



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

# Outpost

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE  
OF THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK

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

May 2018





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# 92ND CELEBRATION QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

SAT 9 JUNE 2018  
FRONT LAWN, 3PM - 9PM



## FREE ADMISSION!

OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS, FAMILIES, PARTICIPANTS, INVITEES

KIDS GAMES ART & CRAFTS PINATA MAGICIAN CAKE SNACKS FOOD  
FULL BAR ICE-CREAMS BBQ LEISURE LIVE MUSIC





#### GENERAL COMMITTEE

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[chairman@britishclubbangkok.org](mailto:chairman@britishclubbangkok.org)

**Vice Chairman** - Ali Adam  
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**Honorary Secretary** - Paul Cheesman  
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**Honorary Treasurer** - James Crossley-Smith

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#### FRONT COVER

A wedding within the British monarchy is a global attraction, nowhere more so than in the UK and America, so when the bride is American, all eyes will be on this beautiful occasion and celebrations will be happening all over the world. The Club's event will show our loyalty too!

#### EDITOR'S GREETING

We are bursting with good news this month, from the quality events coming up ahead shown on the posters to the special Tennis Championships segment which starts on page 23. We almost had a front cover for the Cricket Section for winning five consecutive matches (yay!), but Prince Harry's betrothal took the biscuit.

Contributions are being sought for pages on books, movies, music, children, travel, philosophy, engineering, trivia, letters, feedback - in fact, anything! Please send contributions to [outpost@suthep.com](mailto:outpost@suthep.com)



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**OUTPOST** is the monthly magazine of **THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK**, the social sports and cultural centre for the English-speaking community in Bangkok.

A full version of the magazine is also available online at [www.britishclubbangkok.org](http://www.britishclubbangkok.org)

Opinions expressed do not necessarily represent those of the Club. All events, dates and times are correct at time of press. Outpost welcomes contributions from Members, email [outpost@britishclubbangkok.org](mailto:outpost@britishclubbangkok.org) - No part of this publication may be reproduced without the written permission of the Publisher.

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## MESSAGE FROM the Chairman



Jack Dunford

Chairman

One of the problems holding the AGM at the end of March is that April is a hopeless month to get anything done, everyone either bolting down for a Songkran dousing or escaping to dryer climes. The new General Committee has yet to formally meet and I am writing this as I myself prepare to go Down Under to see my granddaughters.

**Silom Wing:** After the delays of March, work has been cracking on with the Silom Wing project. The contractor has had to deal with yet more unseasonal deluges and then plan around the Songkran holiday when concrete deliveries dry up for a couple of weeks. However, by the time you read this, the superstructure will be complete and the various trades moving in to complete the project. We are still a few weeks behind, but making up ground. Our bird's-eye view time-lapse VDO on the website is not great quality but gives a good idea of what has happened so far.



Silom Wing taking shape

I think most Members will be surprised at the scale and scope of this development. Touring the site after the last Sub-Committee meeting it was exciting to see the quality space being created for families and young adults ... as well as the two new squash courts. The general vista with landscaping and architectural features will be impressive and our new buildings will screen out most of the more ugly backside of the Narai Hotel.

There is a lot of detailed work to be done to ensure that all the finishing touches are in place in time and to plan the new service operations. Our intention is to have a

soft opening once the main work is complete and then a Grand Opening a few weeks later once everything is running smoothly and any snags have been fixed.

**Further developments:** A major task for the new GC will be to prepare an on-going development plan. As we have stated, we are keen to proceed with the rest of the poolside development as soon as possible and are engaged with our architects and contractors to review the costings and logistics. During the course of the year we will also be looking at the feasibility of building some guest rooms.





Nothing can happen without full approval of the membership, and rumours circulating about the achievability of these plans are premature. We have a well-qualified GC, particularly in financial management, and we will only present our recommendations for debate and consideration when we have fully reviewed costs and cash flow projections.

**Clubhouse Painting:** Regular rain played havoc with the Clubhouse repainting schedule but again this will be finished by the time you read this. The new look has been very well received although there have been a few comments about residual paint on some of the

lower bricks. This is due to unwanted moisture in the brickwork due to rain from outside, rising damp from below and maybe condensation from within the structure. Although this is minor and arguably adds character to what after all is an historic building, once the bricks have had a chance to dry out we will consult with specialists to see whether more can be done.

**Neilson Hays Library:** Work on the Neilson Hays Library car park and gardens is still ongoing and the grounds will look beautiful when it is all done. It looks like it will now be June before we can move back to run the café but in the meanwhile we are looking forward to hosting their next Book Sale on 26th/27th May. This is another opportunity to choose from thousands of books for both adults and children at great prices.



**Pictures:** For the last three years I have been sharing in Outpost a selection of pictures from my 1980s/1990s slide archive. Last year I published a few that I took in the Cambodian, Lao and Vietnamese Refugee camps and recently I have been uploading them on Facebook. I have been amazed at the response with thousands of 'shares', 'likes' and 'comments' from former refugees and their dependents all over the world, with a few dozen actually finding pictures of themselves more than 30 years later. Anyone interested can check them out on my Facebook Homepage by clicking 'Photos' and then 'Albums'.







# ROYAL WEDDING STREET PARTY

The British Club Bangkok invites you to join us for the Official Royal Wedding Street Party!

**Saturday 19th May 2018  
3.00 pm Onwards**

Come join us as we go all out in celebration  
of Prince Harry & Meghan's big day!

The British Club Bangkok cordially invites  
you to attend the street party for  
the wedding of the century...

Come enjoy all the pomp and pageantry of  
Prince Harry & Meghan's Royal Wedding  
Live with friends and royal fans alike!

Games and Activities for the Kids -  
Kids Fancy Dress Parade -  
Ladies Hat Making Booth -  
Vendor Stalls -  
Great Food and Beverage Offerings -

**The British Club Bangkok**

Postal Address 198 Surawongse Rd, Bangrak, Bangkok 10500  
Tel. 66 2234 0247 Fax. 66 2235 1560

**RSVP and more information at Reception Desk**

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## LETTER FROM the General Manager



Premrudee Tanyaluck

**General Manager**

There are quite a few events these months. Later in April there's the Club's 115th birthday, then on 19th May we join the world celebrating the Royal Wedding, and in June we'll commemorate the Queen's Birthday. The Royal Wedding celebration will be a fair on the front lawn with many kids activities, a wedding cake and so on. Details are on the poster and will also be sent out by email. On the same day at 9pm is the FA Cup Final with special drink offers so Members can enjoy the Club from early afternoon till late at night. On 4th May we will have a wine dinner in The Verandah, please book with Reception as we have limited seats. Then on 26th and 27th May,



Before

the Neilson Hays Library will have their biannual book sale in the back car park so any Members who are interested in bargain books can join us.

