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Our best cricketers

Open for submissions now. Deadline: 28 February 2017 Theme: 'Hope'

Separate categories for Thai and international schools For 10-18 year olds





Outpost



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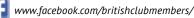
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THE BESTEST OF FESTIVES

ON THE STROKE OF ZERO...

www.twitter.com/BCBangkok



FRONT COVER

It's been a good year for the Club's Cricket Section and last night at a BBQ Dinner the Annual Awards went to Dilip Mishra for Best Bowler, Denzyl Allwright for Best Allrounder, and Dale Lamb for Best Batsman. With those names, it's D for Distinction - howzat!

EDITOR'S GREETING

This month looks at the December festivities, and February's events which together make colourful reading. The cover celebrates the growing success of the Club's most British sport, and is a reminder that party photos never materialise as planned.

There are, however, splendid photos of recently knighted Club Member Sir Nick White to whom we offer many congratulations. Our retro feature "As It Was and Is" hops over to Chennai this month for a glimpse of an amazing reciprocal club.

Ed



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 Editor - Jeremy de Sausmarez 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 - No part of this publication may be reproduced without the written permission of the Publisher.

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MESSAGE FROM the Chairman

Poolside Redevelopment: There is always a danger that any 'breaking' news will be out-dated by the time Outpost plops through your letter boxes because the copy deadline is usually two weeks ahead of the publishing date. With the poolside redevelopment EGM scheduled for 31st January almost any comment this month on perhaps the most important decision the Club has taken for decades is therefore superfluous. Next month we will have moved on. If the Silom Wing is approved we will already be forging ahead, working on detailed designs and applying for the necessary permits ... or it will be back to the drawing board.

Whatever happens though, I would like to express our appreciation to Ali Adam and his sub-committee for getting the project to this stage. Huge attention has been given to detail, ensuring that the designs meet our requirements and have been costed properly. Busy professionals have freely given hundreds of hours of their time and we owe them all a huge vote of thanks.

1910 Sports Bar: As we are going to press though, the 1910 Sports Bar is finally about to open. It looks great, thanks again to Chris Watts' tasteful touches. There is a choice of TV sports to watch both in air-conditioning, where we have set up our biggest screen yet (65"), or



Chairman

outside on the balcony. There is also the chance to have a game of pool or carrom, or just hang out on the terrace for food or a drink under the stars. Please try it out.

Reciprocal Clubs: Almost every month we add new names of clubs we have negotiated reciprocal arrangements with for Members to enjoy on our travels. Our website and Membership Directory currently contain a huge variety of around 350 Reciprocal Clubs on every continent for your pleasure.

When I meet new Members of the British Club, our reciprocal club network is often mentioned as an important reason for joining. Every month 20 or 30 Members ask for introductory letters and sometimes many more. In December 63 Members visited 50 different clubs on four continents. Over that last few months we have also enjoyed an average of 36 visits by members from 30 of these clubs.



All you have to do to avail yourselves of this privilege is request an introductory letter from Reception and rock up with your membership card. Individual Reciprocal Clubs have different rules about guests, numbers of days they can be used, dress codes etc., and sometimes they drop off the map without informing us. Please just check their websites before planning a visit.

Many clubs have accommodation and it was my pleasure to stay with fellow BC Members at the Madras Club in Chennai last month whilst attending the 5th Test Match between in England and India. The club was founded in 1813, has a grand clubhouse and is set in 13 acres of luxuriant grounds on the banks of the Adyar River. Unfortunately it had just been hit by a cyclone, which uprooted more than 20 ancient trees and closed the swimming pool. But things were soon getting back to normal and we had a most memorable stay with spacious rooms, friendly staff, and wonderful food in a most glorious quiet, old-world atmosphere.

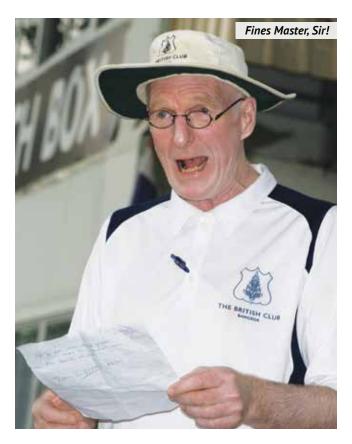
Instead of my regular old pictures feature this month I have posted a few pictures of the Madras Club. If other Members would like to share their experiences visiting reciprocal clubs we could make this a regular feature.

Staff Long Service Awards: The Human Resource subcommittee has been reviewing the Club organisational structure and staff employment conditions. Credit to our predecessors, we have found that in general our salaries and benefits compare favourably with industry standards, but we are understaffed in certain areas. We are reviewing priorities at the senior management level where the main pressures lie and where at least one or two new management positions are needed.

