



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

# OUTPOST

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK



**ALL ABOARD!!**  
Along the Chaophraya

## LOOKING BACK

Easter at the Club

## SPORTS

Tennis Championships  
Triumphant Golf

## NOW SHOWING

The Daleks with Winston  
Sherlock Holmes



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THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

## OUTPOST Magazine

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### OUTPOST

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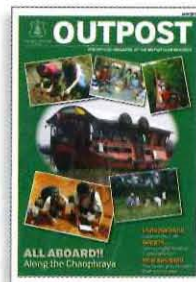
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the Chaophraya's role  
in a sustainable lifestyle.  
Escape the city, visit Koh  
Kret, glimpse the river,  
and have fun!





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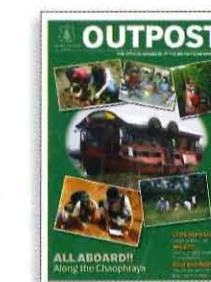
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# LETTER FROM THE CHAIR



**Jonathan Truslow**  
Chairman - General  
Committee 2009/2010

After a brisk and business-like AGM, the sign-off on phase 1 at the earlier EGM, and the appointment of Jesper Doepping as GM, I was looking forward to an easy life. Barry's resignation shocked me out of complacency and into a flurry of meetings with Barry himself, Jesper, the staff and management team and the GC, not to mention conversations with concerned members. We all hope he will reconsider and stay with us; and we plan to give him every opportunity to get some much needed rest, take a critical look at the world outside the Club and make a well-reasoned decision.

As I said in opening, the AGM and EGM went very smoothly. I take this as showing that members feel last years GC was steering the Club in the right direction: incrementally improving facilities, supporting member sections, seeking ways to increase membership without losing the Club's British and Commonwealth ethos. These policies will continue through 2010 although the actions will increasingly be driven by Jesper and the Management Team.

Of course we received many useful suggestions from members during the AGM. A particular area of concern was the amount of bank fees the Club pays to collect membership dues. Other issues raised included rising staff costs, food costs, support for football and rugby, and canine access rights.

We held an informal GC meeting on 31st March so the new Committee could get to know each other and share our thoughts and concerns for the Club. These thoughts together with points raised by members during the AGM have been passed to Jesper for inclusion in his planning. The planning will cover two phases: immediate actions focusing on clarifying staff duties and responsibilities, use of the Verandah restaurant, the cost of collecting membership dues and IT issues, and a longer term strategy for marketing and development. Jesper will present his plans for immediate action and an outline for the longer term strategy to the next GC meeting after which we will share them with members.

At the 31st March meeting we also agreed the appointment of the GC's other officers as follows:

**Vice Chair**  
**Honorary Secretary**  
**Treasurer**

Dale Lamb  
Paul Cheesman  
Phil Alexander

## OFFICIAL OPENING TIMES

**The Verandah**

11am - 2pm (Mon. - Thurs.)  
5pm - 10pm (Mon. - Thurs.)  
11am - 10pm (Fri. - Sun. and Public Holidays)

**Neilson Hays Coffee Shop**

9am - 6pm (Tues.-Sun.)

**Fitness Centre**

6am - 10pm (Mon.-Fri.)

**Churchill Bar**

10am - 11pm

**Fitness Centre**

6am - 9pm (Sat.-Sun.)

**Poolside Bar**

7am - 10pm  
Last food orders - 9.30pm

**Thai Massage**

9am - 5pm (Tues.-Sun.)



# LETTER FROM THE GM



**Jesper Doepping**  
General Manager 2010

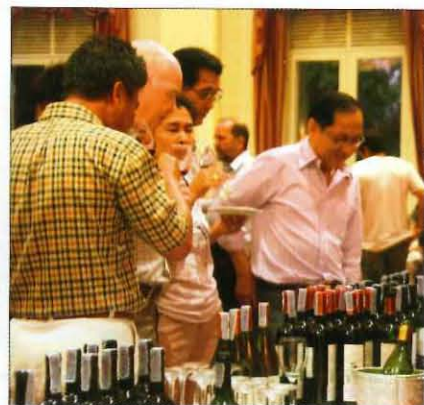
I write this report after one week on the job as General Manager of the British Club. I am very pleased to be given the opportunity to work at this wonderful oasis in Bangkok, and I am looking forward to working with the GC, the Management Team and the Members to continuously develop and maintain the British Club.

I have used my first week to get to know the staff, the Members, the activities and the accounts of the British Club. I am very grateful for the very pleasant and informative start that everyone with whom I have talked has given me.

In the first week we have had a communication challenge, because our different systems are not sufficiently integrated; as a consequence, our Members for at least the last month have not received all announcements from the Club. We expect this issue to be solved by the time this is read.

We received the sad news that Barry intended to resign from the British Club. Barry feels that 16 years of service to the Club is enough. Although the Club has been a central part of his life and provided him with a rewarding and enjoyable career, he has been under considerable pressure in his dual role as both General Manager and F&B Events Manager, and he feels it is time for him to search for new endeavours. The General Committee, the Management Team and I deeply regret his decision and Barry will be sorely missed. However, we do understand that in times of change it is natural to consider other alternatives and endeavours, and we respect his reasons for leaving. Barry will continue to work at the Club for the next 2 months, in his position as Deputy General Manager Food, Beverage & Events and we hope that during this time he will reconsider his decision. If at the end of this period he still wishes to leave, Club Members will be given a proper opportunity to say goodbye and to thank Barry for his contribution to the British Club.

## WINE-TASTING WELCOME

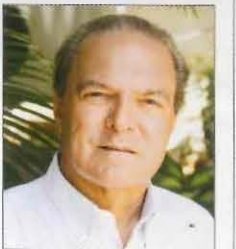


The March wine-tasting evening in the Suriwongse Room was a time for Members to mingle, sample some fine wines, and sniff out a bargain. More importantly, it served as an opportunity for Members to meet the Club's newly appointed General Manager, Jesper Doepping, who was on hand to learn about the Club and offer advice to fellow Bacchantes. Goaded on by offers of 'Buy 1 Get 1 Free' and Khun Laak's delectable canapés, Members were spotted leaving weighed down with boxes or bags, smacking their lips with glee.



# HOUSE & GROUNDS

## The monthly report on Maintenance and Development



The Annual General Meeting was held on 23 March and was preceded by an EGM at which the following Motion was discussed and voted on: "That Phase 1 be considered completed in its entirety and to the Members' satisfaction, as per point (d) of the proposal approved at the 2008 AGM". The Motion was carried by 52 votes to 2. This brings to an end a very difficult period in the history of the Club which cannot be forgotten, but which has hopefully provided us with some very useful lessons.

This now enables us to look ahead and consider future improvements. The Motion carried at the 2008 AGM had several requirements, including the preparation of a Master Plan for the next stage of development. As stated in previous reports, the Club has limited financial resources, and our recommendations will not therefore be on a grandiose scale, but more along the lines of a gradual improvement of our facilities with funding coming from revenue over several years.

It has to be stressed that the outstanding need to repair and maintain the Club infrastructure will put pressure on the finances available for new development. Certain essential services are in a very neglected state and reached the end of their efficient life cycle many years ago. We have started replacing A/C units and refrigerators but there are many other items of plant and equipment which are also due for replacement. The drainage system is in very poor condition and the pumps have probably reached the end of their reliable life. Sections of pipework are broken and the system has been kept going by our staff carrying out stop-gap repairs, some of which have compromised the legal and efficient function of the system.

We should also consider landscaping improvements, something which was voiced at the AGM by a Member. The front lawn and turtle pond are certainly not in keeping with the traditional British ideal. We would surely be looked down on by our neighbours if the Club was in the UK. The lawn hardly rates as more than a bit of scrub and the pond area now resembles a rubbish dump. The car park also needs tidying up and the lines replacing to provide acceptable sized parking spaces which allow adequate room to open doors to get out of vehicles without trying to mimic a contortionist. I am painfully aware that we present a rather dilapidated appearance to potential Members and this does not help with our very important recruitment drive. The first feature witnessed by a first-time visitor to the Club is the shabby table and awning at the Silom security point. No comment required.

I mentioned in my previous report that I would be recommending acceptance by the General Committee of a proposal from a suitably qualified consultant to carry out a detailed review of our fire and fire-related systems. The General Committee was not convinced that this was a current priority and asked for information on other facilities which might require upgrading to comply with Thai and UK Building Regulations. Apart from the requirements for the Disabled, with which we cannot fully comply at the present time, the kitchens are the obvious facility to be reviewed. If anyone can recommend a kitchen/hygiene consultant who can provide independent professional advice, without trying to sell us something at the same time, please let me know.

In the Men's Changing Room, we have changed all of the floor drains in the shower cubicles. I hope that this now provides reasonable drainage

without replacement of the pipework in the toilet below. We will probably replace the pipes when the toilet is refurbished later this year. I have a concept for a stainless steel hanging rail which is currently being priced.

You will be wondering what is happening about the notice boards in the Clubhouse corridor. Unfortunately, the General Committee were not willing to approve the quotation for replacement which I recommended at the February meeting. They thought the price could be too high. Approving expenditure is one of their most important functions and I respect their decision. Again, if anyone can introduce a contractor who can provide competitive quotations for this sort of work I would appreciate it.

I now come to our major current project, the resurfacing of the tennis courts. I never thought this would be easy but did not foresee the series of problems we have been experiencing at the time of writing. It was agreed that the asphalt of tennis courts 2 & 3 would start on Monday 15th March. We waited with anticipation on the Monday morning but the only activity in progress was the setting out of the new levels by the surveyors we had engaged to help ensure compliance with our requirements. It eventually transpired that stocks of the geo-textile membrane which was to be laid under the asphalt had run out. A case of poor planning, or undue optimism, one could say. In the course of the next 3 days, an alternative membrane had been chosen, there had been one heavy rainfall, and the red shirts were disrupting the traffic, resulting in restrictions on heavy vehicle movements being imposed by the Police. By Saturday, a start had actually been made on the laying of the membrane. In the next two days the first layer of asphalt was also laid. The surveyor came back to site to check the levels and it was found that there were high spots in the central areas of the courts. Eventually, the asphalt contractor located a suitable machine which was used to grind off the excess asphalt. In my 49 years of experience I have rarely seen excess material used by a contractor, usually the reverse. During the grinding off process, some of the membrane was ripped up.

On 29 March the asphalt contractor replaced the damaged area of membrane and started laying the asphalt wearing course. He completed approximately 40%. We then had another delay due to red shirt activity, broken wheels on the dump truck, and a period of 3 days in which no bitumen was being sold by the oil companies, pending a price increase. It should be explained that the term asphalt is a generic name for bitumen or natural asphalt, but is also used, particularly in North America, for the material we know as tarmac which consists of stone aggregate mixed with bitumen or asphalt. A Scottish invention in the early 19th century.

The asphalt contractor then decided to complete the wearing course by working through the night on the 2nd April. The surveyor returned on 5th April and his check revealed that there were at least 2 areas which were low. The roller was used again on 6th April and a water test was carried out the following day. This revealed no less than 14 'bird baths' so further rolling will be necessary. By the time this edition of 'Outpost' is published, I am hoping that tennis is being played on Courts 2 & 3.

