



Outpost

March

M A G A Z I N E

1999



- Balinese Food Festival • Sports round-up from the SRC
- The BC Staff Party • Golf tips and more • Squash Update

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you've
got
to go...**



The British Club

is a family, sporting and social club with an international membership.

For details about the Club contact the Membership Marketing Manager at 189 Surawong Road, Bangkok 10500

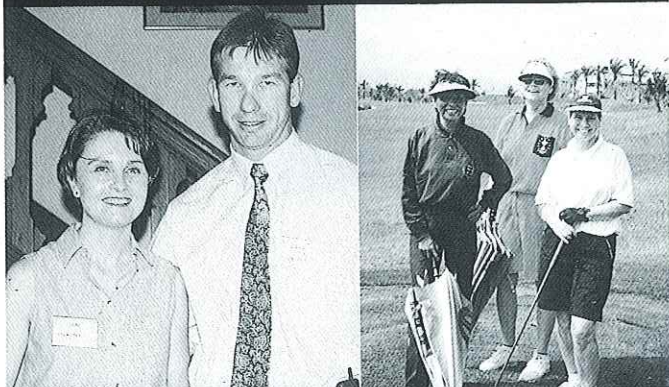
Tel: 234-0247, 234-2592, 266 4734 or 266 0597 Fax: 235-1560

Email: britclub@loxinfo.co.th



Contributions

If you would like to contribute to Outpost please contact Sherry on Tel: 285 4721-2; Fax: 285 4723



The Outpost Magazine

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



On the Front Cover:

New Members, Geeta and Graeme Elliott
Triumphant triathlete, Liz Beal

A potentially painful tackle to Duckworth in Manila

Members enjoying the Balinese Food Festival

Golfing buddies, Nick White and Pat Dean

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Outpost Magazine

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This month's highlight(!) is the Annual General Meeting to be held at the Club on Tuesday, 30 March in the Surawongse Room. Places for this event are extremely limited so please arrive early to avoid disappointment!

On a more serious note, the AGM is an important event at which Ordinary and Country members have the chance to elect the committee for the forthcoming year. Often, particularly if there are no contentious issues to be debated, it is difficult to reach a quorum of 30 members. So please come to the meeting if you can, or at least send in a proxy vote to someone you know who is attending.

The Club is certainly very busy lately, especially the tennis courts and the Surawongse Sala which are in heavy demand. To help reduce the congestion, it has been decided to trial-run court bookings until 11pm, Monday to Friday, and to keep the sala F&B service open to that time. So, if you like late-night tennis, see you on the courts!

This month I can also announce some very positive moves we've made to help lighten members' F&B burden. Firstly, we've introduced a daily Happy Hour session at all of the Club's outlets. Reduced price local beers, house wine (glass), pouring spirits and soft drinks are all being sold at reduced prices between 6pm - 8pm. Please come along and enjoy the cheapest beer in Bangkok. The second initiative is the new (much lower) pricing policy for wine sales at the Club. Wines will now cost much less

and will be much more affordable whether you are dining in Lords, the bar or at the salas. Please ask to see the full price list. I'm sure you will find that the reductions are AMAZING. We've also slashed the price of the Friday and Saturday BBQ to B170 for adults and B100 for children under 12.

We have two new staff members to introduce this month. Khun Yuit is our new Head Gardener - have you noticed the difference yet? And Khun Mun who is our new Membership Sales Consultant.

You may have noticed builders' rubble near the kitchens. Well, the kitchen floor has been retiled to provide a better, safer and more hygienic work area for food preparation. The salmon pink tiles make the kitchen look quite Ritzy!

April and the hot months are fast approaching but at least in April and May there are plenty of public holidays. During these times why not make your way to the BC and cool off poolside! Songkran will see the normal fun water activities throughout Thailand and this year Damon, our Sport and Recreation Coordinator, is planning a special novelty water carnival for families. Please ask Damon for more details.



Thomas Bain - General Manager

A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Tom Bain'.

Tom Bain
General Manager

Mobile Phones - Tennis Courts and Poolside

Please do not use mobile phones poolside as it causes an inconvenience to other members. If you are expecting an important call, please leave your phone with the sala staff who will take a message for you.

Friday and Saturday BBQ

The Friday and Saturday BBQ is now an even more attractive offer with a new, all-you-can-eat price of B170 per adult or B100 per child under 12. Enjoy the alfresco atmosphere on the back lawn, 6pm - 9pm every Friday and Saturday.

Happy Hour!

A reminder that HAPPY HOUR is now EVERYDAY between 6pm and 8pm.

Wine Prices Slashed

The BC now offers some of the best wine prices you will find in Bangkok. A change in pricing policy has enabled us to drastically reduce prices. See the wine list for our crazy new prices.

Wine Tasting

Join us in the Snooker Room (yes, the Snooker Room!) for a FREE wine tasting session on Friday, 19 March from 7pm - 8pm. Wines courtesy of **PKT Liquorland**.

BCT Dinner Theatre

The next BCT production 'Trial by Jury' will take place in the Surawongse Room on 25, 26 and 27 March. Keep your eyes open for more details.

Easter Egg Hunt

4 April is Easter Sunday. Bring the kids along for the traditional Egg Hunt on the back lawn.



Khun Weena, Membership/GM's Secretary graduated recently



Dinner Theatre at The British Club

Bangkok Community Theatre is proud to present
Gilbert & Sullivan's whimsical operetta "Trial by Jury"

Bangkok Community Theatre will stage the first "Trial by Jury", as dinner theatre at the British Club. Baht 750 (10% discount for BC members) include a night marks the 125th anniversary of the first request Victorian dress or Black Tie for all three awarded nightly.



of Gilbert & Sullivan's delightful collaborations, "Trial by Jury" on March 25, 26 and 27, 1999 at 7.30pm. Tickets at 3-course dinner and are available at reception. Opening performance of Trial by Jury, and in celebration we performances. Prizes for best costume will be

Tickets available from The British Club (Tel: 234-0247, Fax: 235-1560). Tickets go on sale on March 1st so don't delay. Past BCT shows have been known to sell out well in advance.

Open to the General Public.
For more information please contact
Bangkok Community Theatre at 258-8495.

Phil and Linda Pannell



Phil

Two years in Thailand already and a further four to go for Brits Phil and Linda. Phil, looking well pleased with himself here, is Plant Manager with CarnaudMetalbox Bevcn and lists previous postings as Saigon and America. For a couple with five children (Claire, Adam, Gavin, Luke and Lindsey), it's amazing that they've listed so many sports and hobbies! Phil, a Tottenham

supporter, enjoys golf, ten pin bowling, pool, snooker and paint balling, with jigsaw puzzles and Heineken as hobbies! Linda plays tennis and is a golf novice, with reading and computers as hobbies - obviously a bit more highbrow than Phil! Kids Claire (20) and Adam (18) are in England at Uni and College respectively (they probably take after mum) while Gavin, Luke and Lindsey are at ISB in Bangkok. Linda wasn't at New Members Night, hence no photo.

Say Sujintaya and Chakorn Pichaiwongse



Chakorn and Say

Say and Chakorn are both Legal Beagles, Say with Tilleke & Gibbins and Chakorn with Clifford Chance. Say was living in Thailand from 1986-1990, returning again in 1994, and the couple intend to stay here for the immediate future. Those gaps in time were spent in the USA, Denmark, Hong Kong and Japan. They have a daughter, Natalie (5) studying at Patana, and a young son of 18

months, Nick. Both Say and Chakorn play tennis and enjoy listening to music and reading, providing it's not law books! Chakorn also adds soccer to his interests.

Hameed "Deen" and Silmiya Ahmed



Deen

Deen, quick to sign up for the Club tennis championships and often seen on the courts, is obviously quite a tennis fan. He and his wife Silmiya are from India and both are with Breeze International Co. Ltd. They have 2 daughters and a son, Sumaiya (7), Zulaikha (6) and Ahmed Fuad (2). Both girls are studying at the Modern International School.

Here 12 years already, they expect to be here

"forever" so plenty of time to enjoy the other activities they like. For Deen that's cricket, soccer, snooker and swimming, with travelling and reading as hobbies, and for Silmiya it's swimming, reading and cooking

Marc and Sharon Ehler



Marc and Sharon

German-born Marc, an operations analyst with the Dusit Thani, and his Malaysian wife Sharon have been in Thailand, on and off, for 5 years and expect to stay one more year. They have two young daughters of 4 and 5 in pre-school. This couple has been about a bit, living previously in Australia, Switzerland, England, Malaysia, Burma and Nepal! Interests for Marc include hockey,

football, diving, tennis and squash, and for Sharon, tennis, table tennis and softball. Together they enjoy visiting galleries, travelling, playing darts, reading and word games.

