



Pierre Power



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK

Outpost

www.britishclubbangkok.org

May 2017

The 2017 Tennis Championships

With the
Monthly
JACKPOT



QUIZ NIGHT

TUES 16th MAY

SURAWONGSE ROOM, 7.15PM

TEAMS OF 6 OR LESS

MEMBERS BT 100

GUESTS BT 150



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

Book in Reception or by email : events@britishclubbangkok.org

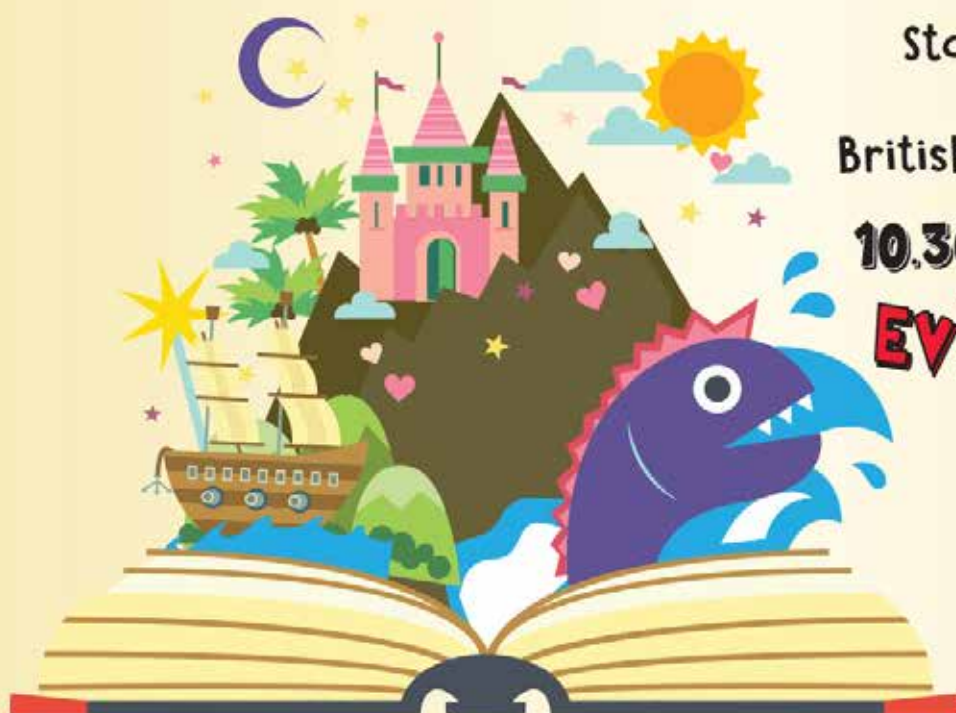


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BANGKOK

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20 METERS BEFORE LIBRARY ENTRANCE**



**GENERAL COMMITTEE**

Chairman - Jack Dunford
chairman@britishclubbangkok.org

Vice Chairman - Ali Adam
vicechair@britishclubbangkok.org

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honorary.secretary@britishclubbangkok.org

Honorary Treasurer - Geoffrey Banks

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 James McLeary, Adrian Salter,
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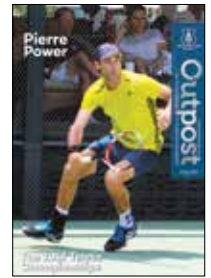
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**FRONT COVER**

There was a terrific turnout for our Club Tennis Championships at the end of March, so this month we have a write-up of it with a special selection of photos, the best being held for the cover. Pierre at his most challenging!

EDITOR'S GREETING

Another month gone, and this one includes the major tennis review as well as another special from the squash courts. There's part 2 in Jack Dunford's article about the refugee camps, this month being the first of several which witness the Laos and Vietnamese camps.

There are quite a number of events/functions so we have had to double up the posters on some pages. Outpost is looking for contributors - please send in anything you would like (within reason of course).

Enjoy the tail end of the hot season!

Ed



OUTPOST is the monthly publication 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/outpost **Editor** - Jeremy de Sausmarez jeremy@sathep.com

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

'The British Club Bangkok is a registered Association in accordance with the Thai Civil & Commercial Code'

MESSAGE FROM the Chairman



Jack Dunford

Chairman

Sawadee Pi Mai: What a difference a year makes! This time last year the new General Committee had just been elected and it took several months to turn 'campaign promises' into action plans, to appoint sub-committees, find out how things actually worked (or didn't work) and to begin making things happen. This year we are off to a flyer. Even before the General Committee (GC) has met formally and Sub-Committees (SCs) officially appointed, there is a sense of momentum and anticipation as we build on the ideas and initiatives already under way.

As last year progressed, it became clear that the Club needs a plan to bring it into the 21st century. Bangkok and Thailand are changing rapidly and we are competing with quality leisure alternatives in condominiums, hotels, resorts and other clubs. Our buildings and facilities are ageing, and so is our membership.

Most of us joined the club because we like it and so we are not looking to change for change's sake. We want to maintain our traditions and standards, but we need to ensure that we remain viable in the future. There is an urgent need to breath new life into the Club with better facilities attractive to a millennial audience, particularly for younger families. Blessed with a central location, beautiful grounds and a classic Clubhouse, that really shouldn't be too difficult

During last year's debate on the future of the Poolside a vision emerged of a modern 'resort-like' hub that side of the Club, catering for families, mothers with young children, health, fitness and sports enthusiasts, complemented by upgraded heritage facilities in the Clubhouse offering stylish eating and drinking with meeting space, function and entertainment venues, and accommodation. With the Silom Wing now underway, this year we can hopefully also agree a phased upgrade of the Clubhouse.

Besides the buildings however we also need management and operating systems that are able to respond to the changing social fabric of Thailand and ensure that services offered are attractive to both existing and potential new members.

Sub-committees: Last year much work was done to review all aspects of our human resource policies and procedures, food and beverage operations, house

and grounds maintenance, club security, membership recruitment and the all-important databases and IT systems that support these. In short, the Club's management and operating systems were found to be almost as dated as its buildings.

These reviews were mostly undertaken by SCs and the task now is to implement improvements. Volunteers are needed for all of the SCs and these are open to all Members, including those who do not have voting rights (Annual, Associate etc.) and their spouses. The SCs mostly meet monthly but if you have specialist skills/ services to offer even on an occasional basis we would still like to hear from you.

