

FEBRUARY 2011



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

OUTPOST

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK

Is this love?

www.britishclubbangkok.org

LOOKING BACK

Christmas Day
New Years Eve

SPOTLIGHT

New UK passport

LOOKING BACK

Music at Dusk
Polar Swim

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GENERAL COMMITTEE Chairman

Jonathan Truslow
chairman@britishclubbangkok.org

General Committee Members

Sarah Allen, Philip Alexander,
David Blowers, John Bleho,
Iain Brewster, Paul Cheesman,
Ian Harry, Dale Lamb, Jeremy Watson
gc@britishclubbangkok.org

SENIOR MANAGERS

General Manager

Jesper Doepping
gm@britishclubbangkok.org

Deputy General Manager – Finance

Premrudee Tanyaluck
premrudee@britishclubbangkok.org

THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK

189 Surawongse Road,
Bangkok 10500

Entrance via Silom Soi 18

Tel: +66 (0) 2 234 0247
Fax: +66 (0) 2 235 1560
info@britishclubbangkok.org
www.britishclubbangkok.org



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12th Floor, Vanissa Building,
29 Soi Chidlom, Bangkok 10330.
Tel: +66 (0) 2 650 3450-4
Fax: +66 (0) 2 650 3455

Publisher

Jim Fowler - jim@veritasgraphics.com

Managing Editor

Dean Outerson - dean@veritasgraphics.com

Designer

Pongpichet Piyaman (Dew) - dew@veritasgraphics.com

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FRONT COVER

The history of Valentine's Day stretches back to Roman times, and is attributed to several Saints in various stories. Whichever may be correct, the day has been commercialised and is now celebrated throughout the world, encouraging the expression of love between people, and consolidating affection. Our cover features English sweets called 'LoveHearts'.



Cover photo courtesy of Bob Caprice Securities UK and Skype.



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OUTPOST

Outpost is the monthly publication of THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK, the international club for friends and families in the heart of Bangkok.

A full version of the magazine is also available online at www.britishclubbangkok.org/outpost. Opinions expressed need not necessarily represent those of the Club. All events, dates and times are correct at time of press. Outpost welcomes contributions from Members. No part of this publication may be reproduced without the written permission of the Publisher.

FOUNDATION TO GRADUATION

11
Aced my end of
year tests

10
Captained the tee ball
team to victory!

8
Won the competition
to design the
residential trip t-shirts

6
Scored my first
goal – Dad said it
was perfect

3
Learned to put my
head underwater in
the pool – it's cool!

18
IB almost done,
Uni here I come

17
I'll never forget my
winning try at SEASAC.
Go Tigers!

16
We dominated
House Athletics

14
Studying computer
animation, I love it!

12
Secondary school is
brilliant!



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MESSAGE FROM THE GM



Jesper Doepping

Having not previously experienced how busy the British Club is between November and New Year, it is hard to imagine what the place is like producing about 16,000 covers, excluding events like the Christmas Ball which are catered for externally. It is quite amazing, and requires very long hours from the staff in its organisation.

Despite improving on the previous year, the management team believes that the Club can do better still in attracting Members to different Christmas and New Year functions, lunches and dinners. Over the years, the market for these events has grown increasingly competitive, one reason being that the hotels are trying to attract more local Bangkok people. What we have realised is that in order to reach our objectives, we need to have attractive offers in place by early September for Members and the organisations they work for. We will have that next year.

One clear trend in Europe is that most people drink less when they go out. This trend also applies at the Club and in the Churchill Bar. It may not be good for the Club, but it is for the individual Member's health. It does mean, however, that Members will have more money to spend on quality wine and spirits! We have therefore been working towards getting the wine list renewed and refreshed. Hopefully the new wine menu available now in all outlets will live up to Members' expectations. It contains some of the most popular items from the last menu, but most have been changed. Wine menus should change more often than food menus, at least every quarter, in order to reflect that vintages from specific producers run out, the prices change too much, or new offers arrive on the market. In future, the Club will not be so "brand" loyal as it has been previously, trusting that a new vintage might be as good as the previous one. This will mean that we will introduce special offers on good offers from a producer, or similar. If our wine menu is dynamic, it will mean the Club is open to suggestions or tips from Members, and we look forward to any comments or recommendations.

The monthly wine-tastings will continue. It is not hard to get wine companies to attend, because our Members actually buy wine at the tastings! But over the last 3 months we have introduced a fee of 50 baht for Members and 150 baht for guests. This still makes our wine-tastings the cheapest and best in town. The fees are to cover a small portion of the evening's costs, and to ensure that people do not just come to eat for free, which unfortunately some do. At Christmas some guests queried the fee and assured us they would not taste the wine, and were only there to eat the food!

We still believe that the Club is not well-known in Bangkok's expat community. In particular, amongst expats from European countries where English is widely spoken. To promote the Club, we allowed TAN network (True channel 78) to make a long report from the Club's Christmas Lunch, in which Members, their children, and management were interviewed. The report was shown on New Year's Day, and repeated about 5 times. This exposure and free advertising may not result in new memberships immediately, but it will raise awareness of the Club and its facilities. We are still inviting different Chambers of Commerce to the Club to help us become well-known amongst their members, and to ensure that Club Members who are not members of a Chamber can use these networking opportunities at the same price as the Chamber members. In January we saw the Canadian Chamber at the Club, and on 2nd February, the Australian Chamber will have their monthly network night, and we hope to have most of the European Chambers at the Club during the year.

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February 12th

March 12th

April 23rd

May 21st

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PIMM'S o'Clock
at The British Club

Come and enjoy a Jug of
Pimm's No.1 Cup by the
poolside anytime for 450
baht a jug and 85 baht a
glass

HOUSE & GROUNDS

The monthly report on maintenance and development



We are now facing a year in which we will be exercising extreme discretion when spending money on our facilities. Due to the economic difficulties experienced over the last two years, new memberships, and revenue in general, have been very depressed. Consequently, the capital expenditure budget for 2010/11 includes only one genuine improvement project, and that is the development of the Fitness Centre. We are currently in the process of considering what equipment we need to acquire to upgrade in line with the clubs in Bangkok that provide similar facilities. I am forced to admit that, as in many other leisure activities, the equipment now being used is very high tech. and difficult for a layman to fully understand. If any Members have specific experience of modern exercise machines, their knowledge could be very useful to us in researching and selecting a set of new equipment that is suitable for our particular Membership and financial resources. The key issue is that the equipment we choose will all be regularly used by the Members.

We would very much like to improve the general appearance and quality of the premises and have included finance in our budget to upgrade certain areas of landscaping, fencing and, in particular, the Silom entrance and guardhouse. However, any such work will depend, however, on the revenue that is earned as we go through 2011. Other items fit into the category of periodic repair and maintenance, such as the repainting of the Clubhouse, a major job that should be carried out every 5 years. This is now overdue. Repair and repainting of the squash courts is also badly needed and is currently being priced by a contractor.

The inspection of the Suriwongse Sala by Boulter Stewart confirmed that the extensive termite damage to some of the roof timbers can only be repaired by removal and replacement. Drawings and documentation are now being prepared. In February we will invite tenders and, subject to the availability of funds, will have the work carried out on a bay by bay basis to try to minimize disruption to the Members. As the existing roof tiles and timbers are removed, a more detailed inspection of the trusses will be possible that will show (we hope) that they can be retained.

Over the last month we have continued to repair equipment as it broke down. Much of the kitchen equipment is more than ten years old and the failure of compressors is a frequent event; three over the last 4 weeks, all involving items essential to the storage and display of food. We continue to live with a water supply and drainage system that badly needs refurbishment and replacement and is kept functional by regular patching up, and the Thai ingenuity of our maintenance staff.

I am now having trouble finding something to write about because most of our activity at the present time relates to routine repair work that is carried out in response to breakdowns. This is not a very absorbing topic. As stated above, the only development project in sight is the Fitness Centre. This is very frustrating as my office is full of well thought out and presented proposals put forward over the last ten to fifteen years to improve and develop the Club facilities. Some of these are extremely ambitious and would require almost total closure of the premises while the work was carried out. Other proposals focus on the improvement of specific areas of the Club. Study of the proposals, many of them prepared by well known architectural firms, reveal many common suggestions in the ways that the Club could be improved so it can compete with the many establishments in Bangkok now offering modern recreational facilities.

There is no question that the British Club is in a prime location and occupies a very desirable site that would be difficult to improve upon. The possibilities are endless. However, certain issues that continually appear in these documents should, in my view, be seriously considered, coming as they do, from professionals. A typical proposal is that the staff offices should be external to the Clubhouse in order that the upper floor areas can be remodeled to take full advantage of the building's attractive and generous space. It can then become a major revenue earning facility used by Members for both leisure and business functions. A Sports Bar is regarded by several consultants as an essential element in the development of the Club in order to cater for younger Members who want a base for their sporting activities. The precise location of a Sports Bar is a matter for debate but, personally, I would locate it above the Suriwongse Sala looking down on the centre court and the swimming pool.

I offer these comments as a contribution to the long running and ongoing dialogue regarding the future of the Club which I have now been a Member of for 18 years. We have survived up to the present day without any master plan or common vision having been agreed and implemented by the Membership for many years. Alas, many of the proposals and aspirations for improvement will have to be delayed for the time being while we work our way through the present economically difficult times.