One of my more pleasurable duties this year was to attend the staff Long Service Awards ceremony on 22nd December. We all appreciate our staff who serve us unobtrusively and efficiently through the year. They are extraordinarily loyal and almost half have been with us for more than ten years. It is seeing a familiar friendly face that is part of the 'home from home' atmosphere and such an important part of the Club experience.

Some years ago the Club introduced much-appreciated Long Service Awards of half a Baht of gold for each 5 years of service worked (a Baht is the Thai gold weight standard of 16.16 grams, worth around baht 20,000 at current rates). On this happy occasion two staff were rewarded for 25 years loyal service, six for 10 years and three for 5 years. It is not often we see all the staff together and with shift work, not everyone could be there. But almost 40 staff did take a break for some snacks and a little reflection on a job well done. Well done indeed! *Members Gathering:* An event to look forward to this month is the annual Member's gathering on 9th February to which all Members who have been members 20 year or more years, plus all recent new members are invited to a cocktail party on the lawns with complementary drinks and canapés. We have 200 Members of 20 years or more longevity and we have had 94 Members join us since January last year. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet up with old friends and make new ones. If you fall into these categories please accept our invitation an come along and help make this another memorable evening.

Sir Nick: In these pages you will find an eloquent article about our very own W90, Dr Nicholas John White, honoured in the New Years Honours List with a Knighthood. As far as I know, only one other British Club Member has ever been given this grand honour ... Sir James Holt, back in post WW2 days. Affectionately known to us as Nickers, he is a legend of BC cricket, for years opening both the batting and bowling, taking over 200 wickets and scoring more than 4,000 runs. He is also a plague of the Squash Section, arriving late off long-distance flights demanding 'Rite! ... oo wants a game' when everyone else has settled into their beers. He has already received many prestigious awards from the lads such as the annual award for 'failing to eradicate malaria' ... but 'SIR'! ... you can't beat that! There will be much grovelling and touching of the forelock at future fines ceremonies. We are all proud of you Nickers. Well done!





LETTER FROM the General Manager

The end of January brings us Chinese New Year with our Dim Sum Buffet and also the Lion Dance. Both have been very popular for the past few years. On 31st January there is the E.G.M. about the Poolside Project, a very important decision for the Club. As before, there will be a Mini Buffet from 5pm. If you cannot come to the E.G.M., please send me your proxy form in time.



General Manager

The 1910 Sports Bar has opened with a pool table and a Carrom board as well as a new 65 inch TV. My thanks to both Khun Jack and Khun Chris for the time

and help they gave with the renovation. We hope this room and the 1910 Balcony will be popular, and can be used in the daytime as well as evening.

Due to booking difficulties the Annual Staff Party changed to Monday 6th February. The Clubhouse will be closed although Poolside is open but without any staff service or F&B. It is a good day for our staff after the busy festive months and I hope nobody feels inconvenience from it.

We have new menus from 19th January with some changes. Eggs used at the Club are now always organic and rice must be ordered separately from main dishes, so that Members can have the style and quantity they want. There are new dishes too, and the menu has been redesigned with many pictures and descriptions to help choose. My thanks to Khun Adrian for his many hours of work designing and preparing it.

On 9th February is the Members Gathering night for new Members from the beginning of last year and longterm over 20 years Members. It is always a nice evening for people to meet. Then Valentine's Day Dinner on Tuesday 14th and our Car Boot Sale on the front lawn the next weekend on 19th, with Pancake Day on Sunday 26th which is fun for children with pancake races and freshly made pancakes too.

We have installed a new Fire Pump as the old one had no spare parts, and the new security tannoy system is almost completed and covers the whole Club area except the Silom Sala area pending the E.G.M. decision.

The Club Tennis Championships start this month and there will be a Hockey Tournament on 17th and 18th February with Sports Camps for a week mid-month as well. Other junior sports include martial arts, tennis and swimming.

Finally, I am pleased to report we now have reciprocation with over 350 other clubs globally, so remember to check with membership if you are travelling abroad and wish to use them.

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)					
The Pavilion Café	9am - 6pm	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)				
1910 Sports Bar	5pm - midnight						

OFFICIAL OPENING TIMES



FOR VISITORS EVERYONE WELCOME!

Books, DVD, toys, clothes, ornaments, pictures, gadgets, and all sorts of unexpected Items may be there to look through. An opportunity to pick up a bargain or two !

The British Club Bangkok. Entry via silom 18, adjacent to Narai Hotel Book at Reception or email to : events@britishclubbangkok.org

HAPPENINGS

It's staggering that the last issue was the week before Christmas. That all seems so far away now. Christmas Day was fantastic, with the Club beating last year's record attendance for both lunch and dinner. They were wonderful, it was so good to see so many people and share in their enjoyment of such a special day. New Year's Eve was good too, although less celebratory on account of the sad news in 2016. Even so, the New Year was welcomed in, and I extend my good wishes to you all for 2017 albeit a bit late now, but such good wishes are still valid!



