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THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK



REPORTINGS

Chinese New Year
Old and New Members Night

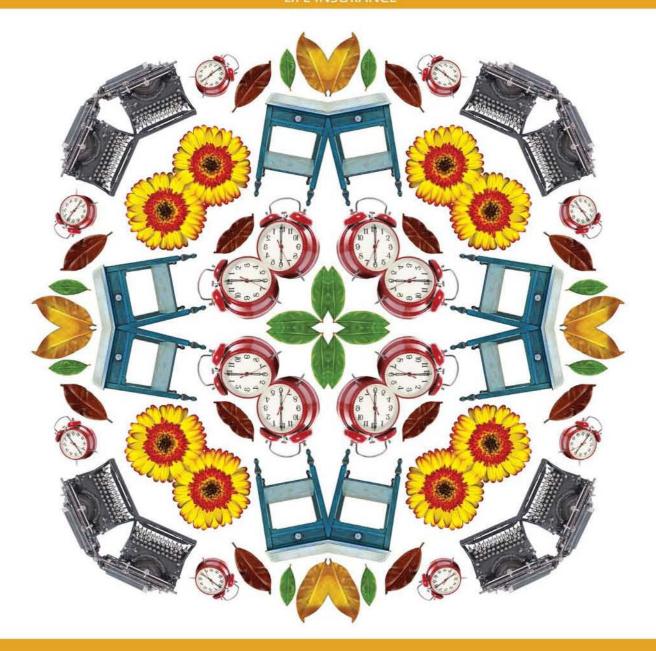
SPOTLIGHT

Message From The Chair

SCREENTIME

Monday Night Media Kids Movies





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FRONT COVER

First instituted in 1904 by Lord Meath as Empire Day, and later changed to Commonwealth Day in 1958, the holiday is held annually on the second Monday in March. The Commonwealth of Nations is today comprised of 54 independent member states, and even as the memory of empire fades the grouping remains tightly knit.



PAST PARTICIPLE

Changes in membership and more in 1985 at the BCB

HOLY DAYS AND FESTIVALS Easter, St Patrick's Day and many more holidays

SPORTS

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TENNIS An interclub tournament and Club championships

HARD BALLS Recapping the annual awards

Several outings and the section's AGM

FUN AND GAMES

BRIDGE January's results and a call for lapsed players

BALUT Balut Cups Night

SCREENTIME

MONDAY NIGHT MEDIA Monday media in the month of March

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OUTPOST

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Dear Members,

The past year seems to have flown by and we are now into the last few weeks of our current General Committee's twelve month term, and a new Committee is about to be elected at the upcoming AGM.

It now seems appropriate to reflect on the events and challenges of the last year as well as to take a glimpse at what the future may hold in store.

Clarity of Vision

This was my third year on the General Committee and, after two years as Treasurer, it was an honour and a privilege to be selected as Chairman of the General Committee for a year that has seen our Club advance significantly on all fronts: in development, in personnel, in membership, in finances from both a cash perspective and a marked improvement in operational performance.

Initially we set some key objectives for the year and the next two years as we realised that the Club needed to establish a clear direction for future General Committees. To name a few:

- Continue with prudent financial policies, building up increased financial reserves by:
- lowering cost levels of food and improving profitability,
- increasing and improving membership numbers, event and function profitable income, and profitable income from all sports activities,
- Undertake some major upgrades and renovations of poolside, gym, kitchen areas,
- Continually improve the maintenance and upkeep of the Club and Grounds,
- Plan ahead for the essential upgrades needed in the actual Clubhouse, storage areas and general facilities which should be implemented this coming year,
- Improve the sense of welcome, service levels, landscaping and general appearance of the British Club,
- Improve the general services and communications from the British Club to its Members,
- Update the by-laws and rules to reflect modern day requirements,
- Enforce more discipline in the British Club, tighten up on Member infringements, look after the interests of our staff and Members alike, and in general, raise the bar so that our Members and staff would have an improved sense of belonging and pride.

A Sense of Pride

The report from the Treasurer and the Management Accounts sum up and demonstrate the successes achieved this year. None would have been possible without harmony and cooperation between Management, Members and the General Committee alike.

With a large number of Members from a wide variety of backgrounds, I recognise that we can never get it right for everybody, but we have worked hard to make the British Club a better place for everyone, the most evident advancement being the refurbishment and enhancement of our Poolside, with an enlarged Fitness Centre and Thai kitchen, a completely retiled swimming pool with new surrounds, and an enhanced Suriwongse Sala.

Despite serious problems encountered during the works, the project finished within budget and allocated contingencies. My sincere thanks go to our Thai contractors who worked so well together, our team, and also to our maintenance staff who worked night and day on this and other jobs simultaneously. The Club is beginning to take better shape, but their work will continue as we must improve on the maintenance of our beautiful Clubhouse and its grounds.









In the coming weeks, more work will continue with improved sun-shades, new landscaping features, other landscaping for events and functions areas, and with imminent works on the Back Lawn sports area and the pétanque court.

Our Management, Staff and Services to Members

We must have continuity in the management of the British Club, and I am pleased that the General Committee were able to make the historic appointment from within our own ranks when we appointed Khun Premrudee Tanyaluck as our new General Manager - making her not only our first Thai General Manager but also our first female General Manager.

This has been a very positive and popular move acknowledged by hundreds of Members. As expected Khun Prem has settled well into her new role and she is beginning to form a solid team around her.

On the membership front we have had another successful year. Khun Prang and her small team recruited 144 new Members this year, truly an excellent job so we ended the year stabilised on 1,011 Members - remember Membership is the life-blood of our Club.

We added 25 new Clubs to our reciprocal club list, including London's prestigious Hurlingham Club to end the year with an amazing 252 reciprocal clubs.

Of course our Club is not just about numbers (but believe me they help), it is about what we are and what we do. What we are is 'the social, sports & cultural centre for the English-speaking community in Bangkok', and as such we opened our gates free of charge on Sunday 3rd June to let all our associated groups, loyal societies and other community groups hold the 'Diamond Jubilee Fête' in honour of H.M. Queen Elizabeth II.

What we do, of course, is everything and we do it well; our events and function teams are the envy of every 5-star hotel in Bangkok!

General Committee - My Personal Thanks

Our General Committee have worked really hard this year accepting the challenges we faced and stepping up to assist in the many projects undertaken. Sometimes a thankless task, we worked together for the benefit of the Members and personally I think we can look back and say "job well done". Having undertaken and paid for all this year's renovations and refurbishments, we still have well over 2 million baht of additional cash in the kitty.

To the Future

I will end by reminding Members that this coming April our Club will be 110 years old and is in a healthy condition for her age. With your continued support the advances we made in 2012-13 will continue through the years ahead.

I would like to say that we have some exciting plans for more developments in the future, and I wish the next General Committee every success in maintaining the impetus gained during the term of this year's General Committee.

Finally I would like to say a very special thank you to our Members, our Staff and the General Committee, for the support they have given me.

Phil Alexander Chairman of the General Committee The British Club Bangkok



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LETTER FROM THE GM



Dear Members.

