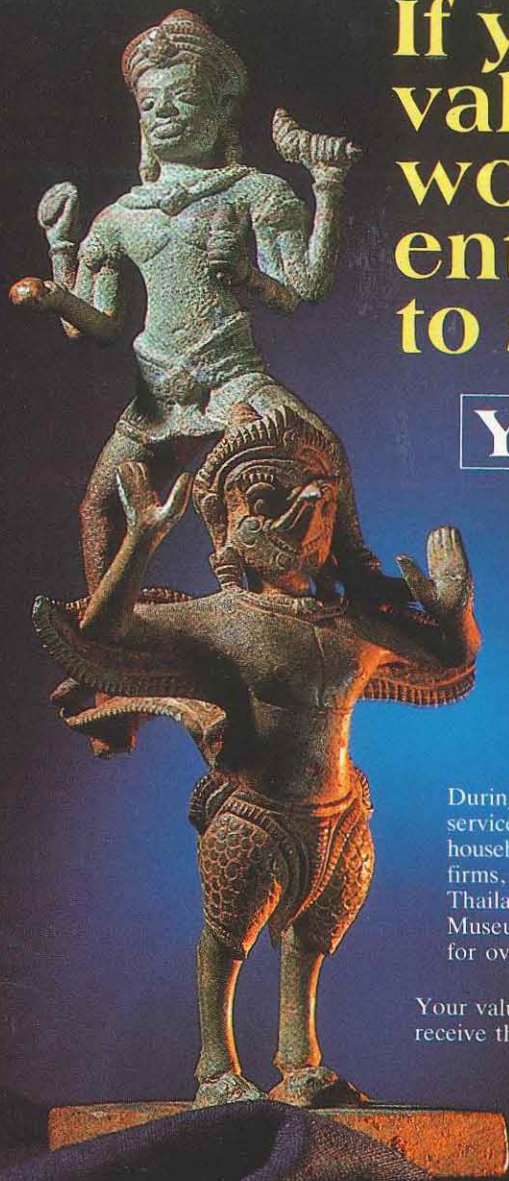


OUTPOST

MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB

FEBRUARY 1990





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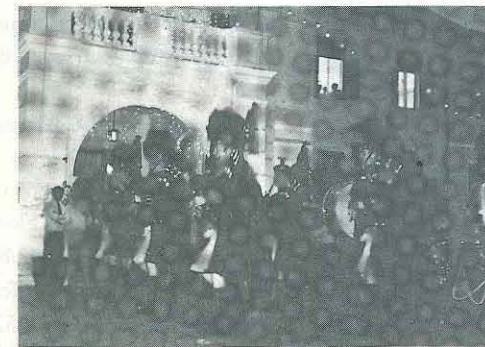
THE BRITISH CLUB

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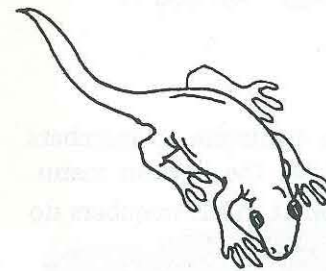
The world's favourite airline.

FROM THE EDITOR

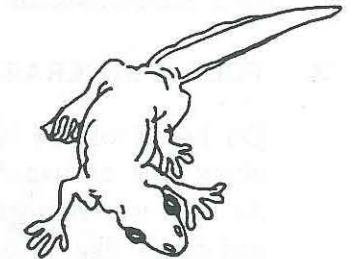
THE time for cajoling and being sweet has come to an end, OUTPOST is suffering from a severe shortage of regular contributors. We have two long-term saint's in the guise of Alex and David who do a wonderful job of producing soccer and cricket words each month; infact the sports sections are pretty well catered for BUT considering how many people spend hours each week reading books, watching videos and eating in restaurants we have a dearth of contributions on the W.W. Reading, Watching and Eating (Scofferies) front. Travel articles are also rather thin on the ground, as are days in people's lives which might prove fascinating to the rest of the membership – you can't ALL be having a boring time. You may be thinking that the magazine has been looking fairly full for as long as you can remember but what you don't realize is that an enormous amount of effort has gone into the filling; we're weakening at this end!

Suggestions for new subject matter, changes (a new editor do I hear you say?) whatever, are always welcome...give me a ring.

Maren



Ching-Chok



1. POOLSIDE

There is no doubt that the recent influx of new members has had its greatest effect at the poolside on weekends, particularly on Sundays.

The Committee is well aware of the congestion that has built up and is taking active steps to help the situation :

- i) Members are aware of the plan to build a new children's swimming pool between the Silom Sala and the playground. This will alleviate some pressure

from the big pool and allow for re-development of the current children's pool area.

- ii) Other possible extensions are being considered, and the Manager has been asked to examine alternative uses of other Club areas, such as the lawns.
 - iii) Ten new loungers have been manufactured and will be in use as soon as covers have been provided.
 - iv) Swimming galas will be moved to Saturdays.
2. In the meantime, the Committee would like to ask members to please be as patient and understanding as possible about the situation. In particular, there are three things we would like members to consider :
- i) please try to avoid "reserving" a place by the pool as well as in the Sala — obviously this only adds to the pressure for space and upsets other members.
 - ii) please try and be as understanding and courteous with each other, and particularly with the staff who are trying as hard as they can. Also complaints about the behaviour and manners of some of the children have been received. If you have children, please ask them to behave with due decorum.
 - iii) one way of getting quicker service, and help the staff at the same time might be to order your food at the counter rather than expect full waitress service when things are busy.

3. FOOD & BEVERAGE

On behalf of the Manager, the Committee would like to apologise to members about one or two hiccups that have occurred while we have the interim menu. At least we are achieving one objective and finding out what meals members do and do not like!

4. CLUB DEVELOPMENT

The new children's pool, the changing room renovations and the new kitchen are our priorities. With all contractors in Bangkok working at full stretch, we are trying to get going as soon as possible. Things will hopefully start happening in February. When they do, the kitchen will have to be closed down for a while. We will keep you outposted.

FROM THE CLUB MANAGER

MAY I first thank all the individual members and companies for their contributions towards the children's Xmas parties and the Xmas ball. A special thanks to Charles Marshall for supplying the ARCO toys, these were most appreciated.

One year ago, February 1st to be precise I took up the management chair of the Club and time has just flown by in those 12 months.

My first impressions when I decided to accept the offer was that I was going to get very bored very soon with such a small club to run.

How wrong I was I don't get time to think about it as the Club is exceptionally active and very friendly, which goes to make my job that much easier and enjoyable.

January 3rd, I accompanied the staff on their annual outing organised by Khun Surapol. They say every picture tells a story and as you can see the staff are thoroughly enjoying themselves on the beach at Cha-Am and Hua-Hin.

Please don't forget to pick up your replacement car sticker from the Membership Secretary, or at the Reception Desk after normal office hours on Saturday and Sunday.

The Staff Annual Outing





Meet the New Members



Monsieur Bourgeois:
A Frenchman who spoke only French to Telly!

Bernard & Joan Adams! Bernard from London – Joan from Rhodesia previously in Egypt then Hong Kong for 5 years. A consultant for Projects Asia, Bernard enjoys squash, tennis and sailing – as does Joan.



Udo and Annabel Langbein: founder member's of BC Singapore. Udo is a German and Annabel from Singapore – and they live in Wendy and Andrew Neates apartment block! Their hobbies are swimming, tennis and Annabel is an avid reader. They have three daughters all in Europe.



Susan & Simon Dakers (foreground): from Edinburgh (sorry for chopping you in half Susan). Simon is an Investment Analyst and Susan a catering manageress. Bangkok is their 1st posting & both enjoy playing badminton – Simon also plays rugby.

Richard and Andrea Haszard (background): from New Zealand, Richard is the Creative Director for O & M direct with a very unusual hobby of Eskatology – (for those who don't know – it's the study of Ancient prophecies) also enjoys playing the piano and synthesizer. Andrea was a nurse in New Zealand and plays tennis – She also promised Richard would write an article for OUTPOST! Andrew McDowell in the middle.



Kevin and Sheila Copeland: Australians, Kevin is a Valuation Advisor for Thailand Land Title Project – does that mean he can stop condo's being built! Several years ago worked for the World Expo in brisbane dealing with hospitality and met some very interesting people. It's their first time working abroad and both enjoy tennis.



Max Groebli: Sorry didn't get chance to talk to you.

John Greenwood (left): Another Aussie who is the Sales Manager for Qantas quote from Peter Andrews – "A reborn beach bum from Bali" – his last posting. John is married with 2 children at boarding school.



Neil and Maria Buttery: Two more Aussies Neil working for Bain Clarkson Thailand, according to Maria a workaholic but enjoys all sports particularly golf and basketball. Maria is an aerobics fanatic with a fetish for shoes.



Peter and Dixie Ingram: Even more Australians Peter, a helicopter pilot for Minebea enjoys golf. Dixie likes shopping! Don't we all.