Chanfung Ma and Vipa Manupong



Chanfung

Nice smile! Chinese couple Chanfung and Vipa have been in Thailand for 16 years and intend to stay. Chanfung is with Vichitsing Jewelry Mfg. Co.

Ltd. and they have two children, a son and a daughter, who are both students. Chanfung and Vipa enjoy swimming and Chanfung is also a badminton player. No photo of Vipa - sorry.

Kanchalee Wattanalai



Kanchalee

Thai Kanchalee is a Personal Assistant at Volvo Thailand who likes to spend her free time travelling, playing tennis and swimming. She has a 14 year old son currently studying

in Sydney, Australia.

Philip Pain



Philip

A Director of Energy Services at AEA Technology, Brit Philip is here for 3 years minimum. Still 'acting the goat' after a spell in amateur dramatics, he lists Wales as one of the

'foreign' countries he's previously lived in, along with South Africa, Germany and Lithuania! Philip enjoys the games of squash, darts, snooker and bridge - and he can COOK! As a Mensan, he's also handy with crossword puzzles and scrabble. Daughter Gemma (15) and son Adam (11) are both at school in the UK.

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New Members

Malcolm and Nissa Hossick



Nissa and Malcolm

Malcolm and Nissa, who have one child studying in London, have lived in Bangkok before in the pollution-free era of the early sixties. After postings in Greece, London and Scotland they're back! Malcolm from the UK is an Advisor at Vajiravudh College and they have lived

previously in Greece, London and Scotland. They both enjoy tennis, Scottish dancing, music and drama.

Graeme and Geeta Elliott



Geeta and Graeme

Aussie Graeme and Fijian wife, Geeta, spent a year in Thailand back in 1995 and returned again in 1998. Graeme is with the Thai Dairy Industry Co. Ltd. and has lived previously in Fiji and Sri Lanka. They have a 10 month old baby, Sanjay. If Graeme is a sportsman, he's keeping quiet

about it, but Geeta admits to enjoying tennis and swimming, with other interests as mahjong, scrabble and cross stitch.

Dr. Chanvit and Sairoung Punthumaphol



Sairoung

New Thai member Sairoung is the HR & Administration Department Director at Tilleke & Gibbins Advocates and her husband, Dr. Chanvit, is a doctor at Taksin Hospital. They have two teenagers of 15 and 13. A member of the Thailand Business Coalition on AIDS, Sairoung also finds time to support the World Vision Foundation of Thailand as well as playing badminton, swimming, cooking and reading. Chanvit also enjoys swimming but in racquet sports prefers tennis, and he has an unusual hobby of coin and stamp collecting.

Del and Jennifer Levin



Del

Del's photograph has been pulled from the membership files; he certainly didn't turn up at New Members Night looking quite as dapper as this! American Del is Marketing Manager at Colgate Palmolive and enjoys squash, tennis, basketball and golf. Del says proudly of his wife, Jennifer, that she's a bit of a celebrity about town. She's a disc jockey with 95.5 FMX and can be seen on Travel Asia, Star TV and Bangkok Buzz from the 'Destination Thailand' UBC series. Quite a musical duo, too - Del plays guitar, Jennifer the piano, and they both sing.

James Kerr



James

Scottish James is unaccompanied by wife Jeanette on this particular assignment - probably the reason behind the Club's recent boost in bar sales! (Your words James, or almost -S) When he is not acting as a Consultant on the BKK mass transit system, James is following the scent of the Hash House Harriers or practising Japanese Martial Arts. As a member of the British Olympic Judo Squad in 1972/76, he's probably pretty good at this so be cautious before messing with him. James has two children, Charlotte a Chef, and Grant who's just passed out from Sandhurst. Sorry I don't know that particular ale ...!

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Global
Silverhawk

Chairman's Report

By the time you are able to read this article we will be about three weeks away from the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the British Club (BC). While this event is not generally regarded as being very high on the scale of entertainment, it is one of the most important on the calendar.

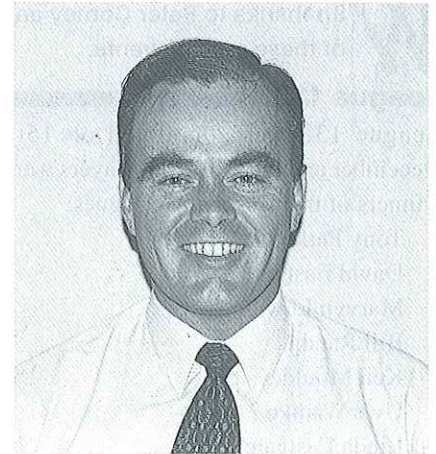
There are many topics that have been discussed at General Committee meetings over the year. Sub-committees have spent many hours debating issues that have a direct impact on the services the British Club provides to its members. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each one, too numerous to mention individually, for their commitment and contribution. I never cease to be amazed as to why anyone would want to devote so many hours to what at times must appear a thankless task. However, for your sterling efforts we are indebted.

We, as a General Committee, are happy to encourage a more open debate on issues at the BC, or anything else for that matter, through the letters page in *Outpost*. This has been largely successful and you will note another letter from one of our regular correspondents this month, James Reid. While I may not share all his views, I respect his wish to publish them. If you have any comments, please get in touch with the editor of *Outpost*, Sherry Conisbee, at Creative Partnership by e-mail, fax or letter. It is your Club that is being discussed.

As always there will be some members of the GC who will not be standing for re-

election this time and still more who have yet to make up their minds, thus new recruits are required. This can be an onerous responsibility as you may often find yourself with a conflict between personal, professional and BC lives. However I would urge anyone who is thinking of standing to call me and I will happily explain the structure of the Committee and our objectives. It may be easier than you think!

I started this Committee year by commenting on the Financial situation of the BC. I am happy to report that we have come through 1998 in a relatively healthy state. Our saviour was the introduction of a membership marketing department. As you will be able to see from the BC accounts, the revenue thus generated was a significant increase on recent years. We were able to increase the membership by 110 over the period February-November. A cautionary note is in order as we cannot continue to rely on new members to fund our regular expenses. It is a short-term measure only. After all, our facilities have physical limits! Your Treasurer, Nick Bellamy, will be making a detailed presentation to the AGM on how the GC feels the BC can ensure its financial



James Young - Chairman of the General Committee

viability in the coming years. Sometimes it is too easy to say that I'm only here for a 2-3 year posting and I like the Club the way it is. It is my belief that the GC has a larger responsibility to maintain, as a minimum, and improve if possible on what I believe is a unique feature of life in Bangkok for expatriates.

In conclusion, please make every effort to attend the AGM and if you feel you are able to make the commitment, please stand for election to the General Committee.

James Young
Chairman



A comfortable win for the BC team

With thanks to Peter Corney and Tony Perkovic for their coverage of some of these recent events.

League 133

League 133 was completed on 15th December and the following players were winners of their respective leagues:

- 1 Tony Perkovic
- 2 David Eastgate
- 3 Marvyn Lewis
- 4 Bill Randall
- 5 Ken Mouldley
- 6 Uwe Wamke
- 8 Linda Eastgate

The winner of the dinner for two at the Central Plaza Hotel is Glen Pendry and the winners of the Traveller magazine subscription donated by Quest Media are Nick Thwaites and T. Chaturan (Ja). All league winners and members who play all their games are eligible for these draws.

British Club wins comfortably against Vajiravudh College

The British Club played Vajiravudh College on 28 November 1998. The results served to highlight the current depth of squash at the British Club; only Peter Corney and Tony Perkovic lost, both to high quality younger opponents. The relative newcomers to the club, David Eastgate, Nick Thwaites and Ian Walton, showed their quality in easily disposing of their opponents. The old stalwarts, Dick, T. Chaturan (Ja), Marc and Tom, had a

clean sweep of 3-0 matches. The final result was an easy win for the British Club, seven matches to two.

Tony Austin Cup

The final of the Tony Austin Cup was contested by David Eastgate, the new boy on the block, and the ever-frustrated Peter Corney. David played an excellent match and didn't really let Peter into the game. The score was 3-0, an easy and entertaining win for David for the 'Over 45s Cup'

Sunday mix-in - January

The Mercure Hotel January Sunday mix-in was held on the 3rd. There were only 6 participants with Chris Platt winning on the day.

For new club members, this is always an enjoyable afternoon with all standards of players most welcome. Prizes, drinks and cats are provided on completion.