All for now

John Boisclair
Development & Facility Manager

With five number one singles, six Grammys, and six number one albums the Eagles are one of the most successful bands since the 70's. They have sold over 120 millions albums worldwide and have hits that are known worldwide including the Thai favourite 'Hotel California'

Come and see them with the Club
at Impact Arena, Muangthong Thani,
on the 20th February 2011 at 7.30pm

3,500 Bht for Members
(4,200 Bht for non-Members)

THE EAGLES



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

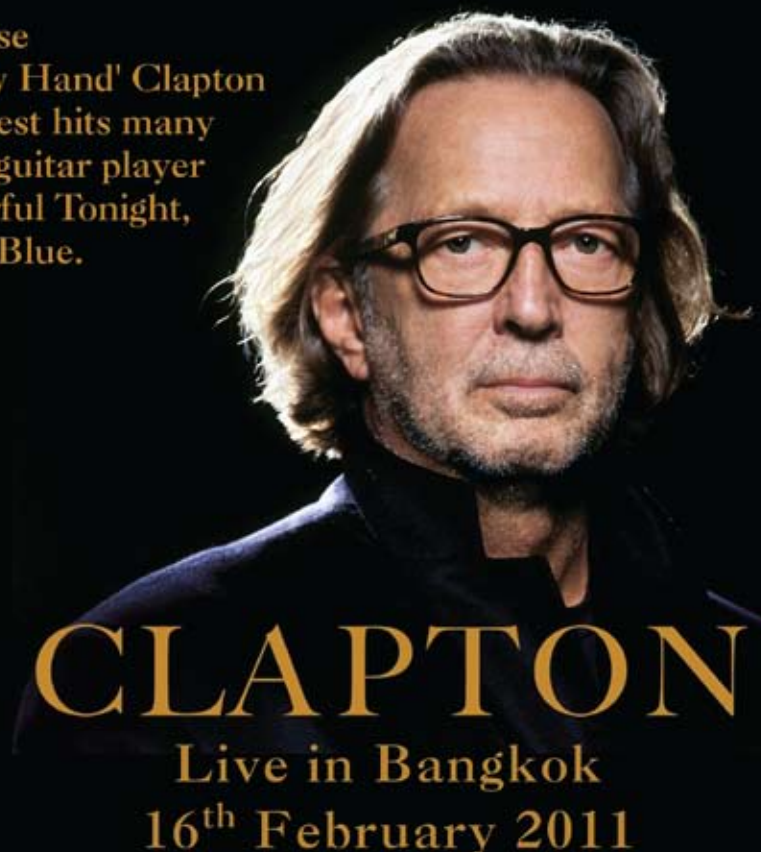
Reserve your tickets now at the club and get great seats, police escorted transport to and from the venue and a free glass of bubbly before hand.

Contact Simon or Anne to book your tickets now

With over 50 million copies sold from the rise of his fame in the 70's to present, Eric 'Slow Hand' Clapton will be returning to Bangkok with his greatest hits many of which have become standards for every guitar player such as Tears in Heaven, Cocaine, Wonderful Tonight, Layla, Key to the Highway and Blue Eyes Blue.

Eric Clapton has performed at 2 sold out concerts in Bangkok in 1979 and 2007. This time, he will be performing at **IMPACT ARENA, MUANG THONG THANI ON 16 FEBRUARY 2011 AT 8.30 PM**

4,000 BHT per Member
(4,700 BHT for Non-Members)



CLAPTON

Live in Bangkok
16th February 2011

SIMON SAYS...



Simon Causton

Is it possible to become more British? From my experience of working at the Club so far, I think so. Prior to starting, I would have considered myself more British than most, but with every passing day at the Club my pangs for wearing tweed, sporting a monocle and quaffing a gin and tonic seem to be growing! Of course, the last of these may just be a necessity, but I hope that all the events we are organizing and are planning to organize at the Club over the coming months provide some home nation's comforts to all our Members whether they may be reflections of contemporary or traditional British culture.

January welcomed in the New Year at the Club and we had a range of events that were all enjoyed by a large cross-section of Members. Our New Year's Eve Celebration and Polar Swim kicked off the beginning of the month and were both well attended and a great success. The following weekend we hosted the St. George's President's lunch which was followed by music from expat blues band 'Cannonball'. We also aired the first showing in Thailand of last year's Doctor Who Christmas Special, and that enthralled both adults and children alike. The launch of the Sala BBQ's every Thursday evening has been greeted with growing enthusiasm, and live music from 'Matthew Fischer' on the inaugural event kick-started it perfectly. Teacher's Night on the 14th was a fun night with many of Bangkok's international school teachers coming down to the Club for the first time, and it was good to see them enjoying live music from Indie band 'Snatch'.

January also saw the start of our dance classes in both Salsa and Ballroom styles, and they were terrific nights with everyone avoiding putting a foot wrong! We plan to keep these going as a regular feature at the Club. An event called iShakespeare was brought to us by one man stage artist Daniel Foley, with both the dinner theatre night and the student night being successes. I hope to be able to bring a lot more productions to the Club over the coming months. Our Australia day BBQ was, how can I put it, absolutely bonza! Music from 'Bangkok Soul Review' made it a memorable event tied with the fact that the English attending had, and were exercising, bragging rights over the Ashes being retained. Our Scottish themed gourmet dinner (not an oxymoron I promise!) was a delectable night with lots of wine and some fine food from Khun Laak being enjoyed by all who attended.

February promises to be another great month at the Club with a ram-packed calendar. To celebrate Chinese New Year and the start of the year of the Rabbit, we will be having a Chinese Gourmet Dinner. We will also be organising a Valentine's Day Event for the romantics amongst our Members (details to go out soon), and for those looking to become a bit more romantic we have teamed up with the Bangkok Network of Women (BNOW) to organize a speed dating night later in the month which should be quite light-hearted and a lot of fun. Our 5-a-side football tournament is already proving popular so sign up your team of 8 now for a day of footballing fun with a BBQ, great entertainment and prizes. As well as all this we will be putting on two concert trips to see two of the world's greatest names in music, the Eagles and Eric Clapton. There will be live coverage of the six nations rugby and world cup cricket, and themed events for both competitions. We will celebrate the return of competitive balut to the Club with the Balut Cups night. And don't forget that we will also have our regular movies nights and wine-tastings.

Lots to be doing ... hope to see you all at the Club soon.

OFFICIAL OPENING TIMES

The Verandah	11am - 10pm		
Neilson Hays Coffee Shop	9am - 6pm	Fitness Centre	6am - 10pm (Mon-Fri)
Churchill Bar	10am - 11pm	Fitness Centre	6am - 9pm (Sat-Sun)
Poolside Bar	6:15am - 11pm Last food orders 10pm	Thai Massage	9am - 5pm (Tues-Sun)



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

ALL OUTLETS

Express

Luncheons

February 2011

31st January - 4th February

Starter - 50 baht

Char-Grilled Courgette and Chicken Salad

Served with Mixed Salad Leaves, Mustard and Tarragon Dressing

or

Chef's Soup of the Day

Main Course - 130 baht

Grilled Dory Fish with Mornay Sauce

Served with Broccoli and Boiled Potatoes

or

Chicken, Eggplant, Tomato and Green Pepper Kebabs

Served with Grilled Mushroom and Tanizaki Salad

or

Chicken Korma

Served with Yellow Rice and Naan Bread

or

Tom Kha Gai

Spicy Chicken Soup with Coconut Milk

Khai Jeaw

Thai Style Omelette

Phad Pak Boong Fai Daeng

Stir-fried Morning Glory with Oyster Sauce

Dessert of the Day - 50 baht

or

Choose from our A la Carte Dessert for 10% off

7th - 11th February

Starter - 50 baht

Oriental Chicken and Papaya Salad

with Lemongrass and Ginger Dressing

or

Chef's Soup of the Day

Main Course - 130 baht

Turkey and Ham Lasagna

Served with Garlic Bread

or

Dory Fish Marinated with Herbs

Served with French Beans, Carrots, Garlic Mashed Potato and Lemon Butter Sauce

or

Meat Ball in Cream Sauce

Served with Zucchini, Carrots and Parsley Potatoes

or

Tom Yam Pla

Spicy Lemongrass Flavoured Soup with Dory Fish and Mushroom

Gai Phad Khing

Stir-fried Chicken with Fresh Ginger

Phad Kana Nam Man Hoy

Stir-fried Baby Kale with Oyster Sauce

Dessert of the Day - 50 baht

or

Choose from our A la Carte Dessert for 10% off

14th - 18th February

Starter - 50 baht

Warm Bread Salad

with Crispy Bacon and Poached Egg

or

Chef's Soup of the Day

Main Course - 130 baht

Salmon Fish Cake

Served with Chips, Mixed Green Salad and Tartare Sauce

or

Mini Steak Pepper Sauce

Served with Mixed Vegetables and Garlic Roasted Potatoes

or

Chicken Breast Stuffed with Pesto

Served with Grilled Potatoes and Crispy Polenta

or

Gaeng Keow Wan Look-Chin Pla

Fish Ball and Eggplant in Green Curry Sauce

Phad Tua Ngok

Stir-fried Bean Sprouts with Bean Yellow Cake

Moo Phad Prik Khing

Stir-fried Pork Sliced with Long Beans in Red Curry

Dessert of the Day - 50 baht

or

Choose from our A la Carte Dessert for 10% off

21st - 25th February

Starter - 50 baht

Mango, Avocado and Grilled Chicken Salad

or

Chef's Soup of the Day

Main Course - 130 baht

Fish and Chips

Your Choice of Bread Crumb or Batter

Served with Peas and Tartare Sauce

or

Minced Beef and Onion Pie

Served with Sautéed Cabbage and Bacon Home-fried Potatoes

or

Grilled Loin of Pork in Mushroom Sauce

Sauce with Carrots, Roasted and Baked Potato

or

Gai Rad Sauce Ma-Kham

Fried Chicken Breast Topped with Tamarind Sauce

Tom Yam Hed Raum

Spicy Lemongrass Flavoured Soup with Mushroom

Moo Tod Kratiem

Stir-fried Pork with Garlic and Pepper Sauce

Dessert of the Day - 50 baht

or

Choose from our A la Carte Dessert for 10% off

28th February - 4th March

Starter - 50 baht

Pumpkin, Walnut, Cranberry Salad with Coriander Dressing

or

Chef's Soup of the Day

Main Course - 130 baht

Roasted Chicken Breast Roll

Served with Ratatouille and Roasted Potatoes

or

Fish and Chips

Your Choice of Bread Crumb or Batter

Served with Peas and Tartare Sauce

or

Braised Beef with Red Wine Sauce

Served with Peas, Carrots and Mashed Potatoes

or

Tom Kha Gai

Chicken in Coconut Milk and Tangy Soup

with Lemongrass and Lime Leaves

Pla Sam Ros

Deep-fried Fish Topped with Sweet and Sour Spiced Chilli Sauce

Phad Pak Ruam Nam Man Hoy

Stir-fried Mixed Vegetables with Oyster Sauce

Dessert of the Day - 50 baht

or

Choose from our A la Carte Dessert for 10% off

F&B MORSELS



Khun Laak

All of us in the kitchen would like to say thank you for all the compliments about the traditional Christmas Lunch and the New Year's Eve menu. All the kitchen staff are happy that our Members appreciate the food.