Christine Morgan: Born in Michigan – British parents, lived in Hong Kong until she went to college, is Director of Marketing for Holiday Inn Bangkok. Plays tennis, squash – known to play cricket!! Enjoys eating at the Shangri La.



New grandparents Tony and Val Austin: Congratulations! Thanks Hilary Driver for standing in as photographer, you did a great job – (didn't chop off anyone's head).

CLUB ROUNDUP

Carols by Candlelight



"Alright, who's got the Keys."



"No, I will not be the angel."



"Sing!"



"I saw three sh...."



"...ips"



"I love my Tuba."



"I knew chestnuts and trombones didn't mix."



The Brass Ensemble.



"Cheers folks"



"Where are we?"

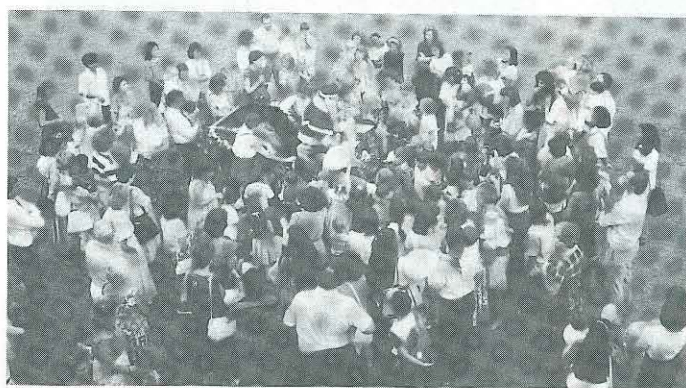
Children's Xmas Parties



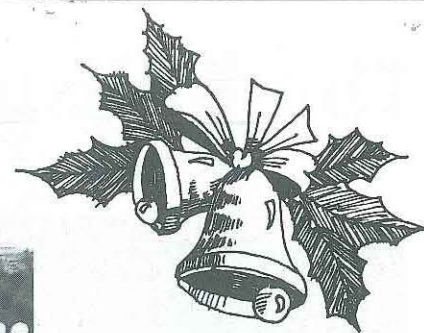
Disco



Here comes Santa Claus



... More Parties



The British Club Xmas Ball



"It's all the rage in Tehran you know."



The young Leddys.



Frank, Gill, Peter and Bill Dickey's lovely Jane.



"Ere, what have you got there?"



"I always think that a hat does something for a man."



The boarding school mob.



Doing the I'm not sure what.



"I'm sure I can see the Milky Way up there."



Hilary and Jimmy Driver.



Doing the Lambada.



"I really needed that bottle to rest my chin on."

New Year's Eve Party



The terrible two Patrick and Tony.



"grrr....."



"1990 here we come!"



"The old routine."



"Where's it gone?"



"Drink up! It's good for you."



"Whoops my thumbs stuck."



"Hats have always suited me."



"I knew that I should've stayed at home."



"Don't they all look daft."



"What about me them."



Robert feeling a little fuzzy.



Dewi's Doings

ST. DAVID'S SOCIETY NEWS

All the arrangements for the Hua Hin Golf Tournament are well in hand.

Please hurry to make any hotel bookings.

Special offers are at The Village and Garden Resorts.

ANNUAL BALL

Date : Friday March 9th

Venue : The Oriental Hotel

Tickets : B1,100 available from

Roger Daniel Home 258-5101

Office 255-2450/1

or any Society member.

Jack Edgar's Family Show

December 26th 1989

Kindly sponsored by British Telecom, I.C.I., and Sun Alliance



Nina Nadia ... yes ... em' ... er ... Jack, Sally and Angie.



"What are you doing up there young man?"



The Mime Artist.



Lyn Corlett keeping them all in order.

THERE will be a Family Fun Festival at Christ Church, Convent Road, Bangkok on Saturday 17th February 1990.

A pancake breakfast will start the Festival at 8.00 am. and at 10.00 am. there will be games, all sorts of entertainment including live music and many, many stalls. A super fun day is guaranteed for all members of the family.

Proceeds will go to the Church Outreach Fund.

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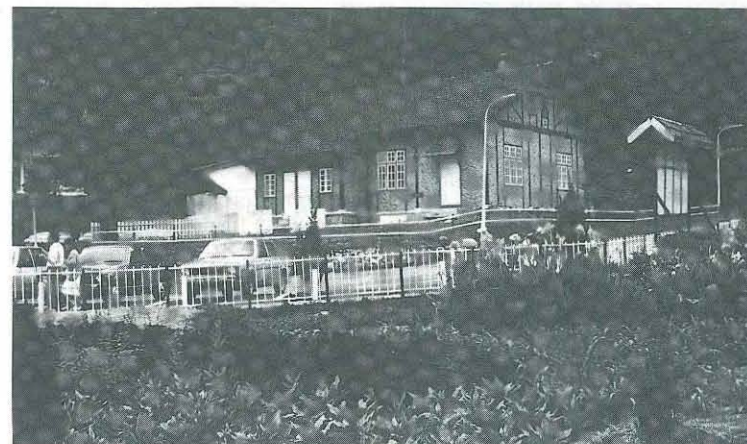
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TRAVEL LOG



The pub—closed for renovation

Tropical Dreaming

THE promise of a climate that would remind them of home, as well as a seemingly insatiable desire to build roads through impossible terrain, led many an Englishman who sweltered on far flung tropical plains to seek out cooler mountain retreats. Malaysia, with its central backbone of mountain ranges, provided ideal sites for its fair share of hill stations.

The Hill we climbed was named after a lone adventurer, Louis James Frazer, who built himself a shack, operated a primitive mule train and traded in tin ore in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.

At the outbreak of the First World War, the story is told, a certain Bishop Ferguson-Davie of Singapore thought

it his duty to find this fellow countryman and inform him of world conditions.

With the help of a local constable the Bishop found his way to "the Gap" in the hills north of Kuala Lumpur and from there struggled the last few miles up a steep trail only to find the mule skinner had fled. No doubt Frazer's decision came the moment he saw the church and the law coming. On closer inspection, the hideaway was more than a mere resting spot for weary drivers and tired mules. The Bishop found a shack all right, called "Gambling Farm Number One," and another den called "The Keys of Paradise" which capitalised on the local opium trade.

The adventurer and oppor-

tunist Louis James Frazer was never seen again, having vanished in the more glamorous byways of Singapore. But Frazer's Hill is still there, even if the gambling shack is gone, and what was once the key to paradise on a mule track is now a relaxing weekend retreat for business executives escaping the busy cities.

On the mountain road we became aware of a sudden transformation from the sultry weather of the coastal plain. The air became fresh, cool and unpolluted. In a snake-like series of twists and turns we followed in the Bishop's footsteps on our way from Kuala Lumpur to the staging post of Gap. It is difficult to enjoy the scenery with that queezy feeling growing in the pit of the stomach. A companion cheerfully points out that this section is affectionately known as "the straight"

From Gap to our destination the way winds much more steeply with increasingly tighter bends, and increasingly steeper drops to the valley bottom. It is one way only. Two hours for those going up and two down. We make the 'gate' in time for an immediate upward journey. A grey-faced silence comes over the occupants of the mini-bus. We are all concentrating on holding our lunch in place. Fragments of paint appear on the outcrops and blind corners come up with amazing rapidity. We were soon wishing that we

had missed the gate — this section would defy the power of a gyroscope to keep its equilibrium.

Wild bananas flank the road, and ferns emerge from the dark, wet undergrowth in bewildering profusion. Everything is green, damp, living, breathing. A snake pokes its head out onto the roadside, tongue flickering. It sees us and withdraws immediately. A large butterfly flickers overhead and two gibbons swing crazily from their perch of bamboo poles to cheer us on our way.

The road suddenly straightens. We breathe a sigh of relief and dare to look around. The little centre is bustling with activity. Circling the open square are the town's only shops, a half-timbered pub (closed for renovation), the Golf Club and sports complex and two hotels. On closer inspection the indoor pool, too, is closed, but the snooker tables are doing a booming trade.



Primeval palm fronds.

We creak and groan our way out of the bus and into our home for the next week. The bungalows of Frazers have that special musky smell which mingles with years of smoky wood fires. The last attempt to modernise took place in the fifties, although there is evidence that the electrical wiring has been retacked onto the wall very recently.

Mr and Mrs They, the owners, not only look sympathetic — for 20 years they have been greeting voyagers from the humid plains — they offer a cup of tea and hot scones. We gratefully accept.

Outside the clouds roll overhead just above tree-top level. They spill over the hills behind the bungalow and drift lower down into the valley. The rain comes in sweeps with the wind, like shrouds being drawn across a stage. We draw closer to the crackling logs in the hearth.

After a night of rain, the leeches are out in full force.

I dislodge one from the very inconvenient, I felt, feeding place between my toes and bid a hasty retreat for sneakers — and long socks, into which I firmly tuck my trousers — before further exploring our surroundings.

