

#### ZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK

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LOOKINGBACK Five-a-side Football New / 20+yrs Members Night

SPOTLIGHT **Reciprocal Clubs** Dr Who 2011

FUN&GAMES **Balut Cups Night Bridge: Sacrifice or Swindle** 

### What if you knew you will develop a particular condition later in life?



#### Gene Test

is primarily focused on assessing health risks. By understanding these risks, you will be able to make little changes in your lifestyle for bigger health benefits.

#### What will you get from Gene SNP

- To know your risk of developing diseases and be able to prevent its occurrence or lower the risk.
- To develop a health prevention plan.
- To know your metabolism and waste elimination rate and be able to understand your body better.
- To get your customized diet, lifestyle and supplement plan customized for your unique needs.



#### Predictive & Preventive Care

- Anti-Aging
- Weight Management
- Diabetes Mellitus Clinic
- Metabolic Disorders
- Integrative Medicine (Homeopathy, Acupuncture)
- Gene Testing











#### REPORTINGS

) Message from the GM **J**A quick update from last month





**F&B Morsels** News of a culinary nature

New and 20 Yr Members Night Celebrating both ends of the spectrum

Five-a-side Football Team competition at its finest!

#### **SPORTS**

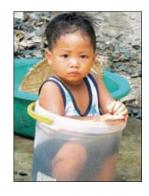
**Sport and Leisure** UFrom Pool Party to Fishing!

Tennis Including Tennis Etiquette



**Hard Balls** Southerners and Perth Swans

Golf ZMatches and Awards



#### **FRONT COVER**

Thailand is known throughout the world for the Songkran celebrations which begin anytime after 10 April and continue for up to a week. It's the Thai New Year, the end of the drv season, and the water festival is an excuse for several days of lunacy when nobody is spared from ice-cold water, scent and powder. Time to be happy. to laugh, to get wet, and to wish each other "Sawasdee Pi Mai".



#### **SPOTLIGHT**



**Silence Will Fall!** A preview of the 48th year of Doctor Who

#### **CLUB FEATURES**



#### **NOW SHOWING**

**Monday Night Club** Bite your nails and Scratch your head

#### **FUN AND GAMES**

Balut Balut Cups Night Report

**O Bridge** OSacrifice or Swindle

#### THE CLUB AT HOME

#### Susie's Kids Korner Eggs and Bunnies

#### OUTPOST

Outpost is the monthly publication of THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK. the international club for friends and families in the heart of Bangkok. A full version of the magazine is also available online at www.britishclubbangkok.org/outpost Opinions expressed need not necessarily represent those of the Club. All events, dates and times are correct at time of press. Outpost welcomes contributions from Members. No part of this publication may be reproduced without the written permission of the Publisher.

## THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK

#### **GENERAL COMMITTEE** Chairman Jonathan Truslow

chairman@britishclubbangkok.org

**General Committee** Members Sarah Allen, Philip Alexander, David Blowers, John Bleho, lain Brewster, Paul Cheesman,

Ian Harry, Dale Lamb, Jeremy Watson gc@britishclubbangkok.org **SENIOR MANAGERS** 

**General Manager** Jesper Doepping gm@britishclubbangkok.org

**Deputy General Manager – Finance** Premrudee Tanvaluck premrudee@britishclubbangkok.org

**Development & Facility Manager** John Boisclair john@britishclubbangkok.org

**Sports & Recreation Manager Reed Passmore** reed@britishclubbangkok.org

**Events & Sales Manager** Simon Causton simon@britishclubbangkok.org

#### THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK

189 Surawongse Road, Bangkok 10500 **Entrance via Silom Soi 18** Tel: +66 (0) 2 234 0247 Fax: +66 (0) 2 235 1560 info@ britishclubbangkok.org www.britishclubbangkok.org



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12th Floor, Vanissa Building 29 Soi Chidlom, Bangkok 10330. Tel: +66 (0) 2 650 3450-4 Fax: +66 (0) 2 650 3455

Publisher Jim Fowler - jim@veritasgraphics.com **Managing Editor** Dean Outerson - dean Qveritas graphics.com Designer Dew Piyaman - dew Qveritas graphics.com



## RUAMRUDEE International School

Ruamrudee International School is pleased to announce expanded summer school sessions designed to support families and provide educational, academic, social, and entertainment value to our students. We will have a threeweek session from 6 June to 24 June followed by a two-week session from 18 July to 29 July.

## Our regular academic year 2011-2012 is now open for application and registration.



- A marine science class that includes scuba diving and reef research with professors from Mahidol University International College
- A middle school trip to Angkor Wat to learn about the rise and fall of great Asian empires
- Arts, fine arts, performing arts, cultural and athletic summer camps for students of all ages
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For information on our summer program or other details about RIS's outstanding academic, athletic, performing & fine arts, or community service programs, or to arrange a visit to our beautiful campus, please contact us at 66 (0) 2518-0320 or info@rism.ac.th.

6 Ramkhamhaeng 184, Minburi, Bangkok 10510, Thailand. Website: www.rism.ac.th Tel: +66 (0) 2518 0320 Fax: +66 (0) 2518 0334 E-mail: info@rism.ac.th



CollegeBoard AP

## **MESSAGE FROM THE GM**



Jesper Doepping

#### Dear Members,

One more month has gone and my first year at the Club has just passed, and the year has indeed been quite a challenge. In that time, we had the political turmoil followed by the low season and the closing of two tennis courts. The lack of the "automatic signing up of new Members" meant that we had to teach our Members to use the Club. We have actually succeeded rather well with that since the average spend per Member since October has been 5% above that of previous years. This 5%, however, is not enough to compensate for the lack of membership. February was similar in this respect. Our operational revenue was 100,000 baht better than last year, and across every measure we were better than last year except membership. However, last year is not our aim for this year, and I believe that with better service in all outlets, especially the Salas, we can improve our results considerably. The service level is still far from satisfactory. We are still short of both service and kitchen staff. We believed that we could recruit personnel from other hotels and restaurants in the town, however this has been very difficult. We have therefore changed our strategy considerably and established a training process to cover English communication, service and cooking. By doing that we have already been able to recruit more staff, and we are training the staff internally. This process is far slower, but we believe it to be the only way to increase the service level in the long run.

In a normal year we lose 11-15% of our Members because they are relocated to other positions in the region or return to their country of origin. This puts a lot of pressure on the Club because to maintain existing membership levels we need up to 150 new Members a year, and the objective of reaching 1050 Members this year means that we must recruit 200 new Members. This can only be achieved with the help of existing Members. At the time of writing, we stand at 998 Members. This means that for the first time we have more Members than last year, and hope to continue that trend. We are therefore re-launching our 'Members get Members' campaign and we hope that you will tell your friends and colleagues about the Club and particularly any new arrivals in Bangkok whom you may meet. After all, the best advertisement for any Club is its present Members.

During the year we have also started repositioning the Club as **the social**, **sports and cultural centre for the English speaking community in Bangkok**. We are still an oasis in Bangkok that offers professionals, business people, their families and friends a Club with a strong British and international culture and ambience, hosting a wide range of sports, business, cultural and social activities. To support this positioning we are redoing our website, all our advertisement material and banners. The advertisement collateral was introduced in March and visible for all at the AGM.

In this past month we have also introduced our new wine menu and our Western food menu. When you study the menu, you will notice that while the majority of items have retained their price level, some have increased by 5-10 baht, and a few have decreased in price. This shows that despite food prices increasing, we are running a more efficient kitchen. Up until now we have been very happy with the positive feedback we have received, both for melding all the menus into one and for the changes included in the menu. But since we are a Members Club, we still look forward to additional feedback about the new menu.

You will see in John Boisclair's report that we have to redo the surface of the tennis courts. This is everybody's worst nightmare. The management team have insisted that it will happen in March or April and not during the rainy season. The Club faces the dilemma that the courts right now are very fast and thus need repair, though closing them impacts the Club's revenue. Hopefully this time the company will manage to supervise it properly and do it right.

The coming month will be special with many vacation days in Thailand. Songkran is traditionally a quieter time for the Club, but this year we plan to make it more exciting by having a specific area for children to play with water, our traditional Easter hunt, the Club's birthday party, and many other activities too. One thing that will change is the amount of music played at the Club. There are two reasons for this: firstly, changing from monthly to weekly music showed no increase in revenue, and secondly we are going into the rainy season very soon which dictates a reduction in the number of performances anyway.

THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK

## Songkran Poos Rady and For Fun Wednesday I 3 April 2011 A polside and Front Lawn

Free Entry 50 Baht Margaritas from 4pm-7pm Songrkan Fun Water Polo competition Limbo Dancing Water and Pool games Join us for an afternoon of wet and wild fun!

THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK Postal Address 189 Surawongse Road, Bangrak, Bangkok 10500 Tel. 66 2234 0247 Fax. 66 2235 1560

Email: info@britishclubbangkok.org www.britishclubbangkok.org

#### HOUSE & GROUNDS The monthly report on maintenance and development



First of all, I will bring you up-to-date on the status of the tennis courts. After much discussion with the contractor, we have insisted that the defects are rectified at times that minimize the disruption to the tennis players, and any loss of revenue to the Club. Courts 2 & 3 will be worked on for a period of one week starting on Monday 28th March. The newly-applied surface will then be left for 6 days before it can be played on. After the Songkran Festival, work will start on the Centre Court and Court 1 on 18th April and should take a slightly shorter period as there are no major cracks to repair. Now that we are entering the rainy part of the year we will hope for fair weather.

