



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK

# Outpost

[www.britishclubbangkok.org](http://www.britishclubbangkok.org)

February 2016





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Bt 1,950  
for two

*Celebrate your love here at The British Club*



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

# VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> Feb 2016

The Verandah, 7.30pm - 9pm

- Special Menu
- Complimentary glass of Sparkling Wine
- Individual candlelit tables • Red rose for lovers

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**FRONT COVER**

Early February sees the start of the Chinese Year of the Monkey, so there will be a Lion Dance on Sunday 7th on the Front Lawn following the Dim Sum Buffet. The Lion Dance is a noisy and exciting demonstration, with some deft acrobatics too - Gong Xi Fa Cai!

**EDITOR'S GREETING**

This month there are quite a few pages with photos of events in December which were too late for the last issue. Let me know if you want any copies!

I'm pleased that the series Jack Dunford kindly made possible with old photos of the Club originally elicited enough feedback that he has delved into his photo collection for pictures of Bangkok back in last century. This series, called As It Was, starts again this month.



**OUTPOST** is the monthly publication of **THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK**, the social sports and cultural centre for the English-speaking community in Bangkok.

A full version of the magazine is also available online at [www.britishclubbangkok.org/outpost](http://www.britishclubbangkok.org/outpost) **Editor** - Jeremy de Sausmarez [jeremy@britishclubbangkok.org](mailto:jeremy@britishclubbangkok.org)

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, email [outpost@britishclubbangkok.org](mailto:outpost@britishclubbangkok.org) - No part of this publication may be reproduced without the written permission of the Publisher.

**'The British Club Bangkok is a registered Association in accordance with the Thai Civil & Commercial Code'**



# Pancake Day

**FAMILY  
FUN**

**NO  
ADMISSION  
CHARGE**

**SUNDAY 7<sup>th</sup> FEB 2016**

**BACK LAWN  
3.15PM - 6PM**



Afternoon pancake buffet & Bar • Parent & child races • Pancake kids competition  
Children's Games & Crafts • Bouncy Castle • Trampoline



Book at Reception or by email : [events@britishclubbangkok.org](mailto:events@britishclubbangkok.org)



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Whilst many of our Members and their families spent the holiday period either out of Bangkok or overseas, December proved to be an extraordinarily busy month for the Club. As predicted, our staff worked exceptionally long hours to ensure the success of the many functions including, of course, one of the busiest Christmas Days that the Club has ever witnessed. My personal thanks go out to each and every one of our staff for working so hard throughout the year to ensure that all our Members, their families and guests have been able to enjoy the facilities of one of the top Private Member Clubs in Asia ... and long may this continue.



Phil Alexander

**Chairman,  
General Committee**

### Some financial highlights from December to mid-January

- Revenue from December meant the Club's operations produced "another financial surplus" before depreciation of some 1,998,532 baht. This represents a huge increase on previous months and far exceeded expectations. The main drivers behind this exceptional month were an increased level of functions and a very busy and successful holiday season. For the first nine months of the new General Committee year, this brings us to a total surplus after investments and before depreciation of approximately 4,716,489 baht. These figures also exclude membership joining fees.
- The Club's total Cash in Bank position at the end of December was in excess of our previous predictions and stood at some 33.2 million baht. We are now predicting a Total Cash in Bank position of approximately 34.5 million baht for the end of January 2016.
- On the Membership front our net membership stayed steady at 1112 Members. Membership is always a key focus of Management attention and our focused external recruitment activities will be further increased.
- As part of the ongoing improvement of our House and Grounds, we have seen a continuation of small improvements being made around the Club in the past month. In a few months' time the back lawn, after the main function period, will have a complete makeover. Also work on cleaning up and repainting the interior walls of the downstairs outlets in the Clubhouse will be tackled.
- In my Outpost articles during the period July through September 2015, I highlighted the extraordinary backdated tax charges, in the amount of 2,849,647.70 baht, we had received covering a 10 year period which initially started in 2002. The General Committee did not agree with these charges and following consultation with legal and tax advisors we launched the first phase of our appeal in September 2015. This included **full payment** of the disputed amounts mentioned above. Since then we have been in discussions with the relevant authorities and as no agreement has been reached we have now started the second phase of the appeal process in the Tax Courts.

- The revamped Children's Playground came just in time for the busy holiday period and proved a great success with the younger members of our Club. As I mentioned recently, this is only a start of the "much-needed" improvements for our Members and their children. These activities must be dealt with as an ongoing priority and hopefully will be integrated into the Silom Sala Redevelopment programme.

### The next few months

The last few years have seen the Club creating a very solid base from which future General Committees will benefit, being in a position to drive the Club even further forwards under the guidance of our excellent Management Team and Staff. The prudent increase of the financial buffer to **a minimum of 15 million baht**, which has been set aside in fixed, annual and rolling savings accounts, has been well received by many Members as it is seen as an important cornerstone of the Club's stability for the future.

As we move towards the upcoming AGM (provisionally planned for 22nd March 2016) this General Committee continues to be committed to developing and implementing plans which further strengthen and underpin the Club's finances and organisational fabric. A number of issues, for example, which are currently under discussion and/or being actioned:

- Security is an extremely important focus area for the General Committee and David Viccars has written a separate article on this, the first part of which appears later in this magazine.
- Hand-in-hand with the above point are our CCTV systems' that are in need of upgrading and enlarging. The first phase of improvements have now been approved and will now be implemented. The costs involved are in the order of 100,000 baht.
- A review of the Club's various Membership types is currently underway and the proposed changes will either be brought up at the upcoming AGM or will be included in the current ongoing Constitutional Review.

Your input is always welcome, so if you have any questions or ideas on any areas or aspects of Club development, please feel free to send me an email.

# International Auction

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*Pablo Picasso: "Tripode", 1951.  
Large vase in white terre de faïence.  
Sold for USD 210,000*



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# LETTER FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

I hope all of you had a wonderful holiday season and were pleased to get back to Bangkok if you had been away. The last week of December was busy for us, and we greeted over 500 Members for Christmas lunch and dinner, with the New Year's Eve Dinner Cruise well attended too with nearly 100 Members and guests, so I would like to thank all the Members who always support the Club functions and events. My team are looking forward to another successful year in 2016.

January started off with a very busy Polar Swim on New Year's Day, the pool was so full of ice and the kids had a wonderful time. We've had our annual monks ceremony blessing the Club and staff in Thai tradition. Next week we will close for a day for the annual staff party outing which they really need after the end of last year. We are going to Had Chao Samran in Petchaburi, and we expect to have a great day with food and drinks, games on the beach, and karaoke.

I am very pleased that most people visiting the Club have been supportive with our increased security. It is a serious matter, and there is an article from one of the General Committee on page 11 this month.

We have a some events ahead in February. On Sunday 7th, we will celebrate Chinese New Year with our annual Dim Sum and Chinese Buffet for lunch and dinner. It's a popular meal so please book in advance. In the afternoon, we will have a Lion Dance and show on the Front Lawn, it was very popular for both adults and kids and has improved every year for the last three years. They also perform the human tower, as shown in



Premrudee Tanyaluck

**General Manager**

the photo on the front cover of this issue. After that you can enjoy Pancake Sunday with the pancake menu and games, activities and Pancake Races on the back lawn.