Sunday mix-in - February

There were 7 starters for the 7th February mix-in with David Eastgate narrowly defeating his wife Linda. David received a bottle of white wine and a more severe handicap for his troubles. Linda doesn't drink so David is looking for someone to share the wine with. Marvyn Lewis suggested he should share it with him - I'm

not sure what is going on there. Peter Corney was last again, and has promised himself a less severe handicap next time. It was a most pleasant afternoon and hopefully we will see many more participants for the March mix-in with the Squash Section AGM being held on completion.

Future Events

The Harold Mercer Team competition will be in progress when this edition hits the streets and the Dunlop Intersociety Tournament (one day handicap team event) will be held on Sunday, 16th May.

WWW Squash Site

While surfing the web for additional information for this article, I came across 1206 web sites for squash. I looked at a few over many hours and came across the following site which sells videos of games on the international squash circuit, videos on how to improve your squash by Jansher Kahn, and books on rules and other miscellaneous titles. The site is at www.squashplayer.co.uk for those die-hard squash fans and web surfers.

If you have any suggestions or would like to suggest some topics for inclusion in this squash section of *Outpost*, please give me a call (tel: 258 1947).

Melissa Perkovic

THAICRAFT SALE

Help Support the Artisan Groups

Saturday, 13 March, 1999

10am - 1pm

Landmark Plaza

138 Sukhumvit Road

Contact: Thaicraft 714 2133

HELP THE HANDICAPPED

Charity sale of fine, original paintings

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**Lobby of Lake Rachada Office Complex
Rachadapisek Road, Klong Toey
(ends 12 March 1999)**



A spirited performance in Manila

The British Club Veterans (Over 40s) Squad put up an extremely spirited performance in the Manila Nomads Tournament on 20/21 February 1999.



3rd International Veterans Football Tournament, Manila

- 6 Martin Conisbee - Injury victim and dishonorable treasurer
- 7 Andy Lazenby - Superstar and medal winner on the dance floor
- 8 Ian Whyte - No more penalties please Ian!
- 9 Ian Constantine - A fit and welcome guest from Manila
- 10 Howard Neville - Old BC boy helping out tremendously
- 11 Jim Boyd - Stirling defence for BC, past and present
- 12 Greg Solomon - Voted BC man of the tournament - awesome!

In the first match against Nomads Oldies, the BC totally dictated the play, only to go down 1-0 when the Nomads grabbed a scrappy goal in the closing stages.

Next we took on Serangoon Gardens from Singapore (the eventual winners of the tournament) and again dominated the play, going ahead 1-0 through Steve Duckworth. Serangoon equalised with a spectacular free kick, their only real goal attempt, and the game finished 1-1.

In the third match on Saturday, we were held to a 0-0 scoreline by the Malay Grasshoppers after once again having total control of the game.

Unfortunately the one defeat prevented our progress to the semi-finals so on Sunday we took on the Hong Kong Swiss for the right to claim 5th place.

Incredibly BC again controlled the game but could not score, efforts from Alan Sherrard going so close. In an epic penalty shoot-out the BC went down 10-9 after having two chances to clinch the game. Our goalkeeper, Keith Brooks, brought off two great saves to keep us in with a chance. In the Vets final, Serangoon Gardens were victorious over Nomads Oldies.

This was the best performance by a BC squad for some time and the results certainly did not reflect the skill and effort which the team applied in all games.

A special mention for Andy Lazenby who also guested for the Barnstoneworth Club from Hong Kong in the Over 35s competition and went all the way to victory in the final. Will he ever take that medal off?!

A rundown on the squad:

- 1 Alex Forbes - Leader of the seven dwarfs on his knees
- 2 Alan Sherrard - Our "wing back" extraordinaire
- 3 Steve Duckworth - A real veteran before his time
- 4 Frank Jolly - Resident singer, cocktail maker and Scrooge
- 5 Keith Brooks - They shall not pass, well only twice

Martin Conisbee

RECLAIM TAXES PAID ON UK INCOME

Did you know that UK non-residents may be entitled to claim tax rebates on UK income which is taxed at source, including tax credits on share dividend payments? Claims can be made for the preceding 6 years.

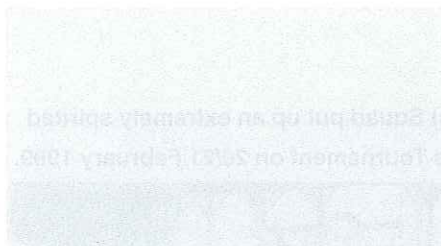
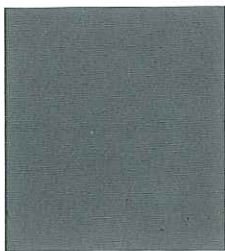
A UK Certified Accountant is available to prepare tax rebate claims for UK taxes for a modest fee.

If you think you may be eligible and would like to find out more, please contact Peter Smith @ 271-4863 or pmslbi@mozart.inet.co.th

Calendar

British Club Sports and Entertainment Calendar - March 1999

Sunday



7

11 am-1 pm Badminton - Soi Nares
12-2 pm Sunday Carvery - Lords
3-6 pm Tennis Mix-In
5.30 pm Sunday Carvery - Lords
6-8 pm Happy Hour

1.00pm Squash Mix-In

Monday



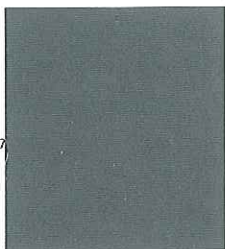
1

8.00 am BWG Mahjong
9.30 am Aerobics
6-8 pm Happy Hour
7-9 pm Tennis Team Training

8

8.00 am BWG Mahjong
9.30 am Aerobics
6-8 pm Happy Hour
7-9 pm Tennis Team Training

Tuesday



2

7 am Ladies Golf
8-10 am Ladies Tennis
10.30 am Aqua Aerobics
6-7 pm Masters (Adult) Swim Training
6-8 pm Happy Hour
7-9 pm Soccer Training
8-11 pm Friendly Bridge
9 pm Gentlemen's Spoof

9

7 am Ladies Golf
8-10 am Ladies Tennis
10.30 am Aqua Aerobics
6-7 pm Masters (Adult) Swim Training
6-8 pm Happy Hour
7-9 pm Soccer Training
8-11 pm Friendly Bridge
9 pm Gentlemen's Spoof

Wednes day



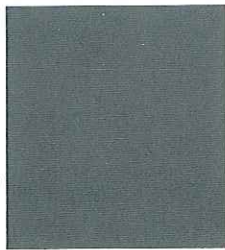
3

9.30 am Body Shaping
6-8 pm Happy Hour
6-9 pm Tennis Mix-In
6.30 pm Cricket Nets

10

9.30 am Body Shaping
6-8 pm Happy Hour
6-9 pm Tennis Mix-In
6.30 pm Cricket Nets

Thurs day



4

8-10 am Ladies Tennis
10.30 am Aqua Aerobics
6-7 pm Masters (Adult) Swim Training
6-8 pm Happy Hour
6-9 pm Squash Mix-In
7-9 pm Rugby Training
9-10 pm Hockey

11

8-10 am Ladies Tennis
10.30 am Aqua Aerobics
6-7 pm Masters (Adult) Swim Training
6-8 pm Happy Hour
6-9 pm Squash Mix-In
7-9 pm Rugby Training
9-10 pm Hockey

Friday



5

9.30 am Step Aerobics
3.30-9 pm BC Tennis Coaching (Tots - Adults)
5-7 pm Happy Hour! Churchill Bar
6-8 pm Happy Hour
6-9 pm Family BBQ
7 pm Social Darts

12

9.30 am Step Aerobics
3.30-9 pm BC Tennis Coaching (Tots - Adults)
5-7 pm Happy Hour! Churchill Bar
6-8 pm Happy Hour
6-9 pm Family BBQ
7 pm Social Darts

Satur day



6

9 am-12 am Squash Coaching
9 am-1 pm BC Swimming Coaching
4.30 pm Casuals Football - Soi 15
6-8 pm Happy Hour
6-9 pm Family BBQ

13

9 am-12 am Squash Coaching
9 am-1 pm BC Swimming Coaching
4.30 pm Casuals Football - Soi 15
6-8 pm Happy Hour
6-9 pm Family BBQ

10.00 Golf - Bernie's Bowl, Vintage

Don't Forget !!