February was yet another active month at our Club, with all outlets busy and plenty of functions and events to keep our Members occupied.

Chinese New Year was celebrated in style, with delicious Chinese dumplings and of course the traditional Dragon dance! This year was an 'East meets West' culinary delight, with the Chinese food followed by delicious pancakes (and pancake races)! I was delighted to see so many of you come to enjoy yourselves at the Club and would like to thank you for your continued support for our events.

On the maintenance front, our staff have also been catching up on much-needed repair work and painting around the Club after the hectic festive season, and these activities will continue in the months ahead.

We have also been busy with pest control throughout the Club. Termite-spraying has now been completed and our pest control company will continue to closely monitor key areas throughout the rest of the year.

By the poolside, we are now in the process of buying some new sun shades and re-covering the others in readiness for the approaching hot season.

As mentioned in the email recently sent round by the Chairman, there will be a range of exciting new improvements to make both the Poolside and other areas of the Club an even more pleasant place to be.

May I take this opportunity to remind you all of some important dates coming up in March? St Patrick's Day is on the 17th, and I urge you all (Irish or not!) to come down to the Club and celebrate.

On the 19th, we'll have our AGM in the Suriwongse Room, where you will all have the opportunity to be updated on a very successful year at our Club and to elect a new General Committee for the coming year.

Another day that is sure to be great fun for the whole family is Easter Sunday on the 31st.

Last but not least, I'd like to thank you all for your continued support and feedback. This is invaluable for helping us all to make our Club a wonderful place for everybody to come to relax and socialise.

I look forward to seeing you around the Club!

Best regards,

Premrudee Tanyaluck General Manager

OFFICIAL OPENING TIMES The Verandah 11am - 2pm, 5pm - 10pm (Mon-Thurs) 11am - 10pm (Fri-Sun and Public Holidays) **Accounts Office** 9am - 6pm (Mon-Fri), Closed (Sat-Sun) **Neilson Hays Coffee Shop Fitness Centre** 9am - 6pm 6am - 10pm (Mon-Fri) **Churchill Bar Fitness Centre** 10am - 11pm 6am - 9pm (Sat-Sun) **Poolside Bar Thai Massage** 6:15am - 11pm 9am - 5pm (Tues-Sun) Last food orders 9:30pm



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HAPPENINGS



Greetings -

We've had a fun February, with some regular goings-on and some new ones too. The month opened with a marvellous gathering on the Back Lawn for new Members and also for those who have been Members for over 20 years. Even with no-shows, there were well over 100 people on the Back Lawn for the drinks and canapés which were, as always, very yummy. We had a good band and a fine evening, with a group photo too! The Sunday of Chinese New Year was enjoyed in tandem with pancakes, much to everyone's pleasure, and saw the Club's first Lion Dance, which although great fun can definitely be improved upon next year. We had a really good turnout for Quiz Night, but still no jackpot winners, and quite a bit of entertaining heckling to boot. Valentine's Day was as it is and will be, and the Balut Cups Night was a huge success with thoroughly happy Singaporean visitors (most of whom outperformed us I'm ashamed to say). This week the Bangkok Music Society's presentation of Baroque and Medieval songs and duets was absolutely packed, with people still arriving 30% into the programme, and a new record of 48 Bloody Marys being sold during the interval! A great success with brilliant performances from all involved.

The Monday evening crime/detective evenings have settled on four new series, all of which seem good and should grow more watchable as the characters become better known. It's a very relaxing way to spend a couple of hours, as the stories are always interesting but not taxing after a long day. Anyone can come and watch, just let me know by email 24 hours in advance so we can ensure enough seats.

The biggest event in March is of course the Annual General Meeting, a time for all ordinary and country Members to come and share in looking back, forward and in discussing the present. Of similar magnitude is the BCT's six nights of Blithe Spirit dinner-theatre, which will be an enormous success I have no doubt. Being one of Noël Coward's best-known plays, and enormously funny as well, it is a must-see, and the BCT's exemplary production will make it a fabulous outing for all who get tickets. We are also looking forward to Santana on the 6th - for me it's a bit disappointing that Lady Gaga attracted more tickets than Carlos, but one must be realistic these days! We're having a special brunch for UK Mother's Day, as mothers (and wives) should be celebrated for any excuse whatsoever, and there is a complimentary glass of sparkling wine for any Mum that has the brunch. The following week is St Patrick's Day, on which we will feature a unique green buffet of both Thai and international foods, and even green beer! The whole day there will be special St Patrick's prices for Guinness, Old Speckled Hen and O'Haras, all of which are available at the Club on draught anyway. With Irish music playing, and kids activities in the afternoon, it'll be a great Sunday outing, green too!

After the AGM, there's the annual Disney on Ice morning in English - this year its theme is "Princesses and Heroes" which should cover most kids' favourites! We have a very unusual presentation which I've heard great praise for, the "Giordano Bruno Project", which is billed as an artistic encounter between Renaissance music and physical theatre. There's a wine dinner the following day which will be succulent, another monthly wine-tasting, and then the month (and week) finishes with Easter Day on the Back Lawn, with the amazing Easter Day buffet we had last year, the Easter Egg Hunt in the morning, and plenty of other fun! So there's a fair amount coming our way in March.

There are the regular sessions too, as always: we continue with Kids Movies on Friday evenings at the Silom Sala, the Balut Shield on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month, open to all who like to entwine their luck with strategy, the Bridge Section every Sunday (except the month's last) who welcome new thinkers for their ponderous games, the Art Group on Wednesday mornings and Mah-Jong on Mondays, not to mention the Monthly Quiz on the second Tuesday of the month. There's also the Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers in the Churchill every Tuesday evening, raising money for Thai charities. We are also on the verge of restarting the Chess Club - players wanted, please email me if you are interested.

Finally, to save you confusion, the guy who works with me in Events, Khun Chanin, has changed his name to Khun Karinn, so don't be surprised if you see his name with his original, or another, email address.

Have a great month!

Jeremy de Sausmarez Events & Marketing Manager



BUSINESS LUNCHEONS

1ST - 8TH MARCH 2013 STARTERS - 55 BAHT

MOZZARELLA, MANGO, TOMATO AND ROCKET SALAD

CHEF'S SOUP OF THE DAY

MAIN COURSES - 140 BAHT

GRILLED CHICKEN BREAST
SERVED WITH ROAST VEGETABLE COUSCOUS

SALMON FISHCAKES SERVED WITH CHIPS,
GARDEN PEAS AND TARTARE SAUCE

MIXED SAUSAGES
SERVED WITH MASHED POTATO AND FRIED ONIONS
OR

GAENG JUED PHAK GARD KHAO
 (CHINESE LETTUCE SOUP
WITH MINCED PORK, TOFU, AND VERMICELLI)

PLA SAM ROS
 (DEEP-FRIED DORY FISH TOPPED
WITH SWEET AND SOUR SPICED CHILI SAUCE)

• PHAD PHAK RUAM (STIR-FRIED MIXED VEGETABLES WITH OYSTER SAUCE)