On 14th February, we have a special set menu for Valentine's Day dinner in The Verandah, so please check the website or the sign-up sheet in Reception. Then later in the month we will have our Old & New Members Night for those who receive an invitation from Khun Prang.

For sports, we will have 5-a-side football tournament on Saturday 20th and for youngsters a Junior Table Football competition on Sunday 21st. Booking and more information is available from the Fitness Centre staff.

The maintenance staff have finished repainting the parking space lines in the car parks, and we have also reserved, and painted markings in, two spaces for handicapped or aged Members in the area nearest the lift. Please be considerate and leave these spaces vacant so that those Members who have problems with mobility can easily access the Clubhouse entrance and lift up to the 1910 Balcony.

Gong Xi Fa Cai!

## OFFICIAL OPENING TIMES

<b>The Verandah</b>	11am - 2pm, 5pm - 10pm (Mon-Thurs) 11am - 10pm (Fri-Sun and Public Holidays)		
<b>1910 Balcony</b>	3pm - 11pm (Afternoon Tea 3pm - 5pm)		
<b>Accounts Office</b>	9am - 6pm (Mon-Fri), Closed (Sat-Sun)		
<b>The Pavilion Café</b>	9am - 6pm	<b>Fitness Centre</b>	6am - 10pm (Mon-Fri)
<b>Churchill Bar</b>	10am - 12midnight	<b>Fitness Centre</b>	6am - 9pm (Sat-Sun)
<b>Poolside Bar</b>	6:15am - 11pm Last food orders 9:30pm	<b>Thai Massage</b>	10am - 5pm (Tues-Sun)





# Happy Chinese New Year

## 7th February 2016

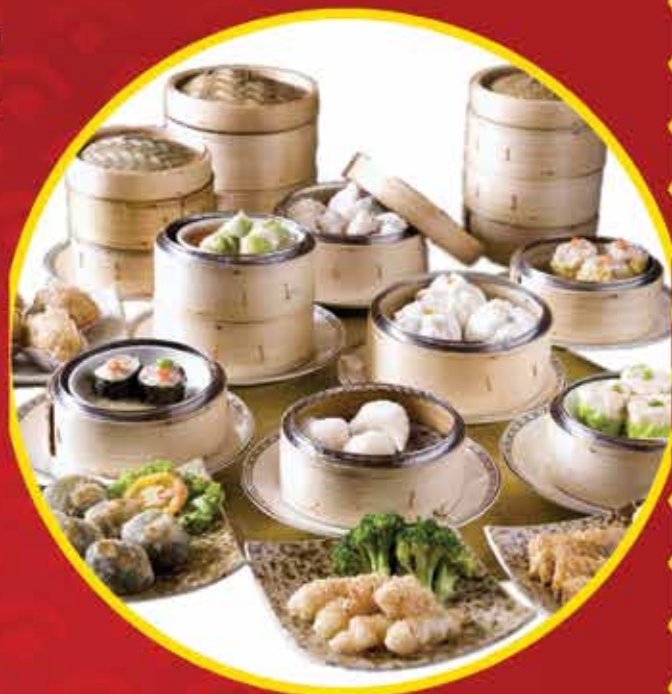
**DIM SUM BUFFET**  
and other special dishes

**The Verandah**

11:30am - 3pm / 5pm - 9pm

**ADULTS Bt. 595**

**CHILDREN Bt. 350**



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

**LION DANCE**

**Front Lawn**

**2pm onwards**

**FREE**

Book in Reception or by email : [events@britishclubbangkok.org](mailto:events@britishclubbangkok.org)



# HAPPENINGS

We went to print with Outpost earlier in December as the printer was having a long holiday at New Year, so the Christmas Outpost arrived at the Club on Boxing Day, a perfect moment for heavy-lidded reading in the aftermath of what was probably the busiest Christmas Day the Club has seen. And a wonderful day it was too, with goodwill, smiles and friendly faces throughout the day, plus an incredible array of food throughout the Clubhouse!

The early print date in December means that this month's issue of Outpost is full of reviews, with the emphasis on pictorial. If there's a photo of you amongst these pages which you rather like, send me an email telling me which page (and which photo) and I'll see if I can't find the right one and send you a copy. There are some really good ones amongst the others, the best are of YOU!

Our upgrading of the boat we rented for the New Year's Eve Dinner Cruise seems to have been a good move. We had almost twice as many people this year, and despite the slight difficulty of meeting up at Saphan Taksin pier beforehand, the benefits of this boat were evident. A slight hitch with orange juice was overcome by a stop and a loop at a pier en route, but otherwise everything went like clockwork. We stopped for the fireworks display halfway between the hotels bit and the Asiatique bit of the river, and as the roof was almost completely off, we ended up getting a grand stereophonic view of fireworks from both locations. Quite spectacular (although I still prefer the Guy Fawkes show here at the Club where the whole sky overhead is filled, but that's just me), and it made for a great farewell to 2015 and a colourful welcome to 2016.

New Year's Day was full of frenzy. The Polar Swim has had a growing audience the last few years, and this year was extremely busy with extra expectations and apprehension from the keen kids who could barely wait for the blocks of ice to be jettisoned into the pool. The ice delivery was a bit late, which helped, and once half was unloaded we popped them in the pool and continued unloading the rest so the second batch would prolong the enjoyment and not melt quite so quickly. It worked well, and there was ice around for some time, and a lot of enjoyment too!



**Jeremy de Sausmarez**

**Events & Marketing  
Manager**

February has an early highlight as Shrove Tuesday falls the day after Chinese New Year, which means that Sunday 7th February is our Pancake FunDay as well as the day we have the Lion Dance on the front lawn after the very popular Dim Sum Chinese Buffet. They all fit together rather well, with the Buffet at midday and then the Lion Dance at 2pm with the performers making human totem poles as well as the dance, and afterwards we move to the back lawn for the pancake races and other games as well as the Pancake Menu for freshly made sweet pancakes. In the evening there's the Buffet again, so it's a great day to be at the Club. A week later, it's Valentine's Day and Khun Laak will be preparing a special menu for couples who want to celebrate the day here, and this will be available at the beginning of February.

The last Car Boot Sale was held on the Front Lawn which worked much better than before, but was still a bit short on visitors, so I'm hoping that the next one can be similar but open to various others like associated groups. We usually have one in January but that hasn't been possible this month, so to give time for people to know and come along, we are scheduling the next one for the first half of March - I will get a poster and sign up sheet ready as soon as that is fixed and do a mailing too.

For organised people who use diaries, it's worth noting that in March we have the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 22nd, with Easter Sunday falling the weekend after that on Sunday 27th. We will have the Egg Hunt on the Back Lawn as usual. You can also pencil in Quiz Nights on 16th and 15th of February and March respectively. One of them will have an extra 'retro' round like the Christmas one had, by popular demand from our resident mods rockers and maybe hippies! Keep those days free so you can tag along and perhaps win a prize!