Events & Marketing Manager

2017 opened with a quiet Polar Swim which meant much colder waters for the lesser number of children frolicking - considerably fewer parents too, either due to the long weekend or maybe they were sleeping in later than usual for the holiday! Not so many Members came along to watch "Patong Girl" last weekend which was disappointing as it is an entertaining movie, well worth a viewing! Since then the monks have been for their annual blessing ceremony, and we had an exciting quiz night with the jackpot eluding capture once again.

The month peaks with Wine-Tasting, the Chinese New Year's Dim Sum Buffet and the Lion Dance, followed by the EGM on the last day of the month which may see the decision to proceed with the Poolside Redevelopment, a huge change for Poolside. It will be an interesting meeting!

The **Annual Staff Party** was rescheduled for **Monday 6th February** out at Sattahip, so the Club will have no service or supervision poolside with the Clubhouse itself being closed. A couple of days beforehand sees the start of the Davis Cup and the 6 Nations, so the new **1910 Sports Bar** will be ready to help screen these important competitions.

We will have a **Members Gathering** on the **9th**, for long-term Members as well as those who joined in 2016. These evenings are really enjoyable and a good time for new Members to make connections, although many would prefer the connections on **Valentine's Day** which follows five days later, when we will have a special dinner menu for two available for anyone wishing to come and celebrate in tranquility here at the Club. **Valentine's Day** is itself followed five days later by the Spring **Car Boot Sale** on **19th** on the **Front Lawn**. Please come and rummage through the **Car Boot** items - there are always bargains and many people need to get rid of excess Christmas presents, so the selection on offer can be surprising.

Quiz Night is a week late in February, as its usual slot would conflict with **Valentine's Day**, specifically a day of no conflicts! It will be held on **21st** in the same week which concludes with the February **Wine-Tasting**. Then at the weekend on **Sunday 26th** February it's **Pancake Day**, a family fun-day with pancake races on the lawn and a competition too. There's also a pancake buffet through the afternoon with pancakes prepared to order while you wait. With the bouncy castle and trampoline as background, and Sam and his friends there to do crafts or paint faces, it's a fun afternoon with no admission fee so bring your families along for the pleasure. It's early this year as **Easter** falls **mid April**.

Looking ahead in March there's an outing to **Bang Pa In** and also a trip to **Chokchai Farm** scheduled, and of course the **Annual General Meeting**, details of all these will follow in due course.



INDIAN GOURMET FINE DINING IN BANGKOK OPEN DAILY FROM 6 - 11.30PM SUNDAY BRUNCH FROM NOON - 3PM

At Radisson Suites Bangkok Sukhumvit (Sukhumvit Soi 13) BTS Nana station (exit 3)

DAILY LIVE MUSIC

RESERVATION: 02 645 4952, 091 818 5248 OR VISIT WWW.PUNJABGRILLBANGKOK.COM

Business uncheons

THE BRITISH CLUB

30th January - 3rd February

Starter : 65 Baht Smoked Duck Salad with orange and honey dressing OR Chef's soup of the day

Main Crouse : 160 Baht

Chicken and wild mushroom Lasagna served with garlic bread OR Pan-fried Dory with caper Meunière served with broccoli, carrots and mashed potato OR Shepherd's pie

OR Gaeng Jued Tao Hoo Moo Sab (Chinese lettuce soup with minced pork and tofu) Phad Kraprao Moo Sab (Stir-fried minced pork with hot basil and chili) Kai Dao (Fried egg)

6th February - 10th February

Starter : 65 Baht Mozzarella, mango, tomato and rocket salad OR Chef's soup of the day

Main Course : 160 Baht Grilled chicken breast with tomato and bean sauce served with peas, carrot and home-fried potatoes

OR Grilled mixed sausage served with mashed potato and fried onion OR Grilled Seabass with coriander salsa served with mixed salad and boiled potatoes

OR Gaeng Kiew Wan Look Chin Pla (Fish balls in green curry sauce) Moo Tod Kratium Prik Thai (Stir-fried pork fillet with garlic and pepper) Phad Phak Ruam Nam Man Hoy (Stir-fried mixed vegetables with oyster sauce)

13th February - 17th February

Starter : 65 Baht Carrot, Raisin and Apple coleslaw OR Chef's soup of the day

Main Crouse : 160 Baht

Chicken Chasseur served with carrots, green beans and new potatoes OR Grilled Seabass with spinach risotto Or Mini steak with gravy sauce served with mixed vegetables and roast potatoes Or Pla Sam Rod (Deep-fried Dory topped with sweet and sour spiced sauce) Phad Prik Khing Moo Krob (Stir-fried crispy pork with ginger) Kai Jiew (Thai Style Omelette)