At the poolside we have installed soft serve ice cream which everyone should try! The cake counter and ice cream freezer have shifted to the other side of the Surawongse Sala, so please ask the staff if you would like anything. Khun Laak has kept the Mango Promotion going and will create a new 'Chef Recommends' menu for May.

The Clubhouse painting was finished after Songkran because of rain, it looks very nice with exposed bricks as you can see from the photos.

The Silom Wing Development work is going well and we are now looking for furniture and decorations for both the indoor and outdoor areas as well as for the Vertical Garden landscaping. The Silom Wing Sub-Committee will update Members with the details.

In May we have a few sport activities such as 5-a-side football tournament, Junior tennis coaching, Ladies Tennis Coaching and Swimming Lessons, for more info please contact the Fitness Centre. Our Thai Massage has moved to the old drivers room where they still give service to Members so if you're interested, please book at the Fitness Centre for Tuesday to Sunday from 10am to 5pm at Bt 250 per hour.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at our Club.



After



# WINE & DINE EVENING

4 MAY 2018 - 7.30 PM

Deluxe Wine Pairing Dinner, 5 course meal  
with 5 different wines, guest speaker  
Mr Ben from the Volcane vineyard of Chile

Only 1,899 Baht

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



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# TEE TALK



**Tee Bale**

**Deputy General Manager**

April at the Club has seen some unexpected rain but great weekends, Easter was well-attended, and both the magic show and Easter egg hunt were a great hit with the children.

This month we look forward to some more amazing events, with the highlight being the royal wedding, we have a street party theme, stalls, kid's games, live coverage all around the Club and much more, this is sure to be an amazing day out at the British Club and we look forward to seeing you there.

Operations around the Club have also been busy with construction and development of the new Silom Wing, with this soon to be open I have started the design of the outlets and menus that will be launched on the opening day. It's always a challenge to create and foresee something inside a building that hasn't yet been finished. Fortunately in my career I have been through 2 pre-opening hotel projects for Ramada and Golden Tulip, both from construction of the building through to operating all their themed outlets. This has given me the understanding of what's needed and the pros and cons for making things work. Things of course here at

the Club differ in many ways from hotels. Simple things like having the same Members every day of the year rather than transit guests I might only see one time in my life. This in many ways helps me and gives me the benefit of being able to build relationships over time and tailor make menus and events for the Members. The hard part is doing things that haven't been done before and creating something fresh for the Members who come nearly every day and have done for 10-20 years. With all this in mind I have been working on some new and interesting dining concepts to give variety to you our Member. Some things in the pipeline include a modern deli coffee shop, casual pizzeria style dining at the new poolside and a very new exciting cocktail and beverage list with some great new Prosecco and sparkling wines to choose from. The Club's à la carte menu is being redone and soon to be launched with lots of delicious new items, the menu design itself will be stylish and more understandable.

Sporting activities to look out for in May will be our 5-a-side football tournament, if you have a team and want to join see Khun Amnat in our sports section, we are looking for 8 teams in total and 7 players per team.

## OFFICAL OPENING TIMES

<b>The Verandah</b>	11am - 2pm, 5pm - 10pm (Mon-Thurs) 11am - 10pm (Fri-Sun and Public Holidays)		
<b>1910 Balcony</b>	3pm - midnight (Afternoon Tea 3pm - 5pm)		
<b>Accounts Office</b>	9am - 6pm (Mon-Fri), Closed (Sat-Sun)		
<b>1910 Sports Bar</b>	5pm - midnight	<b>Fitness Centre</b>	6am - 10pm (Mon-Fri)
<b>Churchill Bar</b>	10am - 12midnight	<b>Fitness Centre</b>	6am - 9pm (Sat-Sun)
<b>Poolside Bar</b>	6:15am - 11pm Last food orders 9:30pm	<b>Thai Massage</b>	10am - 5pm (Tues-Sun)





# BUSINESS LUNCHEONS



**31 APR TO 4 MAY**



**Starters: 65 Baht**

Tuna salad •

Chef's Soup of the day •

**Main courses: 160 Baht**

Creamy chicken breast with penne, peas and  
creamy white wine sauce

Fish and chips •

Marinated pork fillet roast on Rhubarb •

Tom Kha Gai, Tod Man Pla, Phad Tua Ngok Moo Krob •

**Starters: 65 Baht**

- Smoked duck salad
- Chef's soup of the day

**Main courses: 160 Baht**

- Chicken and wild mushrooms Lasagna
- Pan fried Dory fish with caper Meunière
- Shepherd's pie
- Gaeng Jued Tao Hoo Moo Sab, Phad Kraprao Moo Sab Kai Dao

**7 MAY TO 11 MAY**



**Starters: 65 Baht**

Mozzarella, mango, tomatoes and rocket salad •

Chef's soup of the day •

**Main courses: 160 Baht**

Grilled chicken breast with tomato and bean sauce •

Grilled mixed sausage •

Grilled Seabass with Coriander salsa •

Gaeng Kiew Wan Look Chin Pla, Moo Tod Kratium •

Prik Thai, Phad Phak Ruam Nam Man Hoy

**14 MAY TO 18 MAY**



**Starters: 65 Baht**

- Carrots, raisin and apple coleslaw
- Chef's soup of the day

**Main courses: 160 Baht**

- Chicken Chasseur
- Grilled Seabass with spinach risotto
- Mini steak with gravy sauce
- Pla Sam Rod, Phad Prik Khing Moo Krob, Kai Jiew

**21 MAY TO 25 MAY**





## F&B MORSELS

Last month we celebrated a wonderful 2018 Songkran. We put together a special Thai Buffet at Sala poolside that was enjoyed by all our Members, a big thank you for everyone that attended and made it such a successful event.

Work is continuing on all our new menus for the Club, lots of different dishes and some small improvements to your favourites are taking place, we aim to launch our first new menu with the opening of the Silom Wing, this will be our new casual dining pizzeria menu which aims at fast easy served food. Our Coffee shop deli menus are also well underway with food sampling of items such as Skinny Blueberry Muffins, Banana Chocolate Chip Muffin, Chocolate Éclairs, Macaroons, Caramel Marble Cake, Chocolate Croissants, Spinach Cheese Puffs, Red Velvet Whoopie Pie to name but a few.