DESSERT OF THE DAY- 50 BAHT OR CHOOSE FROM OUR À LA CARTE DESSERT 10% OFF

18TH - 22ND MARCH 2013 STARTERS - 55 BAHT

GRILLED CHICKEN, MANGO/ AVOCADO, BEETROOT SALAD WITH BALSAMIC AND HONEY DRESSING

CHEF'S SOUP OF THE DAY

MAIN COURSES - 140 BAHT

CHICKEN KORMA
SERVED WITH BOILED EGG AND YELLOW RICE
OR

FISH & CHIPS
(CHOICE OF BREADCRUMBED OR BATTERED)
SERVED WITH GARDEN PEAS AND TARTAR SAUCE
OR

PORK SCHNITZEL

SERVED WITH MIXED SALAD,

BAKED POTATO AND APPLE SAUCE
OR

• TOM YAM GOONG (SPICY LEMON GRASS SOUP WITH PRAWNS AND MUSHROOM)

> • GAI PHAD KHING (STIR-FRIED CHICKEN WITH GINGER, ONION AND FUNGUS MUSHROOM)

> > • TOD MUN PLA (DEEP-FRIED FISHCAKES)

DESSERT OF THE DAY - 55 BAHT OR CHOOSE FROM OUR À LA CARTE DESSERT 10% OFF

11TH - 15TH MARCH 2013 STARTERS - 55 BAHT

WALDORF HAM SALAD

CHEF'S SOUP OF THE DAY

MAIN COURSES - 140 BAHT

GRILLED PORK LOIN STEAK
SERVED WITH APPLE AND FENNEL SAUCE

PAN-FRIED DORY WITH MORNAY SAUCE SERVED WITH BROCCOLI AND MASHED POTATOES

MINI STEAK
SERVED WITH MIXED VEGETABLES AND ROAST POTATOES

• TOM KHA GAI (A REFRESHING SOUP WITH CHICKEN, COCONUT MILK AND HERBS)

PHAD KAPRAO MOO SAB
(STIR-FRIED MINCED PORK WITH HOT BASIL AND CHILI)

• PHAD TUA NGOK TAO HOO (STIR-FRIED BEAN SPROUTS WITH BEAN CURD AND OYSTER SAUCE)

DESSERT OF THE DAY - 55 BAHT
OR CHOOSE FROM OUR À LA CARTE DESSERT WITH 10% OFF

25TH - 29TH MARCH 2013 STARTERS - 55 BAHT

WARM BREAD SALAD OF CRISPY
BACON PARMESAN AND POACHED EGG

CHEF'S SOUP OF THE DAY

MAIN COURSES - 140 BAHT

TURKEY AND LEEK PIE SERVED WITH MIXED VEGETABLES AND HOME-FRIED POTATOES

LAMB, BEEF AND EGGPLANT MOUSSAKA SERVED WITH MIXED SALAD AND GARLIC BREAD

FILLET OF PORK MUSHROOM SAUCE SERVED WITH GREEN BEANS, CARROTS AND GARLIC ROAST POTATOES

• GAENG KIEW WAN LOOK CHIN PLA (FISH BALLS IN GREEN CURRY SAUCE)

KAI JIEW MOO SUB
(THAI STYLE MINCED PORK OMELETTE)

• PHAD KANA NAM MAN HOY (STIR-FRIED KALE WITH OYSTER SAUCE)

DESSERT OF THE DAY - 55 BAHT OR CHOOSE FROM OUR À LA CARTE DESSERT 10% OFF

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F&B MORSELS



Dear Members.

It's been another busy month in the kitchens on both sides of the Club, as lots of people have been spending time in the poolside areas and also in the Clubhouse, and we like it that way! I've noticed a better selection of dishes being ordered and as feedback is good, it seems people are liking what they are trying out. That pleases me.

Early in the month there was the Old and New Members Night where we saw lots of familiar faces on the Back Lawn, and that was a great evening. Then came Chinese New Year Day which was a fantastic day, so much Dim Sum was eaten and the buffet dishes were really well received too. And then we went on with Pancake Day and almost ran out of pancakes. It's good seeing people enjoy themselves.

In March we'll be having our usual Green Food Buffet on St Patrick's Day - come and try out the many green dishes! At the end of the month, there's Easter weekend and we'll be doing great food then too. And all through the month there's the pancake menu available, so enjoy! I hope we'll be getting some British cider soon - it's the best, but I don't know if we'll be doing Snakebites!

Let me know if there are any special dishes you're longing for from back home. I'll do my best to recreate them.

Happy Eating!

Khun Laak Executive Chef



EAST MEETS WEST

Dim Sum, Lions and Pancakes

It was surely a coincidence that Chinese New Year 2013 would fall on the last Sunday before Lent - as a result, our celebrations for Pancake Day, which of course traditionally is on Shrove Tuesday, had to be brought forward as pancakes cannot be eaten during Lent. We therefore celebrated both events on Sunday 10th February.

For the first time in the history of the Club, a traditional Lion Dance was booked for the front lawn in the early afternoon, but first there was a smashing Dim Sum Buffet in The Verandah with a number of other special Chinese dishes to choose from. All the tables were booked and extra numbers were served as and where possible. Then came the Lion Dance, with the two lions dealing with assorted fresh fruit accompanied by rhythmic drums. And then on to the Back Lawn for the Pancake Day Races, and of course, lots of mixed fruit filled pancakes to savour!

It was great to see such a turnout, and gave us a lot to build on for next year. Now we look ahead to Easter, and wish everyone Gong Xi Fa Cai!







Sunday 31st March 2013

BACK LAWN - Kids and family Activities Start at 10am, Kids Bt 350 / Adults Bt 250

VERANDAH - Special Easter Brunch · 11:30am - 3pm, Adults Bt 495 / Kids Bt 250





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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Tuesday 19th March 2013

ATTENDANCE

The Annual General Meeting is open to Ordinary and Country Members only. It is important that all eligible Members try to attend in person to ensure the views of as many Members as possible are taken into account in the key decisions to be made.

PROXY:

If you are unavoidably out of country, or otherwise legitimately unable to attend, you are entitled to complete a proxy form: you may either pass a Discretionary Proxy signed to another Ordinary and Country Member enabling them to vote on your behalf (remembering that they may only hold one so ask their permission first) or vote as you wish on the Directed Proxy side of the form and your votes will be counted as directed.

SPOUSE:

An alternative to proxy voting is that your spouse, if Australian, British, Canadian or New Zealander, may attend in your place. Please complete the 'Transfer to Spouse form' available at Reception.



'RULES BRITANNIAE'

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





DID YOU KNOW... that if you have friends or colleagues under the age of 30, they can join the Club with an exciting 50% discount on joining fees and subscriptions?

Some conditions apply, ask Membership Department for details.

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UNDER HALF AND OVER TWENTY

Old and New Members Night



There was a fantastic turnout from Members of yore and new Members alike. The Back Lawn was beautifully laid out for ravishing canapés, an open bar and a band. The lights overhead swayed gently in the warm evening breeze. The atmosphere was amazing, as those seeing the Club through today's eyes met with those who remember it when it was a very different place.