Two important SCs we are establishing this year where new ideas and new energy will be particularly welcome are the Marketing, IT and Communications SC and Sports and Entertainment SC. A priority must be to attract more Members and increase usage, not only to make the Club more fun and interesting, but also to strengthen our finances so that the improvements we have embarked on can continue.

In the longer term we will have to consider how many Members we can comfortably accommodate, but in the short term our facilities are rarely crowded and just an additional hundred Members or so would make a significant difference to our bottom line

The Marketing, IT and Communications SC will be drafting a Marketing Strategy to ensure that newly arriving families find the Club more quickly. We are also looking to create and promote more events with a new emphasis on the use of social media to improve communications.

Christopher Adams: Christopher Adams has joined us as Deputy General Manager at a perfect time, bringing a great deal of experience from the hospitality industry to help generate new ideas and approaches. Christopher introduces himself elsewhere in this edition of Outpost and there will be lots of opportunities for Members to meet him in the coming weeks.

Silom Wing: Last year was spent designing the Silom Wing for Membership approval and we now have an exciting project to deliver. We have an excellent qualified SC under Ali Adam's chairmanship, which is quickly putting in place everything needed to get started. Contracts have already been signed with Chapman Taylor our Architects and GES Solutions our Quantity Surveyors. By the time you receive this we will also have recruited a Project Manager and should have the necessary BMA demolition and renovation permits. Final design details can then be agreed and detailed drawings prepared for tender. All is looking good for demolition work to begin on schedule in July. We will shortly be updating the website where all of this can be followed in detail.

Every effort will be made to minimise the impact on Members' enjoyment of the Club during construction and some preparatory work will soon be underway. The Pavilion Café will be closed in June to be refurbished as the new staff facilities and this will improve the Club environment with the reinstatement of the Surawongse Road boundary wall and the tennis court screens, reducing traffic noise and improving security.

A temporary family area will also be created at the northern end of the Front Lawn with shaded seating,

an inflatable pool and playground equipment. This will be designed in such a way that events will still be possible on the lawn and furnishings purchased can be used elsewhere when the Silom Wing opens next year.

Book Sale: As previously reported, we will again be running the café at the Neilson Hays Library later this year but this must await renovations to their beautiful old building, which will hopefully be finished in October. Meanwhile we are enjoying hosting some of their activities, including Saturday morning Children's story time in the Surawongse Sala (free to Members) and, in May, their popular Book Sale. The library offers hundreds of quality books at great prices at regular sales in their car-park but on the Back Lawn we will be able to offer more space, provide refreshments and maybe even some live music. Don't miss it!

David Fiala: I must end on a sad note with news of a fatal car accident in the USA which has taken the lives of our personal trainer, David Falia's brother and sister-in-law. David will be back with us after arranging and attending the funeral but we offer him and his family our love, sincere condolences and deepest sympathy.





THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

NONGNOOCH GARDEN PATTAYA

**SAT
20th
MAY**

**LEAVING
THE CLUB
AT 9AM**



Adults Bt 1,900
Kids Bt 1,650 (<130 cm high)



- 9:00am Leave from the Club
- 11:30am-12:45pm Enjoy the International Buffet Lunch
- 12:45pm-1:15pm Sightseeing Bus (30 min)
- 1:30pm Thai Cultural Performance
- 2:30pm Elephant Show
- 4:00pm Depart from Nongnooch Garden and return to Bangkok
- 6:30pm Arrive at the British Club

Book in Reception or by email : events@britishclubbangkok.org

LETTER FROM the General Manager

I hope you all had a wonderful week or two for the double holidays of Songkran and Easter. Here in Bangkok it was very quiet with little traffic which was a holiday in itself!

Our new Deputy General Manager, Khun Chris, joined the Club at the beginning of April and has been settling in to his role of operations in F&B, Sports, Engineering and Maintenance while examining other areas where he will assist me. You will see from his article in this issue that he is committed to making the Club a more enjoyable visit for all our Members, so please welcome and support him, and say hello when you see him on his rounds.

The Silom Wing Project is moving ahead though still in the initial stages of approvals, clearances and quotations. Our BMA licence application has gone very smoothly and they gave us good feedback for the project. The next major stage is refurbishment and later moving the staff accommodation and facilities into the Pavilion Café, which will start at the beginning of June. This will take about 6 weeks and we will advise you when it is starting.

Once the Silom Wing Project starts, we will organise a kids pool, the trampoline and playground on the Front Lawn with one eating area as well for parents and children. You can see the plan in Khun Jack's pages this month.

We will have two promotions for this month: Afternoon Tea on the Front Balcony (atop the Clubhouse portico) every day between 3pm and 6pm. Please tell Reception

so they can make sure you receive service; and there is a Mango Promotion as this is the season for these delicious fruits, so please ask the outlet staff. To suit the hot weather, we have chosen Sangria as our Cocktail of the Month, it's very refreshing!

For events this month, we have an outing to the beautiful gardens of Suan Nongnooch in Pattaya, a lovely outing which includes a buffet lunch, a sightseeing tour and a cultural performance too. We also have tickets for Pitbull, the popular rapper's concert at the end of the month. Booking or details from Reception or by email to events@britishclubbangkok.org or see the posters in this issue.

As decided at the AGM, the 13th month subscription will be charged to Members monthly in future and accrued during the year so that it is fairly charged to Members for the number of months they are here. This started in April's invoices as per the letter sent out with the March statements.

The rainy season may arrive in May and cool the weather a bit. See you round the Club soon!



Premrudee Tanyaluck

General Manager

NOTICE FOR BRITISH CITIZENS – UK GENERAL ELECTION 8th JUNE

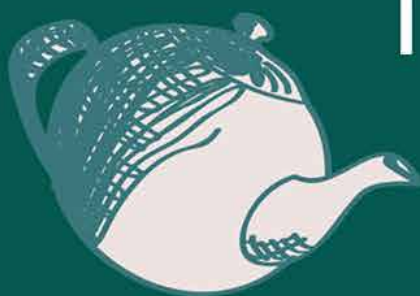
The last date for registering to vote is Monday 22nd May - please see <https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>

OFFICIAL OPENING TIMES

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



AFTER NOON TEA



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

FRONT BALCONY
3PM -6PM

1 person - Bt 175

2 person - Bt 350

Sausage rolls

Scones with cream and jam

Sandwiches

Mini apple crumble

Cakes

A pot of tea

INTRODUCING

Christopher Adams Deputy General Manager

It is an honour to have been given this opportunity by the General Committee and Management to work at the British Club and I believe that I can be a valuable asset to the organisation. I genuinely look forward to having the time to meet all committee and Club Members, to hear your concerns and ideas and to share my views and plans to improve the Club services.