We will be recommending to the General Committee that they approve a quotation received from a specialist architectural finishing company for the repair and re-painting of the squash courts. I recognize that the front walls, in particular, have a history of extensive repair using special materials, and have therefore specifically approached companies that have the necessary experience of using these products. If any Members have records, especially photographs of repair work carried out previously, I would find them very useful as they would enable me to brief the contractor before the repair work to the front walls is started. The courts will be worked on consecutively and, depending on the extent of repair work, should each be closed for up to 1 week. Incidentally, the balustrade recently installed on Court 1 has not been signed off at the time of writing, as there are some defects that need putting right.

I recently visited the excellent "Ancient City" museum of Thai buildings located near Samut Prakan. My son had been there on a school trip and was sufficiently interested to ask me to take him again. I had not been for 15 years and was, therefore, extremely impressed with the way in which this unusual attraction has been developed since I was last there. One of the buildings we went into was of a similar size to the Suriwongse Sala with a traditional Thai roof that had not been concealed underneath with a gypsum ceiling. I put the suggestion forward that, when the Sala roof is replaced, we could omit the ceiling



and finish the timber in a similar manner so we would end up with an authentic Thai roof. I include an illustrative photo below. This suggestion has had strong support and, subject to the approval of the General Committee, will be adopted when we carry out the work. Hopefully, this will be in April.

We will also be recommending that a quotation received for the repainting of the Clubhouse is accepted and that work begins before the rains start falling on a daily basis. The selection of equipment for the Fitness Centre is not progressing very well as it has proved to be a less than simple matter to choose from the extensive range of products on offer. We cannot finalise the layout and complete the detailed drawings until everyone is in agreement regarding the equipment.

As I write, the A/C unit is being replaced in the Silom Room. Many Members will be pleased to know that future meetings in this room will not be accompanied by the rattling of the ceiling ductwork above their heads. On the other hand, we have not been successful at finding someone to repair the TV rack in the Suriwongse Sala. We are ready to give up and buy a replacement.

The regulars in the Churchill Bar will have been a little bemused regarding the removal of one green panel and no followup to reinstate it. The panel was removed and found to be rotten with damp and fungal growth. This explains the smell, particularly early in the morning before the A/C is switched on. The outer wall is very damp and I had recommended that we also remove the other two panels and simply repair the wall and paint it. The dado-rail would also be replaced. After much discussion it was agreed to adopt my recommendation on the grounds of price and the fact that even replacing the panels with damp resistant materials would still allow fungal growth in the void behind the panel. It is therefore farewell to the green panels that some Members had taken a liking to.

On the night of the Balut's Cup we were waiting for our buffet meal when the electricity tripped in the Silom Room. After the circuit had been reconnected and had tripped again at least twice, it was discovered that the meat warmer had a serious fault and it was unplugged. It was an annoying and slightly embarrassing occurrence, particularly when we had almost 30 guest players from Singapore. However, it was a relief that our upgraded electrical system functioned as it should, and the staff did not receive an electrical shock as they sometimes used to do. I will leave you with that positive thought.

All for now

John Boisclair Development & Facility Manager



#### Essential financial skills for children (and some adults!)

This article looks at some everyday ideas that parents can use to help teach their children an appreciation of financial management which will serve them well for life.

In today's world, financial markets seem to have become inextricably linked with all our lives as the recent global financial crisis has demonstrated; even if we are not active investors or savers. Since financial skills education rarely forms part of a school's curriculum, one of the most important life skills parents can teach their children is the basics of personal finance. This simple act will put your children well on their way to knowing how to ensure financial independence. This education will prove to be a shared experience with our children for many more adults than would care to admit it!

When is your child ready to learn about money and savings? The answer is almost as soon as they can count and do basic addition and subtraction sums. Once they have mastered simple sums, it can be time to lay the first foundations of financial awareness and the concepts of value and saving, but it should be a fun lesson! Try to introduce the concept of delayed reward (saving) which is conditional upon good behaviour and saving the moment of gratification for a little later. This might be as simple as eating a chocolate bar later or watching a cartoon in the afternoon rather than now. Reward good behaviour with encouragement and treats, one of which could be in the form of pennies. Make a huge fanfare of giving your child a piggy bank, ideally a see-through one, so your child can see the pennies accumulate as their good behaviour is rewarded.

To your young child, mum and dad may seem to be a bank that never runs out of money. It's important that children feel secure and it would be wrong to place financial worries on such young shoulders, but that doesn't mean you shouldn't explain the financial facts of life to them. Take the humble ATM machine for instance – to a child, it may seem to be a magic box that provides you with a limitless supply of cash: you put in a magic card, type a magic number and, hey presto, out comes the cash! Explain to them that the ATM is just like the piggy bank that you gave them and you can only take out money from it if you have put it there in the first place; it's a simple enough concept for a young mind to grasp.

If you can, it can be helpful to show your children where you work. Tell them that you work to buy them the things that they need and like and to pay for your lifestyle. Explain that by doing your job, you are exchanging your time and skills for money and your employer puts money into your piggy bank for you.

As your child begins to grow-up, another important lesson in life is that nothing comes for free. Exposing your child to the act of paying bills will help them realise that nearly everything in life requires money. Make it a point to take your children shopping; especially for groceries. Young children find it very easy to relate to groceries, at this age their treats might be chocolate bars, bags of crisps and fizzy drinks! Another idea is to make the food shopping trip an educational outing. Before you go, sit down with your child and make a list. Give your child a calculator (if you have more then one child give each their own calculator, it will be better for you in the long run!). As you find each item on the list at the supermarket, tick it off and add it to the total on the calculator. Another easy lesson is identifying one item on the list, perhaps a box of cereal. Give your child a certain amount of money and make them responsible for paying for that one item. When they are around 10 years of age, get them to compare the price of different brands of the same type

of cereal – discuss the disparity in price and introduce the concept of branding and how advertisers target consumers.

When you think your child is ready, you should introduce an allowance, or pocket-money system. Begin with a weekly allowance and help them to keep a spending diary – this is just a simple record to note down what their allowance has been spent on be it sweets, snacks or toys and games. This is the first step in helping them make plans for their spending and, with time, will teach them to make choices as to how they spend their money. This is the time to start teaching your children the art of setting goals, identifying short term and medium term goals (for children under the age of eight, it is best to identify goals that are attainable within two months). As a first step, put aside a sum for silly unplanned items instant gratification! The second step is to identify a toy, game, book or something your child really wants - this is the medium term goal, which requires them to save a portion of their allowance. Start small so that the children achieve these goals quickly and thereafter feel tremendous satisfaction when the goal is met. This is an important lesson as it teaches your child how to plan their expenses. Make sure the piggy bank is handy for savings to keep the children away from temptation.

The most important rule is for you, the parent. Don't give in; do not supplement the allowance when it runs out! Suggest instead that children boost allowances with extra work around the house. This will help your children learn that money is the result of hard work. Children should also be taught to understand that doing chores, like making their beds and washingup after dinner, is part of being in a family and not something that should be rewarded. Earning money should come from tasks that are beyond regular chores. As your child gets older, you should seriously consider letting them have summer jobs or part time jobs.

Another interesting exercise is calculating the costs of the same thing in different countries, using exchange rates. A perfect example of this is the story of my 10-year-old son who had been saving his allowance for 3 months to buy a Lego toy. In Bangkok, it cost THB1800 (SGD 90), but on a weekend trip to Singapore, he found the same toy for SGD 100. Whilst waiting in the departure lounge for our return flight, he found the exact same toy for SGD56! He was so thrilled that he had found such a bargain.

Another good idea would be to create a family goal, maybe buying an Ipad or a family holiday away. These are luxuries that no one should take for granted. As parents, you need to emphasize that the whole family needs to work together. Have a huge bowl where saved money is dropped in - rewards, and money from chores. Parents contribute too. If it's a family holiday plan it together, identify one small part that the kids can earn towards. If you are saving towards a relatively expensive item, such as the Ipad, the chances are that at some stage the store will offer the item at a discounted price. This is a golden opportunity to explain to your child about the concept of discounts and sales in general. Whilst on the subject of discounts; a trip to the local supermarket will also provide a wealth of examples where a product is available with, say, 25% more product for the same price. It can also be very instructive to compare unit prices for items against the price for buying the same item as a "multibuy" discount item. Whilst you are there, show your child the cost of convenience items - in a European supermarket, the cost for prepared, sliced mushrooms, for instance, can be three or more times the unit price for fresh, loose mushrooms: you may also be alarmed at the additional cost the supermarket charges you for a plastic box and a film wrapper that you'll throw away as soon as you get home and cook your meal!

As children get older, relatives will increasingly tend to give them cash at Christmas and for their birthday so that they can choose exactly what they want. This phase tends to coincide with increasing sophistication on the part of your child whereby they may want to save up for expensive items or have their own money available for holidays and trips. Often, banks will have promotional activities to encourage children to open accounts with them. Help your child to find a good deal and open an account with them that will offer interest on their savings. These days, there is no such thing as loyalty towards the customer; so encourage your youngster to check from time to time to see that they have the best deal available. Before you know it, you may find you have raised the next George Soros!



\*The possibilities are endless



THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK

## The British Club Bangkok

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## Invite you to join us to celebrate The Club's 108th Birthday & St. George's Day Fair Saturday 23rd April 2011 From 12 noon onwards 450 baht for Members

• Games • Market • Music & great food and drink

450 baht for Members 600 baht for Guests Book now with Anne or Simon



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## **SIMON SAYS...**



Simon Causton

Bangkok is often referred to as a village by the majority of its expat community, due to the close-knit network of people and the frequency with which people bump into each other. Here at the Club our aim is to be the village hall or community centre of that village. Providing regular events and activities that bring the expatriate community together is key to this and we are always striving to think of new ideas for doing this. As always I am keen to hear any suggestions you may have.