Have a good month!



# Business Luncheons

**1<sup>st</sup> February - 5<sup>th</sup> February 2016**

**Starters : 65 baht**

Waldolf Ham Salad

or

Chef's Soup of the Day

**Main Courses : 160 baht**

Mini Steak Served with Mixed Vegetables,  
Roasted Potatoes and Gravy Sauce

or

Pan-fried Dory Fish with Mornay Sauce

*Served with Broccoli and Mashed Potatoes*

or

Creamy Chicken Penne and Peas

*Served with French Beans, Carrots and Sauteed Potatoes*

or

Tom Kha Gai

*(A Refreshing Coconut Milk Soup with Chicken and Herbs)*

Phad Kraprao Moo Sab

*(Stir-fried Minced Pork with Hot Basil and Chilli)*

Phad Tua Ngok Tao Hoo

*(Stir-fried Bean Sprouts with Curd and Oysters Sauce)*

**8<sup>th</sup> February - 12<sup>th</sup> February 2016**

**Starters - 65 baht**

Mozzarella, Mango, Tomato and Rocket Salad

or

Chef's Soup of the Day

**Main Courses - 160 baht**

Salmon Fish Cakes

*Served with Chips, Garden Peas and Tartare Sauce*

or

Chicken Stew in Red Wine Sauce, French Onion, Peas,  
Carrots and Mashed Potatoes

or

Fillet of Pork in a Light Curry Sauce

*Served with Grilled Zucchini and Coriander Rice*

or

Gaeng Jued Phak Gard Khao

*(Chinese Lettuce Soup with Minced Pork, Tofu and Vermicelli)*

Pla Som Ros

*(Deep-fried Dory Fish Topped with Sweet and Sour Spiced Sauce)*

Phad Phak Ruam Nam Man Hoy

*(Stir-fried Mixed Vegetables with Oyster Sauce)*

**15<sup>th</sup> February - 19<sup>th</sup> February 2016**

**Starters : 65 Baht**

Carrots, Raisin and Apple Coleslaw

or

Chef's Soup of the Day

**Main Courses :160 Baht**

Chicken Maryland with pineapple, banana, sweet corn,  
bacon and home-fried potatoes

or

Pan-fried Dory fish in orange and butter sauce

*Served with French beans, carrots and mashed potatoes*

or

Sausage Stew with Green Beans, Carrots, Peas and New Potatoes

or

Tom Kha Gai

*(A refreshing coconut milk soup with chicken and herb)*

Phad Kraprao Moo Sab

*(Stir-fried minced pork with hot basil and chilli)*

Phad Tua Ngok Tao Hoo

*(Stir-fried bean sprouts with beancurd and oyster sauce)*

**22<sup>nd</sup> February - 26<sup>th</sup> February 2016**

**Starters : 65 Baht**

Chicken and Papaya Salad

*(Grilled chicken, lemongrass, spring onion and lime dressing)*

or

Chef's Soup of the Day

**Main Courses : 160 Baht**

Mixed Sausages with Mashed Potatoes and Fried Onions

or

Turkey and Mushroom Pie with Mixed Vegetables  
and Home-fried Potatoes

or

Grilled Seabass *Served with Spinach Risotto*

or

Tom Yam Kung

*(Spicy Lemon Grass Soup with Prawns and Mushrooms)*

Gai Phad Khing

*(Stir-fried Chicken with Ginger, Onion and Fungus Mushrooms)*

Tod Mun Pla

*(Deep-fried Fishcakes)*

**Dessert of the Day : Choose from our à la carte Dessert with 10% off**



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK



## F&B MORSELS

Christmas Day went so well in all outlets, for those coming to eat and for my staff too., and that made it worth the effort! Many Members gave me their feedback and that was a bonus, thank you. At the end of the year there was the Dinner Cruise on the Chaopraya which we prepared food for, and I hear it was a great success too so the year ended well!

In February I hope you will come along to the Dim Sum Buffet which we have for Chinese New Year that is on 7 February this year. The Dim Sum are all freshly steamed during the Buffet, so you can choose the ones you like and ask the staff about them, or choose from the other dishes which will be available too. Later in the day there are pancakes being made on the Back Lawn to go with the Pancake Day races, so I hope you will enjoy those too.

I am planning a special promotion for pancakes during February, with both sweet and savoury ones



**Khun Laak**

**Executive Chef**

available for you to try. The fruit pancakes are usually the most popular as we are so lucky with fresh fruit here in Thailand, but I know that people from Europe like savoury pancakes with fillings too, so watch out for the promotion menu.

We still have a number of turkey dishes available on the Khun Laak recommends listings, so you can carry on enjoying the taste of turkey for some time yet. And don't forget the Snack Menus when you're feeling just a bit hungry. And remember the Paella promotion too!

Happy Eating!

## Cocktail of the Month February



**HARVEY  
WALLBANGER**



**Only Bt 1♥♥**



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

**Don't forget Afternoon Tea is available from 3pm**





## NITHAT TANGSANTIKUL: 1942–2016

Nithat 'Tat' Tangsantikul, who passed away on 5th January 2016 after a short illness, was a long-standing and well-liked Member of the British Club. A gregarious and generous character, equally at home on the tennis court or in the bar, Tat will be fondly remembered by the many Club Members and staff whom he encountered over the years.

Tat was born in Bangkok in 1942. The fifth child of mainland-Chinese immigrants, he grew up in a large and successful school run by his parents. In the late-1950s Tat's father sent him to study in Weston-Super-Mare and, inadvertently perhaps, set in motion a lifelong love affair with all things English. Tat stayed on in the UK, firstly as a pharmaceutical student at the University of London and later as a pharmacist for Boots in Knightsbridge. The fact that this was the swinging 60s had, of course, no bearing on Tat's decision to extend his time in England for as long as possible. On his return to Thailand in 1970, he began a long and successful career in pharmaceuticals and consumer products. Tat was headhunted by leading international companies including Mead Johnson (Bristol-Myers) where he was the Regional Manager and Louis T. Leonowens where Tat was employed as General Manager.

Tat never forgot what he termed his 'debt to England'. He encouraged his daughters to study there and revelled in the opportunity to combine family visits with returns to his 'old hunting grounds'. Tat joined the British Club in 1986 and, his nearly thirty years as a Member will, perhaps, be best remembered for his determination to ensure that both he and those around him ate, drank and were merry.

Tat's illness was short and unexpected. Yet such was his character that he remained cheerful and convivial throughout, dying peacefully to songs he loved sung by his wife and daughters. He is greatly missed by his wife Supattra, daughters Juthamas and Sonthaya, granddaughters Ray Tawan and Pippa, and sons-in-law Nigel and Krit.



