

APRIL 2013



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

# OUTPOST

[www.britishclubbangkok.org](http://www.britishclubbangkok.org)

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK

## THE Club TURNS 110!



### SPOTLIGHT

**Spoofers Charity Project  
BMS Magical Music**

### SPORTS

**Pétanque  
Tennis/Football**

### FEATURES

**Our Decquicentenary  
Holy Days & Festivals**





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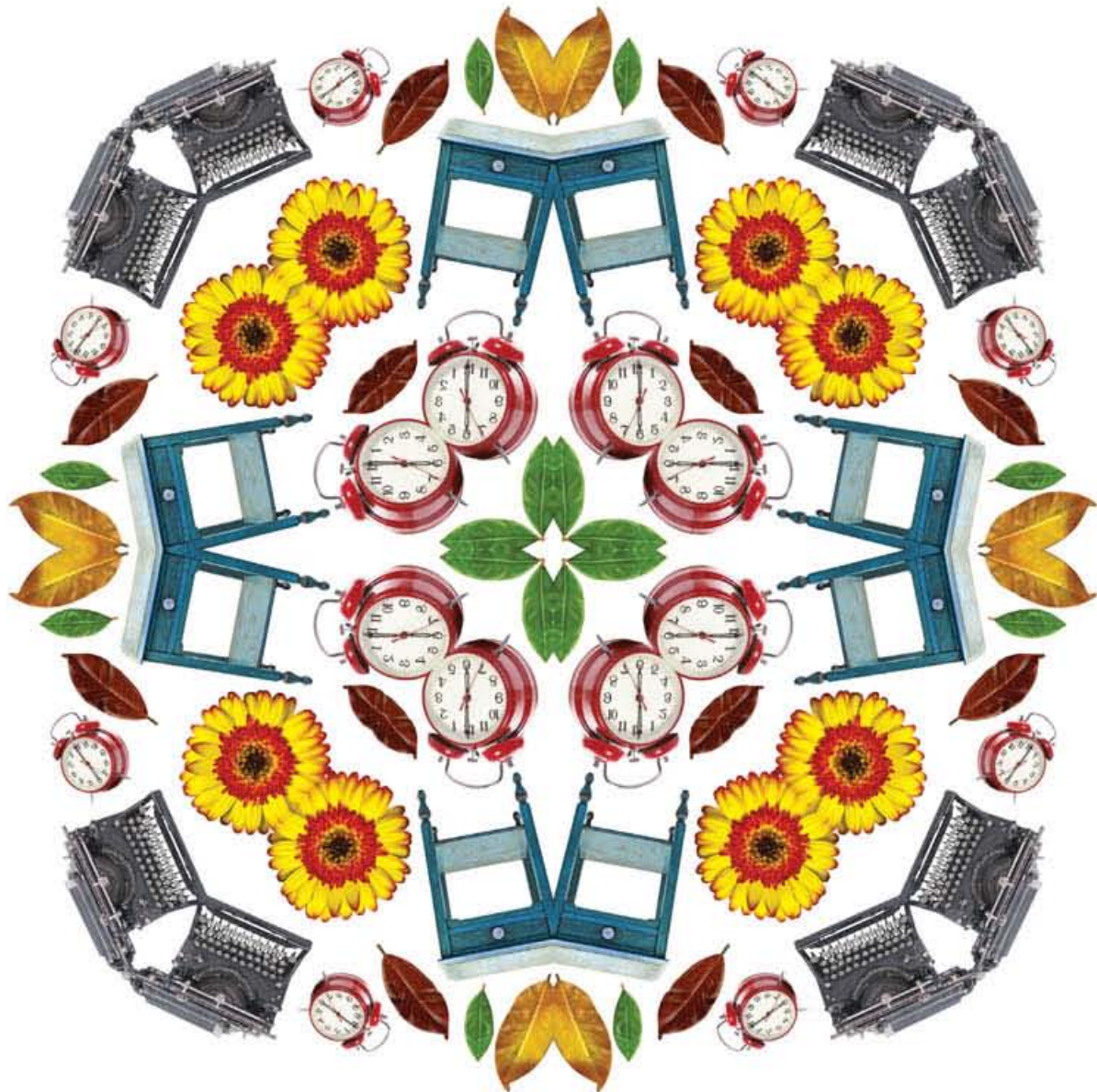
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BANGKOK

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## OUTPOST

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# LETTER FROM THE GM



## Dear Members,

Last month was a slightly quieter month for the Club, and we have been making full use of the quiet periods to press on with maintenance and development.

The landscaping around the swimming pool is going well, with plenty of flowers and new trees planted. I'd like to thank you all for your feedback (both positive and constructive) because it is only by listening to this feedback that we can try to give Members what they really want. However, may I just take this opportunity to remind you that the pool area is still not finished, and there will be more changes occurring in the coming months. The new Pétanque Court, situated by the turtle pond, is now more or less complete and we hope to hold the inaugural game very soon. The area under the trees next to the court is also going to be developed into a pleasant, shady sitting area, where you can watch the pétanque games or simply sit and relax. Work on the All Weather Pitch is going well, and should be complete by the end of April at the latest.

As the weather gets hotter and hotter, this tells us that Songkran is approaching. To encourage you to relax by the pool, we'll be holding a special Songkran Buffet at the poolside on the 13th April, as well as fun activities for all the kids. A bit later on in the month, on 28th of April, it's the 110th Anniversary of the British Club. We'll be holding a big party for all our Members to celebrate this huge event, and we would really love to see each and every one of you down at the Club for this special day. We'll have a huge number of fun activities for all ages.

By now, you will have all noticed the new ATM machine situated in the lobby. As well as withdrawing cash, you can use the machine to pay your British Club bill by direct transfer. Please ask our reception staff for assistance.

I think that's all for now. I hope to see you all round the Club very soon.

Warmest regards,

**Premrudee Tanyaluck**  
General Manager



**PLEASE NOTE THAT ON SUNDAY 28th APRIL,  
THE CAR PARKS OF THE CLUB WILL BE CLOSED  
FOR THE 110th BIRTHDAY PARTY CELEBRATIONS.**

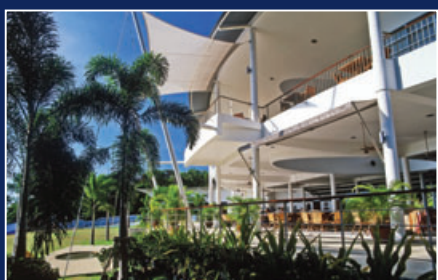
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BY THE ENTRANCE OF SOI 18.**

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# HAPPENINGS



Greetings -

Last month's Outpost was a bit late and this month's needs to be a bit earlier due to the month ending on a Sunday, which makes postal scheduling awkward. Casually tossed on top of both was the 2013 Yearbook for the AGM, which means there have been documents zooming in every direction. Still, it's all there, and here, and looking as good as can be wished for.

We've been putting together the segments of the Club's **100th Birthday Party** on **Sunday 28th April**. It's a significant age, so we're hoping for an English Fair type feel to the celebrations. There will be a limited number of Car Boot/Jumble stalls, as they are great fun while the kids are bouncing around on castles and trampolines. We have got confirmation that Boots Retail would like to come along and offer their products en masse which is always hugely popular. There will be an artist doing sketches, Sam and his Arts and Crafts, and Jenny circulating tying balloons into weird and wonderful shapes and configurations throughout the afternoon. Spread over the afternoon, there will be a piñata every hour for whacking, and a mystery entertainer (not actually a mystery, but just an indescribable collection of acts) as well. We are pleased to have the British Ambassador H.E. Mark Kent coming along to drink a toast and lead us all in an anthem or two. And there will be a huge pig as a spit roast to accompany the BBQ and the traditional enormous birthday cake.

As a special treat, we are thrilled to be giving the stage to a group of students from NIST who play the Marimba. This is not a common instrument, and it's a great sound, so we look forward to hearing them perform at 5pm. The rest of the afternoon there will be a band providing ambient and melodic background tunes.

Put the date in your diaries! **Sunday 28th April, from 2pm to 7pm**. It'll be fun!

April is going to be a relatively full month anyway. We start the month off with a BMS choral evening on 3rd April, but of course the highlight of the month is the Songkran Festival, which is loved and loathed by equal numbers of people but which is always a great relief after the heat has been unbearable for weeks. For those of you who are in Bangkok over the festival, we will be having a **Songkran Day** here at the Club when kids can get wetter than wet on the Front Lawn whilst adults who don't want to participate can get fuller than full on a delectable Thai buffet.

