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10% discount on medication
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- 10 % Discount for Massage on each bill
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- Tel: 02-261-0265, ext. 8



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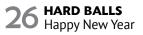
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FRONT COVER

This month Cupid gets to exercise his bow the week before we celebrate the Chinese New Year of the Dog, with a Dim Sum Buffet followed by the Lion Dance on the front lawn, a rhythmic and staggering exercise in balance and safety. Gong Xi Fa Cai!

.....

EDITOR'S GREETING

This month is packed with reviews from Christmas/New Year, posters of upcoming events, and a doublespread of new European reciprocal clubs, adding to the existing global coverage.

A new variant of the 'As We Were' feature submitted by Jack - called 'Changing Skylines' will start off in the March issue.

All with your usual quota of sports reports and an update on the Silom Wing project. Enjoy!

Ed



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OUTPOST is the monthly magazine 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

Opinions expressed do 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 - No part of this publication may be reproduced without the written permission of the Publisher.

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MESSAGE FROM the Chairman

The beautiful cool season weather has continued well into January and the Club has been buzzing with activity, especially at weekends. 420 Members turned up for Christmas lunch and on a balmy afternoon several tables were still celebrating on the Back Lawn as guests began arriving for dinner in the evening.

The temporary family facilities on the Front Lawn have been very busy creating a cheerful atmosphere boding well for the new poolside development now underway.

Silom Wing: Although, perhaps not unexpectedly, there were a few problems with concrete deliveries and some labour shortages over New Year, our contractors have been cracking on with the Silom Wing over the holiday period. Ali's article shows the foundations being built and in the coming weeks the new buildings will soon be taking shape. So far the quality of the work by our contractors has been excellent and inconvenience to Members minimal. All still looks good for a June opening.

The Silom Wing was approved at an EGM in January 2017 and is the first phase of hopefully redeveloping the entire poolside buildings. The General Committee is keen that work continues on the second phase as soon as possible and believes that the whole project could be complete in 2019. The Silom Wing contains new squash courts and mainly young family facilities

whilst phase two includes a new fitness centre overlooking the swimming pool, an exercise room and a sports bar with views both over the pool and the tennis courts.

With constricted access, construction of phase two will be more challenging than the Silom Wing and of course we have to be sure that the funding is available. Detailed planning is underway on how best to achieve this and later this year it is hoped to bring the project back the Members for approval at another EGM.

Annual General Meeting: The AGM is set for 20th March and the Honorary Secretary has written a few words later in this edition of Outpost, encouraging Members to consider standing for the General Committee. It looks as though most of the current committee are willing stand for election again this year and for





Chairman

those who like the direction the Club is going it will be important to have continuity. However, new blood and new ideas are always welcome and if you are keen to contribute to the Club's wellbeing please consider standing. Paul's article gives an idea of what is involved.

Constitutional Review: This year could break all records for General Meetings because even before the AGM we are calling two Extraordinary General Meetings to consider the draft revised Constitution. The main debate will be held at an EGM on Monday 19th February and a short second EGM will be held to ratify changes to the foundation articles just before the AGM in 20th March.

This is a complicated process involving a huge amount of paperwork, which most Members will probably find somewhat tedious and overwhelming. But we do urge all voting Members to cooperate. It is important that we have a quorum for these meetings and that those attending or voting by proxy read the paperwork before voting. The Sub-committee has spent hundreds of hours preparing this draft and has tried to make the process as smooth as possible.

A lot of the changes are just improved use of language, removal of duplication and reordering, reducing the length of the Constitution from 77 to 57 Articles, making it a much more user-friendly document. All rules were reviewed however, and a vote will be taken on 21 policy changes. Most of these are relatively minor, dealing with known anomalies or reflecting what has become current policy, but a few are more controversial.

Chairing these meetings will be a challenge and if we are to get through the agendas, debate will of

necessity be brief. I would ask all attending to read the papers and approach the meetings positively. The changes proposed are what the GC feels are in the best interest of the Members but if you disagree then this is the opportunity to vote as you wish.

Clubhouse: Although the Silom Wing is demanding most attention, the rest of the Club continues to need care and maintenance. Following hard on after our ancient walk-in freezer giving up the ghost in October, this month our almost-as-ancient walk-in chiller in which we store

all our fresh vegetables etc has also decided to call it a day and has had to be replaced.

The biggest task however is the 5-yearly repaint of the Clubhouse which will be done over the next month or so. The colour scheme has not changed since at least when I joined the Club 40 years ago and this time we asked our architects for their views on what might be most appropriate given the history of the building and look the best. The General Committee considered several options and of course chose none of them, combining instead features from two. The main change will be exposure of brickwork detail around the porch which was part of the original design and used until the 1960s. The picture illustrates the new look. No doubt this will be controversial, but we hope most people enjoy the change

Member's Gathering: One of the gentler events of the year is the 'Members Gathering' which will be held on 7th February. All Members who have been with the Club more than 20 years are invited, plus all Members who joined the Club in the last 12 months. This is always a lovely evening, a chance for long-term Members to meet up and for new Members to make friends. I look forward to seeing old and new faces.