- The BC Annual General Meeting, 7pm, 30 March
- Easter Egg Hunt, Sunday 4th April (watch for details).
- New Members Golf Day, Vintage, 6th April
- Songkran! Sign up for an evening of poolside fun on 15th April. Details will appear shortly.
- Happy Hour, every evening from 6-8pm

14

11 am-1 pm Badminton - Soi Nares
12-2 pm Sunday Carvery - Lords
3-6 pm Tennis Mix-In
5.30 pm Sunday Carvery - Lords
6-8 pm Happy Hour

21

11 am-1 pm Badminton - Soi Nares
12-2 pm Sunday Carvery - Lords
3-6 pm Tennis Mix-In
5.30 pm Sunday Carvery - Lords
6-8 pm Happy Hour

BC Dunlop Tennis Championship Finals

28

11 am-1 pm Badminton - Soi Nares
12-2 pm Sunday Carvery - Lords
3-6 pm Tennis Mix-In
5.30 pm Sunday Carvery - Lords
6-8 pm Happy Hour

9am Swimming Gala

11.30am Golf, Green Valley Bang Na

15

8.00 am BWG Mahjong
9.30 am Aerobics
6-8 pm Happy Hour
7-9 pm Tennis Team Training

22

8.00 am BWG Mahjong
9.30 am Aerobics
6-8 pm Happy Hour
7-9 pm Tennis Team Training

29

8.00 am BWG Mahjong
9.30 am Aerobics
6-8 pm Happy Hour
7-9 pm Tennis Team Training

16

7 am Ladies Golf
8-10 am Ladies Tennis
10.30 am Aqua Aerobics
6-7 pm Masters (Adult) Swim Training
6-8 pm Happy Hour
7-9 pm Soccer Training
8-11 pm Friendly Bridge
9 pm Gentlemen's Spoof

23

7 am Ladies Golf
8-10 am Ladies Tennis
10.30 am Aqua Aerobics
6-7 pm Masters (Adult) Swim Training
6-8 pm Happy Hour
7-9 pm Soccer Training
8-11 pm Friendly Bridge
9 pm Gentlemen's Spoof

30

7 am Ladies Golf
8-10 am Ladies Tennis
10.30 am Aqua Aerobics
6-7 pm Masters (Adult) Swim Training
6-8 pm Happy Hour
7-9 pm Soccer Training
8-11 pm Friendly Bridge
9 pm Gentlemen's Spoof

7pm BC Annual General Meeting

17

9.30 am Body Shaping
6-8 pm Happy Hour
6-9 pm Tennis Mix-In
6.30 pm Cricket Nets

24

9.30 am Body Shaping
6-8 pm Happy Hour
6-9 pm Tennis Mix-In
6.30 pm Cricket Nets

31

9.30 am Body Shaping
6-8 pm Happy Hour
6-9 pm Tennis Mix-In
6.30 pm Cricket Nets

18

8-10 am Ladies Tennis
10.30 am Aqua Aerobics
6-7 pm Masters (Adult) Swim Training
6-8 pm Happy Hour
6-9 pm Squash Mix-In
7-9 pm Rugby Training
9-10 pm Hockey

25

8-10 am Ladies Tennis
10.30 am Aqua Aerobics
6-7 pm Masters (Adult) Swim Training
6-8 pm Happy Hour
6-9 pm Squash Mix-In
7-9 pm Rugby Training
9-10 pm Hockey

7.30pm BCT Dinner Theatre

Venues

Soi 15	NIST grounds
Soi Nares	Behind Bangrak Police Station
Aerobics	Surawongse Room
Golf	As advertised

19

9.30 am Step Aerobics
3.30-9 pm BC Tennis Coaching (Tots - Adults)
5-7 pm Happy Hour! Churchill Bar
6-8 pm Happy Hour
6-9 pm Family BBQ
7 pm Social Darts

7-8pm Wine Tasting

26

9.30 am Step Aerobics
3.30-9 pm BC Tennis Coaching (Tots - Adults)
5-7 pm Happy Hour! Churchill Bar
6-8 pm Happy Hour
6-9 pm Family BBQ
7 pm Social Darts

7.30pm BCT Dinner Theatre

Opening Times

10 am-11 pm	Churchill Bar
11.30 am-2 pm	Lords Restaurant (Lunch)
6-10 pm	Lords Restaurant (Dinner)
7.30 am-10 pm	Poolside Bar
6 am-9 pm	Fitness Centre (Mon- Sat)
9 am-9 pm	Fitness Centre (Sun/Hols)
9 am-5 pm	Thai Massage (Tues-Sun)

20

9 am-12 am Squash Coaching
9 am-1 pm BC Swimming Coaching
4.30 pm Casuals Football - Soi 15
6-8 pm Happy Hour
6-9 pm Family BBQ

7.30am Johnnie Walker vs Golfer's Lounge
Bang Poo**27**

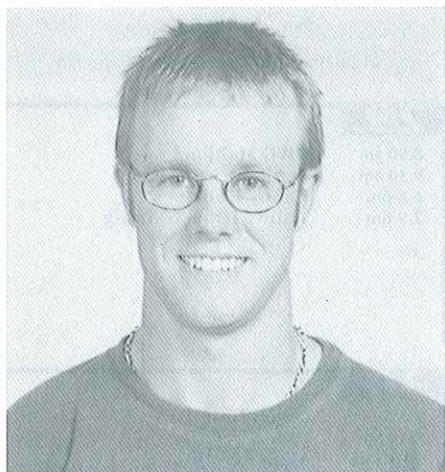
9 am-12 am Squash Coaching
9 am-1 pm BC Swimming Coaching
4.30 pm Casuals Football - Soi 15
6-8 pm Happy Hour
6-9 pm Family BBQ

7.30pm BCT Dinner Theatre

Sports - Contact the following:

Aquatics	Liz Beal	262-9351
Badminton	Anant Leighrahathorn	654-0002-29
Cricket	Nick White	246-0832
Football	Matt Duke	545-5555
Golf	Bernie Adams	861-0608
Rugby	Jon Prichard	662-6376
Scuba	Peter Gary	634-7792
Squash	Peter Corney	381-7240
Tennis	David Blowers	285-4721-2

It has now been one month that I have been part of the British Club team. For me, this has been a time full of learning and getting to know people.



Damon Nemish - SRC

I would like to pass on a few things that **you** may not know about your Club; some will be old news but others may surprise you.

Bridge

Did you know that we have a solid bridge group that plays every Tuesday evening in the Churchill Bar? This would be a great opportunity to come down and check out the Happy Hour from 6-8pm and then hang around for some friendly bridge.

Please contact the following for more information:

Primary contact:

Mr. Ernest Lee Tel: 245 1112 ext 703

Secondary contact:

Mr. Michael Alley Tel: 561 1117 (office)

Tertiary contact:

Mr. Bob Pember Tel: 288 1784 (office)
234 2301 (home)

Snooker - does anyone play?

"Snooker?" you say, "where's that?" ... Well, we have two fantastic snooker tables in the room next to the reception area which receive very little usage. This excellent, long-time section has lost many of its members over the past 2 years and would benefit from new blood. For information please contact Damon at the British Club or Gavin Broad (tel: 656 8378-9).

Badminton

This small, but efficient and dedicated section meets every Sunday at the Suriwongse Sala at 10.45am for the short walk over to the courts for some sweat and fun. With a good variety of talented players and beginners, they are a great group and the mix-in is well run with everyone getting to play everyone else. For information please contact Barry or Wanna Whittaker (tel: 321 4599) or Khun Anant (tel: 654 0002-29).

Aquatics

This section contains a small membership but it is on the rise.

The inaugural Inter-club Swimming Gala went off very well (an article and pictures can be found in the Aquatics section). ISB was victorious, defeating the BC in the team competition. We did, however, have a great showing from all of our swimmers. I will take this opportunity to mention that most of our swimmers swim only once a week (if that, right Jessica?) while the ISB team is well organised and some of them swim almost every day, so our team deserves a round of applause from all. If we ever want to defeat ISB, could I suggest a Tuesday night squad session in addition to the current Friday?

Special thanks to the Aquatic section (Liz, Marilyn, Janet, and of course the ISB and BC team coach, Rosemary). Thanks to all the parents who helped out as we could not have done it without them. The pool was so clean on Monday at 6.30am - yes, I was swimming at that time - that the pool and Sala staff also deserve a special thanks.

Well done to all!

Note we will be having our next swim gala on 28th March. We have not decided whether it will be a BC only or an inter-club (I have St. John's on the hit list).

Masters Swimming

This is a great way to get back into, or improve on your swimming. We have a variety of abilities and all have fun (there is serious work involved also). The workouts are tailored so that different abilities can swim together. I run the workouts and do stroke correction as we go. If swimming has been something you have wanted to do or used to do, now is your chance to join us Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6-7pm. If you come a bit early or late, no problem, we will work you in.