We have organised a couple of outings as well for April. There's a tour of the **PB Winery** in Khao Yai, less than a couple of hours out of Bangkok in beautiful green surroundings. They include lunch with a glass of wine (I've eaten there and it was delicious) and show you around the winery and let you try their wines. There's also a trip to the **Chokchai Farm** in a similar region. This is a popular trip, you get to look round the farm, see some curious machinery, visit the mini-zoo and get to see how ice-cream is made, yes, and eat it too! My kids loved the farm when they went, really cute animals and great photo ops!

There's the usual **Quiz Night** on Tuesday 9th, with the monthly jackpot **still** waiting to be won, and the **Monday Night** Crimes and detection continue with an extra Monday this month on which we'll show City of Vice, a series examining the origins of the British Police Force back in Georgian Britain. I hope we will be arranging something for St George's Day - that will be notified by email as it won't be finalised for this issue of Outpost's print date.

Looking back at this month of March, it's been a spiritually uplifting month with many evenings of the Bangkok Community Theatre's production of **Blithe Spirit** which has been an unmitigated success, played to packed houses, and evoked rapturous outbursts. It's been fun for us too! **Santana** went off well and played a really long set, and **St Patrick's Day** was considerably busier than we expected. There's still **Disney on Ice** to come, a curious evening of Renaissance lute and physical theatre and a Gourmet Dinner which makes me hungry to think of. And of course in ten days we have **Easter Sunday** which is always a day of great fun, glee, and wondrous expressions on kids' faces.

And to think it was snowing in England a few days ago. Are there any snowdrops?

Have a great month!

**Jeremy de Sausmarez**  
Events & Marketing Manager



# BUSINESS LUNCHEONS



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

**1ST-5TH APRIL 2013**

**Starters – 55 baht**

Nicoise Salad with French Beans, Egg, Black Olives, Potatoes and Anchovy  
or Chef's Soup of the Day

**Main Courses – 140 baht**

Pan-fried Dory Fish with Spicy Herbs (served with mixed salad and boiled potatoes)  
or Turkey Lasagna (served with garlic bread)  
or Mini Steak (served with mixed vegetables and roast potatoes)  
or Gaeng Som Goong Phak Ruam (sour soup with mixed vegetables and prawns)  
Moo Tod Kratium Prik Thai (stir-fried fork fillet with garlic and pepper)  
Tod Mun Pla (Deep-fried Fish Cake)

**Dessert of the Day – 55 baht** or choose from our à la Carte dessert 10% off



**8TH-12TH APRIL 2013**

**Starters – 55 Baht**

Mozzarella, Mango, Tomato and Rocket Salad  
or Chef's Soup of the Day

**Main Courses – 140 Baht**

Chicken Maryland (with pineapple, banana, sweet corn, bacon and home-fried potato)  
or Pan-fried Dory Fish with Mornay Sauce (served with broccoli and mashed potato)  
or Fillet of Pork in a Light Curry Sauce (served with grilled zucchini and coriander rice)  
or Tom Kha Gai (a refreshing soup with chicken, coconut milk and herbs)  
Pla Dory Rad Sauce Makham (deep-fried dory fish topped with tamarind sauce)  
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

**15TH-19TH APRIL 2013**

**Starters – 55 Baht**

Carrots, Raisins and Apple Coleslaw  
or Chef's Soup of the Day

**Main Courses – 140 Baht**

Fish and Chips (choice of breadcrumb or battered) (with garden peas and tartare Sauce)  
or Chicken Tikka Masala (served with yellow rice)  
or Pork Schnitzel with Apple Sauce (served with mixed salad and baked potato)  
or Panaeng Gai (chicken stir-fried with red curry sauce topped with sliced lime leaves)  
KaiJiew Moo Sab (thai-style omelette with minced pork)  
PhadPhak Ruam Nam Man Hoy (stir-fried mixed vegetables with oyster sauce)

**Dessert of the Day – 55 Baht** or choose from our à la Carte dessert 10% off



**22ND-26TH APRIL 2013**

**Starters – 55 Baht**

Oriental Chicken, Papaya and Ginger Salad  
or Chef's Soup of the Day

**Main Courses – 140 Baht**

Lamb, Beef and Eggplant Moussaka (served with mixed salad and garlic bread)  
or Pan-fried Dory Fish with Caper Butter Sauce (served with broccoli, carrots and garlic mashed potato)  
or Grilled Chicken Breast and Spinach Risotto with Parmesan, (with rocket leaves dressed with pesto)  
or Tom Yum Goong (spicy lemon grass flavoured soup with prawns and mushrooms)  
Kaprao Kai (stir-fried minced chicken with hot basil and chili)  
Phad Phak Ruam Nam Man Hoy (stir-fried mixed vegetables with oyster sauce)

**Dessert of the Day – 55 Baht** or choose from our à la Carte dessert 10% off



# F&B MORSELS



## Dear Members,

The kitchens were quite stretched this month - the Club was busy internally and externally. There have been lots of functions held at the Club as well as a lot of outside catering to deal with, and this always leads to us needing more than a pair of hands each! The functions have all gone smoothly, as have the amazing dinner-theatre of the Blithe Spirit shows which went on for most of two weeks. Every night I watched as the buffet dishes got emptier and then refilled, and so many people mentioned it was good. That makes it all worthwhile!

April is Songkran month, and we'll be having an extensive Thai buffet on Songkran Day 13 April. I have scheduled another American Buffet in April, because the March one was really popular and almost sold out. Come down and enjoy it on Saturday 20th!

The Club's 110th Birthday Party on 28th April will be fantastic. We're going to have a Spit Roast Pig over 20 kilos, which will be delicious, and we will also do a special BBQ buffet with lots of vegetarian dishes. Suggestions are always welcome! Secret recipes are also welcome!

Being such a hot month, there is a lot of fruit in April, particularly mangoes which when ripe and juicy are heavenly. I plan to make quite a lot of mango desserts and drinks also. We should have a mango cocktail of the month which I'll let you know about soon.

Happy Eating!

**Khun Laak**  
**Executive Chef**



## 1st - 15th April 2013

### Starters

Chef's Soup of the Day	Bt 80
Pan-cooked Asparagus and Mixed Seafood	Bt 200

### Main Courses

Crispy Glazed Duck Breast with Green Pepper Sauce <i>served with red cabbage jam and croquette potatoes</i>	Bt 300
Lamb Shank Braised with Red Wine and Herbs <i>served with crushed new potatoes and green beans</i>	Bt 400
Grilled Snow Fish with Capers, Olives and Butter Sauce <i>served with asparagus, carrots and French beans</i>	Bt 680

### Dessert

Dessert of the Day



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

# Modern European DINING

## 16th - 30th April 2013

### Starters

Chef's Soup of the Day	Bt 80
Prawn Cocktail	Bt 160

### Main Courses

Spaghetti with Spicy Lamb Sauce and Fresh Rosemary	Bt 265
Duo of Red Snapper and Sea Bass <i>with a vegetable, noodle and scallop sauce</i>	Bt 335
Chicken Breast Stuffed with Sun-Dried Tomatoes and Feta Cheese <i>served with crispy polenta, rocket salad and basil Pesto</i>	Bt 260

### Dessert

Dessert of The Day







# The Club's 110<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party

28th April 2013  
2pm - 7pm

- MARIMBA group
- **Live music**

- Balloon-Shaping
- Entertainer

- Funfair games
- Kid Activities
- Trampoline
- Piñatas
- Bouncy Castle

- Huge Birthday cake
- Homemade cakes

- Carboot stalls
- Boots retail sale

- Sketch Artist
- Lucky Dip
- Pork Spit Roast
- BBQ
- Vegetarian food
- Draft Beer
- Club punch
- Chandon



Book at Reception or email: [info@britishclubbangkok.org](mailto:info@britishclubbangkok.org)





# The Club's **110<sup>th</sup>** Birthday Party

## Schedule

<b>2pm</b>	<b>Opening</b> <b>Car Boot Stalls,</b> <b>Sketch Artist</b> <b>Kids arts, crafts, Activities</b> <b>Bouncy Castle and trampoline</b> <b>“Sam and his Amazing Friends”</b>
<b>2:30pm</b>	<b>Balloon-shaping</b> <b>Piñata</b>
<b>3pm</b>	<b>Band starts</b>
<b>3:30pm</b>	<b>Piñata</b>
<b>4pm</b>	<b>Entertainer</b>
<b>4:30pm</b>	<b>Piñata</b> <b>Toast, Anthems</b> <b>Giant Birthday Cake,</b> <b>BBQ, Spit roast</b>
<b>5pm</b>	<b>N.I.S.T. Marimba Group</b>
<b>5:30pm</b>	<b>Band resumes</b> <b>Piñata</b>
<b>7pm</b>	<b>Close</b>



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK



# HAPPY SONGKRAN FESTIVAL 2013

## Thai buffet

11am -3pm and 5pm -9pm

Adults Bt 400

Children Bt 250



Saturday 13th April 2013  
Water fun day on the Front Lawn

...A perfect chance for parents to enjoy staying dry  
while kids enjoy getting wet...