Annual Staff Outing: Normally the Club is closed just one day a year for the Annual Staff Party and it was my pleasure to call in for a few hours on January 15th at the Royal Varuna Yacht Club in Pattaya where this year's event was held. Of course I am not going to spill the beans but it was a very happy occasion, everyone had a great time and, just possibly, service might have been a little slow on the 16th! Apologies for the inconvenience but thank you to everyone for making sure this was a special day for our hard-working and loyal staff.

Staff party 15th January





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Happy Chinese Nem Hear 18 January 2 🐼 18 DIM FILM BUFFET and other special dishes The Verandah Restaurant 11:30 HM to 3 PM Hdults 595 baht Kids 350 baht LION DHNCE Front Lawn 2PM

Book in Reception or by email events@britishclubbangkok.org

LETTER FROM the General Manager

After the New Year, the Club returned to regular activities, and on 8th January there was the monk's ceremony with our staff helping to organise everything for bringing good luck to the Club. Then on 15th January for our annual staff party we all went to the Royal Varuna Yacht Club in Chonburi, where Khun Barry Osborne and his team helped us with the food, games and some souvenirs for our lucky draw. The staff really enjoyed the trip and had lots of fun.

Khun Jack, our Chairman, joined us as a surprise for the staff. I would like to thank the Royal Varuna Yacht Club for making such a special day for our staff, and also the staff committee who worked very hard to control and organise this event.

In February we will have a Members Gathering/New Members Night on 7th February on the back lawn so long-term Members can meet and greet the New Members. Then there's Pancake Day on Sunday 11th Feb on the back lawn; Khun Laak will create the pancake dessert menu with a variety of toppings and Khun Amnat will organise the pancake races and other activities and games for the kids. The week after we will have

our Dim Sum Buffet for Chinese New Year on 18th Feb for lunch only, followed by the Lion Dance on the front lawn.

On 19th February there will be an EGM for the Constitutional Review so voting Members can vote by proxy or attend on the day in the Surawongse Room.

Our maintenance team have installed emergency signage around the Club as per the House and Grounds maintenance plan. December and January were both a very busy time for our team, so since then we are progressing the plan to keep the Club in the good condition.



General Manager

The membership team was worked very hard and now we have 1,100 Members again which is a good start for the year. I'm pleased to confirm we have Khun Tee Bale as Deputy General Manager on board and he will be taking care of operations in F&B, Sports, Events and housekeeping also. He started after Christmas Day, and is working on creating new items for the Club's menus, Events and Functions. Please welcome him to the Club.

Happy Chinese New Year to you all; I look forward to seeing you all around.



OFFICIAL OPENING TIMES

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





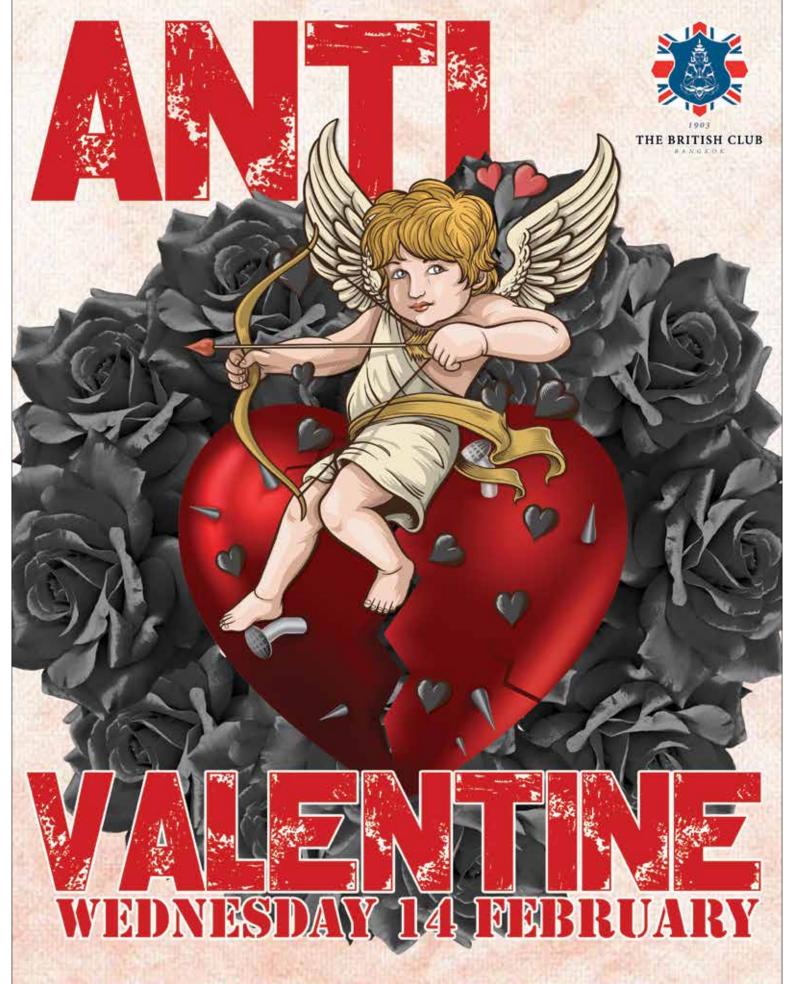
- Afternoon pancake buffet 120-. Topping with mixed fruits and ice cream
- Parent & child races
- Pancake kids competition
- Children's games & crafts
- Trampoline