April is going to be a very busy month at the Club and we hope that there is something to meet the needs and wants of all our Members. On the first Sunday of the month (3rd April) we will have a special Mothering Sunday Buffet, with a free glass of bubbly for each mother who orders. On the first day of Songkran (Wednesday 13th April) we will be holding a Songkran Pool Party. Starting at 4pm, we will have discounted cocktails, a water polo and limbo competition and lots of water-based games to celebrate Thai New Year. On the 23rd April, the Club will be celebrating both its 108th birthday and St. George's Day with a fair. Come down and enjoy lots of stalls with games, fun for all the family, and as always, great food and drink.

The following day, during what must be one of the busiest weekends this year at the Club, we will be holding a special Easter Sunday meal and Easter Egg Hunt. Book your table now in either the Verandah, the Churchill Bar, or on the Back Lawn for a traditional Easter buffet and lots of fun for the children.

To mark the royal wedding on 29th April, we will be serving a special dinner in the Verandah with live coverage of William and Kate's big day from 5pm onwards. There will also be the Bouncy Castle and some fun 'royal- themed' children's activities on the Back Lawn.

So it's a busy month ahead at the Club as in addition we will have lots of live music, our movie night, dancing classes and a special Thai gourmet dinner with a special presentation on how to match Thai food with wine.

Members are the lifeblood of the Club in so many ways, we are always looking for new Members and your help is always appreciated. If you know of anyone whom you feel is an ideal candidate for Club membership, then let us know. With our Member-get-Members scheme, you will also get 3% of their joining fee as F&B credit on your Club account. It really is a win-win situation with your friends being Members of the Club, and being able to celebrate with a drink that is paid for by them joining!

I look forward to seeing you at the Club over the coming month.

OFFICIAL OPENING TIMES					
The Verandah	11am - 10pm				
Neilson Hays Coffee Shop	9am - 6pm	<b>Fitness Centre</b>	6am - 10pm (Mon-Fri)		
Churchill Bar	10am - 11pm	<b>Fitness Centre</b>	6am - 9pm (Sat-Sun)		
Poolside Bar	6:15am - 11pm Last food orders 10pm	Thai Massage	9am - 5pm (Tues-Sun)		



## EXPRESS LUNCHEONS April

4th - 8th April 2011

Starters 50 baht Mozzarella, Mango and Tomato Salad or Chef's Soup of the Day

Main Courses 130 baht Seafood Lasaana

Served with Garlic Bread or Chicken Korma Served with Yellow Rice or

Mini Steak with Gravy Sauce Served with Mixed Vegetables, Roasted Potato or

Tod Saeb Look Chin Pla Gai Rad Sauce Makham Khai Jeaw Hoy Nang Rom

Dessert of the Day 50 baht or Choose from our à la Carte Dessert with 10% off

#### 25th - 29th April 2011

Starters 50 baht Garden Green Salad Tosses with Balsamic Vinaigrette or Chef's Soup of the Day

Main Courses 130 baht Minced Beef and Onion Pie Served with Croguette Potatoes and Sauteéd Cabbage and Bacon or Mexican Style Prawn Skewer

Grilled Prawns Seasoned with Lime Juice, Coriander Leaves and Mixed Herbs accompanied with Mixed Salad and Corn Salsa or

Turkey Lasagna with Garlic Bread and Mixed Green Salad or

Pla Sam Ros Tom Kha Gai Phad Pak Ruam Nam Man Hoy

Dessert of the Day 50 baht or

Choose from our à la Carte Dessert with 10% off

11th - 15th April 2011

Starters 50 baht Beatroot, Smoked Chicken, Avocado and Mango Salad or Chef's Soup of the Day

Main Courses 130 baht Pan-Seared Pacific Dory Fish with Mornay Sauce Served with Broccoli. Carrots and Mashed Potato or Indian Chicken Curry Served with Rice or Salmon Fishcakes Served with Chips, Garden Peas and Tartare Sauce or Phad Woon Sen Moo Sab Pla Sam Ros

Phad Pak Ruam
Dessert of the Day 50 baht

or Choose from our à la Carte Dessert with 10% off

#### 18th - 22th April 2011

Starters 50 baht Warm Nicoise Salad Served with French Beans, Eggs, Black Olives, Anchovies and Cherry Tomatoes or Chef's Soup of the Day

Main Courses 130 baht Pan-Seared Pacific Dory Served with Apple Scented Mashed Potatoes, Vegetables and White Wine Cream Sauce or Grilled Cajun Chicken Served with Roasted Potatoes and Vegetables or Braised Beef with Peas, Carrots and Mashed Potato or Yam Som O Phad Gai Preow Wan

Phad Phak Ruam Mit Nam Mun Hoy Dessert of the Day 50 baht

Choose from our à la Carte Dessert with 10% off

## **F&B MORSELS**



Khun Laak

#### Dear Members,

Last month we finally introduced the new Western menu which is available in all Club outlets. This completes our change of all the menus. Some Members have asked what the basis was for discontinuing some dishes. The answer is simple; we have only cancelled items that do not sell. Some will come back as Specials from time to time, because we know that they only sell when they are Specials. One example is the shrimp cocktail - some Members have asked why it has disappeared, and the answer is because it ONLY sells when we put it up as a special of the week, the same being true for pork knuckles.

I will be the first to admit that in the first few weeks after introducing the new menu, we were sometimes slow in serving food. Regardless of how well prepared you think you are, when the orders actually come in it is different, and our speed and confidence are lower when we have to serve new dishes. However, we promise that we will quickly get back to our usual claim on the menu - 20 minutes delivery time.

We have already had a lot of positive feedback from Members on the new menus, and we hope this will continue as well as you telling us the dishes that you miss! Our next project is to develop a small vegetarian menu that can be integrated into the overall menu at a later date.

Next month we will have a special Gourmet Dinner. This time we will combine wine-tasting with a Thai Gourmet Dinner. The purpose of this "wine-tasting" is to introduce wines that you can drink with different kinds of Thai food. I think a lot of Members will look forward to this because most people already know how to combine wine with western food. But Thai foods have so many kinds of flavour which are different from Western foods that it challenges most people's ability to choose the right wine to complement Thai food.

I look forward to meeting and talking with you in the near future.

THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK	N	EUROPEAN DINING	r
1st- 15th April 2011		16th – 30th April 2011	
Starters		Starters	
Chef's Soup of the Day Crab meat and Grape Fruit Salad with	75	Chef's Soup of the Day	75
Thousand Island Dressing	185	Rocket Salad with Shaved Parmesan, Slow Roast Potatoes and Balsamic Dressing	105
Main Courses		Ŭ	185
Australia Strip Loin with Pepper Sauce Served withPumpkin Tart, French Beans andHome Fried Potatoes	490	Main Courses T-Bone Steak Served with Café de Paris Sauce, Grilled Button Mushrooms, Tomatoes and Home Fried Potatoes	535
Snow Fish Meuniere with Caper and Olives Butter Sauce, French Beans, Carrots, Asparagus,Zucchini, Leek and Potatoes Confit	575	Baked Whole Rainbow Trout with Capers, Almonds, Amaretto Meuniere Sauce Served with Broccoli, Carrots, Garlic Mashed Potatoes.	575
Risotto of Salmon and Wild Mushroom in a CreamySauce Accompanied with Rocket and Pesto	285	Fillet of Pork Roll with Wild Mushroom and Parma Ham Accompanied with Honey Mustard Sauce, Asian Greens and Croquette Potatoes	285
Dessert		Dessert	
Blair Gowrie Cream A Cream of blended oats, whiskyand mixed Berry compote Served with Shortbread	120	Artic Roll with Berry Compote and Cream	85

#### 7th April 2011

**THEMOV** 

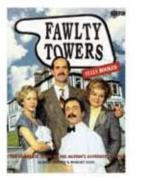
The Life of Brian - Monty Python delivers a scathing, anarchic satire of both religion and Hollywood's depiction of all things biblical with their second film. The setting is Judea 33 A.D, a time of poverty and chaos, with no shortage of messiahs, followers willing to believe in them, and exasperated Romans trying to impose some order. At the centre of it all is Brian Cohen (Graham Chapman), a reluctant would-be messiah who rises to rominence as a result of a series of absurd and truly hilarious circumstances providing ample opportunity for the entire ensemble (John Cleese, Eric Idle, Terry Gilliam, Terry Jones, Michael Palin, and Chapman) to shine in multiple roles as they mock everyone and everything from ex-lepers, Pontius Pilate, the art of haggling to crazy prophets, Roman centurions, and crucifixion.

#### 14th April 2011

Gavin & Stacey- Season 1 - episode 1 &2 - Come down and follow the drama. laugh and experiences of Gavin andStacey's trials in dealing with a long distance relationship in modern day UK. Described as 'amiable, unpretentious, wellscripted, nicely acted and archly amusing. It's a good series, taking its place in a well-worn comedic progression, stretching back to The Liver Birds'

#### 21st April 2011

Withnail and I - For the bitter at heart, Richard E. Grant as Withnail is a true hero. The adventures of the two protagonists, penniless artists in 60s London, are a cult classic for Brits and those who wish they were.



#### 28th April 2011

Fawlty Towers - Series 1 - episodes 1 & 2 - John Cleese as irascible Torquay hotel owner Basil Fawlty, and Prunella Scales as his domineering wife Sybil-his "little nest of vipers". Connie Booth played Polly the dependable maid and general assistant, and last but certainly not least, little Manuel superbly played by Andrew Sachs-the tyrannized waiter from Barcelona, dogsbody and subject of frequent physical attacks by the demented Basil!

All films start @ 7pm please confirm with reception in where they will be Book now with Simon or Anne



Stace

#### **Looking Back**

## **NEW MEMBER AND 20 YEAR MEMBERS NIGHT**

1st March saw 2011's annual gathering of Members was a lovely night that not only celebrated our loyal Members who have offered the Club over 20 years of service, but also allowed our newest Members the opportunity to meet some of the more mature in membership Members. With over 150 Members who have passed the landmark, it was a busy night, with the Chairman himself reaching 20 years of membership and greeting the assembled guests.





