My short-term plan is to develop a better quality, more personalised member/guest service, practical and more hands-on and taking action fast. We must preserve our image while adapting to modern influences maintaining and improving security and entertaining our valued Members with an abundance of events and leisure activities to suite all ages. I want to share in the excitement of setting and achieving short and long-term goals for the Club In the future.

The best way to achieve this is to motivate our staff resources with well-defined objectives and also empowerment. My management style will be based on integrity, planning, good human relations, delivering quality and a personalised service. A positive attitude, aptitude for strategic thinking and the ability to adapt quickly to new ideas and situations results in achievement, consistency and significant success.

Before I joined the British Club, my last role was as an Executive Assistant Manager and Acting General Manager at an internationally known resort in the south of Thailand. My profuse experience in hospitality, F&B, engineering, aviation, leisure, sales, marketing and business development has given me the confidence to rise to any challenges. I am sure that with the plans already in place I can help make the Club an even more attractive and relevant social, sports and cultural oasis.

I am enthusiastic about the team I am working with, and look forward to meeting all Members. If I can be of service at any moment please feel free to contact me.



PUNJAB GRILL
GOURMET FINE DINING

INDIAN GOURMET FINE DINING IN BANGKOK
OPEN DAILY FROM 6 - 11.30PM
SUNDAY BRUNCH FROM NOON - 3PM
DAILY LIVE MUSIC

AT RADISSON SUITES BANGKOK SUKHUMVIT (SUKHUMVIT SOI 13)
BTS NANA STATION (EXIT 3)

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THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

BUSINESS LUNCH



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

1st May - 5th May

Starters: 65 Baht (2 Options)

Mixed Salad, Smoked Chicken Breast, Beetroots and Mango.
Chef's Soup of The Day.

Main Courses: 160 Baht (4 Options)

Chicken Stew in Red Wine.
Dory Fish with Mango Salsa.
Roast Pork Neck.
Tom Yum Gai, Phad Tua Ngok Tao Hoo, Pla Som Ros.



8th May - 12th May

Starters: 65 Baht (2 Options)

Chicken and Cranberry Salad.
Chef's Soup of The Day.

Main Courses: 160 Baht (4 Options)

Chicken Tikka Masala.
Pan-Fried Dory Fish with Mornay Sauce.
Fillet of Pork Wrapped in Parma Ham Grain Mustard and Honey Sauce.
Gaeng Kiew Wan Gai, Moo Tod Krathiem, Phad Phak Ruam Nam Man Hoy.

15th May - 19th May

Starters: 65 Baht (2 Options)

Tuna Salad.
Chef's Soup of The Day.

Main Courses: 160 Baht (4 Options)

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.



22nd May - 26th May

Starters: 65 Baht (2 Options)

Smoked Duck Salad.
Chef's Soup of The Day.

Main Courses: 160 Baht (4 Options)

Chicken and Wild Mushroom Lasagna.
Pan Fried Dory Fish with Caper Meunière.
Shepherd's Pie.
Gaeng Jued Tao Hoo Moo Sab, Phad Kraprao Moo Sab, Kai Dao.

Dessert of the Day : Choose from our à la carte Dessert with 10% off

F&B MORSELS

I hope you all had a good Songkran with plenty of good food and drinks too. This year was quieter for F&B as the double holiday with Easter made many people go outside Bangkok, but those at the Club enjoyed their meals.

It's still mango season so the Mango Promotion continues from all outlets, with mango cheesecake, tart, ice cream as well as the favourite sticky rice with mango and coconut ice cream. We continue to do Paella for dinner on Wednesdays: chicken, vegetarian or seafood, but it takes time to prepare so don't leave ordering to the last minute, just give us half an hour when you order! Sunday Brunch is a traditional favourite with many of our popular dishes including the carvery, pasta station, salmon gravlax, with soup, salads and desserts as well.

In May we will be bringing back the Saturday Curry Buffet for both lunch and dinner as we have not done them for quite a long time and Members have asked for them. The curries will now include chicken tikka masala and lamb rogan josh, two favourites with European Members. Served with these, you can choose garlic naan bread, aloo tikki, vegetable curry and okra masala. I think

you will enjoy this curry buffet, so please come along and try it out.

Afternoon Tea on the front balcony has started, and by popular request it is now available for 1 or 2 people. You will see the selection of foods included on the poster on page 8, and I would like to remind you that we have a selection of teas for you to choose from as well, Twining's best flavours!

I am always happy to hear recommendations from Members, so let me know if there is any dish you would like to see included.

Happy Eating!



Khun Laak

Executive Chef

THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

SANGRIA

GLASS Bt 125
JUG Bt 685

COCKTAIL OF THE MONTH "MAY"

RECIPROCAL LETTER? ... *DON'T LEAVE HOME WITHOUT IT*

Did you know that the Club has reciprocation arrangements with 338 other member clubs in 53 countries around the world! Yes ... we have clubs in over one quarter of the world ...

Asia

147 clubs across Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, The Philippines, Vietnam

Africa/Middle-East

13 clubs across Bahrain, Egypt, Kenya, Kuwait, South Africa and the UAE.

Central & South America

11 clubs across the Bahamas, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Jamaica, Mexico, Peru, Trinidad & Tobago

Europe

33 clubs across Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The Netherlands and Turkey

North America

27 clubs in Canada and 62 clubs in the USA

United Kingdom

45 clubs across all four nations



S.C.C.



Durban Club



Oriental Club

And as a British Club Member you are entitled to visit them all free of charge and it could not be easier ...

