

OUTPOST

MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB

JUNE 1982



BLACK & WHITE PREMIUM-THE SCOTCH WHISKY APART.



The British Club



189 Suriwongse Road

Bangkok

Telephone: 234-0247, 234-2592

General Committee

| | <u>HOME</u> | <u>OFFICE</u> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Scott Younger (Chairman and House & Grounds) | 286 2541 | 234 7190 |
| Norman Musgrave (Vice-Chairman, Ladies' Liaison & Entertainment) | 391 4625 | 317 7001 |
| Roy Barrett (Hon Treasurer) | 314 5568 | 234 2080 |
| Anthony Bekenn (Finance) | | 233 9160 |
| Jeremy Davies (Poolside) | 251 3196 | 252 1762 |
| Ian Fleming (Food & Beverage) | 391 2665 | 395 1177 |
| Ian Hill (Publicity) | 252 4539 | 588 2421 |
| Geoff Percival (Personnel) | 314 2464 | 233 1843 |
| Norman Scott (Membership) | 251 2009 | 252 7161 |
| John Williams (Sport) | 252 7205 | 252 8927 |

| | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Bob P. Vlietstra (Advisor) | 234-0247 |
| | 234-2592 |

Members interested in the various Club activities listed should contact the Committee Member responsible.

Editorial

May was liberal with events at the B.C. with the Suriwongse Room filled to capacity on Club Night (reported in these pages) and the bar likewise for "Not the 9 O'clock News" and the live Cup Final. With support like this who can be less than pleased? (Yes - we know the accountants are never satisfied, so keep drinking!). Now we have the odd grumble from patrons turning up for a quiet pint and finding the place packed Mai pen rai, more strength to your elbows, lads!

Correspondence on Club matters, always welcome, presents views which all members should consider. So far, one side of the issue of the status of Ladies has been put forward. Is anyone prepared to send in a (printable) reply?

On the subject of Ladies Liaison, it has been unclear for some time as to with whom and how the liaison is arranged! The General Committee have now removed the anomaly by adding liaison with the Ladies to the list of duties of the Vice-Chairman.

We have this month a puzzle with a difference. Dog's Mead is not only a fascinating exercise in deduction, but is also charming as a view of bygone eras. The brains of the Club are hereby challenged - your Editor is offering pints!

On a serious note, we have in May and June recorded affairs concerning Members of a few years ago. It occurs to me that the present membership enjoys facilities which exist because of the forethought and unselfishness of our predecessors. When considering the sore subject of fees, subs, etc, we should bear in mind that it is our turn to think of future generations. Balancing the books is not quite enough.

Have a good rainy season!

Ian Hill, Editor

Membership Matters

NEW MEMBERS:

The following were elected to membership of the Club in May 1982:

Ordinary

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Mr. A.D. Cole | Thai Shell E & P |
| Mr. K.S. Fischer | C.I.M.M.Y.T. |
| Mr. S.T.G. Gale | Caltex Oil (T) Ltd. |
| Mr. T.N. O'Brien | Australian Embassy |
| Mr. P. Woodcock | Anglo Thai Corp. |
| Mr. N.M.T. Wrigley | Peat Marwick Mitchell Co. |

Non-Voting

| | |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| Mr. G.P. Berry | Maunsell Consultants Asia |
| Mr. B.S. Piper | ESCAP |

Ladies Privileges

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Ms. J.F. De Braekeleer | |
| Ms. A.I. Salling | |
| Ms. W.A. Tarrant | Australian Embassy |

Status of Membership

The current membership status is as follows:

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Ordinary | 373 |
| Non-Voting | 4 |
| Associate | 33 |
| Ladies Privileges | 35 |
| Up-Country | 20 |
| | <hr/> |
| TOTAL | 465 |
| Absent | 685 |
| Candidate | 45 |
| | <hr/> |
| GRAND TOTAL | 1190 |
| | ==== |

Weekly Club Events

| | | |
|-----------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| MONDAY | 7.30 p.m. | - Bridge |
| TUESDAY | 9.00 - 12.00 | - Ladies Squash |
| | 4.00 p.m. | - Swimming Training |
| WEDNESDAY | 7.00 p.m. | - Chess |
| THURSDAY | 4.00 p.m. | - Swimming Training |
| SATURDAY | 12 noon - 2.00 p.m. | - Buffet Lunch, Dining Room |
| SUNDAY | 12 noon - 2.00 p.m. | - Buffet Lunch, Poolside |
| | 6.00 - 10.00 p.m. | - Buffet Supper, Dining Room |

The following are available at the Reception Desk:

| | |
|----------------|--------|
| Club Ties | ฿ 80.- |
| Car Badges | ฿150.- |
| Key Rings | ฿ 20.- |
| Billiard Coins | ฿ 8.- |

Submissions for inclusion in the July issue should reach the Club by 21st June.