We are also very happy to welcome our new Thai Head Chef who is working out of the Poolside kitchen. Khun Aew has had a long career in Thai restaurants around Thailand and especially in Bangkok so brings a wealth



**Khun Laak**

**Executive Chef**

of experience and knowledge, she will be working hard towards updating and improving our Thai food.

May is an exciting month in our kitchens as we prepare different dishes and set menus. Book your seat at the wine pairing dinner for an amazing 5 course meal accompanied by 5 equally stunning wines, then the Royal Wedding street party on 19th May with delicious cakes all themed around the soon-to-be newlyweds. And finally our new Canapé selection at the wine tasting.

We hope you all enjoy the offerings this month and I look forward to seeing in our restaurants soon.

### Cocktail of the month

## Passion Fruit Mojito

**125 Baht / per glass**



### Shot of the month

## Red Headed Sister

**125 Baht per shot**





# THEY THINK IT'S ALL OVER ....



Paul Cheesman

Honorary Secretary

**A MEMBER** passing me at the recent Annual General Meeting suggested that we must be happy that all the Constitution work is finally finished after almost three years of work, three dozen meetings, two rounds of Member consultation and scores of draft versions drafted, redrafted, corrected, amended, secondarily re-drafted and then language checked. In fact several members were quite complimentary of the work that the Constitutional Review Sub-Committee had done and thought we deserved a rest .... but unlike the immortal words of Kenneth Wolstenholme ... we have to say ...

## WELL IT ISN'T YET ....

**After the AGM** the 'newly re-constituted' Constitution & By-Laws Sub-Committee started on the work needed to bring our revised constitution to life. Firstly we consolidated the effects of the Annual General Meeting's amendments plus those of the two previous Extraordinary General Meetings held on 19th February and 20th March. Good turnout on both ... many thanks dear Members.

Once all the amendments were in one place we had to recheck the numbering sequence, then the internal sequencing of Articles (the 'new word' for Rules) if they refer to each other, then edit out the references to Bylaw numbers (which change too frequently to be kept up to date) then finally check that it was spelt correctly ... one would be amazed how many times 'spellcheck' turns itself off or reverts to English (USA). So far, so good.

Now for the translation ... Under the Civil & Commercial Code only the Thai version is a legally valid document so we had the consolidated revised constitution translated into Thai and then translated back to check it meant what we meant it to say. We then created a list of major changes and had one final read through.

On 28th March 2018, the British Club Bangkok revised constitution was submitted to the Ministry of the Inte-

rior for their registration. The revised Constitution will thus come into effect upon receiving the Registrar's signature.

## AND PLAY CONTINUES ....

**At its meeting in April**, the Constitution & By-Laws Sub-Committee set forth the procedure for both simplification and modernisation of the By-Laws. Although the Constitution gives us our legal framework to exist and operate as a Members' Only Club, we need internal rules ... called By-Laws ... to give the Constitution its arms and legs.

Although updated regularly, there has been no major full review since 2005 thus there are still major areas of work that must be undertaken to ensure that the By-Laws actually work and are not just procedural junk or the script from an unused Yes Minister.

The first two major areas we are working on first are ...

- **FUNDING OF CLUB SECTIONS:** an essential process for ensuring Club Sections receive the funding needed to develop but as the Section accounts are no longer required to be published in the audited accounts the revised ByLaws needed an added level of openness and transparency to Members.
- **DISCIPLINARY CODE:** although arguably not used in the past two years, it is essential that this code is fair, transparent and above all simple ... currently it is 872 words contained in three By-Laws with 20 sub-sections.
- **So we continue:** The Constitution & By-Laws Sub-Committee hopes that the By-Laws will be ready to come into effective at the same date as the registration of the revised Constitution and that date will be ... <watch this space>.



# DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

## Silom Wing



Ali Adam

Chair Silom Wing SC

This month I'm pleased to report that the Silom Wing construction works are back on track and JK Builders have started to make real and visible progress with the implementation of the agreed recovery programme. Labour has been at full strength and JK Builders continued working over the Songkran holidays.



Forming up the roof beams to the Squash Courts

We are still about a month behind the original schedule and hope to be able to make some of that delay back. The project team anticipates the project will be delivered in July of 2018.

With completion of the ground floor structural works, focus has moved to completion of the first floor, roof and all the main building and squash court concrete works. These works should be complete by the time you read this article. Work has also started on the new entrance and guardhouse piling works. The project continues to be on budget.

If you've been away for the holidays, take a peek at our most recent time-lapse video of the construction site. You'll see how much progress we've made!

If you see anything around the construction site that you have questions about, please drop me a line.



First floor columns to future office area completed



# EGGSTASY!

## Easter at the Club

Easter Sunday morning had an amazing number of children wake up early and head to the British Club, all wanting to find the gold, silver and orange eggs. The Club had set up the huge Bouncy Castle, balloon stall, trampoline and stage for the magic show and puppet show, along with a special Easter Buffet all on the Back Lawn.

Fortunately, the rain stopped, and the sun came out which gave the children the chance to enjoy the shows just before they started the Easter Egg hunt. The hunt took some time as the silver and gold eggs were hidden very well but in the end two clever children managed to find them both and win the main prizes. No one went empty-handed though, as all the children swapped their collected eggs for chocolate goodies, handed out personally by Khun Prem.











THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

# Calendar May 2018

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday



1

**Squash Mix-In**  
5:15pm - 7:30pm

**Football**  
7pm - 9pm



2

**Tennis Mix-In**  
6pm - 10pm

**Ladies Tennis Coaching**  
9.30 - 10.30pm

**Paella**  
Dinner only!



7

**BWG Mahjong**  
10am - 1pm

**Tennis Mix-In**  
6pm - 10pm



8

**Squash Mix-In**  
5:15pm - 7:30pm

**Football**  
7pm - 9pm



9

**Tennis Mix-In**  
6pm - 10pm

**Ladies Tennis Coaching**  
9.30 - 10.30pm

**Paella**  
Dinner only!



14

**BWG Mahjong**  
10am - 1pm

**Tennis Mix-In**  
6pm - 10pm



15

**Squash Mix-In**  
5:15pm - 7:30pm

**Football**  
7pm - 9pm

**Quiz Night**  
7:15pm The Verandah



16

**Tennis Mix-In**  
6pm - 10pm

**Ladies Tennis Coaching**  
9.30 - 10.30pm

**Paella**  
Dinner only!



21

**BWG Mahjong**  
10am - 1pm

**Tennis Mix-In**  
6pm - 10pm



22

**Squash Mix-In**  
5:15pm - 7:30pm

**Football**  
7pm - 9pm



23

**Tennis Mix-In**  
6pm - 10pm

**Ladies Tennis Coaching**  
9.30 - 10.30pm

**Paella**  
Dinner only!



28

**BWG Mahjong**  
10am - 1pm

**Tennis Mix-In**  
6pm - 10pm



29

**Squash Mix-In**  
5:15pm - 7:30pm

**Football**  
7pm - 9pm



30

**Tennis Mix-In**  
6pm - 10pm

**Ladies Tennis Coaching**  
9.30 - 10.30pm

**Paella**  
Dinner only!





# Thursday

# Friday

# Saturday

# Sunday

3

**Squash Mix-In**  
5:15 - 9:45pm



4

**Junior Tennis**  
4 - 6pm

**Wine & Dine**  
7:30pm



5

**Swimming Lessons**  
9 - 10:30am



6

**Swimming Lessons**  
9 - 10:30am

**Sunday Brunch**  
11:30 - 3pm Verandah

**Open Pairs Bridge**  
2pm Silom Room



10

**Squash Mix-In**  
5:15 - 9:45pm



11

**Junior Tennis**  
4 - 6pm



12

**Swimming Lessons**  
9 - 10:30am



13

**Swimming Lessons**  
9 - 10:30am

**Sunday Brunch**  
11:30 - 3pm Verandah

**Open Pairs Bridge**  
2pm Silom Room



17

**Squash Mix-In**  
5:15 - 9:45pm



18

**Junior Tennis**  
4 - 6pm



19

**Royal Wedding**  
3pm onwards

**Swimming Lessons**  
9 - 10:30am



20

**Swimming Lessons**  
9 - 10:30am

**Sunday Brunch**  
11:30 - 3pm Verandah

**Open Pairs Bridge**  
2pm Silom Room



24

**Squash Mix-In**  
5:15 - 9:45pm



25

**Junior Tennis**  
4 - 6pm

**Wine Tasting**  
6 - 9pm  
Surawongse Room



26

**Swimming Lessons**  
9 - 10:30am

**5-a-side Football**  
2pm, MPC

**Book Sale**  
9:30am - 4pm



27

**Swimming Lessons**  
9 - 10:30am

**Sunday Brunch**  
11:30 - 3pm Verandah

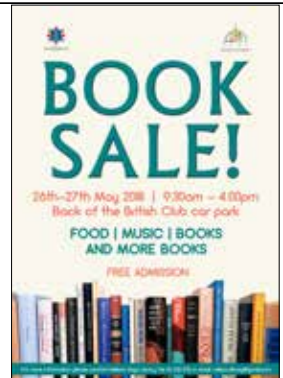
**Open Pairs Bridge**  
2pm Silom Room

**Book Sale**  
9:30am - 4pm

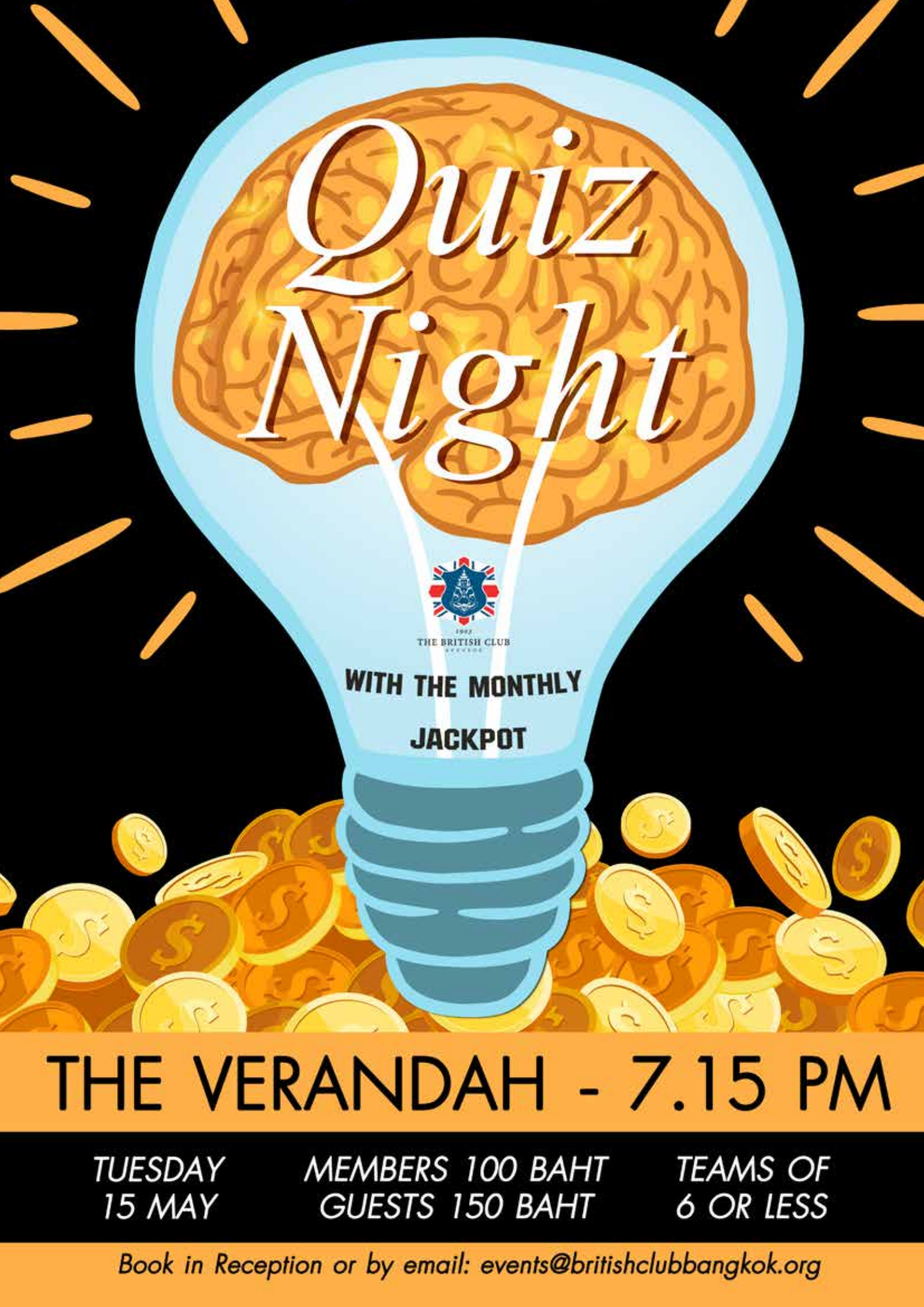


31

**Squash Mix-In**  
5:15 - 9:45pm







# Quiz Night



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

WITH THE MONTHLY  
JACKPOT

**THE VERANDAH - 7.15 PM**

**TUESDAY  
15 MAY**

**MEMBERS 100 BAHT  
GUESTS 150 BAHT**

**TEAMS OF  
6 OR LESS**

*Book in Reception or by email: [events@britishclubbangkok.org](mailto:events@britishclubbangkok.org)*