## **FIVE-A-SIDE FOOTBALL**

On 19th February, five teams gathered on the back lawn to prepare for the first of many five-a-side football tournaments. Some of the teams were practicing weeks in advance; the staff were practicing, planning and focussing while others had a 2 minute briefing over a beer.

After the first round, there were two standout favourites and a dark horse that were all in the running for the Championship.

The Tennis team led by Michael had a little of everything: skill, power and fitness. The Staff team also looked quite sharp and the Squash team really came on strong. That left the Big Chili team who performed well, and the St George's Society team. I was sure they had the skills but when they asked "where's the beer" before "where are we playing", I felt certain they would run out of puff.

After four hard matches we saw a little blood, a lot of sweat and many great goals. The results whittled the competition down to just two teams.

#### The Final : Tennis team vs Staff team

It turned out that the Staff team were the favourites for this game, and with scores level at half time, we were all on the edge of our seats when Luc kicked a massive leftfooter which put the Tennis team in front.

From that moment on, the Tennis boys' confidence exploded and they put another winner into the back of the net to take the Final at 3-1.

I would like to thank all the players, supporters and sponsors for this event, and I look forward to the next one where we will encourage a few more teams to come down and enjoy the day.







## **BACKYARD CRICKET**

Many BC Members donned their best flip-flops, dressed for the beach, and played some backyard cricket on Saturday 5th March.

With rules similar to a typical back yard game, teams of 4 all bowled and batted and enjoyed a fun, fast afternoon on the back pitch with a few vocal spectators to add to the atmosphere.

We first played a round robin, which was surprisingly a lot tougher than first anticipated, and with players diving for the crease before thinking of the consequences, there were a few sore bodies by the end of play.

After each team had played 2 full matches, the light started to fade so with no outright winner, we decided to put together a closing match formed from some eager spectators into a "Kids vs Ladies" match, which was a lot of fun.

Thank you to all players and supporters, and I hope you had as much fun as I did.



THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK

oyal



The British Club Bangkok Is proud to be showing The Royal Wedding Friday 29 April 2011 5 pm till late

> Live Screening in the Verandah Special Royal Wedding buffet Bouncy Castle and activities on the back lawn for kids 450 Baht per person for buffet 950 Baht per person for buffet with a bottle of the wine of the month.

Don't miss out on being part of William and Kate's big day.

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Email: info@britishclubbangkok.org www.britishclubbangkok.org



THE BRITISH CLUB

## at The British Club Bangkok 24<sup>th</sup> April 2011

Caster

## **Book now with Anne or Simon to avoid** missing out on an 'Egg-citing Day!'

We will be serving a very special Easter buffet in the Verndah, Churchill Bar and Back Lawn. 450 baht per adult 250 baht per child Great Children's activities Including bouncy castle, magic Show, JBC entertainers, a fancy dress competition

and of course our Famous Easter Egg Hunt!

## Don't panic, Captain Mainwaring!

## HMRC is attacking UK exiles everywhere... even in Thailand

However, if you have the best advice there's no need to panic – but you do need to plan properly. To find out how the 2011 budget will affect expatriates contact Craig Massey of MBMG's UK tax desk.

Tel: +66 (0)2665 2534 Email: craig@mbmg-international.com www.mbmg-international.com

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#### PAST PARTICIPLE Auspicium Melioris Ævi By Paul Cheesman

We look back at events of 1962 ...

This was a year that started out with a lot of decisions to 'do nothing'.

The first was in February when it was proposed to put to the AGM to have 'Associate Members' within the Club, that being to have Members other than "citizens of the United Kingdom and such other persons who are of British descent, as the committee may decide". The Committee decided that "no resolution be put"!

In the same vein it was requested that British ladies married to non-British men should be able to obtain 'Ladies' privileges' – again the Committee decided that "no resolution be put"!

Later in the year a popular proposal to build a Squash Court at the Club to increase the number of sports played was equally rejected. Then Members asked that the car park lines were widened to allow for bigger cars – guess what the Committee said?



One thing that did go ahead, however, was the refit of 'The Bar' with a new bar, a new refrigerator and a new central ceiling fan [remember the bar was only the octagonal section of what is

now The Verandah]. This new bar was opened in the April at the cost of 90,000 Ticals (roughly £1,500).

We also introduced a draught beer for the first time, namely Singha, and as not initially popular, it took a few months before we sold enough to warrant receiving credit from Boon Rawd Brewery. Whilst the launch of the new Bar was received very well by Members, there were complaints that we kept the old bar stools which were uncomfortable.



Although initially very popular, the Bowling Alley (roughly where our Cricket nets are now) had fallen into disrepair, so the

Committee decided to spend some 63,100 Ticals on repairing the Alley and especially levelling the floor which had warped. A new ball was purchased, old balls repaired and three Members donated new balls.

Unfortunately no good deed ever goes unpunished, because once the Bowling Alley was back in full use, we received a complaint from the Police relating to the noise it generated!



Although Canada commenced diplomatic relations with Thailand in November 1961 it was not until 1962 that the Club offered the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,

H.E. Charles Eustace McGaughey, an Honorary Membership. Strangely it is not recorded in the minutes whether it was accepted!



Toward the end of the year the unspeakable happened - the Committee decided to sell the Club!

The Committee had concluded that further development on our land was not possible due to size constraints and lack of funds, thus we should sell the Club if at all possible. It was thought that we would be allowed to buy any land that had been in British ownership prior to the 1954 Land Act with permission of H.M. The King. It was noted, however, that our land was still mortgaged to the Hong Kong & Shanghai Bank.

An offer had been made for the two land plots that we held and the idea was to buy land in Sathorn Road owned by the Borneo Company. Fortunately, the offer was withdrawn before any Royal permission needed to be sought and the Club mortgages redeemed.

However, it was also realised that the limitation on all this isvelopment was money, and of this we had little, although the Club property itself, is valued highly I must whisper this !

The answer to all our problems appeared to be (1) to obtain a purchaser for these premises and grounds, which are rapidly becoming built-in, and (2) to obtain an alternative suitable site.

At this stage, a tentative offer was received, indirectly, to purchase these premises, and at the same time it became possible to foresee a possible very desirable alternative site which could be put at our disposal if suitable financial arrangements could be made.

Therefore, your Committee decided to go easy on further development to see how matters would develop.

We still have nothing definite to report to you except to say that a firm offer may be made to us very shortly. If and when that is received it will be necessary for the Committee to call an E.G.M. to seek your permission to proceed.

That is how matters stand and at this stage I can say, with Mr. Heath's permission that the alternative site is that on which the Borneo Co., Manager's House stands in Sathorn Road, and which is larger and extremely desirable from pur point of view.

Naturally, no arrangements would be made to dispose of this Club until the arrangements for the alternative site had been completed, but we do not unticipate any difficulty from that side, in fact I have every reason to suppose would be welcomed.

The whisper of the end?

## **BC CALENDAR - APRIL 2011**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THU
28	29	30	
	Ladies Mix-In 8 am 5	6	Ladies Mix-In 8 am
BWG Mahjong 10am - 1pm	Fitball 10:30am		Fitball 10:30am
Tennis Mix-In 6pm-10pm	Squash Mix-In	Tennis Mix-In 6pm-10pm	
Monday Night Club Judgment Day Wordsworth Lounge, 7pm	Squash Mix-In Spm-7pm Senior Football 7pm	BCB Balut Shield Wordsworth Lounge 7.05pm	Squash Mix-In 5pm-7pm Thursday Night Mov Life of Brian, 7pm
BWG Mahjong 10am - 1pm	Ladies Mix-In A am	<b>13</b>	<b>Ladies Mix-In</b> 8 am
	Squash Mix-In Spm-7pm	Songkran Pool Party 4pm	
Tennis Mix-In 6pm-10pm Monday Night Club	Senior Football	Tennis Mix-In 6pm-10pm	Squash Mix-In 5pm-7pm Thursday Night Mov Gavin & Stacey.
The Sins of the Fathers Wordsworth Lounge, 7pm	Quiz Night 7.30pm		S1 Ep1,2 7pm
Sports Camp 9.30 am BWG Mahjong 10am - 1pm	8 am Sports Camp 9.30 am	9.30 am	8 am 9.30 am
Tennis Mix-In 6pm-10pm	Fitball 10:30am	Tennis Mix-In 6pm-10pm Ballroom Dancing	Fitball 10:30am Squash Mix-In Spm-7pm
Monday Night Club Problem at Sea/ The Incredible Theft Wordsworth Lounge, 7pm	Squash Mix-In Spm-7pm Senior Football	7pm BCB Balut Shield Wordsworth Lounge 7.05pm	Thursday Night Mov Withnail & I, 7pm Thai Gourmet Dinner
BWG Mahjong 10am - 1pm	Ladies Mix-In 8 am <b>26</b>	27	7pm Ladies Mix-In 8 am
	Fitball     10:30am		Titball 10:30am
Tennis Mix-In 6pm-10pm Monday Night Club	Squash Mix-In Spm-7pm	Tennis Mix-In 6pm-10pm Salsa Dancing	Squash Mix-In 5pm-7pm Thursday Night Mov
And The Moonbeams Kiss The Sea Wordsworth Lounge, 7pm	Senior Football 7pm	7pm	Fawlty Towers S1 Ep 1,2 7pm







All you can eat for 450 baht per adult (250 baht per child)

All mothers get a glass of free sparkling wine with their brunch.

Come and join us for our special day celebrated Mothers day!



THE BRITISH CLUB

## How do you select wine with Thai food? GOUINET

This time our theme is how to select wine with Thai food. Join us for an evening of learning about wine and Thai food.