Book in Reception or email [info@britishclubbangkok.com](mailto:info@britishclubbangkok.com)



# SARNELLI HOUSE

## Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers Charity Project

The Spoofers have recently completed their eighth Charity Project of the last ten years, all being funded from monies raised at the Thai National Championships and Asian Spoofing Championships. The Spoofers have now raised over 1.6 million baht, of which some 1.4 million baht has so far been spent on charitable Projects.

This latest Project expended 185,000 baht on providing 100 purpose-built desks and chairs, plus wall & ceiling fans, new lighting and other refurbishments for study rooms at the Sarnelli House Orphanage near Nong Khai. On Saturday 9th March, four Spoofers, led by Co-Chairman Tony Rodriguez, visited Sarnelli House to mark the completion of the project and to see for themselves the wonderful work being done there by the Redemptorist Order. These priests have founded, and operated for the past 14 years, a network of some seven Houses, all within a few kilometres of each other, which care for upwards of 150 children. These children are mostly aged between two and sixteen. Many are infected with HIV/AIDS and all have been either orphaned, owing to their parents dying of AIDS, or abused or abandoned. The Houses are organised by age and with teenage boys and girls having separate Houses. Some are for HIV infected children and some for the non-infected.

The visiting Spoofers were taken on an extensive tour of the Houses and shown the new desks etc in place in the various study rooms. We were also shown the Farm which has been started, with the aim of providing some 80% of the food needed to feed the children - rice fields, vegetable plots, chicken and pig rearing. What impressed us most on our tour was the cheerful and polite demeanour of the children and their positive engagement with ourselves and the staff. They are clearly exceptionally well cared for and given all the care, affection, schooling and a safe home environment that had previously been denied them.

The medical regime to care for those with HIV is most professionally managed by a specially-trained Australian (unpaid) volunteer nurse, who has been working there now for the past five years with great dedication.

Fr Michael and his staff have achieved a remarkable amount for so many children. They never know for certain from one year to the next where the required funding will come from ..... but so far it has continued to arrive by some miracle or another and they have never turned away any child who has been brought to them for shelter and care.

As with all the Spoofers' projects undertaken for the benefit of disadvantaged children in Thailand, this is very much one that can be considered extremely worthwhile and hugely appreciated by the recipients.



Group 6



My new desk!



Sarnelli House Team



Simon and Fr Puwanai



Spoofers and new desks



Spoofers Inspection Team






## Medical Miracles Making Smiles!

You can bring the smile of a lifetime to a child's face for as little as 15,000 Baht with a donation to Operation Smile Thailand. We are part of a worldwide medical charity that provides free reconstructive surgery to children born with disfiguring facial deformities.

Although a relatively inexpensive & simple surgery, it remains out of reach for the poorer families living in rural Thailand. With your help we can reach out a hand and touch a heart. We guarantee that by changing a child's life, you will change your own.

Please join us now.



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# MAGICAL MUSIC

## The BMS production “Under Her Spell”



### From the Stage:

The Bangkok Music Society encourages the performance of Western classical music, but we also raise funds for other voluntary groups. Proceeds from “Under Her Spell”, performed at the British Club on 19 February, helped support the work of NightLight International, an organisation working with trafficked women trapped in Bangkok’s commercial sex industry.

Mostly I chose songs and duets from the 17th century which witnessed the flowering of music depicting real three-dimensional women, in contrast to the stereotypes of previous ages. More songs about women in the sex trade were written in the 17th century than before or since. We also performed medieval songs celebrating the Virgin Mary, and an 18th century duet by Handel, about a young woman from an occupied country forced into prostitution by the occupying army.

**David Wilson**

### From the Audience:

Following hot on the heels of St Valentine’s Day it was, perhaps, appropriate that the Bangkok Music Society’s concert was entitled “Under her Spell”.

The programme was divided into five sections: La Musica - the Ancient Greek goddess of music, and the creation of opera; The Virgin Mary - Heaven and Earth united within the body of a Woman; Bloody Mary - the short and bloody reign of Queen Mary I of England; Wife, Maid and Mistress - a 17th century view of character; and What Magic has Victorious Love! - a survey of music with women as its theme. There were different combinations of instruments (harpsichord, flute, viola da gamba) and voices (mezzo soprano, countertenor, tenor and baritone) throughout, and also The Assumption University Gregorian Chant Choir.

Western classical music displays a surprising absence of women composers, one notable exception being Hildegard of Bingen, whose music was performed in the Virgin Mary section. The programme evoked reflection on how male composers have treated women as musical subject matter over the centuries. How many of us, for whom “Greensleeves” is such a familiar melody, were aware that the wearer of the greensleeves was a prostitute?

The interval brought with it very welcome complimentary Bloody Marys, followed by some particularly beautiful pieces by Henry Purcell. Judging by the audience’s enthusiastic reaction both before and after those Bloody Marys, the concert was greatly enjoyed by all, with the performers justly deserving the rapturous applause.

**Johanna Hall**





Bangkok

# St. George's Society

51st Annual Ball

Sat 27th April 2013

The Amari Watergate Hotel

Drinks Reception at 6:30pm

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Five Course Gourmet English Dinner

Free flow wine & beer

Live Band & DJ

Royal Thai Army Band

Charity Raffle



Ticket Price 3,000 Baht or 28,000 Baht for a table of 10



**CORNERSTONE**







# CHOKCHAI FARM TOUR

SATURDAY 20TH APRIL 2013

COACH LEAVES THE CLUB AT 9AM  
BUFFET LUNCH ON ARRIVAL

TOUR STARTS AT 1:30PM:

- FARM MACHINES
- CHOKCHAI-STYLE RODEO
- SHEEPDOG HERDING
- MINI-ZOO
- ICE-CREAM MAKING AND EATING

COACH ARRIVES BACK AT APPROX 6:30PM

ADULTS BT 2,400

KIDS UNDER 12 BT 1,800

BOOK IN RECEPTION OR EMAIL [INFO@BRITISHCLUBBANGKOK.COM](mailto:INFO@BRITISHCLUBBANGKOK.COM)







# WINERY TOUR

PB VALLEY, KHAO YAI  
Saturday 6th April 2013

Coach leaves the Club at 9am

**Set lunch included (Thai or Western)**

Coach arrives back at approx 5pm

Adults Bt 1,800  
Children (under 12) Bt 1,200



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

Book in Reception or email [info@britishclubbangkok.org](mailto:info@britishclubbangkok.org)



# OUR DECQUICENTENARY

By Paul Cheesman

## ***“Some milestones of our first eleven decades”***



### **1903-1913**

- The Club is founded on 23rd April 1903
- The first Clubhouse opens on 7th July 1903
- The second and present Clubhouse opens on 23rd April 1910

### **1913-1923**

- Land donated by H.M. King Rama VI in 1914
- Club mortgaged to the Chartered Bank of India in 1915
- Bangkok Lawn Tennis Club (current poolside) purchased in 1919

### **1923-1933**

- A tramway on Silom Road in 1925 prompts us to open a back gate
- Club remortgaged to the Hong Kong & Shanghai Bank in 1927
- Siam becomes a Constitutional Monarchy in June 1932

### **1933-1943**

- Local beer Singha joins our menu of imported beers in 1933
- British Envoy Sir Josiah Crosby calls meeting on 8th December 1941
- The Club ceased on 9th December 1941 with the Japanese invasion

### **1943-1953**

- The Club was re-opened on 10th September 1946 with 60 members
- Single ladies could use the Club with 'Ladies Privileges' from 1948
- Membership extended to 'those of British descent' in 1952

### **1953-1963**

- Ambassador Sir Berkeley Gage becomes Honorary Member in 1954
- Membership interviews first instigated by Committee in 1958
- The Thepanom was adopted as the Club logo in 1960

### **1963-1973**

- The Club mortgage with the HSBC was finally paid off in 1965
- The Swimming Pool and Squash Court 1 opened in 1966
- Squash Court 2 and the Dining Room opened in 1971

### **1973-1983**

- Pravit Purananda becomes first Thai and first Associate member in 1977
- Silom Sala and Squash Court 3 open in 1981
- New Centre & No. 1 tennis courts opened by Björn Borg in 1983

### **1983-1993**

- The Bar renamed the Churchill Bar in 1983
- The Poolside Bar re-opened as the Surawong Sala in 1986
- Miss J.V. Candy becomes first female member in 1986

### **1993-2003**

- The Pisamai Fund Club charity started in 1993
- Associate membership quota increased to one third in 1997
- Club Centenary celebrated with 100 minutes of free drinks in 2003!