All for now

**John Boisclair** - Development & Facility Manager



# BAZZA'S BANTER

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Dear Members,

We have lots lined up for your enjoyment over the next month. On 14th May, we are off once again to Muang Thong Thani, this time to the Thunderdome arena to see Deep Purple in Concert. We have booked excellent seats for this event, and are leaving early as it takes place on a Friday night when the traffic can be a nightmare as you know. There are only 24 tickets, so please book now.

On 20th May, we are off to the beautiful Millennium Hilton Hotel for a Gala Evening of British theatre. The show is a rock and roll musical adapted from Macbeth, with a full British cast. The cost is 4,600 baht per person and includes: transport from the Club, a cocktail reception with wines, a magnificent three-course dinner inclusive of wine and soft drinks, and transport back to the Club after the show. The Club has reserved only 30 seats (which is 3 tables of 10), so please book now. Funds raised from the show will be donated to the education of Children of Journalists Killed in the Line of Duty. This will be a fantastic night out with friends and Members at our special British Club Tables.

On Sunday 23rd May, we have a fantastic day for all the family. It is an early start though, so be warned. We have booked a programme specially designed for Club Members aboard the teak rice-barge 'The Magic Eyes'. Numbers are limited to 30 so book now. This is an educational and fun day-excursion led and fully supervised by Khun Lynda and her crew. The day includes: a visit to Koh Kret Island with pottery-making and free time on the island, canoeing, water games, all meals snacks drinks and lots more. For full details contact Khun Anne, Khun Somboon or myself here at the Club. When I met the staff of 'The Magic Eyes', I could not believe it was 7 years ago that we last went on this trip. It is an early start but well worth it.

In the planning stage, but not yet confirmed, is a Broken Hills Wine Dinner on 26th May in the Verandah. This will be hosted by Khun Jonathan Glonek of Bangkok Fine Wines, and accompanied by a sumptuous meal created by Khun Laak and her team. I really hope that this event takes off so keep your eyes peeled for more info.

The following day we are off to the cinema to see the movie 'Sex and The City 2'. Once again we have reserved both VIP suites at the SF Cinema in Central World on Thursday 27th May. Meet us from 6pm when we'll be serving complimentary Manhattan cocktails, wine and canapés before the movie which starts at 7pm. We will include sodas and popcorn for the movie, and Members will also be able to purchase bottles of wine etc for the movie, but that is not included in the price of 1,000 baht per person. So, get a group of your friends together, leave your husband with the kids, and enjoy a night out at the

cinema followed by drinks at wherever takes your fancy!

The 28th May sees our monthly wine-tasting held at the Club as usual, upstairs in the Suriwongse Room from 6pm until 9pm.

During May we have decided to give the regular Fridays a bit of a change so this month we will feature a Curry Buffet on Friday 7th May followed by our very first Ken Hom Buffet on 14th May, which follows on from our Ken Hom full house dinner held in March. On 21st May we feature the delights of an Italian Buffet and to round off the month on 28th May we again highlight the brilliant Jamie Oliver with recipes recreated by our own celebrity chef Khun Laak Oliver ??

So after the Friday wine-tasting, why not pop into the new-look Verandah and enjoy food from one of Britain's all-time favourite chefs for just 380 baht?

Throughout May, we are following our successful Mango Mania with a delicious Kiwi and Lychee promotion. Our team of chefs are at this moment trying to create some delicious recipes for you to enjoy with your cup of coffee. Talking of coffee, the very popular Lavazza coffee which we serve in the Coffee Shop is now available at the Club House. This is a very very nice cup of coffee, but it is only available in cup size and not mug size. Of course if you are poolside, then the staff will bring it over to you.

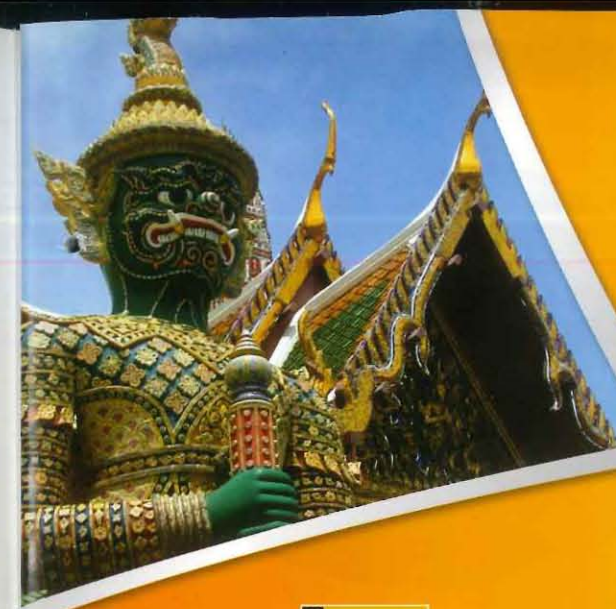
Looking ahead, June marks H.M. Queen Elizabeth II's official birthday and the Trooping of the Colour in London on 12th June, so we will be celebrating with a party here at the Club. The World Cup in South Africa also starts on 12th June, and we have special promotions in the pipeline for this event. Wimbledon runs from 21st June until 4th July, and we will be showing the matches poolside. During June we will have a Strawberry and Pimm's promotion.

On 19th June, the Thai-Canadian Chamber of Commerce will again be celebrating Canada Day here. This is a great day out for the family and is open to British Club Members, but please note that for safety reasons the Club car park will be closed from midnight on Friday 18th June until 10pm on 19th June. We are trying to arrange alternative car parking for Members and will advise you accordingly in due course.

Well that's about it for now.

I look forward to seeing you around your Club very soon,

Baz.



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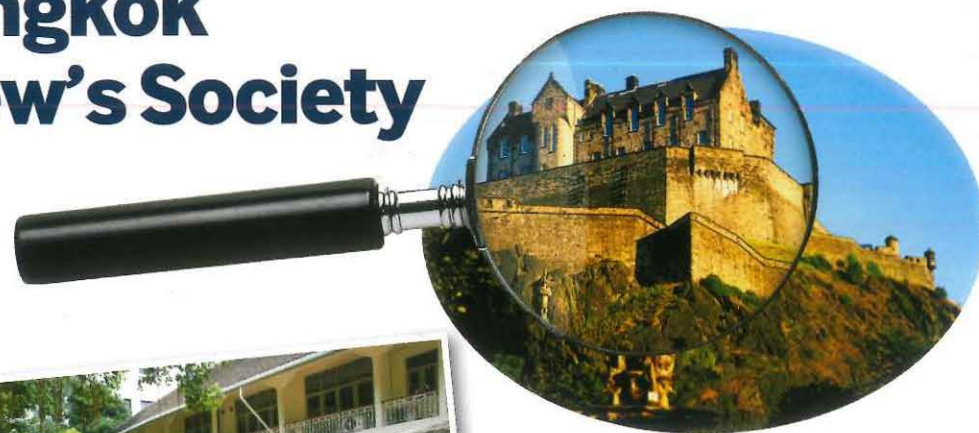
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# Bangkok St. Andrew's Society



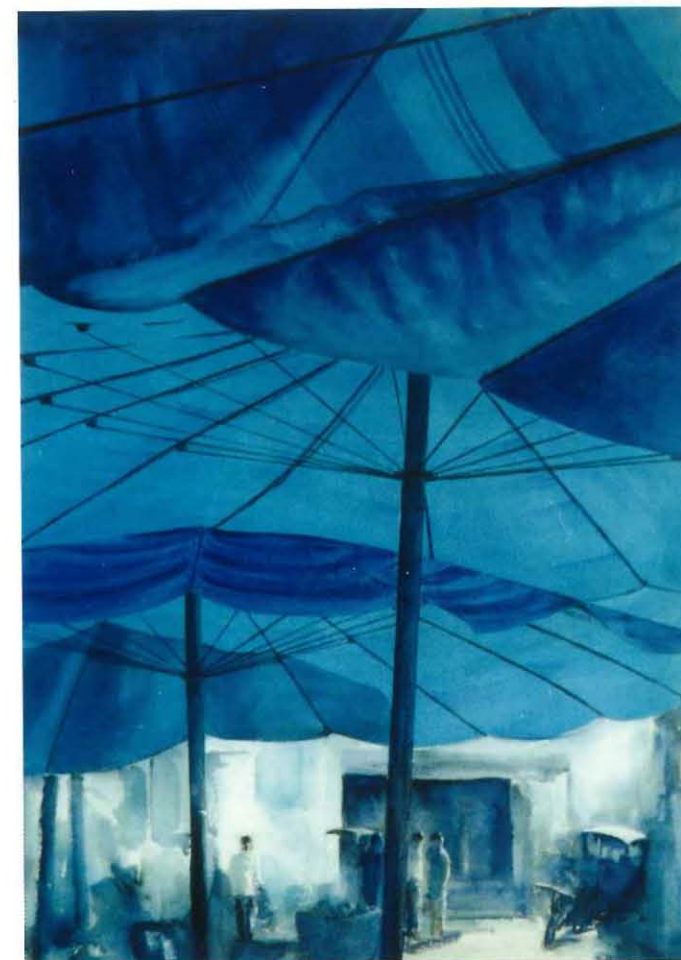
The society was established in 1890 by a small group of expatriate Scots stationed in what was then Siam. Over the years it has gone through many developments, but remains true to its original values as a society for Scots, those of Scots descent and now, friends of Scotland of any nationality, to meet and celebrate Scottish culture.

The society's year revolves around three main social events: the Kiddies Highland Games, the St. Andrew's Ball and the Burns Supper. Together with these, the Society has many other attractions such as a golf section, the Scottish Business Group and The Reel Club.

In addition, informal evenings are arranged to give us all the opportunity to meet and get to know one another better, and even though we may be far from Scotland, we can still experience and share the culture and hospitality for which we are globally famous.

Dates and information regarding all events are published on our website [www.bangkokscot.com](http://www.bangkokscot.com) and we would encourage you to visit the site regularly to keep up with the events calendar, membership and other interesting information regarding our activities.