Thursday the 21<sup>st</sup> April

Cambodia Country Club

#### Spotlight

## AROUND THE WORLD IN 218 CLUBS!

The Club has been expanding its network of Reciprocal Clubs around the world as an added benefit to being a Member. A new project, started by the General Committee in January, has sought to open up new countries where we do not have a reciprocal club and to add additional towns and cities where we do.

So far we have added the following new Clubs for your enjoyment:

AUSTRIA	St. Johanns Club, Vienna
BANGLADESH	The Bagha Club, Dhaka
BARBADOS	Barbados Yacht Club
CAMBODIA	Cambodian Country Club, Phnom Penh
CANADA	Terminal City Club, Vancouver
GERMANY	International Club, Berlin
PAKISTAN	Sind Club, Karachi
SPAIN	Circulo Ecuestre, Barcelona Sociedad Bilbainia, Bilbao
SWEDEN	Sallskapet, Stockholm
SWITZERLAND	Clubzum Rennweg, Zurich
UNITED KINGDOM	Hove Club, Brighton & Hove Clifton Club, Bristol Hawks' Club, Cambridge The New Club, Edinburgh Phyllis Court Club, Henley-on-Thames
UNITED STATES	University Club of Portland
VIETNAM	Hanoi Club, Hanoi Sedona Town Club, Ho Chi Minh City

A full listing of Reciprocal Clubs (at the time of printing) can be found in the 2011 British Club Yearbook, currently being mailed to all Members.









#### **To use a Reciprocal Club**

Simply apply to the British Club Reception for an Introductory Letter for the period that you wish to visit a Reciprocal Club and it will be issued for you. Use this letter when you arrive at the Club, and remember you are bound by their rules and must settle all payments prior to leaving.

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SIAN TIGERS

#### Watercolour Workshops With Louise Truslow



Louise's monthly workshops are continuing. Suitable for beginners and for those wishing to refresh their skills.

April 30th Note change of date!!

May 21st

Sign up for one or both workshops!

B2,400 a day

including lunch and refreshments.

Sign up at Reception.

For more information email: louise@louisetruslow.com

## **SPORT & LEISURE**

By Reed Passmore



Bangkok Patana School and the British Club Bangkok. Maximising student benefits through sponsorship and support



Welcome to a special Songkran/April report.

I hope you all enjoy the Songkran holidays, be safe on the roads and don't mind a little water! Over Songkran we will have numerous activities for all the family to enjoy.

#### Songkran Pool Party

On 13th April, Songkran Day, we will run a special social party with 50 baht Margaritas, music, pool games and more. So dress up (or down) as it's a pool party!!! Think swimwear,

Hawaiian or fun. We will also section off the front lawn for Members to enjoy our own water festival with water slider, a wet Bouncy Castle, and don't worry there will also be games for the kids ;-)





#### Songkran Sports Camp: 18th to 22nd April

Join for a half day, a full day or for all five days! Tennis, squash, and football, and as this is Songkran there will be more water games too like water polo, swimming, water play fights and more.

For more information please contact Reed in the Fitness Centre (Members and non-Members welcome).



#### **April Sunday Sports:**

To continue the success of February Sunday sports we will again be running junior sports day on every Sunday throughout April, at the special price of 150 baht per child per day.

3rd April - Squash 2:15pm 17th April - Squash 2:15pm 10th April - Tennis 3pm 24th April - Tennis 3pm

#### **April Anglers Adventure:**

We are heading out on a fishing adventure (in Bangkok), Families and Friends invited.

This will be a great day out with everything catered for (Lunch, cool amber drinks, transport and of course all the fishing

action). There will be Prizes for the biggest catch of the day and also the smallest! It will be a very enjoyable day because all you have to worry about is turning up at the Club (and of course if you're strong enough to land the huge fish you catch!!)



So who's coming? Let me know if you are interested. The more Members who come, the greater the fun, the better the price.









## **Sunday Junior Sports**

THE BRITISH CLUB

ii: 10<sup>th</sup> Tennis *S*pm II: 17<sup>th</sup> Squash 2:15pm II: 24<sup>th</sup> Squash 3pm

Bt.150 per child per day





Shrewsbury International School and the British Club Bangkok. An ace tennis partnership through sponsorship and support



#### Welcome to another Ace tennis report.

2011 Ladies Inter-club:

This year Ladies Inter-Club was held at the Polo Club on 26th-27th February 2011, with 9 teams participating.

The results during the first day were very impressive, The Club won 3/2 against the Japanese for categories 100, 70 & 60 (Yubharet/Camille, Sasaluck/Raquel, Wararat/Glades), but were defeated by Polo Club B 2/3 with a very close tie-break for 100 category by Nang/Wandee at 6/7. The winning pairs against Polo Club were 90 (Camille/Noi) and 70 (Sasaluck/ Raquel). Tip/Nu lost 4/6. The last match against Silom A was very exciting with Camille and Raquel heading Silom A for 80 category which we just lost at a tie-break.

Finally, the British Club defeatied Silom B for the first time 3/2, The winning pairs were Mam/Jeab, Camille/Raquel, and Sasaluck/Wan.

This year winners: Silom A (1), Japanese (2), Polo Club, RBSC, BC, followed by Silom B, etc..

Thank you to all the players, supporters and sponsors. (Yubharet, Nang, Wandee, Wan, Camille, Raquel, Glades, Renuka, Sasaluck, Tip, Noi, Na, Francoise, Mam and Jeab). Thanks to Volkl for sponsoring the t-shirts for two days.





#### Songkran Party:

We will have a social tennis gathering on the first day of Songkran in the Sala, with 50 baht Margaritas from 5pm-7pm. After tennis and a few drinks we will have a little fun in the pool with water polo, limbo and a few other fun games. So come along, enjoy the weather and wear your swimsuit (or something to swim in). There will also be an area on the front lawn with water slider, Bouncy Castle and other games.

#### TENNIS ETIQUETTE

#### Warm up your opponent.

Warm up is not practice; it is warm up, for your opponent as well as yourself. This means hitting balls directly to the opponent and at a reasonable pace. Generally, you should not return serves during the warm up, unless you ask your opponent for permission.

#### Call the score before each point.

This not only ensures that players are on the same wavelength before each point and avoids later disputes, but calling the score before serving lets the receiver know the point is about to begin. The server should call the score before each point, NOT the receiver.

The Club wishes to acknowledge substantial support provided by the following:

TELS &



## **SQUASHY BITS**

by Bruce Madge b\_madge@hotmail.com

#### **Oh Yes We Did!**

We entered a team into the recent five-a-side soccer competition and we won it. Please don't believe what you read on other pages of this publication. Those reports were made up by Reed Passmore, he of the gym, and the photographs of 'winners' were doctored by Chris Watt, he of that awful Unofficial Racket publication.



The Squash Section beat all the other teams quite easily, and took the title of 'Best Team' without even conceding a goal. Well, just one. How? Simple really. First we drafted David Eastgate in as our goalie. We locked him up tight, put a new padlock on him and parked him right in front of our net. That was our defence sorted out right there and then as nothing ever gets past Cat Flap when he's shut up shop! Nothing! Then, with John Drew, who is in actual fact Dennis Wise, late of Chelsea F.C., as captain, Magical Marc Sayer, Dopey Den So,



Jumping JCS (famous Jumping JCS), Carlos Fandango Ole Biscuit Barrel, Nobby Neil, Magnificent Madge and his Thai student Mighty Mike, we were never going to be defeated. In our first game against the staff, we scored

11 goals before half time! A startling rate of fire! Not that the staff didn't get a few efforts on goal themselves; yes, they did have a couple of shots when we allowed them after we'd got bored from scoring ourselves, yet all were repelled by Barn Door's extra thick, double creosoted, oak panelling.

This frustrated the staff players immensely, and, at one point Wannakit, from the Churchill Bar, tried to literally run the ball into our goal right through David's r e i n f o r c e d panels. Well, that was never going to work, was it? And all that



Wannakit got for his trouble was a flattened nose, bruised knees and a bruised ego. Silly Boy! In the second half, which was as long as the first; that is to say, only five minutes, we managed to net the ball a further couple of dozen times, with Wisey getting a quadruple hat-trick, all with his head, and me scoring 9 times each with both feet, and Den also bagging a single goal from a very lucky deflection off Bew Boy's ear. Bew is the youngish, handsomish lad who works poolside. Final score: Squash 51, Staff 0.



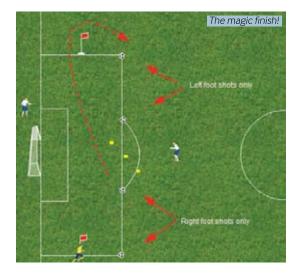
Well, we continued in this brilliant vein by next brushing aside the Big Chilli team of Colin Hastings, 27-nil. In this rather challenging more match, each of our players including goalie Fire Exit managed a hat-trick, save for Den who, strangely, still only got the single goal to his name. Peculiar that, but then again. Den is a peculiar boy. Included in the final score were 11 owngoals from Colin, who eventually got sent off by his own team mates for being an embarrassment.



We then swept asunder the St. George team of, well, we know not where, but of wherever they'd come from, who all wore orange socks yet had no feet. Thus we felt exceedingly sorry for them and defeated them just 1-0 with another fortunate, single goal from Den which was, from a corner, deflected into the net by, yes, you've guessed it, Colin, who'd run onto the pitch, naked and uninvited, to give the St. George team some defensive advice. Defensive advice from him? Silly boy!

Next up were the Back Handers, of the Tennis Section, who really thought they were in with a chance. Not in a million years! We decimated them 34-1. Yes, they even managed to score once when Front Door went AWOL because he needed a pee. And it wasn't even a clean goal, despite our net being completely unguarded, as it was deflected from a throw-in, into our empty goal by, yes, you've guessed it, no not Colin, but yes, Dopey Den! And as before, that was his only contribution to the match! Silly boy!