Compiled and edited by:

Ian Hill - Editor

Duncan Niven, Gordon Burles, Brian Brook.

BonVivant

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The Royal Society of St. George

ST. GEORGE'S DAY BALL

24TH APRIL, 1982

The Annual Ball, held at the Oriental Hotel on 24th April, was once again a roaring success. Elegance was the key-note of this most fashionable of occasions and guests in all their finery were enthralled with the outstanding transformation which had occurred in a large part of the Hotel. Threading their way through and round (and round and round in some cases) a traditional May pole, skirting the ferocious looking 25ft (excluding tail) dragon, and being presented with a red rose, guests finally arrived at the Port-cullis. Here they were greeted by the official Town Crier ringing his traditional bell (which sounded as if it were as old as St. George himself) who announced their arrival to Society President Brian Sewell and his wife Joan.

Proceedings proper started promptly at 8.15 with the traditional Baron of Beef ceremony. Town Crier Frost, in full regalia, led temporary-chef Davidson and an official (looking) party through the flag-bedecked Ballroom to present to President Sewell the Baron of Beef. Taking a risk and a slice, the President, having been briefed that the beef had not come from you know where, pronounced it almost certainly fit for human consumption -- or words to that effect -- and invited the official (looking) party to partake with him a mug of ale. The party, waiting for no second invitation, accepted with notable speed, alacrity and enthusiasm.

This accomplished, the dinner began with imported Dragon tail soup. This was followed by Beef Wellington, English Trifle, and finished off with succulent English cheeses specially flown to Thailand by British Airways.

The President proposed the loyal toasts.

After dinner the President rose and welcomed the Guest of Honour, the British Ambassador, and official guests who included the tribal chiefs of St. Andrews, St. Patricks, St. David's Societies and the President of the New Zealand Society. Messages from other St. George's Societies were read out, including one from the Sons of St. George, in Philadelphia, which latter society pre-dates the Royal Society of St. George itself. The President, noting the solidarity of the Society not only in Thailand but in many other countries outside England, proposed the traditional toast to St. George.

The President then called upon the Guest of Honour, His Excellency the British Ambassador, Mr. Justin Staples, to address the gathering. Mr. Staples reminded members and their guests that he was the British Ambassador and not just the English Ambassador but, as a palliative to some, he claimed blood ties with, inter alia, England, Scotland, Ireland and What Haveyous. A number of What Haveyous were clearly surprised but nonetheless delighted at this assertion because, until that moment, the Waht Haveyous (a proud and widely-spread group of peoples) had not appreciated that they shared such eminent connections. Having made reference to certain political problems facing Her Majesty's Government at that particular moment, His Excellency drew the audience's attention to the many merits of the Royal Society of St. George. There was, however, he said, now some "doubt" as to St. George's ancestry -- a comment which drew gasps of incredulity from one table comprising 3 Englishmen and three What Haveyous who had always assumed that St. George (then plain Mr.) was born in Cappadocia in the Third Century and had come to Britain as a soldier under the Emperor Doicletian - and that, refusing to continue persecuting Christians, which was tiring work, George, by then a 2nd Lieutenant, had resigned his commission and was promptly martyred on 23rd April AD 303. Which was very unfair. Ancestral doubts notwithstanding, the Society was graciously toasted by Mr. Staples.

After a pleasant spell of dancing to the strains (if that is the right word) of Vic Luna, M.C. Walter Coleshill appeared, somewhat deus ex machina, from up a ladder (where he had inconspicuously been fixing a recalcitrant flag) to announce the cabaret. "Ladies and Gentlemen", said M.C. Coleshill, "the cabaret". This fine speech was warmly applauded, and the M.C. returned aloft.