There is a deep magic about the fertile wilderness of a rain forest, a magic both in the imagination of the would-be traveller, and in the actuality. The jungles of Malaysia have sprawled across this land for 130 million years, blithely unaffected by the Ice-ages, fluctuating sea level and dramatic climatic jumps which may have wrung changes over the rest of the globe's landscaping.

These rainforests have been a focus for plant and animal evolution for longer than any other forest on the planet. Tiger and elephant live secret lives far from the sight of man in the green depths of the land, while aboriginies, the orang asli, live a life of wandering, hunting and gathering food, squatting by leafy tents and fishing the crowded streams that criss-cross this jungle covering three-quarters of the peninsular.

We pause to observe a single leaf which quivers by itself, the only movement in this vast stillness. It is a freak wind current, we conclude, and indeed I see this phenomenon several times during my stay.

The children's zoo promises the glory of pony rides, when the man with the tickets can be persuaded. A few animals stare listlessly from their cages in what used to be an experimental vegetable garden. The jungle has all but taken that

back too. Our day is enlivened by the appearance of uncaged baboons, who chatter nervously to their less fortunate companions, before deciding that we are the problem and should be attacked immediately. I decide this jungle is not neutral.

"There are tigers", the local taxi driver tells us. He saw one two years ago, but it ran away. We begin to suspect that the taxi came up the hill with the first settlers. Liberal amounts of water are poured to top up the leaky radiator, and it creaks and groans its way down to the waterfall. The driver and the car have both been this way many times before and there seems little need for any steering around the corners — hands are much more useful to describe situations when words fail.

The pool formed by the waterfall, though magnificent, is much too cold for my tropically heated body. I watch uneasily as the children attempt to defy the force of the fall. The water is not the cause for concern. We are being watched. I can feel it in the rustling of the ever present jungle. Surely I saw a flash of orange? Heard the clank of metal?

A small platoon of Malaysian soldiers emerge, laughing. They lay down their rifles and plunge fully-clothed into the pool. The jungle in these parts still hides foes as well as friends and my nervousness increases. I bundle the children back up the path to the waiting, friendly car-park. All the way along the route my six year old points his finger



Pony rides.



Path to the waterfall.



The waterfall.

and makes machine-gun firing sounds into the dark undergrowth. I feel foolish in my hasty retreat as we pass the hydro-farm and are greeted by the driver. He is glad we are going home early.

New Years Eve is spent in the comfort of a cuisine which has been served to temperate zone travellers since the days before air-conditioning and fans and the climate here was salubrious enough to enjoy the feeling of being "home". Friends have made it up from the plains for this occasion. We hug our sweaters around us contentedly.

On the final day we climb above the trees and gaze out over the rolling, endless, blue horizon. As day merges into

dusk the wailing, barking, growling and screeching peaks into a violent climax of sound. Deep-throated frogs boom out below the nerve stretching screech of insects; larger, mysterious sounds abruptly break the pattern — then allow it to resume; birds flute the final message of the day while a family of gibbons fill the air with ululating sorrow. The heart of the country beats in the jungle. And the jungles of Malaysia have not been tamed.

"There is only one way to tame a jungle," our friend tells us, "that is to blast it off the face of the earth". I heard a symphony — and then dark silence.

Hild

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Pipes and Drums, 2nd Battalion Scots Guards

The Pipes and Drums

The Pipes and Drums of the 2nd Battalion Scots Guards, arguably the finest pipe band in the British Army, were in Thailand as guests of the Bangkok St Andrew's Society. Under Pipe Major Webster the band hopes to repeat the achievement of 1986 when they proved in competition to be the premier military pipe band in the world.

The Pipers wear Royal Stuart tartan, a distinction worn by all pipers of Royal Regiments. Their red and blue plumes are in the colours of the Royal household signifying their close association with the Monarch.

Indeed the Pipe Major is, *ex officio*, a personal piper to the Queen and is regularly to be heard, with eleven of his pipers, playing at State Banquets.

This is the second visit to Bangkok by the Pipes and Drums of the 2nd Battalion, the band of the 1st Battalion having originally established the close the much cherished association with the Bangkok St Andrew's Society.

The Battalion

The Battalion fought in the Falkland Islands in 1982, achieving distinction and a battle honour for its action on Mount Tumbledown. After the campaign, it returned to

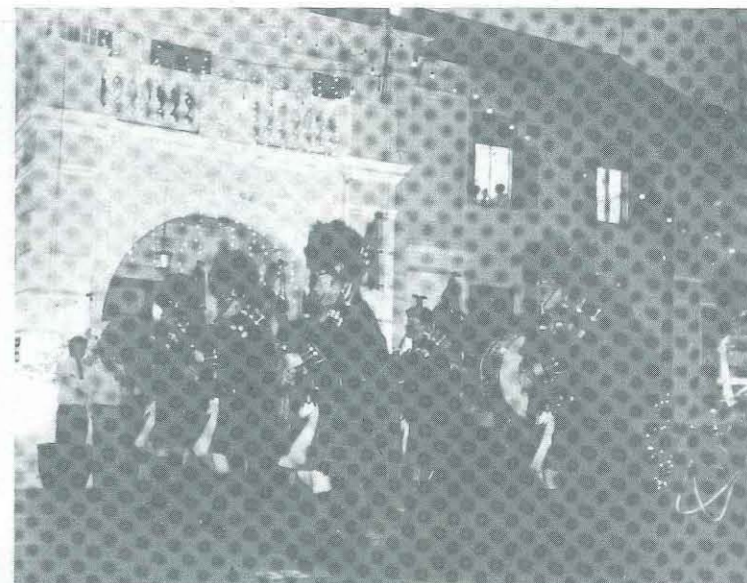
ceremonial duties in London before embarking on a two year tour in Cyprus. Since returning to London from Cyprus in 1986, the Battalion has seen service in Northern Ireland, United States, Belize and Canada.

The Battalion is composed of three Rifle Companies, one Support Weapons Company and Headquarter Company. Much of the Battalion's character is derived from the unique manner in which recruits from the Guards Depot are allocated to companies: the tallest go to the Flank Companies, Right and Left Flank, while the shortest go to "G" Company, known affectionately as "The Rabbits". The aim of this measure is to ensure that the Battalion is sized correctly when performing ceremonial duties in London.

BRIEF REGIMENTAL HISTORY

Europe's earliest royal guard was Scots, raised in 1419 by the King of France to protect him from the English. In 1642, however, King Charles I of Scotland and England raised a royal guard in his Scottish Kingdom to serve within the British Isles: it was to be his bodyguard during his expedition to Ireland, then in rebellion. It is this Regiment of Guards, the Scots Guards, which survives to this day as a part of the Household troops of the British Sovereign.

King Charles I did not survive as long as his Regiment: he was beheaded by the regime of Oliver Cromwell in 1649.



The Regiment continued to fight for his son, Charles II, as a part of the Scots Army until 1652 when resistance to the new regime collapsed. When the monarchy was restored in 1660, it was not long before the Scots Guards were re-raised. Many of the Regiment's former members found themselves together again, joined, it is said, by some officers of other Regiments who had resigned their commissions in order to serve in the ranks of the King's Guard.

In 1686, in the reign of James II of England and VII of Scotland, the Scots Guards marched south to England, for the first time in peace. They became established as a part of the English Army, joining the existing two Regiments of English Foot Guards in London. In the eighteenth century the distinction of a Scottish and English Army disappeared, and the three Regiments of Guards developed in close harmony, fighting together in most of the great battles of

the century against, ironically enough, the French. The climatic battle of this period was, of course, that of Waterloo in 1815, in which the Guards distinguished themselves particularly in repelling both Napoleon's main assault and the advance of his Imperial Guard.

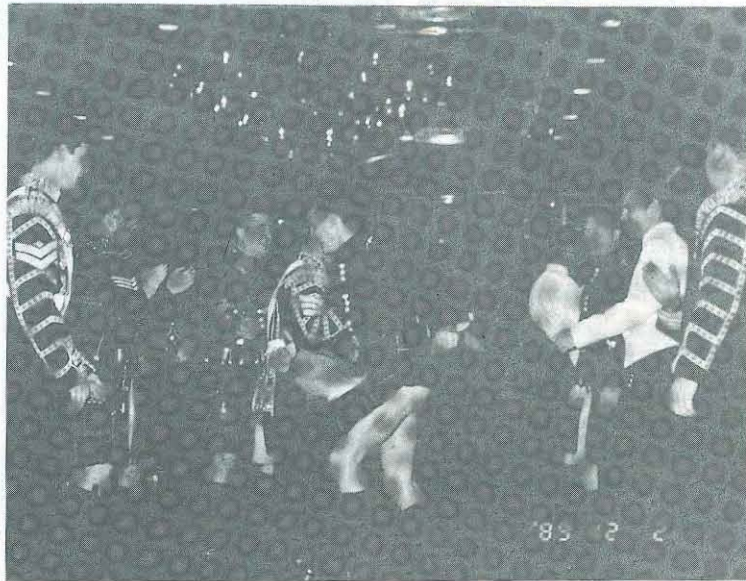
During the nineteenth century, and especially in the reign of Queen Victoria, the Guards developed the organisation and the uniforms that continue to this day. In particular, the old Corps of Drums was augmented by full scale military bands on the German model, reflecting close links between the British royal house of Saxe-Coburg and the German courts, particularly that of Prussia. The Scots Guards additionally formed pipe bands, or Pipes and Drums, for the first time. Although individual officers from Scotland had sometimes numbered pipers among their servants, never before had they been formally organised as a band.