## Promotion 2016

Minimum 2 people, your choice of:

Mixed Seafood Bt 495, Chicken Bt 470, Vegetarian Bt 450

Every Wednesday. Available from every outlet  
 \*Order 30 minutes in advance to allow for cooking



# SECURITY IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS

On 10th December last year the GM announced a tightening of the security rules at the Club. I joined the General Committee (GC) at that time, and with my background as a past GM of the Club – albeit a long time ago – and in security, I was asked by the GC to have a look at the security measures at the Club and now to pen this security article. Leaving aside the fact that a place like the British Club is vulnerable to the usual range of common criminal activity such as theft, pilferage etc., this article addresses the challenges all similar institutions face in the modern world.

Increased security almost inevitably means a level of increased inconvenience. But we must never lose sight of the fact that the Club's 'raison d'être' is to be a relaxing, enjoyable and pleasant environment. People need to be encouraged to come to the Club, not deterred. Thus a balance needs to be achieved between these two apparently conflicting aims – at the same time bearing in mind that the threat is constantly evolving and security plans similarly need frequent review. The Club, like the thousands of hotels, bars, shopping malls, markets, embassies, government facilities, transport hubs etc in Bangkok, is clearly a place 'bad guys' may consider, however being tucked away down Soi 18, in spite of the signage, we are luckily quite discreet.

The 'bad guys' do not wake up one morning and on a whim go and hit a place, on the contrary, even a 'lone wolf' has a list of potential targets and will spend time studying those targets gradually working out which facility offers them their best chance of success. In consequence establishments which present a picture of effective security stand a good chance of being crossed off any target list. So how do we present such an image to someone watching us? Having obvious CCTV cameras covering the entrance/exit and the approaches is one indicator that security is taken seriously but by far the most effective, visible (to an observer) security measure is that people and vehicles are stopped and checked on entrance.

So, please, if the guards stop you at the gate, and I appreciate that you may enter the Club at the same time every day and yes the guards probably know you and you them, but that's not the point, the point is that by stopping all vehicles and people as they enter, any observer will get the sense that Club is aware of security and has high standards. We all know that in reality the guards sometimes fail to check vehicles/



David Viccars

General Committee

people on entrance and this is a significant failing, but even if they don't stop you please still stop and show your member card to the guard, then report the failing to management.

Now, without giving too much detail, to report on some security related issues the GC is looking at – Security audits – We have had three security audits in the last three months, one a team from the UK FCO, in general the reports have been favourable but of course improvements can always be made.

- CCTV – Our existing CCTV system is quite old and is to be refurbished by upgrading and repositioning certain cameras and the control equipment.
- Security management – in common with most hotels in Bangkok the Club is looking to hire its own security supervisors to oversee the guards and provide better security at functions etc.
- Event security – Club management will not only tighten up on control of those who attend functions at the Club but will also hire extra guards, to be charged to the event, if required.
- Security & Emergency plan – Make the security plan more flexible with measures matching assessed risk. Revise the emergency plan to include exits, signage, a tannoy, alarm, link to emergency services etc.
- RFID – Look at having a member card which will allow the Member to self-admit at the gate.

There are other issues also under consideration but the aim with all these measures is to do all that we can, which is within the control of the Club, to ensure that the Club remains a safe and secure environment for all users while at the same causing minimum inconvenience. If anybody wishes to chat with me about this article then please contact me through the GM, it's clearly not advisable to have a dialogue about security in the public domain. Lastly, security really is not just the responsibility of management; on the contrary, **security is everybody's business.**

## STARS ON THE LAWN

The Annual Ball this year came late in December but despite being less busy than usual, it was a great evening. There was a good reception on the front lawn which eased the throats and stomachs of those gathered, a wonderful home-cooked traditional turkey dinner backed by classical tunes, a splendid raffle draw which saw fantastic prizes going to a large number of guests, and a great band which had many on their feet. If only it was allowed to play on into the night, we might have seen breakfast. See you all again next year!









# FESTIVE FUN!

## CHILDREN'S XMAS PARTY





You could tell it was nearly Christmas as there was a frenzied zing in the air. Lots of children turned up for the party afternoon on Tuesday 22nd, and wasted no time at all heading for the trampoline, the bouncy, or Sam and his arts and crafts table with lots of face painting too. It wasn't long before the Tweety Piñata was lowered and although it looked frail, it lasted many bashes before spilling gorgeous sweets everywhere. Then there was magic and moving to the front lawn there was food too! Just as that was finishing up, Santa arrived in the tuk-tuk and doled out presents to all the queueing kids. Tins of Kit-Kats, absolutely delicious. See you next year!