Have

SUN 11 February Back lawn 3pm-6pm

Book in Reception or email events@britishclubbangkok.org

No admission charge



ALL DAY THROUGHOUT THE CLUB - SPECIAL HATEFULLY TASTY MENU DOUBLES FOR ALL SINGLES IN THE BAR - BREAK THE HEART PIÑATA



Business Juncheons

5 -9 FEB

Starters: 65 Baht (2 Options)

- · Pasta, chicken and pesto salad.
- Chef's soup of the day. Main courses: 160 Baht (4 Options)
- Chicken breast stuffed with mozzarella & pesto.
- BBQ pork spare ribs.
- Mushroom stroganoff with tagliatelle.
- Gaeng Pa Gai, Kai Jiew Moo Sub, Phad Khana Nam Man Hoy.



Dessert of the day : Choose from our à la carte menu and get 10%

12 - 16 FEB

Starters: 65 Baht (2 Options)

- Chicken, apple salad.
- Chef's soup of the day.

Main courses: 160 Baht (4 Options)

- · Cajun chicken.
- Fillet of pork with light curry sauce.
- Macaroni with white wine creamy sauce, baked with cheese
- Panaeng Moo, Gai Phad Khing, Sod Phad Phak Ruam Nam Man Hov

19 - 23 FEB

Starters: 65 Baht (2 Options)

 Mixed salad with smoked chicken breast, beetroots and mango.

Chef's soup of the day.

Main courses: 160 Baht (4 Options)

- Chicken stew in red wine.
- Dory fish with mango salsa.
- Roast pork neck.
- Tom Yum Gai, Phad Tua Ngok, Tao Hoo Pla Som Ros

26 FEB- 2 MAR

Starters: 65 Baht (2 Options)

- Chicken and cranberry salad.
- Chef's soup of the day.

Main courses: 160 Baht (4 Options)

- Chicken Tikka Masala.
- Pan-fried Dory fish with mornay sauce
- Fillet of pork wrapped in Parma ham grain mustard and honey sauce.
- Gaeng Kiew Wan Gai, Moo Tod Krathiem, Phad Phak Ruam Nam-Man Hoy.

F&B MORSELS

Happy New Year 2018 to all our Members, thank you for your continued support in all our restaurants throughout 2017 it was a very successful year.

February is a fun packed month with a host of activities starting with Pancake Day, pancake races on the back lawn for children and a wide variety of pancakes and fillings to choose from in any of our restaurants.

Valentine's Day is upon us and this year we are doing things differently, Anti Valentines Day for all those who are a little bored with the traditional celebrations. We have created Hatefully tasty menus which will be available in both Verandah and Sala poolside along with doubles for singles in the Churchill Bar.

Chinese New Year sees my team of chefs get busy serving you the best Chinese Dim Sum in Bangkok for lunch before being entertained by the skilful dragon dancing, something not to miss.



Executive Chef

I have worked closely with our pastry chef this month to come up with some amazing desserts that no one will be able to resist, using the classic combination of chocolate and strawberry, they won't help you on your new year's diet, but they will be mouth-watering to eat.

This month our paella promotion allows you to choose from seafood, chicken or vegetarian, the portion is large and great value for money.

I look forward to seeing you over February and cooking for you in the British Club in 2018.



DEVELOPMENT UPDATE Silom Wing

The results of the Dynamic load and Seismic testing of the piles prepared for handover to our main contractor J.K. Builders were satisfactory. These tests checked that the concrete mix was correct and the piles were strong enough to take the building weight. The project fell a few days behind over New Year because of a shortage of workers and of concrete but the time lost will be made up very quickly.







Concrete pouring for the foundations is now complete and the soil has been back filled. The next step will be the laying of the ground beams and slabs, which will carry the main construction, and lean concrete has been poured in preparation. The steel for the ground beams and slabs has been delivered to the site.

Weekly Project Meetings have been held on site since construction began and now weekly safety meetings are held with the workers.

Members are invited to view progress through portals cut in the site entrance and the time lapse video on the Club Website is being updated.







Pouring the concrete footing on the top of the piles









Back filling soil around footings for ground beams and slabs



SO HERE IT WAS ... MERRY CHRISTMAS

When asked to write this eulogy, sorry Review, on Christmas Day, I immediately plagiarized Scrooge by announcing that "every idiot who goes about with Merry Christmas on his lips should be boiled with his own pudding and buried with a stake of holly through his heart"! Of course, very few knew what the Dickens I was talking about.

Thankfully there was no room at the Club for Ebenezer Scrooge this past Christmas Day ... yes that was Christmas Past,

nearly 500 members and their friends tucked into Roast Turkey and all its trimming with Plum Pudding and Mince Pies for afters, across two sittings ... luncheon and dinner ... with the Clubhouse so full as usual that the only room was in a stable marguee conveniently placed on the back lawn.

What about Christmas Presents you ask? ... well thankfully Santa Claus was available, even if he looked like Paul Cortejos (many thanks by the way, E.S.) and gave presents to over five score children ... without even asking if they had been naughty or nice! (He was a bit mean though ... none of us 'nice' Adults got presents).