At the end of December, the kitchen is always very busy and sometimes it is hard to keep up with delivering good quality food within the time frames set for the kitchen. We have always said that ordinary items on the menu should be delivered within 20 minutes, and the express luncheons should be delivered within 10 minutes of order. There are only a few items on the specials of the day/month where we say the delivery time will be longer. Sometimes we know at the time of order that for some specific reason it cannot be delivered on time. In the Club we have found that we are not good at telling our customers, often because the kitchen have not clearly communicated with the service staff.

This year, one of our main goals is to improve delivery times so that over 90% of all orders are delivered on time. We do not set this goal higher because we also want to ensure all our food is good quality, with proper presentation. Quality and presentation of food is a matter of taste and my staff and I do welcome comments, suggestions and criticism on these aspects. At this stage, we would like to say that one way to maintain quality is to tell us when it is not good. We do

actually prefer it if any food which is not up to standard is sent back to the kitchen. We do make mistakes, but it is sometimes very hard to discuss and learn from our mistakes, if Members eat the whole meal and then complain about the food later!

In the coming month we will continue to develop our gourmet nights. Together with Simon and Jesper we have decided to try to make our Gourmet Dinners more themed. So in future we will have a Chinese, Italian, Thai and many other styles presented at our Gourmet Dinners, and we look forward to presenting them to the Members in due course.

Modern European Dining

<p style="text-align: center;">Set A 1st - 15th February</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Starters</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chef's Soup of the Day 75</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fuji Apple and Roast Duck Salad with Orange and Honey Dressing 185</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Main Courses</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fillet of Sea-Bass with Rustic Ratatouille and Roast New Potatoes 250</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lamb Kebab with Vegetable Couscous Served with Thick Mint and Cream Yoghurt 350</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chicken and Spinach Risotto with Parmesan and Rocket Leaves Dressed in Pesto 220</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Dessert</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dessert of the Day 95</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Set B 16th - 28th February</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Starters</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chef's Soup of the Day 75</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ravioli of Salmon and Sea bass with White Wine Cream Sauce 185</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Main Courses</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fettuccine Spinach with Scallop, Prawns with White Wine Cream Sauce 220</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Aus Rib Eye Steak with Grilled Tomatoes, Button Mushroom and Home-Fried Potatoes and Pepper Sauce 550</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Delicious Roast Salmon Wrapped in Smoked Bacon with Lemon Tarragon Mayonnaise Served with Asparagus and New Potatoes 285</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Dessert</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dessert of the Day 95</p>
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NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

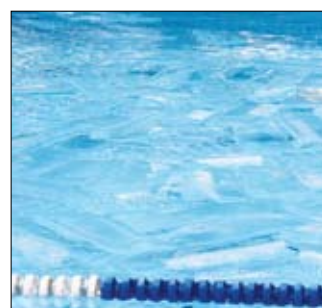
The New Year was seen in at the Club with Panache. Accompanied by [The Taylor Reed Jazz Trio](#), a good crowd celebrated the dawning of 2011. The evening began with a drinks reception and a three course meal on the front lawn. Members and their guests watched the festivities from around the world whilst tucking into their food and enjoying the music and traditional festivities.



NEW YEAR'S DAY POLAR SWIM



Huge blocks of ice were flung into the pool on New Year's Day, displaying all the qualities of small icebergs, bringing the water temperature well down! Then 'Rit the Penguin' and a hardened (some hungover as well) bunch of Members and kids braved the icy waters to participate in our annual Polar Swim. The winners were rewarded with a medal for their heroics and welcomed a nice hot drink to warm up!



Thursday Night

AT THE MOVIES



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK



3rd of February: Reader's, Writers and Films

The English Patient (1996) - At the close of WWII, a young nurse tends to a badly-burned plane crash victim named Count Lazlo de Almasy. His past is shown in flashbacks, revealing an involvement in a fateful love affair with Katherine, a married English woman (Kristin Scott Thomas). Starring Ralf Feinnes, this steamy romance combines fate and compulsive sexual attraction.



10th February : BFI 100 Best British Films Of All Time

The 39 Steps (1935) - One of the greatest Hitchcock films and by far the best of the three big-screen versions of John Buchan's romping adventure novel, written in 1915. The excellent Robert Donat is the innocent engineer caught up in a web of intrigue when a female spy is killed in his apartment. A wanted man, he escapes by train and eventually on foot into the Scottish Highlands, before returning to London to solve the mystery.



17th of February: Reader's, Writers and Films

The English Patient (1996) - Under prompting from nurse Hanna (Juliette Binoche) Laslo begins to recover his memory. But Carravgio (Willem Dafoe) suspects he is a man he has been looking for to kill. Beautiful desert scenes, mesmerising music. The English Patient will move you emotionally and remain gripping till the end.



24th February : Classic Thai Movie

Tawipop (2004) 'The Siam Renaissance' - A mirror joins two worlds, modern-day Bangkok and Bangkok under Rama IV, together. Maneechan, a diplomat investigating recently uncovered documents in France concerning ancient Thailand, learns the story behind them first-hand as she travels back in time through the mirror..

All films start @ 7pm please confirm with reception in where they will be aired.
Book now with Simon or Anne"

MUSIC AT DUSK

Cannonball - 8th January 2011

The festive blues were truly lifted at Saturday's Music at Dusk when we had the privilege of hearing Bangkok's premium blues band playing. The four-piece high-energy contemporary blues band '**Cannonball**' kept the busy front lawn entertained on a balmy Saturday night. The band's lead singer and keyboardist, Keith Nolan, describe their style as testing the boundaries of conventional blues while keeping those delta moments close to the heart. **Cannonball** have played extensively in Thailand including major festivals such as the Hua Hin Jazz Festival, the Koh Samui Blues Festival, the Bangkok Blues Festival and The Phuket Blues Festival. They have also toured recently in Vietnam, Singapore, Japan and Australia.

Their funky beats were enjoyed by all ages and brought some life to what would otherwise have been a routine Saturday night at the Club. We hope to have them back, and plenty of other great bands over the coming months.

We are also planning the comeback of Britstock in March, so look out for further updates!



HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

With over 200 guests throughout the day for Christmas lunch and dinner, our Noël celebrations were a veritable feast of both food and festivities. We used The Churchill Bar, The Verandah and the Back Lawn which also had Susie and her troupe of children's entertainers as well as the Bouncy Castle. The traditional Christmas fare side-by-side with some modern and Asian interpretations was well-received and the celebrations were in full flow throughout the day and well into the evening. Father Christmas graced us with his presence (and presents) to the ecstatic joy of the children and also many of the adults (special mention to Reed who even wore long trousers!)





ONLINE

The British Club Bangkok is now on Facebook and Twitter

Facebook: Does it feel like everyone that you know is on Facebook? Well, joining Facebook is simple. Just go to www.facebook.com and sign up for free. To follow the Club, search for The British Club Bangkok and click the 'like' button. You can now follow events and updates from the Club and see photos from all our events. You control your privacy measures by going to 'Privacy Settings' under the 'Account' menu. Put as much information as you want on your account and share it with whoever you want as your friends. Facebook is the largest online social networking site and currently has over 400 million members. Facebook allows people to interact, share photos, and find people. In addition to using Facebook for social purposes, many people use it professionally for business.

Twitter: This is a free social networking and micro-blogging service which allows you to send "tweets" to the rest of the twitter world. Tweets are messages written on your profile. They are limited to 140 characters and can be about any subject you want to discuss. To sign up to Twitter and follow the Club go to www.twitter.com and register. Then search for BritishClubBKK and press follow.

Genesis SKIN KLINIK

GENESIS SKIN KLINIK @ DUSIT THANI HOTEL

Nestled in the heart of Bangkok City with 350 m² of outstanding design space and panoramic view of Lumpini Park, along with first class services.

GENESIS SKIN KLINIK is a unique place to be.

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Email: contact@genesisklinik.com
www.genesisklinik.com



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

Test Your Golf Swing

at the British Club in February



The British Club and Wilding Golf are creating an opportunity to play golf at the club. Lots of competition and prizes



WILDING GOLF
PERFORMANCE CENTER

For more information please contact Mr. Simon or Anne

F.Y.I.**From Paul Cheesman****90 DAY REPORTING – BY POST!**

When the Immigration Bureau moved from Suan Phlu, the '90 day Reporting' of one's address required by law went from a short stroll down the road to a two hour road trip to the middle of nowhere and two expensive taxis! However it is now a trip to the post office (coincidentally next door to the old Immigration Bureau!).

Many Members may be unaware that you can 'report' by mail – simply photocopy the picture and all used pages of your passport, photocopy your departure card (TM6), fill in form TM47 from their website and send it to the below address together with the previous 90-Day form and a self-addressed 5 baht stamped envelope. Send it in 7 days ahead by EMS post (31 Baht) and two weeks later all the passport copies are returned (for re-use) together with your new date to report and fresh TM47 form. Simple and easy!

Their address is: **90 DAYS REGISTRATION, IMMIGRATION DIVISION 1, 120 MOO 3,
CHAENGWATTANA ROAD SOI 7, LAKSI, BANGKOK 10210**

**RULES BRITANNIAE!**

A monthly peek into our rulebook for things you probably did not know!