20th February - 24th February

Starters : 65 Baht Pasta, Chicken and Pesto Salad OR Chef's soup of the day

Main Courses : 160 Baht Chicken breast stuffed with Mozzarella & Pesto served with grilled tomatoes and garlic roast potatoes or BBQ Pork Spare Ribs served with mixed salad and baked potato or Mushroom Stroganoff with tagliatelle or Gaeng Pa Gai (Thai Chicken Curry without coconut milk) Kai Jiew Moo Sub (Thai Style Omelette with minced pork) Phad Khana Nam Man Hoy (Stir-fried kale with oyster sauce)

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

F&B MORSELS

We have just launched the new international and Thai menus, with a new design, new dishes, and new features. From now on, all eggs used at the British Club will be organic which are healthier although they are a bit smaller and not so yellow as they are lower in chemicals. We will also be serving rice separately from Thai dishes so that Members can order the amount they want and choose between white and brown rice, so please order accordingly. The new menus also list glu-ten-free dishes, and indicate which Thai dishes are spicy. I hope you enjoy the new choices that are included. Please remember you can always ask the staff if there is something you want which isn't listed, in case the kitchen can prepare for you anyway.



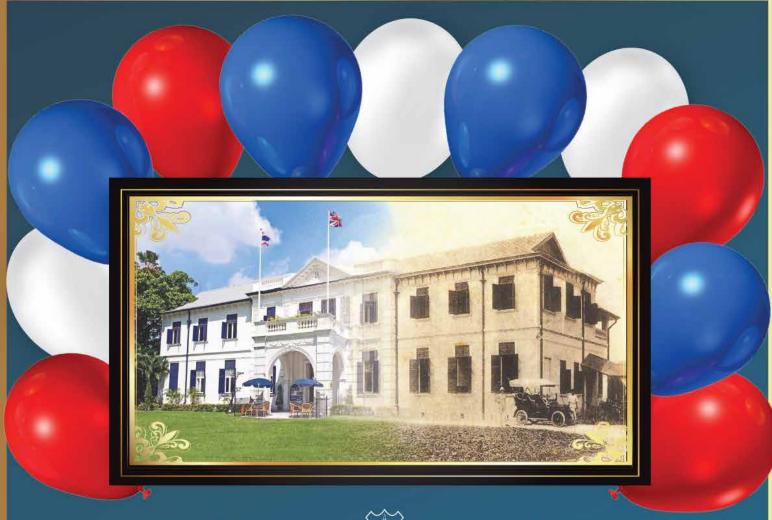
Executive Chef

Before the end of this month there is Chinese New Year and we will have our Dim Sum Buffet with other Chinese dishes. I hope to see a lot of you for that! In February, I have made a special menu for Valentine's Day which I think will make a nice evening meal for two people on this special day. Later in the month there is Pancake Day when we will have a pancake buffet with a choice of fillings. There is also a Kids Strawberry Promotion in February, and new Healthy Menus too if I can find time to finish preparing them.

Don't forget we have a special Burger Menu with a great selection of choices and we have Chicken, Seafood or Vegetarian Paella on Wednesdays although you need to give us about half an hour to prepare it for you.



Happy Eating!





Members Gathering and New Members Night



Thursday 9th February 2017 7pm - 9pm, Back Lawn

By invitation from Khun Prang

FREE/drinks from 7pm - 8pm canapés from 7pm - 9pm

A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO COME AND MEET OTHER MEMBERS AND GC MEMBERS - GET TO KNOW YOUR CLUB!

THE BESTEST OF FESTIVES Xmas Day at the Club

All the events and days through December are part of the buildup to Christmas Day itself, the peak of the festive season. And so it transpires, a day when all is good, the food, the mood, the repartee, the ambience, the inspiration, even the weather. This year the Club saw a record number of bookings, both midday and in the evening, which made it a day to remember. Even twinkling Santa almost ran out of presents for the eager smiling children, but as with everything else that special day, it went according to plan and there was peace and goodwill amongst all.





























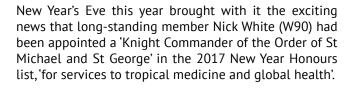




Reportings



WHITE KNIGHT Honouring the New Year





The future White Knight with David Warrell in 1981, not long after his arrival in Bangkok



Sir's 'umble lieges

Sir Nick began his illustrious career at Guy's Hospital Medical School, from which he graduated in 1974 with the highly prestigious Gold Medal for the best medical student across all of the University of London's medical schools. As a sign of his future career direction, he went immediately to Nepal where, under difficult conditions, he carried out work for the Britain-Nepal Medical Trust. After a period of training as a junior doctor in the UK, he came out to Thailand in 1980 as a Lecturer in the 'Wellcome Unit', a collaboration between the University of Oxford and Mahidol University's Faculty of Tropical Medicine which was (and is) funded by the UK's Wellcome Trust. When not actively participating in the British Club's cricket and squash sections, he worked on the treatment of severe malaria, then a major problem along the border with Cambodia, and helped his then boss, David Warrell, in studies on snake bite (Nick can regale you for hours with stories of close encounters of the herpetological kind!).