### **2003-2013**

- First female Chairman, Mrs Angela Daniel, elected in 2005
- Churchill Bar and Lords dining room swapped locations in 2007
- Swimming Pool and Fitness Centre refitted in 2012

***“Now this is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning.”***

*Winston Churchill*



Past Participle will return in May 2013



# BC CALENDAR - APRIL 2013

## MONDAY

1

### BWG Mahjong

10am - 1pm



### Tennis Mix-In

6pm - 10pm



### Monday Night Media

7pm, Wordsworth Lounge  
The Rivals of Sherlock Holmes



8

### BWG Mahjong

10am - 1pm



### Tennis Mix-In

6pm - 10pm



### Monday Night Media

7pm, Wordsworth Lounge  
Life on Mars



15

### BWG Mahjong

10am - 1pm



### Tennis Mix-In

6pm - 10pm



### Monday Night Media

7pm, Wordsworth Lounge  
New Tricks



22

### BWG Mahjong

10am - 1pm



### Tennis Mix-In

6pm - 10pm



### Monday Night Media

7pm, Wordsworth Lounge  
The Sandbaggers



29

### BWG Mahjong

10am - 1pm



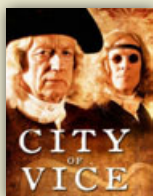
### Tennis Mix-In

6pm - 10pm



### Monday Night Media

7pm, Wordsworth Lounge  
City of Vice



## TUESDAY

2

### Morning Mix-In

8am



### Fitball

10:30am



### Squash Mix-In

5pm - 7pm



### Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers

8:30 pm



### Morning Mix-In

8am



### Fitball

10:30am



### Squash Mix-In

5pm - 7pm



### Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers

8:30 pm



### Quiz Night

7:15pm - 9:30pm

### Winery Tour

Coach leaves the Club at 9 am



9

### Morning Mix-In

8am



### Fitball

10:30am



### Squash Mix-In

5pm - 7pm



### Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers

8:30 pm



16

### Morning Mix-In

8am



### Fitball

10:30am



### Squash Mix-In

5pm - 7pm



### Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers

8:30 pm



### St George's Day



23

### Morning Mix-In

8am



### Fitball

10:30am



### Squash Mix-In

5pm - 7pm



### Senior Football

7pm - 9pm



### Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers

8:30 pm



30

## WEDNESDAY

3

### Artists @ British Club

9am-1pm



### Ladies Tennis Coaching

10am-11:30am



### Tennis Mix-In

6pm-10pm



### Balut Shield

Wordsworth Lounge  
7pm



### Musical Treasures - Kaleidoscope

Surawongse Room 8pm



10

### Artists @ British Club

9am-1pm



### Ladies Tennis Coaching

10am-11:30am



### Tennis Mix-In

6pm-10pm



17

### Artists @ British Club

9am-1pm



### Ladies Tennis Coaching

10am-11:30am



### Tennis Mix-In

6pm-10pm



### Balut Shield

Wordsworth Lounge  
7pm



24

### Artists @ British Club

9am-1pm



### Ladies Tennis Coaching

10am-11:30am



### Tennis Mix-In

6pm-10pm



24

### Ladies Mix-In

8 am



### Fitball

10:30am



### Squash Mix-In

5pm-7pm



### Cricket Thursday Night Trio

7pm

### Ladies Mix-In

8 am



### Fitball

10:30am



### Squash Mix-In

5pm-7pm



### Cricket Thursday Night Trio

7pm

### Ladies Mix-In

8 am



### Fitball

10:30am



### Squash Mix-In

5pm-7pm



### Cricket Thursday Night Trio

7pm

### Ladies Mix-In

8 am



### Fitball

10:30am



### Squash Mix-In

5pm-7pm



### Cricket Thursday Night Trio

7pm

### ANZAC Day



THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<div>4</div> <div>Children's Cinema 6pm, Silom Sala <i>Hotel Transylvania</i></div> <div>Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm</div> 	<div>5</div> <div>Children's Cinema 6pm, Silom Sala <i>Ratatouille</i></div> <div>Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm</div> 	<div>6</div> <div>Tex-Mex Buffet Lunch &amp; Dinner The Verandah 11:30am - 3pm 5pm - 9pm</div> 	<div>7</div> <div>Junior British Club 10:30am - 1:30pm</div> <div>Sunday Brunch 11:30am - 3pm</div> <div>Open Pairs Bridge Surawongse Room 2:30pm</div> <div>Yoga 2:30pm</div>  
<div>11</div> <div>Children's Cinema 6pm, Silom Sala <i>The Jungle Book</i></div> <div>Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm</div> 	<div>12</div> <div>Children's Cinema 6pm, Silom Sala <i>Kung Fu Panda</i></div> <div>Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm</div> 	<div>13</div> <div>Thai Buffet Lunch &amp; Dinner The Verandah 11:30am - 3pm 5pm - 9pm</div> <div>Songkran Day Front Lawn</div> <div>Chokchai Farm Tour Coach leaves the Club at 9 am</div> 	<div>14</div> <div>Junior British Club 10:30am - 1:30pm</div> <div>Sunday Brunch 11:00am - 3pm</div> <div>Open Pairs Bridge Surawongse Room 2:30pm</div> <div>Yoga 2:30pm</div> <div>F1 Chinese Grand Prix 2pm</div>   
<div>18</div> <div>Children's Cinema 6pm, Silom Sala <i>Wine Tasting</i></div> <div>Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm</div> 	<div>19</div> <div>Children's Cinema 6pm, Silom Sala <i>Curry Buffet Lunch &amp; Dinner</i></div> <div>Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm</div> 	<div>20</div> <div>Children's Cinema 6pm, Silom Sala <i>Club's 110th Birthday Party</i></div> <div>Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm</div> 	<div>21</div> <div>Junior British Club 10:30am - 1:30pm</div> <div>Sunday Brunch 11:30am - 3pm</div> <div>Open Pairs Bridge Surawongse Room 2:30pm</div> <div>Yoga 2:30pm</div> <div>F1 Bahrain Grand Prix 7pm</div>   
<div>25</div> <div>Children's Cinema 6pm, Silom Sala <i>BC Golf Society</i></div> <div>Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm</div> 	<div>26</div> <div>Children's Cinema 6pm, Silom Sala <i>Wangjuntr GC</i></div> <div>Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm</div> 	<div>27</div> <div>Children's Cinema 6pm, Silom Sala <i>Bangpakong GC</i></div> <div>Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm</div> 	<div>28</div> <div>Children's Cinema 6pm, Silom Sala <i>Royal GC</i></div> <div>Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm</div> 
<div>25</div> <div>Children's Cinema 6pm, Silom Sala <i>BC Golf Society</i></div> <div>Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm</div> 	<div>26</div> <div>Children's Cinema 6pm, Silom Sala <i>Wangjuntr GC</i></div> <div>Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm</div> 	<div>27</div> <div>Children's Cinema 6pm, Silom Sala <i>Bangpakong GC</i></div> <div>Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm</div> 	<div>28</div> <div>Children's Cinema 6pm, Silom Sala <i>Royal GC</i></div> <div>Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm</div> 

## 'RULES BRITANNIAE'

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



## WANTED OR FOR SALE?!



**DID YOU KNOW...** that you can advertise for free on the two Clubhouse notice boards dedicated to Members Ads? So now you can sell any old furniture or advertise for a new maid – you might even get to sell the golf clubs you never used!

Some conditions ... see By-law 13 for details.

### *Watercolour Workshop With Louise Truslow*



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

*Saturday 20th April*

*£2,500 including lunch  
and refreshments.*

*Sign up at Reception*

*For more information email: [louise@louisetruslow.com](mailto:louise@louisetruslow.com)*



# HOLY DAYS & FESTIVALS

By Paul Cheesman



## EASTER MONDAY

April 1<sup>st</sup>

This is a Public Holiday first decreed in the UK following the Bank Holidays Act 1871 although many Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox countries also celebrated this as a feast day, being the day after the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

This Thai observance day celebrates the founding by H.M. King Vajiravudh (Rama VI) of what is now the Government Savings Bank on 1st April 1913 – the Thai Government uses this day to urge Thai people to save.