And what about the Christmas Yet To Come ... NEWS FLASH!!! It has been announced that Christmas Day in 2018 will be on December 25th. Remember to book early!

So as you look at all the pictures of the fun and joy had over the Yuletide Day ... I end as the great Carol ended ... God bless Us, Every One!













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CHILDRENS XMAS PARTY



Sunday, December 17th saw near "artic" conditions envelope The Club, with some rumours putting temperature as low as 19 degrees, but Christmas spirits were high amongst the young revelers, as they poured onto the back lawn for the children's Christmas party.

Bouncing castles, face painting, bingo and elf hunting, were all part of the afternoon fun which was fuelled by the "sugar high" inducing biscuit decorating booth. Then came the magic show, and the incredible appearance from nowhere, of multiple white birds. This held the young partygoers attention for a good 15 minutes, as they sat calmly in awe. But the savage was awakened in them, with the arrival of the piñata. Ignoring frantic pleas for calm from the compare, sticks were swung, the piñata bashed, and sweets dived upon, in scenes reminiscent of Lord of the Flies.

But then the finale: The big man himself, Father Christmas arrived in all his bell ringing glory, upon a tinsel laden tuk tuk. Not even his drivers 23 point turn, could dampen the enthusiasm as the young Santa hunters patiently queued up to receive a festive gift

As daylight faded, the excited sugar buzz crowd, headed home with smiles aplenty, no doubt wondering if Santa's sleigh was easier to drive than his tuk tuk!

Merry Christmas!





BC Calendar February 2018







Sunday **Thursday Friday Saturday** 3 4 Squash Mix-In Swimming Lessons **Junior Tennis Swimming Lessons** 5:15 - 9:45pm 9 - 10:30am 9 - 10:30am 4 - 6pm **Sunday Brunch** 11:30 - 3pm Verandah Open Pairs Bridge 2pm Silom Room Swimming C Lessons 9 - 10:30am **Sunday Brunch** Squash Mix-In **Junior Tennis** Swimming Lessons 11:30 - 3pm Verandah 5:15 - 9:45pm 4 - 6pm 9 - 10:30am **Open Pairs Bridge** 2pm Silom Room Pancaj Pancake Day 3 - 6pm Back Lawn Squash Mix-In **Junior Tennis** Swimming Lessons Swimming Lessons 9 - 10:30am 5:15 - 9:45pm 9 - 10:30am 4 - 6pm Sunday Brunch 11:30 - 3pm Verandah **Open Pairs Bridge** 2pm Silom Room 22 **Mini Sports** Camp Squash Mix-In Swimming Lessons Swimming Lessons Sports Camp 5:15 - 9:45pm 9 - 10:30am 9 - 10:30am **Sunday Brunch Junior Tennis Sports Camp** 11:30 - 3pm Verandah 4 - 6pm INE Wine Tasting **Open Pairs Bridge** STIN 6 - 9pm 2pm Silom Room Surawongse Room SUNDAY BRUNCH



LONG SERVICE AWARDS



AMNAT SAKLEBPRADOO SPORTS MANAGER



PREMRUDEE TANYALUCK



SIRIWAN CHANTACHOT



SONGPHON KONGKAL



PRASERT HABOONPHOL



WILAVAN CHEYTUM



THAWAT KLOYTONGPAN



KATHIN KLINUBOL POOLSIDE MANAGER

POLAR SWIM

January 1st 2018 was the date for our annual Polar Swim event, each year we order in huge iceberg sized blocks of ice and place them in the swimming pool. Members with their families can jump into the ice-cold pool and swim with the icebergs to cool off from their New Year's Eve celebrations and bring in a refreshing New Year's Day. This year saw a tremendous turnout of families and children who were bright and eager to swim in the icy waters. The Club also had its eager giant-sized penguin who splashed down into the pool to the amusement of the children, then proceeded to swim through the icy waters with everyone. Hot chocolate, mulled wine, mince pies and more were all laid on after everyone's swim, and medals were given out to the children that took part. The day was a fantastic success and we will be looking forward to the next one in 2019.







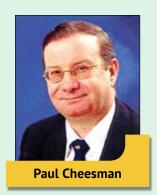






GOING DELUXE IN EUROPE

Members will be delighted to know that we have signed an agreement with Aspria Holdings BV, which is the management company for eight prestigious Members' Clubs across Belgium, Germany and Italy ... four of whom have 5-star accommodation [A] associated with them.



These Clubs are ...

Aspria Berlin Ku'damm [A]

In the centre of Berlin, a Members' Club with a 42 room hotel attached: restaurant serves meals from 6am.

Aspria Brussels Arts-Loi

Located in the European Quarter of Brussels, a citycentre Club with a Spa, Pool and fitness centre.

Aspria Brussels Avenue Louise

An Award-Wining Spa & Wellness based Club with amazing fitness centre & pool complex.



Aspria Brussels Royal La Rasante [A]

Founded in 1902, this historic Club boasts covered clay tennis courts with its tennis academy and a perfect location as the premier family Club to stay in Brussels.

Aspria Hamburg Alstertal

Situated in Hamburg's Hummelsbüttel district, this club boasts a pool, badminton and tennis courts and a Spa & Sauna.