Jim Preen had put together a band specially for the evening, which could cover older and newer songs, pleasing all and offending none. Getting the volume right is always difficult with a PA at one end of the lawn, but it worked out well, even during the stunning sax solos.

Halfway through the evening, there were lucky dip prizes for quite a number of lucky winners, followed by a series of group photos and a brief recital by the Pipe Band. Then Jim Preen's band retook the stage and the evening continued with smiles growing bigger as hunger and thirst diminished.

A great evening of conviviality and warmth, as underlies the longevity of the British Club Bangkok.





Unique

17th March 2013



GREEN BUFFET (Thai & International dishes)

THE VERANDAH, 11am - 3pm

Adults Bt 395 Children Bt 210



Special St.Patrick's prices for **Guinness, Old Speckled Hen** and O' Hara



Irish music



Kids activities on the Back Lawn

Bangkok Community Theatre presents

Noel Coward's improbably magical comedy



Dinner Theatre

at 7:30pm in the Suriwongse Room

Thursday - Saturday, March 14th, 15th & 16th and Thursday - Saturday, March 21st, 22nd & 23rd, 2013

B1,200 includes 3-course buffet dinner

Tickets are available at Reception from late February; book early to avoid disappointment!

For more information, please call 08-7529-3188

or email: bct.th.org@gmail.com or visit the BCT website: www.bct-th.org

Tables seat 10 people; if there are less than 10 in a party, tables may be shared.

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.













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NOËL COWARD'S BLITHE SPIRIT

in the Suriwongse Room!

Bangkok Community Theatre (BCT) will be back on stage in the Suriwongse Room this March with another great evening of dinner theatre at the Club. Directed by Mark Sobels and performed for six nights, Blithe Spirit is a classic comedy that ran for over four and a half years in the West End, breaking records for 'longest running play'. It is Noël Coward's most popular work.

Blithe Spirit tells how while working on a novel about the occult, successful writer Charles Condomine decides to invite an eccentric medium, Madame Arcati, to hold a seance at his house. When the ghost of Charles' first wife, Elvira, is inadvertently summoned, Charles' second wife is not well pleased. Magic and mayhem follow as Elvira makes herself at home!

British Club Members and BCT veterans Bonnie Zellerbach and Anna Khendry are the producers responsible for bringing this production of Blithe Spirit to the stage. Anna is also behind the scenes as Stage Manager whilst Bonnie will be on stage as the indefatigable Madame Arcati. Club Member Louise Truslow is making a welcome return to the stage as Mrs Bradman, the sceptical friend to the Condomines.

Well-known BCT performers Paul Robere and Gary Norman will also grace the stage as Dr Bradman and as the leading man Charles, joined by talented BCT newcomers Lucy Ellwood-Russell as Elvira, Natasha Cheung as Ruth and Jenny Alexander as Edith, the maid. Magician James Laver, who played the male romantic lead in The Country Wife last September, has the important task of creating the magical effects during the production. Director Mark Sobels has an extensive resume as actor and director in Australia, Malaysia and Thailand including BCT's productions of Pygmalion and Molly Sweeney.

BCT gratefully acknowledges their sponsors Shrewsbury International School, BNH Hospital, Chatrium Hotel Riverside Bangkok, JVK International Movers, Raja's Fashions and The British Club. Without them, this production would not be possible. BCT welcomes new members of all nationalities and would particularly like to encourage more British Club Members to get involved. If you are interested in joining the group, either in front or behind the scenes, please email bct@sala.net for more information.

Noël Coward's hilarious and famous comedy classic Blithe Spirit will be presented by Bangkok Community Theatre as dinner theatre in the Suriwongse Room on March 14th, 15th, 16th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd, 2013. Ticket price including dinner and show is Bt 1,200 per person; the evening begins with cocktails on the lawn at 7:00pm (not included in the ticket price) and follows with dinner & the show at 7:30pm. Tables seat 10 people (cosily!) and if you have less in your group you will probably share a table with others. Tickets are limited so book early at Reception or email events@britishclubbangkok.org. For more information about the play, please visit the BCT website at www.bct-th.org, call 087-529-3188 or email bct.th.org@gmail.com. Don't miss out on this great evening!



A Country Wife - Sept 2012

BC CALENDAR - MARCH 2013

BC Golf Society

Match Vs Wanderers 10 Mar Subhaprueck GC 16 Mar Vintage GC 31 Mar **Royal GC**

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THU















Artists @ British Club Ladies Tennis Coaching Tennis Mix-In Balut Shield Wordsworth Lounge 7pm Santana Concert Impact Arena