The cabaret, consisting of a few Englishmen and a couple of What Haveyous, had -- it is rumoured -- been rehearsing for many weeks following country-wide auditions held, with military efficiency, by ex Royal Military Police Officer Norman Musgrave. Cabaret director Graham Millington, having found himself saddled, on return from leave, with an entrenched group of enthusiastic artistes (consisting of Messrs. Musgrave, Hopkins, Davidson, Heath, Baldwin and Evans) had made a sterling job of encouraging the troupe to sing together and in tune. Compere Millington set the scene and then, accompanied by virtuoso pianist Richard Hopkins -- a What Haveyou whose ear for music happily transcended his quaint attempt at the English language - the Group produced a fine rendering, if not rending, of "The Stately Homes of England". This was followed by a powerful, informative and thought-provoking political speech by John Davidson, M.P. (failed). Then came a

/Continued

BRITONS

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delightful ballad "Brush up your Shakespeare" which was followed by the Two Brians (Heath and Baldwin) giving an entertaining news round-up. Next came Graham Millington with a most professional (if that is the right word) sermon. (Such was the apparent authenticity of this part of the programme that one of the clerics sitting at the Head Table declared "we shall be charging royalties on this"). John Davidson and Brian Baldwin then brought the audience up with the news and the Group followed this with a stirring finale "The English are Best", interspersed with patriotic verses, taken (almost) directly from "Evita", which invited Argentina to reassess its position - or words to that effect (See page 12).

At the request of a few What Haveyous, these verses are re-printed below. Curiously enough, the B.B.C. has not asked for a copy of the verses, preferring the simple lyrics of "Onward Argentina" and "Hail the Blue and White Flag".

Another highlight of the evening was the Grand Draw - the prize being two tickets, London to European destination, - presented by John Williams of British Airways. A near stampede broke out when that all-time winner of Bangkok draws, stood up apparently to claim the prestigious prize. Seconds before being lynched, Pravit managed to gasp that it was "all a big mistake" -- but not before John Williams acting with aplomb and a generous disposition, had offered yet another pair of tickets.

Calm having descended on the gathering, Vic Luna felt it safe to return to the scene and dancing to melodies of yesteryear, and pre-yesteryear, ensued until well past three in the morning.

A most successful Ball thanks to the tireless efforts of members of the Council and Norman Musgrave's Committee.

AFTER THE BALL WAS OVER.....!

On the 25th April when all were revelling in the morning after the night before, two items came to light -- one lost, one found:

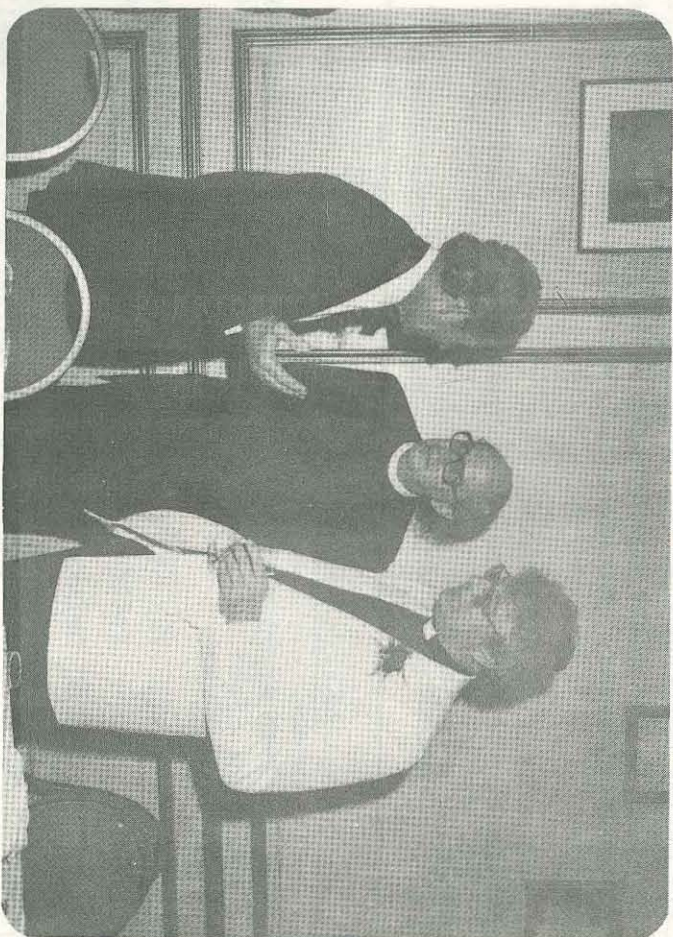
Lost: The St. George's Society's white rattan rose trolley.