1. From the Club website find out the name of the club you wish to visit
2. Ask Reception, in person or by email, for an Invitation Letter for the period you wish to visit*
3. Show your passport, the Invitation Letter, membership and credit card upon arrival at the club of your choice
4. Enjoy!

***Please note some clubs have restrictions on days of use or are for non-residents of that country only**

Do you know of a potential reciprocal club?

We are currently reviewing our Reciprocal Club Network and have noted, with regret, that 17 clubs have ceased trading in recent times. HOWEVER we are always looking for new clubs for Members to enjoy so if there is a Club that you can recommend for consideration, please drop a line to the Club's Honorary Secretary at honorary.secretary@britishclubbangkok.org

Bangkok St. George's Society

55th Annual Ball



Saturday 27th May, 2017
Royal Orchid Sheraton Hotel

Sparkling reception from 6.30pm

*Gourmet 5-course dinner with
Stilton, English Cheddar & Port
Free-Flow Wines, Gin Bar
and a selection of English Beers*

*"Last Night at the Proms"
Traditional flag-waving sing-a-long
with the
Royal Thai Army Orchestra*

BRITISH AIRWAYS



Dancing 'til 2am
with the Unicorn Band
& DJ Paul Jackson



ROYAL ORCHID
Sheraton
HOTEL & TOWERS



BRIGHTON COLLEGE
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
BANGKOK

kis
International School
Knowledge Inspiration Spirit

PETER BANNER
THE HAPPY AUCTIONEER



AUCTION WITH A HEART



let's feel good



Tickets: THB 3,500 each, THB 32,000 for 10
Email: President@bangkokstgeorgesoc.org

SECURITY

Over the last year the House, Grounds and Security sub-committee of the GC has been dealing with a number of issues relating to the Club but one of the key matters addressed has been to action the main points identified by a number of security agencies in relation to incident management at the Club. The concern was that what emergency plans the Club had were out of date and had neither been regularly practiced nor exercised and in addition the layout of the Club and its grounds could be improved to take into account the ever-changing range of possible threats to the Club. So what has been done –

- On the planning side a comprehensive emergency plan has been written and is being translated into Thai, with the next task being to train the Club staff so that they can quickly respond to any incidents.
- The pedestrian gate to/from the Neilson Hays Library compound has been converted and re-equipped as an emergency exit.
- The first phase of the new poolside development will include the creation of an emergency exit from poolside into the AIA compound.
- The Pavilion coffee shop is being closed and the gate leading from the Surawongse Road into the Coffee Shop will be closed and bricked up.
- A Club-wide public address system has been installed for use in an emergency either within the Club or within the immediate area. Pre-recorded messages, in English and Thai, will be used to advise those within the Club what to do and where to go. Please note that there is no intention to use this system for voice messages in anything but an emergency.
- Assembly areas have been created and signed within the Club – adjacent to the drivers room by the Silom Gate and in the back car park adjacent to the Neilson Hays Library gate – in case of need.
- In the event of a hasty evacuation of the entire Club, external assembly areas have been suggested as outside the Narai Hotel and outside the AIA office tower.
- The fire pump (in the hut by the swimming pool) has been replaced and the staff exercised in its use.
- The medical equipment (located in the Fitness Centre and in Reception) has been updated, including a defibrillator (kept in the Fitness Centre), and staff training is ongoing.
- Emergency telephone number lists have been prepared and are prominently displayed.
- The fire alarms and fire appliances, the CCTV and the 'panic button' linked to an off-site control room and response centre have all been inspected and tested and are being repaired/refurbished as needed.

Other security and safety issues have also been addressed but the matters above relate to an emergency and are therefore the topic of this short article.

So, as a user of the Club, how should you react if there is an incident either within or near to the Club?



Incident near the Club: It may be that if there is an incident near the Club, depending on the incident, staying within the Club until the situation is resolved could be the best course of action. If it is safe to leave the Club then staff and/or the public address system will advise on the best exit to use.

Incident within the Club: A fire or similar within the Club may necessitate moving to one of the internal assembly areas, that is either by the drivers rest room at the Silom Gate or the back car park by the Neilson Hays Library gate. The public address system and/or the staff will advise where to go but once in the assembly areas await further instructions there.



Neilson Hays Gate



Assembly Silom side



Assembly Surawongse side

Major incident within the Club:

Certain events may require an immediate and hasty evacuation of the entire Club. Should such be required the public address system or Club staff or the incident itself will indicate which exits to use. In such an event the need is to get everyone off-site as quickly as possible, so leave everything, including your vehicles, and just get out.

Actions within the assembly areas:

Once in the assembly areas the senior staff member present will ask family heads to account for their families and Supervisors will account for their staff. As soon as possible it needs to be established who is unaccounted for. Render whatever assistance to others as may be needed. The senior staff member in the assembly area will record the names of all those in the assembly area, which part of the Club they had evacuated from and down which route. Communications need to be established with the Emergency Services/Club Management at the Incident Control Point (ICP). Try to think about any relevant details you may have noticed, making a record if possible, did you take any photos which may be of use for example, and then await further instructions.

Of course such measures as listed above may well never be acted out, but just as it is wise to identify the nearest fire exit when you book into a hotel for the first time, it is surely also prudent to be familiar with the emergency plans at the Club.