GENERAL COMMITTEE

WITH THE AGM COMING UP IN MARCH..... now is a good time to remind you that candidature for the General Committee 2011/12 is open to all those who have been Ordinary Members for at least 6 months.

Rule 8 has all the details.

TAKE-AWAY

THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

Did you know that most items on all the Club's menus are available for take away?

Simply order direct from any outlet in person or by telephone.

For bulk orders, please contact khun Somboon in Clubhouse.

02 234-0247





Home Office
**Identity &
Passport Service**

The Identity and Passport Service (IPS) is committed to maintaining the integrity and security of the passport, so that UK nationals have a modern and secure document when they travel.

We update our passport at regular intervals to keep pace with the latest security developments. This ensures that the security of the UK passport is continually improved to combat fraud.

In October 2010, we will be phasing in a new version of the passport, featuring a new design and improved security features to ensure that the UK passport remains a highly secure and trusted document meeting rigorous international standards.

Some customers will get the current passport during this time of transition and any existing passports will remain valid until their date of expiry. It is usual for valid passports with different designs to be in circulation at any one time.

Introducing the new United Kingdom Passport

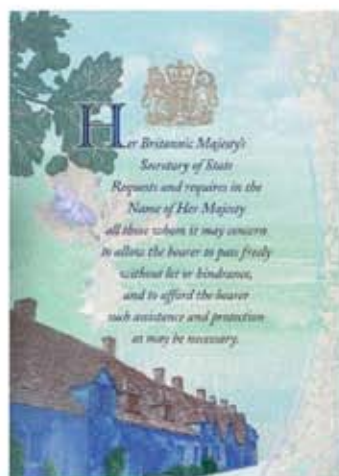
The new security features

The **biographical page** (personal details) has moved to the front of the passport. This page is protected by a thin film of laminate which includes several difficult to forge holographic features to protect the holder's personal details. This laminate contains a unique serial number which is 'cut' into the metallised area beneath the holder's image. This number contains seven alphanumeric characters and should not be confused with the passport number.

There is now a **secondary image** of the holder printed onto the observations page (see below). This makes any attempt to substitute the original facial image with a different one extremely obvious.



Biographical page detailing metallised strip



Inside front cover detailing 'bright' watermark

The **new watermark** consists of the four floral emblems of the United Kingdom together with a 'bright' watermark of a butterfly sitting on an oak leaf.

The new design theme

The design theme is 'Scenic United Kingdom' and includes images of well-known landscape scenes, including the White Cliffs of Dover, the Gower Peninsula, Ben Nevis and the Giant's Causeway. The passport cover has not changed.



Visa page illustrating new design theme and weather symbols

We've moved the **chip** which stores the holder's details to the inside of the passport cover where it will no longer be visible, and which gives additional physical protection and making it much harder to replace the chip without damage to the passport cover being easily spotted;

The **new designs** stretch across two pages presenting forgers with the very difficult challenge of matching them up perfectly (see back page);

For more information please see our Basic Passport Checks Document at: www.ips.gsi.gov.uk

If you have any further questions or require any further information please contact us at: ExternalEngagement@ips.gsi.gov.uk

PAST PARTICIPLE

Auspicious Melioris Ævi

By Paul Cheesman



We look back at events of 1960 ...

1 The most significant event of 1960 was the adoption of a Club logo. This was meant primarily for our Club ties and was requested at the previous year's AGM. Sadly original plans to use the Edward Crown were scuppered when Heralds College in the United Kingdom indicated that the Lord Chamberlain was unlikely to give permission.

We researched thus for a Thai logo that we could adopt and were advised we could adopt any logo other than Royal or religious emblems. In February we settled on the 'Thepanom', a Buddhist heavenly being and this has remained central to our various logos over the past 51 years.

2 The AGM of 1960 gave the newly elected General Committee two instructions – to get some Reciprocal Clubs in Asia and to sell off the front two Tennis Courts (along the Suriwongse Road) or even swap them for the house and land behind the Club (where the Ratana Bundit University adult centre now stands).

Although the General Committee did contact the Tanglin Club in Singapore and the Lake Club in Kuala Lumpur they decided not to pursue either due to "conflicting constitutions and rules" (although both became reciprocal clubs in later years) and as for the Tennis Courts they merely decided "it was not in the Club's interests".

3 The second most significant event of 1960 was the retirement on 31st July of the Club's Butler, Mr Cheng Kim Lee, after 41 years of service. The General Committee awarded him an immediate 30,000 Ticals payment and six months later paid him a further 30,000 Ticals from a Subscription Fund which was set up for him. Advertisements for this fund were placed in the London Times, The Daily Telegraph and the Weekly Times.

One Member tells me "The butler was a favourite among Tical-short bachelors for he could be relied on for a temporary loan." As a result of his retirement the No 1 Boy, Yee Daeng, was promoted to Butler.

4 An important and, fifty one years later, still an on-going matter was the lack of drainage for the Silom Gate Car Park. This was caused in 1960 by the decision of Changwat Phra Nakhon to fill in Khlong Silom. This Khlong had long been our main source of drainage and a small khlong ran along the soi (Soi 18 as is now) from our premises to it to serve our smaller drainage khlongs. A temporary measure was to pump the excess waters into the Suriwongse Drain whilst we tried to get a pipe installed to the new Silom Drain.

5 Our naval heritage continued in 1960 when we hosted both the outgoing and incoming Commander-in-chief, Far East Fleet. In April we hosted Vice-Admiral Sir Gerald Gladstone CBE, KCB, and in October Vice-Admiral Sir John Luce GCB, DSO & Bar, OBE, both aboard our most frequent Royal Navy visitor HMS Alert.

Also in the same October, on the 21st of course, we hosted a dinner for the Bangkok Naval Association to commemorate the 155th Anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar.



Our heavenly logo

The author is currently Honorary Secretary of the Club.

BC CALENDAR - FEBRUARY 2011

MONDAY

31



Piglet's Birthday!

Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm



7

Beer Garden
5.30pm



Monday Night Club
Death of a Stranger
Wordsworth Lounge 7pm



St. Valentine's Day

14

Sports Camp



Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm

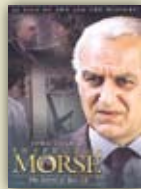


Beer Garden
5.30pm



Valentine's Cruise
7pm

Monday Night Club
The Secret of Bay 5B, Wordsworth Lounge 7pm



Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm



21

Cricket World Cup



Beer Garden
5.30pm



Monday Night Club
The Adventure of Johnnie Waverly/Four and Twenty Blackbirds
Wordsworth Lounge 7pm



Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm



28

Cricket World Cup

Beer Garden
5.30pm



Monday Night Club
Old School Ties
Wordsworth Lounge 7pm



TUESDAY

1

Ladies Mix-In
8 am



Fitball
10:30am



Squash Mix-In
5pm-7pm



Beer Garden
5.30pm



Senior Football
7pm



Ladies Mix-In
8 am



8

Fitball
10:30am



Squash Mix-In
5pm-7pm



Beer Garden
5.30pm



Senior Football
7pm



Quiz Night
7.30pm

Sports Camp



15

Ladies Mix-In
8 am



Fitball
10:30am



Squash Mix-In
5pm-7pm



Beer Garden
5.30pm



Senior Football
7pm



Ladies Mix-In
8 am



22

Fitball
10:30am



Squash Mix-In
5pm-7pm



Beer Garden
5.30pm



Senior Football
7pm



BNOW Speed Dating
7:30pm



Junior Swimming Lessons

Group lessons available Friday Afternoon and Saturdays.