Coaches leave at 6pm Artists @ British Club



Ladies Mix-In

Squash Mix-In

Ladies Mix-In

Fitball

Thursday Night Trio

Fitball



Life on Mars







Morning Mix-In Fitball 10:30am











Ladies Tennis Coaching Tennis Mix-In

Artists @ British Club

Artists @ British Club

Cricket Thursday Night Trio

Squash Mix-In

BCT Dinner Theatre Blithe Spirit Suriwongse Room, 6pr

Ladies Mix-In

Fitball







Morning Mix-In Fitball Squash Mix-In Senior Football



Annual General Meeting Surawongse Room, 7pm







BCT Dinner Theatre



Ladies Mix-In 8 am

Fitball 10:30am

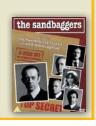
Wine Dinner The Verandah

7:30pm









25













Thursday Night Trio

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

RSDAY

Children's Cinema 6pm, Silom Sala Aladdin

Tennis Mix-In



Canadian Buffet Lunch & Dinner

The Verandah 11:30am - 3pm 5pm - 9pm



Junior British Club

Sunday Brunch

Open Pairs Bridge Surawongse Room 2:30pm

Yoga 2:30pm





Children's Cinema 6pm, Silom Sala Peter Pan

Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm



The Verandah 11:30am - 3pm 5pm - 9pm

Six Nations Rugby 9:30pm - Scotland vs Wales





Junior British Club

Mother's Day Brunch

Open Pairs Bridge Surawongse Room

Junior British Club 10:30am - 1:30pm

Open Pairs Bridge

Surawongse Room

Sunday Brunch 11:30am - 3pm

11:00am - 3pm

Six Nations Rugby Midnight - England vs Italy





Children's Cinema 6pm, Silom Sala Snow White

Tennis Mix-In pm - 10pm



BCT Dinner Theatre Blithe Spirit

Suriwongse Room, 6pm



lmerican Buffet Lunch & Dinner

The Verandah 11:30am - 3pm 5pm - 9pm



3am - Scotland vs France

BCT Dinner Theatre Blithe Spirit Suriwongse Room, 6pm





2:30pm Yoga 2:30pm

St Patrick's Day The Verandah

11am





Children's Cinema 6pm, Silom Sala Rapunzel

Tennis Mix-In



Blithe Spirit Suriwongse Room, 6pm



Suriwongse Room, 6pm



ltalian Buffet Lunch & Dinner The Verandah 11:30am - 3pm

BCT Dinner Theatre Blithe Spirit

Disney On Ice Impact Arena Coaches leave at 8:30an

5pm - 9pm



Junior British Club

Sunday Brunch







Children's Cinema 6pm, Silom Sala Sleeping Beauty

Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm





Curry Buffet Lunch & Dinner The Verandah

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





Junior British Club 10:30am - 1:30pm

Sunday Brunch









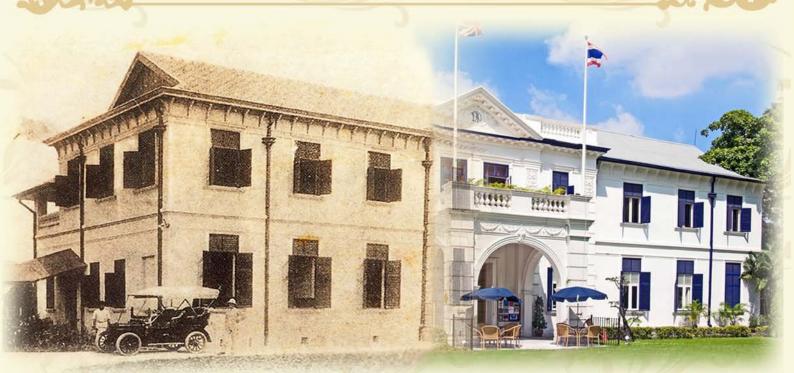
28th April 2013 2pm - 7pm

Live music 🚳 🚳 Birthday cake

BBQ & special food Surprise performances

Car Boot stalls Kids Activities

Lucky Dip And more!!



Book at Reception or email: info@britishclubbangkok.org

PAST PARTICIPLE

Auspicium Melioris Ævi

By Paul Cheesman

We look back at the history of our Club in 1985 ...

The AGM spent much of its time on the financial crisis that the Club found itself in. The accounts for the previous year had a 600,000 baht deficit (on our 10 million baht turnover) which was in reality 1.3 million baht when it was realised that joining fees were used to lower the operating deficit. The AGM agreed to raise subscriptions by 20% in order to head off any collapse of the Club and the incoming GC requested to seek new ways to increase membership. The action reduced the deficit in 1985 to 300,000 baht, despite a huge capital expenditure budget (see below).

Our relationship with AIA continued to flounder over their construction work (see last month) - on 13th May two builders on the AIA roof threw a concrete slab down onto the Children's Pool area and damaged the Squash Court roof. Thankfully no-one was injured. On May 15th a bolt was thrown into the main swimming pool leading to formal complaints to the Khet Bangrak office and the Bangrak Police. AIA made good the damage. Over the monsoon the weather caused loose tiles on the construction site to blow into the Club – the General Committee considered closing the poolside at one point due to these 'missiles' (see inset) - and in December another incident of a piece of metal being thrown at the new Sala breaking tiles led to our attempting to have the construction work stopped altogether. In a compromise, upon works completion, AIA and their contractor agreed to resurface the Club's car parks as compensation for the two years of inconvenience.

As a means of increasing membership, an EGM was held on July 4th to change the character and number of Associate Members. From an existing "close affinity with British interests" the character requirement of associate membership was changed to "actively contribute to the Club", the number was raised from 60 to 120 and a new rule to ensure that all associate Members were now resident in Thailand was agreed. It was hoped that an additional 60 associates would help curb an early loss of Members that year.

The EGM also put forward a massive 2 million baht plan to raise the height of tennis courts 2 and 3, hard surface the centre court and court 1, replace the roof of the Surawong Sala to match that of the new Silom Sala and to enclose part of the Surawong Sala with air conditioning. A very heated debate was had, with the plan being split into four different votes but eventually all votes were passed except the plan to enclose and air-condition the Sala. Work commenced in the October after the monsoon.

Although a lot of effort had been put on increasing membership, especially amongst those in Bangkok eligible for associate membership, 1985 ended up at only 491 Members, the lowest for five years. However moves were afoot to make a huge historic change to our membership structure which would see membership soar in future years – but you will have to wait until next month to find out what was afoot and who opposed it!

said he would request the contractor to keep the roof clear of possible "missiles" especially during windy weather.

"Incoming!"

The author is Honorary Secretary of the Club



MER DINNER



28th March 2013

THE VERANDAH

An opportunity to sample delectable dishes complemented by characteristic wines.

Five courses with four specially chosen wines rounded off with frese coffee, tea and Thai style petits fours.

Meeting at 7pm for crisp wines on the Back Lawn Patio, with the dinner starting at 7:30pm

Sample the succulence. Bt 1,850 per person

Book at Reception or email: info@britishclubbangkok.com



HOLY DAYS & FESTIVALS

By Paul Cheesman



SAINT DAVID'S DAY

March 1st

Saint David's Day, or Dydd Gŵyl Dewi in Welsh, is the festival day for the patron saint of Wales. Saint David was born in the late fifth century to the Royal family of Ceredigion (a kingdom on the southern coast of the Cardigan Bay) but later in his life founded a Celtic monastery in the Vale of Roses, or Glyn Rhosyn, in Pembrokeshire where the present day St David's Cathedral was consecrated in 1131. Saint David died on March 1st in 589. The peoples of Wales throughout the world celebrate this day and in Thailand the St David's Society in Bangkok will hold its St David's Ball on Saturday 9th in his bonour.

A movable feast since its inauguration as the International Working Women's Day on 18th March 1911, March 8th was adopted by the People's Republic of China in 1949 and by the United Nations in 1977.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

March 8th

NATIONAL ELEPHANTS DAY

March 13th

First approved in 1998, this observance day is designed to draw attention to the importance of the role of elephants in Thai culture.

Saint Patrick's Day (or Lá Fhéile Pádraig in Irish) is the festival day of Saint Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland. Tradition says he was born to a wealthy Roman-British Christian family in AD 387, kidnapped at the age of sixteen by Irish raiders, he escaped, trained as priest in Gaul then came back to Ireland in 432 as a Bishop. He died on 17th March 461 and was buried at Downpatrick. The day is celebrated by Irish people across the world and in Thailand the St Patrick's Society Bangkok will hold its annual St Patrick's Ball on Saturday 23rd March.

SAINT PATRICK'S DAY

March 17th

MAUNDY THURSDAY

March 28th

This is a Christian festival which commemorates the Last Supper of Jesus Christ - his last meal with his disciples where he washed their feet and gave them the New Commandment to That you love one another as I have loved you' before being betrayed by one of them and put on trial by ruling Jerusalem Jewish religious council then sent to the Roman authorities (see Good Friday). The word Maundy comes from the first words of the new commandment — 'mandé' in Middle English and 'mandatum' in Latin. In celebration of this day H.M. Queen Elizabeth II will distribute Maundy money to one elderly male and elderly female for each year of her reign, a custom going back to Edward I.

This is a Christian holiday which follows Maundy Thursday. Jesus is put on trial by first by the Roman governor Pontius Pilate and then by King Herod Antipater of Judea. Although he was not found guilty under Roman law he was sentenced to be crucified in fulfilment of Biblical prophecy that the death of Jesus, the Son of God, was means of payment for the sins or wrongdoings of mankind. Churches hold services on this day and Christians traditionally celebrate this day with Hot Cross Buns (a currant bun with a cross on the top served hot or toasted). Hot Cross Buns are on sale at the Club.