In the final, between all the other teams playing together against us, which meant we were 5 against 20, we triumphed again, but just by a single goal scored, unsurprisingly, by Den, from the halfway line. He, with unprecedented dexterity, dribbled around 17 players, some of them three or four times, some of them his own team mates, before launching the ball left-footed with all his might straight into the back of Carlos' head causing it to rapidly spin off sideways where it walloped into Marc's shoulder and rebounded at top speed back to David in goal, came like lightning off his knee, rocketed into JCS' right elbow, smacked Neil straight in the face (taking all the pace out of it), came down to bounce gently off Mike's right little finger, shot back up to just brush my goolies, before eventually finding its way over to Wisey standing on the goal line chatting with Colin. The ball? It hit Wisey's left buttock, fell down between Colin's legs and rolled silently into the net just clipping his right ankle on the way in while he was explaining FA Goalkeeping Standards to Dennis. **He didn't even feel it**.



The referee promptly signalled the end of the match and that was us as BCB Five-a-Side Football Champs. Barely believable, really.

Until Brazil 2014.....

#### **Sports**

## HARD BALLS



After last month's Chiang Mai extravaganza, it's catch-up time for a busy January on the cricket field. First up on the 8th was a 25 over friendly against a predominantly Aussie Southerners XI at Harrow School, appropriately the very day after the Poms had inflicted the greatest Ashes drubbing ever Downunder.

"Be nice to them" was the order, but this was not reciprocated as they proceeded to thrash the BC's under-cooked bowling for 183 for 9 at more than 7 an over. The wicket takers were Anthony (2 for 22) and Speddo, Sailesh, Jon and stand-in John Munden with 1 each, but only Speddo was treated with much respect and BC's geriatric fielding cost at least 20 or 30 runs.

In contrast, the Southerners were sharp and perky in the field and the BC had to earn its runs against some good bowling. But Nick White (29) and John Munden (28) ensured that the response was respectable, and some lusty hitting in the later

overs with Richard Harvey (18\*) in particular on song, took the final score to 167 for 9 and defeat by just 16 runs ... the difference really was in the fielding.

The match was played in great spirit and the Southerners were generous in acknowledging afterwards how much fun they had had in thrashing us and their desire that other teams would also play this way. We'll take that as a compliment!

On 21st January, we retuned to Harrow to play the Southern Swans, a Sixes team from Perth augmented by Southerners. With a late start and a short evening, the match was restricted to 17 overs each. Being a Friday afternoon when only the bosses can get off work, this was not the youngest side BC ever fielded, and the antipodeans found themselves batting against a bowling lineup with an average age of 55 years! But they underestimated the guile they were up against and soon found themselves in trouble, in one remarkable period Vaughan making 4 consecutive stumpings off Sailesh (2 for 6) and Jack (2 for 13) with Steptoe and Son, John (1 for 14) and Anthony (3 for 24) keeping the wickets tumbling. 20 extras though helped the Swans to 99 for 8, still a pretty handy score.

BC's tactic in response was to try to keep up with the required run-rate from the off, and Nick White (18), Sailesh (19), and Vaughan (17) did just that. But none of them stayed to see it through and with a long tale it took some nervy lusty hitting from Anthony (14\*) and a timely rocket ball for 4 wides in the last over to see us to victory by 2 wickets on 102 for 8.





vs Perth Swans



#### Sports

It was with some hesitance that BC agreed to field a team in the Southerners Sixes tournament at Harrow over that weekend, and we only just managed to scrape together a squad of 8 players, only 4 of whom had ever heard of, let alone played in, this rather bizarre form of the game. We were basically no-hopers.



But in our midst were three 6's pros ... skipper Speddo, veteran Sailesh and dashing Dale Lamb for whom this form of the game was surely invented. The secret of 6's success is to blast every ball with the bat and not to bowl wides. The three pros duly did the blasting and set the no-wides standard, but debutants Chris, Marc, Jon and Haroon rose magnificently to the occasion to the extent that they bowled only half a dozen wides between them in 4 matches, with Reed showing great athleticism in one outing as wicketkeeper.

The result was 4 amazing performances, three victories in the first day round-robin including 69 to win against the Tournament winners, taking top berth and direct entry to the semi-finals of the main competition next day. Due to a cock-up, BC had to play the winners again in the semi-final and came within a whisker of pulling off another incredible win. Dale Lamb played an extraordinary innings including a gigantic 6 which sailed out of the ground and beyond the adjacent tennis courts... inspired by the commentator who apparently though it was original to call "baaaaaaa ..." whenever the young Lamb was facing. BC went down by just 4 runs chasing 74 and were

that close to walking off as Champions. The team were stars, inspired by Speddo's captaincy which included death bowling to die for and Dale who narrowly missed out on batsman of the tournament.



To wrap up a busy month, the Section also organised a BBQ and awards ceremony at the Club to celebrate a great inaugural season. Everyone present was acknowledged with

such prestigious awards as Best Over, Dropped Catch, Not the Man of the Match, WAG, Aussie, European, Mattress of the Year etc ... a fitting and fun way to wrap up our first season back. The plan had been to bring something special to Thailand cricket ... and done it we did!









#### The main run scorers and wicket takers last season were:

Name	Matches			Batting					Bowling		
	Played	Inn	N.O.	Runs	HS	AVG	0	М	R	W	AVG
Dale Lamb	5	5	3	131	50	65.50	13	0	89	3	29.67
Andrew Spedding	4	4	1	118	45	39.33	12	0	43	2	21.50
Joss Dimock	4	4	1	98	37	32.67	1	0	16	0	N/A
Vaughan McClear	5	5	2	88	41	29.33					
Nick White	4	4	1	82	40	27.33	19	4	108	4	27.00
Chris Clfford	3	3	0	25	16	8.33	13	0	37	4	9.25
Neil Evans	4	2	2	16	8	N/A	11	0	77	3	25.67
George Dunford	5	4	1	15	6	5.00	18	1	121	4	30.25
Jack Dunford	4	3	1	15	13	7.50	17	4	65	4	16.25
Patrick Sanoon	5	4	1	15	6	5.00	18	1	121	4	30.25

Dale Lamb was declared **Cricketer of the Year** Andrew Spedding **Batsman of the Year** and Marc Sayer **Bowler of the year** for their outstanding performances on the field.

## **BCGS GOLFING NEWS**

By Jack O'Flynn

#### BCGS Club Day, Krung Kravee GC: Sunday 6 February 2011

The Club Day at Krung Kavee on 6th February was unfortunate in that the Captain, who had been entrusted with recording the event, firstly forgot to bring his camera and then broke the bottle of wine that was to have been the day's prize. Nevertheless, a small but enthusiastic group enjoyed the peaceful settings and perfect weather of Krung Kavee.

The course is tricky and the scores were not great, but, with 35 points, Tracy Carter showed a very welcome return to form by tying for second place with Karen Carter, who is clearly warming up for the imminent British School of Bangkok Matchplay Final.

The day's winner of a broken bottle of wine (poetic justice!) was the Captain himself with 37 points; he seems to be enjoying a rare run of good fortune after his Medal win the previous week.

#### Monthly Stableford, Kiarti Thani GC: Sunday 13 February 2011

The February Monthly Stableford event was played at Kiarti Thani Course on 13th February. We visit this course only a very few times each year. On the surface, the layout seems flat and featureless, but the design of each hole and the placing of hazards demands careful thought.

Khun Yurachatr (1) prepares for what turned out to be an arduous day! With adverse conditions and a challenging course, she was not alone in finding the going difficult.

Despite everything, that canny old competitor Bob Randle put together a consistent round, undoubtedly helped by the tips he got on the practice putting green, especially 'keep your head down' !!

(2). Playing to his handicap, his score of 36 points held off the joint runners-up, Peter Gale and Khun Gaew, who each scored 34 points.

#### British School of Bangkok Matchplay Trophy 2010

Congratulations to David Lamb who beat Karen Carter in a magnificent final to the British School of Bangkok Matchplay Competition. The contest was decided only on the 19th hole after a contest rich in drama. There have been some splendid encounters during the 2010 campaign, and the final provided a fitting end. Thank you to all who took part.

#### February Medal, The Royal GC: Sunday 27 February 2011

Eight groups turned out for the second Medal competition of 2011. Included in the field were Len & Noo Glover, making a rare appearance, and making a most surprising return from his abbreviated 'working holiday' in Spain was none other than Ray Bloom! Clearly cheap wine and tapas have nothing on a good plate of Phad Thai and a large Heineken. Not to mention the golf!

Now that 'winter' is behind us, the hot and humid conditions with which we are so familiar are gradually taking over. Well, that's one excuse for the less than average scoring.

Technical prizes were awarded to the Captain (2), P. Skinner and George O for nearest pins. The Mens' and Ladies' long drive prizes went to Steve W and Khun Yurachatr respectively.

In Flight 'B', chipping in from off the green and putting like a seasoned pro, Carol Ann put together a very decent round to finish in 3rd place with a net 73 (if it wasn't for those \*\*\*\*\*\*

bunkers!!). But in first place and back to winning ways was Andrew McLean, who edged out Jack O on countback (3). Both returned scores of net 72. Captain Frank continued his 'rare run of good fortune' by picking up his second Medal of the year.



His score of net 73 proved too good for the rest of the field.

BREAKING NEWS Hot off the press; apparently in the excitement and rush to get the AGM underway, a miscalculation on 'countback' gave the Flight 'B' medal to Andrew, when in fact it should have gone to JackO. Ooops! [and well done Jack! Ed.]

