



OUTPOST

MAGAZINE

FEBRUARY • 2003



Party People



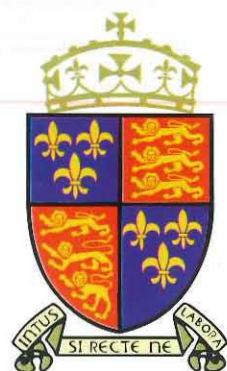
Christmas Party



Golfers at Rest



Monkeying Around



OPEN FOR ENROLMENT NOW

SHREWSBURY
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Shrewsbury International School Bangkok is accepting applications for enrolment for the academic year commencing September 2003.

Under the proven stewardship skills of its Headmaster, Stuart Morris, MA, Shrewsbury International School Bangkok is committed to the personal development of every pupil in a caring environment that brings out the best within each child.

Shrewsbury International School Bangkok is a new, riverside school (located near Sathorn Bridge) for children aged 3-18 years. It has been established in partnership with 450-year-old Shrewsbury School in England.

Shrewsbury International School Bangkok aims to prepare Thai and international pupils for admission to the world's top universities.

For information, please contact Khun Mem at (662) 231 5805-9.
E-mail: enquiries@shrewsburythailand.com
www.shrewsburythailand.com



Contents

REGULAR FEATURES

Calendar	9
Crossword	21
General Manager's Message	4
Hellos and Goodbyes	7
New Members Night	7
Relaxed Regulars - Messing About at the Club	8
Sports Update - Lights, Camera, Action	8
What's On - Love Is In The Air...	25
Reciprocal Club's - Penang Swimming Club, Malaysia	26
Club Port la Galère, France	26

SPORTS

Golf - Festive Fun with BC Golfers	10
Scuba - Take the Plunge	16

MEMORIES OF 2002

Fun, Fantasy and Food	17
Childrens Christmas Party	17
Monkeying About in Lopburi	24
Member's Travels - Ko Lanta	18

FEATURES & EVENTS

Centenary Special - Drug-Eluting Stents	15
Centenary Timetable	13
Neilson Hays Annual Art Fair	26

February Advertisers

Many thanks to our advertisers this month, without whom this magazine would not be possible:

- Chubb/Guardforce
- Dulwich International College, Phuket
- Holistic Health Systems
- Jentana & Associates
- Lawton
- Metro Magazine
- Papa Alfredo's
- Portsmouth Mann International Ltd
- Shrewsbury International School
- SriLankan Airlines Limited

The British Club is a family, social and sporting club, set in relaxing grounds, conveniently located between Silom and Surawongse Roads, with an ever-growing international membership.

For details about the Club contact the Membership Marketing staff at:

The British Club

189 Surawongse Road, Bangkok 10500
Tel: (0) 2234 0247
Fax: (0) 2235 1560
Email: britclub@loxinfo.co.th
Website: www.britishclubbangkok.org



OUTPOST MAGAZINE

The contents of this magazine are not necessarily the opinion of the Editor, the General Committee or the Management of the Club.

OUTPOST Magazine is produced on behalf of the British Club by The Creative Partnership.
To advertise please contact
Mr. David Blowers or K. Saranluck at:

The Creative Partnership

2240/3-4 Chankaow Rd., Chongnontri,
Yannawa, Bangkok 10120, Thailand
Tel: (0) 2285 4721-3 Fax: (0) 2678 1292
Email: creativ@loxinfo.co.th
Website: www.creativethailand.com



Dear Members,

Welcome to the year of the Sheep for those of you who celebrate the Chinese New Year.

This month we are organising some interesting activities. For the Centenary Year, the British Club Street Party will be held on the lawns on 8 February 2003. Please remember the Valentine's Dinner at the Lord's Dining Room on 14 February and a romantic boat cruise on the Chao Phraya River on Saturday, 15 February 2003. As a food promotion at the Lord's Dining Room, this month we will highlight the beautiful and mouth-watering flavours of the Middle East on 27 and 28 February 2003.

On Tuesday, 11 February there will be a General Manager's Night at the Churchill Bar.

On Sunday, 9 February we will organise the first swimming gala of the year.

A lot of Members showed interest in the Junior Sport Coaching. There are still some places left open for the different sports (tennis, swimming, squash, cricket).

During the Mid Term week in the third week of February (17 to 20) there will be another sports camp with a large variety of activities for the children.

Now the busy Christmas season is behind us we have started the staff training schedules again in the kitchens and all services areas. Any feedback about the services provided by the Club are welcome - either positive or constructive comments - in order to improve the service levels at the Club.

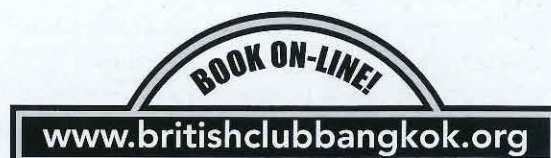
The toilet renovation at the Club House has been delayed and is likely to finish towards the end of the month. Also the children's changing room behind the Silom Sala will be completed by the end of February 2003.

I would like to remind all Members who are inviting guests to the Club that their guests have to be registered in the guest sign-in book at the reception or Suriwongse Sala.

I am looking forward to see you at your Club in a not too distant future.

Yours sincerely,

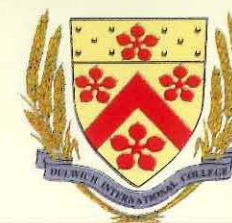
Willem T. P. Pentermann
General Manager



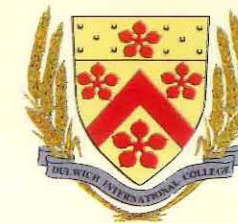
COMMITTEE CONTACTS

The British Club General Committee 2002/2003

Name		Tel	Fax	Email
Bob Marchant	Chairman	(0) 2602 3603-6	(0) 2602 3060	bobm@asiabell.co.th
Chris Moore	Vice-Chairman	(0) 2740 4521	(0) 2740 4530	lasanne@loxinfo.co.th
Paul Cheesman	Vice-Chairman/ Honorary Secretary	(0) 2677 5246	(0) 2677 5246	paulc@loxinfo.co.th
Nick Bellamy	Treasurer	(0) 2955 0099 x 8760	(0) 2955 0300	nbellamy@th.mweb.co
David Eastgate		(0) 2672 0123-5	(0) 2672 0127	davide@loxinfo.co.th
James Young		(0) 2712 5407-9	(0) 2712 5410	asiapac@mozart.inet.co.th
Sarah Allen		(0) 2618 7813	(0) 2618 7811	sarahem@ksc.th.com
Simon Davies		(0) 2253 7719	(0) 2253 7504	simon@jts.jp.co.th
Bruce Hill		(0) 2937 4940	(0) 2937 4952	subru@loxinfo.co.th
Angela Daniel		(0) 2258 8495	(0) 2258 8495	ange@loxinfo.co.th



Dulwich International College



British education at one of Asia's finest boarding schools



Co-educational day and boarding...Excellent purpose-built facilities...Close links with Dulwich College, London...Active, caring boarding programme...Safe, beautifully landscaped campus...From 18 months to 18 years old...Nursery to Year 13...IGCSE and IB...Small class sizes...Boarding from 9 years old...New Primary School...
Only 80 minutes from Bangkok!

Dulwich International College is an IB World School, accredited by WES, and a member of ECIS, FOBISSEA and COBISSEC

Bangkok: tel. 0 2512 0466-7, fax. 0 2512 0468; Phuket: tel. 0 7623 8711-20, fax. 0 7623 8750

Email: info@dulwich-phuket.com

<http://www.dulwich-phuket.com>

Many thanks go to the following
Sponsors Club Centenary Book.



ทศก. เอ.เอ็ม.ที. มาริกัน
AMT MARICAN LTD., PART.



HARROW
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
BANGKOK

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS

BERGER
THE PAINT PROFESSIONALS



SHREWSBURY
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



BNH HOSPITAL
โรงพยาบาลบีเอ็นเอช
(Bangkok Nursing Home Hospital)

FROZEN PENSION IN THE U.K.?

LIKE TO KNOW WHAT YOUR OPTIONS ARE?

IT'S SIMPLER THAN YOU THINK

For further details and a free analysis call Gavin Broad
on **252 8405**, alternatively fax this form to us on **253 9500**.