# STARTER FOR 10!

## April Quiz Night





# CHANGING SKYLINES

## Part 3

Over the last two months I have shared some pictures I took in the 1980s/90s whilst playing cricket at the Royal Bangkok Sports Club (RBSC) and her sister The Polo Club, comparing these with some I took with Brian Brook in November checking out how the skylines have changed.

This month I return to RBSC where some of the Club's own developments are featured including the sports building standing where the 2nd racing stand used to be and the old golf house where a new building was going up during our visit.



**Jack Dunford**

**Chairman**

*The stands 1980s*



*The stands 2017*



*2nd Stand 1980s*



*Sports Building 2017*





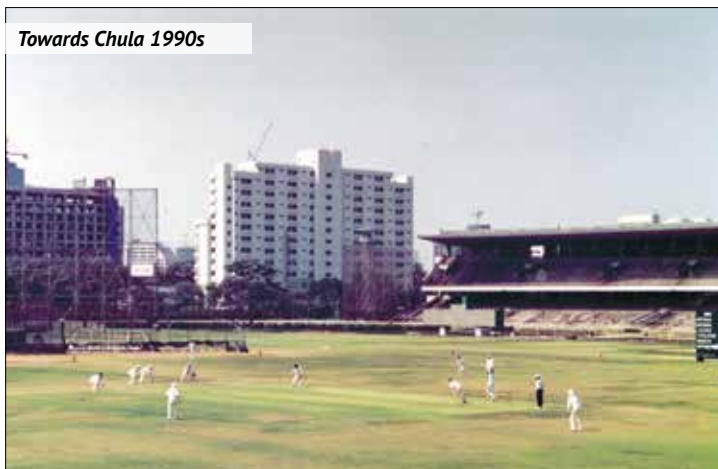
Golf house 1990s



Golf house' 2017



Towards Chula 1990s



Towards Chula 2017



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# BOOK SALE!