After a couple of years doing some advanced training in Seattle and Oxford, he returned to Thailand in 1986 as Director of the Wellcome Unit at Mahidol. He expanded the Unit's research into malaria, starting a new unit among the Karen refugees along the Thai-Burmese border, having been introduced to the refugee camps there by his old friend, our current Club Chairman, Jack Dunford. He also established a new unit in Ubon Ratchathani to study melioidosis, a then little-known but terrible disease afflicting rice farmers in Isaan. He selflessly imported a cricketing microbiologist,



Prof. Nick on a ward round in Ho Chi Minh City in 1991

Sir Nick puts his feet up after a hard day at the office (having just arrived in Ubon Ratchathani in 1986)



Nick after receiving the Prince Mahidol Award in January 2011



David Dance, to strengthen the BC cricket section, and immediately stopped the perilous snake bite research (much to David's relief). Both enterprises remain highly successful to this day.

With the 1990-91 cricket season came what Nick cites as the pinnacle of his career, his appointment as vicecaptain of the Thailand national cricket side. This was a golden era for BC cricket both on and off the field, and Nick starred with both bat and ball, and also during the



We are a grandfather!

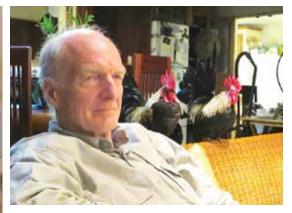
post-match celebrations as 'Fines Master', a role he still holds today. In fact, although hugely respected in the world of tropical medicine, Nick remains a 'gravitasfree zone' on and off the cricket field. A real 'Renaissance Man', he is also a talented musician and cartoonist, and can occasionally be found playing the harmonica in various establishments around town.

Sir Nick displaying his always impeccable

Despite the extra-mural distractions, during the

1990s Nick still managed to find time for some work, and in 1991 he broadened his influence on global medical research by establishing a sister unit in Vietnam working on malaria, typhoid, tetanus and other important infections. The Vietnam unit is now a large, highly successful, independent research unit. Throughout the 1990s and 2000s, he oversaw large clinical trials of new drug treatments for malaria across Asia and Africa, work which has changed the way in which malaria is treated worldwide. He has published over 1,000 research papers, and has received numerous awards for his research and the impact it has had on health, including (to name only a few) the Prince Mahidol Award here in Thailand, the

A serious Prof. White conducting avian influenza research at home



Canada Gairdner Foundation Global Health Prize, the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene's Manson medal, and Fellowship

of the Royal Society.

All this has been achieved with great humanity and an even greater sense of humour, as anyone who knows him will recognise. He has always supported younger generations of researchers, and has often encouraged those based in Bangkok to join the British Club. Throughout his nearly four decades in Thailand he has remained an enthusiastic supporter of the Club, and a keen (and still actively playing!) member of the cricket and squash sections. Arise Sir Nick, the BC salutes you!

Nick enjoys a post match bottle of green medicine (or two...)