Aspria Hamburg Uhlenhorst [A]

The second Hamburg Club was founded as the Klipper Club in 1888 and todays offers a family based Membership Club with 46 rooms and two suites for Members to book.

Aspria Hannover Maschsee [A]

With its own private beach abutting Lake Maschsee, there is no better place to stay in Hannover.

Aspria Harbour Club Milan

Set in 6.5 Hectares of land, this Award-winning Club offers tennis, fitness, a pool, a Spa and a locally renown restaurant.



As always, Members can email or attend the Reception to obtain your Letter of Introduction to these and any of our 383 Reciprocal Clubs in 55 countries worldwide. Please remember to give Reception the dates you plan to visit and attend your chosen Club with your passport, Member's card, Letter of Introduction and, in most cases, a credit card.





YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU!

The next General Committee of the Club will be chosen at the 2018 Annual General Meeting on March 20th and must consist of between eight and ten persons who meet the following requirements of our Constitution & Rules, and the Thai Civil & Commercial Code:

- (a) Be an Ordinary member of the Club and have been so for at least six months
- (b) Have a legal work permit and/or visa to reside in Thailand or be a permanent resident here.

Upon election a Letter of Affirmation is required from your Embassy and the General Committee is registered with the Bangrak District Office.

The General Committee is hard work and plays a very important role in setting policy and guiding

the management of the Club. Serving on the General Committee is a serious commitment and Members considering standing for election should only do so if they are willing to dedicate the necessary time. Over the past 18 years or so the author has noticed that each year Members - with all the goodwill in the world - stand for the General Committee, get elected, and then simply do not have the time to do the job! Time is required every week to read or write reports, as well as committing to the monthly two-hour main meeting currently held the third Monday of the month. Most General Committee Members also Chair or sit on Sub-Committees, and are variously asked to meet membership applicants, attend events such as New

Member Nights, Long Service Awards, and represent the Club at external events.

Nomination Forms will be sent out with pre-Calling papers early in the month and will be available from Reception. Nominations received will be displayed in the Clubhouse and at the Poolside and posted on the Club website (from February 28th). It is not mandatory to submit a Nomination Form. Nominations may be made at

any time before the AGM on 20th March 2018, and also from the floor during the meeting ... so please give some thought to standing but please do so only if you are willing to commit the necessary time.

Paul Cheesman Honorary Secretary 2000-2003, 2006-2008, 2010-2015 (Sep), 2017-2018





OUIZ NIGHT THE VERANDAH, 7:15PM TUSDAY 13 FEBRUARY MEMBERS 100 BAHT | GUESTS 150 BAHT TEAMS OF 6 OR LESS

BOOK IN RECEPTION OR BY EMAIL : EVENTS@BRITISHCLUBBANGKOK.ORG

LADIES TENNIS

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FOR MORE INFORMATION AND BOOK AT THE FITNESS CENTRE 02-324-0247 EXT.26 OR BY EMAIL : SPORTS@BRITISHCLUBBANGKOK.ORG





LESSON

SATURDAY 13 JANUARY SUNDAY 14 JANUARY THB 200 PER 30 MINUTE

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND BOOK AT THE FITNESS CENTRE 02-324-0247 EXT26 OR BY EMAIL : SPORTS@BRITISHCLUBBANGKOK.ORG Children must be supervised by an adult at all times

Please contact the Fitness Centre staff

SQUASHY BITS

Squash Highlights!





To bring its massive readership of one absent, country member who actually passed away last Thursday without paying his BC bill (selfish!), their partially sighted, illiterate Cambodian partner who stumbled on the Outpost when searching for some scrap paper to wrap up the deceased's meager belongings before storing them



in an old bucket, and a disabled German Shepherd dog named Schwarzenegger which belongs to a retired, alcoholic bus driver from Hull with the nickname Bar, Bits' team of reporters and editors has spent many hours and days and weeks and months attempting to compile all the amazing highlights from BC squash that most likely didn't occur last year. To that end, squash players were interviewed in interviews and detailed research was researched. The following tripe is the result:



Old bucket!



Schwarzenegger

The best thing about last year was my 70th birthday when I got to dress up as a woman and made the cover of Cosmo! (Peter Corney)

The worst thing about last year was seeing Peter dressed up as a woman. What a Trollope! (Neil McArthur)

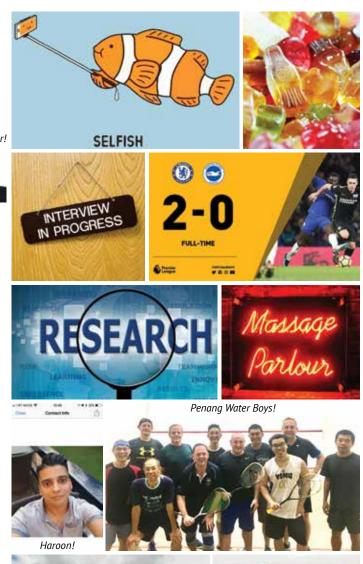
My 2017 highlight was winning the Club Championships for the first time meaning I'm the best player in the Club. I really am just so amazing. I absolutely thrashed Ja 3-0. I was dominant, in command, masterful, incredible. (Marc Sayer)

Clearly, the most disappointing aspect to be taken from 2017 is Sayer's lack of modesty. (The entire Squash Section)

I'm still better than him! (Haroon)

I remember a great moment from last year when my wife allowed me to go down to 7-11 alone to buy some sweets. It showed that after nearly 20 years of marriage she finally trusted me to do something by myself. (Neil Evans)

My highlight from 2017 was renewing my vows to never marry and end up a sad bloke like Evans! (Madge)







Hull!