Found: Drinks ice-box, orange, one.

Would anyone who can help these items return to their rightful place (or swap?) please contact Mr. Brian Sewell.



SPOT THE VENTRILOQUIST'S DUMMY



"O.K.I O.K.I, WE WILL SAY TWO GRACE'S"



THE PRESIDENT, MR. BRIAN SEWELL AND MRS. SEWELL WITH THE TOWN CRIER
AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ST. ANDREW'S AND ST. DAVID'S SOCIETIES

ST. GEORGE'S DAY SPECIAL SONG

The verses printed below, from the refrain of "Don't Cry for Me, Argentina", are as they were sung on the evening of the St. George's Day Ball. They were selected from a number of alternatives, some of which found difficulty with the Censor.

Don't try your luck, Argentina
Our Navy is all around you
Our men are sailing
Into your waters -
Lock up your daughters
In Argentina.

Don't write us off, Argentina
Beware the Royal Navy
With good Prince Andrew
Who's going to hand you
A ticket back to
Your Argentina.

Time's running out, Argentina
The Truth is we're going to get yer
For Mrs. Thatcher
Is going to catch yer
And then dispatch yer
To Argentina.

Get off our land, Argentina
The Truth is we do not love you
You weren't invited
And we feel slighted
Go back you fairies
To Buenos Aires.

Don't hang around Argentina
It's time to say Kop Khun Mak Khrap
For your vacation
Which now is ending
Just take your horse, khrap
To Argentina.

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| KL 806 | Thursday | 21.25 |
| KL 804 | Friday | 22.55 |
| KL 864 | Saturday | 23.55 |
| KL 836 | Sunday | 22.20 |



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Letters

Charoon Court
Soi 10, Phaholyothin
Bangkok.

The Editor,
Outpost
The British Club.

14th May 1982

Dear Sir,

Thumbs up to Mr. Roger Helmer, Ordinary Member No. H34, for sticking his neck out for a feminist cause. I normally need no invitation to write letters but I do believe that Mr. Helmer's courage requires rewarding.

During approximately six years as part of the minority group entitled "Ladies Privileges", used as if it were a noun, very few of the so-called "stronger sex" have ventured into the arena on our behalf.

During this period I have used and enjoyed the facilities of the British Club to the utmost -- regularly, purposefully and properly -- the sports facilities, the dining room, the bar -- the entertainment, and also regularly paid my monthly account. Throughout this time I have nevertheless remained coldly indifferent to the fame and fortune of the Club as a whole; this as a result of the cavalier manner in which I, as part of the Ladies Privilege group, am treated. In my view no Club offering such limited membership participation and with such reactionary policies deserves more than "use", though far from abuse, of its facilities.

A more progressive outlook in membership matters on the part of the Club would have seen me working with the men, if required, as one of the team to improve the facilities and management of the Club for the benefit of all members.

Amazons in the bar indeed! One certainly needs to be an Iron Lady to cut through the chilly, nay, icy hostility encountered when one dares to enter, be it only to seek a corner to sup a glass while studying committee documents of more enlightened Bangkok Clubs. Other means utilized in an endeavour to cut the Amazon down to size are to study her from toes upwards to the top of her head, the response to which is to return it in like manner working in the opposite direction. If this were not enough the message is then conveyed in loud and oft times drunken tones designed to cut through one's air of relative ease.

Keep it up and you'll keep the hoards away!

Tradition -- what do they fear, those honourable gentlemen members so well depicted on page 16 of the May issue of Outpost?

I would mention that I have met this singularly unattractive attitude of the British male also at the squash courts where I was told that "I had all day to play instead of blocking the courts in the evening" and that if I wasn't married and had therefore to work to support myself, then I ought to be married. The gentleman in question dwindled in my eyes until I visualized him wearing a far more antiquated costume than the venerable souls in the same cartoon on page 16.