Name: _____

Tel: _____

Fax: _____

Address: _____

73/8 Soi 4, Sukhumvit Road,
Bangkok 10110, Thailand

Tel: 252 8405 Fax: 253 9500

Email: invest@portsmouth-mann.com



FRIENDS PROVIDENT

— *One-stop shopping for life assurance and pensions* —

NEW MEMBERS' NIGHT

The Churchill Bar is the place to be for new Members, and what a chatty crowd we had at the last New Members' Night in January. Newcomers to the Club came to meet each other over a drink (or two) and introduced themselves, via Outpost, to the full Club membership. This is always a good evening and this night was no exception! All Members are welcome to come along and join in the merriment (remember, as it's always held on a Tuesday, it's also Ladies' Night).

GREG JONES

Canadian

A man with a mission - Greg loves playing ice hockey and is searching for a team who need a goalie! Can anybody out there help??? When not working for Golden Land Property Development (or stopping pucks in goal) Greg plays tennis and aims to live life to the full during his planned four years in the City of Angels.



IAN & BETTY STEWART

Scottish

After 24 years in Hong Kong and one in Australia, Betty and Ian are discovering the joys of life in Bangkok. Ian works with American Express Travel Division and both he and Betty enjoy playing golf, wine & malt whisky tasting, flower arranging and of course, travelling.



GRAHAM & SUE RICHARDSON

British



Graham, a Reservoir Engineer for Elf and Sue, ex-teacher and mother of two small children, are new-comers to the expat life and are raring to go! They both enjoy swimming, travelling and adventures and Graham is looking to get his handicap down to Tiger's level. Sue helps run Bambi's Ladybird group and is involved with the St. David's Society (Welsh family) and St. Andrew's Society (8 years living in Aberdeen). Their ambitions include surviving the traffic, learning the lingo, start teaching again and exploring Thailand as easily as possible with two kids - any hints and tips gratefully received!

STEWART & SUSAN MORRIS

British



Stewart has the unenviable task of opening Shrewsbury International School and then controlling hundreds of expat children! He and Susan have been in Bangkok since 1998 and are well-known within the community. Golf and aerobics are their chosen forms of exercise and they both like to travel.

Hellos and Goodbyes

Please join us in welcoming the following new Members and their families. We look forward to seeing them around the Club.

Mr. Anond Smith
Mr. Gregory Cohen
Mr. Stephen Bennett
Dr. Sharon Peacock
Mr. Grant Walker
Mr. William Hewitson
Miss Katalya Bruton
Mr. David Littlejohn
Mr. Adrian Flint

Mr. Joseph de Petro
Mr. Gavin Higgins
Mr. Chris Stanley
Mr. Keith Lowe
Mr. Pratin Ghose

Welcome back to:

Mrs. Juthamas Tangsantikul
Mr. Graham Mattison

Farewell and good luck
to the following departing
Members and their families:

**Richard &
Suphaiwan O'Keefe**
Charles & Chantal Dunn
Mr. Ian Howard
Mr. Glenn Mills

Messing About at The Club

GENTLEMEN'S SPOOF

Tuesday Evenings - Churchill Bar

Join the gents on Tuesdays for this spiffing spoofing bar game.



The Spoofers hard at it in the Churchill Bar and how to recognise them!

LADIES'S NIGHT

Tuesday Evenings - Churchill Bar

From 6.00pm til midnight, ladies can enjoy any of our cocktails for B 80 only.

TUESDAY BRIDGE NIGHT

Churchill Bar

We continue to enjoy a friendly game of Bridge every Tuesday evening in the non-smoking area of the Churchill Bar. Refer to the Calendar page for contact details.

BAR ACCUMULATOR

Wednesday Evenings - Churchill Bar

Every member (and spouse) has the chance to win the every-growing cash prize. All you have to do is be in the Bar when your membership number is drawn from the hat. You can't win if you're not there!

WEDNESDAY DART NIGHT

Churchill Bar

Join the lads and lasses every Wednesday evening in the bar for a friendly game of 'arrows'. Everyone is most welcome, regardless of whether you can hit the board or not!

CHILDREN'S MOVIE NIGHT

Friday Night

Join us in the Silom sala for our regular Friday screening of great movies for the children at 7.00pm. No charge for the kids.

PLAY AWAY!

Sunday Afternoons - Silom Room

Play time for children, jointly organised by the British Club and Kids Care. Lots of interesting activities followed by a movie. No charge for this event. Starts at 2.00pm.

Art Attack Classes

by Vanessa Christian from 1.30pm - 3.00pm
Start on Saturday, 18 January
Charge: B 5000 for 12 weeks, 2 make up sessions.
Please register at reception.

SPORT'S UPDATE

Lights, Camera, Action



Junior Cricket started on Sunday, 19 January 2003

Time:	9.00am - 11.00am
Venue:	Back Lawn - Cricket Nets
Charge:	B 3,000 for 10 lessons
Trainer:	Mr. Brian Wiggins, qualified Australian coach

Junior Tennis started on 17 January 2003

Beginners:	age 5 and 8	4.00pm - 4.30pm	B 3,000
Intermediate:	age 9 - 11 years	4.30pm - 5.30pm	B 4,000
Advanced:	age 12 - 16 years	5.30pm - 6.30pm	B 5,000
Charges are based on a 10 week session			
Coaches:	Zubin and Piyanart Engineer		

Junior Squash started on Friday, 17 January 2003

Mini squash 5 - 7 years of age	4.30pm - 5.15pm
Junior Squash 8 - 10 years of age	5.15pm - 6.00pm
Venue:	Squash Court Number 3
Charge:	B 1,900 for 10 lessons

Junior Swimming with the Bangkok Dolphins

The Friday lessons started on 17 January 2003 and Saturday lessons on 18 January 2003
Charge: B 3,000 for 10 lessons

Taekwondo lessons started on Sunday, 19 January 2003

Time:	10.30am - 12.00nn
Venue:	Squash Court Number 3
Charge:	B 1,800 for 10 lessons

Aqua Aerobics

Wet exercises started on 14 January 2003	
Time:	10.30am - 11.30am
Venue:	Main Pool every Tuesday and Thursday
Charge:	B 2,500 for 10 lessons
Trainer:	Els van den Broecke

Aerobics

Started on Monday, 13 January 2003
Start the week fit and healthy with classes held every Monday morning.
From 9.30am - 10.30am in Squash Court 3
B 3,000,- for 10 lessons

Although all the sports activities have started already, Members can still join on a pro rata basis, subject to availability.

CALENDAR

BRITISH CLUB SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT CALENDAR - FEBRUARY 2003



SPORTS

9.00am - midday	Squash Coaching
9.00am - 1.30pm	BC Swimming Instruction

SPORTS

7.00am - 1.00pm	Tennis Team Practice
9.00am - 11.00am	Junior Cricket
10.30am - midday	Taekwondo
11.00am - 1.00pm	Badminton - Soi Nares
2.00pm - 4.00pm	Children's Activities
3.00pm - 6.00pm	Tennis Mix-in
3.00pm	Yoga

SPORTS

8.00am	BWG Mahjong
9.30am	Aerobics
7.00pm - 9.00pm	Tennis Team Practice

SPORTS

7.00am	Ladies Golf
8.00am - 10.00am	Ladies' Tennis
10.30am - 11.30am	Aqua Aerobics
11.30am	Yoga
2.00pm - 5.30pm	Swim with the Bangkok Dolphins
2.00pm - 7.00pm	BC Swimming Instruction
7.00pm - 9.00pm	Football Training
CHURCHILL BAR ACTIVITIES	
6.00pm - midnight	Ladies' Night
8.00pm - 11.00pm	Friendly Bridge
9.00pm	Gentlemen's Spoof

SPORTS

6.00pm - 9.00pm	Tennis Mix-in
6.30pm	Cricket Nets
CHURCHILL BAR ACTIVITIES	
7.00pm	Darts
7.00pm	Accumulator

SPORTS

8.00am - 10.00am	Ladies Tennis
10.30am - 11.30am	Aqua Aerobics
6.00pm - 9.00pm	Squash mix-in
7.00pm - 9.00pm	Rugby Training
9.00pm - 10.00pm	Hockey Training

SPORTS

9.00am	ANZWG Mahjong
3.30pm - 6.00pm	BC Tennis Coaching for Children
4.30pm - 5.15pm	Mini Squash
5.15pm - 6.00pm	Junior Squash
5.00pm	Tennis Mix-in
5.30pm	Swimming - Junior Squad Training
6.00pm - 7.00pm	Adult Tennis
6.30pm - 9.00pm	Poolside BBQ
7.00pm	Children's Movie Night

February at a Glance

Friday 7	Wine Tasting
Saturday 8	BC Street Party
Sunday 9	Swimming Gala
Tuesday 11	Club Manager's Night
Saturday 15	Valentine's River Cruise
17 - 20	BC Sports Camp
27 & 28	Middle East Food Promotion