During the present century



the Scots Guards have continued to share responsibility for guarding the palaces and fortresses of the British Monarchy – St. James's Palace, the Tower of London, Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle. They have also taken more than a full part in the many campaigns in which Great Britain has been embroiled. Specifically the Boer War, the two World Wars, Malaya, Borneo and the Falkland Islands. Each has brought, in equal measure, honour and loss to the Regiment. In addition, the Scots Guards serve in a peace-keeping role in Northern Ireland, maintaining a normal life for the inhabitants in the face of indiscriminate terrorism.

To many, this dual role of ceremonial and combat soldier is difficult to understand, but to the Guardsman it is easily explained in the terms of discipline and tradition – not discipline enforced from above but self-discipline, and not dead tradition but a living heritage of excellence stretching back for three centuries through the fabric of the



history of the British Crown.

Scots Guardsmen have fought as infantry, as tank crews, as paratroopers and as mountain troops. Early British Commando units and the legendary SAS were founded by enterprising Scots Guards officers.

In their characteristic red tunics and tall bearskin caps they are not only a regiment of the British Army but a part of the national heritage,

a certain standard of excellence for writers, dramatists, advertising copywriters, and even in everyday speech. It is not for nothing that the Guards' annual celebration of the Queen's Birthday, the Trooping of the Colour, has developed from a private occasion into a major national festival carried by the television to many countries both in the British Commonwealth and elsewhere throughout the world.

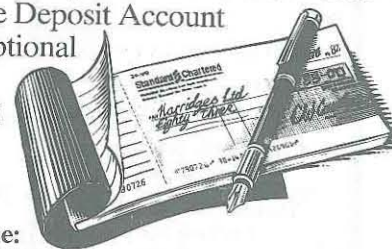


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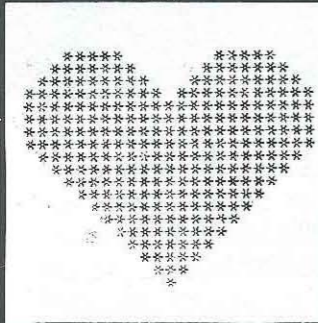


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FEBRUARY CALENDAR

	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
						1 Ladies' Tennis – 8-10.00 am. Ladies' Squash – 9-12 noon BCT meeting 7.30 pm.	2 Aerobic Classes – 9.00 am. Accumulator Night – 8.00 pm. Scotland the What? – 7.30 pm.
	3 Flicks for Kids – 6.00 pm.	4 Flicks for Kids – 11.00 am. Curry Tiffin in Silom Sala – 12 noon-2 pm. Sunday afternoon Club Tennis – 3-6 pm. Family Buffet in Dining room from 6.00 pm.	5 B.W.G. Mahjong* – 9.00 am. Aerobic Classes – 9.00 am. New Member's Night/ Happy Hour – 5.30-9.00 pm. Chess Club* – 7.00 pm.	6 Ladies' Golf – 7.00 am.	7 Aerobic Classes – 9.00 am. Tennis and Squash Club Night from 6.00 pm.	8 Ladies' Tennis – 8-10.00 am. Ladies' Squash – 9-12 noon Bambi Meeting at B.C.	9 Golf – Inter Societies Aerobic Classes – 9.00 am. Accumulator Night – 8.00 pm.
	10 Makha Bucha Day Golf – Inter Societies Flicks for Kids – 6.00 pm.	11 Flicks for Kids – 11.00 am. Curry Tiffin in Silom Sala – 12 noon-2 pm. Sunday afternoon Club Tennis – 3-6 pm. Family Buffet in Dining room from 6.00 pm.	12 B.W.G. Mahjong* – 9.00 am. Aerobic Classes – 9.00 am. Happy Hour – 5.30-9.00 pm. Chess Club* – 7.00 pm.	13 Ladies' Golf – 7.00 am. B.C. Stamp Society – 7 pm.	14 St. Valentine's Day Aerobic Classes – 9.00 am. Tennis and Squash Club Night from 6.00 pm. St. Valentine's Day Love Boat Trip – 8.30 pm.	15 Ladies' Tennis – 8-10.00 am. Ladies' Squash – 9-12 noon B.W.G. Lunch and A.G.M. at Oriental Hotel	16 Aerobic Classes – 9.00 am. Accumulator Night – 8.00 pm.
	17 Squash Handicap Finals Flicks for Kids – 6.00 pm.	18 Flicks for Kids – 11.00 am. Curry Tiffin in Silom Sala – 12 noon-2 pm. Sunday afternoon Club Tennis – 3-6 pm. Family Buffet in Dining room from 6.00 pm. Squash Handicap Finals	19 B.W.G. Mahjong* – 9.00 am. Aerobic Classes – 9.00 am. Happy Hour – 5.30-9.00 pm. Chess Club* – 7.00 pm.	20 Ladies' Golf – 7.00 am.	21 Aerobic Classes – 9.00 am. Tennis and Squash Club Night from 6.00 pm.	22 Ladies' Tennis – 8-10.00 am. Ladies' Squash – 9-12 noon	23 Aerobic Classes – 9.00 am. Accumulator Night – 8.00 pm.
	24 Flicks for Kids – 6.00 pm.	25 Flicks for Kids – 11.00 am. Curry Tiffin in Silom Sala – 12 noon-2 pm. Club Tennis Tournament Semi-Finals Thailand C.L. Inaugural Cocktail Party Family Buffet in Dining room from 6.00 pm.	26 B.W.G. Mahjong* – 9.00 am. Aerobic Classes – 9.00 am. Happy Hour – 5.30-9.00 pm. Chess Club* – 7.00 pm.	27 Shrove Tuesday Ladies' Golf – 7.00 am. Pancake Day Race	28 Aerobic Classes – 9.00 am. Tennis and Squash Club Night from 6.00 pm.	1 MARCH St. David's Day Ladies' Tennis – 8-10.00 am. Ladies' Squash – 9-12 noon	2 MARCH Aerobic Classes – 9.00 am. Accumulator Night – 8.00 pm.

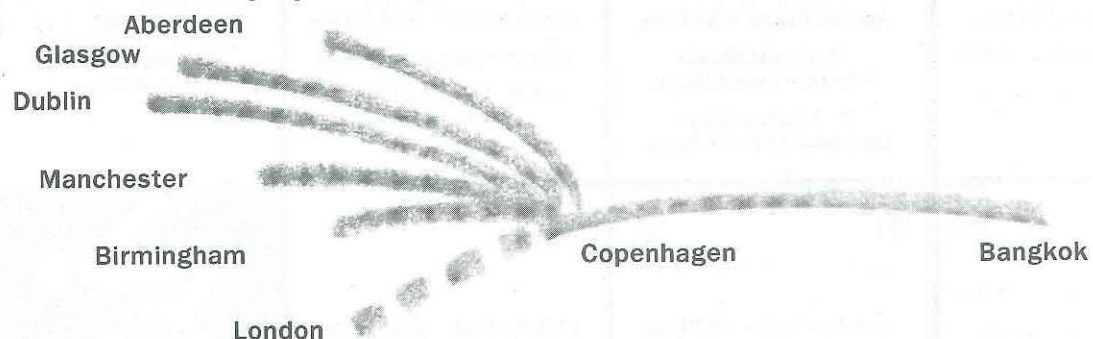
For further information see Activities Page for contact names and telephone numbers. If you would like to announce any B.C. related events in the *OUTPOST* Calendar, please contact Judi Leddy on 258-5110. The deadline is the 10th of the preceding month. *Indicates "to be held in the Wordsworth Room."