# BC Calendar February 2016



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

1

**BWG Mahjong**

10am - 1pm



**Tennis Mix-In**

6pm - 10pm



2

**Squash Mix-In**

5:15pm - 7:30pm



**Bangkok Gentlemen  
Spoofers 8:30pm**

**Yoga Course**

9:15am - 10:30am

Beginner's Course



3

**Ladies Tennis  
Coaching**

9am - 10:30am



**Tennis Mix-In**

6pm - 10pm



8

**BWG Mahjong**

10am - 1pm



**Tennis Mix-In**

6pm - 10pm



9

**Squash Mix-In**

5:15pm - 7:30pm



**Bangkok Gentlemen  
Spoofers 8:30pm**

**Yoga Course**

9:15am - 10:30am

Beginner's Course



10

**Ladies Tennis  
Coaching**

9am - 10:30am



**Tennis Mix-In**

6pm - 10pm



15

**BWG Mahjong**

10am - 1pm



**Tennis Mix-In**

6pm - 10pm



16 **Squash  
Mix-In**

5:15pm - 7:30pm

**Yoga Course**

9:15am - 10:30am

Beginner's Course

**Bangkok  
Gentlemen**

**Spoofers 8:30pm**

**Quiz Night**

7:15pm The Verandah



17

**Ladies Tennis  
Coaching**

9am - 10:30am



**Tennis Mix-In**

6pm - 10pm



22

**BWG Mahjong**

10am - 1pm



**Tennis Mix-In**

6pm - 10pm



23

**Squash Mix-In**

5:15pm - 7:30pm



**Yoga Course**

9:15am - 10:30am

Beginner's Course

**Bangkok  
Gentlemen**

**Spoofers 8:30pm**



24

**Ladies Tennis  
Coaching**

9am - 10:30am



**Tennis Mix-In**

6pm - 10pm



29

**BWG Mahjong**

10am - 1pm



**Tennis Mix-In**

6pm - 10pm





## Thursday

## Friday

## Saturday

## Sunday

# 4

**Squash Mix-In**  
5:15pm - 9:45pm



# 5

**Tennis Mix-In**  
6pm - 10pm



**Junior Tennis Coaching**  
4pm - 6pm

# 6

**Kids Cricket**  
Book first! 8am - 11am



**Swimming Lessons**  
9am - 12noon

# 7

**Swimming Lessons**  
9am - 12noon

**Dim Sum Buffet**  
11:30 - 3pm / 5 - 9pm  
The Verandah

**Open Pairs Bridge**  
2pm Silom Room

**Pancake Day**  
3:15 - 6pm Back Lawn



# 11

**Squash Mix-In**  
5:15pm - 9:45pm



# 12

**Tennis Mix-In**  
6pm - 10pm



**Junior Tennis Coaching**  
4pm - 6pm

# 13

**Kids Cricket**  
Book first! 8am - 11am



**Swimming Lessons**  
9am - 12noon

# 14

**Kids Cricket**  
Book first! 8am - 11am

**Swimming Lessons**  
9am - 12noon

**Sunday Brunch**  
11:30 - 3pm Verandah

**Open Pairs Bridge**  
2pm Silom Room

**Valentine's Dinner**  
7:30 - 9pm Verandah



# 18

**Squash Mix-In**  
5:15pm - 9:45pm



**F & B Work Group**  
3pm, The Alcove

# 19

**Tennis Mix-In**  
6pm - 10pm



**Junior Tennis Coaching**  
4pm - 6pm

# 20

**Kids Cricket**  
Book first! 8am - 11am



**Swimming Lessons**  
9am - 12noon

# 21

**Kids Cricket**  
Book first! 8am - 11am



**Swimming Lessons**  
9am - 12noon

**Sunday Brunch**  
11:30 - 3pm Verandah

**Open Pairs Bridge**  
2pm Silom Room

**Yoga for Kids**  
2pm - 3pm Poolside



# 25

**Squash Mix-In**  
5:15pm - 9:45pm



**Members Night**  
7pm - 9pm  
Back Lawn



# 26

**Tennis Mix-In**  
6pm - 10pm



**Junior Tennis Coaching**  
4pm - 6pm

**Wine Tasting**  
6pm - 9pm  
Surawongse Room



# 27

**Kids Cricket**  
Book first! 8am - 11am



**Swimming Lessons**  
9am - 12noon

# 28

**Kids Cricket**  
Book first! 8am - 11am



**Swimming Lessons**  
9am - 12noon

**Sunday Brunch**  
11:30 - 3pm Verandah

**Open Pairs Bridge**  
2pm Silom Room

**Yoga for Kids**  
2pm - 3pm Poolside



## O COME ALL YE!

### CHRISTMAS DAY AT THE CLUB 2015

The festive season reached its peak on Christmas Day, although this year due to the limited supplies of turkey in Bangkok there were less 'take-away' meals. However, the day made up for it with around 500 people eating the impressive buffets on both floors, and on the back lawn, of the Clubhouse. Khun Laak and her team were exceptional anticipating demand so that nothing ran out, and the service staff excelled in attending to all the tables needs. Even Santa seemed jovial despite his woollen attire and asphyxiating facial fuzz! The Back Lawn had Sam's arts and crafts as well as the bounceables, so everyone was happy and the day went off extremely well, of course largely due to the exceptional good spirits of those eating. It was a Happy Christmas indeed!













# AN ICE SURPRISE

## POLAR SWIM 2016

Some were full of beans, some were groggy from the night before, all were eager for the 120 blocks of ice to arrive. And they did, getting stacked up round the edge of the pool. Then they slipped into the warm water and floated amongst swimmers, chilling and invigorating everyone. The pool was busy but it didn't matter because everyone was enjoying it so. Strange isn't it, most children run away from iced water, but blocks of ice? They want to hug them and tow them and try and life them up. It was a great start to the New Year!





# GOODBYE 2015

## NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER CRUISE

There was a light breeze and the river lapped at the hull. You wouldn't have guessed it whilst waiting on the pier, as nearly 100 diners gathered amongst queues for Asiatique, Hotels, Express Boats and so on. This year the Club had a larger boat which pulled in on time and we boarded. Everything was ready. Even the canapés, but they didn't get much chance as hungry people headed straight for the buffet, and everyone followed. And it was a great dinner too, most accompanying it with wine. We forgot the orange juice, but the boat captain pulled in at Siriraj Pier so staff could hurry to 7-Eleven! And at the end of the evening, as 2015 was finally dispensed, a glass of sparkling wine and fireworks displays from fore, the hotels, and aft, Asiatique. In stereo. Once into the New Year, we floated and waited for people to get off, they were not keen - it had been a good evening for diners and staff alike. Happy New Year!!







**\*With the  
Monthly  
Jackpot**

# QUIZ NIGHT

**TUE 16th FEB**  
The Verandah  
7:15pm

Members Bt 100 . Guests Bt 150 . Teams of 6 or less

Book in Reception or by email: [events@britishclubbangkok.org](mailto:events@britishclubbangkok.org)



# AS IT WAS



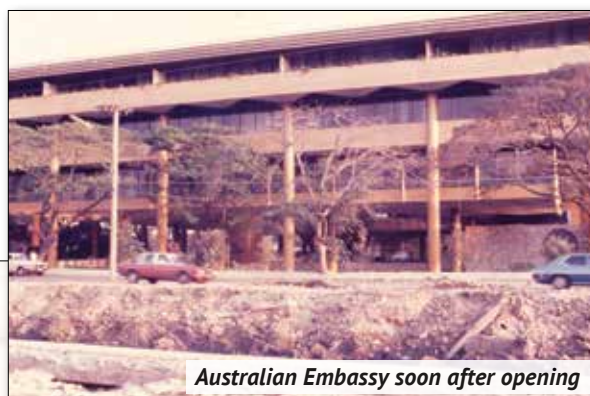
*Another tree bites the dust*



**Jack Dunford**

I have exhausted my pictures of the Club but have lots more I took around Bangkok and other parts of Thailand in the 1980s. I will be sharing some of these in the coming months under a new title "As it Was" and for starters here are a few of Sathorn Road in about 1980. There were no high-rise buildings in those days and the sleepy klong down the middle was lined with mahogany and other lovely trees. As the trees were being felled, I took a few pictures one day realising that this was all about to be lost.

The Australian Embassy had recently opened, but this was before the Taksin Bridge was built and Sathorn Road ended at New Road, the junction also serving as a bus terminus. At the other end the Thai-Belgian Bridge had yet to be constructed on Rama 4.