BC Calendar February 2017







Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday **Kids Cricket** 7 Book first! 8am - 11am **Tennis Mix-In Kids Cricket** Swim Lessons Squash Mix-In Book first! 8am - 11am 9am - 10:30am 5:15pm - 9:45pm 6pm - 10pm **Tennis Junior** Swim Lessons Sunday Brunch lyengar Yoga 10:30 - 11:30am 4 - 5pm / 5 - 6pm 9am - 10:30am 11:30 - 3pm Verandah **Open Pairs Bridge** 2pm Silom Room Polar Swim (1st Jan) 12noon Silom Sala **Kids Cricket** Book first! 1 8am - 11am **Kids Cricket** Swim Lessons Squash Mix-In Tennis Mix-In Book first! 8am - 11am 9am - 10:30am 5:15pm - 9:45pm 6pm - 10pm Iyengar Yoga Swim Lessons **Sunday Brunch Tennis Junior** 10:30 - 11:30am 4 - 5pm / 5 - 6pm 9am - 10:30am 11:30 - 3pm Verandah Members Gathering **Open Pairs Bridge** and New Members 2pm Silom Room Night 7 - 9am Back Lawn Sports Camp Sports Camp Book now! Book now! **Kids Cricket Kids Cricket** Squash Mix-In Tennis Mix-In Book first! 8am - 11am Book first! 8am - 11am 5:15pm - 9:45pm 6pm - 10pm Swim Lessons Swim Lessons Iyengar Yoga **Tennis Junior** 9am - 10:30am 9am - 10:30am 10:30 - 11:30am 4 - 5pm / 5 - 6pm **Open Pairs Bridge** 2pm Silom Room Car Boot Sale 2 - 6pm Front Lawn **Kids Cricket** Squash Mix-In **Kids Cricket Tennis Mix-In** 5:15pm - 9:45pm Book first! 8am - 11am Book first! 8am - 11am 6pm - 10pm Swim Lessons Swim Lessons Iyengar Yoga **Tennis Junior** 9am - 10:30am 9am - 10:30am 10:30 - 11:30am 4 - 5pm / 5 - 6pm Wine Tasting **Sunday Brunch** 6 - 9pm 11:30 - 3pm Verandah Surawongse Room Pancake Day 3 - 6pm Back Lawn TART SWIMMING 5th LESSONS JAN EVERY SI IOR BESIMERS 12 LESSONS - WEEKENDS -0,000 33,07 200 baht / 30 mins IYENGAR YOGA EVERY FRIDAY THURSDAYS WISHES 7 AP HE CONST.

ON THE STROKE OF ZERO ... New Year's Eve Cruise

After a year with such sadness, the turn of the year was not to see rejoicing with fireworks, but our dinner cruise went ahead as planned so families and friends could be together in a tranquil and special place to welcome 2017. The pier and river were much quieter than usual, and many boats were 70% empty. Our diners had a great buffet and plenty of elbow room, with dancing on deck to help the digestion! And at midnight, a glass of bubbly, sparklers on each table, and a fiery display of sedentary fireworks off a barge mid-Chaopraya in front of the Oriental Hotel close to where we were floating. So 2017 was welcomed in some style after all.







SANTA SATURDAY Kids' Xmas Party

It was rather a warm afternoon for Christmas but that did not diminish the excitement and energy of the children that came for their Christmas Party on the Back Lawn. Sam, Nat and friends were doing crafts and amazing face paintings while the games, bouncy and trampoline were in heavy use on the MPC. Soon Sam led the first queue for the piñata, a tough one, but it eventually spilled its contents to the frenzy of grabbing hands. Then on to the Magic Show and another piñata afterwards which proved easier to crack. At last the snack buffet arrived and mouths (and hands) were filled. The ringing bell announced Santa's arrival in a tuk-tuk, and dished out a present for every child - lovely mixed Oreo biscuits. So they went home tired but happy, looking forward to the rest of the Christmas season.









AS IT WAS AND IS The Madras Club, Chennai

This month I am using this space to draw everyone's attention the wonderful Reciprocal Clubs we are associated with around the World. Some are magnificent, others more humble, but they all offer an adventure, something different on your travels. If you would like to take a few pictures and write a few words of visits you make to other Clubs, this could be a regular feature. These pictures are of the Madras



Club in Chennai, founded in 1813 offering a a wonderful 'colonial-style ' experience in fabulous grounds. We were India to watch England get thrashed in the 5th Test but enjoyed the stylish accommodation, tranquil atmosphere, friendly staff and and wonderful curries.













Visitors









Pool table Carrom board

 Bottled beers
25+ TV channels F&B service

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7	DATE	IH FEB BT 950	IS FEB	IG FEB	I7 FEB	
J	71ME 9:30 - 10:00	Admin	BT 950 Admin	BT 1200 Admin	BT 950 Admin	
	10:00 - 11:00	Tennis	Tennis	lce	Tennis	
IY)	11:00 - 11:15	Snack	Snack	Skating	Snack	K
\sim	11:15 - 12:15	Football	Football		Football	RH.

Lunch

Cooking

Swimming

Lunch

BowLing

Lunch

Squash

Swimming

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12:15 - 1:00

1:00 - 2:00

2:30 - 3:30

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Lunch

Squash

Swimming



HARD BALLS

Bursting into the New Year

Happy New Year from the Cricket Section! And what better way to start than with a rare cricket front cover for the archives, featuring prize winners from the Cricket Section's Annual Awards evening which will be reported fully in next month's issue.

The nets, having gathered a thick carpet of leaves over the closing few weeks of the year, were ambitiously summoned for a New Year's Day session, as some Members had pledged to spring into action with the new season on





the horizon. What followed was a handful of attendees and a series of exotic excuses as the harsh reality, and lack of sleep became all too much for some - including the nets coordinator himself who had hosted a party for the team the night before.