BC Calendar May 2017

MARTIAL ARTS EVERY SUNDAY
BT 3,800 / 10 LESSONS





PARENT : 1PM - 2PM
3-6 YRS OLD : 1PM - 2PM
6-14 YRS OLD : 2PM - 3PM

**START : 23 APR
FINISHES : 25 JUN**

BOOK IN FITNESS CENTRE 02-2340247 EXT.26
OR BY EMAIL : SPORTS@BRITISHCLUBBANGKOK.ORG



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
1 BWG Mahjong 10am - 1pm  Tennis Mix-In 6pm - 10pm 	2 Squash Mix-In 5:15pm - 7:30pm  Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers 8:30pm Football 7pm - 9pm 	3 Ladies Tennis Coaching 9am - 10:30am Tennis Mix-In 6pm - 10pm 
8 BWG Mahjong 10am - 1pm  Tennis Mix-In 6pm - 10pm 	9 Squash Mix-In 5:15pm - 7:30pm  Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers 8:30pm Football 7pm - 9pm 	10 Ladies Tennis Coaching 9am - 10:30am Tennis Mix-In 6pm - 10pm 
15 BWG Mahjong 10am - 1pm  Tennis Mix-In 6pm - 10pm 	16 Squash Mix-In 5:15pm - 7:30pm Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers 8:30pm Quiz Night 7:15pm The Verandah Football 7pm - 9pm  	17 Ladies Tennis Coaching 9am - 10:30am Tennis Mix-In 6pm - 10pm 
22 BWG Mahjong 10am - 1pm  Tennis Mix-In 6pm - 10pm 	23 Squash Mix-In 5:15pm - 7:30pm  Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers 8:30pm Football 7pm - 9pm 	24 Ladies Tennis Coaching 9am - 10:30am Tennis Mix-In 6pm - 10pm 
29 BWG Mahjong 10am - 1pm  Tennis Mix-In 6pm - 10pm 	30 Squash Mix-In 5:15pm - 7:30pm  Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers 8:30pm Football 7pm - 9pm 	31 Ladies Tennis Coaching 9am - 10:30am Tennis Mix-In 6pm - 10pm 

Thursday

4

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



Friday

5

Tennis Mix-In
6pm - 10pm



Junior Tennis
4pm - 6pm



Saturday

6

Swimming for Competition
9am - 10:30am

Swimming Lessons
9am - 10:30am

Saturday Storytime
10:30am Silom Sala



Sunday

7

Kids Cricket
Book first! 8am - 11am

Swimming Lessons
9am - 10:30am

Sunday Brunch
11:30 - 3pm Verandah

Open Pairs Bridge
2pm Silom Room



11

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



12

Tennis Mix-In
6pm - 10pm



Junior Tennis
4pm - 6pm



13

Swimming for Competition
9am - 10:30am

Swimming Lessons
9am - 10:30am

Saturday Storytime
10:30am Silom Sala



14

Kids Cricket
Book first! 8am - 11am

Swimming Lessons
9am - 10:30am

Sunday Brunch
11:30 - 3pm Verandah

Open Pairs Bridge
2pm Silom Room



18

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



19

Tennis Mix-In
6pm - 10pm



Junior Tennis
4pm - 6pm



20

Book Sale
9:30am - 4pm
Neilson Hays Library

Swimming for Competition
9am - 10:30am

Swimming Lessons
9am - 10:30am

Nongnooch Garden
Leaving The Club at 9am



21

Kids Cricket
Book first!
8am - 11am

Book Sale
9:30am - 4pm
Neilson Hays Library

Swimming Lessons
9am - 10:30am

Open Pairs Bridge
2pm Silom Room



25

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



PITBULL
Climate Change Tour
Muang Thong Thani



26

Tennis Mix-In
6pm - 10pm



Junior Tennis
4pm - 6pm

Wine Tasting
6pm - 9pm
Surawongse Room



27

Swimming for Competition
9am - 10:30am

Swimming Lessons
9am - 10:30am

Saturday Storytime
10:30am Silom Sala



28

Kids Cricket
Book first! 8am - 11am

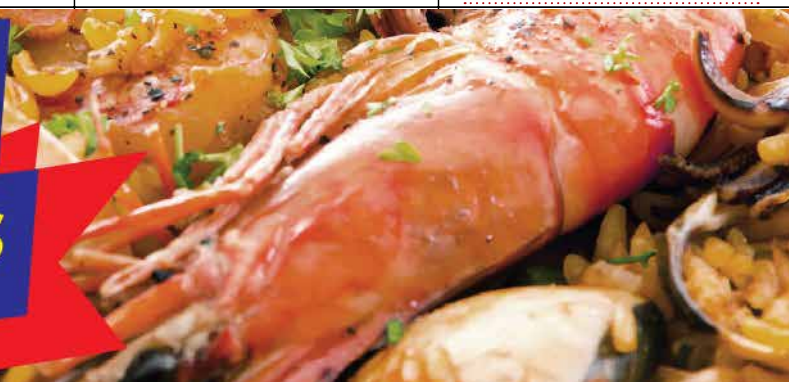
Swimming Lessons
9am - 10:30am

Sunday Brunch
11:30 - 3pm Verandah

Open Pairs Bridge
2pm Silom Room



PAELLA
Wednesdays



THE TRENDY WAY TO A NEW PASSPORT

Getting a new Passport is always a bit of a trauma and things have improved from Jeremy's comments in the April Outpost that *"Getting a new UK passport is a nightmare if handled in Bangkok"*, so I would like share my experience in that the 'getting' of a new passport is not the nightmare!



Paul Cheesman

Honorary Secretary

Getting Prepared

To renew your British passport you must go on to the H.M. Passport Office website at www.gov.uk/overseas-passports and click, in order, 'Thailand' 'Renew' 'adult'. From here you will get the Application Form to download plus the 'Paying by credit card or debit card' form. There are also guidance pages to read.

It is important to note:

- You do not need a countersignature on your Application Form or photographs, when you renew a passport, if your current passport photograph is recognisable as yourself.
- UK passport photographs are smaller than those used for Thai Immigration, being only 45mm x 35mm.
- THE HMPO only accepts Mastercard, Visa, Electron, Diners Club and JCB on the form provided.
- You will need to make a colour photocopy of every page of your current passport, even unused pages.
- As proof of residence one can take copies of credit card bills, condo rental service charge payments or utility bills as long as your name and address are on them. I gave them six to choose from, they took the lot – originals are retained by you.
- You will then need to make an appointment at the local agent, VFS, on the email found on the webpage ... give three dates.



Her Britannic Majesty... requests and requires

Where to go

The UK Visa Application Centre (VFS) is in the Trendy Building in Sukhumvit Soi 13, about 500m from Asok BTS and Sukhumvit Metro. Please note that Soi 13 remains a traditional soi, i.e. it is narrow with no pavements. Strangely on both processing and collection trips there was a single taxi broken down in the soi replacing his back tyre. I am unsure which amazed me the most - the coincidence of seeing a taxi broken down on two separate visits or the fact that each taxi had had a spare wheel ... of course it could have been the same taxi!

When you enter the building, the only lift to the 28th floor is to the far back of the entrance atrium and you will find hundreds of people queuing as VFS also serves Australia, Canada, Denmark and the Netherlands. Don't despair ... walk to the back lift on the right and there is a shorter queue, ask the security officer for 'UK Passport' and he will let you into the shorter queue.