26th–27th May 2018 | 9.30am – 4.00pm  
Back of the British Club car park

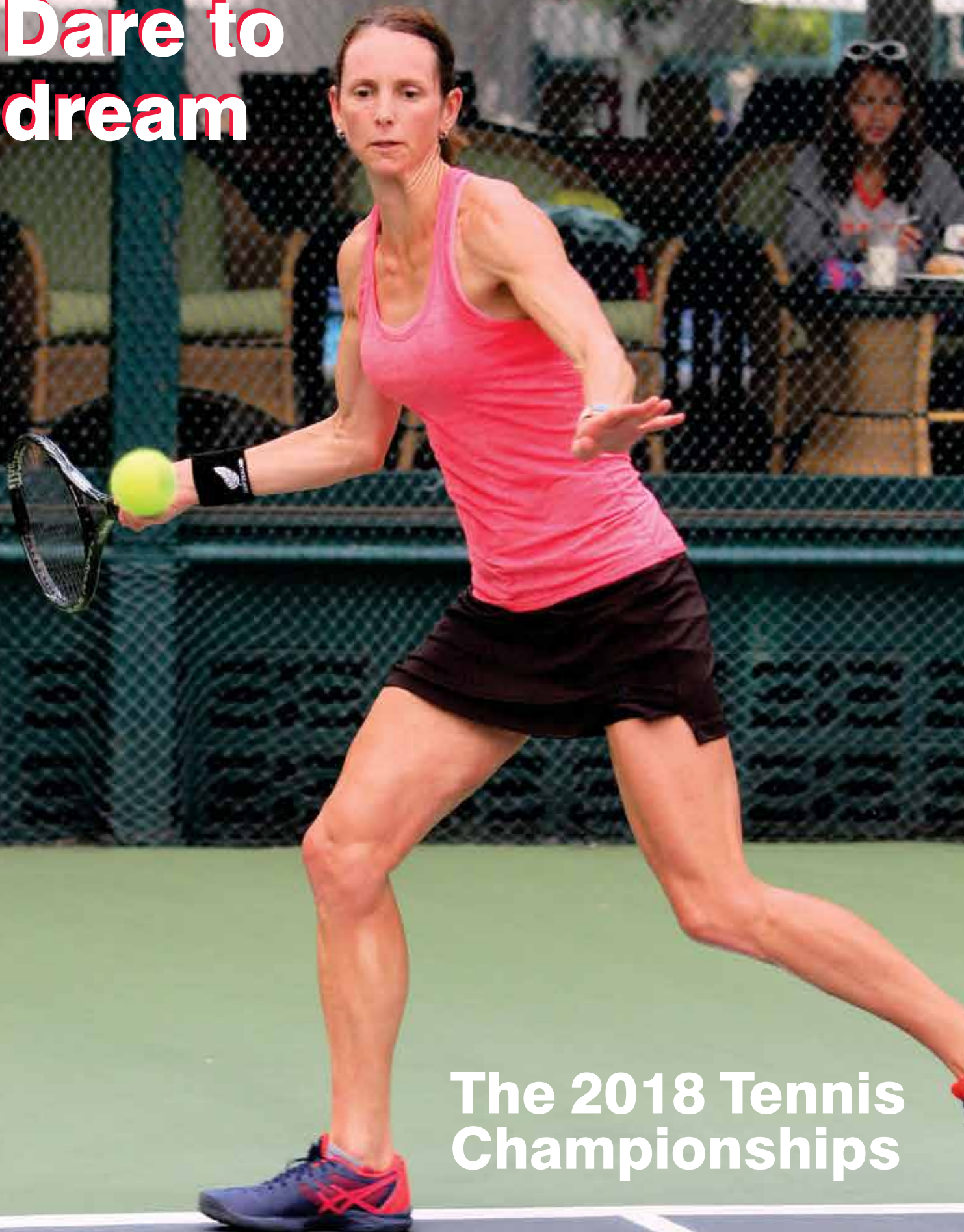
FOOD | MUSIC | BOOKS  
AND MORE BOOKS

FREE ADMISSION





**Rebecca...**  
**Dare to**  
**dream**



**The 2018 Tennis**  
**Championships**



# TENNIS 2018 BC Championships

## We Love Finals Day

Finals Day really is a brilliant day out for any sports fan. On Centre Court the Club's elite players do battle in the main event while next to them on Court 1 the Club players fight it out for honours in the plate. While it's true that there is a bit more skill and a lot more firepower on display on Centre Court, the competitive spirit burns equally brightly in both competitions and the juxtaposition of the Cup and Plate finals sharing an arena is very much part of what makes Finals Day such a special and enjoyable event.

## If ifs and ands were pots and pans ...

It takes a lot of hard work to make it through to the 24th and this year the road to Finals Day began in mid-January. One of the highlights of this year's championships was the great support shown to the players throughout the competition. From the QF stage virtually all matches were played on Centre Court with a gallery and a cracking atmosphere in the Surawong Sala. Some of the best matches enjoyed by spectators were Men's Singles QF Ivanov Vs Gluck Jr. (so close to a big upset for the teenage rising star), Rebecca B Vs Nisa (doubles partners separated by the odd point on the singles court), James & Mooky Vs Rebecca & Geoff (Mixed Doubles SF 3rd set tie-break thriller) and Ivanov (again) Vs Geoff Bellingham (comeback king does it again in the Men's Singles SF). All close matches decided on a couple of key points, all well-supported by our loyal Members, and all spawning those great sporting stories that begin with if ....

## VIP

In the history of the tennis at the British Club one player stands alone as by far our most successful ever. We were absolutely delighted to have Khun Chalathip Dunnvatanachit join us at the Club on Finals Day to watch a few of the matches and to present trophies. We also took the opportunity to present Chalathip with a small gift and induct her into the British Club Tennis Section Hall of Fame - the first ever player to be honoured in this way.

## On the day

I'll let the pictures tell the story of Finals Day but I will add that, for me at least, the match of the day was the Ladies Doubles Plate final won by Ann & Nat while the performance of the day was by Geoff & Faheem in winning the Men's Doubles Cup.

## Thanks to the following for helping to make Finals Day such a success:

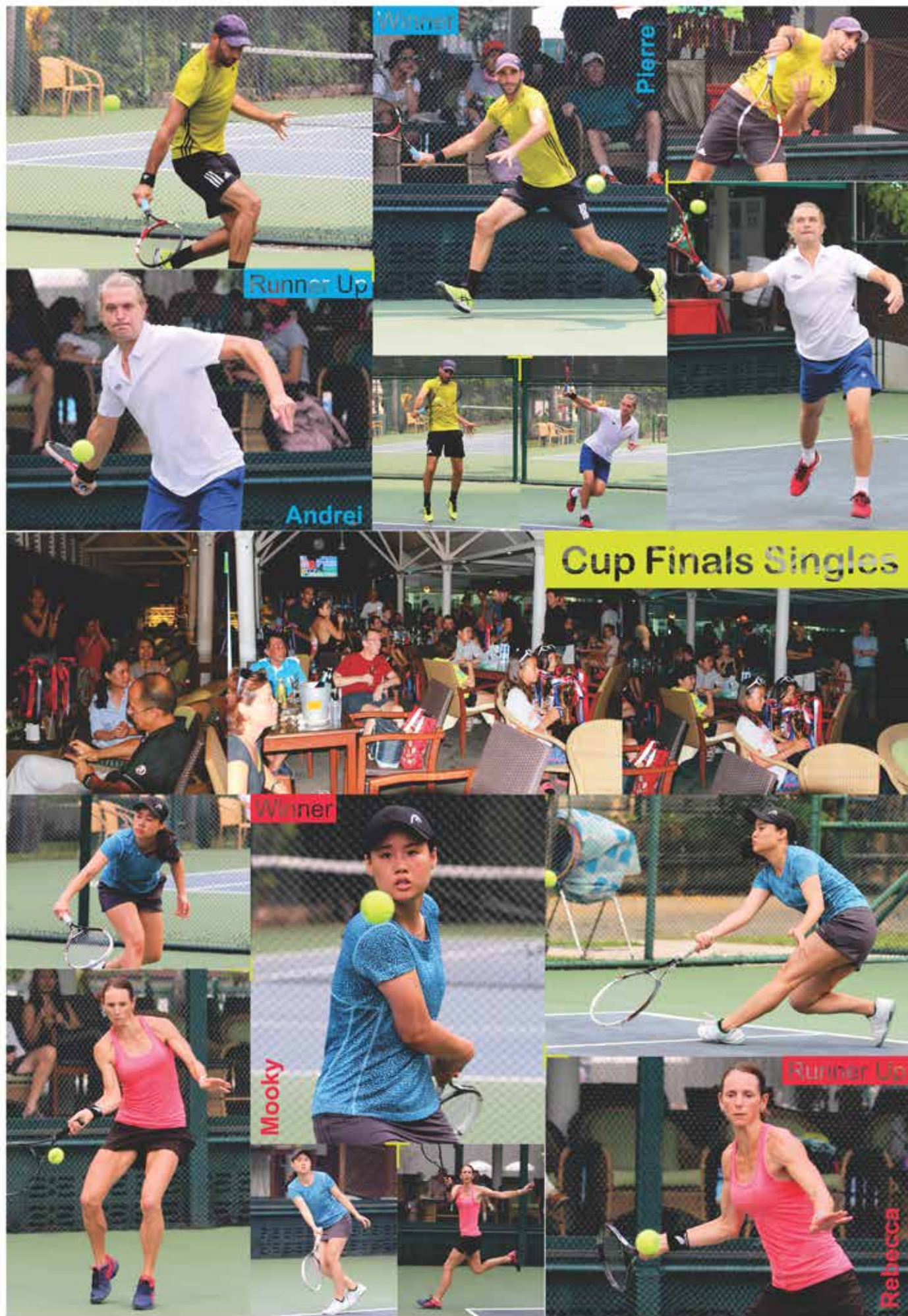
My fellow committee members Nick, Harold, Alex, Ann, Nat & the new recruits Angie & Dawa. Tournament Referee and top cameraman (Chris Watt). Every ready supporters & consultants (Raquel, Yubharet and James). Always generous fizzy drinks providers (Andrei K & Raquel). All British Club Staff for looking after us on the day and throughout the year with special mention to Khun Amnat and his team in the Fitness Centre for their efforts. Our sponsors from within and outside the Club for putting the cherries on the cake for our competitors. The players and supporters for putting on the show and creating the atmosphere. See you all next year, Graham.