The following week's session proved a little more of a success as numbers swelled and even attracted former English cricketer, Bob Barber, who played first class cricket for Cambridge University, Lancashire and Warwickshire (1954-1969). He also featured in 28 test matches for England. Bob enjoyed throwing down a few of his famous leg spin deliveries at a few of the guys after his lunch, and spent some time to hang around and discuss the era of cricket that has long since changed. The first committee meeting of the year was held early in the New Year where we managed to gather a full house of committee members as everyone chimed in with their useless ideas and tried to chip off a bit of a beer fund from the treasurer.



V Siam Parrots masters 15th January 2017

BC kicked off the New Year's fixtures over at TCG for the fourth 'Masters' game in which the team were looking to continue their unbeaten run. Jackers led the troops out to bowl first as hundreds of cars began to arrive to witness the spectacle; a gritty fight to the death as sideline bets were being exchanged by the dozen. Once the first chicken fight was underway in the nearby arena, Double D duo, Dilip & Denzyl got to work, with Dilip striking in the third over and the pair conceding 22 during their 4 over stint. Aseem (0-21, 2 overs) followed up with an expensive spell, accompanied by lan (0-30, 4 overs) who kept a relatively tight ship up until his last over – perhaps due to tiredness or distracted by the camera drone buzzing above his head with a somewhat inexperienced pilot at the controls. The Parrots were sitting slightly above par around the halfway mark at 79-2 and a couple of retirees back in the shed. Ed (2-12, 5 overs) then helped to slow the run rate and swing balance back in BC's favour with a star performance including a maiden, wicket maiden and very few runs. Much to Dilip's concern, Rahul (3-30, 5 overs) contributed a healthy 3 wickets later on in the game which put him in contention for leading wicket taker at the early stages of the season. A wicket in the last over from Sunish (2-10, 2 overs) saw the Parrots wind up at 152-8 and set up an interesting chase for BC on an unfamiliar ground.

Ed (16) and Nachi opened up BC's account and posted 27 before Ed was inevitably caught after miss-timing one of his lethal swishes. Denzyl (5) was in at 3 and was looking to get himself stuck in before being bowled and kindly dug a small hole in the pitch trying to repair an imaginary lump for the next man in. Once Rahul had avoided the steam jets coming out of the dismissed batsman's ears, he patiently took some time to settle before eventually retiring





not out on 32 from 30 deliveries. Shortly after, Nachi was eventually removed from the crease for a handy 21, beckoning Dale (11), who looked to begin an onslaught of 6s to put the Parrots into panic, only to get stumped out attempting 2 in a row. A lack of boundaries therein saw the run rate slipping and the target drifting off further than the drone which was now doing loop-the-loops and barrel rolls in the distance. "12 runs an over boys", was the call from the boundary as Ian graciously demonstrated his shot variety of forward defenses and leaves, while Jack was doing well not to fall over his own chin after being dragged away from his scorebook in the shade. BC eventually closed on 116-8, 36 short of



the target, and set up a dramatic final game with the Southerners (date TBC).





SQUASHY BITS REVIEW!

A review of some, not all, of the silly squash, and otherwise, behavior from 2016.



smashing fashion with a trip to Chiang Mai for the Peter Cornflakes Corney Chiang Mai Challenge Cup, or something like that. Captain Calamity, Evans couldn't be bothered to attend, or more likely wasn't allowed. Without him we won anyway and took a wonky, blurry picture.

Jan: the year began in

We did it without Captain Calamity!

ABSOLUTELY, Positively not. No way.



Mrs Evan's CM request response

Wonky, blurry CM pic!

Feb: in this month we indulged in more photography action and captured a lovely picture of the pool while H got some lovely new specs. Lovely!

The lovely pool!









March: Apparently we held a handicap competition in March or a team comp or some overseas teams visited from Nepal or Greenland, but the details have been forgotten so this month was effectively cancelled!



Did we entertain these Greenland Squashies!



April: Sang Lee won something here, but we can't remember what it was. However, it must have been very important as he was ecstatic.



Sang won something!

May: this month saw Noot and Meme from the Churchill Bar giving us a nice smile!

June: Marvyn won a competition as he's short. Well done Marvyn parent's genetics!



smiling in May!

Noot and Meme



I won because I'm short!

July: this was another month when a competition may or may not have been arranged. Perhaps it was the Squash Section Championships. Didn't Sang win that in April? Can't remember. Or did Ja become the Club Champ? It's all so hazy. Another cancellation then due to lack of recall!

August: August witnessed a squash gang being photographed on court one and some of the gang members drinking beer and smiling. Most, not all, of the gang are alcoholics. The remaining few are drug dealers.



September: a trip to Italy was recorded and a selfie was taken at the Colloseum. No squash.

Selfie at Colosseum!



PC ate popcorn!