## One Day Watercolour Workshop With Louise Truslow



*At the British Club*

*Saturday 22nd May 2010*

*9.00am - 4.00pm*

*B2,400 (including lunch and refreshments)*

*Suitable for all levels - including beginners!*

*Contact Reception to reserve a place*

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



# The British Club Explores the Chao Phraya Aboard The Magic Eyes



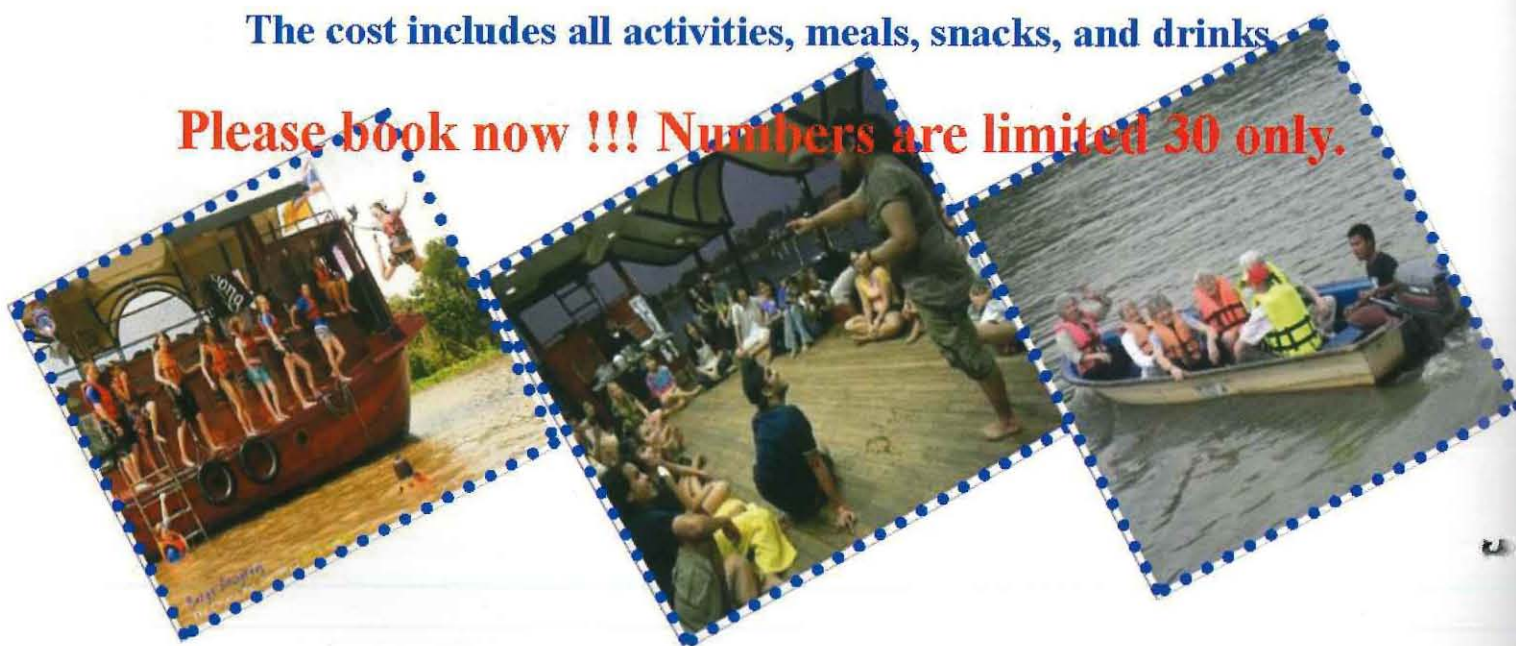
## A Great Family Day Out 23rd May 2010

Let's have fun with family and friends and learn more about the importance of The Chao Phraya in the lives of Thai people. Experiencing new activities such as river observation bingo, canoeing, exploring Koh Kret, making pottery and lots more.

1,000 TBH for Children  
1,500 TBH for Adults

The cost includes all activities, meals, snacks, and drinks.

**Please book now !!! Numbers are limited 30 only.**



## 9000 NIGHTS Refugees from Burma: A People's Scrapbook

By Jack Dunford

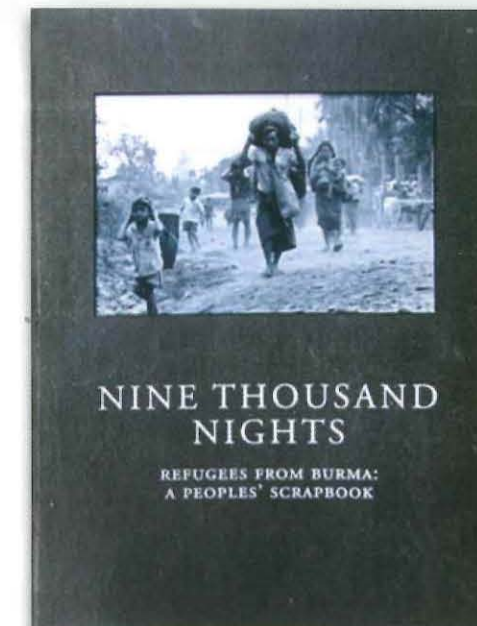
More than Nine Thousand Nights have passed since the first refugee camps were set up on the Thailand-Burma border in 1984, over twenty five years of drama, suffering and the triumph of the human spirit over adversity. Refugees have lived through these long nights, while outsiders have endeavoured to understand and support them.

My organisation, the Thailand Burma Border Consortium (TBBC) has been working with them since the beginning, and last year decided to mark 25 years on the border by producing a "scrapbook" to tell the story.

This book brings together memories, art, and photographs contributed by hundreds of refugees and people now scattered around the world. It is a 'peoples' scrapbook, containing the very personal reflections of 'ordinary' people whose collective experiences amount to a unique portrait of a time, place, and events that are, by any measure, anything but ordinary.

Contributions came in the form of handwritten letters, some penned by candlelight, that were gathered in the camps and delivered by hand to Bangkok by aid workers. More stories arrived via email or the postal service from across the globe. Young people from the camps sent paintings and poetry, and professional and amateur photographers sent thousands of battered, faded, and beautiful images.

Refugees recall the pain and trauma of fleeing from bullets, torture, and forced labour at the hands of the Burmese army; of their determination to survive and build new lives in exile, and of their frustration with the restrictions of life as 'temporary guests' in another country.



Outsiders tell of their often moving, disturbing or puzzling encounters with peoples, histories and cultural and historical complexities that remain little known or understood in the wider world. They recall meeting women and men in the border camps whose courage, humour, and resilience left a deep impression, and inspired them to want to know more, or to help.

The scrapbook is rich in history and human emotion. It will be a permanent reminder of a remarkable period of human suffering and endeavour, to be treasured by all who are concerned about the plight of Burma, and the plight of refugees.

I hope Nine Thousand nights will appeal to all who are interested in and care about South East Asia.

**"Nine Thousand Nights" is now published and will be available in bookstores but copies are also on sale at the British Club at Bt750. The cost of the book will provide rice for a refugee for another Ninety Nights.**

## LETTERS

"Dear Editor,

As one sits at a table in the Verandah, looking out on the back lawn, one sees a very wonderful prospect: trees, bushes, border plants and green lawn in great harmony.

One thinks, 'This is such a lovely place!' One shares the joy, the pleasure and the peace of mind that arise with all those responsible for this creation: the mind which planned it, the hands that planted and look after it, and especially, with the trees, bushes and plants themselves.

So, when one comes to the Verandah for a meal, one gets more than just the food. One gets good service from the excellent staff and, in addition, this lovely prospect as well.

Pisamorn Taylor."



Outpost rarely receives any correspondence from Club Members, though few Members are short of an opinion on most aspects of the Club. For any organisation navigating the currents of today's economic climate, feedback is a useful indication of customer satisfaction, and rewarding when it is positive! Letters or emails are thus welcomed.



# WEEKEND AT THE CLUB



What a weekend we had at the Club during 3rd and 4th April which of course was Easter Weekend. The Club was absolutely teeming on both days.

On Saturday, we catered for an Egg hunt at the Library, we had swimming lessons and netball with Reed and his team, and an outside function as well. Sunday saw us arrive bright and early, ready for our annual Easter Egg hunt for kids at The Neilson Hays Library. This year over 120 Members attended the event. The lucky winner of the golden egg was young Dominic Upson who must have a very good eye as he also won this event two years ago! Anyway, there were no losers as all kids received a prize. Other activities included face painting, egg painting, cookie decorating and, of course, the Club's ever popular bouncy castle.

It was a beautiful day. The Verandah was packed so full that Members also had to sit on the terrace. Yet more Members wanted to attend our special Easter brunch and an additional 35 Members sat in the Churchill and ate Khun Laak's delicious Sunday Easter Brunch. In the afternoon, many families made their way to cool off over at the poolside, some children went upstairs with Khun Suzie to enjoy our special Easter Movie, and the bar once again became busy with Members coming in to watch the Malaysian F1 Grand Prix. The function staff moved upstairs to cater to the Bridge section's London Bridge Tournament being held in the Suriwongse Room, followed by another Easter buffet. Even the Club's Coffee Shop at the Neilson Hays benefitted as Members who wanted a bit of peace and quiet sat over there in the shady grounds of the Library.

Over all we were really stretched but it was great to see the Club so busy. Many thanks to all the Members who came down to support us. Easter Sunday ended up being like a mini Christmas, indeed Santa was tempted to make an early appearance, it was that much good fun!

Over the Easter week, Khun Laak and her team baked over 400 Hot Cross Buns and very nice they were too. We only sold 60 of the chocolate variety, but we will be trying these out again next year. However, waste not want not, the Chocolate Hot Cross Buns make a great recycled Chocolate Bread and Butter pudding with Hot Chocolate sauce.....

Baz.





# DIARY DEFINITES FOR THIS MONTH

WEDNESDAY 26TH MAY

## Brokenhills Estate Wine Makers Dinner

This is a unique evening not to be missed! Join us for sumptuous cuisine, a special dinner menu complimented by wines selected by Jonathan Glonek of Bangkok Fine Wines. The evening opens with some pre-dinner wines and canapés on the back lawn followed by the main dinner in The Verandah. Each course will be accompanied by a Brokenhills Estate fine wine, and the cheeseboard will be served with a glass of Port. The menu includes:

Fresh Oysters with red wine vinegar, paprika and lemon;  
Tuna and Scallop Carpaccio with rocket  
and a tarragon aioli dressing;  
Tournedos Rossini with fried bread croûtons and foie gras, button  
mushrooms and Madeira sauce;  
Baked Duck Breast in a Grand Marnier sauce, served with cheesy  
rösti potatoes and a red cabbage port wine confit;  
Kiwi Pavlova with mango ice cream;

.....and more!

Numbers are limited to 46 so please book early. The Dinner costs 1,900 baht nett. To book, fax or email the Club or sign up at Reception. This will be an opportunity to enjoy the blend of fine food with fine wine, so be there or regret it!

FRIDAY 7TH, 14TH, 21ST, 28TH MAY

## Buffet-tastic!

The weekly buffets do you proud this month. You can quell your nerves during the General Election with a Curry Buffet, or fill up before Deep Purple with Ken Hom's tasty platters; drift and dream of Tuscany over a range of Italian dishes, or gorge on Britain's favourite chef Jamie Oliver's tempting dishes before the monthly wine-tasting evening. Who can resist such a tantalising selection of buffets?

SATURDAY 15TH MAY

## The F.A.Cup Final - LIVE!

You only get the chance to get this excited once every four years, and this year's final between Chelsea and Portsmouth should be no exception. Watch the game live with your friends on the Suriwongse big screen or in any other Club outlet. Kick-off is at 9pm so come early at 8pm and get prepared with a fish (or pie) and chips supper first. Book first, see you there!



## RULES BRITANNIAE!

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



## FAMILY FROM ABROAD



### DID YOU KNOW THAT.....

if you have parents or sibling coming to Bangkok on holiday, they can get free use of the Club for up to 30 days? Rule 58 (b) allows this.

Simply take them to Reception and they can be granted a temporary membership card for their period of stay.

No photographs or membership forms required. F&B will then be charged to your account.