See What's On, page 25, and GM's Message for more details

Sports - Contacts

Badminton	Anant Leighrahathorn	0 2654 0002-29
Bridge	Winlock Hsu/Charlene Wang	0 2921 6015
Cricket	André Tissera	0 2238 2718-21
Darts	Fitness Centre	0 2234 0247
Football	Martin Conisbee	01 860 4874
Golf	Karen Carter	0 2285 6169
Spoofers	Steve Eaton	0 2237 9262
Rugby	Jon Prichard	0 2662 6376
Scuba Diving	Peter Gary	0 2634 7799
Snooker	Khun Kittisak	01 633 9490
Squash	Peter Corney	01 829 2253
Tennis	Terry Adams	01 639 3856

Loyal Societies

St George's	Angela Stafford	0 2632 0560 x 3037
St Andrew's	Meilan Henderson	0 2259 0586
St Patrick's	Ian Kane	0 2678 1813 x 1738
St David's	Basia Filzek	02 286 1348

Venues

Badminton	Soi Nares, behind Bangrak Police Station
Aerobics	Wordsworth Room
Casuals Football	Colgate Ground, Rama III
Massage	Near the Silom Sala

Opening Times

10.00am - 11.00pm	Churchill Bar
11.30am - 2.00pm	Lords Restaurant (Lunch)
6.00pm - 10.00pm	Lords Restaurant (Dinner)
7.30am - 10.00pm	Poolside Bar
6.00am - 9.00pm	Fitness Centre
9.00am - 6.00pm	Thai Massage (Tues-Sun)

Festive Fun with BC Golfers

I know that this is now February and you're probably not feeling all that "festive" but back in December/January the British Club golfers were in the mood for some fun.

December Medal at Royal Lad Krabang

We had an excellent turn out of 32 players for the final medal of the year at Royal on 29th December. It was a lovely cool day and with many people out of town for the holidays the course was practically empty. This made for a hassle-free round with no waiting and everyone teeing off on time.

It was great to see our Captain Phil Hall with us again and he obviously enjoyed his round, finishing third in B flight. We were also joined by six guests on the day. They were Carl Egan, John Carter, Tracey Birchall, Bruce Williamson, Todd Smith and Jo Palmer.

The conditions were perfect and this was reflected in some excellent scoring. The winners of each flight all came in with under-par scores. Brian Brook won A Flight with a net 66, Ed Ashman triumphed in B flight with a net 65 and C flight was won by Mick Murphy with a net 69.

Ed Ashman also picked up two technical prizes with near pins on holes 3 and 13. Edwin Ferner was nearest on hole number 7 and one of our guests, Carl Egan, was nearest the pin on the 17th hole.

The ladies' long drive went to another guest, Tracey Burchill. Brian Brook picked up the prize for the men's long drive.

Results

A Flight

- 1st Brian Brook net 66
- 2nd Gareth Sampson
- 3rd Karen Carter

B Flight

- 1st Edward Ashman net 65
- 2nd Barry Ashman
- 3rd Phil Hall

C Flight

- 1st Mick Murphy net 69
- 2nd Edwin Ferner
- 3rd David Eastgate

Congratulations to all the winners.

Three Club Challenge at Suphapruek

On the last day of 2002, the BC golfers were out in force at Suphapruek for the Three Club Challenge. For those of you unfamiliar with this format, each player is only allowed to take three clubs and their putter out on the course with them. Thirty two players took up the challenge and there were some excellent scores. Makes you wonder why we spend so much on clubs when it seems that only three are needed for a good score!

It was great to have Phil Hall with us again for this event but sadly this may be the last time we see him until the AGM in February. It's terrible when work gets in the way of golf! Tom McKay was our winner, on countback, with 39 points. In second place was Chris Poustie also with 39 points. John Carter was third with 37 points. We had three players in fourth place, all with 33 points. They were: Mike Poustie, John Sands and Mike Staples. The technical prizes were hotly contested. Karen Carter picked up the near pin on hole 2. Duncan McKay was nearest on the 6th. Bob Crawford got the near pin on hole 14 and John Sands won the near pin on the 16th. Mike Staples got the men's longest drive with Joom White winning the ladies.

A big "thank you" to Bridget Snow for keeping me up to date with all the BC golfers antics while I was back in the UK.

Hangover Cure at Bangkok Riverside

Our game at Bangkok Riverside on January 5th was advertised as the perfect hangover cure. I must say that anyone still suffering from a hangover on the 5th of January must have had a spectacularly drunken Hogmanay! Mind you, there were one or two of us who were feeling a little fragile on the day so this was the perfect tonic. The format of the day was bogey golf – matchplay against the course. There was also a putting competition for the player with the

fewest putts over eighteen holes. We had twenty-four players working off their hangovers and, judging by the scoring, it was the course that was left feeling a little jaded rather than the BC golfers!

David Lamb finished in third place, five up against the course. His prize – a six pack of coke, the perfect hangover cure. Peter Gale came second with +6 and picked up a jar of coffee – to be served strong and black for the morning-after-the-night-before. Our winner



Kevin and the Snobs

was Mike Staples who was also six up against the course but pipped Peter at the post with more plusses on the back 9. Mike's prize was the hair of the dog – a bottle of gin!



Mike's hairy dog!

The near pins went to David Lamb, Peter Gale and Gareth Sampson.

Dale Lamb won the men's long drive and Bridget Snow the ladies'. The putting competition was won by Barry Ashman with just 29 putts – a master at short approaches to the green!



Karen & Peter enjoy the soi dog version!



Ace Putter Barry Ashman

Fixture List

Here is a list of events scheduled for the beginning of 2003.

February

- Monday 17th (Makha Bucha Day) - Club Day, Vintage 11.04am with the AGM and BBQ at BC afterwards
Sunday 23rd - Medal 2, Royal Golf, 11:30am (Strokeplay)

March

- Saturday 1st - Sunday 2nd Intersocieties Golf, Nichigo, Kanchanaburi - contact your society convener for details and room bookings (rooms at Felix)
Sunday 9th - Club Day, Krung Kavee, 12:00noon
Sunday 23rd - Guest Day, Muang Kaew 12:00noon and BBQ at BC afterwards for players and guests
Sunday 30th - Medal 3, Khaow Kheo, 11:30am (Strokeplay)

April

- Saturday 5th to Monday 7th - Club Championship, Forest Hills, Khaow Yai, 11:00am and 8:30am (Strokeplay Men and Ladies). Note that the championship is over two rounds on Sat & Sun with a fun 4-ball scramble competition on Monday.

Vicky Jones



An impossible shot?



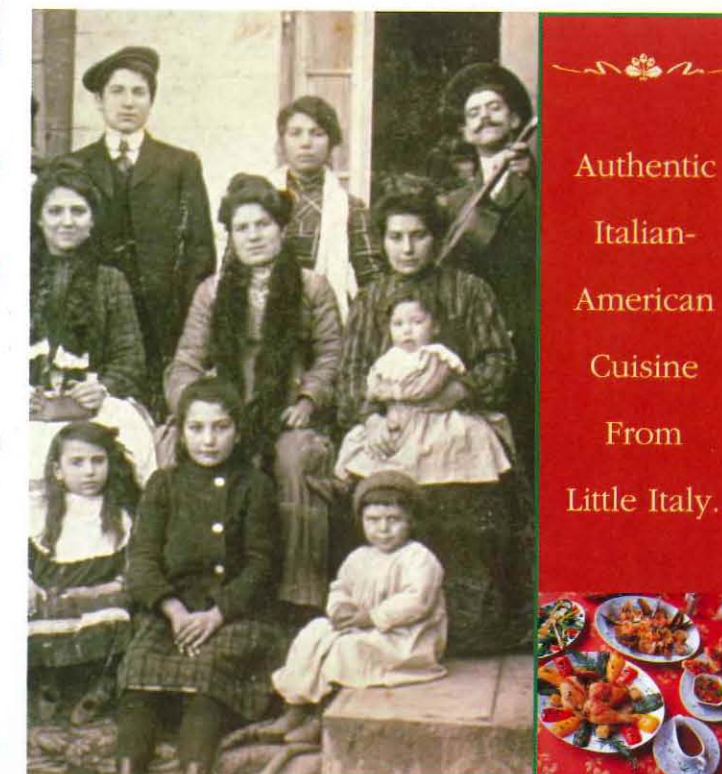
Orrin Baldwin wins her first medal



Vicky and Ray win the Castrol-sponsored Rysome Bowl



Maureen, Carol-Anne and Jo Jo at Royal



Authentic
Italian-
American
Cuisine
From
Little Italy.