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FEBRUARY FESTIVALS

Go Fly a Kite

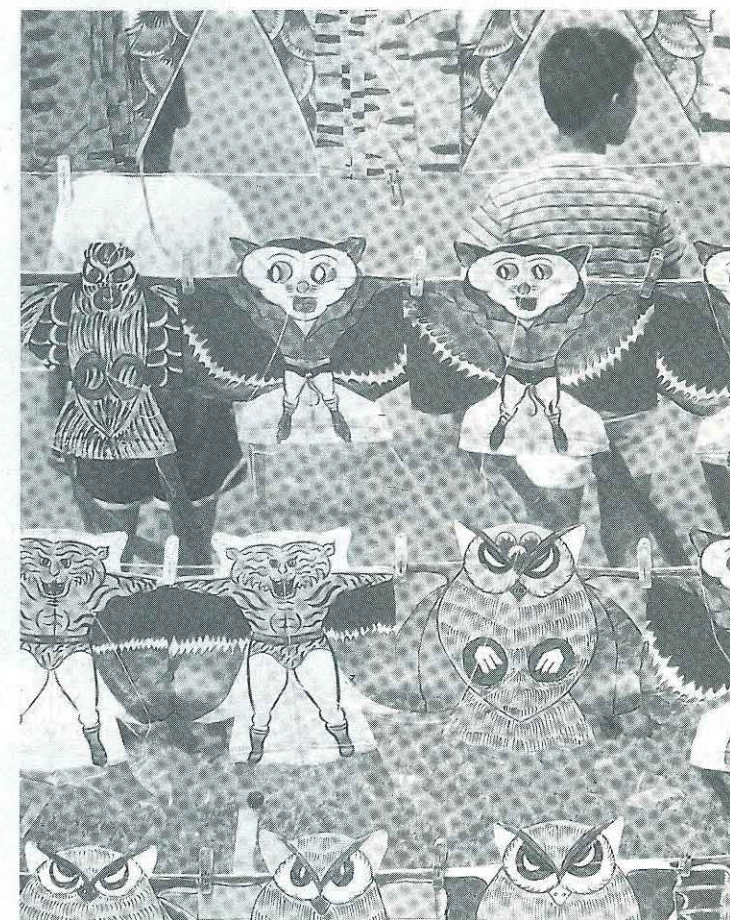
EVERY weekend from late February to the middle of April, when the wind blows strongly from the southeast, Thais will be flocking to Sanam Luang parade ground to compete in aerial battles.

Flimsy, yet resilient, these kites owe little to their Western cousins. Nor is their purpose the same. In the West, kites are regarded as "kids stuff". In Thailand they are more than a game.

Dating back 800 years to the Sukhothai period of King Ramkhamhaeng Thai kites have traditionally played important military roles. Perhaps the best known act of "kite warfare" was recorded in 1690 during the reign of Ayutthaya's King Phra Petracha. The people of neighbouring Korat rebelled and the king restored order by a novel means. His army commander flew kites, carrying fire bombs, over the walls of the rebel city. When dropped, the bombs ignited the buildings of Korat and its inhabitants quickly submitted.

Today Thais confine their battles to the sports field.

Two types of kite are skillfully constructed for the battle. The "male" chula, is star-shaped and up to two metres long. The "female" pak pao is diamond shaped and much lighter.



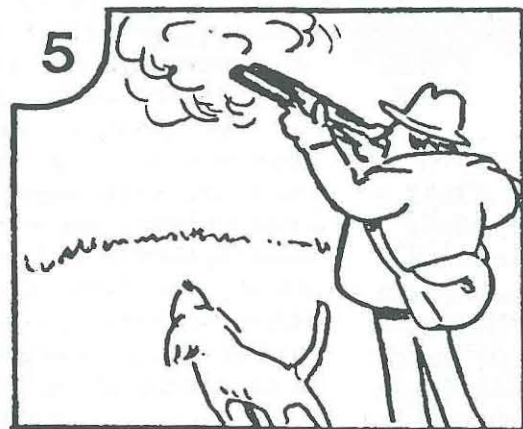
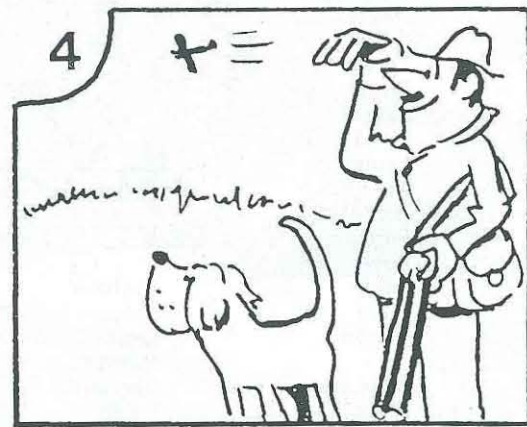
IF you simply want to have fun with a kite, Sanam Luang is the place to be.

Only the most supple bamboo stems are selected for the frame of a fighting kite. If they are too thick, the kite cannot manoeuvre; too thin and they snap. After the lengths of bamboo are cut, the craftsman bores a hole

between the "steps", and each is filled with honey. Left lying on the ground, the shafts are soon invaded by ravenous ants. Little do these helpful insects know, but as they eat the honey-soaked pulp they secrete formic acid, which

Shot fun

How quickly can you place these pictures in their correct order?



Answer: 4, 5, 1, 3, 6, 2

CRICKET CRICKET

The Bashes

Sons 129-9 (T. Fraser 59 n.o. R. Taylor B.N. Howard 12 M. Blackburn 2 for 24. A McManus 2 for 9 David Lamb 2 for 1)

Fathers 130-9 (D. Hall 37. D. Fraser 25 n.o. M. Blackburn 21 F. Hough 11 n.o. G. McManus 4 for 18)

Fathers won by 1 wicket.

At this time of the year it is customary for a mixture of locally-based kids and returnees from their boarding penitentiaries to start pestering their increasingly rotund fathers to dig out their old jockstraps from the salad compartment of the fridge and turn out for the annual fathers and sons game. Whatever their

current geographical allegiance, these kids are all disgustingly young and fit and keen; when one or two older young kids, such as David Dance last year or Tony Fraser this year, join them, they can present quite a formidable obstacle to the revived ambitions of cric-keting glory experienced by Dads inspired by a combina-



"The Sons. We've lost the photo of the dads."



Frank Hough (British Telecom Worldwide) & Jack Dunford - (Thailand's Bowler of the year) presenting Greg McManus Best Bowler Trophy.



David Lamb (Dunlop) presenting Sharjeel Malbari Best Fielder Trophy.



Duncan Ramsay (BenLine) presenting Nigel Howard Best Batsman trophy.



Neil Buttery (Bain Clarkson) presenting Man of the Match to Tony Fraser.



"We've found it! The victorious Fathers."

tion of Kloster, armchairs and a fiftieth viewing of Ian Botham's Ashes on video.

Frank Hough had organised the match for the second year running, and the Polo Club turf was looking fit for a test match when the two teams had finally assembled only an hour after the scheduled start. The Sons were to bat first...

Simon Hough (back from the States so not expected to be able to remember how to play cricket) faced the first over, a maiden from RBSC veteran Malbari. This left Tim Blackburn to face the bowling of his father at the other end; unfortunately for family peace, he was bowled second ball. George Dunford and Simon took the score to 16, but then wickets began to tumble rather disastrously. McManus bowled both batsmen, and then the demonic David Lamb bowled two more, including his own son Dale. Both bowlers were quickly removed from the attack for bullying, but their replacement Trevor Whalley removed the experienced Malbari junior with a slow full

toss.

Skipper Tony Fraser then came in and soon turned the score round by hitting the ball to both corners of the field; luckily, he was now joined by a series of sons who stayed at the wicket long enough to enable him to score some runs. David Jenkins (only previous experience softball, tennis and underwater jogging), R. Taylor, and Nigel Howard contributed a combined total of 31 runs, while Tony took his score to 59 before retiring.

The Sons finished on a very creditable 129 for 9 in their allotted overs.

When the Fathers batted, they were slightly handicapped by having to put up with the cruel mockery of wives every time they dared to strike a ball and attempt to run between the wickets. In the circumstances it was not surprising that they soon slumped to a dismal 25 for 6. The Sons were fielding magnificently, and Simon Hough, George Dunford and David Jenkins had all taken excellent catches, while opening bowler McManus

had managed three wickets in one over, two of them bowled. Fathers skipper Frank Hough had however unfairly packed the lower order with local league players and despite good ground fielding and another two good catches, the Fathers just managed to reach the target with a single wicket remaining, Frank snicking the first ball of the last over for four to bring up 130.

At a buffet dinner after the match, awards were made as follows:

Bain Clarkson Trophy – Man of the Match, Tony Fraser

British Telecom Worldwide Trophy – Best Bowler, Greg McManus

Dunlop Trophy – Best Fielder, Sharjeel Malbari

Ben Line Trophy – Best Batsman, Nigel Howard.

Thanks to Gestetner, Ben-Line, Bain Clarkson, British Telecom and Dunlop for sponsoring the event, and to Frank and the Polo Club for the organisation – How about Mothers and Daughters next year?

