast of goals but give the kids their due. They buckled down and gave us a real run for our money. In a close encounter honours remained even for the rest of the game and we emerged one nil winners to set us up for a top of the table clash with the Italians. The pasta platoon had proved the surprise packet of season and brought a large squad hoping to continue their run. It was another close game with almost a cup semi-final atmosphere in terms of tension. Late on the first half Captain Willie Carruthers responded to the cry of "Willies up!" to power through the middle and score a vital match-winning goal. The defence again put up the shutters and it was another "one nil, we got the points" victory.

It was on then to a match with last year's runners up, the Scandinavian Vikings in what promised to be yet another stern test. True to form the Scans had the better opening ten minutes but we were again tighter than a Scotsman in a bar at the back with Niel Torrance, deputising in goal, looking sound and gradually we gained the ascendancy. This was eventually translated into goals. Houghman opened the score to be quickly followed by tennis section heart-throb Howard Neville. This made it two nil at half time. The second half saw us continue to play some excellent football and goals from Willie Carruthers plus a second from Howard Neville saw us run out comfortable winners although the Scans did snatch a consolation goal. Five games into the season and our goal difference read For 22, Against 2.

The last league game at time of press brought us back to earth. Missing the experience of Aston, Oakins and Davin, the youth and pace of Roger Hough and the inspiration of the injured Captain Carruthers it was always going to be a hard game particularly as the Germans are always fired up for this fixture. We welcomed back Brian Lewis, Vaughan Elias and Bonecrusher Maynard to the

squad and introduced school teacher Mark Vicars to midfield for his debut and the new line up did us proud but not proud enough. Frank Hough opened the scoring with an opportunist goal before the Huns made it one all at half time when we failed to close them down from a corner. "Gerry" went 2-1 up early in the second half but substitute Colin Hastings made it 2-2 with almost his first touch of the game. In an end to end battle the Reichstag made it three two before Steve Casteldine equalised again with what was the best goal of the game, a raging 28 yard drive. We then appeared to be getting on top when out of the blue, or out of the floodlights to be precise, a cross beat the defence and the Germans new forward did a passing impression for the famous Gerd Muller with a slick turn and shot past a despairing Torrance to make it 4-3. Unfortunately that is the way it stayed and we suffered our first defeat. It has not been enough to topple us from Top Spot but it should serve as a warning that the game is not over until the Fat Lady sings.

CASUALS CORNER :

Not much to report this month. Although there were a few games we were a bit short on match reports. The only result I have is a 2-1 defeat by the Patana School Teachers.

Very much in Casuals mode was a representative over 35's game against a touring side from Ontario, Canada. The BC, Germans and Scans each provided five players and an indication of the high standard of veterans football in Bangkok can be obtained from our 10-1 victory. In a game that rarely went above strolling pace Brian Lewis struck a hat-trick whilst Steve Casteldine also made the score sheet.

MANILA TOUR :

The month saw the annual pilgrimage to the Philippines capital and this year again we had an over 40's veteran team and a team in the open competition. Absent member John Cochrane flew up from Australia to join the younger squad. The beer is still as good in Manila and we stayed in the Centrepoint Sundowner Hotel which is to be recommended for the budget tourist. Oh the football! Well the Vets did very well with a win, a draw and a defeat. The defeat was in the opening game where as our bad tournament luck would have it, we played a Hong Kong Chinese team, Ben United. The Chinese tend not to sample the beer to the same degree and it showed as after defeating us they went on to win the tournament with an unbeaten record. Our second game resulted in a 3-0 win against the Hong Kong Gazelles with Ron Aston scoring the tournament's only hat-trick on his birthday. In the final fixture we drew 1-1 with Hong Kong Dynamics who to my mind were the strongest Vets team, comprising all ex semi-profession-

als. Surprisingly however we were out on goal difference with the consolation we were then able to partake of the Carlsberg provided by tournament sponsors.

The young team had desperately bad luck also. They opened against last year's beaten finalists, Manor United and really should have killed the game but missed two "sitters" in the opening five minutes. Gradually Manor gained the upper hand and ran out three nil winners. In game two we had ninety percent of the pressure against a Swiss team from Kuala Lumpur but could not convert chances and suffered when the cheese makers sneaked a late winner. Day 2 saw the youngsters play three times winners Danish Dynamite from Hong Kong. By now we were conditioned to the beer and finally opened our scoring account with a Willie Carruthers' header. Unfortunately the Dynamites exploded with an equaliser and so we had to settle for one point to match the one goal. Beaten but by no means disgraced the young team had won many friends with their style of play. The tournament winner was Middlesbrough of Hong Kong.

Special thanks must go to Albert Roberts and his organising committee for another fine tournament and to Dereck Curry and Carlsberg the primary sponsor. With a waiting list for places it is hoped both teams have done enough to be invited back next year.

POSTSCRIPTS :

Well that was the year that was and as it closes we regrettably bid farewell to long standing goalkeeper Paul Barber, wife Pat and the four boys who all take the trail to Indonesia. Quiet spoken Paul has been a club stalwart for the past three years and Pat held the distinction of being the only female to grace the section committee - the oranges were great to. Bon voyage to you all. You will be missed.

As one section member leaves we welcome a new comer however in Daniel Bright. Casuals Captain and goalkeeper, Stormin Norman Bright's wife Caroline presented him with a beautiful baby boy, Daniel, during the month and our heartfelt congratulations go to both of them. Hopefully he won't drop Daniel as much as the ball.

Well before I go

How do you make anti freeze? Hide her nightgown.

The outraged husband discovered his wife in bed with another man. "What is the meaning of this?" he demanded, "Who is this fellow." "That seems like a fair question," said his wife, turning to her companion. "What is your name?"

This one is repeated from two years or so ago by request.

Brutus had just returned to Rome after another successful Christian killing expedition, one of the many he had

successfully completed. The emperor shook his head in disbelief as he stepped up to honour Brutus saying, "Well Brutus you have got every decoration that Rome can bestow, unless you would like to sample a new honour that we have been planning, it's called the Smartie Christian, and what it consists of is, the skin of a Christian with a zip up the front, so that it can be filled with smarties, so that when you are retired Brutus you can stop yourself from getting bored by counting the smarties."

Brutus accepted and so one day after he was retired, he felt bored so he retrieved his smartie christian from the cupboard, and unzipped it and poured out all the smarties and counted them, 10996, 10997, 10998, 10999 smarties altogether. A few days later Brutus was again bored so he got the smartie christian out of the cupboard and started counting, 10990, 10991, 10992, 10994 5 missing! He grabbed his wife and shook her, "Have you been touching my smartie christian." Mortified by fear she shook her head saying she thought she had seen Caesar slip surreptitiously away from the house only that morning. Brutus jumped onto his chariot and flew across Rome to the Senatus, stormed in and on seeing Caesar drew his knife and stabbed his emperor. With his dying breath Caesar muttered these immortal words, "ET TU BRUTE", to which Brutus angrily replied, "You liar, you ate five!"

I'm off on leave to Bonnie Scotland. Will be back next month.

Happy New Year.

'Scoop

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British Club Rugby Team

BRITISH GAS LEFT OUT OF LIST OF SPONSORS – SOCIAL SECRETARY DISMISSED – CHAIRMAN DIVORCED – APOLOGIES TO BRITISH GAS FROM RUGBY SECTION

Do they ever do something right? Blamed completely on Bea Grunwell of course, she will be sacked, hanged and quartered as from today's date.

Remember the list of sponsors and the apology in case she left anyone out? Well "Sorry" is just not good enough. She left one of our most important sponsors BRITISH GAS out.

British Gas has given tremendous support to the rugby section over the previous year, they sponsored shirts for the

section and always have their representative Kevin Chapman on hand to partake in a game or two. John Bueno - the man himself - has also proved to be a valuable supporter and now this.

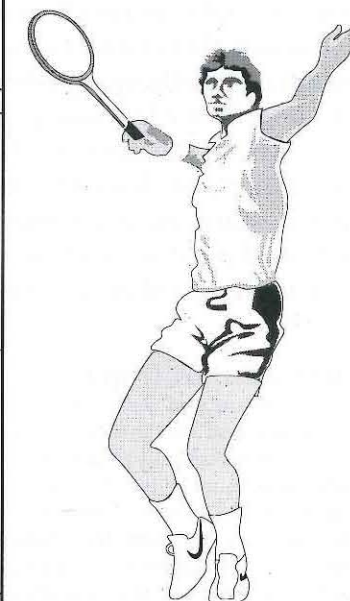
The Rugby Section wants to offer their sincere apologies to BRITISH GAS.

BRITISH GAS have donated a substantial amount to assist the Rugby Section in the purchase of a heart monitor for the premature baby unit at Siriraj Hospital.

At the time of going to print, the Section's Treasurer A. McDowell did not, yet, have the exact figures of money raised through the Annual Rugby Ball available. Publication of this and photographs of the Rugby Section handing over the monitor(s) will hopefully be in the next issue.

BRITISH CLUB – SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMME, JANUARY 1994