I draw the line however at obtaining the franchise by chaining myself to the railings of the British Club in the tropical heat since in any event as is well known only "mad dogs and English men go out in the mid-day sun".

Now, in sober and very serious vein, and also of course with the hope of having this published, I fully support Mr. Helmer's ideas and am ready at any time to pay full entrance fees and subscription and contribute to the running, as well as the healthier atmosphere of the British Club for the sake of the present and future generations.

Yours truly,

G. Douglas (LP20)

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

The guide-lines to Members regarding recommendations for Associate Membership of the British Club have been revised by the General Committee and are available to Members on request to the Club Advisor.

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airways

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British Airways Club. It's in a class of its own.

We'll take more care of you.

BAR ~ VIDEO

WEDNESDAY JUNE 16th at 7.30 p.m. is the timing for our next BAR-VIDEO presentation which is --

THE COMEDIANS

Last Christmas, Michael Parkinson got together some of the best-known comedians ever to grace a chat show. It turned out to be an hilarious evening as **JOHN CLEESE, ROWAN ATKINSON, KEN DODD, JIMMY TARBUCK, BOB HOPE** and many more all but caused a riot!

Fortunately, we've managed to get hold of a recording of the programme and can guarantee yet another laughter packed session down at the BC!!

Come early -- don't miss it. A special TV snack will be available for those who can eat and laugh at the same time!!!

AND DON'T MISS THE SQUASH DISCO - 19TH JUNE - SEE PAGE 49.

Club Night

Speaker: Alan Dawson

The Suriwongse Room was full to capacity on the May 11th Club Night when Members were entertained by a podium-less, seventh generation Empire Loyalist who captioned his talk "Capitalism and its potential in Vietnam". The talk kept the audience both amused and informed whilst aspiring tourists listened, wallet-bound, to the vaguaries of the application of Leninist Communism.

A shudder of disbelief reverberated throughout the Suriwongse Room at the revelation confirming that with the introduction of Government sponsored Capitalism, Vietnam is amply stocked with people who's nineteenth-century Armenian rug merchant mentality (complete with double standards) ensures that they are capable of organising "rip-offs" greater than those that farangs suffer at the hands of certain local tourist attractions around Bangkok.

Travelling gourmet's were dismayed when Alan, with reference to the state of the culinary arts likely to be encountered by the intrepid venturer, was only prepared to say that the service was below the standard of the cooking.

The theme of Government run Capitalism was further illustrated with stories of a certain Embassy's shopping expeditions and also by reference to ceramic elephants, or BUFE's as they are affectionately known. These splendid beasts (Big Ugly Friendly Elephants) are available to the traveller at super inflated prices and with a modicum of intuition can be used to adorn the house in a variety of ways.

The more serious side of Alan's talk left the impression that the Vietnamese, a nation of comparable size to Thailand, would remain basically independent and follow its own destiny, in spite of a massive influx of Soviet aid. It appears that passive resistance is the Vietnamese retaliation to particular excesses of the administration. In response to a questioner, Alan suggested that the Vietnamese had a healthy respect for Thailand and its cultural heritage. He further suggested that a Vietnamese invasion of Thailand was unlikely.

One anecdote, which caused considerable amusement, concerned three Party officials who were travelling in a light aircraft over the Vietnamese countryside. One official suggested that by throwing a 1000 dong banknote out of the plane he might well make one peasant very happy. A second official suggested

that by throwing two 500 dong notes he might influence two peasants' happiness. The third official thought he would bring most happiness by throwing ten 100 dong bills. At the height of the ensuing heated discussion, the pilot turned round to inform his passengers that if he were to throw all three of them out of the plane he undoubtedly would bring happiness to 40 million peasants.

On behalf of members present, our Chairman thanked Alan for his talk and for fielding the questions. The entertaining mixture of fact and anecdote provided another glimpse into today's Vietnam and ensured the success of another Club Night.

A Distinguished Visitor



ON 4TH MAY, MR. CHARLES MABBATT, CBE (CENTRE) WAS WELCOMED BACK TO THE CLUB AFTER SOME YEARS' ABSENCE. MR. MABBATT WAS CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEARS 1946-1962. WE HOPE HE WILL VISIT MORE OFTEN.