Tennis

The junior tennis instruction from Sport Universe has been a great success, making Friday nights a wonderfully chaotic blend of fun and learning. It is great to see all the kids (and adults too!) involved and happy. A great job by the BC tennis team who defeated the Japanese Club, with super organisation by "Captain" Bruce Gordon.

Aerobics

By the time you read this, we will have a new instructor for the Wednesday morning classes, with Khun Irene taking on the Monday and Friday morning classes. Do we have any takers for an evening class? Please contact Damon at the BC Fitness Centre if you are interested or have questions.

Triathlon Section?

Not yet, but we did have a number of BC members trying their hand at the Ironman Triathlon in Hua Hin on Sunday, 24th January (copyright is certainly dead in Thailand). Committee member, Peter Bond, and John Pollard took on the long course (1500m swim, 40km bike and 10km run). By their side was our trusty aqua-aerobics instructor, Khun Kiki, and her husband, while Liz Beal, John Casella, Bon (I'm sorry I forgot your last name!) and I attacked the shorter race (750m swim, 20km bike and 5km run).

The swim was somewhat confusing as we all started together and I finished the 750m swim first but only 20 seconds ahead of the first 1500m swimmer, who is fast but (figure it out) not that fast! The rest of the course was well marked and organised and everyone had a great race. How things unfolded...

The Short Race

Congratulations to Khun Liz, who was the first overall female to finish (note: this was her first triathlon ever). Great job, Liz. Khun Bon also placed and John had a great race finishing with a smile (did you get a trophy too?). John also completed the famed Phuket Triathlon last year, which is a great notch for anyone's belt. I won the short race and was therefore allowed to take pictures of, and cheer for, everyone else. Many people asked me why I did the short race when I could have done the long one. My answer, which befuddled most, was simply, "because I wanted to!". Maybe I should have said, "I wanted to witness all the red faces finishing in the heat of the morning while I've been done for a good while and had copious amounts of cold water poured in my belly while sitting in the shade". Perhaps they would have understood that better.

The Long Race

I have pictures to prove to any doubters that Peter "Speedy" Bond does this type of thing (and well too). He finished in style, with a trophy and a new watch, happy that he hadn't fallen off his bike again. Whoops, I forgot, he did fall off his bike so I guess he was happy for another reason (maybe it was the free watch!). All kidding aside, great race Peter. Khun Kiki finished saying that she didn't have fun but was overhead later asking "when is the next one?". Well done Kiki. John Pollard finished strongly with a good run and a trophy, but could not quite catch his Nemesis ... the other John. The day was good fun and with many keen first timers and a good solid group, we may

just have the beginnings of a Triathlon Section. This sport is my speciality, so if anyone has any questions regarding training or how to do it, just let me know. I can get you on your way to completing an Olympic distance triathlon in 45mins-1 hour, 4-5 days per week with one 2-hour day. Not possible? Just give me the chance to prove that in less time than you spend watching TV or driving to and from work, you will be able to say you did a triathlon.

The Fitness Centre - a cure for weight trouble and injury

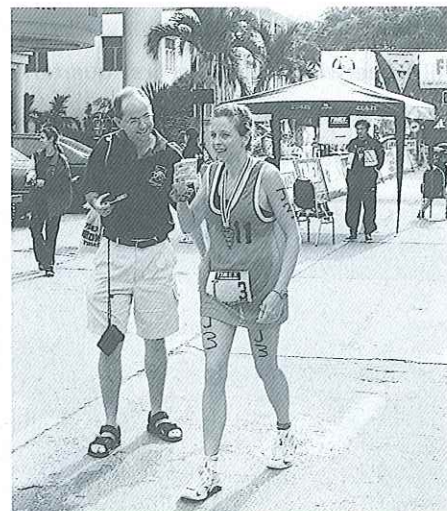
At first glance you may think this is just a sales tactic but, in all honesty, weight training if done properly will help you lose weight and prevent injury. Let me explain.

Injury Prevention

Most injuries occur from overuse or pulls and strains. The overuse injury is caused simply by doing the same thing over and over again, thereby tiring or breaking down the muscle to the point of it swelling and tearing (painful). These injuries are treated with rest, i.e. no more tennis until it has healed - which is bad news, right? Simply put, if your muscle is stronger then it takes longer to tire it out or break it down. Trust me when I say that most sports are endurance-based and not strength-based which means that they break down the muscle not build it up. This includes tennis, squash, swimming, running, etc. The second type of injury is the pulled or strained muscle or joint which happens by overdoing it in some form or another. A stronger muscle will sustain more stress and therefore for a pull or strain to occur you would need a great amount of pressure. Your joints will also thank you for weight training as it focuses on both muscles and tendons which support the joints.

Weights for weight loss

Okay, I fudged this statement a bit as it should read FAT LOSS, but this is what you really want to lose anyway. How will



Liz Beal just after winning the short triathlon

weights help? To put it very simply the larger the muscle is, the more energy it will burn when completing a task. This means that you will burn more calories doing the same activity if you have more muscle mass. We all know that fat loss in its simplest equation is: calories in must be less than calories out (or used). Therefore anything that helps burn calories will be beneficial to the cause of fat loss.

At the BC fitness centre we can build you a specific training programme tailored to your goals and show you how to use the machines and free weights properly. This programme can take as little as 30-45 minutes, twice a week, and you will be well on your way to losing fat and gaining precious, injury-preventing muscle.

See you at the Fitness Centre.

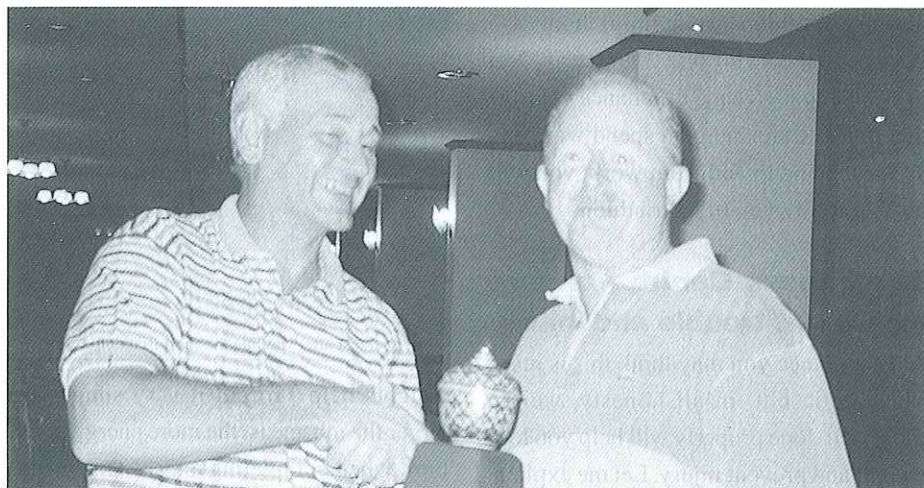
Damon Nemish



Champions!

You're Cut!

All three winners of the first quarterly medal of 1999 turned in some stunning scores at the Royal Lad Krabang course. Competition was particularly fierce in Flight B with everyone playing below handicap.



1998 Flight A Medal Winner Peter Williams

Net scores were as follows:

Flight A	Bernie Adams	71 points
Flight B	Gareth Sampson	65 points
Flight C	Guy Snow	65 points
Well done everybody and please note Dougal!		

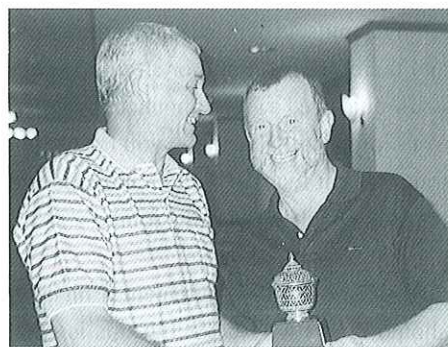
Club Championship

There was a good turnout for the Club Championship played over two Sundays at the Khow Kheow course. The course was challenging with the greens playing as fast as usual. Four people proved their mettle emerging eventual winners. Congratulations to the Men's and Ladies' Club Champions - James Young and Sriwan Forrest. Sriwan played exceptionally well on the second day achieving a net score of 63. Congratulations also to the Men's and Ladies' Net Club Champions - Peter Ford and Joom White. They deserve special mention as Peter only had his second hip replacement just before Christmas and

Joom only started playing golf a few weeks before last year's championship. They give hope to golfers everywhere. But if you are thinking of taking up the sport, don't read the following...