October: in October, PC ate some popcorn and Adam Dean, a sort-of new BC member, played some squash with us. Adam is a professional photojournalist who can travel in time to capture live scenes of intergalactic battles.

Adam Dean took this pic!



Silly hats!



November: we usually have some form of open competition in this month, but all the details have been forgotten. November is thus cancelled!

December: Silly hats and glasses at the Christmas Ball!

Until 2017 is over....

Silly glasses!







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.







With just 100 million for 15 players and the second wildcard of the season now available, some FF managers may be tinkering with (ruining?) their squad and looking for a mixture of expensive superstars and cheap points scorers.

Obviously, Chelsea's keeper, Courtois, is a high scorer with a total of 91points as they keep plenty of clean sheets, but he's also the dearest at 5.9 million pounds. However, Burnley's keeper, Heaton, is the second highest with 90 points and he's only 4.9 million quid! How? Well, Burnley's defense isn't that great, but they are mid-table meaning he's made tons of saves to keep his team alive and that means a heap of bonus points.





I'm not playing any more!

Saves and bonuses!

Again, Chelsea's defenders of Alonso, Azpilicueta and Cahill top the list, along with Walker from Spurs, but they are all over six million pounds each. But Bournemouth's Daniels in fifth place and Boro's Gibson, also in the top ten, are both bargains at around five million each. How does that work out as neither team is that prolific? Don't know. Must be a mystery. Maybe they stole some points from other defenders. Hacking? Russians? Who cares. Bring 'em in!

Sanchez is the most prolific midfielder with 154 points, but his price tag is just shy of 12 million nicker. Hazard has 126, but he's over ten million and Eriksen and Ali each have almost as many, yet cost almost 9 million





apiece. Can't have them all or you'll have no dosh left for your attack. Must then be some cheaper midfielders who are worth some decent points now and then? Yes! The Hammers' Antonio, West Brom's Phillips, and Snodgrass from Hull are priced between 5.8 and 6.8 million and have each accrued roughly 100 points so far. Snap them up now before they have a bust up with the coach and get dropped or go on strike!



Up front, Ibrahimovich, Costa, Lukaku and Kane are all prolific points scorers, but will set you back between 9.5 and 11.6 million. Aguero is 12.8 million and Man City aren't playing well so forget him! It's likely you'll only have enough for one of the above, if that, so Jermain Defoe is a good option at 7.9 million and third in the points list with 119. Christian Benteke is ninth on the list, but Palace are rubbish so a better bet is Andy Carroll. He's a bargain at 6.2 million, scores wonderful goals, and West ham are starting to play brilliantly so bring him in alongside Defoe and you can blow most of your remaining budget on Sanchez, Hazard, Eriksen, two Chelsea defenders and Heaton! Who needs Payet?



Bring me in and still afford Sanchez!

Best value for money striker!

Can't believe how cheap I am!





SALA SAMUI



sala lanna



SALA PHUKET

sala rattanakosin



sala khaoyai



sala ayutthaya



BCGS December 2016



The annual 3 Clubs and a Putter Competition (where the name describes the unusual limitation for the players) is a cheerful event, not least for the load-lightened caddies. It is played during the festive season, usually at Bangpakong





Gordon was a winner



John got a bad bounce off a tree followed by an unfriendly divot lie, but still smiled



John & Chris at 3 Clubs & a Putter



Shane Torr Eclectic Winner



Varghese won a long drive

Riverside. Over the years the scores have often repeated a message that the wide array of equipment we employ perhaps benefits manufacturers more than players. This year Gordon Milne played his shots at his elegant best to amass a winning 38 stableford points. Brian Brook was second with 36 points and Randall Coleman and Pete Gale joint third with 34 points. The scores would have been satisfactory in any event.

The December Worldwide Relocations Medal was postponed to early January, to accommodate conflicting demands of members' diaries. In Flight A John Bell hit some magnificent drives and long irons for a winning score of 84, net 70, his best medal round of the year. Peter Clark was second and Graham Johnston third (in spite of a morale sapping four put on the first hole). In Flight B Varghese Rose won with a net 71, in spite of a series of puts which would have been adjudged wides by a cricket umpire; his long game was impressive. Barry Ashman and Peter Bond filled the other podium places.

Over the year, monthly medal scores contribute to an eclectic competition, which reaches its climax in December. There was much to play for, and all those in the running were able to play in the final round. In Flight A Shane Tor, who has played only five medals this year (won once and runner-up twice) successfully defended his lead. His score of 63, net 54, was just sufficient to hold off close contenders Karen Carter, Peter Clark and John Bell. In Flight B, regular medal player Varghese Rose finished the season with two birdies and two bogeys for a level par 72, to edge out fellow regulars Pete Gale and Brian Brook.



If you might be interested in joining this group, please drop an email to bcgs2002@yahoo.co.uk







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