Once on the 28th floor, there is a security check point (time to put phones and pens into your briefcase). Once inside VFS, go to the left-hand side of the counter and you will get a ticket for the door which is directly left upon entry to the VFS. The HMPO office door has four seats outside to wait on but on both visits I was second in the queue and seen within minutes. Processing the application took less than ten minutes and you depart. Your application goes by DHL to the UK and you retain your old passport.

The e-process

You can quite amazingly almost track your new passport: three working days after I submitted my application I received a security text from my bank to say my credit card had been charged with the passport cost; two working days later DHL texted with me the Tracking Number which allows you to track the parcel containing your new passport on its way back to Bangkok – DHL goes via Leipzig from London to Bangkok – and on the day the tracking system notes 'Package Delivered' the VFS email you with a request to collect.

Collection

Once you receive the collection request you do not need an appointment so just 'turn up and collect' following the routine above. Once you have signed your new passport, the old passport is clipped (removing the corners of

the front, back and photo pages) but leaving all your visas, Thai and other, intact. Remember to write in also your Emergency Contact people.

If you had to renew your passport earlier than its expiry date, HMPO will extend your new passport up to nine months beyond the ten years it is normally valid.

Transferring your visa, Extension and Re-Entry permits

Now the proud owner of the 'new look' British Passport the nightmare begins. You have to head to Immigration Division 1 (or to be exact, your local Immigration) Office and you are required to join the same queuing system as you use to renew your visa extension to have your visa and its extension transferred to the new issue, and then queue again for the Re-Entry Permit to be transferred. It is a free service, if you don't count the hours taken to queue.

In my case from application to new passport was only eight working days ... well done H.M. Passport Office.

ELECTION

MORNING

FRIDAY 9 JUNE
6AM - NOON
CHURCHILL BAR

TV RESULTS LIVE FROM UK!

BREAKFAST
130BT PER PERSON
UNTIL 10:30 AM

HAPPY HOUR 6AM - 1PM
SPARKLING WINE
699BT PER BOTTLE

HOUSE WINE
90BT PER GLASS

THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

AS IT HAPPENED

Within months of the fall of Saigon in April 1975 at the end of the Vietnam War, former supporters of the defeated American forces began to flee to Thailand as refugees to escape retribution from all three Indochinese countries. In the last two months' issues I shared pictures which I took in the Cambodian refugee camps, and for the next three months I will show some which I took in the Laotian and Vietnamese camps.

This month are of the so-called 'Hill tribe' Lao. These were mainly Hmong people recruited by the CIA during the Vietnamese War to fight against invading Vietnamese forces. My pictures are from Ban Vinai camp in Loei province, always a colourful place to visit with refugees from different ethnic groups wearing traditional dress, making handicrafts and silverware. My pictures include some taken during Hmong New Year celebrations when boys and girls line up to throw courting balls back and forth.



Jack Dunford



Girls throw



Courting balls



School 1981



Needlework 1985



Traditional hairstyle



Feeling tall



1983



Pretty silver



Ban Vinai 1983



Family Meal 1985



Laundry time 1985



Charcoal distribution 1985

ALEA IACTA EST

("The die is cast")

By Mr C



This July is the tenth Anniversary of the first Balut Tournament played at the British Club and we are celebrating with an ANNIVERSARY CHALLENGE against the Singapore Cricket Club.

British Club Bangkok vs Singapore Cricket Club **TENTH ANNIVERSARY CHALLENGE**

Saturday 22nd July 2017
Luncheon 11.30am then
Play from 1pm in the Suriwongse Room

Cups & medals for the winners
FREE BEER if you exceed 169 points in one game!

**PLEASE SIGN UP NOW
YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU!**

Getting In Practice

To practice for this event there will be a series of Balut Evenings organised by Mr C and DQ ... contact either of them to add your email to the Balut mailing list.

Bar Balut

Balut sets are stored in the Churchill Bar and ready for Members to play at any time. Please remember to return them to the bar after use.



Balut in the days of olde



Balut - the 2017 rebirth

Can't Play?

If you are interested in learning how to play Balut, please see our website www.teambalut.com and contact Mr C or DQ so we can set up a Balut School to meet your needs.

Mr C (Paul Cheesman)
Email: paulc@truemail.co.th

DQ (David Quine)
Email: david@yes.co.th

SQUASHY BITS

KIDS and TREACHERY!



Bruce Madge

First the Rugrats

The Club recently held a Junior Squash Tournament featuring a couple of dozen under 17s from Bangkok and surrounding areas of varying distance. It was organized by Terry Cheetham who has been involved in Thai squash coaching for a number of years. Peter Corney and Neil Evans also attempted to assist in varying degrees of uselessness.



Apparently, the young participants are some of Thailand's top juniors, but their exact origins are highly dubious despite extensive attempts at investigation from Squashy Bits' determined investigative reporter of Johnny English, who despite being highly capable, couldn't find a thing on these kids, sod all, not a sausage. Terry knew nothing, or did but wasn't saying, Peter said he'd never seen any of them before in his life and the only one Evans recognized was his son Ryan who reluctantly entered this competition on the promise of a new PlayStation from his dad!

Thus, we have to speculate: Cambodian orphans? North Korean child defectors? Children of Bangkok Hilton inmates? Peter and Neil's love children? Bangkok street kids? It seems we shall never know, but they all came along with some mums and dads (carers/minders/security guards) and the players received great support from those watching and their families. Many thanks!



Cambod squash orphans!



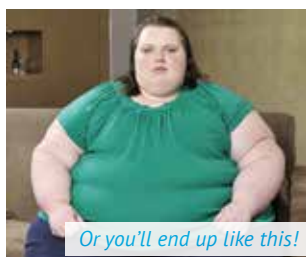
North Korean defectors!

Screen time can make a kid fat

- Children who spend more time watching television, playing video games, using computers, spend less time exercising, deposit fats in their bodies
- they do less movement and exercises
- these fats accumulate in the body and the child will become fat
- Obesity can result into diseases like heart failure, depression, diabetes, and these diseases can be expensive to treat.



The bribe!



Or you'll end up like this!