Tin Cup

They say that golf is a mental game and I am obviously a basket case. The 17th at Khow Kheow is a par 3 island green and on the first day of the Championship I managed to put 11 balls in the water scoring a stunning 25. This was after playing my best front nine ever. Unperturbed I returned on the second day



1998 Flight B Medal Winner Peter Bond

approaching the 17th with some trepidation but confident that I would crack it this time. There was quite a gallery and the ball collectors in the water were out in numbers with anticipation that on this day they could retire on the profits to be made from fishing for my balls. They weren't wrong ... déjà vu ... Groundhog Day! So it's off to see the Golf Psychiatrist and please, please can we change the venue for next year.

Weekend Golf Tips

- When chipping from the fringe, stand close to the ball. Play it off your right toe with your feet close together. When making the stroke pretend that you're chipping the ball under a bench.
- Here's a helpful image for getting out of the sand. Think of the sand as a slab of cheese under the ball. Take a thick slice for a short, high shot. For longer shots, cut a thinner slice by moving the clubface closer to the square.
- For better putting control, especially those three foot knee-knockers, shorten your backswing. Take the putter back just far enough to gain the needed momentum. Try to make your follow-through twice as long as your back swing.
- To help you align the ball on the proper target line, step behind the ball before you hit, pick out a spot three or four feet in



Nick White and Pat Dean bonding



front of your ball that is on the same line and then parallel yourself up to that spot.

Next Outings

Please also check the listings on the Club noticeboard.

Saturday, 13th March at 10.00 am, Vintage - Bernie's Bowl

Saturday, 20th March at 7.30am, Bang Poo - Friendly Johnnie Walker vs Golfer's Cocktail Lounge

Sunday, 28th March at 11.30am, Green Valley Bang Na - Match vs Wanderers

Tuesday, 6th April at 11.00 am at Vintage - New Member's Day.

Karen Carter



Ladies' Club Champion Sriwan Forrest posing with rivals Tania Brindley and Linda Young



Net Club Champion Peter Ford



Men's Club Champion James Young



Joom White overcome with emotion

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The February Gala - what a day!

Our first Interclub Gala ran smoothly with lots of parent helpers from both the British Club and ISB. A BIG thank you to all who helped on the day.

We were lucky to have some very experienced and qualified helpers in our starter, Peter, new to Bangkok and ISB; Sally as stroke/turn judge with husband as a timer; and Michelle (BC) and Karen (ISB) who kept the records while Steve kept the day running smoothly as announcer. A special note of thanks to Michelle and Steve Law - in between record keeping and announcing, they managed to balance babies and encourage family competitors. Our children cheered for their teams with great enthusiasm. The records show some very close races that built up the excitement. Trophy points were taken and every child contributed to their team score no matter which place they came. By the end of the day ISB had secured the trophy but not without some fair competition and lots of fun. The final team scores were BC 315, ISB 450. We look forward to meeting up with them again!

Liz Beal

February Gala Results

Girls 13 and Over

50m Freestyle

- 1st Jessica Beal (BC)

50m Breaststroke

- 1st Jessica Beal (BC)

50m Butterfly

- 1st Jessica Beal (BC)

50m Backstroke

- 1st Jessica Beal (BC)

IM Medley

- 1st Jessica Beal (BC)

Girls 11-12 Years

50m Freestyle

- 1st Aislynn Raymond
2nd Lauren Fieldus (BC)
3rd Carly Young (BC)

50m Breaststroke

- 1st Aislynn Raymond
2nd Lauren Fieldus (BC)
3rd Carly Young (BC)

50m Butterfly

- 1st Aislynn Raymond
2nd Lauren Fieldus (BC)
3rd Carly Young (BC)

50m Backstroke

- 1st Aislynn Raymond
2nd Lauren Fieldus (BC)
3rd Carly Young (BC)

IM Medley

- 1st Aislynn Raymond
2nd Lauren Fieldus (BC)

Girls 9-10 Years

50m Freestyle

- 1st Anastasia
2nd Lauren Mann (BC)
3rd Hannah Bennett

25m Freestyle

- 1st Meghan Hollister
2nd Tue Sowaprox
3rd Konstantina Passadis

50m Breaststroke

- 1st Hannah Skop
2nd Hannah Bennett
3rd Anastasia

25m Breaststroke

- 1st Rebecca Clarke (BC)
2nd Meghan Osselburn
3rd Konstantina Passadis

25m Butterfly

- 1st Joanna Kiser (BC)
2nd Lauren Mann (BC)
3rd Hannah Bennett

50m Backstroke

- 1st Anastasia
2nd Hannah Skop
3rd Hannah Bennett

25m Backstroke

- 1st Rebecca Clarke (BC)
2nd Joanna Kiser (BC)
3rd Konstantina Passadis

IM Medley

- 1st Anastasia
2nd Hannah Bennett
3rd Hannah Skop

Girls 7-8 Years

25m Freestyle

- 1st Annie Lamson
2nd Kelsey Moffatt (BC)
3rd Nina Jiaravanon

25m Breaststroke

- 1st Annie Lamson
2nd Kelsey Moffatt (BC)
3rd Allison Downey

25m Butterfly

- 1st Nina Jiaravanon
2nd Annie Lamson
3rd Kelsey Moffatt (BC)

25m Backstroke

- 1st Annie Lamson
2nd Kelsey Moffatt (BC)
3rd Shannon Barber

IM Medley

- 1st Annie Lamson
2nd Nina Jiaravanon
3rd Kelsey Moffatt (BC)

Girls 5-6 Years

25m Freestyle

- 1st Samantha Kiser (BC)
2nd Iris VanHeyden
3rd Rebecca Muldoon (BC)

25m Breaststroke

- 1st Samantha Kiser (BC)
2nd Rebecca Muldoon (BC)
3rd Olivia Johnson (BC)

25m Butterfly

- 1st Samantha Kiser (BC)
2nd Rebecca Muldoon (BC)
3rd Iris VanHeyden

25m Backstroke

- 1st Samantha Kiser (BC)
2nd Iris VanHeyden
3rd Rebecca Muldoon (BC)

Boys 13 & Over

50m Freestyle

- 1st Gareth Newman
2nd Isadoris Passadis
3rd Jack Treloar

50m Breaststroke

- 1st Gareth Newman
2nd Isadoris Passadis
3rd Jack Treloar

50m Butterfly

- 1st Jack Treloar
2nd Isadoris Passadis
3rd Gareth Newman

50m Backstroke

- 1st Gareth Newman
2nd Jack Treloar
3rd Isadoris Passadis

IM Medley

- 1st Gareth Newman
2nd Jack Treloar
3rd Isadoris Passadis

Continued on page 25



Flashbacks to the February Gala

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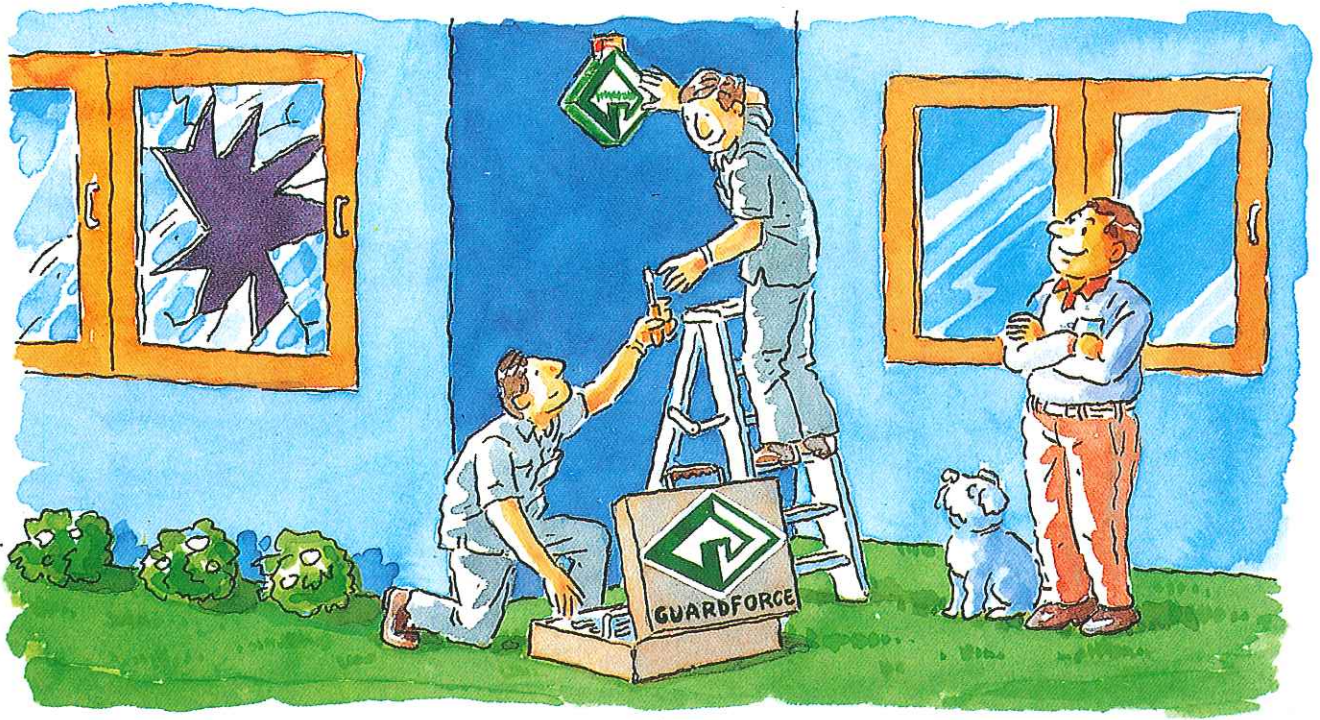
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Swimming Gala Results, Continued