Contact Reed for more information

WEDNESDAY

2

Beer Garden
5.30pm



Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm



Salsa Dancing
7pm



BCB Balut Shield
Wordsworth Lounge
7.05pm

Beer Garden
5.30pm



9

Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm



Salsa Dancing
7pm

Sports Camp



16

Beer Garden
5.30pm



Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm



Salsa Dancing
7pm



BCB Balut Shield
Wordsworth Lounge
7.05pm

Eric Clapton in Concert
Meet & Greet, 7pm
Concert starts 8:30pm



Beer Garden
5.30pm



23

Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm



Cricket World Cup



Ballroom Dancing
7pm

Ladies Mix-In
8 am



Fitball
10:30am



Beer Garden
5.30pm



Squash Mix-In
5pm-7pm



Readers, Writers & F
7pm

Ladies Mix-In
8 am



Fitball
10:30am



Beer Garden
5.30pm



Squash Mix-In
5pm-7pm



Music at Dusk
6.30pm

BFI Top 100 Movie N
7pm

Sports Camp



Ladies Mix-In
8 am



Fitball
10:30am



Squash Mix-In
5pm-7pm



Beer Garden
5.30pm



Sala BBQ
6pm

Readers, Writers & F
7pm

Ladies Mix-In
8 am



Fitball
10:30am



Beer Garden
5.30pm



Squash Mix-In
5pm-7pm



Sala BBQ
6pm

Music at Dusk
6.30pm

Thai Movie Night 'Ta
7pm

WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<p>3</p> <p>Gong Xi Fa Cai!</p> <p>lms</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Beer Garden 5.30pm</p> <p>Children's Cinema 6pm</p> <p>Tennis Mix-In 7pm-10pm</p> <p>Chinese NY Gourmet Dinner 7pm</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Weekend Brunch 11am-3pm</p> <p>Junior Cricket 4pm-6pm</p> <p>Music at Dusk 6.30pm</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Junior British Club 9am</p> <p>Weekend Brunch 11am-3pm</p> <p>'Tower Bridge' Open Pairs Bridge Tournament 2:30pm</p> <p>Yoga ॐ 2:30pm</p> <p>Waitanga Day BBQ 6pm</p>
<p>10</p> <p>ght</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Junior Swimming 3pm-5pm</p> <p>Beer Garden 5.30pm</p> <p>Children's Cinema 6pm</p> <p>Music at Dusk 6.30pm</p> <p>Tennis Mix-In 7pm-10pm</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Watercolour Workshop 9am-4pm</p> <p>Junior Tennis</p> <p>Weekend Brunch 11am-3pm</p> <p>Junior Swimming 3pm-5pm</p> <p>Junior Cricket 4pm-6pm</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Junior British Club 9am</p> <p>Weekend Brunch 11am-3pm</p> <p>Open Day 1pm</p> <p>Open Pairs Bridge Surawongse Room 2:30pm</p> <p>Yoga ॐ 2:30pm</p>
<p>17</p> <p>lms</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Sports Camp</p> <p>Beer Garden 5.30pm</p> <p>Children's Cinema 6pm</p> <p>Tennis Mix-In 7pm-10pm</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Weekend Brunch 11am-3pm</p> <p>Five-a-side Football 3pm</p> <p>Music at Dusk 6.30pm</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Junior British Club 9am</p> <p>Weekend Brunch 11am-3pm</p> <p>Open Pairs Bridge Surawongse Room 2:30pm</p> <p>Yoga ॐ 2:30pm</p> <p>Eagles in Concert Meet & Greet, 6pm Concert starts 7:30pm</p>
<p>24</p> <p>wipop'</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Junior Swimming 3pm-5pm</p> <p>Beer Garden 5.30pm</p> <p>Wine Tasting 6pm-9pm</p> <p>Children's Cinema 6pm</p> <p>Cricket World Cup</p> <p>Tennis Mix-In 7pm-10pm</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Junior Tennis</p> <p>Junior Swimming</p> <p>Weekend Brunch 11am-3pm</p> <p>Junior Cricket 4pm-6pm</p> <p>Balut Cup Night</p> <p>Cricket World Cup</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Junior British Club 9am</p> <p>Weekend Brunch 11am-3pm</p> <p>Yoga ॐ 2:30pm</p>

BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK

MUSIC

AT DUSK

THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK

5th February at 6:30 pm

10th February at 6:30 pm

11th February at 6:30 pm

19th February at 6:30 pm

24th February at 6:30 pm

SPORT & LEISURE

By Reed Passmore



**Bangkok Patana School
and the British Club Bangkok.**
Maximising student benefits
through sponsorship and support



The British Club Bangkok is grateful
to Vinarco International for
their sponsorship and co-operation.



February is here which means the 6 Nations Rugby, Asia Football Cup, Superbowl and The Cricket World Cup are here too, so there's plenty of TV sports for everyone.

February also has plenty of sports for the more active Members with Vets Rugby, 5-a-Side Football, junior sports camp, tennis events and junior sports days, so come join the fun.

Vets Rugby

If you fancy yourself as a bit of a rugby player or beer drinking supporter, sign up and become a member or player for the BC Rugby Section. The first event of 2011 is the Bangkok Rugby Tens at Bangkok Patana School – come and cheer YOUR team. Pink and Black Veterans Rugby (over 35yrs) Friday 11th, Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th.



Netball

Netball has started already with coaching continuing through February and March.

Netball is one of the biggest sports in the Commonwealth and great for boys and girls (over 20 million in over 70 countries are playing netball)

Junior Sports Days

Every Sunday in February we will be running junior sports day for children to experience new skills, sports and interact with others.

Sunday 6th – Junior Squash at 2pm

Sunday 13th – Junior Football at 3pm

Sunday 20th – Junior Cricket at 3pm

Sunday 27th – Junior Tennis at 3pm

Junior Sports Camp

14th - 18th February, ages 6-12yrs.
Full day and half day camps available.

Sign up in the Fitness Centre or contact Reed – numbers limited to 20 children.

Tennis, football, swimming, water polo, cricket, squash, arts and crafts and much more.

Yoga

Have you ever tried yoga? Do you need to increase flexibility, reduce distress, and to strengthen your body? Yoga is run every Sunday afternoon at the Club with many Members feeling the benefits (stronger core resulting in no more back pain, plus flexibility and general well being)

Fitball

Classes every Tuesday and Thursday morning at 10:30am. A great full body workout – Low impact, low weights and high reps – great for all ages.

Football

Tuesday night games on the back lawn and 5-a-Side Tournament 19th February.





THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

The British Club Bangkok 2011 Five-a-side Football tournament 19th February 2011



First match kicks off 15:00

Sign up your teams(8 players, 5 starting and 3 rolling substitutes) for free for a great day of fun football played on the back lawn.

Prizes for all and a trophy for the winning team

Food, Drink and live music to celebrate (or drown your sorrows) till late

Contact Simon or Reed to register your team

02234 0247 or info@britishclubbangkok.org



Junior Swimming Lessons

Group lessons available Friday Afternoons and Saturdays.

Contact Reed for more information



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

Junior British Club Bangkok

Every Sunday from 9am bring your children to our Junior British Club Bangkok

A great range of activities and fun, run by our Children's Entertainer Suzie and special guest.

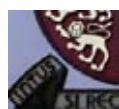
Full supervision is provided
Free of Charge

4 to 12 year
Finish at 12.00 and followed by our Weekend Brunch.



TENNIS

By Reed Passmore



**Shrewsbury International School
and the British Club Bangkok.**
An ace tennis partnership
through sponsorship and support



Player of the Day!



Thai Open Champions

Dear Members,

Welcome to another busy month of tennis.

January saw many new and continuing matches/programmes starting from social matches, championships, leagues and more. The tennis activity is picking up again at the Club and I encourage all players to come down and join in. Please remember to inform management if you wish to bring a guest, friend or family member who is not a Member of the B.C.

British Club and British Embassy, 15th January

This was a very social match with all players mixing in and carrying individual scores throughout the evening. There was no outright winner although Khun Wandee was the Player of the Day. Thanks to the British Embassy team for coming and enjoying some great tennis on a beautiful Saturday afternoon.

Ladies Mix In and Margaritas

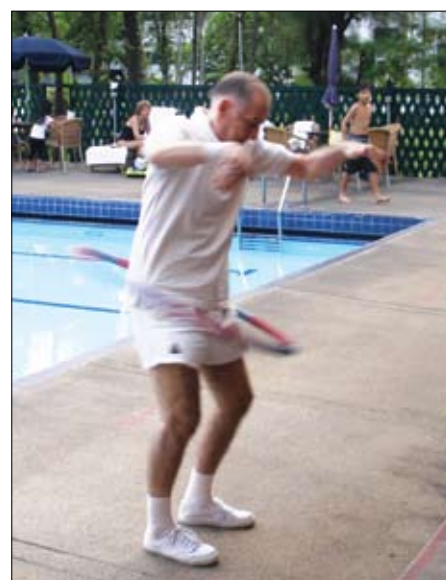
A great turn out Tuesday 18th January. 12 ladies played, drank and ate to reward themselves for a great morning of tennis on a particularly hot day.

Tennis Monthly League

The league is going well with Khun Kittu racing through and playing all his matches in 3 weeks - great work Kittu and congratulations on winning your league. The league is only Bt100 per person with each league winner winning a Bt1000 F&B voucher to use at the Club ("it's Kittu's round of drinks").

The Annual Championships

These have started with fantastic numbers continuing to grow from last year. The finals this year will be another great and memorable day with trophies, prizes, music and the best tennis in the Club being played on Centre Court. Come along early as the Sala is generally full of supporters and players.





SQUASHY BITS

by Bruce Madge b_madge@hotmail.com



Happy New Year Mum!



First of all, M (Burin) hasn't gone to Hong Kong to be with a man he met there on holiday or something as Den So told me last month, the lying wimp. He's gone there to be with a man he met through a new social website called AsiaBoy. And it was also Den that said M is terrible at squash, and even came up with the saying, 'No one loses to M.' You won't be surprised to learn that Den isn't that popular in the Squash Section.

So what? In reverse order, the latest BCB squash reports are thus:-

Early December ex-Captain Neil, Ricky, and meeee went to celebrate Vajiravudh College's Squash Centenary. An open comp for all ages, and one for over 40s. I got knocked out in the 2nd round of the oldies' bit as Neil stole my squash shoes



between matches so I had to play in my bare feet. Ricky made the quarter finals, and Neil, wearing my Reeboks, made the semis. For that he won a tankard or some sort of mug-type prize, and a voucher of some description. Nice event, well organized, very welcoming crowd, lots of good players and good, close matches all played in a neat, two-court arena with seating for 200 or more, the likes of which being exactly what we need at the BCB.



Also in December, the over 45s Tony Austin Open Title was played for. A dozen or so entrants, and won by Nick White beating Cat Flap in the final. I didn't get to see any of the games as I was having new soles attached to my feet in BNH Hospital, and, as is the norm, nobody else has said a word about the event nor did anyone take any pics. Anyway, well done to Nick and thanks to all the participants.



Then we had our Section Xmas Party. First some squash with two teams led by ex-Captain Neil and J Lo. I missed this part as I had to dash to the airport to deal with my mum's sudden, and 'surprise' arrival without having any accommodation booked. She thought she could just turn up and kip at my place, she did. Who's she think she is? What a freeloader! Well I wasn't having any of that, was I? I mean, what's my name, Alan Apartment, Colin Condo, Harry Hotel, Gavin Guest-house, Robin Resort? Well, what a palaver it was with Immigration and all that. But, I told them. I told them I didn't have a clue who she was and to



send her back whence she'd come immediately, since as far as I was concerned she was an illegal immigrant. So they did. They put her on the next flight to Gatwick, but by then I'd missed the squash, yet J Lo's team won amidst gallons of fun, laughter and general amusement. Later on, we parked ourselves in the

Silom Sala to be surrounded and overwhelmed with a tasty BBQ buffet, pints and pints of wine, barrels and barrels of beer until it was coming out of our ears, Marvyn's groovy music, speeches,



prizes, giveaways, takeaways, castaways, runaways and plenty of throwaways. Nick Mellor, ex-black belt karate champion, challenged me to a drunken punching competition and broke 2 of my ribs, ruptured my spleen, and fractured my stomach. All the while, we watched England get thrashed in the third test, but by then we didn't give a damn about that, and we joked, tickled, slapped each others backs, rolled around the floor clutching our sides at Neil's brilliant jokes and impressions of famous dogs. We sang a few songs, took plenty of photos to savour the day, and saw the year out on the highest note ever recorded in the history of recorded high notes that saw out the year.