"The reasonable prices and enormous portions will be a draw here..."
BK Magazine

"American Italian of the 1930's. A wholesome experience..."
Bangkok Post



Ground Floor, U Chu Liang Building, Rama 4 Rd., Silom
Tel: (662) 6324043 Fax: (662) 6324042

BRITISH CLUB CENTENARY

2003 at a Glance



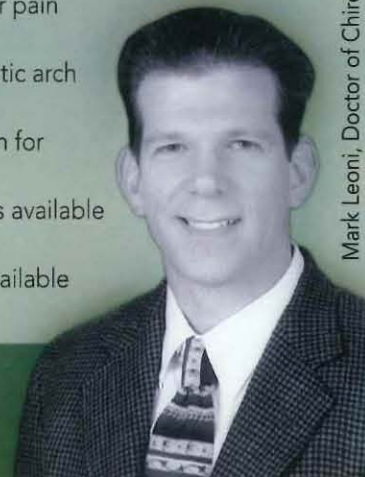
Holistic Health Systems Ltd.

Get fast relief from

- ✓ Lower Back Pain
- ✓ Neck Pain
- ✓ Headaches
- ✓ Tingling and numbness in the arms and legs
- ✓ Shoulder, arm and wrist pain
- ✓ Hip, knee, ankle and foot pain

By appointment only.
Flexible working hours
to accomodate even the
busiest of schedules.

- Chiropractic treatment
- Traditional adjusting techniques
- Gentle techniques for delicate patients
- Acupressure massage
- Fitness consulting
- Diet modification for pain control
- Custom made orthotic arch supports
- Posture re-education for children
- Psychology Referrals available when necessary
- Medical Referrals available when necessary



Mark Leoni, Doctor of Chiropractic (USA)

438/13 Sukhumvit Soi 63 (Soi Ekamai) Bangkok 10110
Telephone (0) 2711 5102 Mobile (0) 1627 0312
Email: leoni@loxinfo.co.th Website: www.thailandchiropractor.com

SPEAK THAI with CONFIDENCE

JA
Jentana & Associates



Learn to speak, read and write Thai with a personal Thai Teacher

Jentana & Associates has been successfully teaching Thai Language To foreign business people and visitors to Thailand for over 18 years.

Contact Jentana for more information on study options and fees.

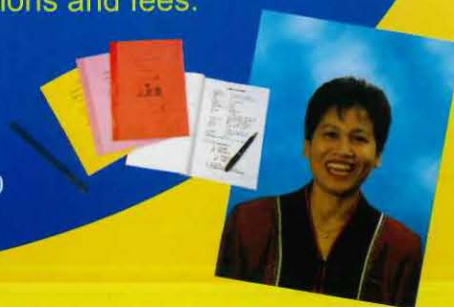
Jentana & Associates

5/8 Soi Sawatdii Sukhumvit 31
Klongtoey-Neua, Watanna,
Bangkok Thailand 10110

Tel: (66-2) 260-6138-9 Fax: (66-2) 259-8580

Mobile: (01) 808-5180

Email: jentana@loxinfo.co.th



February

Saturday 8 - BC British Street Party

1-3 - Chinese New Year
8 - New Zealand Ball
17 - Makha Bucha Day (T)

March

Saturday 1 - Music Through the Century

Sunday 30 - BC Tennis Championships
Saturday 29 - Food Promotion - Food of the Century

8 - St. David's Ball at JW Marriott Hotel
21 - St. Patrick's Ball at Conrad Hotel

April

Wednesday 23 - BC Centenary Book Launch
18-20 - Rugby Centennial Tournament

6 - Chakri Day (7 Holiday)
13-16 - Songkran



May

Thursday 15 - Exhibition of Photography 16-18 - Khao Yai Trip

1 - May Day (UK)
1 - National Labour Day (T)
2 - Early Holiday (Schools)
3-5 - May Squash Tournament
5 - Coronation Day (T)
10 - St. George's Ball
15 - Visakha Bucha Day

June

Saturday 7 - The British Jubilee Coronation Ball (Contact Sheena Gibson on 0 2254-1581 for more details)

July

1 - Mid-Year Day (Banks)



August

BC Sports Camp

12 - Mother's Day, H.M. The Queen's Birthday (T)

September

Saturday 13 - Family Sports Championships



October

BC Treasure Hunt
Saturday 11- BC Pink & Black Rugby Ball
Wednesday 15 - Trafalgar Night

5-14 - Vegetarian Festival, Phuket
23 - Chulalongkorn Day

November

Sunday 2 - Guy Fawkes Night
Saturday 8 - Fashion Show
14-16 - Surin Elephant Round-up
Saturday 8 - Loy Kratong

Ploenchit Fair (tbc)
29 - St. Andrew's Ball (Dance Practices on 3, 10, 17, 24 & 26)

December

Saturday 13 - Centenary Gala Dinner

4 - Centenary Spoofing Championships
5 - Father's Day, H.M. The King's Birthday (T)
10 - Constitution Day (T)
25 - Christmas Day
31 - New Year's Eve

Exclusive for expatriates!



Do you need to top up your life insurance and critical illness insurance cover during your stay in Thailand?

You may have some temporary need for additional life insurance and/or critical illness insurance during your posting in Thailand. However, it is difficult to arrange for additional insurance cover with your usual insurer whilst you are overseas. All you need is a yearly renewable term life insurance cover during your posting here, with the convenience of local service but the security of an international insurer. You also want to obtain the cover at premium rates comparable to that you can obtain at home but has discovered that life insurance and critical illness insurance cover is comparatively much more expensive here in Thailand than at your home country.

Zurich National Life then has the perfect solution for you. We have developed a product specific to the expatriate market where the policy term is only one year and guaranteed renewable each year at your discretion. The requirement for health check is much less stringent and the premium rates are up to 60% cheaper than comparative premium rates offered in Thailand.

For more information, please contact our special authorized representative for the expatriate community;

Mr. Jerome Kelly
Managing Director
Lawton Asia Co., Ltd.
Tel: 0-2679-1400
Fax: 0-2679-1401
Mobile: 0-1809-1809
E-mail: jerome@lawtonasia.co.th

Zurich National Life Assurance is a joint venture of Zurich Financial Services of Switzerland and National Financial Services Group of Thailand. Zurich operates in over 65 countries and has over US\$ 485 billion of assets under management. It has over 129 years of experience in the insurance field.

Zurich National Life Assurance Co., Ltd.
Glas Haus Building, 1 Sukhumvit 25, Wattana, Bangkok 10110 Tel: 0-2661-7888

CENTENARY SPECIAL



Drug-Eluting Stents: A Revolutionary Treatment for Patients with Coronary Artery Disease



In 1977, Dr. Andreas Gruentzig revolutionised the treatment for coronary artery disease by introducing the technique of 'balloon angioplasty', a procedure that opens up a blocked coronary artery using a balloon catheter system.

Article by Wiwun Tungsubutra, M.D.

Since then, "re-stenosis" or re-narrowing of the artery at the same previously treated site, has been the Achilles heel of interventional cardiology. One third to one half of patients who have successful angioplasty will return in three to six months with re-stenosis.

The exact mechanism for the development of re-stenosis is complex. There appears to be an overproduction of cells, similar to scar formation at the site of balloon injury. Re-stenosis is important because additional interventional procedures or even open heart surgery may be required to treat the re-blocking and is certainly not something any patient would look forward to experiencing.

Later on, coronary stents or small metal scaffolds that are permanently deployed into the coronary artery were developed. The stent is mounted on a balloon and is opened for deployment once inside the coronary artery.

Cardiologists have embraced stents since they were first implanted in human arteries in 1987 and currently use stents in more than 70% of coronary interventional procedures.

Stents reduce the re-stenosis rate to approximately 15-25% of all patients treated, but evidently have not eliminated the problem.

Over the years, many types of technologies have been researched to help solve the problem of re-stenosis. To date, the most promising approach is the use of drug-eluting stents. Drugs that have the property to interrupt the biological process of re-stenosis are being tested. A drug is coated on the stent with a process that enables the drug to be released over time into the surrounding coronary artery. This time-releasing of the drug is to slow down the growth of the scar tissue (the re-stenosis process) and allow the vessel to heal.

The drug-eluting stent that has been most extensively studied is the Cypher™ Rapamycin-eluting stent. Rapamycin is a drug usually used to prevent rejection in patients receiving organ transplants. Rapamycin uniquely acts on proteins that regulate the cell cycle and stops cells from dividing after vessel injury. The seminal SIRIUS trial, conducted in the US, compared the Rapamycin-eluting stent with bare metal stents. The study has shown extremely positive results with 8-month follow-up reporting a re-stenosis rate of only 3.2%, that is a 91% reduction over the control group treated with bare metal stents.