## Major Sponsor 2018











**Special Guest** Khun Chalathip, winner in the 2017 Ladies Doubles Plate, presenting the Ladies winners and the runners up with their trophies.

## Cup Finals Doubles









# HARD BALLS

As the section gets back into action after a short break over Songkran and the jokes off the back of the Australian cheating scandal become less frequent, this month we look over a few more highlights from games contributing towards a record-breaking season so far. At around half-way through the season, there is still plenty of cricket to look forward to – especially the eagerly anticipated KL tour in June.

## V Kerala Strikers ESL @ BCG 4th March 2018

After suffering a comprehensive defeat against the South Indian side earlier on in the season in the domestic league, BC found themselves up against the Kerala Strikers once again for their second Eastern Seaboard game – looking to bounce off the opening match win against Pattaya a few weeks prior. Whether it was the change of scenery at the Amphawa venue, or the mostly new range of players representing the opposition – the result was somewhat different to the last encounter.

After winning the toss and putting Kerala into bat first, Denzyl (2-28, 5 overs) and Ed (0-20, 3 overs) warmed up the opening pair for Dilip (2-39, 5 overs) who quickly lured them into his trap – clean bowling 2 of the danger players and leaving the strikers with not much juice in the tank. Ben (2 – 26, 5 overs) and Dash (2 – 31, 5 overs) saw to the struggling middle order before Denzyl cleaned up the tail – Kerala finishing up on short on 155 – 9.

Chasing down 156 on a ground where BC had comfortably hit 180+ in the past was evident in the ease at which the top order dealt with the reply. Dash (35), who opened with a signature 4 runs off the first ball of the innings held up with Rahul (11) until the 50 runs mark before the captain's dismissal made way for Denzyl who had been panicking all afternoon about getting back for the gig he had misread the time for. That said, he managed to impatiently knock off 31 runs in 21 balls before rushing off to a performance he had already missed. Ben (25) didn't quite manage to carry his bat, leaving Chandan (18\*) and Glen (11\*) to tidy things up just after the 20 overs. 2 out of 2.

## Curry Night Saturday 10th March 2018

An unexpected downpour the night before the scheduled Marshall Cup Match at an uncovered RBSC ground left many disappointed after BC had fought hard to secure a strong team to compete at the central venue. Nevertheless, the curry night which had been arranged afterwards to celebrate victory went ahead regardless. A great spread preceded the polishing off of a few too many bottles of whiskey, raising the roof with a rendition of multiple anthems, and turning 'a few more back at Ian's' into a full-blown session – it was a good job that the morning match the next day had been suitably rearranged.

## V Asia United BCLB @ BCG Sunday 18th March

BC were back on familiar turf at BCG to play their 4th Bangkok league match of the season against Asia United, hoping to add to the winning streak and secure a 4th successive season win. Bowling first, a confident



Ben Eastwell



Indian anthem



What do you mean no cricket this year



Too much for some



Just a normal curry night

side restricted the opposition to 109 – 8 after their allotted overs – including 4 clean bowled dismissals, split 50/50 between Patrick and Dilip. Dash also picked up 3 which eventually helped him towards another man of the match award for the trophy cabinet.

Only 4 batsmen were required in the 8 wicket victory – Dash (26) and Rahul (17) not quite bringing it home before Denzyl dominated United's attempt at a defense – crushing 45 from 40. The match was wrapped up inside the 15th over, a winning margin which seems to get bigger every week.

## V KL Pangolin @ BCG Sunday 25th March

Touring side Pangolin graced Bangkok with their presence for the 7th year running at the end of March, looking for their first win in history against BC. Although





Dashy man of the match



with a double wicket maiden and going on to remove their captain, supported by Manish (1-12, 4 overs) who impressively picked up 1 wicket and 2 maidens for himself after some time away from the square.

The target for a win was 122 after BC took control on home turf. After a retirement score of 35 saw Rahul back in the shed unharmed after 35 balls, Shri opened fire – blitzing 38\* from 17 balls including 5 maximums which all but finished the game off, leaving Ben (19\*) and Chan (4\*) all the time in the world to chip off the winning runs with bags of time to spare. Shri was rightfully awarded the Pangolin token from the touring side

good for the record, a guaranteed win is not the only reason the Malaysia side are always welcomed with open arms, but for their shared appreciation towards the social aspect of the game – on display even before the match as they were hosted at BC for food and plenty of drinks.

Despite mixed stories of the usual Bangkok antics and a suspected lack of sleep amongst the tourists the following day - Pangolin got off to a good start and even with an alleged reversed batting order and faced with the threat and athleticism of Jack Dunford lurking in the field, they didn't lose any early wickets to Ed (1-12, 4 overs) and Rahul (0 – 28, 3 overs). But, when it rained it poured; the introduction of the secret weapon saw Dilip (2-16, 5 overs) inches away from picking up a hat-trick before Ed quickly finished off the wounded and suddenly Pangolin found themselves losing 3 quick wickets for 0 runs. 13 runs crept by before another flurry of wickets - Sunish (3-22, 5 overs) ticking off his first over



Making sure Pangolin don't go home early



V Pangolin



Shri man of the match

and it didn't take much persuading to finish off the beers that Cristina had kindly brought along with her support. Bring on the KL tour!