GOOD FRIDAY

March 29th



March 31st

This is a Christian holiday which celebrates that on the third day after his death (on Good Friday) Jesus rose from the dead and thus faith in him would give salvation to all mankind. Christians celebrate this day by giving children Easter Eggs (usually chocolate but originally painted real eggs) as eggs are seen as a sign of new life. Some countries traditionally hold egg races, others roll eggs down a hill. The Club will hold an Easter Egg hunt as in our tradition.

A new Thai observance day established in 1998, March 1st was the birthday in 1787 of Phra Bat Somdet Phra Nangklao Chao Yu Hua (also known as King Rama III), the third monarch of the Chakri dynasty who ruled Siam from 21st July 1824 to 2nd April 1851. One of the major achievements of his reign was the signing of the Anglo-Siamese Treaty of Amity & Commerce' which allowed free trade between Siam and the East India Company.

KING NANGKLAO MEMORIAL DAY

March 31st

SPORT & LEISURE

By Paul Ringer

SWIMMING is back on Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings. Classes are on a week by week basis and will run till the end of term.



BC Squirts:



Approx age: 6-24 months, parent & child classes.

BC Squirts will focus on;

- conditioning your child to the water
- floating on their front and back, turning and resurfacing
- basic safety

BC Nemos:



Approx age: 2 – 4 years

BC Nemos will focus on;

- breath control
- treamlined front & back floating
- dog paddle
- · back kicking
- safety awareness

BC Marlins:



Approx age: 4 – 6 years

BC Squirts will focus on;

- streamlined kick
- beginner freestyle & freestyle breathing
- backstroke
- breaststroke

Barracudas:



Approx age: 6 - 8 years

BC Nemos will focus on;

- rhythmic breathing
- Stroke technique
- diving
- water safety skills

BC Sharks



Approx age: 8 - 10 years

BC Squirts will focus on;

- stroke correction
- stroke improvement
- swim training
- diving
- basic life saving and survival swimming

BC Swim Squad:



Approx age: 10+

BC Nemos will focus on:

- stroke correction & improvement
- swim training & fitness
- life saving and survival swimming

Friday Classes:

Course Description	Approx Age	Time	
BC Squirts	6-24 months 4 - 4:30 pm		
BC Nemos	2 - 4 years 4:30 - 5		
BC Marlins	4 - 6 years	5 - 5:30 pm	
BC Barracudas	6 - 8 years 5:30 - 6 pr		
BC Sharks	8 - 10 years 6 - 6:30 pm		
BC Swim Squad	10 years +	6:30 - 7:15 pm	

Sunday Classes:

Course Description	Approx Age	Time
BC Swim Squad	10 years +	10:30 - 11:15 am
BC Sharks	8 - 10 years	11:15 - 11:45 am
BC Barracudas	6 - 8 years	11:45 - 12:15 am
BC Marlins	4 - 6 years	12:15 - 12:45 pm
BC Nemos	2 - 4 years	12:45 - 1:15 pm
BC Squirts	6 - 24 months	1:15 - 1:45 pm

GYM:



Sandy will not beat you up as this picture might suggest, rather she will give you a very knowledgeable assessment of your current fitness level and the best ways to improve and train to achieve your fitness/health goals. She will also give a **free fitness consultation**, approx. 1hr, where she can meet with you, discuss your goals and assess your fitness.

The promotion discounting Fitness Age Assessments are over and they will return to their normal price of Bt. 1200.

Sandy has only a few time slots left, please contact me soon to avoid disappointment.

FRONT LAWN FOOTBALL:

- Saturday 9th March @ 2pm.
- A new idea for the new-year.
- 2 man teams, players must be 8yrs and over.
- Father/son, friend/friend, sister/brother, any combination welcome.
- Play will be in barefoot, short 5 min matches.



SUNDAY CYCLE:

There will be the first Sunday cycle of the year on 31 March. We aim to do a night ride which will take in the areas in and around both sides of the river and this famous Bangkok wat.



A quick look back at last month.

SPORTS CAMP FEB 2013:







WAGS:

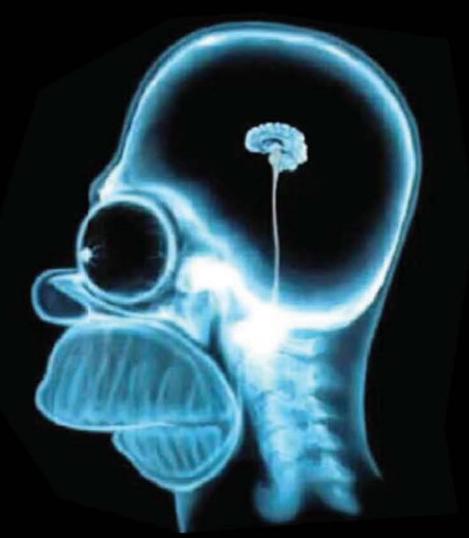


Congratulations to BC Tennis who won WAGS for a 2nd time in the extra time golden goal period of the finals from an extremely lucky rebound off their own keeper.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any sport or activity you would like to do but is currently not available at the Club.

Regards,





QUZ MITH THE MONTHLY JACKPOT!!

12th March 2013
The Verandah, 7:15pm
Members Bt 100 / Non-members Bt 150



Book at Reception or email: info@britishclubbangkok.com

TENNIS

By Paul Ringer



Dear BCTS.

We have a very busy month of tennis ahead.

LADIES INTER CLUB TOURNAMENT 2013 will be held on the first weekend in March at the Piyarom Sports Club. This is an excellent chance for the BCTS Ladies to compete against all the other ladies tennis groups in Bangkok.

BCTS CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS 2013: Cup and Plate finals will be played on Saturday 23rd starting at 8 am. If you are a competitor you *must* be available for the full day to play your matches.

The **Junior British Club Tennis Championships** will run in the lunch time as in previous years. If you would like to enter your children pease contact me by 20 March.

CHAMPIONSHIP PRIZES:

Cup Singles winners: One night complimentary stay at Inchantree Kanchanaburi - Value Bt. 6000





Cup Doubles winners: One night complimentary stay at Eastin Grand Sathorn - Value Bt. 4000





Plate final winners: Dinner vouchers for two people at the Glass House restaurant - Value Bt. 3000 The following companies have also donated cash and/or voucher prizes.













Sponsors for the Kids Championships are:





Good luck for the rest of the Championships and most especially to the finalists.

Paul

HARD BALLS

By Deepesh Middon



The deadline for Outpost has arrived and there is no time to do justice to our January trip to Chiang Mai or a revenge match vs RBSC. We'll keep those for next month. Luckily we have lots of pictures of another raucous Annual Awards and BBQ night in January and the arrival of a bowling machine.

The bowling machine hasn't had much of a work out yet but getting it going was fun. Boys being boys the elaborate instructions were set aside and the contraption was assembled by trial and error under the guidance of master engineer Speddo. And it worked!

