## SAVINGS DAY

April 1<sup>st</sup>

## APRIL FOOLS DAY

April 1<sup>st</sup>

Not actually a holiday but a day whose earliest record is in Canterbury Tales (1392) whereby people play jokes on each other until midday. Members may recall the General Committee placing ten 'Reserved for GC' signs in the Silom Car park on this day in 2006 ... some Members were not amused!

On 26th February 1985 the Thai Government decreed that from the thirtieth birthday of H.R.H. Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn on 2nd April 1985 that this day would be Thai Heritage Conservation Day.

## THAI HERITAGE CONSERVATION DAY

April 2<sup>nd</sup>

## CHAKRI DAY

April 6<sup>th</sup>

This is a Thai Public Holiday which celebrates the founding of the present royal Chakri dynasty. On 6th April 1782 General Maha Kshatriyaseuk was crowned King of Siam and in later years he was given the full title Phrabat Somdet Phra Buddha Yodfa Chulaloke or King Rama I. The present King Bhumibol Adulyadej is Rama IX in the same style.

April 13th to 15th is the Therevadin Buddhist New Year – the days themselves named Wan Maha Songkran, Wan Nao and Wan Thaloeng Sok. This year the Thai Government has added Friday 12th and Tuesday 16th as well, although banks should be open on 12th. Although most people only see Songkran as a water throwing festival, it was traditionally a time to pay respect to one's elders and to monks, and to clean the Buddha images at household shrines and in monasteries.

Members are reminded that throwing water in the Club is not permitted.

## SONGKRAN

April 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>

## FAMILY DAY

April 14<sup>th</sup>

Traditionally held on the second day of Songkran since 1991, this day is dedicated to family life and most families try to gather on this day.

This is the festival day for the patron saint of England, St. George and also the Club's birthday! Born around 275AD, George was of Greek Christian parentage and became a tribune in the Roman army in the personal guard of Emperor Diocletian. However in 302AD the Emperor decreed that all Roman soldiers must offer sacrifices to the Roman Gods. After many attempts at persuasion, George would not give up his Christian faith and so was executed on 23rd April 303. King Edward II of England (1327-1377) adopted Saint George, the soldier saint, as the patron saint of England and in 1348 the Most Noble Order of the Garter was founded in his name.

## ST. GEORGE'S DAY

April 23<sup>rd</sup>



# PÉTANQUE

By Michael Taylor



Most of you will have noticed the strange rectangular shape that has appeared recently at the edge of the Front Lawn next to the turtle pond. This is our new Pétanque Court. Pétanque (pronounced 'pay-tonk') is a simple and social game, quite similar to the beach bowls we play in England.

## General Pétanque Rules

- 2 teams of 1 or more players
- With singles or doubles, players use 3 boules each but with triples, they use 2 each.
- The aim is to get your team's boules closer to the small ball ('coche' or 'jack') than your opponent's boules.

## Deciding Who Goes First

The normal method is with a toss of a coin.

## Tossing the Coche (small ball)

The team that wins the coin toss chooses the starting location and then selects one of their players to throw out the coche. The starting location is usually a drawn circle, but on the small British Club Court standing behind the wooden boundary at one end is fine. The player who leads off stands with both feet inside the circle and throws the coche. The coche can

be thrown in any direction but must come to rest within 6 to 10 metres of the starting circle and one metre away from any obstacle.

## Throwing Your Boules

Boules must be thrown from within the starting circle and with both feet on the ground. The aim is to throw the boule so that it comes to rest as close to the coche as possible; it is allowable to touch or move the coche. The player should stay in the circle until their boule has landed. Next, a player from the other team will have their throw. They will step into the circle and try to land their boule closer to the coche - it is fully allowable to knock your opponent's boule out of the way as part of the process. (In fact as you become more experienced, you will see it is an important part of the strategy of the game). The boule closest to the coche is said to be "holding the point." The other team must then continue throwing their boules until they are holding the point or they run out of boules.

Team members are not required to play in any particular order when throwing their boules; however, they must only throw their own boules and they must throw their boules one at a time from within the starting circle. They must also only throw





their own boules; they cannot borrow boules from a team mate. If they take the lead (hold the point), the other team then tries to reverse the situation by landing a leading boule.

### Winning the End

Once a team has thrown all its boules, the other side is allowed to throw their remaining boules. Once all boules are thrown, the points are counted. The team that has their boule closest to the coche wins that end. Additionally, they also get an extra point for each boule that is closer to the coche than their opponents' closest boule. Only one team scores points per end. You cannot score negative points.

### Beginning a New End

Once the points are tallied, the next end begins with the

previous end's winners drawing a new starting circle. The team that won the previous end then selects a team player to toss out the coche to start the process all over again.

### Winning the Game

The first team to 13 points wins the game. There is no minimum or maximum number of ends that must be played. The Pétanque boules can be collected from the Fitness Centre. They must be signed in and signed out after each session. Members who sign them out are fully accountable for the boules until they are returned and signed back in.

We will be holding a friendly Pétanque tournament within the next few weeks. I hope to see as many of you participating as possible!

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## POOLSIDE

In the last couple of weeks, there have been some additions to the Poolside area to make it more environmentally satisfying.

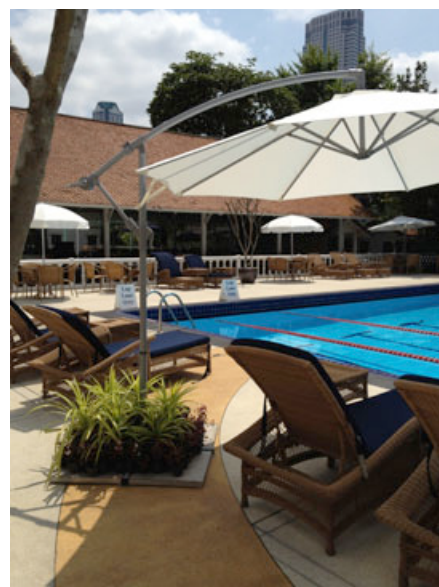
A floral display wall has been erected next to the showers, which is lovely and also masks the kitchen area behind it.

Four new Riviera-style sunshades have been installed, each of which has a floral display at its base. These are white, providing full shade cover whilst allowing maximum light beneath.

The existing sunshade umbrellas have been refitted with white material to blend with the new sunshades and the overall colour scheme of the area.

A number of potted trees have been located at various positions around the perimeter. These will grow and fill out, and provide colourful bursts when in flower.

The trees and plants will be watered regularly and replaced if any of them fail to flourish. Please do not stack objects, clothes or other items on or around them.



# QUIZ NIGHT

**WITH THE MONTHLY JACKPOT!!**



9th April 2013

The Verandah, 7:15pm

Members Bt 100 / Non-members Bt 150



**THE BRITISH CLUB**  
BANGKOK



# SPORTS

By Michael Taylor



In the absence of a Sports Manager, I have been holding the fort, while juggling this with many other things, such as the construction projects. I have met with the majority of the active Sports Sections, and am delighted at the ideas and enthusiasm each Section is prepared to bring to the Club. I am confident that once we appoint a new Sports Manager, British Club sport will continue to flourish in all areas. Certainly, with the construction of a new state-of-the-art All Weather Pitch, football, cricket and hockey are going to become a much more enjoyable experience for all concerned!

## Tennis

I am delighted to announce that Nutt Watanapalin, who is a second-generation British Club Member, has joined our coaching staff. Nutt is currently the best player in the Club (except for Pierre!) and is known and liked by all players and staff alike. He is a keen tennis player, who has played many tournaments throughout Thailand and has attained his coaching badges. Nutt has recently started Monday Night Clinics, which involve drills, technique and match practice. The first few trial sessions have gone very well and we'd now like to encourage as many players to take part as possible. Nutt is also available for one-on-one coaching. Please register your interest in the Fitness Centre.

Looking at the leagues, some people have been playing their games and others haven't. It is clear that some newer players are in the wrong leagues. I suggest that we finish the current leagues at the end of the month, and then start afresh next month. Any player who completes all their matches and wins the league will get the usual 1000 baht voucher.



## Football

The construction of the new All Weather Pitch means that there is currently no football available at the Club at the moment. We hope to be finished by the end of April at the latest, after which we will hold the first of a new series of football tournaments. With the new, safer surface, I'm confident that this will even better-attended than before. It would be nice to arrange a junior tournament too, provided we have the numbers.