CRICKET REPORT

17 Dec. Polo Club. 45 overs vs ICC2. Won by 145 runs BC 217-4 (Hough 71, Dance 58, Wilson 42, Welsh 18*) ICC2 72 (Price 4-0-12-3; Welsh 6-2-12-2; Dunford 4-0-16-2; Dance 9-1-19-2; Lewis 4-0-11-1)

The last club match of the decade saw Bionic Man Lewis win the toss and send the new ICC2 side into the field on a

balmy December day on a beautiful wicket at the Polo Club. Mark Wilson and Craig Price opened the batting and after only three overs they had already equalled the previous best opening stand of the season (11). Craig, however, was bowled next over by a straight one to continue the series of dismal starts this season. Frank Hough and Mark soon began to put some runs

together, with Mark dominating the scoring. The fifty partnership came up just before the 15-over break, but then Mark was caught for 42. David Dance joined Frank and with the aid of a lot of running of singles, these two gradually took command. Despite numerous bowling changes and even more appeals, it was not until the 40th over that they were separated, David offering

a simple catching chance to mid-off. By this time they had put on 123 runs – BC's sixth highest stand ever, and both had passed fifty. Frank was bowled eight runs later, and it was left to the two fizzy-drink supremos Welsh and Lewis to bring up the 200 and end the innings on 217. Not perhaps a huge total, considering that only four wickets had fallen, but the outfield was both slow and extensive, and boundaries were few and far between.

With Welsh and Dance opening the bowling, the Indian side found runs very hard to come by, only 8 runs coming from the first six overs. The wickets began to tumble, David bowling one opener, and Keith bowling the other, following this with an LBW two balls later. A change of bowling after twelve overs brought immediate success, when Brian's first ball, a full toss, was spooned to Craig Price in the covers and taken with the nonchallant ease for which that fielder is renowned. David bowled the number five just before the end of his nine-over spell. A mini-revival now saw around twenty runs being added, before the innings folded up very quickly. Craig Price, bowling well, removed the middle stump of three batsmen, while Jack Dunford, bowling, saw Frank Hough take a stumping and Peer Andrews run in to take a superb catch at shortish square leg.

ICC2 were all out in only 27 overs and BC had started the season with maximum points; they may not be the strongest opposition we will

face all season, but it was an excellent performance all round, with newcomers Welsh and Wilson both impressive, and Hough and Dance back to top form with bat; five bowlers shared the wickets while such bowling stars as Nick White (in England), George Dunford (bell-ringing), and Bob Reiner and David Hall (kept in specialist fielding positions rather than wasted taking easy wickets on this occasion) wait in the wings.

7 January. Polo Club. 45 overs vs Wanderers CC. Won by 65 runs.

BC 210-5 (White 71, Price 32*, Wilson 28, Andrews 25*, Tissera 25, Dance 18) WCC 145 (Dunford 7-0-26-4; Welsh 7-3-24-3; Dance 4-0-5-1; Lewis 7-1-22-1)

The return of Nick White and the inclusion of newcomer André Tissera meant that the side put out for this match looked on paper to be the strongest ever fielded for the BC; for once the actual strength lived up to its paper promise, and we witnessed the unusual sights of Craig Price batting down at number six and Nick White coming on as the eighth of the nine bowlers used. All eleven players played a part in the victory and once again we came through with maximum points to maintain our early-season position at the top of the 45-over League.

Brian won the toss and sent Mark Wilson and Nick White in to open the batting. Both batsmen got off the mark with two runs off the first ball they faced, and the score

moved satisfyingly along to 66 without loss by the 15-over break, with Nick dominating the scoring. In the second over after the break, with the score on 79, Mark sent a forcing shot into the safe hands of the opposition ex-skipper in the covers. This brought BC's average-topping man-in-form Rambo Hough in with instructions to take advantage of the great start by hitting the bowling to all corners of the field; unfortunately he failed to connect with the first ball and was, not to put too fine a point on it, bowled.

Sri Lankan André Tissera is a stylish batsman who now came in to play the fine *épipée* opposite Nick's shillelagh; the latter became increasingly shillelagh-like immediately after Nick reached his fifty (BC's third and fastest of the season); shots began to travel through the air towards fielding hands with alarming frequency, only to be fumbled and thrown over the boundary with equal regularity. Finally and inevitably, Nick played another aggressive shot aiming for the hands of long off and was bowled.

David Dance now joined André, but these two found it difficult to pierce the defensive field off some tight bowling, and neither batsman managed a boundary. Nevertheless, when André was caught with the score on 136 he had scored 25 off only 39 balls. Craig Price also struggled at first and the scoreboard, while turning over comfortably, was not showing any signs of the acceleration needed in limited-overs games.

David was caught for 18 and

Peter Andrews, yet to get to double figures this season, joined Craig and immediately followed captain's instructions by hitting out and being almost caught first ball. When Craig hit a four in the 38th over it was the first boundary for 13 overs; soon after, Craig became only the second batsman to pass 2000 career runs for BC when he reached 21.

Craig and Peter were now both showing considerable aggression and 45 runs came off the last 7 overs, Craig taking his score to 32 and Peter taking his to 25 before the 45 overs were over. It augurs well for the season that both batsmen are back in form after a poor start.

The score of 210 for 5 was judged to be a good one on a track which this season is giving some encouragement to bowlers, with plenty of turn and bounce.

Keith Welsh and David Dance opened the bowling with very aggressive field placing, and both bowled both economically and successfully, only 7 runs coming off the bat in the first 8 overs, while three wickets were taken. Keith struck first and second, having one opener caught by Jack Dunford in his customary

gully position and bowling the other. David then got the number three to edge a straightforward catch to Frank behind the stumps. A bowling change at each end saw Craig and André bowling, but neither could make a further breakthrough and at the end of 16 overs the score had moved on to 69. Another double bowling change brought Jack Dunford and Brian Lewis into the attack, and this soon produced results when Jack got two wickets in two balls, the first caught by David Dance at slip, and the second stumped by two yards - Frank's third stumping of the season, all off Jack.

The next wicket took half a dozen overs to come, when Jack bowled the Wanderers skipper; in his next over he had the number eight brilliantly caught at silly mid off by David Hall to take his tally to four wickets, much to the amazement and envy of all the other bowlers in the team. Even though the veteran number four, a classy batsman of pleasingly civilised height, was still going strong and had in fact passed his fifty, Wanderers had now lost 7 wickets for under 100 and were heading

for defeat. Brian Lewis finally ousted the number four with a combination of shrewd field-placing and the safe hands of David Hall in the covers. (It's all true, put those quizzical eyebrows down immediately).

A two-over spell from the same ace fielder failed to produce the expected wicket, and Nick White, finally brought on at the other end, failed to clinch his first wicket of the season while bowling three maidens and having a catch dropped behind. The return of Keith Welsh to the attack saw the end of batsman number 9, caught by David Dance at slip, but the last pair put up some resistance. Mark Wilson replaced Nick to become the ninth bowler used, and he did well to run out the last batsman off his fourth ball, bringing the innings to a close with just over six overs to spare.

Once again, this was not the strongest team we will face all season, but all round, it was a very pleasing win, marred only by the lack of Kloster at the end of the match, courtesy of gubernatorial erections.

David Hall



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LADIES' GOLF



LADIES' GOLF

THE A.G.M. of the B.C.L.G.ers was held on 19th December. The new Committee was elected as follows:-

Captain	Penny Whalley
Vice-Captain	Lavita Hughes
Hon. Secretary	Trish Blackburn
Hon. Treasurer	Kanda Phillips
Handicapper	Judy Farmer
Committee Members	Ruth Kennedy Nena Reid

Subs for the half-year (Bht 200) Jan-June 1990 are now due. Ladies, please come out and play each Tuesday. The weather is glorious right now and our actual numbers each week have been at an all-time low. Only 10 ladies turned out for the 1st day of the CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS which was very disappointing indeed, as a lot of hard work goes into the organisation of the day and the buying of trophies and prizes. Our current membership stands at 31 and the average number playing each day last year was only 11.32, as can be seen from the breakdown of playing statistics for last year which I attach for your interest.

To entice some of you back who have drifted away from us because of other commitments or whatever your new Captain and her Committee are determined to arrange a programme for the year which will be as interesting, stimulating and as much fun as is possible, both for the more experienced golfers among you and also to encourage newcomers.

CAPTAIN'S DAY COMPETITION (STABLEFORD)

WINNER	: Inge Schwetz	(29)	37 points
2nd	: Lavita Hughes	(31)	35 "
3rd	: Kanda Phillips	(30)	34 "

Thank you Judy for hosting a delicious lunch after the game and for all the lovely prizes. It was a most enjoyable day and a great way to end the year.

The photograph below shows the newly elected committee:



Back Row (L to R) Ruth Kennedy, Penny Whalley, Judy Farmer, Kanda Phillips
Front Row (L to R) Trish Blackburn, Lavita Hughes, Anne Kwong

***** KITCHEN SINK *****
 SATURDAY, 17TH FEBRUARY 1990
 THE ROSE GARDEN
 SPONSORED BY DUNLOP (THAILAND) LTD.

This is our Annual Fun Open Day when the B.C.L.G. challenge their husbands and other members of the British Club Golf Section in a pairs and individual competition. This year we will be teeing off at 0830 and we have booked 20 slots. Lunch, followed by the prize giving will take place at the club house and it is hoped that you will all come along in an endeavour to keep the trophy (a battered frying pan) out of the clutches of the "brutes". Last year, we won by 10 points which gave the ladies a victory for the first time since 1973. As usual we are planning to start the day with Bloody Marys. "Volunteers" will be needed for all the various jobs as well as donations to our BOOZE BOX. The ENTRY FEE is Bht 200 which includes lunch, wine, spirits and soft drinks. Sign up as soon as possible with Ruth Kennedy - a separate sheet will be posted on the notice board of the British Club. Meanwhile, keep the date free for this, our BIG EVENT of the year.