H's England team mates!



Shiraz again!

Cheap!

My best moment was being asked to try out for the England over 35's squad. Took me months of training and dedication, but I did it and was accepted. I get my first cap in March this year. (Haroon)

(He didn't mention that it was the over 35kgs squad – 35-50kgs girls squad to be exact!)

I won the handicap in 2017 and my head spun 360 degrees! (Shiraz)

The saddest moment regarding BC Squash last year was the pathetic team we took to Chiang Mai in January. Captain (I use that term very loosely) 'calamity' Evans couldn't be bothered to attend and even more shockingly couldn't be arsed to get a decent team together so we got thrashed and I lost my precious Corney Cup to those bleedin' Northerners. I still haven't forgiven him and doubt if I ever will. By the time you read this drivel we should be on our way back to CM to reclaim my cup. Amazingly, Evans is going this year and has put a decent team together, but he had to be bullied into it by Madge and H. Frankly, he's useless and shouldn't even be trusted to buy some sweets! (Peter Corney) A shocking revelation from 2017 was the realization that my son, Jamie, looks exactly like Haroon! Now, I know him and my Mrs Jasmine were always quite friendly and of course I was away on business a lot, but you don't think they..... they couldn't have, could they? (Brian Ross)

(They probably did!)

We took a team to Penang Malaysia in April and our host team didn't even provide us with any drinking water! Got to be the tightest moment of last year by far. (Dean Thompson)

I know it's nothing to do with squash (very little in the column is!) but late last year I had a chance to visit the UK and watch Chelsea play at Stamford Bridge for the first time. We beat Brighton 2-0 and I had a great day. (Jess Grimshaw)

I know it's nothing to do with squash (very little in the column is!) but late last year I had a chance to visit the Churchill Bar for about the 2000th time and watch West Ham beat Chelsea for the first time in ages. We beat them 1-0 and I had a great evening. (Madge)

Cruel! (Ken Grimshaw)

The greatest squash decision I made last year was to resign from the BC Squash Section Committee meaning I'll no longer have to sit and listen to those irritating gits ever again! (Jason Morris)

Last year Tops Supermarket had an amazing banana sale during the month of June and I saved over 100 baht. It was the highlight of my year. I wish they sold pants! (David Mason)

I joined the BC Squash Section in 2017 and made the handicap comp final where I was beaten 3-1 by Shiraz whose head spun 360 degrees. (Mark Rayfield)

The Silom Sala redevelopment finally got under way in 2017 with the demolition of courts two and three. Hopefully, 2018 will culminate in the opening of our brand new squash facility lovingly provided by the BCB. That should certainly be the squash highlight of this year.

(That is if the redevelopment goes ahead as planned as rumour has it the site is to be turned into some sort of male parlour called 'Silom Secrets'.)

Let's hope so.....



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.



HARD BALLS

Happy New Year

As Members sent their wishes from around the globe, a few cricketers stuck around for Christmas antics at the Club, and embraced the last few moments of 2017 over a celebratory BBQ at Denzyl & Christina's place.

By the time of reading this we will be well into 2018 as most of us have all but abandoned those wishful resolutions promising a healthier diet, restricting

ourselves to 3 glasses of wine a night and whatever comes in between... All but the Cricket Section of course who are preparing heavily for a busy few months ahead, packed with league fixtures and the legendary Chiang Mai tour.





V Pattaya Saturday 16th December

We managed to sneak a friendly game in before the holidays against Pattaya in the Dunford Philbrook series – concocted by the 2 active playing members of their respective teams, which has produced a healthy rivalry over the past few years. This encounter would be the 4th and final of the year with BC leading 2 - 1.

A familiar pace attack began with a Sri Lankan/South African combo from Patrick (0 - 38, 5 overs) and Denzyl, who between them, restricted the hosts to 29 runs after 5 overs. An expensive over from Dilip followed, who is rumoured to be recovering from an imaginary shoulder injury, before Rahul (1-14,3 overs) found an edge in the 9th to break a threatening partnership. 2 more wickets quickly tumbled in consecutive overs as Richard Harvey (1-22, 3 overs) triggered his man LBW and Ed clean-bowled the replacement for a duck on his way to MOM winning figures (3-22, 5 overs). Dale gloved a second from the consistently threatening Pakistani around the halfway stage where Pattaya sat at 81 - 4 with one of their openers back in the hut after retiring (30 runs). Dilip was given a chance to redeem



himself later on, in which he pulled off a trademark clean-bowled dismissal complete with the stone cold 'don' strut to celebrate. Mr.Philbrook himself then got hold of Richard's second over for 19 runs and aptly retired after his second 6 of the over. Ed and Denzyl (1-24, 5 overs) kept the tail quiet through until the end, leaving BC with a target of 164 to win from 25 overs.