A variety of studies are currently underway testing different stents coated

with different chemotherapy agents. Assuming the long-term results are in line with the trials, the durability of interventional coronary procedures will increase with the introduction of drug-eluting stents and the patient's spectre of repeat procedures will be vastly reduced. The prospect of a world without re-stenosis would be a fantasy come true.

As cardiologists seek new and better ways to treat coronary artery disease, drug-eluting stents continue to gather momentum as the first potent therapy to prevent re-stenosis. The unprecedented efficacy demonstrated for the Rapamycin-coated stents do appear to be a revolution in the treatment of coronary artery disease.

**BNH Hospital, Cardiac Centre,
9/1 Convent Road, Silom,
Bangkok, 10500
Tel: 02 632 0550
Fax: 02 632 0579
Web: www.bnhhospital.com**

SCUBA

Take the Plunge

Congratulations to our newest Open Water Diver: Moira MacKay. We had very good dive conditions at Koh Man Wichai and Koh Rin. Moira is going to continue by taking the Advanced Open Water course soon.

This last month has brought several interesting changes. PADI has increased the instructor's liability annual insurance over 100% starting this year. Part of the reason stated was the 9/11 event. Somehow, I have serious reservations that any scuba divers were lost while training in the World Trade Towers or in the Pentagon on 9/11. Thailand does not yet require scuba instructors to be insured. This last increase will certainly not encourage existing or new instructors to apply voluntarily.

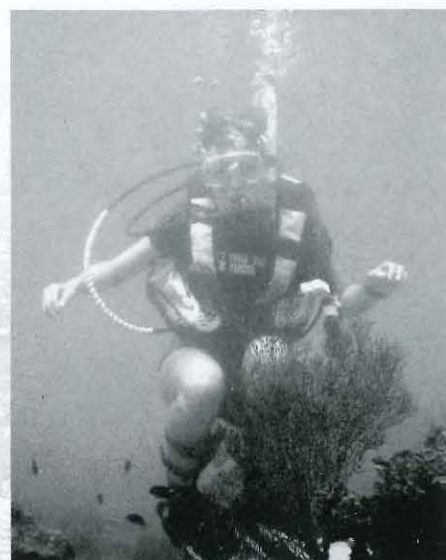
I am pleased to announce that I have found a dive boat that has many improvements over the former dive shop's boat and operations that I have been using for several years. The new boat, King Olav, is larger with a much quieter air compressor for filling their new tanks, the restroom is much nicer, tables and bench seats are firmly attached to the floor, the floors have been painted with sand to reduce slipping when wet. A generous lunch is included and served on the passenger deck, soft drinks and bottled drinking water are free. There is also a top deck for sun tanning. A large entry-exit aft diving platform with two ladders and rinsing hoses makes for pleasant entry and exits. The boat owner is on the boat and they are careful not to overfill the boat with divers. The staff is very helpful. For those that would like to try using the King Olav boat for diving in the Pattaya area please contact Claes Martinson, instructor and owner of Moose Divers. Their address is 75/28 Soi 5 Jomtien Moo 12 (north end of Jomtien

Beach) Tel. 038-231-874. Moose Diver's email address is scubamos@loxinfo.co.th and the mobile is 09-832-8732. British Club members who present their club cards when booking the boat will receive a 10% discount!

As many of my students already know, I discourage Open Water course students from purchasing any dive equipment during the course. I provide all the equipment during the course and want them to use it to gain a working knowledge of what to look for whenever they do decide to acquire any equipment. To make this more advantageous to the students who have completed the course, I have developed equipment discounts with Dive Supply in Bangkok and Aqua Master in Phuket. Between the two dive shops, my students and BCB members should be able to find a wide range of quality equipment to suit your diving requirements. Please give me a call first and I will be happy to help you with your selection and purchases.

The Scuba Diving Section's Activity Chart published in the BCB January 2003 issue of the OUTPOST and the BCB website will be updated frequently as specific dates and events are established. Please consult the website first and if further information is needed, call me on my mobile phone.

Peter Gary



Moira MacKay at 10 metres behind a seafan during her 4th Open Water dive.

MEMBERS' MEMORIES

Christmas Joy

On 17 December the Club was full of very happy youngsters celebrating the Children's Christmas Party. Santa had lots of willing helpers to make this day really special!

Many thanks to our sponsors for this wonderful event: Tesco Lotus, Nestlé and Coca-Cola.



Fun, Fantasy, Food

On 18 December 2002 the British Club hosted a Christmas Party for deaf children, and what an amazing day they all had!



This event was kindly sponsored by: Harrow International School, BCT, BAMBI, Tesco Lotus, Nestlé and Coca-Cola.

MEMBERS' TRAVELS

Trip to Ko Lanta – New Year 2003



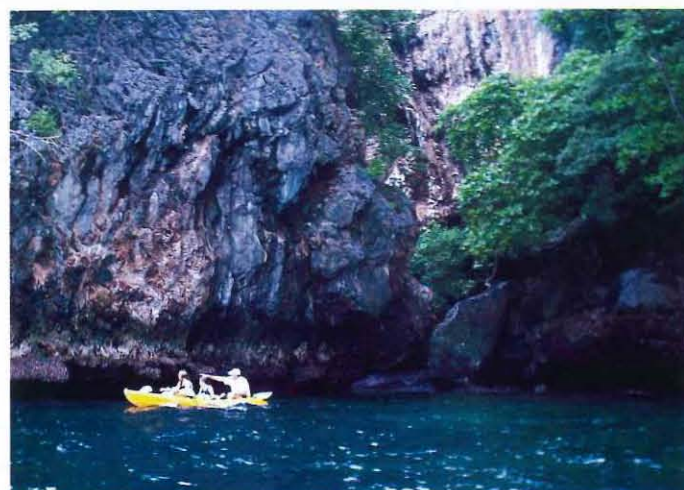
We set off the day after Boxing Day, in our mini-bus laden with bags containing mostly swim suits and tee shirts, plus snorkeling gear, sun block and several bottles of water. We reach our first destination, Hat Thung Wua Laen, or Hat Cabana, 12 km north of Chumphon, by 1:00 pm, much earlier than expected due to actually managing to leave early enough – soon after 7:00 am – to miss most of the Bangkok traffic. Approximately 420 km from Bangkok, Chumphon is about half way to our final destination of Ko Lanta. It is quite a find; the beach is lovely – not squeaky white sand, but fine, pale golden and clean, with perfect sea temperature and no signs of jellyfish. A delightfully tranquil spot, few foreign tourists – just a handful around the more upmarket resort, Chumphon Cabana Resort and Diving Center, further along the beach and where we're not staying due to not having booked early enough! Our bungalows at Seabeach Bungalow are comfortable: fan rooms with bathroom (shower plus squat toilet, no hot water but that's not a huge problem), for 300B – cheap enough to have three and spread ourselves out. With our four children now ranging in age from eight to 19 we are beyond putting up with squeezing in extra beds or extra bodies in our bed! The resort's restaurant, as listed in the Lonely Planet guide, seems to have been converted into a timber store, but we find a very pleasant restaurant along the beach for dinner. In the morning our resort conjures up breakfast – marmalade toasties and coffee for 25B – delivered to the room.

We spend two nights there, letting the soothing effects of the sea wash away all the Christmas stress. Another time we'll stay there longer and add on a trip to Ko Tao, the renowned diving island, three hours away by boat.

Then onwards into the deep south. Pass one huge Buddha image, then, like the Spirit houses, they vanish, replaced by signs to mosques. Increasing numbers of women on motorcycles wear head scarves. Mountains appear, limestone crags, the jungle thickens. We pass rows and rows of rubber trees, a wide diagonal stripe cut thinly through the bark from which the viscous white rubber flows into a half coconut shell. Coconut palms, the ubiquitous banana and papaya trees; palm trees, whose harvest will be piled onto the pick up trucks that scatter their excess spiky oil-filled kernels onto the road. Low jagged pineapple plantations, truck-loads of pomelos...

The Lonely Planet guide described the route we selected to Ko Lanta Yai – via the ferry from Ban Hua Hin to Ko Lanta Noi, then overland across to another ferry and finally to Ko Lanta Yai – as 'the slow way'.