## CHILDBIRTH JUST GOT A LITTLE EASIER.



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**Doctor:** Obstetrician, Pediatrician, Anesthesiologist\*\*, Surgical assistant\*

**Service:** Nursing service, Labor team

**Diagnostics for mother:** CBC, Anti HIV, Creatinine

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All essential medication and medical supplies, medical appliances, including fetal function examination equipment, Cost of spinal anesthetic\*\*, Medical gas\*

\*For Cesarean Section, \*\*For Normal Delivery with Procaine spinal



We support all breastfeeding mothers. Bumrungrad is pleased to give the nursing cover, so you can nurse your baby anywhere while still maintaining your privacy.



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Normal Delivery with Procaine 54,900.-

Cesarean Section 64,900.-

Prices apply until the end of 2010.

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[www.bumrungrad.com/delivery](http://www.bumrungrad.com/delivery)

**Bumrungrad**  
International



## Royal Varuna Yacht Club

In a quiet cove, just two hours drive from Bangkok, our members enjoy some of the best dinghy sailing in the world. Join a race, sail to nearby islands, have lunch on a beach or relax by the pool. The Club has great restaurant and bar facilities that are open seven days a week. Enjoy good company within secure grounds and clubhouse. New on-site accommodation now available. Group or individual training for all age groups is organized. Especially popular are weekly sessions for children learning to sail Optimists. There are Hobie 16s, Lasers and Optimists for hire.

Visit our website [www.varuna.org](http://www.varuna.org) for more information and contact details. We will be happy to organise a visit so you can experience the flavour of the Club facilities and the sport of sailing.

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



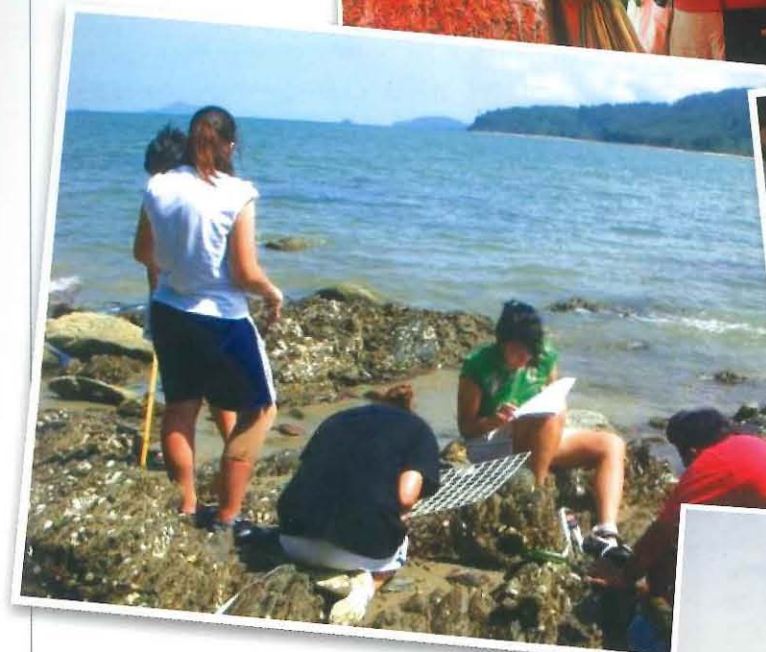
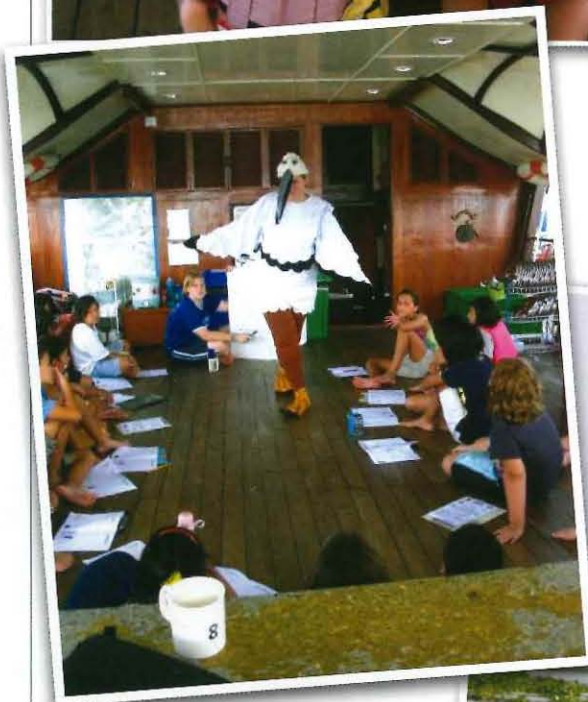
# CHAOPHRAYA: The River of Life



If asked to name three rivers, what comes to mind? Do you picture the grey of the River Thames as it passes through Westminster? Do you remember the Nile, and history lessons about Ancient Egypt? Or do you conjure up images of the mighty Amazon snaking through mysterious rainforests? Perhaps it is not surprising that the Chaophraya River is slow to be mentioned, even for people living in Bangkok. Our helter-skelter lives tend to focus on traffic jams in Sukhumvit and journeys on the Skytrain rather than Thailand's River of Kings.

Yet shaded not only by trees but by condominiums and factories, the Chaophraya continues its centuries-old journey from Nakhon Sawan, through the former capital Ayutthaya, and on through Bangkok to the sea at Samut Prakarn, carrying with it stories and secrets, and even a part of our complicated urban lives.

Imagine the tears that those brown waters have carried over the centuries, the countless kratongs its currents have taken away, and the kings, warriors, merchants and fishermen who have used its waters. These are some of the stories that are unwrapped by the Prem Magic Eyes Barge Program as its barge travels between Bangkok and Ayutthaya. Contributing to the UN Decade for Education for Sustainability, the Barge Program empowers students to reflect on personal actions that they can take, to adjust their lives to reduce their impact on the watershed and contribute to a more sustainable way of living.



Celebrating 15 years of experiential environmental education, the Barge Program works to bring participants in touch with this life-blood of Thailand, letting the River be the teacher, supported by games, activities and water-testing as we travel along its waters on our converted rice barge. The brainchild of M.L. Tri Devakul in the mid 1990s, the Program works throughout the year helping students to understand the economic, social and environmental importance of both the River and the whole Chaophraya Watershed.

The Program began on the River, but has gradually grown to include all parts of the watershed: Chiang Mai, where the first tributaries of the River Ping flowing into the Chaophraya begin; to forests, where rivers flow; and finally to marine environments where the rivers meet the sea. The Barge Program also considers the role that the Chaophraya has played in Thai art, culture and history, providing an amazing resource for many students living in Thailand and SE Asia.

Members of the British Club have enjoyed several family trips aboard the Barge, and as part of our 15th year celebrations we are planning a family trip on 23rd May. Join us to find out how you connect with the great Chaophraya River, to catch a glimpse of riverside Bangkok, or simply to escape the hectic business of Silom.

Please contact Barry Osborne for further details regarding this family trip on the Magic Eyes Barge.





# PAST PARTICIPLE

## Auspicious Melioris Ævi

By Paul Cheesman



We continue our peek into our Club's past as we look at events of 1951...

**1** As recorded last month one of the major complaints of 1950 was a leaky Clubhouse roof, so in February 1951 we employed local contractor Tuim Lee to supply and fit 82 sheets of zinc. This may seem quite an ordinary transaction until one reads that the terms & conditions meant that the company was not to be paid until sufficient rain had fallen to show that the repairs had been satisfactory completed. It is not recorded when or if they actually got paid.

**2** A second major concern for this year was the poor cutting and maintenance of our two lawns and the eight tennis courts. It is noted in the minutes that "there were three gardeners employed by the Club, none of whom appeared to have any interest at all in the work that they were doing". Further investigation found that three of the Club's six lawn mowers also did not work. One wonders why three staff needed six machines?

**3** In the May of 1951 the Club was requested to formally register itself with the Special Security Police. The Sor Kor Sam document was signed on behalf of the Club by the Chairman, Charles Mabbatt and the original document is still on file (see insert).

**4** Unfortunately also in May 1951 the Revenue Code Amendment Act 2494 came into effect imposing a Hotel & Restaurant Tax on all hotels, restaurants and clubs, something we failed to realise until November 1951 when the Head Officer of Amphur Bang Rak stung us with a bill for 20,000 Ticals.

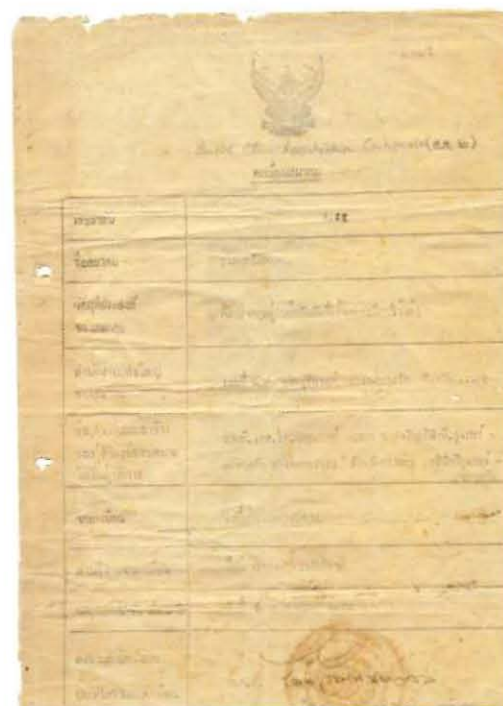
Fortunately we applied for exemption to the Revenue Code as we were not open to the public and Finance Minister Major General Phao Plienert Boribhandh Yutthakit granted us this exemption in March of 1952. This exemption continued for many decades until revoked (along with other clubs) when the Finance Ministry decided that allowing in guests meant that we served the public.

The author is currently Honorary Secretary of the Club.

**5** Membership of our Club rose quite dramatically over this period and in 1951 we had a net gain of 33 members ending the year with 191 members the highest number to date. 1951 was also the first year that we bestowed an Honorary Membership, which was unanimously given to our first post-war Chairman Victor Jacques – his story appears in the December 2009 edition of Past Participle.



Our first Honorary Member



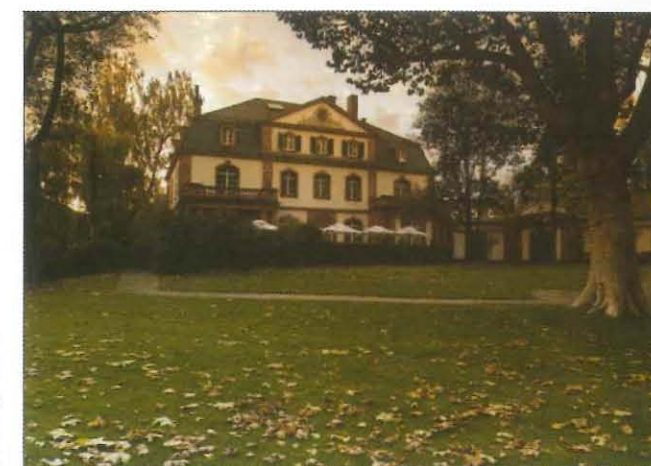
Permission to be an Alien Club!

# RECIPROCAL CLUBS

As an active British Club Member, you are entitled to enjoy the full use of other associated Club facilities around the world. This month, we feature the Union International Club of Frankfurt in Germany.