It appeared to be a great morning of squash and the winners were Sean Chearavanont in the Under 17 category, Shane Pangponich in the Under 15s, Donut won the Under 13 trophy and Nicky was the Under 11 winner. Donut and Nicky allegedly have no surnames as they have no parents!

Anyway, the matches were very competitive, played in a good spirit, and a splendid morning was had by all. The only blight on the day was the lack of participants from the Club. Only one member's child



Ryan Evans or Justin Bieber!

entered and that was the aforementioned Ryan Evans who is beginning to resemble Justin Bieber. Despite his father being the Squash Section Captain, Ryan participated under duress and only after being offered a bribe. As with many youngsters these days he prefers computer games although does get on the tennis court now and then. He lost his two matches and promptly stormed off

to spend the remainder of the day sulking. His dad, clearly sensing an aggressive attitude developing, wisely suggested he clam down with a few hours of Grand Theft Auto!



Such a calming influence!

It's a little disturbing to realize that so few youngsters at the Club are interested in playing squash. Many seem keen on tennis, yet despite squash being included in all the Club's summer sports camps, it appears to be of little interest to today's kids. Technology is to blame, in Bits' opinion, in the same way it is responsible for



Play squash!



the general global decline in sports and exercise participation among youngsters (and adults) along with the resulting weight gain an obesity epidemic! Too many fat, lazy people who'd rather stare at a computer screen and stuff their faces than run around. A very, very sad situation indeed. To be fair, Ryan Evans isn't overweight in any way although he seems to always have his nose a just few inches from his smart phone screen, and those youngsters who joined this Junior Squash Competition seemed full of running and loved the game so tons of credit to them. Very well done!



Many thanks also to Terry, Peter, Neil and the Club for their organization and hosting of this youngsters' tournament. We'll have to do this far more often when we get our new courts or in a few years when all us regular Squashies have snuffed it, they'll become redundant!

Now the Treachery

If you want to call it that. This is what happened and you can make your own mind up. We entered a team for the second round of the RBSC Polo Club Squash League. Four-man teams and Captain Evans asked BCB's best player, Haroon, if he'd join our team and he declined. Although H is our best player, he is also a member of a few other Bangkok squash clubs where he plays, trains, etc. Basically, H hardly ever plays at the BCB these days as we don't have any players good enough for him. Thus, from the contacts he's made among the BK squash community, he's found

TENNIS 2017 BC Championships

The 2017 Club Tennis Championships kicked off with the titans, minnows, and everyone in between donning their racquets, tutting at their draw, and starting the long road to Finals Day. Along the way, new stars were revealed like the emerging talents of Rhea and Zahra Poonevala, Eric Padgham and Alexandre Gluck. There were some fantastic battles before reaching the Finals: the mixed doubles Semi-final between team Bellingham and Raquel and Harold, and the quarter final men's singles match between Geoff Bellingham and Eric which was full of high quality tennis.

Finals Day was 25th March starting with the women's singles. Zhara Poonevala took the plate final against the spirited Katie Michel, and Mookie took the title from defending champion Rebecca Bellingham. In the women's doubles plate final, Sasaluck and Chalathip saw off Pin and Na. In the men's singles plate final Alexandre took care of Pattana whose legs might still be recovering from the workout they got! The first set of the men's championships final was a tight affair between Andrei Ivanov and perennial champion Pierre Sequier. Eventually Andrei blinked first and Pierre let loose to close out the match in two sets. For refreshments we were fortunate to have cool RC cola courtesy of Chalathip and beautiful fruit drinks and other snacks provided by Ann Jackson.

In the men's doubles, Pattana and Prasit had already secured the plate title and in the championship match Pierre and Frank Gluck proved just a bit too strong for Geoff Bellingham and Faheem. A quick change of shirt (and partner) and both Geoff and Pierre were back on court in the mixed doubles Final. Geoff and Rebecca put on an exhibition of textbook doubles to secure victory and deny Pierre a hat-trick! In the plate final, Sam and Katie McMahon downed Chris Watt and Nattaya in a tense three set thriller. The women's doubles Final pitted Mooki and Raquel against Nisa Young and Rebecca. It was a high quality match with Mooki and Raquel's superiority at the net proving decisive.

The prize giving was over a delicious Club buffet dinner. Many thanks to all participants this year, the spectators on final's day, the Club F&B staff who were super as always, Khun Amnat for his organisational skills throughout, and to all our generous sponsors.









HARD BALLS

Sarg dropped a sitter

The cricket section has been enjoying some respite over the past month or so along with the rest of Thailand and its soaring temperatures. The calm before the storm some might say; ahead of the league stuff kicking back off and some away action in Pattaya and Malaysia tour in the upcoming months. Mind you when I say quiet, read it as 'slightly less mental', the social coordinators managed to pull off a quality day out at a baseball batting cage, and members got together to celebrate Uncle Vaughan and Speddos birthdays before a few glasses of champagne at Patrick and Inna's wedding party. Good times.



Ben Eastwell



2 Specimens



Mr and Mrs Talal



Congrats to Pat and Inna



Day out at the baseball



Speddo & Vaughans bday bash



Night out in the sports bar

Pattaya Friendly Saturday 4th March

A wedding would not be complete without a stag weekend and what better excuse than a cricket weekender down in Pattaya and all its glory. Mossy's beach house was kindly offered up on Friday afternoon as a venue for food, pool, and some back lawn cricket which rendered all attendees completely useless for the friendly game in the morning. Pattaya CC managed to knock out an impressive 187, which was above par on their home ground. The groom didn't take any wickets on his trophy game but the fact he was still standing was a feat in itself, Ben (1-33) and Richard (1-17) were the only wicket takers, both assisted by a versatile Dale behind the stumps. The scorecard doesn't seem to have made it back along with all the other memories which were strictly left behind but I seem to remember we lost. The batting reply was lacklustre to say the least, but all was forgotten once the fines session started and the stag was informed that he would be wearing his entire cricket gear for the rest of the evening.