Rahul and Dale opened up the reply, Dale the first to fall after struggling to get the ball away in an unacquainted role. In at 3 Denzyl crafted a partnership with Rahul which eventually led to both of them reaching a comfortable retirement score. Kahn junior was punished for a duck after wandering outside the crease before his senior stepped up and played a measured innings with Ben to hold the middle order together - the scores were more or less level at the drinks break, with an undoubted nail biting session to finish the match. A change in shifts at the batting crease saw an all too familiar tail collapse in the last, leaving Pat responsible of 15 to win off the last over, with a grumpy Jack in tow and Denzyl who'd had to kit back up after changing into one of his Hawaiian numbers . Despite a valiant effort all round, BC wound up short in a game which should have been won, ending the series in a draw, Jack even grumpier and with plenty of slammers to dish out.

Couldnt wait to show off the new shirt



Pakistan Embassy game Sunday 17th December

Following pandemonium in Pattaya, a leisurely afternoon hosted at the cricket development academy saw BC take on the Pakistan Embassy in a 3 game shootout. The format was somewhat of an indoor/outdoor hybrid, whose concept seemed to go over some people's heads; keeping the ball down and within the 'caged' arena which tightly shared space with surrounding buildings was key to the game and the integrity of the club's insurance policy - not entirely evident in some of the shots on display destined for the BTS track in the distance.

A fearful opposition (seemingly more of playing with their ambassador than the balls Pat was unpredictably slinging in) decided to bat first before BC, somewhat familiar with the format managed to show Pakistan how it was done, cruising to victory on all 3 occasions and securing all but 3 of the points available.

As the day drew to a close, the ambassador had long since left after he'd realised that a win was unattainable, Sarg's awful jokes from the commentary box had come to a stop and the rest of the Pakistan boys were on their way with their heads down – a hungry BC eagerly awaited the family feast Ed had bribed a few players in with, which was quickly reduced to 3 chicken fried rice from the local street cart - and even that was closed! Still, at least the weekend ended with a win.



Dunford V Philbrook







MINI SPORTS CAMP 19, 21, 23 FEBRUARY 2017

TIME	ACTIVITIES	
10:00-10:15	Admin	
10:15-11:00	Games	
11:00-11:15	Snack	
11:15-12:15	Mini tennis	
12:15-1:00	Lunch	
1:00-1:45	Cooking / Play time	
1:45-2:30	Water fun	

THB 650 PER DAY

- Children must be between the ages of 4 and 6 yrs.
- The children must be capable of feeding themselves, changing their clothes and using the bathroom unsupervised.
- A five child minimum is required to run each day so please sign up.
- A no show booking will still be charged the full amount. Cancellations up to 24 hrs before will be charged 50%.
- Whilst the British Club and its staff will provide the highest level of care possible for your children, sports/activity camp participants take part at their own risk and the Club accepts no liability for injuries caused during activities on or offside or travel to or from the Club.

SPORT CAMP 19, 20, 21, 22,23 February 2018

THE BRITISH CLUB

Date Time	Monday THB 950	Tuesday THB 1,200	Wednesday THB 950	Thursday THB 1,200	Friday THB 950
9:00-10:00	Admin	Admin	Admin	Admin	Admin
10:00-11:00	Tennis		Tennis	Tennis (10:00-11:30)	Tennis
11:00-11:15	Snack	Tennis (10:00-11:30)	Snack		Snack
11:15-12:15	Football		Football		Football
12:15-1:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:00-2:30	Squash	Desilion	Cooking	Bowling	Squash
2:30-3:30	Swimming	Bowling	Swimming		Swimming

Children should be 7+.

- This is not an elitist camp, the emphasis is on joining in, trying out new sports, having fun and making friends.
- A five child minimum is required to run each day so please sign up.
- As travel arrangements need to be made for Tuesday camp; Thursday activities please sign up 48hrs in advance.
- A no show booking will still be charged the full amount. Cancellations up to 27hrs before will be charged 50%.
- Whilst the British Club and its staff will provide the highest level of care possible for your children, sports/activities camp participants take part at their own risk and the Club accepts no liability for injuries caused during activities on or offsite or travel to or from the Club.

Book at the Fitness centre 00-234-0247 ext. 26 or sports@britishclubbangkok.org

TENNIS

Well folks the 2018 British Club Championships are underway! It promises to be another exciting ride culminating in 8 finals being played on Super Saturday 24th March – Mark it in your diary now!

Let me also take this opportunity to thank our generous sponsors – Ramada Plaza Bangkok Menam Riverside, Sala Resort Hotels, Narai Hotel, Seara Sports Systems, Tapas Café, FBT Sports, Samitevij Hospital, Head-2-Toe Salon, L'Oreal, The Pizza Company, Dunlop & RC Cola.

So, who will be there on finals day I hear you ask? Let's take a look at the runner and riders who are likely to be fighting it out on court for our enjoyment!

Club Championships

Men's Singles

Pierre Sequier – Young, rich, good-looking ... it's enough to make you sick! Can anyone stop our 8-time reigning champion? He's playing regularly ... he's playing well ... If there are any flaws in his game, we haven't seen them yet. Very much the man to beat in 2018.