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
31 8-10 am Ladies Tennis 9 am BWG Mahjong 5-8 pm Squash Coaching 5.30-9 pm Happy Hour 7-9 pm Badminton 7-9 pm Tennis Practice					1 8-10 am Childrens Tennis 10-12 noon Tennis Coaching 4.30 pm Casuals Football	2 11 am-1 pm Badminton 1 pm Squash Handicap Mix-In 3-6 pm Tennis Mix-In 3 pm-7 pm Childrens Sports and Videos
3 8-10 am Ladies Tennis 9 am BWG Mahjong 5-8 pm Squash Coaching 5.30-9 pm Happy Hour 7-9 pm Badminton 7-9 pm Tennis Practice 8 pm New Members Night	4 7 am Ladies Golf 8 pm Bridge 7-9 pm Football Training 9 pm Gentlemen's Spoof	5 6-8 am Early Bird Tennix Mix-In 5-8 pm Squash Coaching 6-9 pm Teenagers Tennis Mix-In 6-9 pm Tennis Mix-In	6 7-9 pm Rugby Training 7-9 pm Badminton 6-9 pm Squash Mix-In	7 6-9 pm Tennis Coaching 8.30 pm T.G.I.F. – Live Music in Bar 9 pm Accumulator Lucky Draw	8 8-10 am Childrens Tennis 10-12 noon Tennis Coaching 4.30 pm Casuals Football Weekend Tennis Handicap Tournament	9 11 am-1 pm Badminton Weekend Tennis Handicap Tournament
10 8-10 am Ladies Tennis 9 am BWG Mahjong 5-8 pm Squash Coaching 5.30-9 pm Happy Hour 7-9 pm Badminton 7-9 pm Tennis Practice	11 7 am Ladies Golf 8 pm Bridge 7-9 pm Football Training 9 pm Gentlemen's Spoof	12 6-8 am Early Bird Tennix Mix-In 5-8 pm Squash Coaching 6-9 pm Tennis Mix-In	13 7-9 pm Rugby Training 7-9 pm Badminton 6-9 pm Squash Mix-In	14 6-9 pm Tennis Coaching 8.30 pm T.G.I.F. – Bogong Folk Group 9 pm Accumulator Lucky Draw	15 8-10 am Childrens Tennis 10-12 noon Tennis Coaching 4.30 pm Casuals Football	16 8 am - 1 pm Tennis Match - v - Silom Club 11 am-1 pm Badminton 3-6 pm Tennis Mix-In 3-7 pm Childrens Sports and Videos
17 8-10 am Ladies Tennis 9 am BWG Mahjong 5-8 pm Squash Coaching 5.30-9 pm Happy Hour 7-9 pm Badminton 7-9 pm Tennis Practice	18 7 am Ladies Golf 8 pm Bridge 7-9 pm Football Training 9 pm Gentlemen's Spoof	19 6-8 am Early Bird Tennix Mix-In 5-8 pm Squash Coaching 6-9 pm Tennis Mix-In	20 7-9 pm Rugby Training 7-9 pm Badminton 6-9 pm Squash Mix-In	21 6-9 pm Tennis Coaching 9 pm Accumulator Lucky Draw	22 8-10 am Childrens Tennis 10-12 noon Tennis Coaching 4.30 pm Casuals Football	23 11 am-1 pm Badminton 3-6 pm Tennis Mix-In 3-7 pm Childrens Sports and Videos
24 8-10 am Ladies Tennis 9 am BWG Mahjong 5-8 pm Squash Coaching 5.30-9 pm Happy Hour 7-9 pm Badminton 7-9 pm Tennis Practice	25 7 am Ladies Golf 8 pm Bridge 7-9 pm Football Training 9 pm Gentlemen's Spoof	26 6-8 am Early Bird Tennix Mix-In 5-8 pm Squash Coaching 6-9 pm Tennis Mix-In	27 7-9 pm Rugby Training 7-9 pm Badminton 6-9 pm Squash Mix-In	28 6-9 pm Tennis Coaching 8 pm Medieval Evening 9 pm Accumulator Lucky Draw	29 8-10 am Childrens Tennis 10-12 noon Tennis Coaching 4.30 pm Casuals Football St. Andrews Burns Night	30 11 am-1 pm Badminton 3-6 pm Tennis Mix-In 3-7 pm Childrens Sports and Videos



OPENING TIMES

CHURCHILL BAR	10 am-11 pm
LORD'S RESTAURANT	11.30 am-2 pm 6 pm-11 pm
POOLSIDE BAR	7.30 am-10 pm
FITNESS CENTRE	Mon-Sat 6 am-9 pm Sun + Hols 9 am-9 pm
THAI MASSAGE	Tues-Sun 9 am-5 pm

VENUES

ALL EVENTS ARE AT BRITISH CLUB EXCEPT THE FOLLOWING:-

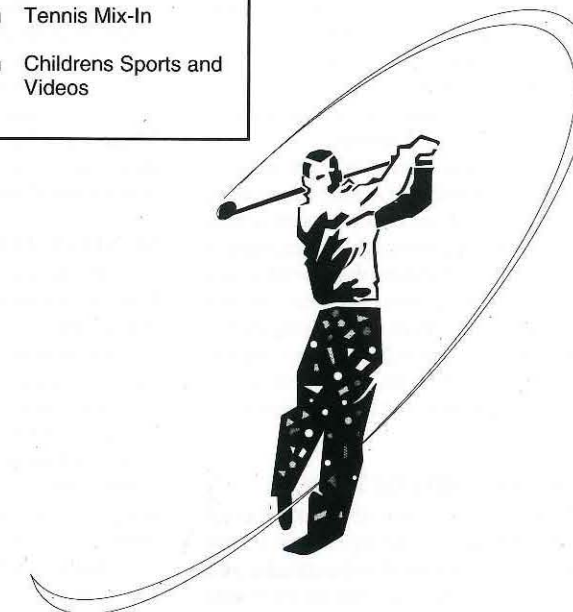
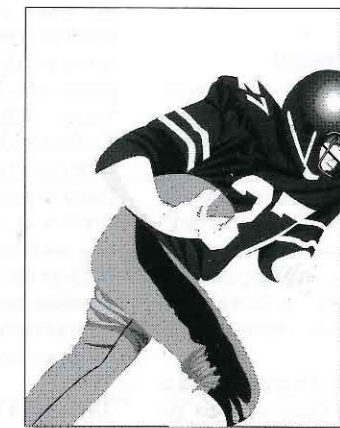
CASUALS FOOTBALL	– BANGKOK PATANA SCHOOL
BADMINTON (SUNDAYS)	– NEAR BANGRAK POLICE STATION
BADMINTON (MONS-THURS)	– SOI KLANG RACKET CENTRE
LADIES GOLF	– AS ADVERTISED

ALSO THIS MONTH

Squash League.

Mixed Doubles Tennis League.

Tennis Section Tour to Club Aldiana Jan 21-23.



SILKS TREK TO MOUNT EVEREST

Last year when Hazel Spencer showed her slides and told her story at a BWG lunch, quite a few people thought: "Wonderful, but this is not for me!" On the other hand a few brave lassies decided it was for them and they joined Hazel and Gary on a mountain walking expedition that would have left many of us breathless on the bottom of the great mountain. Jane Prichard wrote a diary, below some excerpts and photos, just to give you a taste of what it was really like.

FRIDAY 22ND OCTOBER

It's 9.35 am and we're sitting in the airport snack bar. Our journey to the airport was comfortable in Elsie Evans' van. We checked in, gave our Frequent Flyer ID cards (well I was the only one) and made our way through the Departure lounge. Hazel was greeted like a long-lost friend by the only, half-way, good looking Thai Immigration Officer and the we had a coffee and bun with our backs to the duty free perfume counter. Carol (Goldsby) has already been renamed "Norm" as she looks like Norman Wisdom in her hat. We are all wearing our Silks T-shirts and have agreed on what Silks actually stands for. Are you ready for this ...? Sexually Inactives Looking for Kinky Sherpas!!! We have not found any other backpackers we feel we can identify with yet. We are not at all ethnic enough. How long will it be before we start to look like them (Help! Never I hope).

Here Jane had a chance meeting with a balding beauty named Mark Pritchard who has a son called Jonathan and his middle name is William. What a coincidence!

3.30pm Local time - We are now in our hotel, the Shambala Guest House, very basic but pleasant and they served a nice cup of tea when we arrived. Kathmandu is wonderful - full of atmosphere with cows and goats running everywhere. As we drove from the airports the chances for shopping were everywhere, from carpets to t-shirts, I can't wait to spend some money. Had dinner at Alice's Restaurant and retired early.

SATURDAY 23RD OCTOBER

Woke up at 6.20am and dozed until 6.45, when Megan woke up. I took a look outside - noone seemed to be awake yet. We decided a cuppa sounded nice so I was sent downstairs clad in my silky nighty



The silks in their ethnic outfits

and trainers, to the amusement of other back packers to order "room service". Twenty minutes later, everyone emerged, just as the "waiter" was bringing Megan and I a cup of tea in bed.

The morning we started our shopping, I made the first purchase in Rupees - some hair mousse. We then bought our backpacks (colour co-ordinated of course).

Hazel and I went to the airport to meet the others who were arriving from UK. Their plane had not landed, so Hazel and I did our make up to make sure we looked ok to meet Roy and Dai (and the girls). We spotted them at last and gave them a hearty welcome. Hazel got a taxi with June and Mariana and I shared a very small van with Helen, Roy, Dai and Gary. Hazel was heard to be muttering: "Bitch!" as I fell into Roy's lap.

Later at night, after dinner, beers, an aerobics routine performed by Hazel, Megan got her pen and paper out to jot down any conversations I had with myself whilst sleeping.

SUNDAY 24TH OCTOBER

Woke up at 5.55am to the strains of Indian women wailing. Breakfast en masse, then we donned our walking boots for an hours walk to a monkey temple. We had to walk up several thousand steps to get there. Was this survival of the fittest? Megan and I decided it was ok to admit we were puffing and panting and stopped for a rest halfway up! Unlike in Bangkok's temples the grounds were strewn with litter.

Back to town where we purchased a recorder/flute to annoy Gary and to go with out ethnic look, which by the way is

not coming along, because we are all highly colour conscious and can't go anywhere without our lipsticks.

At 6pm we were picked up by the wife of a colleague of Megan's husband. She took us to their house where we met the Grandparents, 3 children of 2 cousins. Apparently these people were of the 2nd highest caste and spoke very good English. They told us all about arranged marriages and customs of the Nepalese. We were served with various snacks and beer (enough to feed an army) and just as we were about to leave, the main course arrived. Dahl and 3 different curries. We had a lovely time and felt very honoured to have been invited to someone's house. Back to the hotel where Hazel served laxatives for those of us in need and bed.

MONDAY 25TH OCTOBER

A great day with many visits to the loo even before 9am. Thanks Hazel! We hired mountain bikes to ride to Katan, we all wore our pink t-shirts. We looked around the beautiful old city and saw more evidence of the ritual sacrificing of goats etc, intestines draped over doorways. After lunch on our way back to Kathmandu, we went past a temple, where a cremation was taking place. The body was just covered in logs and bits of firewood, which someone lit with everyone watching. It made us all very quiet. Back at the hotel, we had a shower (worth mentioning as this was the last one for almost two weeks), a team meeting on the rooftop, backpacks packed and off to bed.

TUESDAY 26TH OCTOBER

Off to the airport as our flight is at

6.55am. Whilst we were having breakfast Gary was busy checking our tickets etc. We checked in through separate cubicles, males to one side, females to the other. When we came through we were informed that all flights to Lukela were cancelled due to too much cloud. So off we went, back to the hotel a bit depressed but lucky enough our rooms were still available. After showers, hairwash and make-up application we went out to dinner, Thai style, we had to take our shoes off, which was not very pleasant.

WEDNESDAY 27TH OCTOBER

Having had the dress rehearsal yesterday, we all got to the airport and had breakfast very smoothly. We were, however, very despondent as the fog in Kathmandu was terrible, we could not see each other, let alone the mountains. But at 9.45 our flight was called, a very emotional moment as we walked across the tarmac to our 20 seater plane. The trek was about to begin. We'd had a lovely holiday in Kathmandu, now for the real reason we're here.