Breaking records V Aimas CC

Aimas CC BCLB Sunday 12th March

BC's third league game drew Aimas CC over at AIT. Sarg still covering for injured Rahul lost the toss and the lads were put into bat first. At the top of the order, Denzyl found some form and managed to conjure up a strong innings, the South African wonder scoring

Denzyls favourite game out the closet



Drink of the month

55 from 39 balls, keeping the run rate up at around 8 per over which was somewhat helped by the freebies from the opposition, who gave away a total equalling BC's half-centurion! A healthy partnership between H (30*) and Dilip (22*) which ran to the end of the match helped BC to manufacture a total surpassing 200 for the first time in a long time in this format.

The fielding reply was entered confidently in the knowledge that the opposition were looking at 209 to win, but they didn't waste any time in getting down to business and never let the run rate drop under 8 per over. Dilip (2-45) took a couple

of wickets but a little expensive in the face of Aimas' number 4 batsman who tanked 79 from only 29 balls, leaving BC fielders frustrated as all they could do was watch the ball sail over the rope. Aseem (1-37) and Sunish (1-28) picked up a wicket each in amongst the action before the opposition comfortably chased down the total within 20 overs. Sarg was the most economical bowler of the day (must be mentioned otherwise he will get ratty and talk for hours about the irrelevance of wickets in the short format of the game, anyone interested please contact me as there are early bird discounts available on his upcoming seminars).

KL Pangolin Friendly Saturday 25th March

The Malaysian boys were over again, looking to turn the tables on last year's result, bragging that this time they had only had 1 night on the town as opposed to them facing BC on the back end of their tour in the past. AIT played host to the 30 over friendly on what

was a scorcher of a day, and what better way to stay cool than kick off the game at 1pm!

Bowling first, Mossy (0-4, 2 overs) was summoned to open proceedings after some persuasion alongside seasoned opener Denzyl (0-13, 5 overs), who both kept a tight ship and limited Pangolin from getting off to a quick start. The boundaries were few and far between and the batsmen were really made to work for their runs facing the attack from 6 varying bowlers, Aseem (2-34, 5 overs) the pick of the bunch, and Dilip (1-27, 5 overs) who was assisted in his wicket by Ben covering some ground to take a miscued shot. Pangolin eventually ended up leaving 167 as the target to beat, on a pitch that the home side managed 200+ earlier in the month.

Ben (22) and Abbas (34) put on a slow and steady 40 partnership to build a solid foundation for the reply which made way for a short cameo from Mossy who scored a quick 23 from 15 balls. At the drinks break, word on the street was that the local team were booked to use the pitch at 17:30, meaning that the over rate needed to rapidly increase. Dale however, took things into his own hands – a ridiculous 50 from 24 balls alongside Patrick (23) playing a good supporting role helped moved the game on and Sarg was the man to hit the winning boundary in the 20th over – all round class performance from BC. See you next year boys.



Selfie



Bangkok Social



Who wears hats indoors

BCGS GOLFING NEWS

March 2017



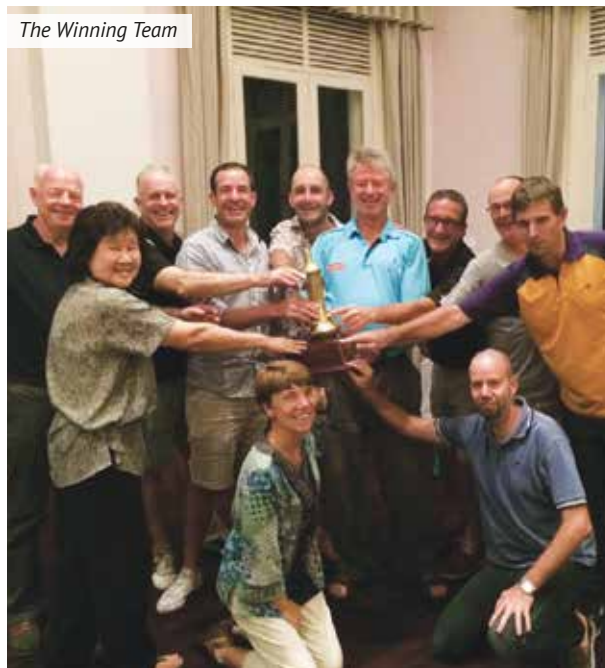
Match vs the Londoners

March kicked off with the annual match against the Londoners. The format was a 2 ball scramble matchplay at Royal. The British Club managed to hold its own with a convincing win of 7 to 2 to retain the Emirates Cup. The prize giving was held back at the British Club followed by a scrumptious roast buffet.

John and Dave – Best Winning Pair



The Winning Team



Loving that winning feeling



Frank trying to work out the scores



March Medal

We were back at Royal at the end of the month for the Medal. Terry Davies won Flight A and Dawa Sherpa Flight B.

Rule Changes Coming in 2019

As many of you may have heard the R and A and USGA are planning to bring in new rules on the 1st January 2019.

Here are 8 of the proposed changes which will make you smile:

1. No penalty for accidentally moving your ball on the green.
2. You can putt with the flagstick in the hole.
3. You can repair spike marks on the green.
4. No penalty for accidentally touching the ground in a bunker or in a hazard.
5. You have 3 minutes to look for a golf ball instead of 5.
6. You can continue to use a damaged club during the round even if you damage it in a fit of rage.
7. Rangefinders are fair game unless a local rule prohibits them.
8. You can take relief from any embedded lie except in a bunker.

Terry Davies – Flight A Winner



We will wait to hear the final outcome. In the meantime, happy golfing!

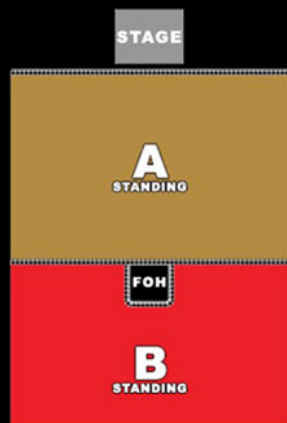
If you would like to join the golf society, we welcome players of all standards. We normally play on a Sunday and also have away weekends. For more information please contact us at bcs.bangkok@gmail.com

PITBULL

CLIMATE CHANGE TOUR

25 MAY 2017

IMPACT ARENA EXHIBITION HALLS 3-4, MUANG THONG THANI, BANGKOK



ZONE 
4,000 BAHT



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

PRICE INCLUDES COACH FROM THE CLUB TO THE VENUE AND BACK, POLICE ESCORT, & BOOKING FEE.
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