Although it wasn't explicit (Lonely Planet Guides seldom provide information for car driving expatriates!) we had a hunch that 'the quickest way', involving a ferry that runs



direct from Krabi, will not allow us to take the car, so we take the first option. A kilometer from the pier we find out why it was described 'slow'. Over two hours later it is finally our turn to board the ferry – a simple barge that carries around twelve vehicles on the fifteen minute crossing. At least it isn't unbearably hot. We race across Ko Lanta Noi hoping to beat the queues to ferry number two only to find we have taken the route to a passenger ferry only and have to backtrack. Fortunately, the waiting time is not long and soon we are at our resort, Lanta Island Resort, amongst most of the mid to top range resorts along the northern end of the western side at Hat Khlong Dao.

Surprisingly few Thai tourists here – even in our resort which wasn't upmarket, if rather more so than the one at Chumphon. 720B per night for a fan bungalow here, but this time it comes with a 'proper' toilet (although ours manages to get blocked at regular intervals), hot water and full breakfast included. There's daily maid service and a pool, which is a welcome surprise and must have been added since the guide book was published. A pleasant beachside restaurant and bar from which it would be lovely to view the sunset if the climate this year hadn't decided



to surprise us all – it rains, heavily, every day! Most of the tourists here are Swedes – strange how in Thailand there are places the Germans go, the Russians, the French – evidently Ko Lanta is where the Swedes go!

The beach is a slight disappointment – nice enough but no better than the one in Chumphon, a day's journey ago. It is clean and has a very long sweep, walking half of it at a time provides a daily exercise quota. Walking on it is difficult at some times of day because of the multitude of small crabs. Fascinating – a crab city, each one knows its own hole. Holes ranging in size from pin pricks to golf balls, surrounded by proportionately sized balls of sand

radiating from the hole giving the beach the appearance of a carpet of daisies. Usually crabs are not apparent until you approach then all of a sudden they become visible as they scurry away – in some places at Khlong Dao beach the crabs are too tiny or too sleepy to notice so we stop walking for fear of treading on them! Bigger crabs at the water's edge – greenish yellow striped ones that bury themselves as soon as the wave recedes. Spend one day doing nothing much but watching crabs and swimming, but the water here isn't quite as good as at Chumphon due to some biting things in it that we never identified.

Next day, New Year's Eve, after a night-time storm the surf is up – most unexpected, it is supposed to be tranquil at this time of year! We all have a great time braving the waves that provide quite a challenge by arriving in pairs. No sooner have you popped up again and opened your eyes than its twin is crashing upon you. In the afternoon we drive inland to Tham Khao Mai Kaew caves. The drive itself is quite an adventure because of numerous potholes and slow moving taxis – trolleys attached to motorcycles. The walk to the cave is enjoyable, through lush forest filled with the shrill sounds of cicadas. On entering the cave the fun starts. Our guide runs here, jumps there, slides down the muddy limestone as if on a skateboard in his totally inappropriate flip flops that begin to squeak as the soles soak up the plentiful water. Then he waits for us. He could probably do it all without a torch.

We are alarmed at being told we are to visit a snake cave then learn it takes its name from the size of the hole that has to be squeezed through – lying on one's back and wriggling. No sign of any snakes, just bats, all sound asleep, although at the exit to the cave they are starting to wake up! After a great deal of climbing of rocks and bamboo ladders we finally emerge weary, filthy-dirty and very thirsty. A cold beer would be welcome, but the cave is managed by a Muslim family.

We arrive back at our resort grateful that it is now quite dark so we can scurry into our bungalows without too many people noticing the state of our clothing and legs. The evening is the only downside to the whole holiday as our resort, like so many in the region, has a compulsory New Year's Eve Gala Dinner – ridiculously overpriced at 800B each excluding drinks – normally our meals including plenty of drinks come to 1500B, at most, for all six of us. On top of which we are expected to participate in karaoke and play musical chairs! Thai Cultural entertainment is

thrown in, which is very nice but not, perhaps, the sort of thing you feel like doing on New Year's Eve. Anyway, we watch the Thai dancers, the flaming poi dancer, set off traditional hot air balloons (rectangular prisms made from paper fuelled by kerosene-soaked torches) and ooh and aah at the fireworks.

Next morning, up bright and early to be ready for our guide for the 'Four Island Tour' at 8:20 am. We wait... eventually someone appears and welcomes us enthusiastically, but turns out not to be our guide. From the expression on her face it is clear there has been some kind of mix up. She smiles politely, disappears into the office and spends the next twenty minutes on the phone. We sit in deck chairs, the children play on the beach and I get up and wander over to the office once or twice but repeat to myself calming expressions such as jai yen yen and mai pen rai and sit down again. Eventually, with all smiles and no explanations, we are ushered onto a truck that takes us to a boat, the departure of which a group of people have clearly been awaiting. Evidently our guide hopes we won't notice the name of one of the islands to be visited has mysteriously changed...

Anyway it all turns out well. We swim with striped yellow and brown fish so abundant that we could actually touch them. Lovely coral, bright yellow angel fish the size of a tea plate, rainbow fish, sinister looking lion fish. We swim through a cave – a bit unnerving as it soon becomes quite dark and I am 'piggy backing' our youngest, who can swim perfectly well but is a bit nervous in the dark. It is rather crowded, too, as we pass something resembling a giant sea snake – a row of human bodies clad in bright orange life jackets, hands on the shoulders of the one in front and all towed by a torch-carrying guide who struggles to pull them along, keeping himself afloat with a life ring. We emerge into daylight and onto a vertical cliff-enclosed beach. Squeaky white sand and water so clear it's almost invisible, except as it deepens and lives up to its label of emerald.

Lunch is produced on another island, more squeaky white sand and crystal water. A four course Thai meal, still warm and just as good as the food the night before – the tour was same price as the 'Gala' dinner, including food and drinks!

Coming back on our fifteen-seater speedboat we watch the clouds blacken as we cruise past the southern end of Ko Lanta. As the realisation sinks in that we're not going to make it back in time, the temperature instantly falls about



three degrees, the sea becomes rough and the heavens open. The boat drops anchor at what we can just make out through the rain is our resort and we jump into the hip high water, significantly warmer than the air temperature and holding our bags high above our heads, wade to the shore. Undaunted, the children head straight for the pool, I go straight into a hot shower! Next day, up bright and early again – amazingly we manage to get the family up early three days in a row.

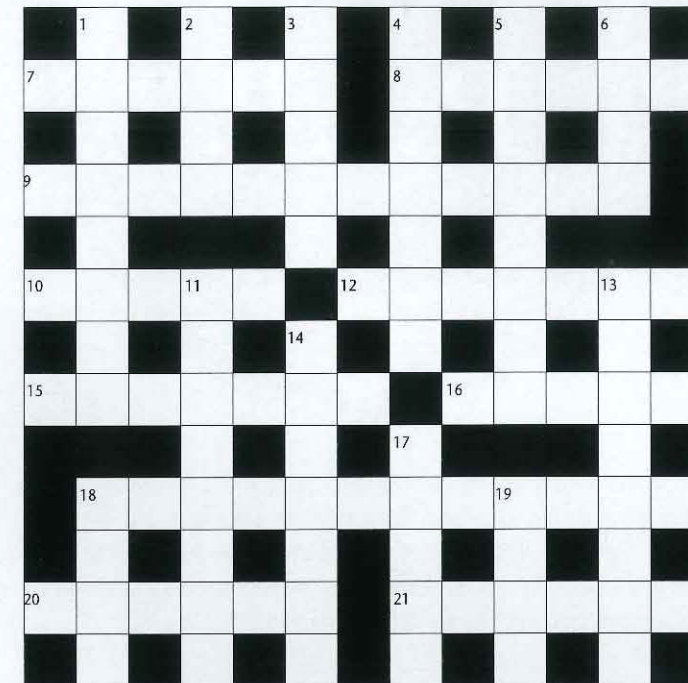
We catch the 8:00 am ferry to Ko Phi Phi. Beautiful beaches, quite the prettiest island I think I have ever seen with its emerald waters, sheer limestone cliffs, jungle and bird life. We don't regret not staying there, though, it is heaving with back-packers and few families. Instant hassle as soon as you get off, people trying to sell you this that and everything else, but it's worth enduring to get to the beach. We take out kayaks and find a 'secret' beach. Another lovely if somewhat energetic day!

Next morning we pack up and leave as early as we can manage, a little before 8:00 am. The queue for the ferry is short this time and we make Ranong in time for a late lunch. We feel like explorers driving through the mountains, but most of the journey is not very different from the route via Surat Thani and is probably not worth the extra journey time. At 8:30 pm we arrive weary at Hua Hin and crash into a comfortable bed in the highest-priced resort of the entire trip. Next day we sleep in, spend a leisurely morning at the poolside – the strong wind ensures that the beach remains submerged – and leave for Bangkok early in the afternoon.