We also said farewell to J Lo who has relocated to Seoul. He gave us a fine speech thanking us for 7 great years of BCB squash and camaraderie. Thanks too, J Lo, you were an asset to the section, unlike Den, and will be sorely missed.

Until Valentine's Day



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

Thursday Night Poolside BBQ

Every Thursday night enjoy relaxing evening with a great BBQ by the pool for 350 baht a person

HARD BALLS

By Squire Legge

The 2010/11 British Club cricket season finally got underway on 10th December with a 25-over match against RBSC at the Polo Club for the Marshall Trophy. Playing at the Polo Club, which boasts a square of Test Match standard, is a privilege and this was a special occasion to re-establish a fixture dating back to 1963 but which hadn't been played for 15 years. Most of us had no idea of the origins of this trophy but a chance conversation with Lockie Thompson back at the Poolside after the game revealed that it was donated by a John Marshall, then BC member and Manager of the Hong Kong Bank. Lockie speculated that this was probably the first game between RBSC and BCB. At the time most Members of the British Club would also have been members of RBSC and played their cricket there.

Skipper Vaughan lost the toss on a cool December morning and BCB were inserted, RBSC presumably expecting to roll us over in the overcast conditions. But BC's openers were in party mood and Dale, more specifically, had just arrived from the previous night's party. Batting under the influence, he thrashed 18 off 8 balls to set the scoreboard racing, fellow opener Joss chipping in with a very classy 32 retired off a slightly more sober 28 balls. Vaughany then joined the fray with 26 off 14 balls and BC were positively flying. At drinks after 13 overs we were 85 for 1! There then followed a rather quiet period, BC's star batsman Speddo going cheaply and Sailesh, Neil and Jon (10) all struggling to get the ball off the square. Sailesh bats elegantly, evoking images of a timeless, bygone era, of the Raj, a gentlemen for whom a scrambled single would seem crude and unworthy. But he has all the shots and after scoring only 6 off 16 balls, effortlessly changed gear, retiring 33 not out after just another 11 balls including no singles but a massive six over the bowler's head!

Reed came to the wicket having never before been out in his life and with just one incredible innings behind him of 30 not out off not many balls in Chiang Mai last year ... only to sky his first ball to the keeper and learn just how capricious the game cricket can be. At least he now has an average! Richard managed a couple of boundaries but Marc brought eternal shame on himself, family, team, club and nation by getting out stumped to veteran Ravi Segal in his only over. The innings ended fittingly with Jack Dunford stepping on his wicket and the score at 153 for 8 ... not bad, but probably 20 short of where we should have been after that wonderful start.



Marc (1 for 32) and Speddo (1 for 21) opened BC's attack both taking a wicket and getting us off to a reasonable start. But BC's bowling ranks were a bit thin after that and for the remainder of the innings struggled to keep the run rate down. Everyone except Speddo went for more than 6 an over ... Jack, bowling "a load of old Dunfords" a lot more. Dale took the only other wicket to fall bowling as drunk and disorderedly as he batted, and Vaughan entertained the lads by taking off his keeping pads and bowling so many wides the umpires gave up and called "Over".

The fielding was generally unexceptional with a few catches going down, other than an amazing performance by Reed hurtling around the boundary so fast that finally he split his borrowed flannels. RBSC comfortably reached 155 for 3 in the 25th over and it was time to hand back the Marshall Trophy. In the old days RBSC were not always renowned for their friendliness or hospitality but this time they did us proud. It was great to see so many players from an earlier era either in the field or watching; they laid on a buffet lunch and ensured that we had enough beer for a soporific afternoon, soaking up the joys on a lovely sunny afternoon in the beautiful Polo Club surroundings. This will now once again become an annual and eagerly awaited fixture. (All photos this month by Da).





Beautiful Polo Club



Drunk and disorderly



Gotta be a no-ball



The huddle



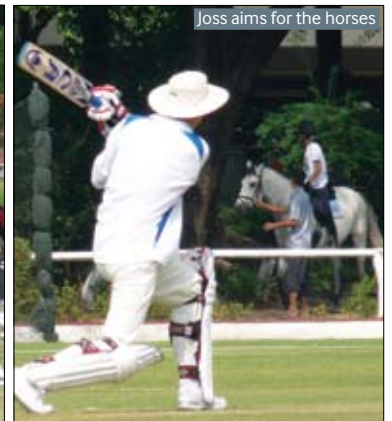
Well played chaps

We have a busy January with matches against the Southerners and the Perth Swans before the Chiang Mai Tour at the end of the month. Fixtures, Match Results and Net Practice times can be found on the Club Notice Board. **We still need more cricketers.** We are a very social team of all standards and ages (well apart from under 30s!). All Members are welcome. Just come along to nets. Watch the Club Notice Board for updates and get on the Section mailing list by contacting Jack Dunford at jack@tbbc.org.

The British Club and even the BC cricket team has Australian Members and, as everyone knows, Aussies are very gentle people of a very sensitive disposition. Even though they have been thrashing the Poms on the cricket field for most of my life, they have always been most generous in their understanding that we come from a cold country in the north where we don't get much chance to practice and the sun gets in our eyes when we visit their great land Down Under. This therefore is no time to gloat ... after all they have a British Queen and Welsh Lady Prime Minister, so can't be that bad. The facts that we won the Ashes 3-1, won by an innings three times, scored over 500 four times, scored the highest score ever in Australia, with our batsman averaging twice that of their counterparts including 9 centuries, will all be duly noted and referred to only under extreme provocation. Aussie bashing will henceforth be a finable offence!



Thanks boys!



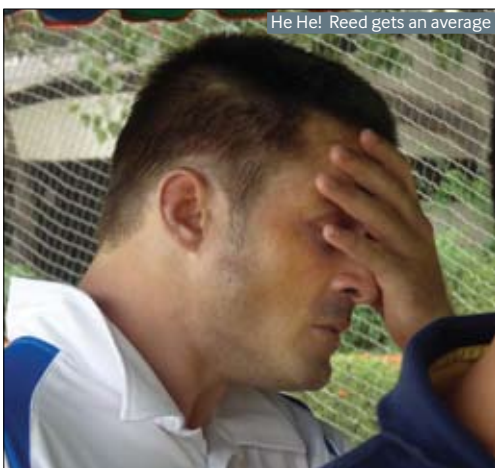
Joss aims for the horses



Sailesh the Unflappable



The Skipper strikes



He He! Reed gets an average



Joss enjoys the Melbourne Test

BCGS GOLFING NEWS

By Jack O'Flynn

2010 Hua Hin Weekend, Lakeview GC Hua Hin: 4th/5th December

With dry fairways at the Imperial Lakeview course allowing plenty of roll and the occasional rock in the rough, it was music to the ears of the long and straight hitters (who writes this clever stuff?).

The first day comprised a Stableford competition with 3 trophies up for grabs. The impressive Inaugural Cup is awarded for the highest Stableford score by golfers with handicaps up to and including 18. Whereas the Ambassador Cup is the prize for golfers with handicaps over 18. The Dee-Med Cup is at stake in the tussle between the highly-respected Committee and the hugely-talented Members.

On Saturday morning the occasional refreshing breeze made for excellent playing conditions and the frequent refreshment stops allowed us to top up our liquid levels. Val Ashman's sugar level was obviously too low, resulting in her eating out the resort's stock of Danish Pastries.



In the final analysis, it was announced that Pete Gale had amassed the impressive score of 35 points, and was presented with the Ambassador Cup by Captain Frank, with Vice-Captain John Bell overdoing the 'smile-for-the-camera' request (1). On the same



score, but with a lower handicap, Ray Bloom claimed the Inaugural Cup (2).

Scarcely able to contain their excitement, the players had to wait some time for the complexity of the decision formula to reveal the winner of the Dee-Med Trophy. With no sign of embarrassment at the outcome,



Captain Frank proclaimed that the Committee had again retained the trophy. Then, in Captain mode, Frank prepared the assembled team for the following day's duel with the Golfers Cocktail Lounge team from Bangkok, for this annual match for the SUAL Bell trophy (3).

Next morning dawned bright and fortunately a little cloudy over the Lakeview course. In excellent conditions once again, we set out in paired teams with the opposition, to recall the course's intricacies from the previous day.

In spite of implementing the lessons learned from Saturday's experiences, the GCL team proved too strong on the day and finished with a 7.5 to 5.5 victory. The evening beach BBQ

cemented the golfing friendships which have been developed over the years from this hugely enjoyable event.

Monthly Stableford, Subhapruek GC: Sunday 12 December 2010



4 The golfing gods continue to look favourably on us. Another splendid day and a course in immaculate condition made for another very enjoyable outing. There could be no excuses this time out??



5 As the round progressed it was becoming evident that the final group was setting the standards. Khun Yurachatr was well-placed after the first nine holes but faded towards the end and eventually settled for the longest putt prize (4). Barry A, showing some style on the picturesque 18th, had his moments, but unfortunately not enough of them! (5).



In the final stretch, both Ray B and Jack O were giving it their all and rattling up the points.

A chip-in for birdie at the final hole gave Jack O the grand total of 40 points but depressingly (for me!), it wasn't quite enough! The day belonged to Ray (sounds like a song!), who played consistently well throughout and triumphed with 41 points. Not only did he take the main prize, but he also proudly displays the evidence for a near pin and longest drive!! (6).

And the secret of Ray's recent successes? Could the fact that he's not giving away too much, be the prelude to a book or perhaps even a video on his new approach to the game?! We look forward with anticipation.