## Union International Club E.V.

AM Leonhardsbrunn 12  
60487 Frankfurt AM Main  
Tel: +49 69 703031  
Fax: +49 69 703032  
Email: UICFrankfurt@aol.com  
Website: www.union-club.de



For more than 50 years, the Union International Club has been in residence at the Villa Merton, which has been lovingly and painstakingly restored over the years by Club Members since being badly damaged during the Second World War. Founded in 1956, the Club has been proud to promote international understanding amongst visitors and Members, 30 percent of whom come from outside Germany.

The Club also offers luxurious and individually appointed rooms with a unique ambience which, due to the Club's quiet congenial atmosphere, heightens the feeling of being a guest of friends, and ensures maximum comfort during a visit.



The Union International Club serves as a charming venue for the whole family. The cultivated 1.25 acre villa estate is a tranquil green oasis in the centre of Frankfurt's diplomatic district. The spacious terrace overlooking the picturesque park is an ideal setting for a business lunch or a champagne breakfast. The tennis court and heated swimming pool are complimented by attractive lawns and a children's pool, while the stylish atmosphere of the meeting rooms, bar or Garden Salon are perfect for both private or business parties, anniversaries or functions.

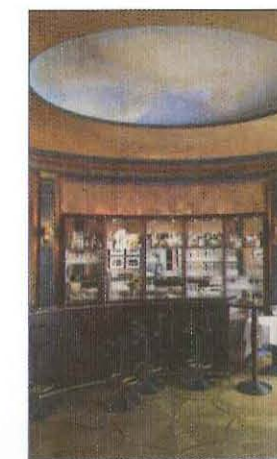
The excellent location of the Club makes it an ideal place to stay, offering walking access to the Frankfurt Trade Fair, the Palm Gardens, the Old Frankfurt Opera and the banking district. It is thus the perfect starting point for business visits or private breaks, and in such cosmopolitan but private surroundings, guests no matter where they are from, will feel at home and can savour Frankfurt's renowned hospitality.

The Restaurant Villa Merton is a highly attractive location offering exceptional cuisine, and since 2002 chef Hans Horbert's culinary magic has been rewarded with a Michelin Star.



### Note:

Please contact  
Membership Services for  
an introduction letter,  
Tel: 02 234 0247 or  
E-mail: membership@  
britishclubbangkok.org





# BC CALENDAR - MAY 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Junior Football</b> 3pm <b>Sunday Carvery</b> The Verandah Lunch only. 	<b>Tennis Mix In</b> 6pm - 10pm <b>Monday Night Club</b> The Killings at Badger's Drift Wordsworth Lounge 7pm 	<b>Fitball</b> 10:30am <b>Tuesday Carvery</b> The Verandah Lunch and Dinner <b>Quiz Night</b> Sponsored by Tetley's Smooth Flow The Verandah 7:30pm 	<b>Paella + Sangria Special</b> All day <b>Tennis Mix In</b> 6pm-10pm <b>BCB Balut Shield</b> Wordsworth Lounge 7:05pm 	<b>Fitball</b> 10:30 am 	<b>Curry Buffet</b> The Verandah Lunch and Dinner <b>UK General Election</b> Bar opens at 5.30am  <b>Junior Swimming</b> <b>Junior Tennis</b> <b>Tennis Mix In</b> 7pm-10pm 	<b>Junior Netball</b> 3pm <b>Junior Swimming</b> <b>Junior Tennis</b> <b>Junior Netball</b> 3pm <b>Junior Swimming</b> <b>Junior Tennis</b>
<b>Sunday Carvery</b> The Verandah Lunch only.  <b>Junior Squash</b> 1:30pm 	<b>Tennis Mix In</b> 6pm - 10pm <b>Monday Night Club</b> The Musgrave Ritual/The Adventure of the Priory School Wordsworth Lounge 7pm 	<b>Fitball</b> 10:30am <b>Tuesday Carvery</b> The Verandah Lunch and Dinner 	<b>Paella + Sangria Special</b> All day  <b>Tennis Mix In</b> 6pm-10pm 	<b>Fitball</b> 10:30am 	<b>Ken Hom Buffet</b> The Verandah Lunch and Dinner <b>Junior Swimming</b> <b>Junior Tennis</b> <b>Tennis Mix In</b> 7pm - 10pm  <b>Deep Purple in Concert</b> Coach leaves at 6pm	<b>Junior Netball</b> 3pm <b>Junior Swimming</b> <b>Junior Tennis</b> <b>F.A. Cup Final</b> Suriwongse Room Door open at 8pm. Match at 9pm
<b>Sunday Carvery</b> The Verandah Lunch only.  <b>Dr Who</b> 11am-1:15pm <b>Junior Tennis</b> 3pm 	<b>Tennis Mix In</b> 6pm - 10pm <b>Monday Night Club</b> Murder in Mesopotamia Wordsworth Lounge 7pm 	<b>Fitball</b> 10:30am <b>Tuesday Carvery</b> The Verandah Lunch and Dinner 	<b>Paella + Sangria Special</b> All day <b>Tennis Mix In</b> 6pm-10pm <b>BCB Balut Shield</b> Worldworth Lounge 7.05pm. 	<b>Fitball</b> 10:30am <b>BTP Charity Gala</b> Millenium Hilton Meet at the Club at 6.15pm	<b>Italian Buffet</b> The Verandah Lunch and Dinner <b>Junior Swimming</b> <b>Junior Tennis</b> <b>Tennis Mix In</b> 7pm-10pm 	<b>Watercolour Workshop</b> 9am-4pm <b>Junior Netball</b> 3pm <b>Junior Swimming</b> <b>Junior Tennis</b>
<b>Sunday Carvery</b> The Verandah Lunch only. <b>Junior Swimming</b> 3pm  <b>The Magic Eyes Barge</b> Cover Story Outing 	<b>H.H.H. Run</b> 5:30pm <b>Tennis Mix In</b> 6pm-10pm <b>Monday Night Club</b> A Pocket Full of Rye Wordsworth Lounge 7pm 	<b>Fitball</b> 10:30am <b>Tuesday Carvery</b> The Verandah Lunch and Dinner 	<b>Paella + Sangria Special</b> All day <b>Tennis Mix In</b> 6pm-10pm <b>Broken Hills Estate</b> Wine Makers Dinner 7pm Pre-dinner drinks and canapés 	<b>Fitball</b> 10:30am <b>British Club Q Movies</b> Sex and The City 2 6pm Meet and Greet 7pm Movie starts 	<b>Jamie Oliver Buffet</b> The Verandah Lunch and Dinner <b>Junior Swimming</b> <b>Junior Tennis</b> <b>Tennis Mix In</b> 7pm-10pm <b>Wine Tasting</b> Suriwongse Room 6pm-9pm	<b>Junior Netball</b> 3pm <b>Junior Swimming</b> <b>Junior Tennis</b>
<b>Sunday Carvery</b> The Verandah Lunch only.  <b>Dr Who</b> 11am-12:30pm 	<b>Tennis Mix In</b> 6pm - 10pm <b>Monday Night Club</b> Service of All the Dead Wordsworth Lounge 7pm 					<b>Kiwi + Lychee Mania</b>  <b>ALL MONTH!</b>



# Encourage your friends to join your club

## Receive F&B Credits to your account!



For more information contact Khun Vindu  
Tel. 02 234 0247  
or [membership@britishclubbangkok.org](mailto:membership@britishclubbangkok.org)

# SPORTS & LEISURE

By Reed Passmore

With the summer holidays just around the corner, generally people put on a pound over this period. So it's time to get fit, stay active and be healthy to combat the coming summer. Be a little different - put on a pound of muscle or lose a pound of excess weight. Whether you prefer swimming, tennis, squash, golf, cricket, weights, boxing, personal training, yoga or a little of everything, now is the time to kick-start your summer with a healthier body and mind.



Personal training with Khun Amnat or a squash lesson with Khun Rit is an easy phone call, or just drop into the Fitness Centre. These activities are a great way to get fit and stay fit.

### RUN RUN RUN

Come and join the HHH run on the 24th May. It will start at 5:30pm and finish at the Club. Beer and BBQ afterwards. Only 200 baht per person.

### Junior Sports Days

Every Sunday in May your children will have an opportunity to try new sports or join in a sport they already love! **But please, sign up in advance!**

#### 2nd May - Junior Football



3pm - Only Bt 125

#### 9th May - Junior Squash



1:30pm Only Bt 125

#### 16th May - Junior Tennis



3pm Only Bt 200

#### 23rd May - Junior Swimming



3pm Only Bt 125



### Junior Netball

This starts 1st May. We will run a 7 week programme. The children (and I) had a great time last term so we are looking to keep the ball rolling, so please invite your friends.

### Swimming Lessons:

The British Club runs a great junior swimming programme. Friday and Saturday for group lessons, or book a coach for a private lesson at a time that is convenient for you.

### Fitball

Ever tried Fitball? Here's your chance to get fit, increase core stability, tone up. The first session is FREE!

Khun Amnat is a fantastic Personal Trainer and his Fitball classes are aimed at all personal fitness levels.

Whether you're a fit and healthy 60 year old or a not so fit and healthy 25 year old, everyone can benefit.



Classes are on Tuesday and Thursday at 10:30am. Please sign up as numbers are limited.

**Please remember that no bikes or roller equipment are allowed on Club premises - this is for the safety of other members.**

**Children are to be supervised at all times on Club grounds, in the changing rooms, on tennis courts or when crossing car parks - Let's build a safe Club together.**



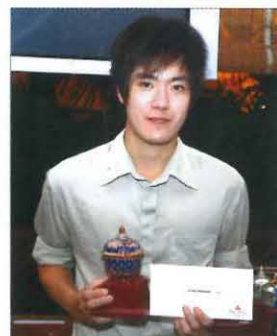


# TENNIS



Shrewsbury International School and the British Club—an ace tennis partnership

## CHAMPIONSHIPS 27TH MARCH 2010



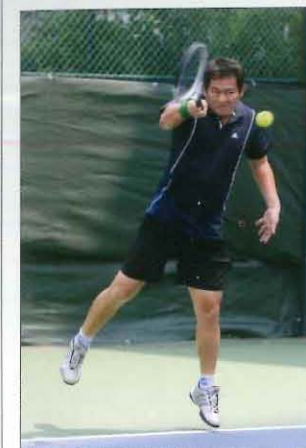
The British Club Tennis Championships were a huge success with over 160 entrants, largely due to the fantastic sponsors and a great turnout from players and Members. Bernie Adams, the MC, did a fantastic job presenting all the trophies, prizes and a little tennis trivia.



The day began reasonably early with the Ladies Singles starting just before 9 am, and the Men's Doubles finished the day just on dusk. I was pleasantly surprised by the amount of Members who came along and cheered from the first serve until the buffet was finished. That's great section support! I won't go into detail on every game as I only have 2 pages and it would be an insult to abbreviate the matches. I will say, however, that every match had the crowd on the edge of their seats. Well done to all the players! Playing in a Club Championship takes up a lot of a Member's time and we appreciate your efforts.