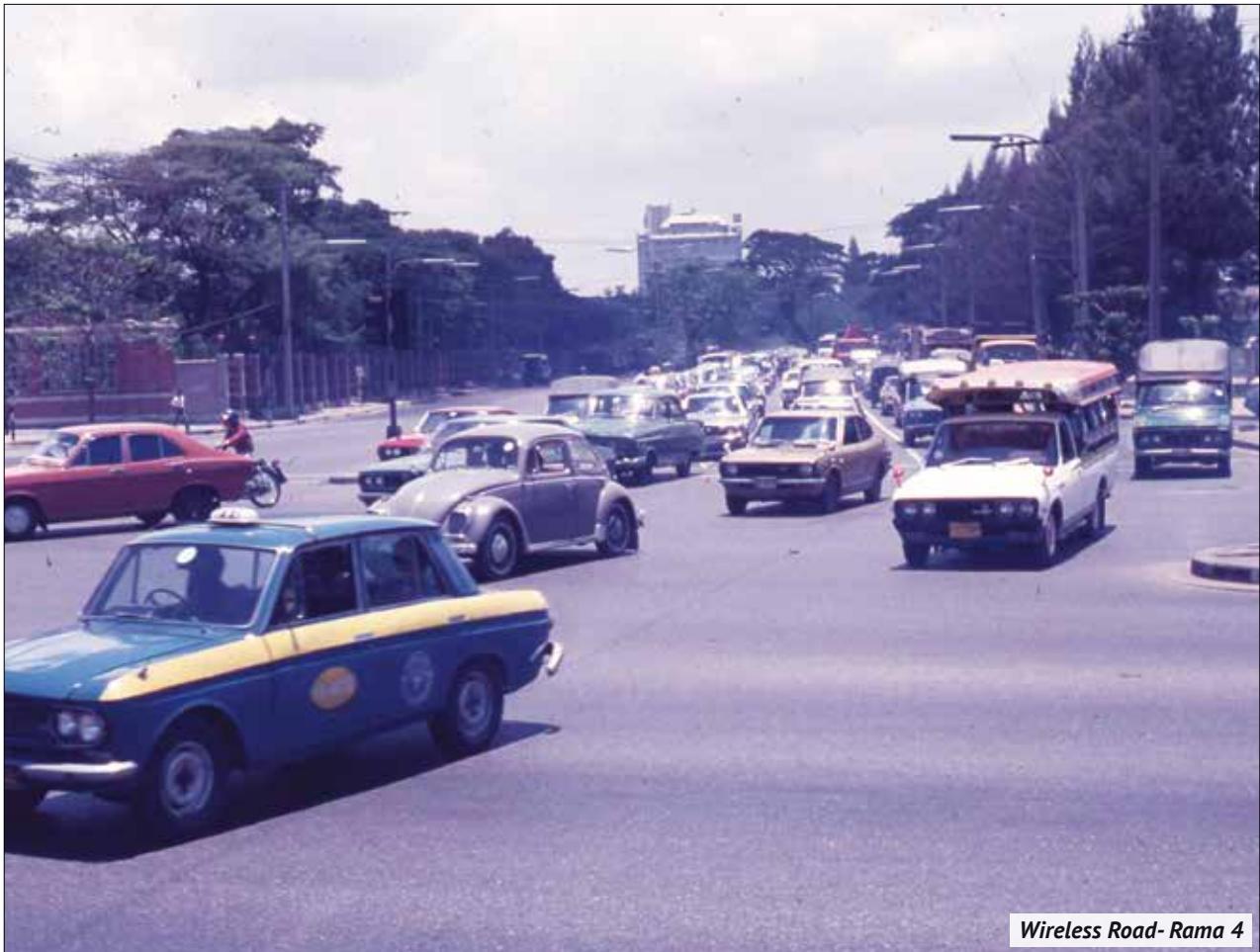


*Australian Embassy soon after opening*



*Sathorn meets New Road*





*Wireless Road- Rama 4*



*Sathorn Road as it (nearly) was*

# HARD BALLS

## Pattaya 28 Nov 2015

BC were summoned to Pattaya for the first instalment of the friendly tri-series at Thai polo club, looking to capitalise on the winning form established against Pangolin. BC won the toss and elected to bat their 25 overs first, which looked like it was going to be cut embarrassingly short after 3 wickets fell in quick



*Captain's 50*



*Chan hitting out*



**Ben Eastwell**

succession. Dale and Chan in at 4 and 5 respectively, managed to steadily build a crucial partnership to steer the attack in a positive direction. Dale, played a sensible captain's innings, displaying he did in fact have more up his sleeve than the signature heave over cow corner. He eventually retired after graciously reaching the 50 milestone, his wagon wheel spread like butter. Dilip stumbled on to the field with his eyes sealed shut, shortly awoken only by a round of applause from the tent as he returned from his dreamy innings a few balls later. Chan, who also contributed a fine innings was eventually caught on 47 with the total score at 153-5 with a few overs to go. Sunish (20) and Aseem (6) finished the job to set Pattaya a target of 170 to win.



*Dale's wagon wheel*



*Dilip's wagon wheel*



*Who cares if we lost*

Pattaya's run rate required was around 7 an over, but BC kept pressure from the start – helped by an early wicket from Patrick, before Chan added to his stellar debut performance with a sky high catch taken with style at long off from Dilip's tricky bowling. At the drinks break the game looked as if it could still go either way and it wasn't until Simon carved a quick 50 out that Pattaya looked to accelerate, PCC's opening bat chipped away at his own half century, and eventually retired to leave the BC bowling attack with 2 unsettled batsmen to make up the run difference. BC fought hard but the total was reached in the final over. The accustomed vodka slammers session finished off the afternoon and most of the players, before the van trundled back to BKK.

## Marshall Trophy 13 Dec 2015

The old boys or legends as they like to be called were let out for the day to play the historic Marshall Trophy match at RBSC. Highest stat of the day was the average age at a youthful 54 which promised to be quite the spectacle. Bowling first in the oddly unique 22 over format, BC frightened the RBSC opening pair with Jack's loopy cherries being hurled at them courtesy of some specialist training which paid dividends in the form of a couple of



*Swish of the willow*



wickets. Adrian, Dilip and Sunish also picked up a wicket each in the team effort to keep arch enemies RBSC to 172-5; Dale and his young legs assisting all but one of the wickets behind the stumps.

Jack (0) proudly warmed up at the boundary rope before facing the first ball alongside Colin (2). As the crowd looked on in anticipation a chip up to mid-wicket on his second ball ended the innings abruptly. The opening pair's speedy departure made way for some assertive batting, and clear effort to preserve legs with no less than 24 boundaries. Speddo found his form and retired on 30 after only 18 balls, Rahul, the second youngest player on the team hit out 23 runs in 12 balls, Sarg kept his eye on the ball and whacked 21, Nacho contributed 19 and Nick a steady 14. Baby Dale was in at the last and even with a few overs in the bank to cautiously bring the runs home, he decided to smash 2 sixes to win the match. BC deserved winners by 4 wickets and 16 balls to spare.



Jack and Colin



Marshall Trophy winners 2015



Sarg steaming in

## T10

RBSC played host once more to the annual T10 tournament, normal rules cut down to 10 overs per side - expectedly the instigator of some big hitting and fast action, a bit like Ben Stokes' innings V South Africa.



The competition was tough and BC didn't get off to the best start after losing their first game to Kerala Strikers by 52 runs. Dilip bowled well to pick up 2 wickets, Nick and Patrick one each. BC's top scorer was Mossy with 18 but the highlight of the batting performance was when H top edged the ball into his chin and retired hurt after leaking blood all over the pitch. He vouches to wear a helmet from this game forward and was heard in a post-match interview saying something about '2 birds one stone, I get to cover up this rubbish haircut'.

The second game was against favourites Bangkok CC - who managed to post a colossal 135 - 2. Despite a 21 knocked out from Nick and 17 from Speddo, the 14 per over run rate was not quite

met and BC ended up 84 runs short of the target. That loss saw Saturday's play closed for a thirsty BC who reflected on the day as the sun went down - first on the ground and last to leave!