3 Clubs and Putter Comp, Krung Kavee GC: Sunday 19 December 2010

This annual fun competition is traditionally held at the start of the festive season. With a delightful course as a backdrop, the Captain got the day off to an excellent start by inviting all to partake in a little (!) seasonal drink. The Vice-Captain seemingly can't wait to get started (no, not golf) (7). Bob R, disguised in silly hat and pigtails, is probably hoping he





might be able to get away with teeing off with the ladies! (8). Defending champion Jenny H gets into the spirit of things and is hoping for a repeat performance this year (9). In a very cool and relaxed looking group, Karen C loosens up (!) in preparation for her match with Peter Clark in the knock-out competition (10).

With players being allowed to choose only three clubs and a putter, it was clearly a day for improvisation. It is remarkable and perhaps a little embarrassing even, that some of us can do just as well in this event as we can with a full set of clubs!!

When all the improvisation was done, scores returned were of a fairly high standard. The Harries family did well, with



defending champion Jenny in 3rd place with 33 points and Ray going one better to take second place. However, with his long hitting a clear advantage, Art Carlson played to handicap scoring 36 points to take top spot.

And finally, in what can be best described as a "Pimms-enhanced" performance, Karen C edged out Peter in a very tight match to reach the final of the knock-out competition (11). Well done!



December Medal, The Royal GC: Sunday 26 December 2010

The last Monthly Medal of 2010 was played on Boxing Day. Whilst a number of players showed signs of Christmas excesses, Mark Evans produced a magnificent round of gross 81, net 64 to win flight B by a comfortable margin from the more experienced Brian Brook and Peter Bond. Flight A was a more closely-fought affair, with Peter Clark's gross 80, net 70, being enough to hold off Roy Barrett and Robert Gray.

Useful contacts:

Website: <http://www.bcgolfsociety.com/>

Email: bcgs2002@yahoo.co.uk

Phone: Golf Society Captain, Frank Fawkes - 08 9165 1953

The Verandah Brunch

Saturday & Sunday
11.00am - 3.00pm

All you can eat @ Baht 450

Plus free flow wine & beer @ Baht 765

Children's Brunch @ Baht 250

Weekend Brunch Menu Highlights

Appetisers

Canapes Corner

Breakfast Selection

Live Station with Carvery

Pasta Station

Main Entrees

Dessert and Fruits



HAPPY HOUR

Everyday 5.30pm - 7.30pm

1 pint Tiger	55 THB
1/2 pint Tiger	30 THB
1 pint Heineken	70 THB
1/2 pint Heineken	45 THB
1 pint Tetley's	115 THB
1/2 pint Tetley's	60 THB
Beer Lao Regular Bottle	65 THB
Beer Lao Dark Bottle	90 THB
Gin, Whisky and Vodka Glass	45 THB
House Wine Glass	65 THB

Say Aloha! to a fun filled night

Join BNOW Speed Dating

Tuesday 22nd February 2011
7:30 pm to 10:30 pm

Who? Single Male and Female. Professional/executive singles who are married to their career/laptops.



What? A little dating fun

Why? Meet new friends

When? Event Tuesday 22/Feb/11

Where? At the British Club



Entry fee is 1,200 baht per participant.

Register and prepay by 18/Feb, get a 10% discount.

Seats are limited.

There are appetisers, prizes, games and cocktails.

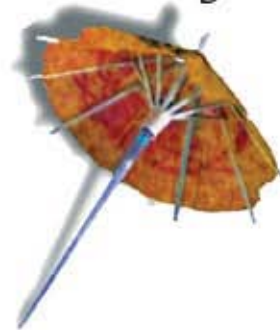


How?:

To register and participate, please e-mail BNOW at bnow@bnow.org and provide the following:



- Full name
- Sex
- Nationality
- Occupation
- Hobbies



- Mobile # and e-mail address

(Updates and matches are sent to you via e-mail)

All information is required for registration.

Visit our website at www.bnow.org for more information

T: +662 662 5622 M +6689 139 6800 E: bnow@bnow.org

BNOW



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

THE MONDAY NIGHT CLUB

*Your weekly chance to sit back and relax
The murder's on us.*

FEBRUARY

7pm in the Wordsworth Lounge.
Full F&B Menu available.



7th

Death of a Stranger



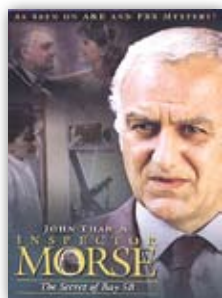
Taking a holiday is a serious risk to your career, especially when your replacement is at the end of his! One day you are in your office, the next day you are out of office! Anyway, lots of bodies as usual – well it is Midsomer after all!

John Nettles is DCI Barnaby with guest stars James Bolan, Diane Flechter and Richard Johnson.

A stranger is only a friend you have not yet met

14th

The Secret of Bay 5B



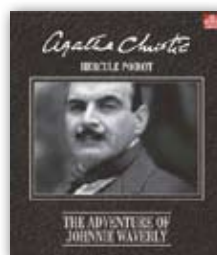
A successful architect is murdered in a multi-storey – perhaps he should not have designed the car park! Or is it something more sinister – perhaps he built his reputation on it?

John Thaw is DCI Morse with guest stars Brian Poyser, Mel Martin and Andrew Wilde.

Concrete evidence?

21st

The Adventure of Johnnie Waverly/ Four and Twenty Blackbirds



Another Poirot double bill ...

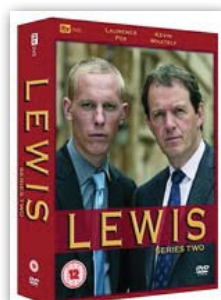
A child is kidnapped whilst under police guard, and when what you eat is more important than who you are!

David Suchet is Hercule Poirot with guest stars Geoffrey Bateman, Charles Pemberton and Denys Hawthorne.

Now you see me

28th

Old School Ties



A dead girl in Lewis's hotel room, an old flame, a computer conman and a literary agent – Oxford has changed a lot since Morse's day but still lots of bodies!

Kevin Whateley is Inspector Lewis with guest stars Owen Teale, Don Gallagher and James Russell with Laurence Fox as Sergeant Hathaway.

An Apple for the teacher?

THE BRIDGE BUNCH IN WINTER

By Martin Carter



Bridge on Sundays has been a success for the Club. Some players consistently score above the mean average of 50%. Results for British Club Bridge played in December 2010:

5TH DECEMBER (14 PAIRS, HOWELL MOVEMENT)

1st:	Charlene & Hanne
2nd:	Daniel & Michael Winckless
3rd:	Dennis & James Lamsam

12TH DECEMBER (12 PAIRS, HOWELL MOVEMENT)

1st:	Martin Carter & Honore-Allen
2nd:	Dr. Prasart & Prasert
3rd:	Khiri & Thong

19TH DECEMBER (13 PAIRS, HOWELL MOVEMENT)

1st:	Dr. Prasart & Prasert
2nd:	Leo & Charlene
3rd:	Chayanont & Chalernpol

What me? Eccentric!

The British Club's house and grounds remain frightfully British. Eccentrics abound. What do the natives think ... who cares? In marketing terms, the distinguishing Club feature is the mansion, worthy of a setting for a novel by PG Wodehouse. Inside our Churchill Bar, the old-world charm of dark timber panels and green leather chairs soothes the Members' drinking to the mantra "Bring back the Chesterfields." Where else can one play the bagpipes dressed as a Highlander, make serious progress in drinking oneself to death on credit, or die in an armchair under a copy of The Telegraph and remain unnoticed?

The true eccentric is unaware and therefore unconcerned with his tangential lifestyle; the distinguishing feature seems to be a private income or at least a devoted and wealthy wife. "Divorce darling? Impossible, never had one in the family!"

Could it be that you too are an eccentric? Do you mourn the loss of our second unused billiards table? You don't need to 'Duke it at Blandings Castle', wear a Panama or carry a Teddy; markers include solving quadratic equations in your head, playing Bridge ... yes Bridge!

Bridge in Chiang Mai

Recently, some of us visited Chiang Mai and played at the Pub Resort, fast developing as a Bridge Mecca and home of The Bridge Club of Chiang Mai. Taking the overnight train, I arrived to a greeting from Graham Quinn and his wife Tong. The Pub is on its own land with bungalow accommodation. The decor is modern Thai style with dark teak doors, furniture and earth-coloured fabrics. Each bungalow has a modern bathroom and a veranda looking out on the garden.

There were Bridge tournaments on Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoons, and group teaching on Monday afternoon each week, at the modest charge of THB 60 for non-members. Visit www.thepubchiangmai.com. The bungalows are terrific value and within crawling distance of the restaurant and bar. Tetleys and Guinness were on draft and a wide selection of bottled beer is sold with traditional pub food; try the chilli Yorkshire Puddings! Having hired a Honda for THB150 per day, I had terrific fun scooting around the one-way system circling the Old City and Moat. I flew back on Bangkok Airlines at a cost of THB 1,955 including tax.

The Pub is a family style resort, owned and operated by Tong & Graham Quinn. Graham has promoted Bridge by hosting the thrice-weekly competition, and has generously provided his dining room to The Bridge Club of Chiang Mai at no charge. The Anglo American set predominates, but star players included Rado from Norway and any number of Thai players add to the mix.

For the young at heart, have a beer and be entertained at the Foxy Lady go-go bar, just around the corner from Le Meridien. The "Foxy" is a high quality establishment, lavishly appointed with a sound and light show as a backdrop.

We were guests of Alan Tucker at the Gymkhana Club on some nights. As a golf Club, The Gymkhana is a sedate drinking establishment with 19th Century furnishings. I adored the Clubhouse with leather chairs and dark timber panelling. While it is a members-only club, new members are welcomed as are guests.

If you are intending to visit, contact chartered accountant Alan Tucker, a Member of both the British Club and the Gymkhana. Just walk in on Friday at sunset and "Shout the Bar". Many at the Gymkhana are British and we were made very welcome.

BALUT

By Mr. C



>>> BCB CUPS NIGHT!!!!

February 26th sees the Fourth annual BCB Balut Cups Night when we play for not one, not two, not three but four different Cups to cater for four distinct classes of players

BCB BALUT CUP Open to all British Club Balut Section Members and spouses.