Cup	Men's Singles	Ladies Singles	Men's Doubles
Winner	Phairoj	Natacha	Phairoj & Nutt
Runner Up	Marc N	Nisa	James & Marc H
	Ladies Doubles	Mixed Doubles	
Winner	Mint & Mooky	Piere & Natacha	
Runner Up	Anais & Natacha	James & Mint	

Plate	Men's Singles	Ladies Singles	Men's Doubles
Winner	Kitti	Jirapa	Erich & Prasit
Runner Up	Pattana	Yubharet	Pornchai & Ton
	Ladies Doubles	Mixed Doubles	
Winner	Wan & Mam	Kitti & Wandee	
Runner Up	Tip & Nang	Patana & Glades	



Thanks again to all the sponsors: Shrewsbury International School, Seara, Centara, Dunlop and FBT.

### Events:

Thanks also to James Young for helping organise such a great event, Chris "Endurance" Watt for another 12 hour stint photographing the great event, and Bernie for being a great MC and Quiz Man.

B.C V's Le Smash (Home and Away Tournament): 15th May  
Men's Interclub Team Tennis Tournament: 22nd - 23rd May  
B.C V's Le Smash (Home and Away Tournament): 6th June

2011 will be bigger and better.

**CENTARA**  
GRAND  
& BANGKOK  
CONVENTION CENTRE  
AT CENTRALWORLD

**Seara**  
PLAY SYSTEMS

**DUNLOP**

**Hilton**

**RC**  
Cola



# TENNIS JUNIORS

## Junior Tennis Championship

Pierre and Natacha ran a junior tennis event during the B.C. Tennis Championships.

To quote James Young, "A Tennis Club's vitality is a reflection of the strength of the Junior Section" and with 25 juniors playing, the Section is defiantly healthy.

Pierre and Natacha are doing a fantastic job coaching the juniors, and the skills shown on Centre Court had the crowd cheering. These boys and girls played some great rallies and were a huge hit on and off the court.

There were some stand-out juniors who will challenge the adults soon.

I have said it in past Outposts and I will say it in future articles: **Great work Pierre and Natacha!**

I will be running a 3 month junior tennis tournament with a once-a-month match day. This will be a good introduction for the juniors as they can play and compete in a friendly environment on THEIR courts.

**Shrewsbury International School and the British Club—an ace tennis partnership**



FRASERSUITES  
— URBANA SATHORN - BANGKOK —

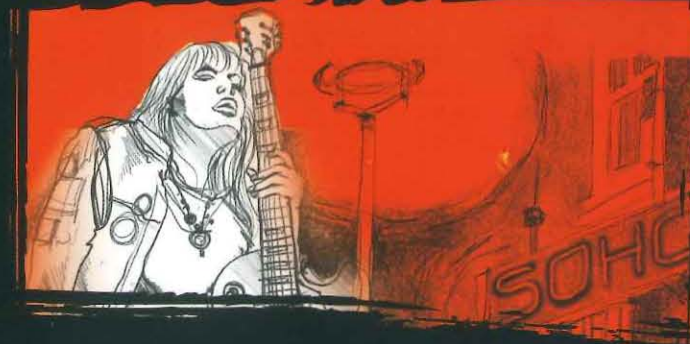
FRASERPLACE  
— URBANA LANGSUAN - BANGKOK —

FRASERRESORT  
— PATTAYA —

SOFITEL  
LUXURY HOTELS  
CENTARA GRAND BANGKOK

FBT

## THAILAND TATLER PRESENTS



## A Rock n' Roll Musical



A production of British Theatre Playhouse

From a  
**JACK To a KING**  
by Bob Carlton

A hit West End  
rock and roll  
musical Charity  
Gala Dinner

In support of Bangkok Post foundation and British Chamber Charities

THAILAND  
TATLER

Millennium Hilton  
Bangkok

British  
theatre playhouse

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Contact Barry, Khun Anne or Khun Somboon for further details

A charity gala premiere on 20 May 2010 (opening night) at the Millennium Hilton Bangkok  
Further performances on 21st and 22nd May 2010



# SQUASHY BITS

## COME ON! COME ON! COME ON!

By Bruce Madge, bmadge@hotmail.com



On a personal note, The Thai Central Criminal Court rejected the 'Bunny Theft' case made against me by the ruthless Evans clan due to lack of evidence. In other words, I was let off, which was nice. In revenge, I let the tyres down on Neil's car.

### Squash Section news is this:

We had our AGM early March. The section has an AGM every year. Bob Van Es suggested we stay ahead of the game and have an AGM twice a year. Bob made this suggestion because he doesn't know what the word 'annual' means. He's not very bright; he's from Belgium.

### The AGM:

#### First the squash:

There was a mix-in or some sort of match beforehand, which nobody took any photos of, or any notice of really. I wasn't there as I had to bleedin' work again so I'll just have to make up all the details. Right, this is what happened: Dean played himself and lost 4-0. Rit turned up in a penguin suit so was disqualified.



Neil Evans didn't play as he was at the tyre shop. Cornflakes also couldn't play, as he hasn't got a racket. H played and lost to all except for Wayne, who beat him 54-nil on penalties. Fire Escape



also didn't play as he was still drunk from going out to Love Muscle the night before with Bob, who likewise couldn't play because he doesn't really know how to. Nick was in rehab for sex addiction, and Marc was at the zoo. J.Lo was asleep under a bridge with JCS, with Kenny G climbing a wall. Chris was shopping for underwear with Charles and Tom G, while Mark Smith was flying back to the States with a bag of cats. Tom Annas was wind surfing in the North Atlantic with Marvyn, while Martin Reed was ballroom dancing with Jack and Nick White. The Bells had been deported for no reason at all, and John Drew thought the AGM was next year. Ricky was late as he'd lost his bus fare in a flood, and David Mason was washing his pants! So that left Vorrarpong, who beat Da, who beat Manish, who beat Suharsh, who beat Shiraz, who beat Kitty, who beat Emile, who beat Kham, who beat Yossapong, who beat Den, who beat Ignacio, who beat Reed over the head with an inflatable airplane making him cry.



### The meeting:

It lasted 22.56 minutes and everyone agreed that the section had enjoyed another brilliant year, which had been made even more exciting, thrilling and just plain wonderful by my Squashy Bits articles. We'd played league and ladder matches galore, all our usual comps, and hosted beautiful visiting teams as well as playing away matches all over the country, including The Marathon, Olympic, Commonwealth, World Championship, Chiang Mai Cricket, Tennis, and the Squash Grand Prix Regatta event a few months previously. We'd partied, eaten and drunk till it was coming out of our ears and we were all ready to do it all again under the careful, tender, and sage guidance of our great, fearless leader and father, His Lordship, Mr. Peter Cornbread, who couldn't elect his new committee as half of 'em were AWOL.

However, they were elected at a subsequent, secretive meeting and are as follows:

Peter Corney -	Chairwoman/Executive Tournament Director.
David Eastgate -	League Secretary/Under Peter Tournament Director.
Bob Van Es -	Secretary/Sponsorship Beggar/PR/HR/Tea Lady
Marvyn Lewis -	Maintenance Coordinator/Awful DJ
Neil Evans -	Team Manager/Coach/Captain/Kit Boy/Back-up DJ
Bruce Madge -	Honorable Treasurer/Raving Reporter
Nick Mellor -	Senior Goodfella/Security/Intimidation
Jack Dunford -	Junior Goodfella/Cliquet Coordinator/Mellor Controller



Harold Mercer report and lots more rubbish next month.  
Until then, .....



# BCGS GOLFING NEWS

By Jack O'Flynn

## Monthly Stableford Competition played at Lam Luk Ka Country Club on Sunday 14th March 2010.

Difficult times! It was with some concern that the various golfing parties set off for this particular weekly competition. Reports and other influences at one stage had members of the committee firing off emails as to the wisdom of holding the competition. However, 'brave hearts' and common sense won in the end and a group of 16 players turned up at the course (unscathed!).

As well as the regulars in attendance, we welcomed the return of a former captain of the B.C. Golfing Society, (Brian tells me that it was in 2003) Larry Goodliffe and his wife Joan. Unfortunately they are only here on a short visit from their present domicile in Venezuela. Another guest, Scott Cunliffe was also a former member of the Society

We were also able to welcome Mark Evans to the Society as a new member. Mark is looking suitably pleased with himself after hearing the good news that his application had been approved, and he was accepted into the fold. [1]



The course itself was in its usual immaculate condition, but with just a little too much water for my (and perhaps others') liking. Maybe it was the strain of decision making or the uncertainty of the times, but for whatever reason the golfing standard on the day was, for most, a little below par!! Nevertheless, everyone appeared to have had a good time and all gathered for the awards in the Clubhouse afterwards. I have to mention the minor prizes, as yours truly managed to get nearest the pin on two par 3s. The other one went to John Carter, who somehow also managed to win the long drive prize. Ladies long drive went to Karen Carter and long putt to Gareth.



At one stage during the awarding of the prizes, Captain Frank appeared to be "losing" the ladies [2], but managed to regain control and eventually presented the tankard to the overall winner of the competition with 38 points, Khun Yurachatr [3].

Well done to all !!!

## "Bad Bet Scramble" Competition, sponsored by the British School of Bangkok and played at Royal Lakeside on Sunday 21st March 2010.

The second round of the "Bad Bet Scramble", an ongoing competition, took place on Sunday at Royal Lakeside, a beautiful and picturesque course in Bangkok.

The fairways and greens were in great shape, leaving us no excuses for those errant shots – but still we managed to find some (excuses mainly, not fairways!). Attendance was pleasing and at the clubhouse amidst great suspense, the draw was made, bringing together some serious contenders for those bottles of wine.

Looking extremely cheerful and appearing to be the early favourites were the ever-present sponsor Peter Bond, and Ray Harries. Isn't it amazing how much taller Peter has grown recently – could it be something in the sausage rolls? [4].



The draw contrived to give us an all-ladies team, also serious contenders, of Khun Yurachatr (fresh from her 2 shot handicap cut!) and Jennie (refreshed after a short break from golf). [5]

With great seriousness we got down to exercising our long forgotten mathematical skills of decimals and fractions in order to work out the handicaps for the day. That took longer for some than others but eventually that task was completed and the teams set off for a mostly enjoyable game of golf.

In the end it was a day of mixed fortunes, with the early favourites wilting under pressure leaving the way clear for the underdogs (Steve Waldmeyer, Paul Rogers and guest Bob),



to sneak in under the radar. Their gross score of 70 (nett 59) was particularly commendable and worthy of the first prize of those much sought-after bottles of wine. Afterwards, the prizes were presented to the winning team by Captain Frank in the Clubhouse. [6]

In the day of mixed fortunes, the 'good' fortune was certainly with Steve, who had a very 'winning' day, being a member of the leading team as well as picking up some of the minor prizes. The secret of his success?? Perhaps he'll let us into it!



Our photo shows Steve celebrating in style with Jennie, proudly displaying her nearest the pin award. [7]

## March Medal, played at The Royal course, Lat Krabang on Sunday 28th March 2010.

The monthly medal competition certainly demonstrated its attraction with a near record 35 competitors taking part. Joining us today as guests were Anton, David Gabriel and Julie Sceeny (a prospective new member?).

Good news indeed but as we know in such situations there's nearly always a downside! For the larger than expected numbers, extra tee time bookings had to be made, hence long delays and a very long round. The eventual winners should not only be lauded for their golfing skills but for their stamina and commitment as well.