The landing at Lukela was an experience not to be missed, as we flew up the valley with inches to spare on either wing. After organising porters and several flasks of tea, we set off. Nice, easy walking, mostly downhill (strange!) with a couple of short bursts up hill but not many. After a rest with tea and biscuits, we crossed a rickety bridge to get to our hotel - The 5 Star Hotel (Really!!). No electricity, freezing cold, a damp mattress on a plank of wood. The toilet was across a field and was the most disgusting we'd ever seen. That was the extent of our "5 Star" accommodation. We now all have nicknames and so do our sleeping bags.

Hazel aka Purple Haze, accommodation: Hilton

Jane aka Lassie, accommodation: The Kennel

Megan aka Hood accommodation: Sam Cocoon

Carol aka Norman accommodation: Morecombe

Mariana aka Marihuana accommodation: Sheraton

THURSDAY 28TH OCTOBER

Set off at 8.20am after breakfast of porridge and chapatis for a very long hard days walk to Namche. It was tough from the start. Uphill straight away, lots of yaks on the trail and lots of people. The yaks are very dangerous with their long horns and you have to move very quickly to one side when you hear them coming. Our trail took us over the river on another wooden bridge and then followed a pleasant route alongside the river which was an icy blue/green colour and fast flowing. We meandered our way to the National Park entrance (Sagamantha), this was where the



Barren but beautiful



Sometimes it all gets too much

real climbing started. 700 Metres of very hard scrambling up rocks, narrow paths and up, up, up!! I was amazed I could do it. We had a welcome cup of tea at the only teashop on the way to Namche and were told we still had an hours climb ahead of us. We had to cross another bridge and we reached Namche Bazaar at 3,440 metres. We had been drinking lots of water on the way to avoid dehydration and it was wonderful to reach the log cabin with all home comforts. Well, it was ice cold and no showers, but there was electricity and the toilets were not too bad!

Had food, played cards and off to bed.

FRIDAY 29TH OCTOBER

Rest day, we drew lots for turns in the shower, I "won", but swapped with



Jane on top of the world



Gary: "And then over that hill, down that valley...!"

Roy, I then swapped again so I was number 5. Do you have the feeling noone really wanted a shower. It was in a wooden hut, where the hot water is poured into an old tin on the roof, you then have a few minutes to soap, shampoo and wash before the water runs out. Standing on some muddy, slippery planks of wood, it is horrible when you take your clothes off. After my chance meeting with a wasp yesterday, my leg has now swollen up like a tennis ball. Megan has had a headache ever since we arrived. An American Doctor arrived at the lodge this afternoon, he looked at my huge leg (how embarrassing), he said it was not infected.

SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER

Megan still has a headache and there

was some tension this morning as we overheard June saying that she thought it was a bad idea to all wait for one person, we should leave her behind and get on with our trek. Gary's decision counts and he said Megan could rest and we would go on a days walk to Tami. It was very pleasant, walking through woodland and around the next valley. I have started taking antibiotics just in case my leg decides to play up.

Early to bed and ready to set off in the morning.

SUNDAY 30TH OCTOBER

My leg is better now, but I have woken up with flu, bad cold cough, yuk. Megan's head is still bad and she has made the decision to go back. Helen is going with her to Lukla and Dai and Megan will walk back to Jin, a very hard walk.

It was very bad saying goodbye to Megan, Dai and Helen and I was in tears, I felt very emotional as I was feeling low anyway. We walked and walked and walked. There was a very hard climb to Tinboche and everyone shared carrying my backpack to make it easier for me.

We stayed behind and watched some dancing in the temples as they were celebrating one of the festivals, spotted "Hazel's toilet", had a cup of tea with the Doc and walked 1/2 hour to Teboche only to find there was no room. Gary told us to walk to Panboche, about another hours walk. A very daunting thought, when we had walked so far already, though it would cut tomorrow's walk down, so on we plodded. At the lodge we climbed straight into our sleeping bags to keep warm.

* Editors note: In fact Megan had strained a neck muscle whilst training for the trek in Bangkok and this played up during the mountaintrek carrying a backpack etc. Megan was flown back to Bangkok shortly after this. Helen was an older lady who only wanted to go to this point, and Dai was one of the men who joined the Silks from Wales, who would pop up later on.

MONDAY 1ST NOVEMBER

I coughed all night and did not sleep very well. Breakfast of pancakes and we set off for Pherriche at 8.30am. It was a relatively easy walk with a smallish climb at one point. We were now at 4,200 m. It was very cold, but some of the group still had a shower or washed in the river. Too cold for me, I'll wear my dirty clothes. We listened to a talk on altitude sickness, a very serious affliction which must be tested straight away with descending to a lower altitude. The lodge is overrun with smelly backpackers, I am sharing a room with June, Valerie and Carol and Hazel and Mariana are in the dorm. We have met up with Doc again and have taken a vote as to whether he could join our group. Unanimously accepted. Tomorrow we are go-

ing on a little walk to acclimatize to this altitude.

TUESDAY 2ND NOVEMBER

Spent a very cold night in the room, had to sleep with my gloves on walked to the beginning of the Chhuking Valley. Got to the lodge, had some tea and sat in the sun. Not looking forward to bed tonight, as it was so cold last night. The porters are sleeping in the little room outside our room.

WEDNESDAY 3RD NOVEMBER

A big day today as we are walking to Lobuche. A tough walk and we are ascending to 4,930 metres. Hazel had altitude sickness in Lobuche last year and had to go back to Pherriche, so we were all crossing our finger in the hope all will be well this time.

We made it by singing songs to each other to do with mountains and went through the complete repertoires of Rod Stewart, the Cure, Elton John etc.

Arrived at the lodge tired and hungry.

THURSDAY 4TH NOVEMBER

Today is the day we have all been waiting for, we are climbing up to the top of Kala Pattar and look down on Everest Base Camp. This is why we have come on this challenging trip and this is the final test. So far all the climbs we've had to do pale into insignificance when we face climbing solidly for 2 hours upto 5,600 metres. I am as fit now as I have ever been and have lost a few kilo's in weight, so I know I can do it. We set off at 7.20 am into the cold air - around -5 degrees C - walked through a valley before climbing up and contouring around an enormous glacier and then into Horbershep for some biscuits and lemon tea. What a nice surprise, while we were all drinking our tea, who should suddenly appear over the hill but our hero, long lost love Dai. We couldn't believe our eyes, it had taken him three days to catch up with us after dropping off Helen and Megan in Lukla. It was 11am. After refreshments, we set off up the mountain. It felt like torture, that's all I can say. I was counting 50 steps, then stopping for a rest. Because of the lack of oxygen it is very difficult to make your legs work! This was the hardest thing I have done in my life, but when I finally made it to the top after 1 3/4 hours, it was worth it. We had to put all our warm clothes on as the wind had got up a bit, we took lots of pictures and I felt I could take on any challenge



We've made it!!

from now on and could get through anything, it was definitely very personal as I forced my way up the last 50 metres. This was not walking on a track but climbing up boulders which is very much more difficult.

Going down was wonderful, we were flying. We had some noodles and some chocolate and walked back to the lodge - a murderous trip of 3 hours.

Back in the lodge I rolled into my sleeping bag and went straight to sleep, it was 4.30pm.

FRIDAY 5TH NOVEMBER

We did nothing all day, stayed in our sleeping bags and only came out to get some food. The men, however, (Incl. Norman!!) went on an energetic hike up a couple of mountains.

SATURDAY 6TH NOVEMBER

Gary has proposed another challenge to us - a walk to Gokio via the Chold Pass. Being the fit Silks, we decided to go for it. We were up with the lark, bags packed and on our way by 7.15am. It was foggy, damp and miserable and I felt very weak. The first little slope we came to I was puffing and panting. Anyway, onwards we went where we reached one tricky bit and had the first breakdown of the day. Hotlips: "Oh, I'll never see my children again!" After we all reassured her that this was just the beginning and Gary swore he would not endanger our lives we went on. I threw a wobbler as well, more out of frustration than anything else, finding it very hard to put one foot in front of the other. After a few words of encouragement from Roy, up I went. We reached the beginning of the climb up the glazier at about 11.45am and the mere sight of the boulders and rocks sent me scurrying for a rock with my roll of toilet paper! Nobody warned me we had to do rock climbing, in fact my mum was most concerned that I might be mountaineering and not trekking. Well I am telling you, it was CLIMBING! I have never been very good at even scrambling over a few rocks at the beach and this was something else.



Jane's kissogram for Roy

I can honestly say that I would rather endure childbirth 10 times over, than go through that experience again. We reached the top at 1.15pm and were amazed at the snow. The glazier was completely covered, the sun was shining and it was beautiful. After a few snowball fights, we trampled through the snow for about 3/4 hours, we were up at 5,300m so the air was very thin. The descent was extremely funny, but not easy. Half the time, we had to slide down through the snow and ice on our bottoms. My thighs were really aching and I must have wished for a pair of skis a dozen times. It was pretty hairy coming down and when we got past the snowline we still had to climb down the rocks. Gary pointed out the way: "See that pinnacle on the horizon? We're climbing up there and over the top and the lodge is about 1 1/2 hours down into the valley." We argued bitterly that that was uphill again and over 2 hills. Marihuana who had been sick on the virgin snow and had started to deteriorate again, looked up in horror. "I can't make it guys", But with help of Dai and Roy she was pushed up the hills. The Doc was finding the going tough and was very worried his porter did not know where we were going. Every time we stopped he was heard to say through laboured breaths: "Has anyone seen my porter?"

It was obvious a bit later on that we would not make it back to the lodge so Gary suggested we stay at Thanya, we arrived there at 6.30pm, in the dark.

SUNDAY 7TH NOVEMBER

We walked for 10 hours, with help of David Bowie on the walkman, caused trafficjams with the yaks. Pete was having problems and was supported by Dai and Roy. Darkness fell and the torches had to be dug out of our backpacks. Back at the lodge, I put on my lipstick, puffed up my greasy hair and donned a sexy hat and I can honestly say I did not look as if I had been trekking at all.

MONDAY 8TH NOVEMBER

Another long walk to Lukla. We had

The majority of the way to Lukla from this point was uphill - so no rest for the wicked. Arrived at Panorama View Lodge at 5pm. I spotted a shop selling ethnic trousers, so I bought a pair for Hazel and myself. No electricity in the bedrooms, but it did have an indoor shower. We took it in turn to shower by candlelight. We were reasonably clean again.

TUESDAY 9TH NOVEMBER

Bags packed by 6.30am and breakfast with a good view of the airstrip. We were the 3rd flight out of Lukla but there was heavy fog in Kathmandu so all flights were delayed. I talked to one lady who had been there for 3 days, waiting to fly out! We played cards, wrote our diaries and caught the flight at 12.55pm after several hairy moments of dense fog and announcements of all flights being cancelled.