FEBRUARY

- 6 STABLEFORD
- 9/10/11 HUA HIN GOLF WEEKEND
- 13 L.G.U. MEDAL (1st of the New Year)
- 17 KITCHEN SINK at THE ROSE GARDEN
- 22/23 FLOGG CHAMPIONSHIPS
- 27 L.G.U. MEDAL

SOCCKER  SOCCER

SCOTLAND
 AND
 THE WORLD CUP

Professor Alistair North, the Scottish
 President of AIT, assesses Scottish Hopes
 in the World Cup finals ...

AS the finals of The World Cup approach, the sporting columns of the press have been considering the merits of the rival teams. Scotland has been dismissed with the description that only the Scots take their chances seriously, and that past performances have revealed an ethnic flair for self-destruction. The assessment is quite correct, of course, but in this materialistic age the words belittle the romantic spirit of the Celt.

To understand the Scottish psyche one must realise that over millennia Scots have fought glorious battles, winning a few, but while

doing so losing the wars. They have been driven remorselessly north and west until now they perch precariously on the far corner of Europe, sandwiched between the vandal hordes from Eurasia on the one side and the raging waters of the North Atlantic on the other. They have been able to retain an ethnic identity only by ignoring the final defeat, focussing instead on individual moments, and by dreaming of a great future victory. They relive "recent" (1346) glories on the field of Bannockburn, and forget Culloden, Flodden and the Highland Clearances.

To lose faith in himself, to the Scot, is the final push over the edge of Europe into the sea below.

There is no doubt that the grey Atlantic days and long winter nights give rise to self-destructive clinical melancholia. The Scandinavians have it too. There, however, European thoroughness has kept it strictly within the bounds of occasional alcoholism and suicide, and never let it intrude onto the field of play. To the Celts, however, romance, depression and reality do not just complement each other, they are one and the same thing. There is no distinction between the dream and the event. Man really is at the mercy of the mythological supernatural. By blaming failure on capricious fates, so can the Scot gather self-confidence for the next endeavour.

As he stands on his rocky headland, squinting against the ever blowing Atlantic gales, the Scot stares beyond the far horizon searching for a chance to rebuild some long forgotten glory. This urge has taken him to North America, Assam, Malaysia, Hong Kong and New Zealand. He has sought far and wide for his destiny, as often travelling in the engine room as in the captain's cabin.

It is part of the mystic composition of the Scot that he can see, and empathise with, the very soul of machinery. They are sentient

beings together, dispatched by southern masters to cross the oceans of the world. I suspect the Christianity of the Scot is only skin deep. In private he still communes with his former Gods, the spirits of the winds and waves, and now of the machine.

So as the Scottish team takes the field, the heads of the players will be filled with the roars, not of the crowds, but of the wild Atlantic gales; their ears will hear not the inane songs of their supporters, but the grand music of the pipes, now thrilling, now haunting, now vibrating the whole body, now snatched away by the storm. They will not look at their opponents in green, yellow, red or white, but through them to the radiance spreading from the distant horizon. So they will, again, be pushed back to their remote fastness. They will go consoling themselves that they did better than the Patagonians, their geographic counterparts in the southern hemisphere. Safely home, while outside the cold wind and rain howl about them, and while down south the world steadily changes, they will again compose ballads about some few great moments, and dream on about the grandeur that is only just out of reach. Perhaps next time...

SQUASH  SQUASH

THE next few months will be real beltors for all squashies and what a lot of them there are these days - long may it continue.

February should bring two annual trophies to be contested. Early in the month, there will be the handicap with all players on the ladder eligible for entry. Finals weekend is set for 17-18th February, so good luck to all. Later in the month we will have the Harold Mercer trophy. Please see squash notice boards for details of these events.

March will be another league month with lots of movement up and down the ladders for everyone. March 16 will be the A.G.M. for the Squash Section. It will be at 7.30 p.m. with free food and drink supplied by the section. Yes, free nosh and booze (for the more collo-

quially minded) on Friday (so you stand a chance of winning the accumulator as well!), March 16. We are one of the largest and most active sections in the Club and would like to hear more from all the players about how the section should be run, what improvements they would like to see made etc etc. You may even want to join the Committee or write the column in "OUTPOST", if so let's be hearing from you.

April will hopefully see a "Fun Squash Weekend" in Pattaya. Pencil in April 6-7 and we'll keep you informed. The idea is to travel down on the 6th and play the squash (nothing too serious) on the 7th. The rooms will be subsidised (it probably won't cost you anything!) and there will be a free dinner as well. Any sponsors for that weekend will be very welcome,

so please, all executives check your P.R./sponsorship budgets and support your Club.

In May, we will be going one better and, subject to confirmation from Penang, we will be going to visit them from 5-8th May. Again we are looking for sponsors for this event but every player will receive some financial assistance from the squash section towards airfare/hotel. Make a note, we want a large party to go down there for a bit of squash and a lot of fun.

Finally for this month, can someone tell me what is happening at the top of the ladder? Yes, I think it is great that Tony and Val Austin

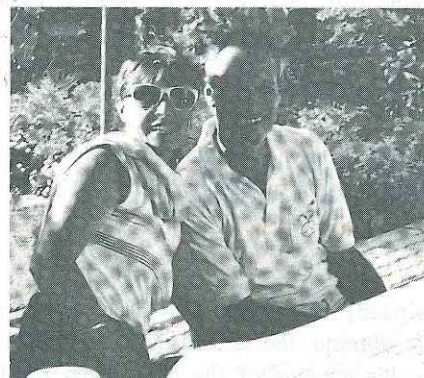
have become grandparents with the birth of a daughter to their son in Australia, congratulations to all. Yes, I think Val should enter some "Glamorous Grandmother" competitions and I'm sure she'd win. No, I do not think it funny that the number one on the Squash ladder (at time of writing) should be a grandfather. It's not saying a lot for the rest of us is it? Perhaps we should bring in dope testing before Tony wins the Grand National. Hopefully normal service will be resumed as soon as possible.

See you in court,

Mel Leddy

TENNIS TENNIS

ROUND ROBIN
January



The organisers Phyl Xumsai and Mike Poustie with "Aren't we wonderful organisers" smiles.



"Isn't my son wonderful, he is a member of the winning team."



The winning 'B' team left to right: Chairman M.P., Anita Hughes, David Jenkins, Leresia Cooney, Steve Leddy & Chris Paustie.

CHESS CHESS



ONLY one match was played over the last month and that was against the Germans or more precisely - STAMMTISCH - a team based at a bar cum restaurant of the same name at the respectable end of Sukhumvit Soi 23. The match was held at the British Club and five minutes before the start the B.C. were two players short of the necessary six. The unsuspecting Jeremy Ponsford was press-ganged from the bar and Rob Reiner eventually managed to trough his meal to take his place at the board. We had previously easily beaten this team in the Vliestra Cup competition in April however with several new players in the B.C. side the Germans managed to win the day.

BRITISH CLUB		STAMMTISCH
Bob Gosling	0	1 Peter Weber
James Nichols	1/2	1/2 Bert Marsbach
Harry Davie	0	1 Horst Bohling
Rob Reiner	0	Pavinee Wienands
Martin Dealy	0	Klaus Dasctal
Jeremy Ponsford	1	Leo Wienands

The score was even more surprising since our recruit of five minutes was the only winner. Harry Davie did well on board 3 lasting longer than the distance in his first outing for the B.C. The apres chess consisted of lots of beer and we have been invited to play at STAMMTISCH early in the new year. We will be out for the revenge.

Any member interested in playing chess at any level should contact James Nichols telephone No. 236-8831 (office).

Aerobic Exercise Classes

CLASSES WILL RECOMMENCE ON THE 2ND OF FEBRUARY - 9.00 A.M.

The classes consist of warm-ups, aerobic dance section, floor routines and cool-down.
ANY SHAPE ANY SIZE AND ANY AGE

Dates : Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays - 9.00 a.m.
 Place : The Suriwongse Room (air-conditioned)

For further detail call ASHA : 213-2134



"You both appear to be in excellent health."