For most, the competition was well contested but for some the strain proved to be too much and there were a number of nil-returns at the end of it all. Many hours later came the sanctuary of the clubhouse with its air-conditioning and cool refreshments. Looks of both relief and exhaustion are evident on the competitors' faces at the presentation ceremony afterwards. [8]



After a long absence, a welcome return to the competition was big-hitting Jim Moroney, looking pleased with his efforts especially in winning the long drive award! [9]



Steve Waldmeyer's trend of good fortune continued with his having a runaway win in Flight 'B' with a terrific score of 91 (net 65) from Peter Bond in 2nd place with a net 72. Steve, seen receiving his prize from Club Captain Frank [10]. The secret of his recent success is, I believe, due to his acceptance that technology has made advances in the field of golf.

Flight 'A' was more closely contested with Robert Gray coming in with a gross score of 84 (net 68), just ahead of Peter Skinner (gross 84, net 70).



The presentation ceremony was brought to a close with Captain Frank presenting the Flight 'A' prize to the winner, Robert Gray. [11]

Well done to all who those who took part!

**Guests and new members are welcome at all our events. Either email or phone for more information, and to sign up for the next games.**

**Web: <http://www.bcgolfsociety.com/>**

**Email: [bcgs2002@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bcgs2002@yahoo.co.uk)**

**Tel: Frank Fawkes, Captain - 0891651953**

**For the fortunate golfers who can and want to play a midweek round, there is friendly golf on offer every Wednesday morning with the Midweekers group. Most weeks we play at Bangkok Golf Club, Pathum Thani, where we take advantage of preferential green fees, but sometimes travel to other courses which also offer good value.**

**Web: <http://www.bkkmidweekers.com/> or contact Ray Bloom**

**Email: [rbloom\\_364@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rbloom_364@yahoo.co.uk)**

**Tel: 0870513548**



# BC BALUT

By Mr C



Both sides at Det 5 Bar &amp; Restaurant



The BCB hold the Cup but will Det 5 grab it?

## BALUT SHIELD UPDATE

We are now more than halfway through the 2009-10 Balut Shield year with (as we go to press) eleven tournaments left. This means that even if you are new to Balut you can start this month and still have ample time to qualify for the Balut Shield. The finale of the shield is the BALUT SHIELD AWARDS NIGHT on 1st September 2010.

As of 4th April, 13 players have qualified for the 2009-10 Balut Shield: TC still heads the leader board but four other players are in close contention. Jammy still leads the Balut Shield Cup with the highest single score of the year .... an impressive 147.

Position	Name	Player	Points	Average
Leader	TC	Phil Alexander	3,168	105.60
2	Swampy	Steve Eaton	3,057	101.90
3	Bowling Ball	Bob Van Es	3,028	100.93
4	Slowpoke	Tony Rodriguez	3,020	100.67
5	Mrs Orange	Muntana Merrigan	3,009	100.30
6	The Jackal	Carlos Romero	2,947	98.23
7	JLo	Jonathan Loney	2,886	96.20
8	Tom	Tomjakraphan Merrigan	2,884	96.13
9	DQ	David Quine	2,855	95.17
10	Mr C	Paul Cheesman	2,843	94.77
11	Mac	Andrew McLean	2,773	92.43
12	Jammy	Roger Willbourn	2,745	91.50
13	Septic	Arnold Troeger	2,694	89.80

23 other players are partway to playing the six tournaments required to qualify.

## BCB DET 5 CHALLENGE

Hard to believe that six months have gone already since the BCB Det 5 Challenge competition – well it is seven actually as we put it back one month due to Songkran.

As before the challenge is between the British Club Bangkok Balut section and the Balut teams from Det 5 Bar & Restaurant in Sukhumvit Soi 8. Once again the challenge cup will be fought over two legs

### Sunday 2nd May

Round 1: 2pm to 5pm @ Det 5 Bar & Restaurant

### Sunday 23rd May

Round 2: 2pm to 5pm @ Suriwongse Room, British Club Bangkok

There will be two teams on each side, spot prizes for each round, prizes for Highest Single and Highest Aggregate and a light buffet provided by the home side.



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

# SEX AND THE CITY 2

THURSDAY 3 JUNE 2010

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SF CINEMA CENTRAL WORLD

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The club will not charge to members' account.

Once a booking is made, it can not be cancelled.

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MAY 2010

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# MONDAY NIGHT CLUB

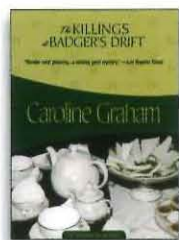
In May we introduce a new detective in the form of Detective Chief Inspector Barnaby in the Midsomer Murders, and from June onward he will replace Sherlock Holmes until August when Sherlock will make a 'fifth Monday' appearance.

MONDAY NIGHT CLUB

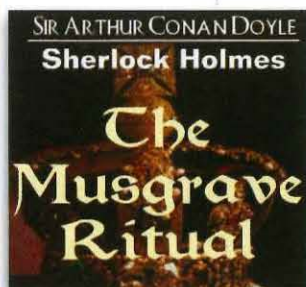
**MAY** 7pm in the Wordsworth Lounge. Full F&B Menu available.

## 3rd May The Killings at Badger's Drift

The Pilot episode of Midsomer Murders, introducing DCI Barnaby from Midsomer CID – a series of tragic deaths in a tranquil English village, I wonder whodunnit? With John Nettles and Daniel Casey.



A basket case for DCI Barnaby

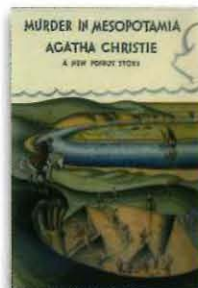


Holmes' Crowning glory?

## 10th May The Musgrave Ritual/The Adventure of the Priory School

A Sherlock Holmes double-bill ....

- A 17th century parchment could have been Holmes' crowning glory.
- Boys will be boys and sons will be sons. Jeremy Brett stars as Sherlock Holmes.



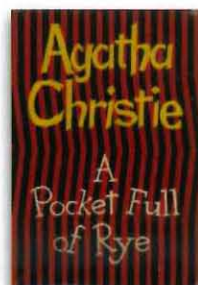
Poirot is only a stone's throw from the truth

## 17th May Murder in Mesopotamia

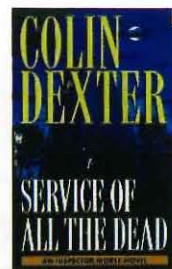
A mysterious death or two, what will Poirot dig up next ... the Hanging Gardens of Babylon? David Suchet is Hercule Poirot.

## 24th May A Pocket Full of Rye

Six a song of sixpence – a man's about to die! Not quite the right words but you already know the rhyme. Joan Hickson stars as Jane Marple.



A really dainty dish



Certainly a Mass killing

## 31st May Service of All the Dead

A man is murdered at Mass and soon everyone present dies! Hold on a sec ... surely someone must have been the murderer? John Thaw is DCI Morse.

# DOCTOR WHO

## "YOU MAY NEED A BIGGER SOFA!"

If you thought 'The Beast Below' was scary, you have not seen anything yet! First we have the return of The Doctor's oldest adversaries ... the Daleks teamed up with no less than Winston Churchill! Then the Weeping Angels are back ... whatever you do ... DON'T BLINK! And if that is not enough to send you running behind the sofa, then how about Vampires?

Five more episodes of the new series of DOCTOR WHO at the British Club this May:

**SUNDAY MAY 16th**  
11:00am to 11:45am

### VICTORY OF THE DALEKS

With Nazi Germany at the height of its power, Winston Churchill has a way to hold off Hitler's advance ... Daleks.

11:45am to 1:15pm

### THE TIME OF ANGELS / THE FLESH & STONE

The last of the Weeping Angels is back and the Doctor is recruited to track it down. "Whatever you do, Don't Blink!"



Churchill's secret army

**SUNDAY MAY 30th**  
11:00am to 11:45am

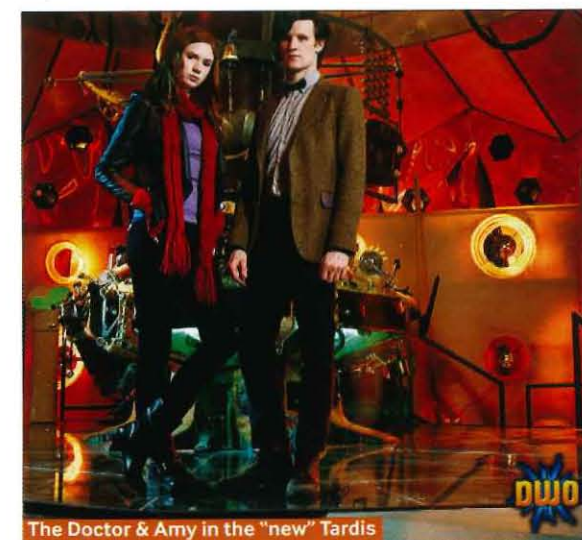
### VAMPIRES OF VENICE

Mirror, mirror on the wall, why can I not see those girls at all? Not all is well in medieval Venice – and it is not just the water that flows freely.

11:45am to 12:30pm

### AMY'S CHOICE

It's been five long years since Amy travelled with The Doctor – and when he shows up again Amy is faced with a heartbreaking choice that will change her life forever.



The Doctor & Amy in the "new" Tardis







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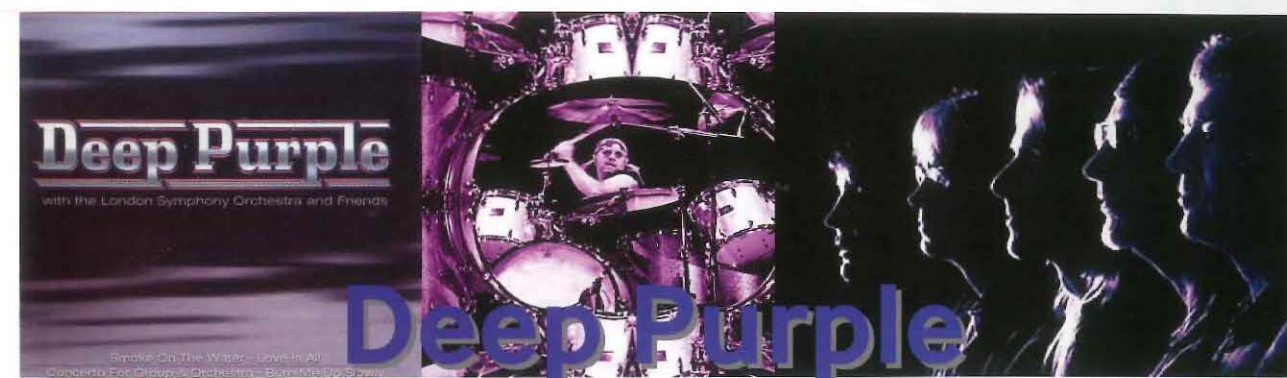
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THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK



# KHUN LAAK'S ON THE MENU



## Pork Schnitzel with Salad

Serves 2

- 2 pork fillets
- Salt and black pepper
- Flour
- 1 large free-range or organic egg, beaten
- 3 large handfuls of dry, fine breadcrumbs
- Olive oil
- A small handful of cornichons (gherkins), drained and chopped into matchsticks
- 1 lemon extra virgin olive oil

## Method

To prepare your meat, put the escalopes on a chopping board, put a piece of greaseproof paper on top and beat the meat with the bottom of a saucepan to flatten it a little – you want to get it to about 0.5 cm/ ¼ inch thick

To breadcrumb your meat, get yourself four large plates and lay them out in a line in front of you. From left to right, you want to have your salt and pepper in one, flour in the second, beaten egg in the third and your fine breadcrumbs in the fourth. It's very simple; season the pieces of meat and dip them into the flour, shaking off any excess, then put them into the egg, dripping off any excess, and into the breadcrumbs, patting them over both sides and pressing down quite firmly. Gently shake off any excess and put the meat on a board or clean plate ready to be cooked.