Sunday's game drew BC against BFF, and BC batted first for the first time in the tournament. The crowds flocked in around the grandstand overlooking the ground and coincidentally the horse racing which was in full flow in the background. BC were left without Speddo after he went missing, reports were received that he was spotted at sea. Despite the loss, Ben (33) hit out against his usual style from 22 balls, Mossy smashed 17 and Rahul 12 in contribution towards 79 runs. In reply, the guy with the orange shoes put a dent in the BC bowling attack for the second time this year after racing to his 50. It was an easy win for BFF in the end, reaching the total with 2.5 overs to spare. BC continue their run of defeats at the T10 tournament - there's always next year!





# SQUASHY BITS



## The Delightful Benefits of Squash

The plus points of playing squash are many, debatable, and can be loosely lumped into four categories of health, mental, social and marital.



*Fit, toned, athletic!*

### Health

A game of squash can burn as many as 1000 calories depending on the duration and intensity; superb if you're a fat slob because you eat and drink far too much and exercise far too little. Take up playing squash a few times a week and you'll see the pounds falling off in no time. Add to that all the twisting, turning, lunging and stretching involved and virtually your entire body receives a thorough workout. Great if you're well out of shape and have your eye on some young, or old, dolly, or fella, and need to urgently get in shape to stand any sort of a chance with him/her which could become an influence regarding the marital category - more on that in a paragraph or three. Anyway, there's no doubt that squash is an excellent workout and is recommended by all fitness experts. However, if you're really unfit and/or getting on a bit, take it easy to begin with as the game has been known to cause the odd heart attack!



*It deals with this!*



**Bruce Madge**

### Mental

Squash can make you mental if it causes a heart attack, you play it with a bunch of retards or get too obsessed with it and it leads to divorce (more on that later) and none of those are really beneficial, are they? However, the real mental advantages of squash are it makes you very sharp and develops lightning responses due to its electrically fast pace - you've



*Positive aggression!*



*Let's play squash!*

gotta have solid, mental reflexes to play well or you may end up playing like that aforementioned retard and making your fellow squashies mental! On top of that, due to the physical and competitive nature of the game it promotes overwhelming feelings of positive aggression, of personal, or group, accomplishment and of general well-being. In a nut shell, squash makes you mentally complete and that's mental!



*Great for this!*



## Social

Squash is the perfect social sport as 999/1000 squash players are extremely friendly, most welcoming and perfectly willing to play with anyone regardless of status or ability. This is in stark contrast to the openly cliquey and snobbish attitude exhibited by many players of a certain other popular racket sport. Squash players love a hit or a mix-in with all and sundry and enjoy a beer and a chat afterwards even more than that. Squash is a sport to enjoy with a beer. Indeed, many squashes are actual alcoholics who, after playing for an hour or two to keep their weight in

check and tone up their physique to impress a noodle

lady/bloke or a coffee shop Doris/David, regularly down pints and pints of cold beer and get absolutely smashed! Whether this is a positive or negative trend is debatable and depends on the individuals in question. Nevertheless, if you take up squash you'll be surrounded by beautifully friendly people who keep offering to buy you a beer and that can only be described as a good thing!



*Could make or break this!*



*Typical sociable squash players!*

## Marital

Naturally, with global divorce rates going through the roof and romance seemingly dead, any potential marital advantages of playing any sport on a regular basis, particularly one that tones the physique so well attracting all manner of Toms, Dicks and Harries and involves intense, time-consuming socializing and the imbibing of huge amounts of beer, are likely to be either exceedingly slim and/or highly questionable. That being as it may, playing squash regularly can indicate to your marital partner that you are a sociable, committed, and determined individual who takes his/her health and fitness seriously, and is therefore worthy of having as a husband/wife - assuming you've made

that mistake already - or at least not worth divorcing just yet. And that's an advantage of sorts, isn't it? However, if you do enjoy your squash and take the socializing and beer drinking too far and return home late

smashed three or four evenings a week when you should have been home early, and sober, to have dinner with the Mrs/Mr, help the kids with their homework, walk the dog or feed the gold fish or any other mundane, domestic, marital chore that drove you out of the house in the first place in search of something interesting to stop you going mental, then you're probably going to be heading for a divorce lawyer in no time at all confirming the fact that getting hitched was indeed a colossal error! But hang on! Don't despair as now you'll be free to play as much squash as you like, socialize forever afterwards and drink beer until it is coming out of your ears and that, as we have just learned, is delightfully beneficial!

Until Trump becomes President.....



*Just played squash!*



The BCB Squash Section would like to acknowledge Boots Retail Thailand as its sponsor for 2015. Boots Retail Thailand kindly sponsored the 2014 Rod Carter Open, the BCB Squash Section's open squash competition, and has agreed to support the section throughout 2015. Boots Retail Thailand has numerous branches throughout the country supplying high quality cosmetics and pharmaceuticals. Many thanks to Boots Retail Thailand.





# TENNIS



**Tony Moore**

## BC Tennis Club Championships

This year's tennis club championships are now underway and progressing well in all competitions. We have got a good field of players this year and wish to remind everyone that the Semi's will be played on 19-20 March and the Finals on

**Sala Resort Hotels**  
**Food Panda**  
**Amari Hotels and Resorts**  
**JW Marriott**  
**Spice Roads**  
**Samitivej Hospital**  
**The Pizza Company**  
**Searra Sports Systems**  
**Head to Toe Salon**



Saturday 26 March. Please arrange and play your matches as soon as possible as your public awaits!

A very special thank you to all our sponsors led by Sala Resort Hotels as Major Sponsor. The sponsors make the annual Club Championships an exciting event and provide great prizes.

## Everything You Should Know About Playing Tennis by Harold Mollin

### Fighting the Elements – Light and Shade ONLY THE SHADOW KNOWS or, What You Should Know About SHADOWS!

Whenever you are playing a match you “MUST” check all the conditions on the court - that means the WIND (what direction), the SUN (where is it? and where will it go?), and THE SHADOWS!

Remember, it is very tough to hit a ball either going in to the shadows or out of the shadows due to the “depth perception” change.

So when you see your opponent's service box covered in a shadow (even just a bit), serve from the light side into the dark - that will make it very tough for them to hit a clean return.

And, if you have shadows on your side of the court - try to position yourself so that you hit the ball “before” it goes into the shadows or out of them.

Certainly the vice-versa also holds true. If you see any part of your opponent's side in shadows, try to hit a number of your shots to that location, and then expect to get a number of very bad “miss-hits” from them. - KNOW THE SHADOWS!

## Blind Ambition - Serving into the Sun

You can't avoid it - righty or lefty - you will find yourself having to serve with the sun in your eyes.

Now then, what should you do? The answer: - Turn, turn, and turn some more.

Practice serving to both the deuce and ad courts when turning your body way to your left, and also way to your right.

You might not be able to effectively hit “all of the service box” with a big serve, but you certainly will be able to get the ball out of the sun, and find part of the box!