It was sad to say goodbye to the mountains but I was very happy to be on my way back to civilisation and a hot shower. When we landed all of us were surprised at the heat and went by taxi to the Shambala.

WEDNESDAY 10TH NOVEMBER

Today is Roy's birthday and we have plans for him tonight. Hazel and I wrote him a birthday card and pushed it under his door. After breakfast Hazel and I went shopping, we bought rugs, boxes, eggs, decorations etc. etc. In the afternoon after lunch, we bought cardigans, scarves, masks and tassels. At 4.30pm we met the others and went to the Monkey Temple to say thank you. We all stepped up the steps - so different from the first time around - and turned the prayer wheels at the top. Back at the hotel there was no hot water but no time to worry as we had to prepare for Roy's birthday party. I was voted to be the Kissogram and Mariana sewed the tassels onto my bra, which I was to wear over my t-shirt - Madonna style. Norman had written a lovely poem about Roy but it was a little too long for a Kissogram, so I made up a new version. Roy was completely surprised but very happy with this

time in the morning to do some shopping so Roy and I went to buy a jade bracelet for his sister. We left the lodge at 9.30am. Some of the group had left earlier, Dai, Pete, June and Hot Lips. We stopped for lunch just past the National Park entrance, it took nearly 2 hours. Just what we did not need. We had to run to make up time when we got out of the restaurant.

original present. I sure caused a riot in the restaurant with my original costume. After dinner we went to Tom's where Marihuana did a belly dance on the table and at 10pm when everything usually closes, the owner invited us to play pool in the backroom. A great end to a great day.

THURSDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

Only hot water in Room 310, so we all went there for our showers.

Spent the day shopping, had lunch with Roy in an Italian restaurant and played pool at Tom's. During dinner (our last one in Kathmandu) I looked around and as usual for me on the last day of any holiday, I got very emotional. I looked around the circle of friends I had made and it made me very sad to be going back to reality. Gary said some nice things about everybody during a few serious moments over dinner. Norman was seriously upset and had to leave the restaurant early.

FRIDAY 12TH NOVEMBER

Well, this is it. The end of a fantastic trip to the top of the world. We spent the morning packing, meeting up for lunch and dreaded the moment the taxis arrived to take us to the airport. In the plane, the last glimpses of the mountain were spectacular and it was amazing to think we were right amongst them a week ago.

On arrival in Bangkok we were all excited to see our families and were busy speculating on who would be there. It was a lovely surprise to see all our families waiting, complete with a "Welcome Home Girls" banner.

We all went home and relaxed under a proper hot shower.

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS

This trip was undoubtedly one of the best things I have ever done. It was almost one of the most physically demanding things I have ever done, along with childbirth!!! It was by no means luxurious - the toilers were the most disgusting things I have ever seen in my life and two showers in two weeks completely alien to our normal way of life. But the friends I made, along with everybody's team spirit made it all worthwhile and I would do it all again tomorrow if I could.

** EDITORS NOTE

The group had a bit of a hard time adjusting to normal life, Hazel almost throttled one of the packers in Villas and proceeded to push the pool caretaker into the pool after he had not turned up with the right chemicals again. Jane was still on the mountain after a week or so, luckily her mother was there to help out with the day to day life in Bangkok.

Gary stayed behind in Kathmandu and ran around a trek, and back to society they all joined the St. Andrew's society in their annual celebration of St. Andrew's Day.

Dear Bea,

In the December issue of Outpost I read a letter by Mr. James A. Reid which voices his concerns about the Sports Field Fund. Had his fundamental understanding of this matter been correct, then I too would share his concerns. However, it would appear that Mr. Reid has been misled. Perhaps you could print this reply in the next issue for Mr. Reid and anyone else who is under the same misunderstanding.

Firstly, the AGM last year was not loaded with Rugby players as those present will recall. In fact, there were very few there due to a rugby fixture on the same evening. This matter had previously been discussed at length by both the General Committee and Sports Committees. I might add that the suggestion to propose a Sports Field Fund was agreed unanimously by all concerned.

The idea behind setting up a Sports Field Fund was to establish a fund that could be used sometime in the future to provide an external facility for British Club use. One intended use was the playing of sports such as Soccer, Cricket, Golf and Rugby.

Part of each entrance fee paid to the Club is allocated to the Sports Field Fund. None of this money has been paid to the rugby section, or indeed any other section.

In regard to Mr. Reid's comments about the new General Manager being a rugby coach, this I understand to be incorrect. However, I do know that in the past he has been seen in the middle of a rugby field with a whistle in his hand.

Kind regards,

J.W. Grunwell
Chairman
BC Sports Committee

14th December 1993

The Editor
Outpost

Dear Bea,

I am writing in response to a part of the letter from James Reid (R11) published in the December issue of Outpost. I am anxious to clarify the situation concerning the levy now made upon new members Entrance Fees in line with a resolution passed at an E.G.M. held on 12th May 1992 and to which Mr. Reid alludes.

He is correct in saying that a levy of Bht 5,000 is now included in all Entrance Fees paid to the Club and this has, in fact, been the case since December 1992. He is, however, badly misinformed as to the intention of such a levy.

In order to clarify this situation I should like to quote from two communications sent out to all members at that time, which I believe, clearly outline the thinking behind the levy.

The E.G.M. was called following the receipt of a request from eight Club Members for consideration of a motion which in part stated:-

"That the General Committee sets as its priority long-term development goal the provision of external playing facilities to meet the needs of the sports sections whose requirements cannot be provided for on the club premises."

"The E.G.M. which was quite constitutionally convened by 8 members, approved a motion (by 58 votes to 49) to increase the membership entrance fee by a further Bht 5,000 and for this extra amount to be reserved in a "Playing Field Fund" to acquire at some future date, when the correct opportunity arises to purchase, lease or permanent use of shared facilities for British Club Members to play field sports."

It should be clear from this that this levy was never mooted nor intended to serve the interests of just one sports section but was established in order to try to provide facilities for the many activities in which our diverse membership and their families are interested but which cannot be catered to on our existing Club premises.

I hope this clarifies the thinking behind this levy not only for Mr. Reid but also to the many other members who may have held similar concerns to Mr. Reid either before or after reading his letter.

Finally, may I also say that the whole idea of General Meetings, be they Annual or Extraordinary, is to give the membership an opportunity to air their views and vote for what they want in the Club. To suggest that the interests of one faction of the Club have been unfairly forced on the rest of us because they chose to turn up to a General Meeting and support what they believed in, whilst the majority of the membership could not be bothered, is, I believe, totally out of court. Our Club will only be a reflection of what we all, both individually and collectively, are prepared to put into it and if the Club adopts, through its established democratic procedures, any resolution that the "majority" finds disagreeable then that same "majority" only has itself to blame for not standing up and being counted at the appropriate time.

Yours faithfully,

Dugal T. M. Forrest
(Club Development Committee)

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PAY YOU for the privilege

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NOTE: FROM JAN. 3RD OUR
NEW ADDRESS WILL BE:
8th Fl., Maneeya Center Bldg.,
518/5 Ploenchit Road,
Bangkok 10330. Thailand.

Medieval Banquet



Come all ye Lords, Ladies,
surfs and wenches

DATE: Friday 28th January

TIME: 7.30 – 8.00 p.m.

VENUE: BC Back Lawn

• ENTERTAINMENT •

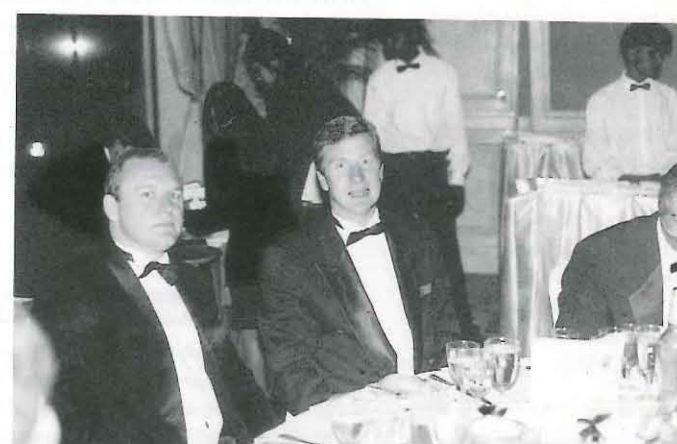
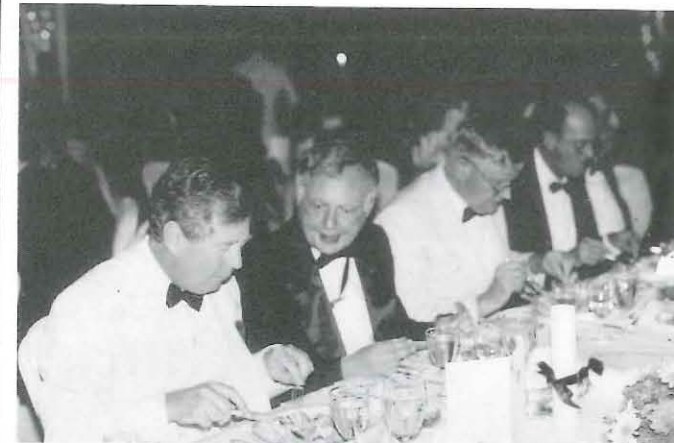
Music, jousting, court jesters
and Morrismen

PRICE: Baht 500.-

DRESS: Period (if you can)

TRAFALGAR NIGHT 1993

If a picture tells a thousand words.....



Good health

NIKKI BRADFORD rounds up the latest medical news

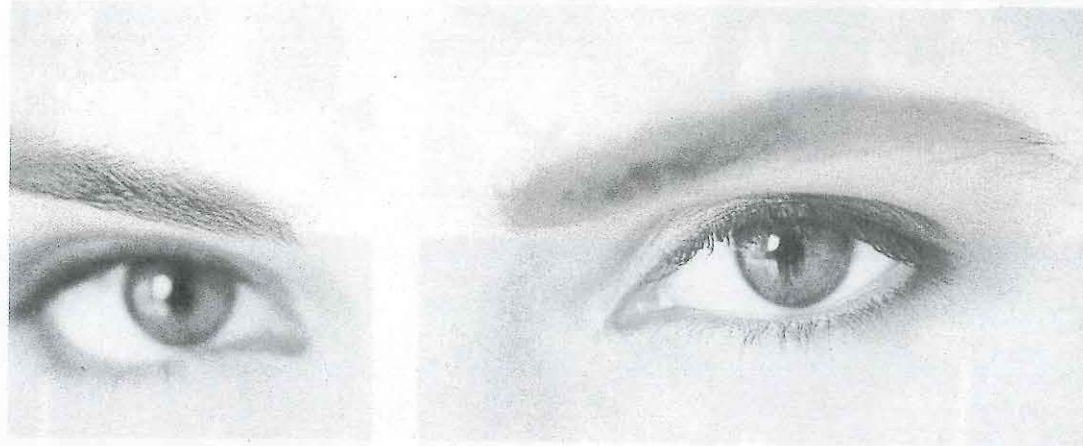
VDU safety

If you work with a VDU, you'll be glad to know that, thanks to a new EC directive, employers will soon be legally obliged to make such work more comfortable and safer. Not before time: although the Health & Safety Executive insists that VDUs are 'not a proven health hazard', numerous medical reports suggest they may be responsible for a variety of ailments, ranging from headaches and repetitive strain injury (RSI), to higher miscarriage rates and skin problems. The EC directive, to be implemented by the end of the year, requires adjustable screens and keyboards and appropriate lighting to be provided. Employees should have an eye test before starting VDU work, and breaks must be taken so that no one works at a screen all day.