Heat a heavy frying pan, add a couple of good slugs of olive oil and, when it's good and hot, put both pieces of pork into the pan. Cook for about 2 minutes, then carefully start to shake and agitate the pan to cover them in the hot oil. Turn the pork over and continue to cook for a couple of minutes until both sides are crisp and golden brown. Remove to a tray lined with kitchen paper and season with salt and pepper. Put a schnitzel onto each of your serving plates. Put a little pile of cornichon matchsticks and some watercress leaves on top and serve with a big blob of the apple sauce, a squeeze of lemon juice and a drizzle of extra virgin olive oil.



## Lamb Rogan Josh served with yellow rice

### Ingredients:

- 3 tbsp ghee or unsalted butter
- 1 kg/2.2 lbs leg of lamb, without bones, cut into 1½ inch cubes
- 1 tbsp ground cumin
- 1 tbsp ground coriander
- 1 tsp ground turmeric
- 1 tsp chili powder
- 1 inch cube of root ginger, peeled and grated
- 2-4 cloves of garlic, peeled and crushed
- 225g–275g/8-10 oz onions, finely sliced
- 400g /14 oz tin of tomatoes, chopped or whole
- 1 tbsp tomato puree
- 125 ml/4 fl oz warm water
- 1¼ tsp salt or to taste
- 90 ml/3 fl oz double cream
- 2 tsp garam masala
- 2 tbsp chopped coriander leaves

### Method:

1. Melt 2 tbsp ghee or butter, from the specified amount, over medium heat and fry the meat in 2-3 batches until it changes colour. Remove each batch with a slatted spoon and keep aside.
2. Lower heat to minimum and add the cumin, coriander, turmeric, chili powder, ginger and garlic. Stir and fry for 30 seconds.
3. Adjust heat to medium and add the meat along with all the ghee and juice in the container. Stir and fry for 3-4 minutes and add the onions. Fry for 5-6 minutes stirring frequently.
4. Now add the tomatoes and tomato puree – stir and cook for 2-3 minutes.
5. Add the water and salt, bring to the boil, cover and simmer until the meat is tender (about 60 minutes).
6. Stir in the cream and remove from heat.
7. In a separate pan melt the remaining ghee over medium heat and add the garam masala, stir briskly and add to the meat.
8. Transfer a little meat gravy to the pan in which the garam masala was fried – stir thoroughly to ensure that any remaining garam masala and ghee mixture is fully incorporated into the gravy and add this to the meat. Mix well.
9. Stir in the coriander leaves.



## Yellow Rice

### Ingredients:

- 275 g/10 oz basmati rice
- 50 g /2 oz ghee or unsalted butter
- 1 large onion, finely sliced
- 2-4 cloves garlic, peeled and finely chopped
- 8 whole cloves
- 8 green cardamoms, split open at the top of each pod
- 2 cinnamon sticks, 2 inches long
- 8 whole peppercorns
- 1 tsp ground turmeric
- 570 ml/20 fl oz water
- 1¼ tsp salt or to taste
- 1 heaped tsp butter
- 25 g /1 oz seedless sultanas
- 25 g/1 oz flaked almonds

### Method:

1. Wash the rice and soak in cold water for half an hour. Drain well.
2. In a heavy-based pan melt the ghee or butter over a medium heat and fry onions until they are soft but not brown (about 5 minutes).
3. Add the garlic, cloves, cardamoms, cinnamon sticks and peppercorns. Stir and fry until the onions are golden brown (3-4 minutes).
4. Add the rice and turmeric, stir and fry for 1-2 minutes. Adjust heat to low, stir and fry the rice for a further 2-3 minutes.
5. Add the water and the salt, bring to the boil, cover and simmer for 15 minutes without lifting the lid.
6. Remove the pan from heat and keep it undisturbed for a further 10-12 minutes.
7. Melt the 1 tsp butter over gentle heat and fry sultanas until they change colour and swell up (1 minute). Transfer the sultanas onto a plate and in the same fat fry the almonds until they are lightly browned.
8. Put the pilau rice into a serving dish and using a fork, gently mix in the fried sultanas and almonds.



## Ham and Melon

### Ingredients:

- 1 large ripe cantaloupe (rock melon) or honeydew melon
- freshly ground pepper
- 12 slices prosciutto

### Method:

1. Peel the melon and cut into slivers, removing seeds and fibers. Arrange the slivers radiating out from the center of a serving plate. Sprinkle with pepper.
2. Lightly curl the slices of ham in the center of the plate. Chill well and serve.

## Tomato Ginger Soup

Serves 4

### Ingredients:

- 1 lb (450 g) fresh tomatoes
- 3 tbsp fresh ginger, coarsely chopped
- 2 pints (1.1 ltr) chicken stock
- 1 tsp light soy sauce
- 2 tsp sugar

### Method

If you are using fresh tomatoes, cut them in half horizontally. Squeeze the seeds out and coarsely chop the tomatoes and set aside. Put the stock into a saucepan and bring to simmering point.

Add the ginger, soy sauce, chilli bean sauce, sugar, and tomatoes.

Simmer for 2 minutes. Serve at once.



## Pimm's No 1

- |   |     |             |
|---|-----|-------------|
| 1 | oz  | Pimm's No 1 |
| ½ | can | Sprite      |

Slice cucumber, mint leaves. Mix all ingredients together in long drink glass and serve.

## Strawberry Lassi

- |    |       |               |
|----|-------|---------------|
| 4  | pcs   | Strawberries  |
| 2  | tbsp  | Plain yoghurt |
| 1½ | tbsp  | Honey         |
| 4  | oz    | Water         |
| ¼  | scoop | Cracked ice   |

Blend all ingredients together until slushy. Pour into a glass and serve.

## Lychee Lassi

- |    |       |                 |
|----|-------|-----------------|
| 4  | pcs   | Lychee in syrup |
| 2  | tbsp  | Plain yoghurt   |
| 1½ | tbsp  | Honey           |
| 4  | oz    | Water           |
| ¼  | scoop | Cracked ice     |

Blend all ingredients together until slushy. Pour into glass and serve.

## Mango Lassi

- |    |       |               |
|----|-------|---------------|
| ¼  | pc    | Ripe mango    |
| 2  | tbsp  | Plain yoghurt |
| 1½ | tbsp  | Honey         |
| 4  | oz    | Water         |
| ¼  | scoop | Cracked ice   |

Blend all ingredients together until slushy. Pour into glass and serve.





# SUSIE'S Kids Korner



## Make A Garden Plaque

Here is a clever craft idea for summer. You can make this garden plaque extra special with all its treasure, and display it in the garden to admire - or give it away as a very special gift!

### You will need:

Plaster of Paris Aluminium pie case Shells, pebbles, acrylic gems, marbles or other water-resistant bits of treasure for decoration. You could even use small plastic toys such as figures or toy cars.

### Instructions:

Make sure that you have a covered surface to work on and have overalls or aprons to protect your clothes. Gather all your materials in advance, as Plaster of Paris dries quickly. Mix up the Plaster of Paris in an old jug according to the instructions on the packet. Pour into the pie case.

Carefully lay your decorations on top (note: they will sink a little no matter how carefully you do this; if you are too rough they will sink a lot!)

Leave to dry for a couple of hours and then remove the plaque from the pie tray.

Dig a hole in the garden and pop in the plaque. Back-fill with soil so that the top of the plaque sits level with the flower bed.

## Beach Jokes For Kids

### Why gulls are named seagulls?

If they were by the bay, they'd be bagels!

### What's the best day to go to the beach?

SUNDAY!

### Where does a ship go when it's sick?

To the DOCK!

### What do whales like to put on their toast in the morning?

Jellyfish!

### What does a shark eat for dinner?

Fish and ships!

### At the beach.

A woman went to the beach with her children. Her 4-year-old son ran up to her, grabbed her hand, and led her to the shore where a dead seagull lay in the sand. "Mummy, what happened to him?" the little boy asked. "He died and went to heaven," she replied. The child thought for a moment and said, "And God threw him back down?"



## Sandy Hand Mosaic

\*Adult supervision needed

On your next trip to the shore, add Plaster of Paris to your beach bag so that you can preserve your sandy treasure in a handy display!

### Materials

- Beach treasure, such as shells, rocks, and sea glass (no seaweed)
- 1 1/2 cups Plaster of Paris in a quart-size re-sealable bag
- Water (salt water or fresh water)
- Chopstick
- Wood (we used driftwood)
- Drill (ask an adult to help you with this!)
- Wood glue

### Instructions

1. Press your hand into damp, hard-packed sand, making a 2-inch-deep impression.
2. Line the handprint with treasure in some kind of pattern, taking care to set it lightly without pressing it too deeply into the sand.
3. Add 1 cup of water to the bag of Plaster of Paris. Seal the bag and knead it to combine the two. Carefully pour the wet plaster into the palm of the handprint, covering the inlaid items.
4. Use a chopstick to push the plaster into the fingers and thumb. Add more plaster to the palm as needed.
5. Set the chopstick in place with 2 inches of one end submerged in the plaster.
6. Let the plaster set until it's hard, at least 30 minutes. To remove the hand, carefully dig out the sand from around the plaster, then slowly lift the hand up by the chopstick handle. Wrap your project in a towel to transport it. For a tabletop display, ask an adult to drill a hole 2 inches deep and a little wider than your chopstick into a piece of wood. Insert the chopstick handle, and secure it with wood glue, if necessary.



# Paris spa



j.f. lazartigue  
PARIS

VALMONT

Paris Spa Chidlom Ground Floor, 25 Chidlom Road, Tel : 02-655-2550, 02-254-8354  
Peninsula Plaza Ground Floor, 153 Rachadamri Road, Tel : 02-652-2186, 02-254-0818



# FOUNDATION TO GRADUATION

11  
My team won  
BISAC girls  
football. Go Tigers!

9  
Built a shelter on  
our residential  
trip, brilliant!

7  
Competed with the  
gymnastics team for  
the first time

5  
Wrote a story  
about our trip to  
the temple

4  
My first sports day  
was so much fun

18  
IB almost done,  
Uni here I come

17  
Everyone loved my  
volleyball match write  
up in the magazine

16  
Aced my GCSE PE  
course – hooray!

15  
Volunteered on the  
splash tank at Fun Day  
and got soaked

13  
Picking my IGCSE  
options this year – so  
much choice!



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