#### Trophies Presentation Evening and AGM at the British Club

Immediately after the Medal competition, most returned to the British Club for the Society's AGM. The evening began with reports from the Captain and the committee, followed by the election of new committee members for 2011.



The Captain thanked Peter Gale and John Bell, who stood down as committee members, for all their support for the Society. New members were duly elected: Ray Bloom was unanimously elected as the new BCGS Captain for the coming year. Tracy Carter and Andrew McLean also joined the committee,

which now comprises:

Ray Bloom - Captain. Frank Fawkes - Vice Captain. Peter Bond - Secretary. Brian Brook - Handicaps Secretary. Karen Carter - Fixtures Secretary. Andrew McLean - Marketing. Karen Carter & Tracy Carter - Website. Carole Ann Eastgate - Trophies. Jack O'Flynn - Outpost reporter Reed Passmore - ex officio











This annual event recognizes the achievements of our members during the past year's golf competitions. Replicas of trophies were presented not only to those who won major competitions but also to the Medal Eclectic winners, golfer of the year, most improved golfer and a host of other 'technical' prize winners.

Following the presentation, everyone sat back to enjoy a splendid carvery dinner laid on by the BC catering staff.

Website: http:// www.bcgolfsociety.com/

Email: bcgs2002@yahoo.co.uk

Phone: Golf Society Captain, Ray Bloom - 0870513548



Most improved



Eclectic Flight B



#### **Fun and Games**



#### >>> BCB Balut Cups Night

As players prepared for the cups by chatting and sipping beer on the front lawn, the delay in the arrival of the buffet was of no concern as it did materialise, and a very good one it was! The sudden failure of the lights did not dampen spirits either, especially when it became apparent that this was a safety feature - the trip switch! The mood was good, the genuine welcome for the 22 visitors from Singapore, the lighthearted joviality and easy conversation; all bode well for the evening as the 55 players slowly assembled in the Suriwongse Room.

The scene was set: Paul's impeccable organisation of the tables, prizes, and player numbering, David's ingenious score computerisation, his bank of input laptops, and the widescreen TV output, and Phil's warm and motivating presentations, and the patrolling staff topping up mugs and taking special orders. Then suddenly, we were off!

Despite playing Bar Balut in the Churchill for the last 8 months, the frenzied competition was nothing like I had imagined when I joined the Club Balut Section two weeks prior to the Cups evening. There was a special prize for the first to achieve a particular throw, different in each game, which resulted in a raucous shriek. Of course, people whooped when they threw a

Balut or a special combination, but they also screeched at bad throws and roared at other people's triumphs. The overall decibel level was infectious to the extent that the excitement pervaded the whole room, and despite some disastrous dice and hideous scores, I still felt I was having a great game! As Phil wisely told me later, it's not just about the winning, it's about the fun and camaraderie. Nowhere was this more evident than on the cigarette-break-balcony in between games, where people I didn't know all wanted to know how I had done and commiserated or congratulated appropriately. It was simply marvellous.

Even the results were exciting:

**The Balut Cup** was intially tied on 561 between Mac (Andrew McLean) and Lindy Collacott, but after an extended 'toss-off', the Cup went to Mac.

The Balut All-Comers Cup went to Angeline Goh on 579.

**The Balut Juniors Cup** went to Toon (Putthipong Merrigan) on 506.

**The Worst Score Cup** was gracefully won by Kamalia Andersen on 385.

**The Highest Single Score** of the night on 151 earned Bala a bottle of wine, after a 'toss-off' with Mike Yeomans.



I think I came second from the end, but in no way did that diminish either my enjoyment of the evening or my resolve to triumph at a later date!

As always, our gratitude goes to the excellent Outrigger Hotels and Resorts for the wine, to the legendary Det 5 Bar & Restaurant for the beer, and to the irreplaceable Yes Technologies for the Balut Online Scoring System and dry humour.







Full details of Balut can be found at http://www.teambalut.com



Worst Score Cup Winner





Balut Cup Winner



All-Comers Cup Winner

Juniors Cup Winner



Phew! What an evening



#### **SILENCE WILL FALL!** A preview of the 48th year of Doctor Who

In 2010 the Universe ended, and then was rebooted in a second 'Big Bang' and The Doctor was reborn but who else is lurking in this mysterious new universe being created? Three major questions will be answered in 2011 ... who or what caused the TARDIS to explode destroying the universe, what caused the cracks in time and who is Professor River Song .... The Doctor's mother, wife, girlfriend or could it be Romana or Omega or even Rassilon? We have seen her death, now we see her life!

2011 will also see a change in the format of Doctor Who, the world's longest running Science Fiction TV series, in that we will be getting two short seasons instead of one long one. Starting in "the spring" we will get seven episodes with a huge cliff-hanger after which we will have to wait three months to see the final six episodes! There will also, for the seventh year running, be a Christmas Special.

The 48th year promises to be a dynamic and series-changing season: Matt Smith is the eleventh Doctor with companions Karen Gillian as Amy Pond, Arthur Darvill as Rory Williams and Alex Kingston as River Song . ALSO STARRING – the Nazis, an Ood, Dorium, possibly some well-known tin men, the Utah

dessert, a Stetson (because "Stetsons are cool!"), a few short guys, some Cavaliers, the scariest monsters ever and beware .... **SILENCE WILL FALL!** 

See British Club notice boards, website and Outpost for Club actual dates!



Who is River Song?





"Stetsons are cool!"

Silence will Fall!



## Wednesday Night Dancing Lessons at British Club

## Ballroom Dancing 20th April 2011 Salsa 27th April 2011

Dancing is as popular as it has ever been thanks to shows like Dancing With The Stars and So You Think You Can Dance.

Come and join us at the British Club Bangkok where our qualified instructors will teach you an array of major dance styles from the 'Waltz, Cha-Cha, Tango, Salsa and the Jive' and give you the confidence to tear up the dance floor.

7pm start for a 90 min lesson

Members

Non-Members

Single 150 Bht Couple 250 Bht Single 300 Bht Couple 500 Bht

Book now with Simon or Anne

British Club Bangkok 189 Suriwongse Road Bangkok 10500 Tel. +66(0) 2234 02

## THE MONDAY NIGHT CLUB

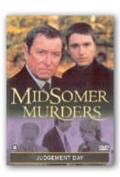
Your weekly chance to sit back and relax ..... The murder's on us.



7pm in the Wordsworth Lounge. Full F&B Menu available.



#### 4th Judgment Day

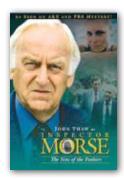


A local rogue gets murdered, and Midsomer Mallow residents are more worried about losing a prize in the 'Perfect Village' tournament – until their chances of winning are scotched by two more murders ... that of the judges!

The star-filled cast includes John Nettles as DCI Barnaby with guest stars Timothy West, Hannah Gordon and a quite young Orlando Bloom.

Judge not and ye shall not be judged?

#### 11th The Sins of the Fathers

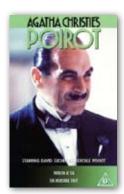


Closing time!

The battle of the beers leads to death and dishonour amongst the ruling family of one brewery – but what worries them the most? The death or the dishonour?

John Thaw is DCI Morse with guest stars Trevor Martin, Kim Thomson and Isabel Dean.

#### 18th Problem at Sea/The Incredible Theft



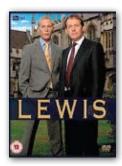
Bombs Away!

Another Poirot double bill ...

When the murder is solved by a ventriloquist's doll in Egypt, and when the plans for a top secret new bomber aircraft are stolen then returned then stolen; or were they?

David Suchet is Hercule Poirot with guest stars Geoffrey Beevers, Caroline John and John Carson.

#### 25th And The Moonbeams Kiss The Sea



"What are all these kissings worth, if thou kiss not me?" so ends the Shelley poem - but why is this an essential clue in two murders and why are crocodiles photographed on the banks of the river Cherwell also important?

Kevin Whateley is Inspector Lewis with guest stars Sam Alexander, Neil Pearson and Sam Riley, and with Laurence Fox as Sergeant Hathaway.

Did Percy write Frankenstein?

## THE BRIDGE BUNCH



#### Sacrifice or Swindle?

#### Tower Bridge in Bangkok

Tower Bridge, our first Open tournament in 2011, was held on Sunday 6th February. With 44 competitors paying THB 400 each to play Bridge, this was a success for the British Club finances. Playing thirty-three "boards" over four hours of mental concentration, the strain began to tell as players failed to make easy-to-win over-tricks. Our BridgePad electronic scoring system displayed the results on a 44 inch flat screen in real time, so that the jostling for position in the competition was clear to view. While noone had a heart attack, there were red faces as the wine took effect. The afternoon ended with a buffet dinner, more wine, and prizes.

TOWER BRIDGE RESULTS				
Winner:	Chalermpol & Atichat			
1st runner up:	Sunisa & Hanne			
2nd runner up:	Dr. Worrawat & Watana			





The Bridge Bunch wishes to thank the Tournament Director, Mike Sim, Computer Wizard Winlock Hsu, and the British Club staff for organising a complex and challenging event. Without Winlock's computer skills and Mike's rulings, the event simply could not have taken place.

#### Bridge and defending Berlusconi

"The Art of Life is to deal with difficulties as they arise, rather than spend one's spirit by worrying about those too far in the future" - Cicero , Roman Statesman and Lawyer

It is said of Cicero that he never defended anyone in Ancient Rome, however guilty he might seem, unless his client met three conditions: firstly, he had the Vote, secondly he would promote Cicero's political ambitions, and thirdly, there was something about the case Cicero could believe in.

> If Cicero came back to life today and resumed legal practice in Rome he would likely be attracted to Bridge as a game of calculated risk and undoubtedly ask to represent Italian Statesman Silvio Berlusconi, a client who meets all three conditions.