BCB BALUT JUNIOR CUP Open to children (under 21) of British Club Balut Section Members, and to Section Members' children still in full-time education.

BCB BALUT ALLCOMERS CUP Open to all non-British Club members (from overseas).

BCB LOWEST SCORE CUP Given to the worst player of the night!!

The event starts in the Silom Room and Wordsworth Lounge of the Clubhouse at 6.00pm with a Dinner Buffet, prepared by our Executive Chef Khun Laak, and free-flowing Beer, Wines and Soft drinks sponsored by **OUTRIGGER HOTELS & RESORTS** and **DET 5 BAR & RESTAURANT**.

Play commences at 7.00pm in the Suriwongse Room with five games spread over two hours: the running scores will be available on-line (and on display) through YES TECHNOLOGIES' Balut Internet Scoring system.

Usual tournament conditions will apply including table rotation, SPOT PRIZES, nicotine breaks and, of course, the AWARDS CEREMONY ... Cups, Medals and those all so welcome bottles of wine! Fee ... 1,500 Baht for Adults, 750 Baht for Juniors.



Muntana Merrigan wins the 2010 Cup – will she make it a two in a row?

Kelly Alexander won the last year's Junior Cup but it be a twin victory for 2011 (or will her twin win it?).



>>> BALUT SHIELD UPDATE

As at end of play on 5th January the Balut Shield has four qualified players, with a further 27 playing this year's Shield:

POSITION	NAME	PLAYER	POINTS	AVERAGE
Leader	Mrs Orange	Mrs. Muntana Merrigan	3,059	101.97
2	Tom	Mr. Tomjakraphan Merrigan	3,026	100.87
3	Swampy	Mr. Steve Eaton	2,965	98.83
4	Mr C	Mr. Paul Cheesman	2,854	95.13

The Balut Shield Cup leader is The Chieftain (Ranald Macdonald) on 143.

Our thanks to OUTRIGGER HOTELS & RESORTS for supply of the prizes and to YES TECHNOLOGIES for the Balut Internet Scoring System.

The Club wishes to acknowledge substantial support provided by the following:



Full details of Balut can be found at <http://www.teambalut.com>



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

Wednesday Night Dancing Lessons at the British Club

Salsa

2nd February 2011

Salsa

9th February 2011

Salsa

16th February 2011

Ballroom Dancing

23rd February 2011

Dancing is as popular as it has ever been thanks to shows like Dancing With The Stars and So You Think You Can Dance.

Come and join us at the British Club Bangkok where our qualified instructors will teach you an array of major dance styles from the 'Waltz, Cha-Cha, Tango, Salsa and the Jive' and give you the confidence to tear up the dance floor.

7pm start for a 90 min lesson

Members

Single 150 Bht
Couple 250 Bht

Non-Members

Single 300 Bht
Couple 500 Bht

Book now with Simon or Anne

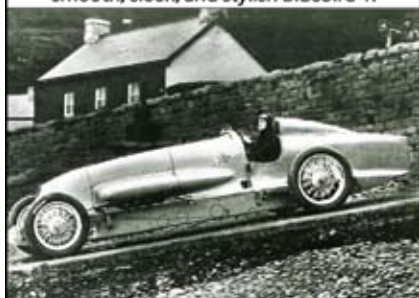
British Club Bangkok
189 Suriwongse Road Bangkok 10500 Tel. +66(0) 2234 0247

THE MONTH THAT WAS!

By Dickie Whitworth

1927

At Pendine Sands in Wales on 4 February, the intrepid Malcolm Campbell set a new land speed record of 174 mph (278 kph) in his smooth, sleek, and stylish Bluebird 1.



1975

Margaret Thatcher was voted leader of the Conservative Party on 11 February. The first woman to head a political party, she served as PM through three terms for a total of 11 years.



1971

Decimalisation came to Britain on 15 February, when it was time to say goodbye to pounds, shillings and pence, florins, sixpences, half-crowns, ten bob notes and threepenny bits. Instead, we got 'p'.



1958

In an attempt to reduce the chaos caused by the increase in random parking in London, meters were installed in Mayfair on 5 February.



1582

Pope Gregory XIII corrected mistakes on the Julian calendar, announcing the new Gregorian calendar on 24 February. Ten days were dropped in October late that year.




1582
OCTOBER
1582

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

1570

On 25 February, Pope Pius V issued a 'bull' excommunicating Queen Elizabeth 1, which resulted in greater persecution of Catholics in England and attempts on her life.



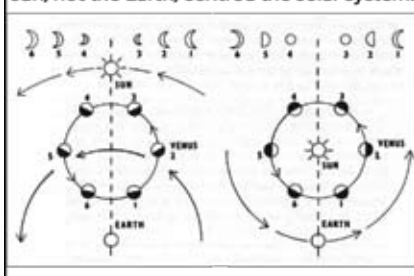
660BC

11 February is celebrated in Japan as being the founding date of the Japanese nation, when the first Emperor, Jimmu, ascended the throne and ruled for 75 years.



1564

Born in Pisa, Italy, on 15 February, the astronomer and physicist Galileo Galilei advanced the theory of the Heliocentric Universe of Copernicus, proposing that the sun, not the Earth, centred the solar system.



1964

73 million Americans tuned in to the Ed Sullivan TV show on 9 February to watch the first appearance of four young lads from Liverpool, the already legendary Beatles.



1587

After 19 years of imprisonment, Mary Queen of Scots was found guilty of plotting against her cousin, England's Queen Elizabeth 1, and thus beheaded on 8 February for treason.



1665

On 2 February, British forces capture a Dutch trading settlement on the island of Manhattan called New Amsterdam, soon to be renamed New York in honour of its new governor.



1478

George Plantagenet, Duke of Clarence, died in the Tower of London on 18 February. He is said to have met his fate being drowned in a vat of his favourite malmsey wine.



Susie's Kids Korner



BACK TO SCHOOL CRAFTS

PENCIL TOPPERS

Materials

1. Embroidery floss
2. Craft wire
3. Wooden bead
4. Foam pencil grip
5. Pushpin
6. Permanent marker



Instructions

1. Loosely wrap embroidery floss around your palm about a dozen times to create a coil of hair. Twist a 7½ inch length of plastic-coated 22-gauge craft wire around the centre of the hank.
2. Thread a 6 to 8 mm round wooden bead head onto the wire ends flush to the hair. For a body, use a foam pencil grip. Poke armholes in the foam with a pushpin or the end of a paper-clip.
3. Thread the wire ends down into the pencil grip and out through the armholes.
4. String two 4 mm cylindrical wooden beads (about ½ inch long each) onto each arm wire and shape the wire tips into loops for hands.
5. Trim and style the hair as you like. Then draw on a face with fine-point permanent markers, and your completed character is ready to top a pencil.



MONSTER TABLE TOP RUBBISH BAGS

What you will need:

1. Colourful lunch bags (I used 8½" x 4¾" bags) or you can paint them ahead of time. [From Susie – "I found some larger lunch bags at Makro!"]
2. White fun foam or construction paper for the teeth.
3. Pompom balls in different colours and shapes.
4. Glue, scissors, paper-glue and/or hot-melt glue, black and other colours of construction paper.
5. Other supplies you might use: googly eyes, feathers, feather boas, and buttons.



What to do:

1. To form the mouth cut a 1 inch slit down the two front corners on the top of the bag and fold down the flap to the inside of the bag. (See diagram) Glue or tape down the flap.
2. Fold down both sides from the bottom of the slits to the top of the back corners and then glue the flaps down on the inside. (See diagram on the left.)
3. Glue a piece of black construction paper to the inside back of the bag so that the mouth looks dark inside. This will also help the teeth to show up better.
4. The two monsters on the right side of the picture have feather boas and feathers glued to the top, back of the bag to make the monster's head. The monster on the left just has two pompoms glued on the back, top of the bag for eyes. The horns were made from rolled up fun foam. The tail was made out of rolled up red felt with a pompom glued to the end.
5. The teeth were made from white fun foam. The hands and feet were just drawn on construction paper with a black Sharpie and then cut out, and glued to the bag. The tongue was made from pink paper.
6. When you have finished your monster, glue a sign that reads "Feed Me!" to the Monster's hands.



BACK TO SCHOOL JOKES

Walking through the hallways at the middle school where I worked, I saw a new substitute teacher standing outside his classroom with his forehead against a locker. I heard him mutter "How did I get myself into this?". Knowing he was given a difficult class, I tried to offer help. "Are you okay?" I asked. "Can I help?"
He lifted his head and replied, "I'll be fine as soon as I get this kid out of his locker!"

A head teacher is making his rounds of the school when he hears a terrible commotion coming from one of the classrooms. He rushes in and spots one boy, taller than the others, who seems to be making the most noise. He seizes the lad, drags him to the hall, and tells him to wait there until he is excused. Returning to the classroom, the head teacher restores order and lectures the class for half an hour about the importance of good behaviour.
 'Now,' he says, 'are there any questions?'
One girl stands up timidly. 'Please sir,' she asks, 'may we have our teacher back?'

Mrs Mollard had been giving her second-grade students a lesson in science. She had explained about magnets and showed how they would pick up nails and other bits of iron. Now it was question time and Mrs Mollard asked, 'My name begins with the letter "M" and I pick up things. What am I?'
Tim, a little boy in the front row proudly said, 'You're a mother!'



A relationship we take seriously.

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* The possibilities are endless

You are invited to the **Teddy Bears' Adventure Picnic** @ KIS International School



Saturday 26th February, 10.00-12.00
Only Baht 200 per family to join us!
Ideal for children aged 2—6 years old



- ★ Best dressed bear competition
- ★ Treasure Hunt
- ★ Snacks & drinks
- ★ Puppet Show
- ★ Art & Craft activities
- ★ Games and Prizes



Free Shuttle Bus to and from
MRT at the Thailand Cultural Centre, Exit 2
Reserve your tickets today! Email: kim@kis.ac.th