COMMITTEE



BRIAN HEATH
 (Chairman)
 Office: 282-9605
 Home : 321-1723
 Fax : 282-9602



HUGH SALMON
 (Membership)
 Office: 233-8355
 Home : 260-1971
 Fax : 237-1546



VINCENT SWIFT
 (Vice-Chairman
 Membership)
 Office: 255-2356
 Home : 258-8522
 Fax : 253-9189



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 (Entertainment)
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 Home : 316-8653-4
 Fax : 316-8312



JACK DUNFORD
 (Club Development)
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 Home : 286-1356
 Fax : 238-3520



NIGEL OAKINS
 (Club Development)
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 Home : 260-1956
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RICHARD GREEN
 (Entertainment)
 Office: 253-0191
 Home : 258-9353
 Fax : 253-7124



ANDREW McDOWELL
 (Sport)
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 Home : 286-7672
 Fax : 236-8155



PAUL MYERS
 (Treasurer)
 Office: 249-0483
 Home : 259-3238
 Fax : 249-0489



KEITH BELL
 (Manager)
 Office: 234-0247
 Fax : 235-1560



TERRY ADAMS
 (Sport)
 Office: 237-6700-2
 Home : 321-6699
 Fax : 237-6702

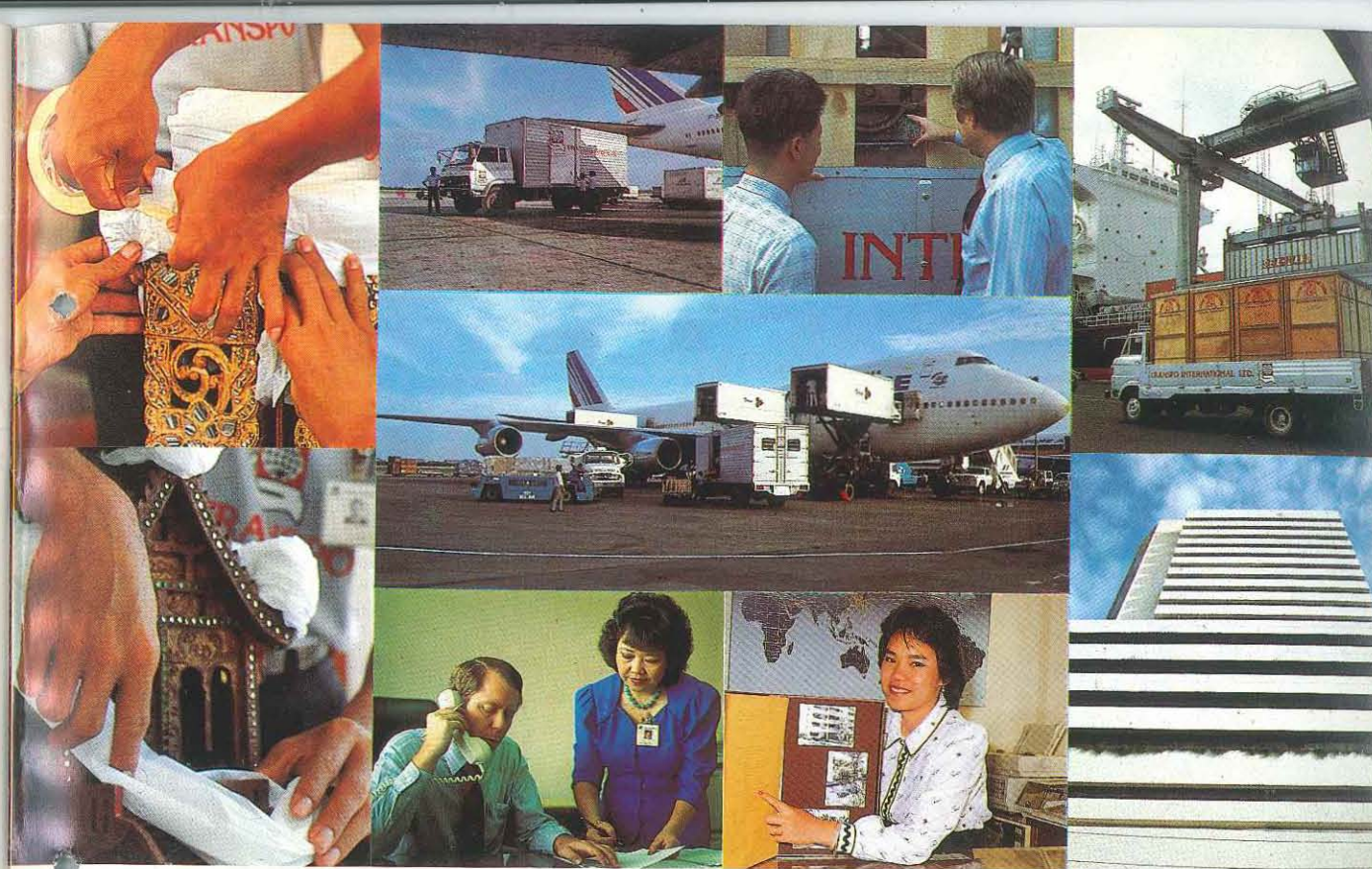


SURAPOL EKWANAPOL
 (Assistant Manager :
 Food & Beverage)
 Office: 234-0247
 234-2592
 Home : 393-9049
 Fax : 235-1560

ACTIVITIES

ANYONE WHO IS INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN ANY ASPECT OF THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES SHOULD CONTACT :

BILLARDS/SNOOKER	- RON ARMSTRONG	390-2445
CHESS	- JAMES NICHOLS	236-8834
CRICKET	- BRIAN LEWIS	253-0557
DARTS	- ANNE DOUGLAS	311-1324
GOLF	- LLOYD HOUGHTON	252-0435
LADIES' GOLF	- PENNY WHALLEY	286-1463
OUTPOST	- MAREN WHITE	{ Home 258-1481 Work 236-0041 x 37
RUGBY	- PETER SNELL	236-7879
SCUBA DIVING	- CHRISTIAN BOUTEILLIER	(see notice board)
SOCCER	- ALEX FORBES	260-1950
SQUASH	- TONY AUSTIN	278-1557
STAMP COLLECTING	- PATRICK WINDELER	391-8691
SWIMMING	- ERIKA MAJER	252-7492
TENNIS	- JULIA FREEMAN	287-1268



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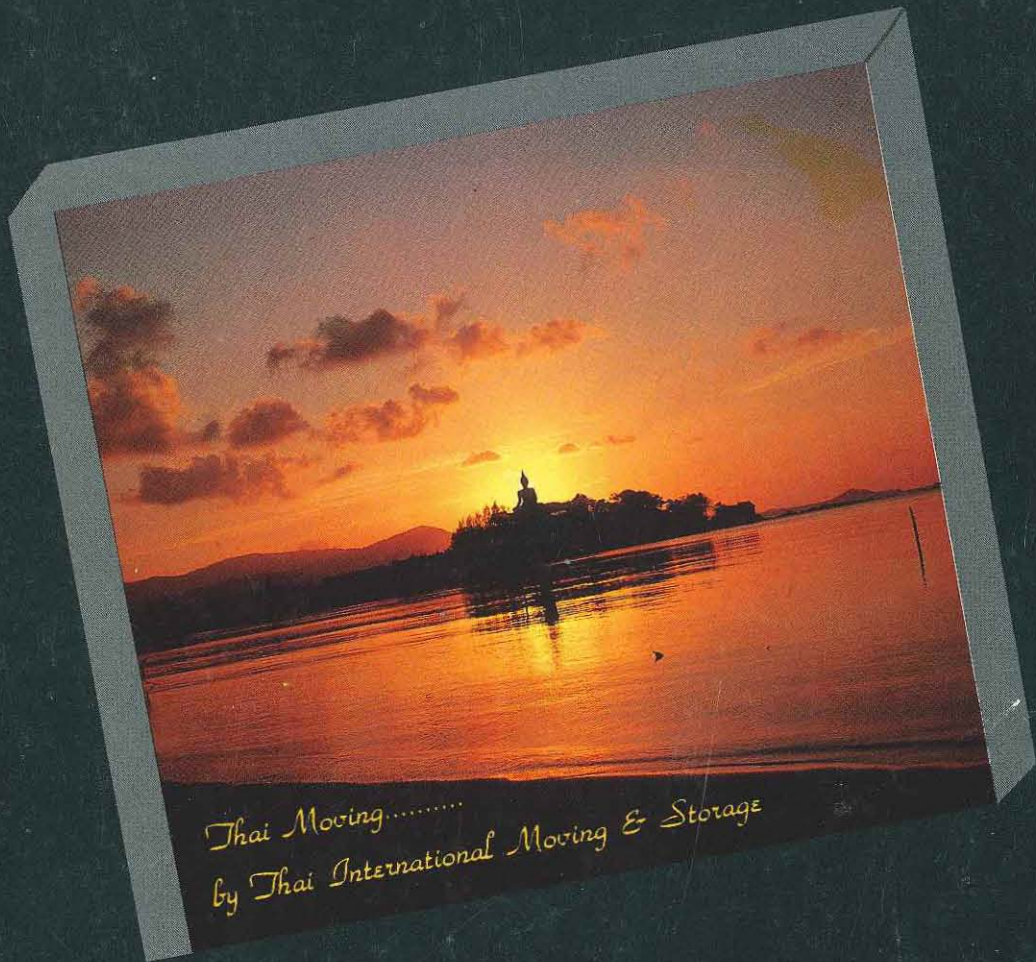


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