Linda Fullerton (F137)

CROSSWORD

Fiendish February Frustration!



Compiled by Margaret Miller

Across

7. Just a little lump
8. Fiddle strings
9. South America turns - telephones - for a sight in space. (7,5)
10. "... your shoes on your feet and your _____ in your hand." (Book of Exodus)
12. Suffer it after you have repented.
15. "Through hope... we feel that we are _____ than we know." (Wordsworth)
16. I do business somehow - it's perfect!
18. Consequences following a spot of over-indulgence? (5,7)
20. "Follow a shadow... it will _____." (Ben Jonson)
21. Men of parts.

Down

1. That's O.K.... not any duller than it was before! (2,6)
2. A little cover for a dancer.
3. Spill them and tell all.
4. The girl from Tara.
5. Required quality of a flag?
6. They're usually paired with "Ifs".
11. Put a home before a cricket match - most even.
13. Talks incessantly.
14. "... full of strange oaths and _____ like the pard." (As You Like It)
17. Liver and Lights.
18. Border on a big instrument up.
19. "____ Brute!" (2,2) (Julius Caesar)

January Solution

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| A | Addenda |
| B | Cheetah |
| C | Heeded |
| D | Rowdyism |
| E | Islands |
| F | Shallower |
| G | Thoughtful |
| H | Messages |
| I | Abbess |
| J | Sixty-seven |
| K | Cowsheds |
| L | Awaked |
| M | Ripped |
| N | Operatic |
| O | Luck |

Reading down the initial letters spell "A Christmas Carol," by Charles Dickens.

The complete quotation is "The chain he drew was clasped about his middle. It was made of cash boxes, keys, padlocks, ledgers, deeds and heavy purses wrought in steel."

OBITUARY

Richard Wood

Richard Wood passed away peacefully at the age of 86 in December 2002 in Chiang Mai. He joined the British Club Bangkok on 1 November 1948, but had been in Asia well before that date. He came to Asia in the footsteps of his father who had been in charge of the Chiang Mai District for the Bombay Burma Trading Corporation from 1889 – 1900 and was also a founder Member of the Chiang Mai Gymkhana Club.

Richard was educated in Cambridge where he read "The Classics" (Latin and Greek). In 1937 he arrived in Burma as a forest assistant. At the outbreak of the war he was commissioned into Burma Rifles. He served throughout the retreat of 1942 and there after intelligence patrol work on the Chindwin front. He rose to the rank of Major and was awarded a Military Cross and a Mention in Dispatches. He stayed on in Burma after the war with the Burma Frontier Service.

In 1948, he joined the forest staff of the Borneo Company and was posted in Chiang Mai. When the Thai forest were nationalised, he was transferred to East Malaysia where he married Fongklam Nantiwongse. On his retirement in 1965, Dick returned to live out the rest of his life in his beloved Chiang Mai.

Added by Jack Dunford:

The British Club cricket team played its first match against the Chiang Mai Gymkhana Club on 4th April 1982 and this was also when most of us met "Dick" Wood for the first time. Dick was a delightful 'old fart' of his own admission, a relic of a now almost extinct generation of expats who found romance and adventure in a remote and exotic Far East. Dick was the sort of character you would expect to find in any novel featuring sports clubs during colonial times. He could be found sitting on the verandah or at the bar with his drink, wearing his blazer and cap to watch the cricket... happily telling raunchy tales of bygone days to anyone with the time of day to listen. He was instantly an essential attraction of our wonderful twice-yearly cricket tours to Chiang Mai over the next decade.

Dick loved his cricket and the camaraderie of cricketers and took a liking to the slightly mad BC team who seemed to enjoy their cricket all the more, the worse we got beaten. In 1983 he presented the DICK WOOD CUP to be played annually between the CMGC and the BC. In his usual lovable, stuffy, old-fashioned way, he insisted that it must be a "proper" cricket match ("none of this 25 over nonsense"), played seriously "in whites". For many years this game was a highlight of our season and Dick was always on hand to present his trophy to the winners.

At this time no less than 6 members of the British Club General Committee were cricketers. (Ah, those WERE the days!) and, although Dick had spent most of his time in Chiang Mai and had relatively little involvement with the BC, we unanimously agreed that we should make him an Honorary Member (I believe he was the last BC



Honorary Member to be elected and I think it was in 1985 or 1986). Dick was a link to a wonderful bygone era when his sort had established the clubs and traditions that were handed down to us for our enjoyment. I think we would have had him stuffed and mounted as our mascot if only he would have agreed!

BC cricket faltered and the Dick Wood Cup was unplayed for a number of years, much to Dick's regret. But last year David Sinclair-Jones scratched together half a team of mostly retired BC players and we returned to Chiang Mai once again. Dick's health was in decline and he warned us that he would only be able to attend for a couple of hours. But of course he loved every minute of it, stayed to the end and presented the trophy. Most of us sat with Dick at various times during the match and were delighted to recall incidents of earlier games and some of the characters we played with. His memory was sharp, his humour intact and, as always, coming through was his sense of fair play and good old-fashioned gentlemanly values.

We all enjoyed the weekend so much that we vowed to try to reinstate this as an annual event and this year we have found a full team of mainly ex-British Club players to return to Chiang Mai on 18/19 January. Dick was delighted that those of us who had enjoyed those 80's tours were trying to reinstate the fixture and was looking forward to being with us on 19 January when were to play for his trophy.

Sadly Dick will not be there now and we will miss him. But surely his spirit will be with us. We will now be playing the match in his honour. We will enjoy our cricket and our drinks and Dick will feature in many a yarn and reminiscence.

Rest in Peace Dick. You are affectionately remembered by all your friends and we will hopefully go on playing for your trophy for many years to come.

Monkeying about in Lopburi

The Monkey Festival in Lopburi is an annual excuse for residents to dress up in their Sunday best, let down their hair and have a darn good time honouring the mischievous monkeys that dwell in the city and from which many a legend and tradition has sprung.

Every year this festival takes place in an extraordinarily orderly yet cheerful fashion. Literally hundreds of people, dressed in bright costumes, queue patiently in straight lines to pick up platefuls of food for the monkeys and await entrance into the ancient grounds where the colourful spectacle takes place. The monkeys are aware long before the procession moves off that something special is up. They swing with agility from telephone lines and clamber artfully over temple ruins and shop frontages, all the while chattering and nodding intelligently at each other. Excitement mounts as the human procession nears the ancient arena where huge tables have been set up to accommodate the banquet.



BC members and the team from WAR queuing up for entrance to the monkey banquet

Speeches come first, followed by a 'Kodak Moment' (which I failed to capture!) as red, white and blue balloons are released, and the ceremony is underway. At some hidden signal, troops of monkeys descend from the temple walls and land on tables now brimming with fruit and other delicacies. Small paws grab for everything in sight, drinking from water bottles which they throw aside after a few sips leaving the water to spill over the tables and onto the ground.



Hey, Hey, We're the Monkees!

More monkeys await their turn under the table. It's a thrilling and comical sight and despite the resemblance to a kiddies' bun fight, tempers remain even and very few skirmishes break out. Even the monkeys behave themselves!

A few rolls of film later, we're back on the buses heading for Lopburi Zoo where more monkey business awaits us. First we take a look at Gibbon Island, where gibbons move freely from tree to tree, watching us with interest. There are no bars in this part of the zoo, a moat being the boundary that prevents gibbons from escaping.



Ying and Leonie (pictured right) from WAR, sporting their MIKE t-shirts. Mike, the Orang Utang, was a much-loved and popular attraction at Lopburi Zoo, who died recently from human-carried infection. He leaves behind a wife and young daughter!

BC members were then able to wander around the zoo at leisure, while tour leader, Leonie Vejajiva and others from WAR (Wild Animal Rescue Foundation) took part in a special ceremony marking the release of two more gibbons into an open sanctuary. An

interesting assortment of animals have found their way to Lopburi, a military-run zoo where the entrance fee is only 10 baht and where WAR now funds a full-time vet to help with the day to day healthcare of zoo animals, as well as with special rescue projects. Leonie and the other directors of WAR do not attempt to portray Lopburi Zoo as a state-of-the-art animal facility. It is not. Indeed they recognise that much needs to be done to enrich the lives of the captive animals housed at Lopburi for whom rehabilitation and release is not an option. But the point is, this organisation really cares and they are at least trying to do something positive to help the zoo and wild animals of Thailand. That makes them OK by me!