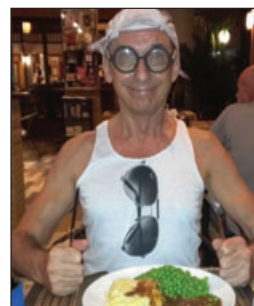


## Other Sports

Two other sports I'd love to see happening at the Club are basketball and badminton. Basketball will be able to be played on the new All Weather Pitch, but I am still unsure about the best place for badminton. Since we don't have facilities for playing indoors, either playing on the All Weather pitch or on the Front Lawn seem to be the best options I can think of. Any suggestions from you all would be gratefully received.

# HARD BALLS

By Deepesh Middon



13 slips for Nick's first ball



Nick 0 for 1



Rahul 0 for 2



Dale 0 for 3

This year's annual Chiang Mai tour on 24/25th January almost didn't happen because the Gymkhana Club agreed to host an international ladies cricket tournament the weekend we had booked to play. After a flurry of emails it was agreed to play one match instead of the traditional two, the Dick Wood Trophy on its 30th anniversary. To accommodate 15 BC cricketers a novel format of two innings of 20 overs was played with players able to rotate at will, provided that there were no more than eleven fielders at any time. Batsmen would retire on 40.

CMGC batted first and it soon became clear they had an influx of new, young and very talented cricketers. Their opening bat smashed 44\* off 15 balls and a thrashing looked inevitable. However, Nick (2 for 27), Rahul (2 for 15) and Jack (2 for 10) hung on, 2 catches were actually held and apart from the usual ration of 24 wides, the final score of 141 for 8 didn't feel like a thrashing. That is until we started batting. At the end of the first over bowled by a young Bangladeshi leggy, we were 3 for 3, all extras, Nick, Rahul and Dale all back in the hutch ... and all recorded by ace cameraman Chris Watt! The thrashing was back on! But the middle order was not intimidated with Jem (25), Anthony (22) and Duncan (19) all getting into double figures and veteran Corin, BC's man of the match, smashing 40 not out with abandon. BC ended up with a very creditable 133 for 9, a deficit of a mere 8 runs on the first innings.

But CMGC's batting was awesome in their second innings, this time a Welsh Under-17 national smashing 44 off not many balls with his brother not far behind taking their score to 180 for 4 (35 wides this time!) to set us a target of 189 to win off our second 20 overs. The bowling statistics were not pretty, Anthony (1 for 30), Jack (2 for 27) and Duncan (1 for 20) taking the wickets. Second time round Nick (18) and Rahul (17) got us off to a reasonable start but this time consecutive ducks for Jem, David and Dale meant there could be no happy ending. Anthony (24\*) and Adrian (18) helped lift the score to a reasonably respectable 111 for 8, but we were thrashed after all by 87 runs.

One bonus of the new arrangements was that Sunday became a more relaxed affair with the Tennis and Squash Sections able to play their matches at leisure. Another was being able to watch Iran play Kuwait in the ladies tournament. The very fact that these two teams were playing in Thailand was mind-



Corin on the rampage



Jem counter-attacks



1 over, 3 for 3



Elliot debuts



Iran ladies after their victory

Corin fielding



boggling alone, but the skills and enthusiasm on display were a delight to behold. Iran won, much to their joy and Kuwait's obvious disappointment, and later in the week Thailand beat China in the final. Wow! What would Dick Wood have thought about that 30 years ago!

Nick's Day



3 hat trick victims



5 dropped catches

Next up was a 25 over friendly against RBSC at the Polo Club on 9th February, the scene of our remarkable Marshall Trophy victory in November. RBSC batted first and revenge was clearly their intent as #'s 1 and 3 both smashed 30 not out, both off 14 balls, the first wicket not falling until 100 was on the board after only 13 overs. Sailesh (1 for 14) took the first wicket and there then followed one of the most memorable spells of BC cricket for many a year when former pace-man Nick White, these days bowling off a gentle 6 step run up, took not just a hat trick, but 4 for 24 including 2 catches off his own bowling plus one more! No less than 10 bowlers provided the side-show, Rahul (1 for 36), Richard (1 for 4) and Jack (1 for 15) helped keep what looked like being an astronomical score to a more reasonable 179 for 7. It might have been even better had we not unwisely taken a tail-ender wicket to bring #1 back to the crease to thrash another 15 off 5 balls ... and a little matter of 5 dropped catches.

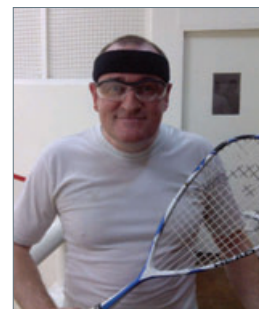
BC got off to a slow start and at 41 for 3 after 10 overs the game appeared all but lost. However, Nick White was having the day of his life retiring on 30, Sailesh played his best innings of the season, also 30\*, and when Duncan, on debut, belted 30\* off just 20 balls RBSC looked worried. Although James C-S played a great cameo innings of 18 off 10 balls and Richard (12\*) kept trying to the end, there was a little bit too much to do. A score of 155 for 6, defeat by 22 runs left us pondering what might have been.

RBSC have been wonderful hosts in helping BC cricket getting going again over the last four seasons and that evening they were invited back to the Club for a BBQ dinner. It was wonderful night of good humour, slammers and of course endless replays of **Nick White's Day: 4 wickets including a hat trick, 3 catches and 30 not out. Not bad for an old'un!**



# SQUASHY BITS

By Bruce Madge



Alcoholics!



Bodyslam!



Crashed!



Happily Married!

Here we go! No Bits last month as an Airbus A380 crashed into my apartment block after one of its batteries went flat and it lost all power on its way from over there to Chad. All the residents were in their rooms at the time and are now all dead save for me who was down the temple performing best man duties for the Grinch at his wedding to a cat. Though I survived the destruction of my home and the sad demise of all my neighbours, I'm actually the loser in this awful predicament as they, being deceased, now have no need for a place to live since they are in heaven or hell depending on how many sordid thoughts they entertained during their lives, yet I am down and out, homeless, and kipping down in a box under the expressway near Evan's luxury, five-bedroom, three-bathroom double condo complete with river-view, gym and pool. It's not all bad, though, as Wally's kids stop by every morning with some leftovers – ya know, pizza crusts, chicken bones, egg shells, cold rice, carrot tops, sour milk and stale bread. Plenty there to stave off starvation. And I have a familiar neighbour who isn't a corpse as I have the Grinch holed-up in the box next to mine with his new cife (a cife is a feline wife). You see the Grinch is now as homeless as I since having to leave the club in Jan and becoming poor, destitute and unemployed. Us squashies were sad to see him go, yet weren't surprised that his position had become untenable after we'd learned what he'd been up to behind the new bogs with his favourite club moggy. There's no real way to put this nicely so to put it bluntly, he'd got her up the duff, hadn't he? Silly boy! Rumour has it that he'd been knocking off the big Persian one for well over a year and they'd both been rather lax with the precautions during their intimate moments and the upshot of it all is that she's expecting his kiddens – all five of them, so he's had to tie the knot with her – her family insisted upon it -- while he has no job and no home. Poor bloke. Poor cat. Poor kiddens, and they ain't even been born yet. But we wish you good luck Paul from the squashies and Squashy Bits.



Jobless and Homeless!





That all happened in Jan and also in that month we went to Chiang Mai, as we do every year, along with the kliket and teeeenisssss fools and there we lost the Peter Corney Chiang Mai Challenge Cup for the second year in a row 5-2 to a team comprising of a two-day old baby, a parachute, a blind panda, 7 handicapped Somalian pirates and a mouse, no, not the animal, but the computer component and not a wireless one, but an old one with a flat battery. Evans is responsible for this crap as he is the captain and so doesn't deserve the position or his luxurious abode, rather he should be drowned in a pool of vomit.

Feb came along as it usually does after March and in it we played a match on a Friday eve against a team from the Hong Kong Cricket Club. They told us they were bringing three dozen top players for a serious competition, or so Captain Calamity claimed, but finally turned up with just two and a half; the half being a really short bloke with no feet. So what did we do since CC had stupidly invited the entire section to play against them? We cancelled the whole lot and went to Patpong where we plonked ourselves down in a girly/boyey/lady boyey bar, all chipped in 100 baht, handed it over to some tall, large-handed, big-footed, deep-voiced, silicone-breasted individual with a ridiculously fake persona and an equally funny walk who took the clueless CC, who was blind drunk anyway by this time, upstairs so he could, for the second time in his life, have it off with a man posing as a woman.