The annual awards were preceded by the now popular family 'beach' cricket match in which Haroon's 24 narrowly lost to Bruce's 12. The posh awards were:

Cricketer of the Year: Rahul Gupte Batsman of the Year: Nick White Bowler of the Year: Jack Dunford























And for her enthusiastic performance in the family cricket, **Ishika Gupte** "Young Cricketer of the Year". Once again Master Chef Rahul produced a delicious BBQ and everyone present enjoyed individual awards washed down by vodka slammers. It's our 4th season back and cricket at BC is in good health. Oooooooooo Aaaaaaaaaaaagg!!!

BCGS GOLFING NEWS





Monthly Stableford - Krung Kavee Golf Course - January 13, 2013

Our first event of the year, a Stableford, was played at Krung Kavee in ideal conditions. In slightly cooler weather and on a quiet course, some very good golf was played. Steve Adams, Pete Gale, Yurachatr Brook and Brian Brook each amassed 40 points; Pete Gale took the honours on a count back. Well played all!



Outgoing Capitan Frank leaves his post in style with another Golfer of the Year trophy



Mike Staples retains the Men's Club Champion trophy

Monthly Medal – Royal Golf and Country Club – January 27, 2013

Congratulations to Karen Carter, who won the medal flight B with a fine net 71, beating Ray Bloom and Ian Thornhill, both with 76s, into the minor places. And congratulations to Gaew Khongyoo, who won a closely fought Flight A on a count back from Bryan Dodd. Robert Gray was just one shot back, in third place.



Gordon Milne happily accepts the George Cup for best Net Average of the Year



lan Thornhill takes the Eclectic Trophy in Flight B

Monthly Medal – Royal Golf and Country Club – February 10, 2013

In Flight A, John Carter returns from an extended lay-off and promptly wins with a net 71, and his older sister, for the second month in row, takes Flight B with a net 73.





Tracey Carter retains the Women's Club Champion trophy

Peter Gale with one of the "majors" – the 3 day Eclectic

70th Annual General Meeting of the British Club Golf Section: Suriwongse Room, British Club – February 10, 2013 The British Club Golf Section (BCGS) held its AGM, and after the Capitan and Treasurer's Report were given a new Committee was formed and followed by the annual prize-giving and a carvery buffet. Thanks to outgoing Capitan Frank Fawkes and welcome incoming Capitan Karen Carter. The awards were presented in accordance with the Handicap Report and replica trophies presented

to those who had won major competitions and the most technical prizes during the year. The 2012 winners are as follows:







Brian Brook wins the Senior Trophey

Eclectic Cup Flight A to Mark Evans, Flight B to Ian Thornhill. The Capitan George Cup for Best Net Average to Gordon Milne. The Norman Bond Memorial Cup for Best Improved Golfer to Ed Ashman. The Grand Slammer for most Long Drives (men) to Art Carlson. The Amazon Trophy for most Long Drives (ladies) to Yarachatr Brook. The Bangkok Post Cup for most Near Pins to Frank Fawkes. The Ambassador Cup, a Stableford competition for 18 and above handicaps to Karen Carter, and the Inaugural Cup for 18 and below handicaps to Ed Ashman. The Juniors Cup to Gordon Milne and the Seniors Cup to Brian Brook. The Dunlop Plate to the team of Roy Barrett & Brian Brook and the Dunlop Cup to John Carter and Marcus Prior. The Match Play Champion of the year was David Lamb. The Eclectic Champion (3 day net competition) to Peter Gale. Ladies Club Champion low net to Karen Carter and the men's to Randall Coleman. The Ladies Club Champion (gross) to Tracy Carter and the Men's Club Champion was Mike Staples.

<u>Website:</u> http://www.bcgsthailand.org/ <u>Email:</u> bcgs2002@qyahoo.co.uk <u>Phone:</u> Golf Society Captain, Karen Carter







MOTHER'S DAY

Sunday 10 March 2013



SPECIAL BRUNCH The Verandah 11:00am - 3pm

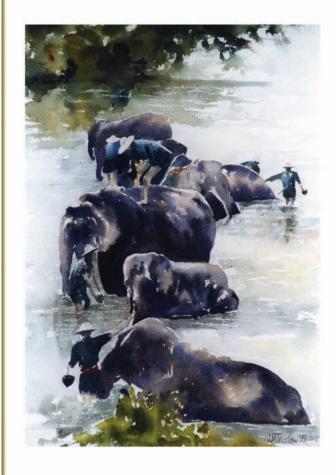
Adults: Bt 495

Kids up to 12 yrs: Bt 250

Adult (plus bottle of Wine of the Month): Bt 950

Complimentary glass of sparkling wine for Mothers with their brunch

Come and treat a mother on this Special Day!



Watercolour Workshop With Louise Truslow

Suitable for beginners and for those wishing to refresh their skills.

Saturday 30th March

B2,500 including lunch and refreshments.

Sign up at Reception

For more information email: louise@louisetruslow.com





Bridge Results for January 2013

EVENT	RANK	NAME (PAIR)	SCORE%
Sunday 6th January (18 pairs)	1 st N/S	Nakako & Watana	57.41%
	2 nd E/W	Chalermpol & Dr Apithai	65.28%
Sunday 13th January (16 pairs)	1 st	Julaporn & Supote	64.58%
	2 nd	Rudi & Daksha	59.52%
Sunday 20th January (16 pairs)	1 st	Surawit & Narin	65.48%
	2 nd	Prarop & Benjarong	64.88%

News & Updates (a few words from our tournament director, Mike Sim)

Are you a lapsed bridge player? Did you play bridge years ago but are not confident enough to turn up for a game on Sunday afternoon?

I have heard many second hands reports of such Members of the British Club, but no one has contacted me directly.

If you fit into either of the above categories, and would be interested in sitting down for a couple of hours with some people in a similar situation, playing a few hands, and discussing how to bid and/or play them, please send me an email on simbo@bridgeplayer.net and I will try to set up a few sessions, daytime or evening, which will hopefully fill you with confidence and will encourage you to join our sessions on a Sunday afternoon at the Club.

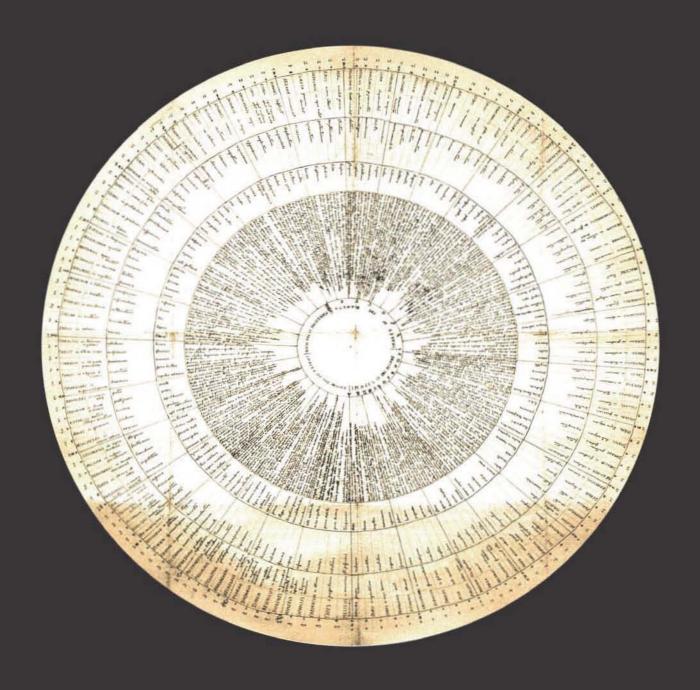


An artistic encounter between

RENAISSANCE MUSIC & PHYSICAL THEATER

JACOPO GIANNINOTO (Italy) - Renaissance Lute NANA DAKIN and SASAPIN SIRIWANIJ (B-Floor Theater) - Performers