Boys 11-12 Years

50m Freestyle

- 1st James Thomas
- 2nd Chris Muldoon (BC)
- 3rd Max Kiser (BC)

50m Breaststroke

- 1st James Thomas
- 2nd Chris Muldoon (BC)
- 3rd Max Kiser (BC)

50m Butterfly

- 1st James Thomas
- 2nd Christopher Muldoon (BC)
- 3rd Max Kiser (BC)

50m Backstroke

- 1st Christopher Muldoon (BC)
- 2nd James Thomas
- 3rd Max Kiser (BC)

IM Medley

- 1st James Thomas
- 2nd Chris Muldoon (BC)
- 3rd Max Kiser (BC)

Boys 9-10 Years

50m Freestyle

- 1st Douglas Eden
- 2nd Woody Lamson
- 3rd Steven Muldoon (BC)

25m Freestyle

- 1st Kevin Chen
- 2nd Vorachit
- 3rd Battiespe Altier

50m Breaststroke

- 1st Douglas Eden
- 2nd Woody Lamson
- 3rd Adam Yousri

25m Breaststroke

- 1st Vorachit
- 2nd Kevin Chen
- 3rd Battiespe Altier (BC)

50m Butterfly

- 1st Douglas Eden
- 2nd Woody Lamson
- 3rd Adam Yousri

25m Butterfly

- 1st Natee Amornsiripanitch
- 2nd Vorachit
- 3rd Pruek Puthipakorn

50m Backstroke

- 1st Woody Lamson
- 2nd Adam Yousri
- 3rd Steven Muldoon (BC)

25m Backstroke

- 1st Kevin Chen
- 2nd William Scott (BC)
- 3rd Vorachit

IM Medley

- 1st Woody Lamson
- 2nd Douglas Eden
- 3rd Adam Yousri

Boys 7-8 Years

25m Freestyle

- 1st Ben Richardson
- 2nd Sean Lima
- 3rd Yehvin Tissera (BC)

25m Breaststroke

- 1st Sean Lima
- 2nd Ben Richardson
- 3rd Christopher Fieldus (BC)

25m Butterfly

- 1st Christopher Fieldus (BC)
- 2nd Ben Richardson
- 3rd Sean Lima

25m Backstroke

- 1st Sean Lima
- 2nd Ben Richardson
- 3rd Yehvin Tissera (BC)

IM Medley

- 1st Ben Richardson
- 2nd Sean Lima
- 3rd Christopher Fieldus (BC)

Boys 5-6 Years

25m Freestyle

- 1st Joe Kaewbaidhoon
- 2nd Nicholas Law (BC)
- 3rd Alun Simpson (BC)

25m Breaststroke

- 1st Joe Kaewbaidhoon
- 2nd Alun Simpson (BC)
- 3rd Nicholas Law (BC)

25m Butterfly

- 1st Joe Kaewbaidhoon
- 2nd Cameron Moffatt (BC)
- 3rd Nicholas Law (BC)

25m Backstroke

- 1st Joe Kaewbaidhoon
- 2nd Cameron Moffatt (BC)
- 3rd Paul Richardson

IM Medley

- 1st Joe Kaewbaidhoon
- 2nd Cameron Moffatt (BC)
- 3rd Nicholas Law (BC)

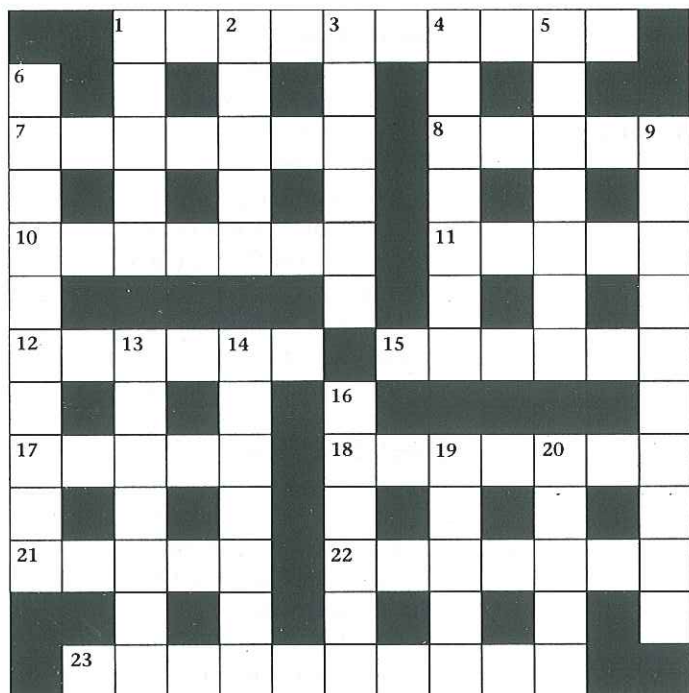


Farewells

Wishing a fond farewell to these members and their families who departed the Club in January: Alan Dean, Kevin Moss, Brian Sheehan, Robert Hetherington.

And to Absent Members: Alastair Macdonald, Simon Thomson, Anthony Catto, Richard Middleton, Thulika Wijeratne, John Bevan, Tim Balbirnie and Mark Easton.

Clueless with nothing much to do?



Well, grab a chair by the pool and complete a couple of mental laps with this Crossword.

Clues

Across

- 1 Whisky is often served like this in the USA... (2,3,5)
- 7 and apple pie like this (1,2,4)
- 8 A run not scored off the bat
- 10 The way- i.e. S-East- is the least difficult to find!
- 11 A watery discharge
- 12 Just hordes ... of bees?
- 15 Creamy drink popular at Yuletide (3,3)
- 17 Of eye or sight
- 18 Coleridge's Mariner was
- 21 "His wit makes such a wound the _____ is lost in it" (P.B. Shelley)
- 22 Tasty Italian dish
- 23 The two youngest sisters in "Little Women" (L.M. Alcott) (4,3,3)

Down

- 1 Birthstones of those born under the sign of Libra
- 2 Not these!
- 3 "I confess that _____ have sometimes controlled me." (Abraham Lincoln)
- 4 "It is always _____ time in the Sailor's Arms." (Dylan Thomas)
- 5 They say it is the heart of every home
- 6 The shopkeeper does- and maybe the burglar too! (5,5)
- 9 If he's top of the class he's this! (1,5,3)
- 13 I'd a rest - yes - on a horse!
- 14 "I heard a voice cry, _____ doth murder sleep." (Shakespeare)
- 16 One who is a champion
- 19 _____ Brava, Del Sol or Geriatrica?
- 20 Just the way in

February's Solution

Q	U	A	K	E	R		B	L	O	W	U	P
U		N		V	S		O		R			R
E	A	G	L	E	T		T	R	E	V	I	
E		L		R	O	A	S	T		S		N
N	E	E	D	Y		F		O	P	T	I	C
V			R		A	F	T	A				E
I	G	L	O	O	S		R	U	S	T	I	C
C			N		K	E	Y		T			H
T	R	I	E	S		N		M	E	D	I	A
O		V		A	I	S	L	E		R		R
R	O	O	S	T		U		T	R	A	I	L
I		R		A		E		A		M		E
A	N	Y	O	N	E		P	L	E	A	T	S

Something is not quite right ...

"The price of freedom is constant vigilance"... a truism if ever there was one. Another way of advising someone to keep looking over their shoulder. Our British Club, overall, is doing fine, but something is not quite right and nobody is taking any notice.