Now, get out there and practice in the bright, and sunny, outdoors!







## BCB 1910 FANTASY FOOTBALL



**Bruce Madge**

### Happy New Fantasy Football Year!

What will the remainder of the season bring? Well, one thing is for certain it's almost impossible to catch up and climb the league by now as the leaders are way out in front and the majority of the form players make up the majority of almost every manager's team. In other words, we all have the same players! Thus, if you have a good week, most other managers will as well. Not a lot can be done about it. But, if that's the case, how did the leaders get out in front in the first place? It seems to have been decided during the first 6-10 weeks of the season when the serious managers were tinkering with their squad and selections and they got lucky or were crafty, and following that the high-scoring players became regular fixtures who most selected. And that's that.

However, nothing's set in stone and the second wild card is now available. Perhaps some of the relegation threatened teams will come into form as they battle for survival and, in turn, yield some regular high-scoring players. Unlikely!

In the real game Villa sadly seem certainly doomed, but the other two to go down come from a group of around six or so which includes current Champions Chelsea! Either Arsenal or Man City will win it.

Cheers.....



*A popular lad!*



*Everyone has me!*



*Four from five FF managers have me!*



*Prepared for the Championship!*



*Number one choice!*

#	Team	Manager	GW	TOT
▶ 1	Sapphire	Jess Grimshaw	56	1,240
▶ 2	The Rooney Tunes	Jamorn Hoonsiri	50	1,183
3	Athletico Ulster	graham johnston	51	1,165
4	The Reverend Kev's	Kevin R	74	1,148
5	Norfolk n Good	Ricky Thompson	55	1,144
▼ 6	ICheck inn	Marc Sayer	32	1,143
▼ 7	KhanFC	Mak Khan	34	1,141
▼ 8	Haydon's Heroes	Neil&Ryan Evans	30	1,135
▶ 9	Spanish Armada	carlos the jackal	54	1,122
10	DUNS DINGERS	Robert Elliot	61	1,114
▼ 1 1	Ruamrudee Allstars	Nick Mellor	35	1,092
▶ 1 2	Ashanti Gold Utd	Ali Adam	53	1,077
▶ 1 3	Thai-ered out	bob and james darke	46	1,065
14	HR27SA52	Haroon Rashid	59	1,060
▶ 1 5	Pimmelkoff F.C	Debra Thompson	49	1,058

# BCGS GOLFING NEWS



Frank Fawkes



Big hitting Varghese won both the medal eclectic and the Grand Slammer Trophy



Carol Hampshire was runner-up in the Three Clubs & a Putter event



The Moores claimed several prizes



Yuruchatr receives her Seniors Trophy

The clement conditions of December in Bangkok are often wasted on the golfing fraternity as the lure of Christmas pudding and other festivities tempt all but the keenest away from the golf course.

The December Stableford, played at Chuan Chuen attracted a field of just 11. But the scores were good. John Bell, who had struggled to find consistency since his return from an enforced break from golf in Singapore, rediscovered his old form to win with 36 points. He beat Carol Hampshire on a countback, with Rod Macmillan and Bryan McKinnon sharing third place on 33 points.

The December Medal had a similarly modest turn out. Captain Pete Gale was a very hot favourite to capture the Flight B prize, on account of his being the sole contender. Happily he was not overwhelmed by the pressure and scored a creditable net 74. (The border between the two medal flights is reviewed each year with the aim of equal sizes, but statistical quirks do occur.) Flight A was won by veteran 6 handicapper Randall Coleman, whose net 69 won him his second medal of the year. Minor places were taken by two new members, Phil Mulligan and Todd Guest- welcome to you both.

The section has an additional event over the festive season, in which contestants are limited to just three clubs and a putter. This format, which is more frequently played in Britain than in America, forces players to adapt their strokes to control distance. It is not to everyone's taste, but attracted many more players than the two routine events.

Scotsman Robert Gray won with 36 stableford points, modestly attributing his success to a new driver. Carol Hampshire was (again) pipped into second place and Sharon Moore was third.

After the Three Clubs event, the AGM was held in the Suriwongse Room of the British Club. As well as dealing with usual necessities of AGMs, replica prizes are awarded to winners on major competitions held over the year, and for a number of accumulative competitions. We then enjoy a fine British Club carvery dinner. Captain Pete Gale and Secretary/Treasurer Brian



Brook presented reports of a healthy and vibrant society. Sharon Moore and Deb Farrar resigned from the committee because they are both about to leave Thailand, and Carole Ann Eastgate and Frank Fawkes were elected to replace them. The Moores and the Farrars will be much missed, not only for their committee work, but also for their consistently good natured company. The prime accumulative prize is Golfer of the Year, which Tony Moore won by a considerable margin from Sharon. It is telling that Tony also won a prize for most long puts, whilst the joint long drive champions, Pete and Varghese, had slightly less success.

The Captain also reported two sponsors for our 2016 season, Wilding Golf and Worldwide Relocations. As well as the appreciation that is due to sponsors, these companies have much to recommend them. Andre of Wilding has been coaching the Moores; we need say no more. Andy Flynn of Worldwide Relocations has recently resolved all problems connected with the relocation of the Farrar's cat to Tokyo.

If you are interested in golfing with this society, and we welcome all levels of players, please contact us by email, [bcs2002@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bcs2002@yahoo.co.uk)



*Trophy winners at the AGM*



*Randall Coleman adds to his Monthly Medal Collection*



*Captain Pete and his Monthly Medal*

## BRIDGE

### Bridge Results for December 2015

EVENT	RANK	NAME (PAIR)	SCORE%
Sunday 1st November (9 pairs)	1st	Dr. Prasart & Prasert	72.22%
	2nd	Martin Carter & Jiamjai	62.50%
Sunday 8th November (10 pairs)	1st	Daksha & Dr. Apithai	61.11%
	2nd	Dr. Prasart & Prasert	58.80%
Sunday 15th November (14 pairs)	N/S Winner	Chalernpol & Narin	58.63%
	E/W Winner	Charlene & Daniel	63.99%
Sunday 29th November (15 pairs)	1st	Khiri & Prarop	65.15%
	2nd	Supote & Kittiya	58.33%

# Tiny Tigers Playgroup **at Bangkok Patana School** Roaring for Longer!



*Our popular playgroup, Tiny Tigers, is now available five days a week and accepting enrolments for 2016.*

Run by our specialist Early Years teachers, offering access to our wonderful Foundation Stage environment and learning, Tiny Tigers welcomes accompanied children between one and three years of age.

For more information and to join the fun, please email us at [admissions@patana.ac.th](mailto:admissions@patana.ac.th) or call on **02 785 2205**.



## Monday to Friday 8.00am until 10.30am



**Bangkok Patana School**  
*The British International School in Thailand*  
Established 1957

Bangkok Patana School  
643 Lasalle Road (Sukhumvit 105)  
BTS station: Bangna or Bearing  
[www.patana.ac.th](http://www.patana.ac.th)  
[admissions@patana.ac.th](mailto:admissions@patana.ac.th)