• For practical advice on using screens safely, read VDU Terminal Sickness by Peggy Bentham (Green Print, £8.99).



NIKKI BRADFORD is a journalist specialising in women's health. Married with a son, she is the author of *The Well Woman's Self Help Directory*



Hope in sight

Macular degeneration is the most common cause of blindness in elderly people, but research is now under way at Moorfields Eye Hospital to see if zinc supplements can slow its progress. The disease is caused by a breakdown of the centre of the retina at the back of the eye, responsible for middle vision, so sufferers have only 'peripheral' sight – when they look at a face, they see just the outline, not the features. Zinc is found in high concentrations in the retina and is thought to be important for its wellbeing. It is also needed to metabolise vitamin A – which helps prevent night blindness.

For further information, send a large sae to the Macular Disease Society, Moonraker, Cobbetts Hill, Weybridge, Surrey KT13 2UA.

Short measures

GPs are measuring children's growth on charts that are 30 years out of date, says Tam Fry, of the Child Growth Foundation. Adult heights have increased in the past generation, so the average 10-year-old girl is now 139cm tall – not 137 cm as indicated. Luckily new charts are to be introduced in 1993, and improved treatment for growth problems can be expected too.

Specialists such as Dr Martin Savage, Paediatric Endocrinologist at St Bartholomew's Hospital, have successfully tried Growth Hormone Releasing Hormone (GHRH), which stimulates growth and hormone production; a single monthly injection may replace the daily one of Growth Hormone given. The bio-synthetic hormone introduced in 1985 is completely safe, stresses Tam Fry – tragic cases of contaminated Growth Hormone causing Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (Degeneration of the brain) are a thing of the past.

Patients at risk

Serious illnesses such as diabetes and even some cancers are being missed by doctors who label the symptoms psychological, says psychologist Ellen Goudsmit.

'Psychologisation is a common practice, but it puts patients' lives at risk and undermines their confidence in doctors,' she says. 'Stress does affect illness, but doctors need to eliminate other causes.'

If you're told that your illness is due to stress or nerves and feel this is unfair, ask for a second opinion. If your doctor is reluctant to refer you, call a help organisation such as the Medical Advisory Service (071-242 1505) or the Patients' Association (081-981 5676).

Prevention is better than cure

• You can cut your risk of stomach cancer – the sixth most frequent cancer in Britain – by 30%, simply by eating one piece of fresh fruit a day, says Dr David Forman of The Imperial Cancer Research Fund. And Kay Tee Khaw, Professor of Clinical Gerontology at Cambridge University Medical School, says an extra daily serving of fruit or vegetables is linked to a 40% reduction in the risk of stroke – good reasons to raise your intake.

• A vaccination programme against chickenpox should be implemented by the year 2000, says Dr Norman Begg, Consultant Epidemiologist at the Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre – good news for the 635,000 children who catch it each year because although chickenpox usually causes only temporary discomfort, serious complications may follow.

REVIEW

NEWS • FILMS • DINNER DATE • CAREERS • BOOKS • REPORT

THE WORD IS . . .



SEX WAR SEX CARS SEX

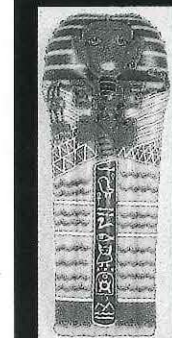


BACK TO THE 1960S

'The Sixties: Art Scene In London' aims to illustrate the interaction between popular art and the avant-garde by bringing together work such as Peter Blake's *Sgt Pepper* album cover with David Hockney and Howard Hodgkin classics. At London's Barbican Art Gallery from 11 March to 13 June; call 071-638 4141 for more details.

THE VEND OF AN ERA

Life's essentials – such as beer, burgers and sushi – have been available from vending machines in the US and Japan for a while now, and even the much sought-after French-fry machine has become a reality. Meanwhile, the UK's slumbering vending business is also moving up-market; machines will soon be able to deliver three-course meals. However, the fact that early test versions were equipped with their own fire extinguishers did little to inspire confidence in potential diners.



HOW DEATH BECOMES THEM

American nip-and-tuck addicts can now go one step further and become immortalised. Scientist John Chew, from the college of Boca Raton in Florida, has redeveloped and modernised the Ancient Egyptian technique of mummifying corpses. This alternative

to burial or cremation entails little more than a cocktail of chemicals, a wrap of gauze, a coat or two of polyurethane, plus fibreglass and bandages, for an authentic mummified feel. Already 140 people have signed up for the treatment which costs, with bronze sarcophagus thrown in, around £20,000.

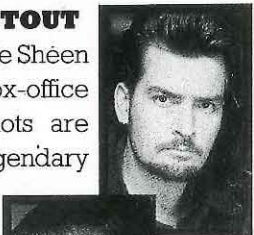


DATA MATING

Searching for the ideal partner is a tricky enough prospect, but even after you have found him or her, the post-coital contemplation of the physical attributes of prospective children is no less strenuous. Now the wily Japanese have developed a computer process that lets you see what your future offspring might look like, before you make the final commitment.

HOLLYWOOD SHOOTOUT

Kevin Costner and Charlie Sheen are squaring up for a box-office showdown. The hot shots are both set to star as legendary gunman Wyatt Earp (Joel McCrea's 1950s version, below), in rival movies. Costner starts filming his \$50 million movie for Warner Brothers next May, while Sheen and Universal are shooting with a paltry \$38 million in March.

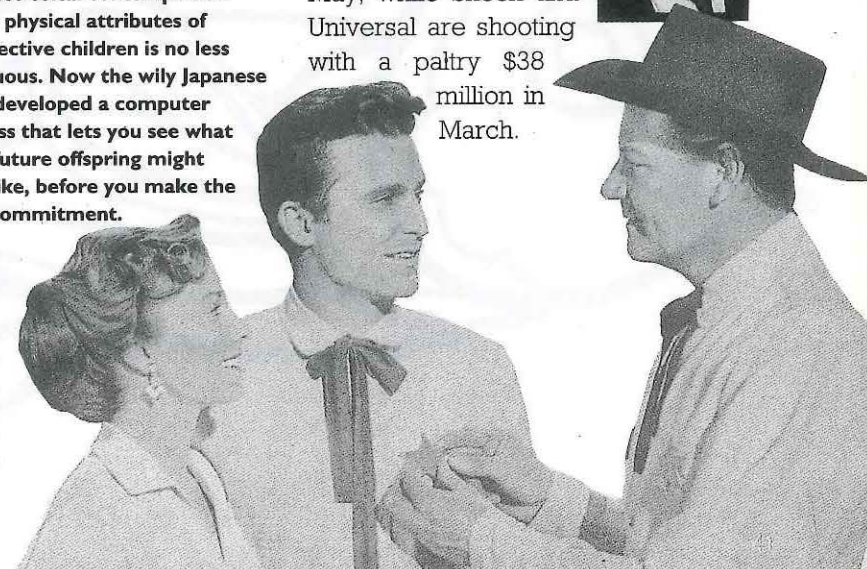


REUNITED The three surviving members of the Beatles are reuniting for a ten-part BBC TV series, to be screened in late spring.



The documentary marks their first musical collaboration since they broke up in 1970.