Well done and thanks, Leonie. I'm looking forward to your tour next year!

Sherry Conisbee (C242)



Continued...

Love is in the Air

BAR QUIZ

Tuesday, 18 February 2003 at 7.30pm

Come along to Lord's Dining Room for an exciting evening of mental stimulation with Quizmaster Rodney Bain. Each team should have a maximum of 6 participants and a registration fee of B 100 per team player is the price of entry.

WINE TASTING

7.00pm on Friday, 7 February 2003

Complimentary Cocktail Buffet will be provided to accompany a nice selection of Chilean wines. The wines will be provided by Wine Connection Ltd. in the Wordsworth Lounge.

BRITISH CLUB STREET PARTY

Saturday, 8 February 2003

From 2.00pm - 7.00pm on the British Club Lawns.

Great entertainment for the whole family like Stilt-walkers, Jugglers, Children's games, Close-up magic, Ferris wheel, Balloon Typhoon, Pony Riding, Traditional Scottish and British Games, Live Entertainment and great fire work display at approx. 7.00pm.

Charge: B 300 per person (Children 3 years and below B 100)

SWIMMING GALA

Sunday, 9 February 2003

Warming up from 8.00am onwards, competition will start from 9.00am and luncheon is included.

Registration Fee: B 200 per competitor.

CLUB MANAGER'S NIGHT

6.30pm on Tuesday, 11 February 2003

Welcome to 2003! The Churchill Bar is the venue for this great evening to catch up with fellow members and enjoy entertainment from No Fixed Abode. A complimentary curry buffet will be provided.

VALENTINE'S DINNER CRUISE

Saturday, 15 February 2003

A romantic Dinner Cruise on the Loy Nava to celebrate Valentine's Day; a three-course dinner cruise on an ancient rice barge on the Chao Praya River. Meet at the Club at 7.30pm in the Churchill Bar. At 8.00pm the rice barge will depart from Sripaya Pier (between Portuguese Embassy and the Royal Orchid Sheraton Hotel).

Cost: B 1,250 per person including Thai-Seafood Dinner and half a bottle of wine per person, with transportation to and from the British Club.



SPORTS CAMP

17 to 20 February 2003

Held daily from 9.00am - 4.30pm, the camp includes, tennis, squash, swimming, cricket, soccer, games, video, snacks and lunch.

Charge: B 850 per day or B 3400 for all 4 days.

FOOD PROMOTION

27 & 28 February 2003

Enjoy the flavours of the Middle East in Lord's Dining Room. Barry and the kitchen team will prepare an excellent selection of mouth-watering dishes from the Middle East. Charge: B 600 per person for the buffet dinner.

MARCH

NEW MEMBER'S NIGHT

7.30pm on Tuesday, 11 March 2003

Be in the Churchill Bar for this excellent opportunity to meet new Members who recently joined the Club, with entertainment provided by the ever-popular No Fixed Abode.

GALA PROGRAMME

Saturday, 1 March 2003

The British Club celebrates its Centennial Anniversary with the Gala Programme:

"Harmonious Meeting from Byrd to the Beatles"

Featuring Bruce Caston and Fong Naam's Magical Mahori Ensemble.

Cocktails will be served from 8.00pm at Lord's Dining Room. Performance will start at approx. 8.30pm at the Suriwongse Room. Ticket price: B 1,100 including cocktail buffet and welcome cocktail.

Monkeying about in Lopburi (Contd)



If you have any questions about the work of WAR or wish more information about Lopburi Zoo or the Monkey Festival, then please contact them on Tel: 02 261 9670 Email: econet@asiaaccess.net.th

SPECIAL EVENT

The Neilson Hays Library Annual Art Fair 8 - 9 March 2003 10 am - 5 pm

The Neilson Hays Library and Gallery's 4th Annual Art Fair will be held on 8 and 9 March. This Art Fair has established itself as an innovative and avant garde art event in Bangkok.

The Art Fair will feature a wide range of artists and craftspeople exhibiting and selling their work - from sculptures to watercolours, textiles to furnishings, and photography to jewellery. The result will be a unique collection of quality art and craft to suit all discerning tastes and budgets. This is a rare opportunity to find such a number of artists in one accessible location in Bangkok. This is the premier art fair of the year!

Set in the historic Neilson Hays Library and charming garden, this event gives everyone the opportunity to browse and buy in a relaxed informal setting. Children are very welcome and children's activities will be ongoing throughout the event. Refreshments will be available.

For further information please call the Neilson Hays Library on 0 2233-1731

RECIPROCAL CLUB'S

Club Port la Galère



Situated 15 minutes from Cannes and 35 minutes from Nice International Airport, Club Port la Galère is nestled in the red rocks of the Massif de l'Estérel, overlooking the Mediterranean Sea. The Club has 17 luxurious guest rooms, a restaurant & bar, and a heated swimming pool, all with stunning sea views.

Private beach & harbour, jet skiing and tennis are available at the club, with a championship golf course near by.

Members can get more information from www.clubportlagalere.com

Penang Swimming Club

One of the most prestigious clubs in Penang, the Penang Swimming Club (also celebrating its centenary this year) has an impressive amount of facilities, including 3 restaurants & bars, olympic size swimming pool, gym, mini theatre, tennis, squash.... The Club is also planning to build family service apartments and a mini marina.

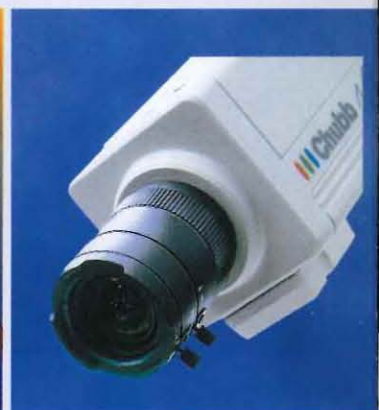
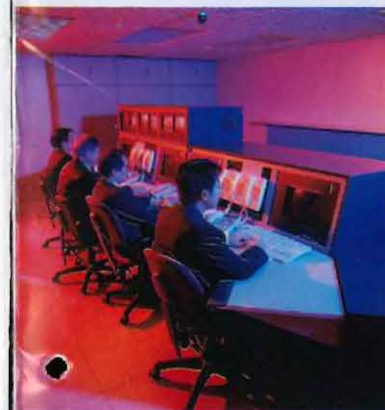
More information can be obtained from the Club:
Penang Swimming Club 517 Tanjong Bungah,
11200 Penang, Malaysia
Tel: +61 4 890-1306 Fax: +61 4 890-3271



SAVING LIVES, PROTECTING PROPERTY, PREVENTING CRIME



คุ้มครองชีวิต ปกป้องทรัพย์สิน ป้องกันอาชญากรรม



Offering Thailand comprehensive fire and security solutions.

Capable professionals, the finest in products & electronic systems

with over 180 years experience.

Chubb (Thailand) Limited

THB Building, 7th Floor, 42/2 Moo 10, Km 4.5
Bangna Trad Road, Bangna, Bangkok 10260
Tel. (66) 2 746-7000 Fax. (66) 2 746-7001
E-mail: info@chubb.co.th
www.chubb.co.th



Best South Asian Airline of the year 2002
Best Airline of the year - Central Asia 2001 & 2002



Fly SriLankan Airlines On Business Class to Europe



International award winning airline

	Business Class		Economy Class	
	<i>One Way</i>	<i>Return</i>	<i>One Way</i>	<i>Return</i>
Frankfurt/Paris/Zurich	31,500	62,500	15,500	23,800
London	75,000	117,500	15,500	23,800

- ★ The above fares do not include any taxes
- ★ Stopover in Sri Lanka not permitted on Business class fare except to London
- ★ A peak surcharge of THB3,000 for one way fare & THB5,800 for round trip fare are applicable on Economy class for travel during 10 Dec 2002 - 15 Jan 2003
- ★ Fares valid for travel up to 31 March 2003

SriLankan Airlines flies four times a week on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday to Colombo - Sri Lanka with immediate connections to Europe/India/ Middle East and Far East on our new wide-bodied Airbus fleet, which has a Personal TV and Phone on every seat back

For more information please contact

SriLankan Airlines Limited

942/33-35 Charn Issara Tower I, Rama IV Rd., Suriyawongse, Bangkok 10500 Thailand

Sales ; Tel. 02-2368451 Fax. 02-2368456 E-mail: bkksales@srilankan.lk

Tktg & Rsvn ; Tel. 02-2368450 Fax. 02-2368456 E-mail: bkktkt-rsvn@srilankan.lk