THE GIORDANO BRUNO PROJECT

THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK SILOM SOI 18 SURIWONGSE ROOM

BRITISH CLUB BALUT

Balut Cups Night - A Three Cup Evening



There is great synergy between the Balut players from Singapore and those from the Club. It is only too apparent when tournaments bring everyone together. This year the Singaporean delegation for the All Comers Cup was well over 20 people. They started arriving at the Club on the afternoon of Friday 15 February and were all ready to go, and in high spirits, when the doors opened for the Balut Cups Buffet at 6pm on Saturday 16th.



There were 53 players in all, 3 of whom were playing online from Australia using the BOSS scoring system. Having apprehended the Chairman TC making a quick dash for his limousine (see photo), the magnificent Thai and international buffet was ravaged, the free-flow drinks were gulped, and we all sat down and played. Spot prizes for each round, humungous hullaballoos on scoring Baluts, lascivious laughter and minimal

moaning rang out through the Suriwongse Room, and the balcony breaks got longer and longer. It was a fabulous evening, with The Jackal (Carlos Romero) on 667 taking the Balut Cup by less than a grey hair ahead of Jammy (Roger Willbourn) on 652. The All Comers Cup was won by Rajan Menon with 707, and very deservedly so, his scores were superlative. The Juniors fought and fought well, with Katie Alexander accelerating ahead to win the Juniors Cup on 606. The prize for the lowest score couldn't have gone to a nicer player, Soma Devi with 466, and that finished the evening off seeing all players leaving with huge smiles, some a little unsteady on their feet perhaps, but everyone with a great sense of enjoyment, satisfaction, and camaraderie.

7 of the Top 10 players were Singaporeans, who threw with direct access to good fortune. There may be a return 'event' overseas later in 2013, but if not, we must hone our strategic skills, cultivate our appeal for Lady Luck, and await the 2014 Cups Night 2014. Will that be time for a new World Record?

Many thanks to John Taylor for his deft organisation of the Singaporean delegation, to David Quine of Yes Technologies for his scoring prowess and his Balut Online Scoring System, and the Club Balut Section's regular sponsors and contributors.















For bulk orders, please contact Khun Somboon in the Clubhouse on 02 234 0247



A sampling of detection, crime, and suspense!

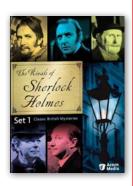
MARCH: Mondays, 7pm, Wordsworth Lounge. Full F&B service available.

4th March

The Rivals of Sherlock Holmes

"The Affair of the Avalanche Bicycle & Tyre Co. Ltd"

in which Horace Dorrington investigates an attack on a champion cyclist, amid bitter rivalry between two groups dedicated to the sport.



"The Duchess of Wiltshire's Diamonds"

in which the Duchess wears her famous and widely coveted Wiltshire diamonds to a ball where a thief is after them, but luckily Simon Carne is on hand.

Life on Mars

"Episode 1.3"

in which Sam starts to feel at home in 1973. But when there's a fatal stabbing at Crester's Textiles, he's shocked to discover that Crester's is the converted Mill where he lives in 2006.



11th March

"Episode 1.4"

in which Sam calls into question

the ethos of his whole department when he takes on a local gangster. But does Sam realise the full consequences of this fight? And can Gene lay to rest a ghost from his past?

18th March

New Tricks

"ID Parade"

When a series of guns are discovered in a diving operation, the team open the case of a murdered policewoman when it is revealed that one gun is the weapon that was used to kill her. When DNA evidence reveals that the same gun was used in an armed robbery six months previously, a web of lies is exposed.



"Painting On Loan"

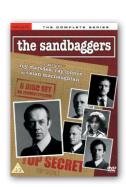
A fake painting is discovered in the Queen's art collection. The investigation swiftly reveals a trail of frauds and suspicious deaths until the team ultimately find out who bought one of the fake paintings, and this leads to the identity of the forger and discovery of the real painting.

25th March

The Sandbaggers

"Is your journey really necessary?"

Jack Landy is inside the USSR illegally. He is also late and out of communication. His colleague, Alan Denson is waiting for him in Iran. Burnside can't afford to lose two officers at once. A British official is being wildly indiscrete in gay Paris. The foreign office demands that Burnside send an officer to investigate.



"The most suitable person"

Burnside needs to replace the missing members of his team. Willie goes to the firm's training school and learns that a woman named Laura Dickens is the best candidate. Burnside quickly tidies his desk and adjusts his tie. The CIA has learned that one of Burnside's officers is seeing a psychiatrist who recruits patients with military backgrounds. Donald Sinden.





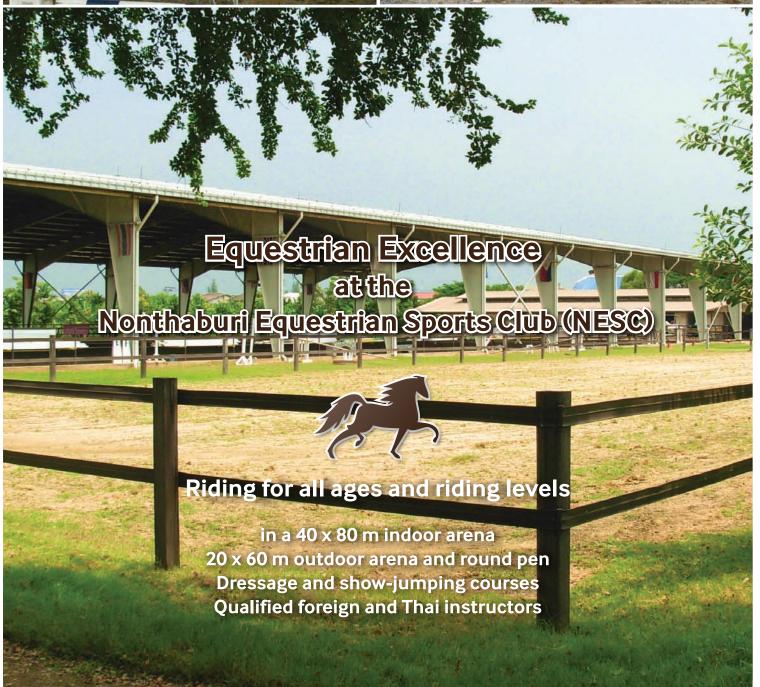
23rd March 2013 at Impact Arena

Ticket for members Bt 1,800 / Non-members Bt 2,000

Price includes coach to/from the stadium, leaving the Club at 8:30am







For more information or a map to NESC, please contact Carol or Leenawan