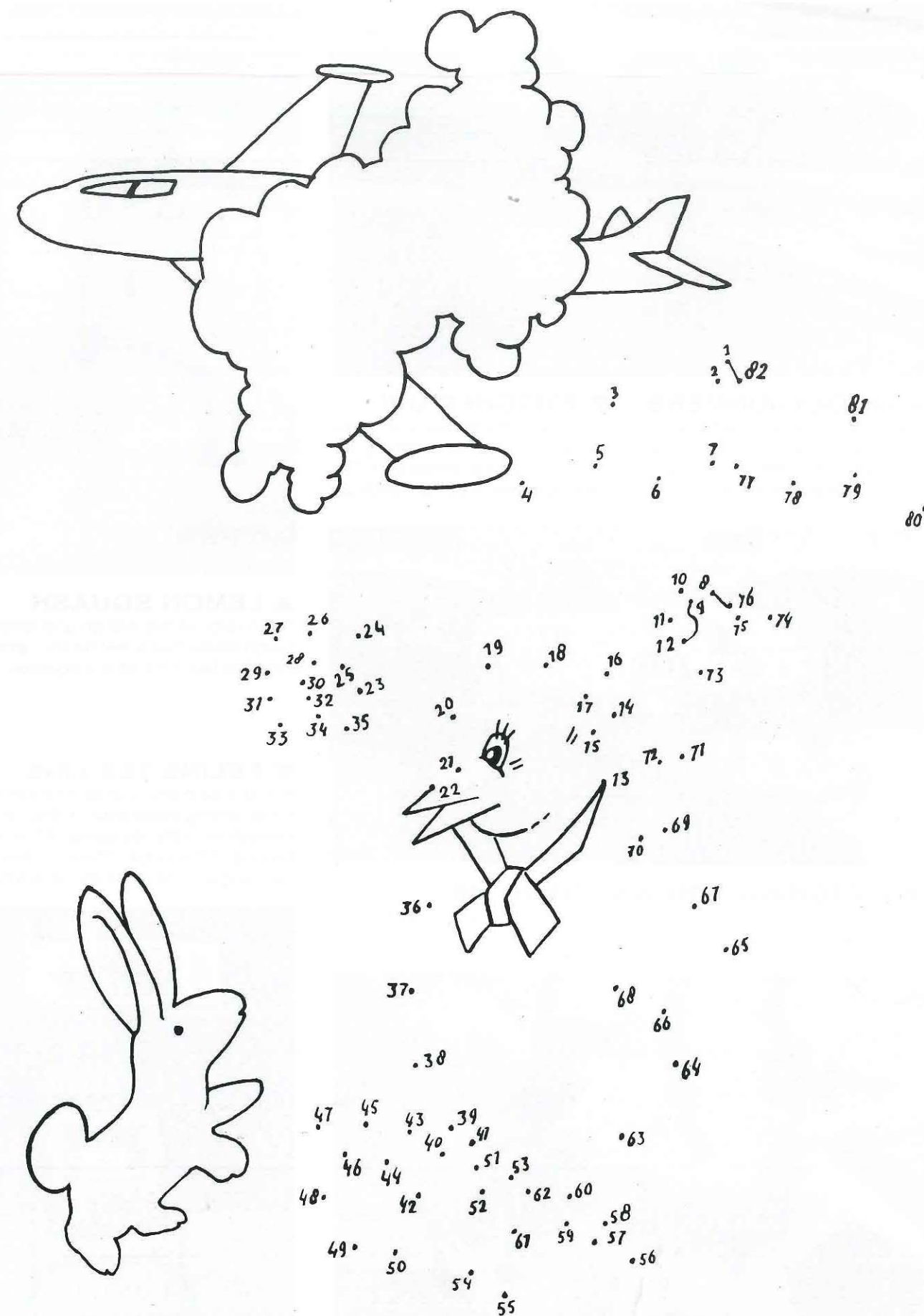
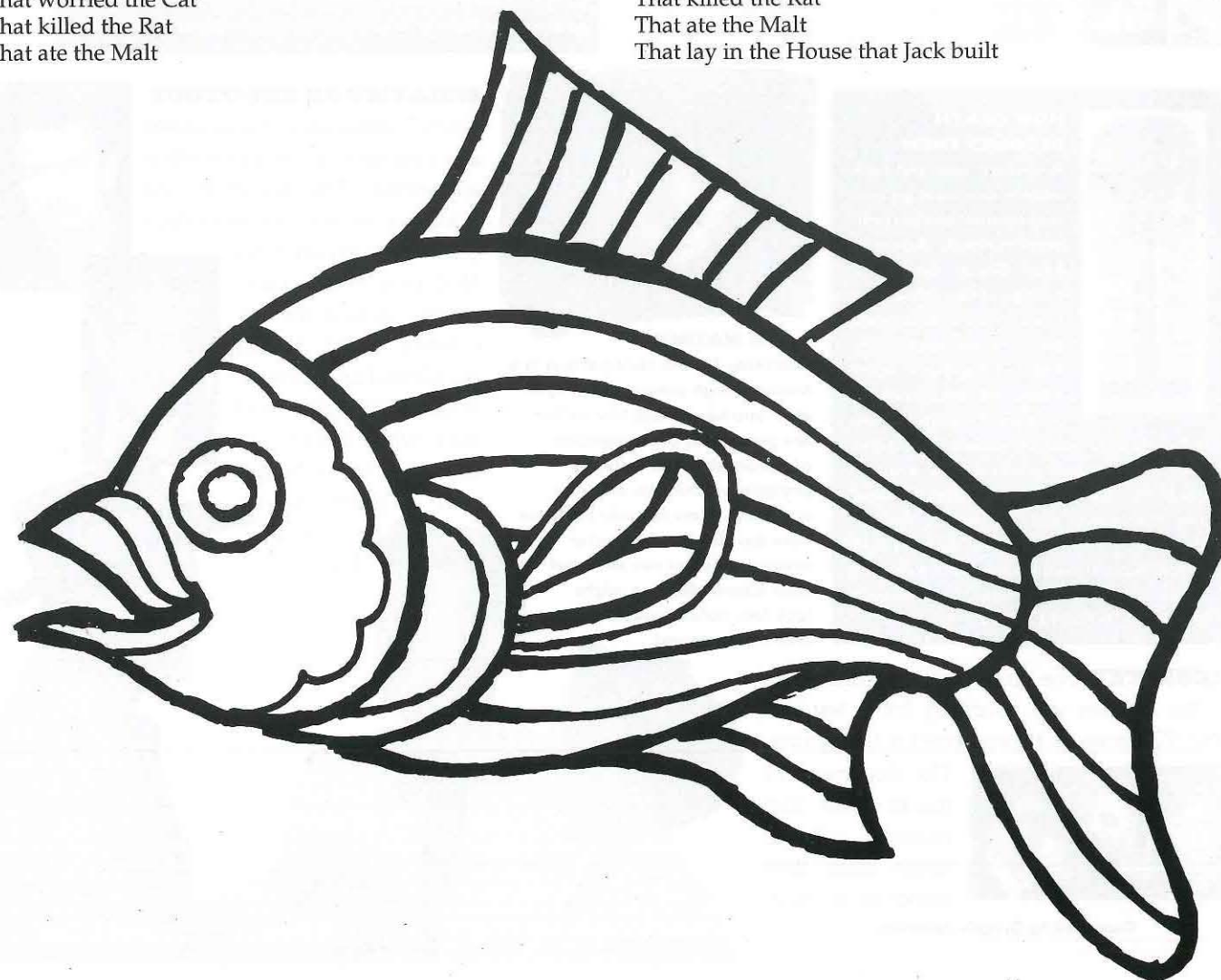
Compiled by Crispin Jameson

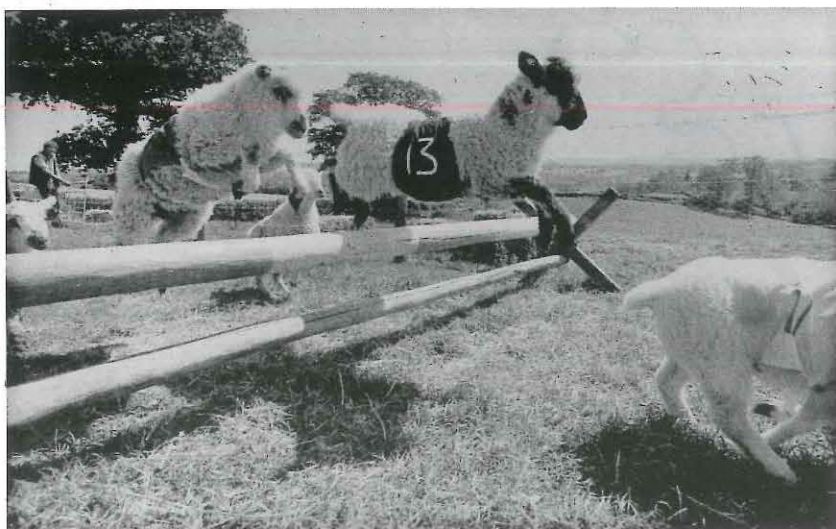


The House that Jack built

This is the House that Jack built
 This is the Malt
 That lay in the House that Jack built
 This is the rat
 That ate the Malt
 That lay in the House that Jack built
 This is the Cat
 That killed the Rat
 That ate the Malt
 That lay in the House that Jack built
 This is the Dog
 That worried the Cat
 That killed the Rat
 That ate the Malt
 That lay in the House that Jack built
 This is the Cow with the crumpled horn
 That tossed the Dog
 That worried the Cat
 That killed the Rat
 That ate the Malt
 That lay in the House that Jack built
 This is the Maiden all forlorn
 That milked the Cow with the crumpled horn
 That tossed the Dog
 That worried the Cat
 That killed the Rat
 That ate the Malt
 That lay in the House that Jack built

That lay in the House that Jack built
 This is the Man all tattered and torn
 That kissed the Maiden all forlorn
 That milked the Cow with the crumpled horn
 That tossed the Dog
 That worried the Cat
 That killed the Rat
 That ate the Malt
 That lay in the House that Jack built
 This is the Priest all shaven and shorn
 That married the Man all tattered and torn
 That kissed the Maiden all forlorn
 That milked the Cow with the crumpled horn
 That tossed the Dog
 That worried the Cat
 That killed the Rat
 That ate the Malt
 That lay in the House that Jack built
 This is the Cock
 That crowed in the morn
 That waked the Priest all shaven and shorn
 That married the Man all tattered and torn
 That kissed the Maiden all forlorn
 That milked the Cow with the crumpled horn
 That tossed the Dog
 That worried the Cat
 That killed the Rat
 That ate the Malt
 That lay in the House that Jack built



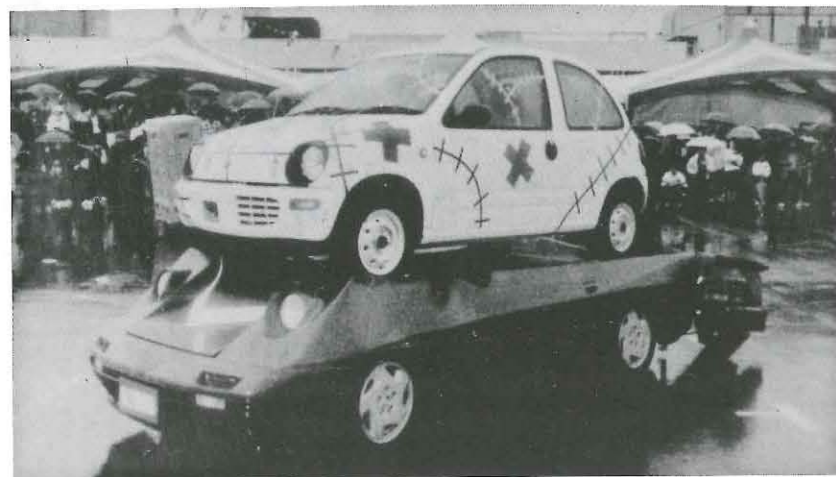


▲ WOOLY JUMPERS

Chop chop: these lambs will be in for a roasting if they don't finish in the Lamb National – designed to separate the sheep from the goats!

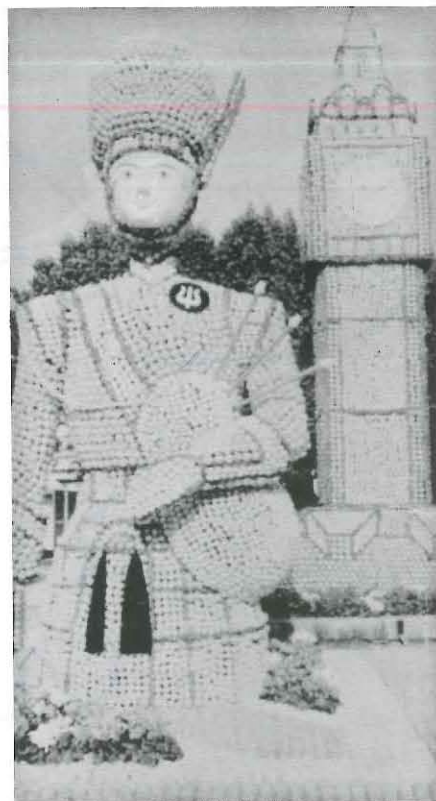
▼ STITCHED UP!