> Cicero picked winners. Having married a wealthy woman, the capable Cicero built a legal practice by not charging fees. Naturally, former clients were inclined to vote for him: Cicero kept lists of his past legal victories and canvassed clients and their friends before elections. Solve the problems one at a time and you will do well, no need to be constantly worried about progress as long as you have something to believe in. But how to solve Prime Minister Berlusconi's problems? A sacrifice perhaps, a swindle for sure ... more about that later.

#### The Sacrifice

Like the Ancient Romans, we Bridge players make sacrifices on important occasions. The essence of a Bridge Sacrifice is to deliberately incur a loss with the object of depriving the opponents of a larger gain, or to lure the victims into an impossible contract or slam. Does the cost in points lost, when offering the sacrifice, equal the same or less points than the probable loss in the potential game, or to Slam winning points that should accrue to your opponents if they were to play their rightful contract? Once the sacrifice has been made, then the opponents are stuck upon the horns of a dilemma: should they accept the sacrifice and double you, hoping you'll suffer the agonies of a slow and painful death, or alternatively, take the bait and raise their bid one trick too high to win the auction, but take a big risk of "going down" when vulnerable? If all bidding space is stolen quickly, then opponents must either guess or accept the fact that they have been swindled.

#### The Swindle

Bridge was not played by the Ancient Romans, although many of their political games and swindles continue today in both Bridge and in politics. Cicero's strategy, always an original, was tailored to suit what was possible. If he was in a seemingly impossible deadlock, then he would start a different fight and change the political agenda knowing well that the electorate and politicians could only think of one thing at a time. A past master at upping the ante and reducing the bidding space, his defence would have been sprung under the disguise of something seemingly innocent such as a change of venue, a counter-allegation or an injunction. In the case of the ageing statesman Berlusconi, Cicero might believe in his client's " sexual impotence". Such a statement against interest by the defendant is always credible especially by someone with an ego the size of a Prime Minister.

On the basis of a denial of sex by "Ruby" with the 74 year old Berlusconi, it would be difficult for the prosecution to disprove such an unfortunate but common disability. "I never do anything for nothing" said Ruby. Yes Ruby, but is the opposite true?

#### **Rules of the Sacrifice**

A sacrifice in Bridge can arise in the bidding sequence in one of two ways, either with a pre-emptive bid at the three, four or even five level by the First or Third bidder or by interference; either way the Rules of Sacrifice are the same:

Firstly, the swindlers must not be "vulnerable" while the victims must be. This vulnerable/not vulnerable imbalance introduces an inequality into the cost benefit analysis favouring the swindlers.

Secondly, the victims should be in a winnable game or Slam, preferably in Slam.

Thirdly, the swindlers should be weak but have a long trump suit, capable of making eight tricks when bidding game or nine tricks if bidding a slam.

Clearly a sacrifice in Bridge or a sacrifice in defending Italian Prime Minister Berlusconi involves fundamentally different skills, but the principle is the same: trade your Italian ego to escape being thrown to the lions, then after a dignified interval obtain a Presidential Pardon. Trade your ego for a small loss of points and thereby swindle your opponents out of a game or a Slam score.

#### **Sacrifice Declined**

Here is an example of pre-emptive bidding, from Dorothy Truscott's book "Bid Better - Play Better", where East takes the bait, East-West vulnerable and South the dealer.

		NON			
	Spades		643		
	Hearts		J 10 9	3	
	Diamond	<b>c</b>	5	0	
		5			
	Clubs		K75	43	
WI Spades Hearts Diamonds	EST AQ98 K64 KJ103		Spades Hearts Diamon	<b>EAS</b> T	r KJ 10 2 A Q 8 7 5 A Q 9 8
Clubs	Q		Clubs		
	Spades Hearts Diamonds Clubs	SOU	<b>TH</b> 5 2 7 6 4 2 A J 10 9	862	
Bidding:	SOUTH	WES	t nc	RTH	EAST

NORTH

South started the proceedings with a bid of three clubs and West doubled for take out. North had no defence at all and he knew his partner would be able to ruff a few diamonds in Dummy so he upped the ante to seven clubs. Almost any non-vulnerable sacrifice is peanuts compared to the score for a vulnerable Grand Slam. East now finds himself on the horns of a dilemma. If North had been frugal and bid only 6 Clubs, he would have given East room to find the right contract. He could then have bid 7 Clubs himself and forced West to chose spades or hearts. West would have chosen spades and made a Grand Slam score of 2210. As it was, East had a very tough decision to make. He guessed wrongly and bid 7 Hearts. With four hearts to the Jack 10, North naturally passed. East had taken the bait and was not getting off the hook! East could make seven diamonds or seven spades but loses one trick in hearts giving away a positive score to North/South.

Double

7 Clubs

7 Hearts

3 Clubs

Moral: If your partner makes a pre-emptive opening and you have support, then raise for all you are worth.

#### Foot Notes

- For entertaining accounts of the life of Cicero, as it might have been, try "IMPERIUM" or "LUSTRUM" by Robert Harris published by Hutchinson.
- "Bid Better Play Better" by Dorothy Truscott is published by Dervyn Press ISBN 0-939460-77-7
- 3. Berlusconi's trial in Rome is listed for 6th April 2011.
- 4. See our Bridge Notice Board for contact details.

#### The Club at Home



#### Homemade Easter Bonnet EGG DECORATING IDEAS FOR EASTER

#### **A HERD OF EGGIMALS**

After you've eaten up all your Easter candy, give your plastic eggs an adorable second life as an owl, skunk, dog, cat, pig, or mouse.

#### Materials

- 1. Plastic Easter eggs
- 2. Tiny pom-poms 3. Felt
- 4. Crafter's Pick The Ultimate glue or hot glue
- 5. Black permanent marker

#### Instructions

- 1. Draw out and cut shapes from felt for the ears, noses, tails, feet. Use Super Glue or stronger double-sided tape to attach the pieces to the eggs and a black permanent marker to draw the face details. (With help from an adult, you can also use a glue-gun to attach these pieces)
- 2. **Pig:** Curl a 4-inch piece of pipe cleaner around a pen to make the tail, then glue it in place.
- 3. **Mouse:** For its tail, glue on a 3-inch length of yarn, knotted at the end.
- 4. **Skunk:** First glue the rear half of the stripe to the tail, then glue the tail and front of the stripe to the body.

#### BUNINY JOINES FOR EASTER

- Q. What's the best way to catch a unique rabbit? A. You 'nique up on him.
- Q. How do you catch a tame rabbit?
- A. Tame way, unique up on it.
- Q. How many hairs in a rabbit's tail?
- A. None, they're all on the outside.
- Q. How can you tell which rabbits are the oldest in a group?
- A. Just look for the gray hares.
- Q. What do you call rabbits that live at the North Pole? A. Cold.
- Q. What do rabbits have that nothing else in the world has?
- A. Baby rabbits.
- Q. What did the bunny say when he only had thistles to eat?
- A. Thistle have to do!
- Q. What did the bunny want to do when he grew up? A. Join the Hare Force.

#### **BABY MEGG EGG**

#### Materials

- 1. brown and
- white hard-boiled eggs
- 2. toilet paper tubes
- 3. construction paper
- 4. glue sticks 5. scissors
- J. SCISSC
- 6. yarn 7. paper
- 7. pape
- 8. markers

#### Instructions



- Craft Cardboard Body: Collect toilet paper tubes, construction paper, glue sticks, and kids' scissors, and arrange them on one end of the table. First make the bodies. Cut the tubes to a desired height, then wrap a construction paper rectangle around the tube and glue it in place. Next, cut and glue on paper arms, ears, and accessories.
- 2. Glue on Face. Pick and choose facial features from various craft supplies, such as coloured paper cutouts, cotton balls, yarn, ribbon, pom-poms, googly eyes, and stickers (for easy access and simple sorting, we packed all the supplies in a large muffin tin). You can then use glue or double-sided tape to attach the features to the eggs. To make an egg-spressive baby, add a paper bib to her pink outfit and glue a paper bonnet and a few strands or tufts of yarn hair to her head.
- 3. Finishing Touches: To complete the egghead, place the egg on top of the tube body. Add any finishing touches with permanent marker, such as eyes, noses, rosy cheeks, and freckles.

#### **OTHER EGG-SAMPLES:**





#### Discover...

Laser rejuvenation with Fractional CO2 Laser. The hottest new and most performant laser treatment everyone is talking about!

What is Fractional CO2 Laser Resurfacing?

Fractional CO2 Laser is a new approach which applies thousands of tiny microbeams into your skin to stimulate collagen remodeling. Its laser beams will work on very small areas of the skin cells, leaving the adjacent cells intact in order for them to quickly fill the part that has been treated by the laser which will significantly decrease the healing process leaving you with a downtime of only a couple of days.

This new concept is the latest breakthrough in laser

resurfacing. This state of the art technology is extremely effective and will facilitate the removal of built-up dead skin and scar tissue and will allow the new skin layer to grow. It is the perfect solution for skin rejuvenation, skin tightening, scars and sun damaged skin.

How does it work? As the laser scans over the surface of your skin, it will create thousands of microthermal zones in the area treated which will promote the production of new collagen resulting in a smoother, healthier, vounger-.looking skin.This method is painless and will allow you to go on with your day to day activitie. Of course great treatment are best performed by great doctors. GENESIS SKIN KLINIK has been established in 2010 by reputable

## @ Dusit Thani Hotel

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by

a 15 year experienced and highly qualified expert in cosmetic laser surgery & aesthetic medicine. Privacy, personalized programs are important priorities at **GENESIS SKIN KLINIK along** with first class services provided by multilingual professionals (English, German, French, Japanese & Thai) all this combined in an exquisite designed, 350m2 clinic space with panoramic view of Bangkok's famous Lumpini Park.

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by Olivia Knecht



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