As a 'Club' we are a very 'British' tradition, and having been here on Suriwongse Road for close to one hundred years, if we are able to we will certainly be here for another one hundred years.

What is important to us members, is never to lose sight of the purpose for which we have this club. It is not to provide us with a place to get away from the 'locals' and hang around with our fellow 'Brits' - heaven forbid! But having said that, that is what it was like way back in the darker ages of this establishment, as I was informed in the early fifties by an old British Chartered Surveyor who came here, to 'Siam', in 1906.

Members' Club or Community Centre?

So, to support my observation, looking over my shoulder that is, I would quote a letter published in *Outpost*, July 1998, by Mr. Mike Lamb, at that time the Vice-Chairman of this Club, under the title 'Member's Club or Community Centre?' "The British Club of Bangkok is a private club, of which the facilities and services are for the convenience and pleasure of the members. These members pay a joining fee and a monthly subscription, which is the mainstay of the Club's viability. Typically such clubs rely heavily on monthly subs for guaranteed recurring revenue to cover expenses, and on joining fees to provide cash for capital investment. Food and beverage (F&B) can then be offered at very competitive rates as a service to members, not as a primary source of profit."

Good old Mike, he then goes on to point out that a Community Centre, with no joining fees or subs to be paid, must operate on a profit basis. His argument being of course that we are a 'Private Members Club' and not a 'Community Centre', so let us not lose sight of this fact.

We all accept that extra fees must be charged to members, for the use of the Tennis Courts the Squash Courts, etc. There are upkeep and maintenance costs, so the users pay. We are a 'Private Members Club' so our purpose is not to chalk up large profits. The British

Club buys a small bottle of beer for less than thirty baht, so why are we charged sixty-five baht for it? That is a profit of over 100%. Whoever is responsible for such a shocking example of shameless ineptitude should be escorted to either the Suriwongse or the Silom gate. There are bars in Patpong which think only of 'profit' which are selling a small glass of beer for Baht 60.

How many other items are being subjected to these scandalous acts of profiteering? It sabotages the very purpose, reason, character, of this, our British Club. As a long time member remarked to me a short while ago, if this carries on we will have to change our name to 'The Suriwongse Recreation Club' or, as Mike would say, 'Community Centre' because this is exactly what we are becoming.

Losing control of the finances

It would seem that we have lost control of the financing of this Club. Is the British Club for the members, or the members for the British Club? If we have to pay a mark-up of over 100% in the F&B department to at least break even with the cost of running this Club, then the situation is out of control. It is no use members of the committee bragging that we, as a Club, are at long last out of debt. Sure, it is wonderful but we are spending money to a point whereby we have lost the advantages of being a 'Private Members Club'.

Our biggest expense by far, of course, is staff salaries, which includes THREE, well paid, thank you very much, ex-patriates, something we have never needed or could afford and still be able to maintain the purpose for which we have had this Club over the past one hundred years.

If we have a problem recruiting new members, it's our own fault. To have to pay a substantial entry fee, and monthly subs on top of that, a person would be looking at the advantages of becoming a member. Of course the British Club has a lot to offer, but at the top of the list 'Food and Beverage' is the first consideration, regardless of whether a person plays 'sports' or not.

Change the way our Club is run

Cut the cost of running this Club. No more capital outlays without membership being asked to voice an

opinion. No more ex-patriate members of the staff. We cannot afford them, and never have been able to. There are plenty of good local men or women capable of being full time managers of this Club. They would do a better job, because being bilingual, and understanding the local people, would be a tremendous advantage. We do not need to pay an outside 'Guard Company' for security. We have always had our own guards in the past, no problems, many advantages, providing we have a competent General Manager, but we have had the good and the bad in the past. Nobody said it is going to be easy. I would earnestly suggest that we do away with the 'Committee' system. I was a member of a club in London that did not have a committee. A chairman was elected/re-elected every year by the members. I would suggest we do the same, but perhaps we should also elect a treasurer. The chairman would be expected to spend a lot of his time at the club so should receive a food and beverage allowance. The chairman would then ask what ever members were qualified to volunteer to handle a particular task. It may take them a month or even a year but they would be responsible to the members through the Chairman. Such members, of course, would not be members of a committee so the Chairman could recruit non-voting members as well. If a 'Them and Us' syndrome exists in this club, it would help to bring us closer together. The whole purpose is to reduce the cost of running this Club so that F&B can then be offered at very competitive rates, as a service to members, not as a primary source of profit. Achieve this, and we will not have to pay people to go out and solicit for membership. We will have a waiting list!

Abandon the Proxy

One last suggestion, if I may be so bold. We should do away with the 'Proxy' vote. If members are unable to attend an AGM or just cannot be bothered as seems to be the habit with most members, then they forfeit their vote. Over the past several years, we have hardly had a quorum at any meeting but the Churchill Bar, just downstairs, has been full of members!

Sincerely
James A. Reid (Rll)

Chairman's Reply

The above letter represents a view to which the holder is perfectly entitled. I would, however, say that this is not a view endorsed by the General Committee and I would be very interested to hear whether other members share some of the opinions expressed.

Some of the points expressed require comment, for example:

- The basis for costing F&B has not been changed for around 5 years. Increased prices represent increased costs. As most members appreciate, the last 18 months have been economically volatile.
- I have commented in this month's Chairman's Report on the financial situation. I would be surprised to hear a GC member bragging about our position. However, that's not to say it did not happen.

I am concerned that *Outpost* portrays a positive image of the BC. While it is only fair that concerns are expressed, a balanced argument is preferable.

James Young
Chairman of the General Committee

The day we went to Rayong

On 20th January, the BC staff packed their bucket and spades, donned hats and sun tan cream, and headed off on their annual jolly, this time to Rayong.



BC Spice Girls

On the coach journey down, the staff shifted into holiday mode and spirits were soaring by the time I met up with them on the coast, close to the island of Koh Samet. Throwing ourselves wholeheartedly into the fun and games organized by the Club's recreation staff, we took turns on jet skis, clung for dear life to banana boats, raced about in sacks and cheated atrociously at musical chairs - or at least I did!

Lunch on the beach was a splendid affair - delicious, relaxing and jovial - but all too soon it was time to vacate the deckchairs, load up the coach and return to Bangkok. A thoroughly enjoyable day was had by all, and the staff wish to thank the members for kindly allowing this party and for putting up with the inconvenience of having the Club closed for the day.

Tom Bain



Ere, find yer own chair!



OK, who forgot the sandwiches?!



Caught in the sack!



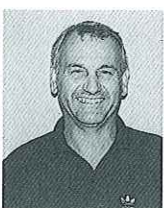
British Club General Committee



**James
Young**



**Nick
Bellamy**



**Bernie
Adams**



**Alex
Blackwood**



**Peter
Bond**



**Dugal
Forrest**



**Colin
Hastings**



**David
Henton**



**David
Turner**



**James
Woodford**



**Tom
Bain
General Manager**



**Barry
Osborne
Operations Manager**

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Colin Hastings	Food & Beverage	Tel: 237 8024	
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David Turner	Policies and Procedures	Tel: 618 6516	Fax: 279 1234
James Woodford	Security and Membership	Tel: 326 0660	Fax: 326 1123

Club Staff

If you have any questions about the British Club or if you have any suggestions, please call any of the Committee Members above or the General Manager on 234 0247, 266 4734 or 266 0597 or email us on <britclub@loxinfo.co.th>

Balinese Bounty

With my thoughts continually straying back to a fantastic holiday in Bali, it was a pleasure to relive the (more sombre) dining moments by concocting a variety of Balinese recipes for members to sample during the 12-14th February Balinese Food Festival in Lords Restaurant.



As the photographs prove, it turned out to be a great success with 84 members turning out to delight in the delicacies from Bali, such as Jakut Ares, Gendang Mekuah, Martabak, Rempah, Babi Guiling, Sate Lilit, to name but a few of the tasty dishes. To help capture the mood, all this was accompanied by large quantities of Bali Hai Beer and Arak and finished off with Bali Kopi. These names may conjure up nothing to those who have not had the good fortune to visit Bali, but believe me when I say that Bali is a gift for gourmets and hedonists alike.

The staff worked hard, as always, to ensure that members enjoyed a unique dining experience and they certainly dressed the part. Many thanks also to the **Indonesian Embassy** for supplying some of the decorations, and to the **Barang Barang Antik Shop** in Ploenchit for the Balinese antiques. And, of course, a special thanks to all the members who supported the event. Watch out for further planned promotions. Terima-Kashi - or bye for now!

Barry Osborne



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