On to March and the AGM. Not the British Club AGM, but the far more important British Club Squash Section AGM. We had the regular mix-in beforehand which attracted three people being

H, Shiraz and a bald rabbit. The rabbit got disqualified during the knock up for having no fur and for taking a dump on the T of court one while H was beaten by Shazza, over the head, with a Magnum ice-cream until H burst into tears. What a poof! Then we had the meeting which drew a few more punters – six or seven actually. Two of them were the staff, a further 64, some insects who live on the front lawn and the others were made up of H, still drying his tears, Cornflakes, licking chocolate from his head, CC, still with a sore bottom, and Jack Dunford who now has a smart phone and spends hours on it surfing girly pictures. Sad! Very Sad!

Anyway, in brief, Fire Exit has been chucked off the squash section committee as it was he that first introduced the Grinch to the big Persian tart which led to him becoming a tramp at it a reluctant mother. Be that as it may, and despite the ignominy of his departure, we must thank Cat Flap for his service to the section over the last three centuries. Thanks David! We love you! Varapong has thankfully taken his place and his first role is to build, by hand, our new glass-backed squash, yet if he fails we'll take him to the bar where CC disgraced himself again, film the lot and send it to his wife.

Yet, to celebrate Pong's appointment we got drunk, listened to Bodyslam and Faithless presented by Marv the Magical DJ, danced with our special guests, Ant and Jayne, got even more drunk and then drank some more until we were so smashed that we couldn't even remember our names!

Cheers! And until the Grinch's Kiddens are born . . . .



# BCGS GOLFING NEWS

By Peter Gale



The last few weeks have been relatively quiet for the British Club golf section with just two events taking place, an away weekend at Soi Dao and the March Stableford competition. Next month things will start getting busier with the first of our major competitions, the annual Junior and Seniors competition, played on 6th and 7th April at Wanjunt.

## Intersocieties Annual Golf Tournament – February 16th/17th

On the weekend of 16th February many of our members took part in the annual Intersocieties Golf Tournament, played between the four home nations. This year's event took place at Royal Hill's golf resort, a very challenging golf course set in the beautiful hills surrounding Nakorn Nayok. Following two very competitive rounds St Andrews walked away with the trophy followed by the golfers of St George's.

## Soi Dao Away Weekend – February 23rd/24th/25th

The long weekend saw nine BC golfers head off to one of the most stunning courses we get the opportunity to play, Soi Dao Highlands. The course is in the midst of Soi Dao National Park only a few miles from the Cambodian border, which means it can take 3 to 4 hours to get there. For those that made the effort they were rewarded with stunning scenery, the chance to see star filled skies in the evening, a challenging golf course and good company.

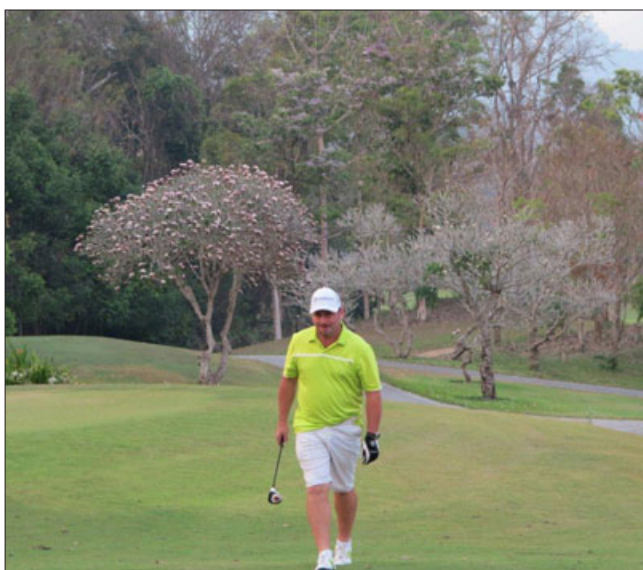
One of the other benefits of playing golf so far from Bangkok is the speed of play, at one stage over the weekend a 3-ball managed to play 9 holes in only 1 hour and 5 minutes!

Also the course has one of the shortest Par 5's in Thailand which gives many golfers the rare opportunity, well rare for some of us, to putt for an eagle. This happened twice over the weekend but unfortunately Pete and Belinda were unable to convert their putt's and then ended up 3-putting for a par... better luck next time!

It was also good to welcome back Nick and Joom White after a long absence from the fairways of Thailand.



*Soi Dao Highlands: a great place to relax*



*and a great place to play golf...*





*Captain Karen and 8 adventurous golfers*



*Julie enjoying playing all parts of the course*

### **March Stableford, Subhapruek – March 10th**

The 2nd Stableford competition of the year took place at Subhapruek on a bit of a wild and windy day, which is the excuse we will use for why no one was able to play to their handicap. The course is a Dye designed layout with plenty of sand traps and water hazards to catch out the unwary golfer. While plenty of people struggled there were still some respectable scores and the winner on the day was Ray Bloom with a very creditable 35 points, just beating Randall and Captain Karen who both scored 34. Technical Prize winners were: Frank, Joom, Vicky, Nick and Randall.



*Presenting the prizes*



*Congratulations to Ray*

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# ST ANDREW'S ON COURSE

## Inter Societies Golf Tournament 2013

By Sue Bradwell Evans

What few would have realised as we embarked on the Inter Societies Golf Tournament this year is that we were in fact celebrating 50 years of the Tournament. Teams of golfers from all four Loyal Societies got together out of Bangkok for a weekend of fun and competition. The Societies take it in turns to organise the event, and 2013 was the turn of St George's.



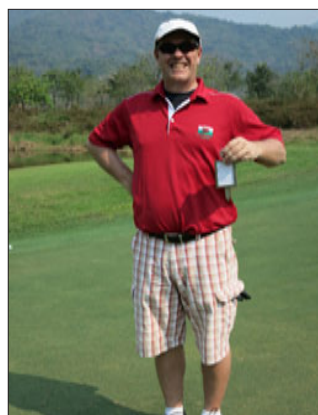
The first tournament (won by St Andrew's) was held in 1963 at the Royal Hua Hin course, which continued to host the tournament for over 25 years. This year we revisited the beautiful Royal Hills Golf Course Resort & Spa, a peaceful retreat amidst the graceful mountains of Nakhon Nayok province.



Traditionally the tournament is played before the cool season becomes hot. Finding a suitable date means competing with Korean tours and juggling with the St David's and St Patrick's Balls, the Hong Kong Sevens, other golf tournaments and Easter. This left us with the weekend of 16th & 17th February, which accommodated just about everybody.

Saturday 16th February finally arrived and over 80 golfers registered on a glorious day at Royal Hills. Order of the day on both days was a Shotgun Start and the Saturday start was at 11.30 a.m. Thanks to Scott Rowley's efficient scoring system, the half way leaders were known before the evening barbeque with meat kindly provided by Asia West Foods. With no Six Nations Rugby fixtures to watch, it was an early night (for most) in readiness for the 7.30 a.m. Shotgun Start on the Sunday with St Andrew's as overnight leaders.

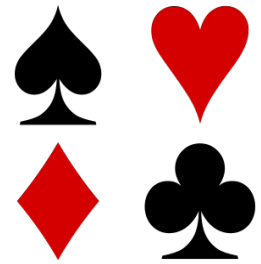
Golf over, scoring was quickly completed and the announcements and presentations were made with St Andrew's 1122 points the Overall Society winner; St George's 1083 points; St Patrick's 1067 points; and St David's 980 points.



Many thanks to Ray Bloom and all the other Convenors; Abigail Evans our "hands-on" President; scorer Scott Rowley; the friendly and helpful staff of the Resort; and last but not least to our sponsors: Bangkok Hospital; Asian Tigers; The Londoner; Food by Phone; Bistro 33; Queen Vic; Bourbon Street. And my personal thanks to Brian Brook who allowed me to use some of a previous write-up to assist me with my introduction and the best of luck to St David's for organising the 2014 tournament.



# BRIDGE



## Bridge Results for February 2013

EVENT	RANK	NAME (PAIR)	SCORE%
Sunday 3rd February (9 pairs)	Tied 1 <sup>st</sup>	Benjarong & Wako	63.19%
	Tied 1 <sup>st</sup>	Prarop & Surawit	63.19%
Sunday 10th February (12 pairs)	1 <sup>st</sup>	Benjarong & Wannawit	64.09%
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Sunisa V. & Helmer	59.55%
Sunday 17th February (12 pairs)	1 <sup>st</sup>	Daksha & Rudi	60.00%
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Kiyoko & Nakako	57.73%

## WEAK 2-BIDS (An article by Larry Cohen)

In the first 30-40 years of contract bridge, all two-level openings were strong and natural. Then, sanity prevailed. Now, 2♣ (artificial) is used for all (rarely-dealt) strong hands, freeing up 2♦, 2♥, 2♠ for more practical use. Today, only dinosaurs use strong 2-bids (although ACOL and other systems where 2♦, 2♥ and 2♠ have special meanings are prevalent in certain areas of the world).