V Pangolin 25th March 2018



# SQUASHY BITS

## Crime and Infidelity

First the crime which involves theft of an everyday, essential item popular with both males and females which, of late, seems to have been stolen in abundance from the men's bogs causing intense inconvenience and misery. The girls have possibly had some nicked as well, but there have been no reports yet of this kind of illicit incident with regard to them. Thus, we have to focus on those that have been pinched from the guys and we are talking about clothes hangers. Yes, clothes hangers! It appears that someone is lifting them from the male changing room at the rate of one or two per day as their number is slowly dwindling. Was in there recently on a Saturday and there was barely a spare one available. Again, a few days later, another Squashie of Mr. Simon Davies remarked that the number of clothes hangers in the men's changing rooms had fallen markedly and he was aghast at such a tragic development. Mr. Davies even claimed that he'd brought some of his own to the Club and it seemed that some crook had nicked



Bruce Madge

them! Dear oh dear. What is the world coming to when cheap, secondhand, plastic clothes hangers have become an object of desire for petty thieves? Are times that tough for some poor folk? It appears they are. And who could be the thief or thieves? Well, it could be a staff member, but that's highly unlikely. Perhaps, it's a non-member like one of the Tuesday football guys or just a casual guest. Perhaps, but as the hangers keep disappearing almost daily, it would appear that the thief is a regular Club user of the sporting kind of which there are many or of the sit-by-the-pool-getting-pissed kind of which there are more. Bits has no idea, but this shocking criminality has to come to an end rather soon or we'll have nothing to stow our lovely clobber on. Thus, we all need to exercise vigilance to stamp out this heinous crime. If you catch sight of any criminal behavior in the men's bogs involving plastic coat hangers please attempt to capture some photographic or video evidence and then call the cops. In the meantime, can we have some more hangers please? Ta very much.



Excellent location!



Mostly heading for divorce!



Sand floor!

Now for the infidelity which revolves around this: Padel (tennis) is very popular in Europe, particularly Spain, and some of us Squashies tried it recently. It's a blend of tennis and squash and there's a place in Huay Kwang which has a court - Happy Sports Club. It's pretty good fun and in the absence of any major BCB squash action recently, we thought we'd try it. The court has partial glass walls and a carpet-type floor sprinkled with sand. SAND! The rackets are large, table tennis bats with





This!



Nicked!



Inevitable!



Him!



Padel bats!



Not this!



Huay Kwang night spot!

holes and it's played with a tennis ball. If you can play tennis and/or squash, you can play Padel. Lovely.

We've tried it a few times now and the excitement has grown and grown to such an extent that the regular participants have suggested that either a Padel court be built at the Club in place of the new kids' pool/crèche/family room/teens' room - excellent idea as those who would be using such facilities can simply stay at home saving all our ears from the torture of their intolerable poolside din, or they quit playing squash at the Club to spend more time in the Huay Kwang area playing Padel at the Happy Sports Club 24/7.

The first option is infinitely more favourable, yet it would be the least popular with the local and expat mums and dads who need somewhere suitable for their spoilt brats to scream, shout and annoy of a weekend. The second choice, while not being as practical, is clearly far more understandable when one takes into consideration the fact that the Huay Kwang area is also home to the majority of Bangkok's soapy massage joints and it's no surprise then that Marvyn Lew is very strongly put forward this suggestion to: 'more conveniently enjoy Padel more often'. In a nut shell, he and the other squash insurrectionists intend to exploit their newly acquired 'affection' for Padel to get closer to the Imperial Leather action on Rachada Road and surrounding areas. John Vivian (newly-wed) voiced his strong support while new guy Robert Lockhart (the only single participant) also seemed incredibly enthusiastic to spend more time in the Huay Kwang area 'playing Padel'. John Drew coyly affirmed his approval via a chain of emails being carefully filed as evidence for the impending divorce trials while all the other infidels emailed that it sounded a wonderful idea! Evenings



were touted as the best times - how convenient - with a few beers afterwards at one or two local night spots!

They're not interested in Padel, are they? It's pretty good fun, but it's not that amazing, and if the court was situated in, say Bang Na, one session a year would be enough. It's clear what they are up to, and to be frank, it's disgusting really, but perfectly understandable after years and years of the standard domestic 'bliss' of marriage, kids, in-laws, family holidays, weight gain and cellulite. Can't blame them, can you? It's either that or an affair with the Burmese maid or a young secretary from the office or hanging around go-go bars of an evening where there are plenty of prying eyes. Soapy massage joints, thus, provide the perfect, discreet environment to receive the kind of essential comfort any male married for over a decade requires in order to avoid murdering the wife or running off with the cute one from 7-11. And if 'playing Padel' three evenings a week in Huay Kwang becomes the ideal excuse for that, then so be it.

Until the wives find out.....



The BCB Squash Section would like to acknowledge Boots Retail Thailand as its sponsor for 2015. Boots Retail Thailand kindly sponsored the 2014 Rod Carter Open, the BCB Squash Section's open squash competition, and has agreed to support the section throughout 2015. Boots Retail Thailand has numerous branches throughout the country supplying high quality cosmetics and pharmaceuticals. Many thanks to Boots Retail Thailand.





# BCGS GOLFING NEWS

## March results



### Great Day Out, Shame About The Result Annual Match Against The Londoners

Thana City was the venue for this annual match against The Londoners. A golf course that has markedly improved over the years and combines a good test of golf with exceptional plane spotting.



Handing back the trophy



Our champions - Chris and Vicky

A glorious day of weather accompanied a keenly contested competition. The weather, the fun of the format and the wonderful hospitality of The Londoner Brew Pub combined was (perhaps) enough to dull the pain of defeat.

Despite some great team performances The Londoners finished well ahead of the British Club on the day. The event scoring system caused some confusion, Monty Python-esque scoring was mentioned, but whatever way we cut the numbers we still ended up losing – either 6.5 to 3.5 or by 16 points.

A big shout out to Chris and Vicky Brader who were our strongest pair with a convincing 10 point win over their opposition.

A big thank you to Pete Gale for standing-in as Captain on the day. A further round of thanks to all those who represented the British Club and looked so fetching in your club colours.

### March Medal

After the disappointing result in our match against the Londoners it was back to business as usual with our Monthly Medal, played at the Royal Golf & Country Club.

The winners of flights A and B were Davies and Davis (Terry and Neil respectively) with nett scores of 70 and 71. Terry shot a creditable gross 79, whilst Neil says he would prefer not to have his gross score revealed!!! But both will no doubt enjoy their reward of a bottle of red wine, so much more palatable than a trophy.



Flight A Medal Winner Terry Davies



Flight B Medal Winner Neil Davis

Congratulations also to the closely beaten runners up in each flight, Randall Coleman and David Burton, who each got a well deserved round of applause, but alas, no wine.

Our next outing is a 3 day eclectic held at the Forest Hills / Sir James Resort Khao Yai, which will be an enjoyable weekend away. It will have already been played by the time you read this report, but there are always others to come. Why not join us? For more information please contact us at [bcs.bangkok@gmail.com](mailto:bcs.bangkok@gmail.com)



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9.00AM-10.30AM

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