The owner of this doctored car got the needle when it came to parking, but eventually got the thread of it. The stacking system is a bit of a stitch-up!



▼ WATCHING YOU WATCHING ME...

"Lens me your camera, mate, and make it snappy! We lemurs like to focus on the future and need maximum exposure."



▲ LEMON SQUASH

The creator of this orange and lemon design clearly had a zest for life – even if the fruit found it a bit of a squeeze.

▼ FELINE TEA LINE

Human customers could be in for a bit of a hair-raising experience if they find themselves in the tea queue in front of the king of the jungle. There's a mane chance there'll be claws for complaint.



Cricket Commentator speak A guide to interpretation

This young man has caught the eye of the England selectors. *Often reaches double figures.*

He's always prepared to try something new.

You don't often see the wicket keeper bowling.

That must have been very close.

He was out.

He's certainly got the batsmen puzzled.

He hasn't got a ball on the wicket in the last three overs.

He has the tendency to sacrifice accuracy for that extra bit of pace.

Another wide.

My old mother could've caught that in 'er pinny.

Expert analysis by Geoff Boycott.

The batsmen should be in danger here.

Tea interval.

Unorthodox, but effective.

Ball bounced off the batsman's helmet and went for six.

There's a couple of bouncers that shouldn't trouble the batsmen.

Weak joke about a streaker.

Let's have a look at some highlights from the last series.

Rain stops play.

Ten commandments for footballers.

Thou shalt not take the name of the referee in vain within his hearing.

Thou shalt not steal ten yards in a free kick situation.

Thou shalt not bear false witness against the opposition's No.5 to get him sent off.

Thou shalt honour thy manager, thy trainer and the terms of thy contract.

Thou shalt train for five days and on the sixth go out and do the business.

Thou shalt turn up for extra training on the seventh day if thou hast failed to do the business on the sixth.

Thou shalt have no other gods before the one true god known as Work Rate.

Thou shalt speak to nobody without first getting an agent.

Thou shalt not indulge in off-the-ball incidents if the TV cameras are there.

Thou shalt not covet thy club captain's sponsored Vauxhall Senator.

Ten Presidential put downs

Gerry Ford is a nice guy, but he played too much football with his helmet off. (Lyndon Johnson)

Washington could not tell a lie, Nixon could not tell the truth, Reagan could not tell the difference. (Mort Sahl)

I would not want Jimmy Carter and his men put in charge of snake control in Ireland. (Eugene McCarthy)

Lyndon Johnson's strategy is too slick to talk about and so subtle that only a fellow con man appreciates it. (I F Stone)

Do you realise the responsibility I carry? I am the only person standing between Richard Nixon and the White House. (John F. Kennedy)

If I talk over people's heads, Ike must talk under their feet. (Adelaid Stevenson on Dwight D Eisenhower)

How can they tell? (Dorothy Parker on being told that Calvin Coolidge was dead)

We've got the kind of president that who thinks arms control means some kind of deodorant. (Pat Schroeder on Ronald Reagan)

Gerald Ford was unknown throughout America. Now he's unknown throughout the world. (Anon)

He told us he was going to take crime out of the streets. He did. He took it into the damn White House. (Ralph Abernathy on Richard Nixon)

Ten catty remarks

A cat will dole out just enough affection to ensure a continuing supply of food. (Joshua Thomas)

Cats are irresponsible and recognise no authority, yet are completely dependent on others for their material needs. (PJO'Rourke)

Cats, like men, are flatterers. (Walter Savage Landor)

If a dog jumps on to your lap it is because he is fond of you, but if a cat does the same thing it is because your lap is warmer. (A N Whitehead)

The trouble with a kitten is that eventually it becomes a cat. (Ogden Nash)

Cats seem to go on the principle that it never does any harm to ask for what you want. (Joseph Wood Krutch)

People with insufficient personalities are fond of cats – such people adore being ignored. (Henry Morgan)

When I play with my cat, who knows whether she is not amusing herself more with me than I with her? (Michel de Montaigne)

A dog ... wants to please everybody – a cat really doesn't need to know that everybody loves him. (William Kunstler)

What cats most appreciate in a human being is not the ability to produce food, which they take for granted, but his or her entertainment value. (Geoffrey Household)

Vital statistics - in an average life you will....

Spend 12 years watching television

Use 2,574 rolls of toilet paper

Walk 150,000 miles

Eat 7,800 loaves of bread

Sleep for 25 years

Take 13,650 baths

Shed 300lb of skin

Go through 675 pairs of underpants

Blink 682 million times

Flush the toilet 109,200 times

Bar charts - Britain's ten oldest chocolate bars

Fry's Chocolate Cream (1875)

Cadbury's Dairy Milk (1905)

Cadbury's Bournville (1908)

Cadbury's Flake (1911)

Fry's Turkish Delight (1914)

Cadbury's Fruit and Nut (1921)

Terry's 1767 Bitter Bar (1922)

Cadbury's Crunchie (1929)

Cadbury's Whole Nut (1930)

Terry's Waifa Bar (1934)

Ten New Year's resolutions you never keep

To write in your diary every day

To make a note of where you put the Christmas decorations

To spend less time reading the Sunday papers

To learn a foreign language

To tidy your desk every night before going home

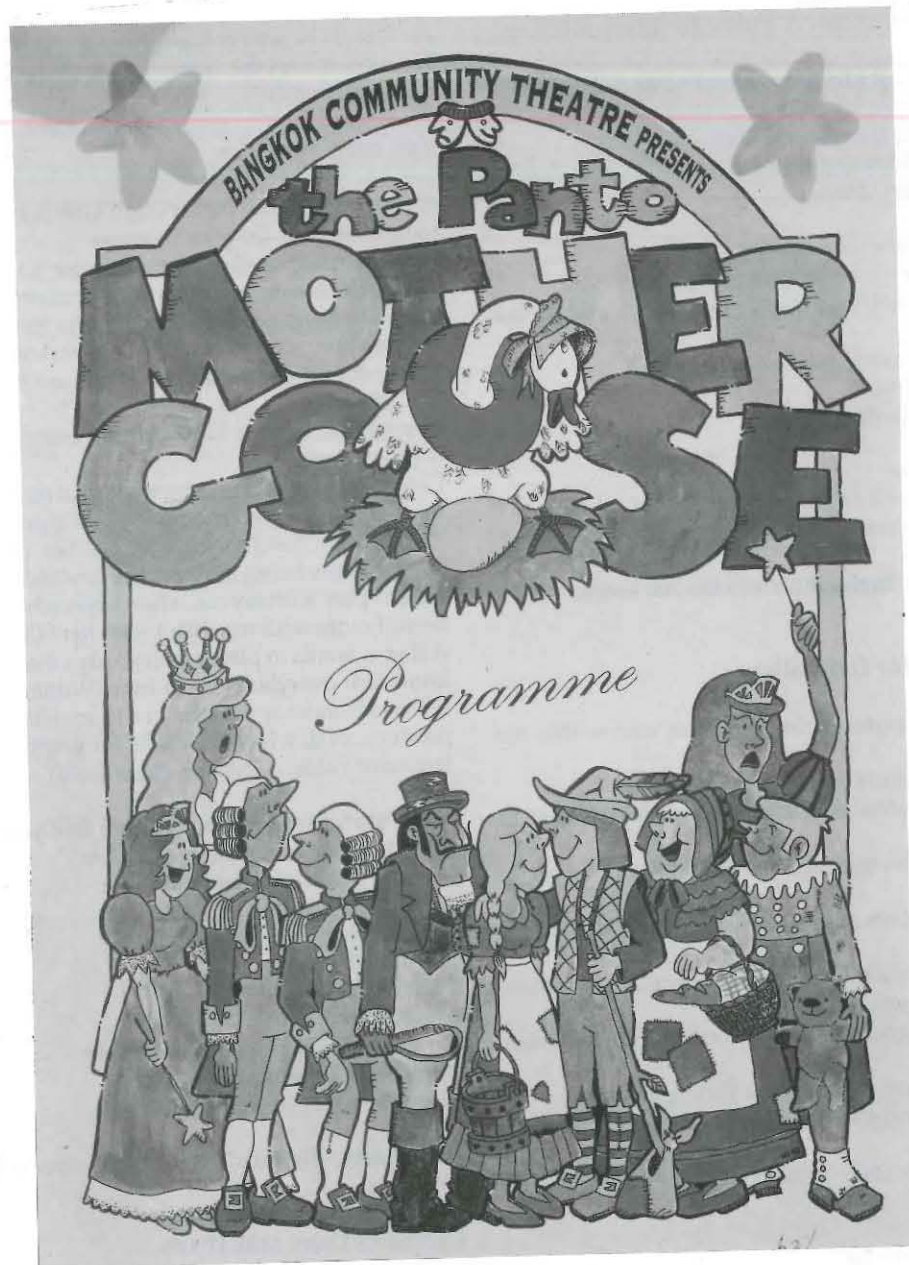
To go away for Christmas next year

To start writing a novel

To finish the one you started reading this year

To do something about the damp patch in the bathroom

To give up making resolutions



PANTOMIME

On 10th, 11th and 12th December the Bangkok Community Theatre presented a highly successful rendition of MOTHER GOOSE to a keen audience of children and adults.

The panto was full of action, puns for young and old. The producer of this show Angela Mitchell did an excellent job getting this show on the road, com-

pliments also to the directors: Graham Taylor (music), Louise Truslow (children), Richard Hopkins (music - children), and stage manager Graham Spencer.

The set designed by Lorraine Hyde was excellent and the costumes designed by Rungtiva Esichaikul were very impressive.