What should a weak two-bid show? Typically a 6-card suit and about 5-10 HCP. Within that definition there is lots of room. I wouldn't open 2 with:

♠K Q J 10 9 8 ♥-- ♦A 4 3 2 ♣6 5 2 – This hand is way too good—it is a 1♠ opening.

Meanwhile, I'd gladly open 2♠ with:

♠K J 10 9 8 6 ♥4 ♦10 8 7 4 ♣3 2 -- Even though it is out of the HCP range.

At one point (in the mid-1980's) the ACBL had the "5-and-5 rule" (some people called it the "Marty Bergen rule"). You had to have at least a 5-card suit and 5 HCP for a weak two-bid. That rule lasted only a year or so. Now, "anything goes."

There is lots of room for judgment. Vulnerability and position are crucial. If you are vulnerable, try to have a good suit and to be at the upper end of the HCP range. If you are in second seat (a bad position to preempt because the contract could easily belong to your side), be very sound. In all situations, be aware of suit quality. I don't think it is a good idea to preempt with a suit of jack-empty-sixth.

It is important to know your style and to know partner's. To read my article on partnership and preempting, go to <http://www.larryco.com/BridgeArticles/ArticleDetails.aspx?articleID=62>.



Here are the “top-three” questions students ask me about weak two’s:

**1. Can you open a weak two-bid with a void?**

**2. Can you have a side four-card major?**

**3. Do I need 2 of the top 3 honours?**

My answers:

1. Side voids?

Absolutely possible. I wouldn’t preempt if the void made the hand too good for a preempt (see the first example in this article). But, if the hand is in range, why not have a void? I can’t imagine not opening 2♠ with, say:

♠KJ 10 9 4 3 ♥-- ♦QJ 2 ♣9 8 6 4.

2. Side majors?

You can preempt with a side 4-card major. But, I wouldn’t open 2♠ with, say:

♠QJ 8 7 6 5 ♥A Q 10 3 ♦5 4 ♣3. We could easily belong in hearts, and I’d be afraid of preempting our side out of that suit. However, I’d proudly open 2♠ with, say,

♠K Q J 10 8 7 ♥8 7 4 3 ♦3 2 ♣2. Who cares about the hearts when my spades are so good and my hearts are so bad?

3. Top honours?

Not really important. Rather than focus on the top honours, I care more about the intermediate spots. I’d much rather have QJ 10 9 8 7 than AK 5 4 3 2. The cards in the middle are what make the suit of “good quality” for preempting.

Here are a few (relatively easy) examples. Note the vulnerability and position. Assume you are playing a “normal” style (not super-conservative, not crazy aggressive). Answers at the end of the article:

What would you open as dealer, nobody vulnerable?

A)  
♠10 9 6 5 4 2  
♥A 7 6 2  
♦A 2  
♣2

B)  
♠6 5  
♥K Q J 8 5 3  
♦7 6 2  
♣5 4

C)  
♠8 3  
♥2  
♦8 7 6 2  
♣K Q J 10 8 2

D)  
♠--  
♥8 7 2  
♦K J 10 9 8 2  
♣Q 8 7 2

What would you open in second seat, vulnerable against not?

E)  
♠Q 4 2  
♥K J 8 6 5 2  
♦5 4  
♣6 2

F)  
♠5 3  
♥2  
♦A Q J 10 9 8  
♣10 9 6 2

G)  
♠2  
♥K Q 10 9 7 2  
♦K 9 8 2  
♣4 3

H)  
♠A 10 7 6 5 2  
♥Q 4 3  
♦Q 9 8  
♣J

Answers:

1. Pass. No weak two for me with that awful suit.
2. 2♥. If you are waiting for ♥K Q J 10 9 8, you’ll never get to preempt. This is a textbook weak two (albeit a minimum).
3. 3♣. Since there is no weak two-bid in clubs, we sometimes have to open 3♣ with only a six-card suit.
4. 2♦. The side-void doesn’t bother me. The side four-card club suit is no problem. The suit is excellent. So, why not 2♦?
5. No. It’s not so much the side major that is the problem. It is the poor heart suit. Maybe with ♥K J 10 9 x x we could talk. But, second seat unfavourable calls for extreme soundness.
6. 2♦. Great suit, great shape—no reason not to preempt.
7. 2♥. Sure. Why not?
8. Pass. Terrible suit for a weak two, especially in this seat at these colours.

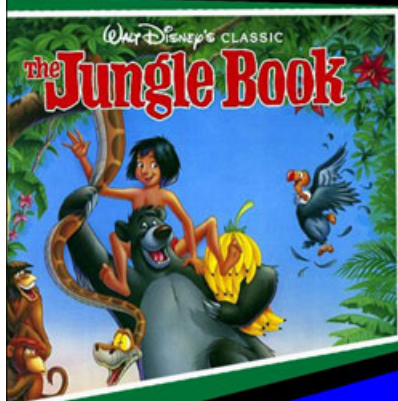


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in which the world famous ghost hunter Carnicki investigates the supernatural at Hisgins Hall, the ancestral home of Captain Hisgins.



### "The Case of the Mirror of Portugal"

When Jacques Bouvier hires Horace Dorrington to steal a famous diamond called the Mirror of Portugal from his cousin's house, Dorrington takes the job, but as he goes along he decides Bouvier's original plan of action is capable of some improvement.

**8th April**

## LIFE ON MARS

### "Episode 1.5"

When investigating the murder of a Manchester United football fan, Sam, Gene and WPC Annie Cartwright go undercover to gather evidence in the local pub - Gene's ideal job!



### "Episode 1.6"

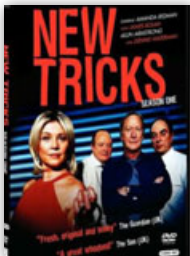
When his mother's voice bleeds through from 2006, Sam hears her say goodbye to him. His life support machine is to be turned off at 2pm. In 1973 a hostage-taker will kill his prisoners at 2pm. Is this Sam's way of saving his life in 2006?

**15th April**

## NEW TRICKS

### "1984"

The murder outside a nuclear base in 1984 of Josh Livesey, a peace protester, is re-examined after Frank Fox, a fellow protester, is convicted of another killing. After discovering that one of the protesters was actually a mole for Special Branch, old secrets begin to unravel resulting in the identities being exposed.



### "Good work rewarded"

Twenty years after his murder, the case of a ten-year-old child found dead on a golf course is re-opened. One investigator from the original investigation – Diane Loveless – claims that she believed in the murderer's innocence. With fresh evidence, the team must uncover the 20-year-old secrets that prevented the police from discovering the truth.

**22nd April**

## THE SANDBAGGERS

### "Always glad to help"

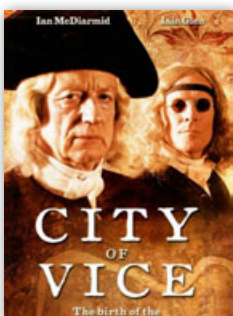
The Ministry of Defence asks Burnside to send divers to investigate the Russian merchant vessel Karaganda which may be a spy ship. Meanwhile, a prince of a sheikdom makes a clandestine approach to the Foreign Office seeking support of a coup to oust his pro-Soviet father. Burnside calls for caution. Peele asks to move quickly. Ambiguity upon ambiguity pile up. Finally, Burnside is forced to guess.



### "A Feasible Solution"

A vacationing British missile engineer goes missing in Cyprus. Burnside's station staff is attacked, forcing him to take action in the Mediterranean with a possible terrorist attack in the offing. Burnside asks Laura out to supper and discusses Burnside's inaccessibility which makes Burnside smile. It's the last time he'll show such a big smile.

**29th April**



## CITY OF VICE

*City of Vice is a British historical crime drama series set in Georgian London which mixes fiction with fact and follows the fortunes of the famous novelist Henry Fielding and his brother, who were magistrates who created Britain's police force through the Bow Street Runners.*

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The Fielding brothers are dining at a tavern run by an infamous pimp when a messenger announces that a woman's body has been found nearby. The woman miraculously survives. Tensions mount as the murderer's identity continues to elude the Runners...

### "Episode 2"

When the Reverend Erasmus Cavendish is found murdered, his maid informs the Runners that the reverend was a homosexual (a crime punishable by hanging). The Runners take their search to Miss Suki's 'Molly House,' an infamous brothel and rendezvous for London's gay men.





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