Andrei Ivanov – Big man with a big game. Last year's beaten finalist will be all out to go one better this year. He's been training hard and testing himself against tough visiting players from overseas. Could all the hard work pay off? **Dawa Sherpa** – Disappointing performance last year from the smiling assassin and he will be hoping to make the semi-finals at least this year. Dawa dominated the British Club League tennis in 2017 - Can he take that form into the club championships and perform when it really matters?

Geoff Bellingham – Still recovering from an injury that hampered his performance last year and has interrupted his training plan (!) for this one. Despite that, he still has the raw power to blast his way to the final. May have an interesting QF with his doubles partner!

Faheem Ebrahim – Definitely on the list of players who are ready to strike if Pierre has an off day. Looked to be in good form during the men's inter club and may well fancy his chances of upsetting his doubles partner in the QF and going all the way to final.

James Young – Has been in great form all year up and down the country in his age group. Could he roll back the years, turn back the lock, and upset the young guns?

Frank Gluck – Another experienced player who is giving away a few years to the top seeds but still has the all-court game to cause them problems. Could meet his doubles partner in the QF. If anyone knows Pierre's weaknesses it should be him!

Alex Gluck – The young pretender to the crown. Alex was very impressive in winning the plate last year and 12 months on he is just about ready to challenge his more experienced rivals. A potential QF with Ivanov would be well worth watching.





Section Chairperson

Ladies Singles

Mookie – The defending champ and overwhelming favourite if it weren't for the fact that a new job and a shoulder injury have disrupted her preparations. She will still be tough to beat and expect to see her in the final on the 24th. **Rebecca Bellingham** – The other half of the Bellingham duo (don't call her WAG)! Last year's beaten finalist and another who hasn't spent a lot of time on court this season. Class is permanent though and she will be battling to make another appearance on final's day.

Raquel Evans – A former singles champion, the current form player, and definitely one to watch this year. 2017 Bruce Gordon Champion and impressive in this month's Inter Club Mixed doubles, she will be determined not to miss out on a final's day appearance in the singles this year.

Nisa Young – Another former champion, Nisa hits the ball off the ground as hard as anyone in the draw. If she is on her game, she can be a danger. Top seeds beware!

Rhea Poonevala – Last year's beaten semi-finalist when her ultra-consistent ground strokes from both wings almost took her to the final. A QF match with Bex looms and will be a centre-court sell-out!

Zahra Poonevala – Last year's Plate winner will have her eye on the main prize this year. One year on could she catch Mookie cold in the OF?

In other news ...



Rey R

Mookie

Nisa

Raquers

Rhea Poonevala

Not this year

Zahra Poonevala

Inter Club Mixed Doubles

On Saturday 13th January, our Mixed Doubles team took part in the Inter Club Championships at Muangthong Thani Academy. The standard was incredibly high some clubs naming a squad full of ex-national players and coaches across age groups. Our target was to reach the semi-finals which we ensured courtesy of an opening round 5-1 victory over an 'experienced' Government Saving Bank team. We then choose to rest some of our stars and play the 'B' team against the Silom Club which predictably resulted in a heavy defeat. The semi-final match up with the Polo Club was always going to be an up-hill battle and so it proved. Highlights of the tie included a superb victory by Raguel Evans and Frank Gluck in the 80+ category (where they survived no less than 6 match points before fighting back again to take the win in the tie-break) and some fine Japanesestyle courtside encouragement from Mana-san Thanks to all players who represented the club and to Raquel and Yubharet for giving their time to help with the organization and administration.

That's it for this month. Good luck to all competitors in the Club Championships and enjoy your sports!



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HEAD TO

BCGS GOLFING NEWS December 2017



November Medal Postscript

As some idiot (yours truly) forgot to bring to the prizes to the November event here are some photos of the winners.



December Medal

The December Medal scores were either very good or really bad. A revitalized John Bell won the Flight A prize on count back from Randall Coleman with a fine net 71. Pete Gale cruised to victory in Flight B with Thorsten Leppek a distance 2nd.



Medal Eclectic

Our handicap secretary keeps a record of the best score played on each hole over the 12 Medal rounds to calculate the year end eclectic winners in each Flight

John Bell's exemplary round at the December Medal enabled him to sneak past Varghese Rose in the Flight A eclectic standings. His final score was gross 64 and a net 50.

Pete Gale's ability too run hot and cold on different holes on different days ensured his win in Flight B with a gross 70 and a net 48.

Eclectic Table

Standing	Name	Gross	Handicap	Net				
Flight A								
1	John Bell	64	14	50				
2	Varghese Rose	69	16	53				
3	Randall Coleman	61	7	54				
Flight B								
1	Peter Gale	70	22	48				
2	Thorsten Leppek	78	28	50				
3	James Lawden	79	23	56				





If you would like to join the golf society, we welcome players of all standards. We normally play on a Sunday and also have away weekends. For more information please contact us at bcgs.bangkok@gmail.com

Tiny Tigers Playgroup

at Bangkok Patana School

Join in the Fun !!

Run by our specialist Early Years teachers, Tiny Tigers welcomes accompanied children between one and three years of age.

Monday to Friday



Bangkok Patana School The British International School in Thailand Established 1957

7.30am until 10.00am

To register a place, email us or call Tel: 02 785 2205 www.patana.ac.th admissions@patana.ac.th BTS station: Bangna or Bearing