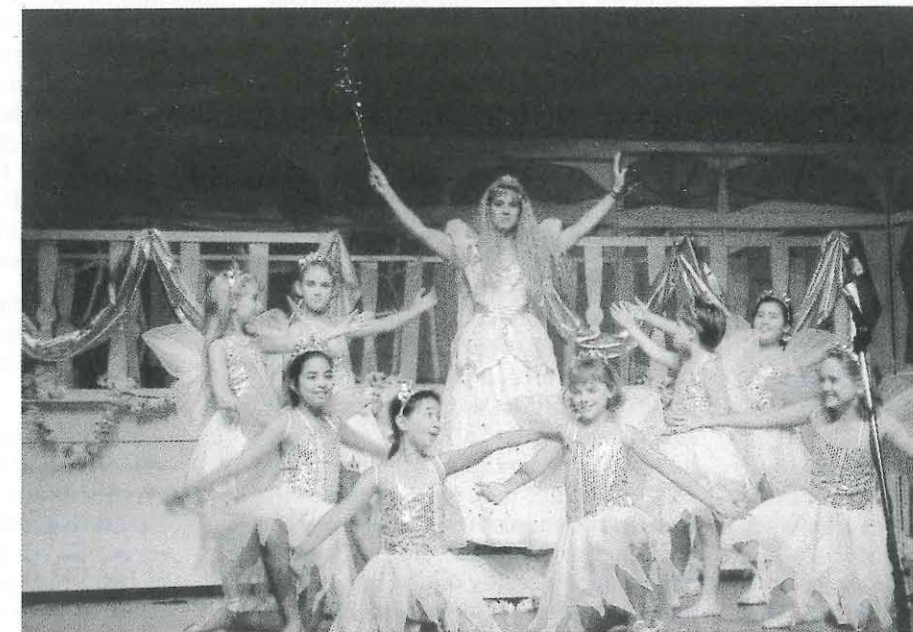
The children appearing in the panto did a wonderful job as faireys, school-children and slithering monsters by the Witches Pool.

Mr. Jonathan Truslow's Mother Goose has left a permanent impression on a very receptive audience, his dives in the Witches Pool were daring to say the least and he has never looked better in his "religious" outfit: "Low and behold".

Jack Dunford as Billy, did a good job with audience participation and had children (and their parents) screaming for Billy every time someone went near his teddy. The Fairy Discord, must have surely lost her voice after so many appearances, her witches laughter and screaming sent people scurrying for cover. Pam Harrison was excellent as the Fairy Queen.

The rest of the cast, too many to mention otherwise there is no room for photographs, all made us want to go and see the next BCT performance. Well done!!!

Should you wish to join BCT come to the British Club on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm when they have their Club Night.



To DRIVE OR NOT To DRIVE

That is a question which in Bangkok I am more than happy to leave you to answer. However, if you do own a motor vehicle, you will no doubt be very anxious to ensure that it stands the best possible chance of surviving the daily traffic jams alternating with race meetings, for which Thailand is well known.

Oddly enough, conventional insurance wisdom starts not with your own vehicle, but rather what damage you could do with it, and especially the bodily injuries you could cause. Thailand is only just introducing effective legislation in this regard.

In most countries you are required to insure against your legal liability for bodily injury to other road users, arising out of the operation of your motor vehicle. Many countries, such as in the EEC, have extended this to include liability for property damage as well.

Those other road users are often referred to as "third parties", with you (the Injured and the insurer being the first two parties to the insurance contract.

Now we come to the bad news. Motor insurance is considered unprofitable by many insurers in Thailand, which may come as no surprise. The significance of this is that historically it has been relatively difficult to buy Motor Insurance, especially if you have no other insurance placed with the insurer concerned.

This is changing with the recently introduced Protection for Motor Vehicle Accident Victims Act, which is more commonly referred to as Compulsory Motor Insurance or CMI. This is intended to make it a requirement that all vehicles are insured to the minimum standard specified. In simple terms, the Compulsory cover includes:

"No fault" liability for medical and/or funeral expenses up to Bht 10,000 per person for vehicle occupants and others involved in an accident.

Third Party Liability cover, up to

another Bht 40,000 per person and for most vehicles Bht 5,000,000 per accident.

Under the new law, insurers who are licensed to underwrite Motor business are not permitted to decline to give you the Compulsory cover, or to negotiate special terms or premiums. These caveats do not apply to optional or voluntary covers.

You may have been confused by recent events, which I shall now try to clarify for you. The position is that the new law has been in effect since April 1993 for all new or transferred vehicles. If you are planning to buy a new car, you will not be able to register it without the proof of premium payment receipt issued by an insurer.

If you already own a vehicle, then whilst the new law has been enacted, it is not being enforced by the police until January 1994 (March 1995 for Motorcycles). Make sure that thereafter your windscreen has the square green "sticker" clearly displayed at the bottom near-side corner. The fine for forgetting is Bht 2,000, increasing to a minimum of Bht 10,000 if you have no insurance.

Moving on to optional or voluntary Motor insurance, a policy which only covers liability to third parties is, not surprisingly, called a Third Party Only Policy. In Thailand they are now being used to "top up" the Compulsory Cover. Whereas overseas these policies are often issued with an unlimited amount of indemnity for bodily injury, here many insurers prefer to specify a much lower limit for any one accident, whether relating to injury or property damage. This merely reflects the level of compensation (low by international standards) normally paid here to accident victims, and for the technically-minded, anticipates future limitations in the world's fast-changing reinsurance markets.

One step up from this is Third Party, Fire & Theft, which adds to the basic Policy cover for loss of or damage to your own vehicle caused by fire or thieves.

Top of the line is Comprehensive cover. In Thailand the media like to call this "first class" insurance. This also covers damage to your vehicle from many other causes, the most notable of

which is traffic accidents.

For voluntary covers, there is a strong probability that you will be asked to bear a proportion of every claim, most notably for damage to your own vehicle. This known in insurance jargon as an "Excess" or "Deductible". If you are entitled to a "No Claim Discount" from any previous insurer, here or overseas, you may be able to negotiate one in Thailand, if you can show documentary evidence.

Motor insurance produces a lot of claims, and in the face of Thai culture you need to behave carefully and calmly should you be involved in an accident. Usually in serious cases it is necessary to call the police to the accident scene, where they may be inclined to act as judge and jury. If your insurer offers a 24 hour claims adjusting service (not all do) - use it by phone pronto. The Adjusters are used to dealing with awkward situations, and will steer you clear of trouble. They can fix problems that you might not even know existed!

There are two very important things you must remember:

1. Do not "flee the scene" as this is an offence and you will be presumed to be responsible for causing the accident.
2. Avoid admitting liability, otherwise you will be in breach of the Policy conditions and not be able to claim. I know that is easier said than done, especially if in fact you were partly at fault, but saying "I'll pay" will open all sorts of flood gates. You should take the approach "I'll refer it to my insurers - they will handle everything for me."

Next time I will outline some of the problems you may have to face when its time to leave Thailand.

About the author

Derek Pratt, a Fellow of the Chartered Insurance Institute, is the Technical Director of Commercial Union Assurance Company (Thailand) Limited, one of the leading insurers in Thailand. Derek has worked for CU for over 25 years, including 19 years in Asia. Now on his second tour in Thailand, Derek joined the British Club in 1978.

Sterling Investments hit 46.9%

From January 1st till December 9th, 1993, World Portfolio's Sterling investments have returned 46.9% for more than three quarters of our clients* - eclipsing our overall 1992 return of 23.5% on Sterling.

This while the UK market has risen 14% over the same period and bank deposits are returning just 5%.

We believe our superior mixture of service and performance has a lot to do with this success.

Because at World Portfolio we believe in being accountable for our failures as well as our successes.

So, if your investment doesn't meet or exceed mutually agreed quarterly targets, our fee reduces to 0.125%, or just 0.5% a year.

And we keep you informed.

All our clients receive full monthly statements by the 10th of the following month and can request daily telephone appraisals if the heat comes on.

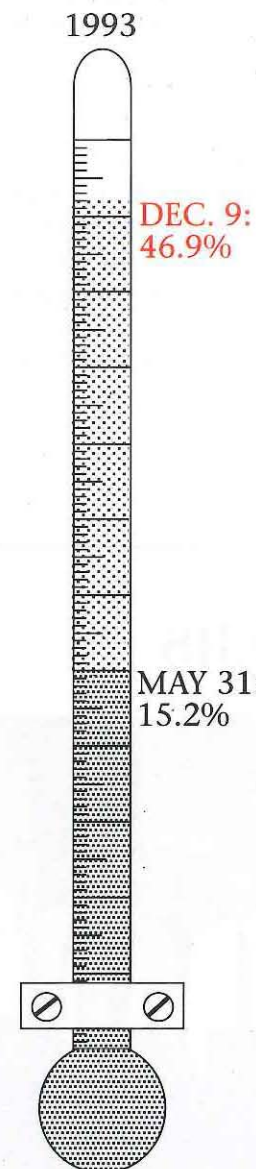
Your investments can also be moved in or out of stockmarkets on a daily basis and encashed five days a week without penalty.

Thus, far from the market, you enjoy maximum flexibility as well as a high degree of personal control.

If you'd like details about how World Portfolio can perform for you, with absolutely no obligation, no unsolicited phone calls or unexpected visits, just fax your business card to our new number 652 0733.

Or call and speak to Peter Downs personally on new numbers 652 0730, 652 0731 or 652 0732.

**Of the remainder, 15% returned 35% p.a. and 9% returned 23% p.a.*



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And a bright New Year is about to begin...

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

I trust we all had a great Christmas and New Year season. I stayed in Thailand this year, and although I've been away from England for almost twelve years now, I still cannot somehow believe it's Christmas unless the weather is dark, cold and miserable. I guess I shall just have to keep trying.

Now it's time for the new year resolutions. Mine as always are likely to be broken within the first few days of January. Hopefully you will be of stronger resolve and will also have added to use the British Club more often as one of your resolution.



As for the Club itself, I believe we will be trying to get the basics right in 1994. That is good quality food and beverages at reasonable prices, a friendly and efficient staff, well taken care of by the Club, a clean and safe environment for all to

enjoy and most importantly, a place to meet and make new friends.

We are well aware of the many new clubs springing up around town and we will need to excel in the areas mentioned above if we are to maintain our traditional place at the heart of the British Community and its friends in Bangkok.

Let me finish this short note by wishing you all everything that you wish for yourself in 1994 and let us hope it's a great year for everyone associated with the British Club.

Nigel Oakins
Chairman

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mike O'Connor

Finance
235-1560 (O)

Joe Grunwell

Sport
541-1970 (O)
541-1436 (F)
258-9509 (H + Fax)

Alex Forbes

Personnel
541-1970 (O)
541-1436 (F)

Nigel Oakins

(Chairman/Personnel)
240-3700 (O)
240-3679 (F)
258-8228 (H)

Des Keane

(Hon/Treasurer/Personnel)
256-7474 (O)
256-7473 (F)

Dugal Forrest

(Vice Chairman)
398-3807 (O)
399-1564 (F)
312-5656 (H)

Maurice Lamb

(Entertainment/Sport)



272-4530 (O)
277-9003 (H)
272-4538 (F)

Jack Dunford

(Personnel/House & Grounds)
236-0211 (O)
236-7000 (F)
286-1356 (H)

Roger Daniel

(Food & Beverage)
287-0969 (O)
287-4797 (F)

Colin Hastings

(Membership/P.R./Outpost)
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240-3843 (F)
332-7101 (H)



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