Beans a la King

Mrs. Gillian King has kindly agreed to join the Catering Sub-Committee and has already delved into her extensive recipe book to produce a tasty economically fried dish of local beans in a tomato and bacon sauce.

This will shortly be launched as a weekend special at the poolside in the form of beans on toast. Later it will be included in a new junior poolside menu which is presently in preparation.

If you, or your children, have a hankering after a good feed of beans but don't fancy paying the price for expensive imported beans, try "beans a la king" (at the poolside only); they are delicious!

Forthcoming Films

| | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|
| June 28th | - PSYCHO |
| July 26th | - ANNE OF 1000 DAYS |
| Aug. 30th | - FAHRENHEIT 451 |
| Sep. 27th | - THE ITALIAN JOB |
| Oct. 25th | - LOVE WITH A PROPER STRANGER |
| Nov. 29th | - PLAZA SUITE |
| Dec. 27th | - SPARTACUS |

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Puzzle

DOG'S MEAD -- A PUZZLE IN LOGIC

This famous and quite fascinating puzzle first appeared some years ago (but less than 100!). In some versions the date is given but it can be derived so to challenge the super-intelligent we have not given the date here! For those who want a little help, a treasure hunt through the pages of this issue of "Outpost" could be rewarding.

The puzzle is about Little Piggly Farm and the Dunk family who have held it for quite a while. Dog's Mead is one of the fields, rare in the English landscape for being rectangular.

You will need to know the following - older Members were taught them at school; youngsters can delight themselves with the flavour of ancient units.

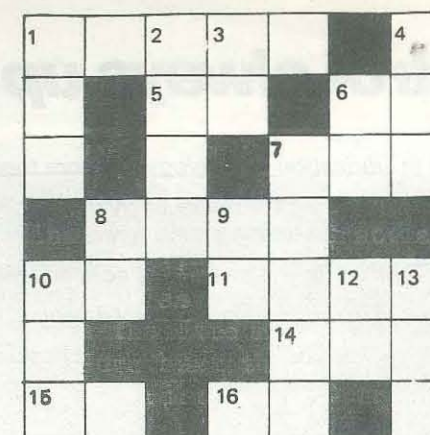
1. There are 20 English shillings to the Pound.
2. One acre contains 4840 square yards.
3. One mile is 1760 yards.
4. A rood is a quarter of an acre.

One more hint: one of the numbers across is the same as one of the numbers down!

Par for the course? Well, an hour or two of concentration could be enough for near geniuses, but for healthy clean-living normal people at the BC poolside or bar I would recommend allowing for plenty of your favourite liquid stimulation and a couple of packs of your favourite brand!

There is a prize for adults and another for under -18's to be awarded to the first persons in each category to find the age of Mrs. Grooby, Farmer Dunk's mother-in-law. Solution, next month.

Address solutions to the Editor, "Outpost", The British Club, who will probably be so surprised that he will buy a drink for every correct answer received!



ACROSS:

- 1 Area of Dogs Mead in square yards.
- 5 Age of farmer Dunk's daughter Martha.
- 6 The difference between the length and breadth of Dogs Mead in yards.
- 7 Number of roods in Dogs Mead times 9 down.
- 8 The year when Little Piggly came into occupation by the Dunk family.
- 10 Farmer Dunk's age.
- 11 The year farmer Dunk's youngest child, Mary was born.
- 14 Perimeter of Dogs Mead in yards.
- 15 The cube of farmer Dunk's walking speed in miles per hour.
- 16 Number 15 across minus number 9 down.

DOWN:

- 1 The value of Dogs Mead in Shillings per acre.
- 2 The square of Mrs. Grooby's age.
- 3 The age of Mary.
- 4 The value of Dogs Mead in pounds Sterling.
- 6 The age of farmer Dunk's first born, Ted, who will be twice as old as Mary next year.
- 7 The square of the breadth of Dogs Mead in yards.
- 8 The number of minutes farmer Dunk needs to walk one and one third times round Dogs Mead.
- 9 See number 10 down.
- 10 Ten across times number 9 down.
- 12 One more than the sum of the digits in the second column.
- 13 Length of tenure in years of Little Piggly by the Dunk family.

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Farewell



ROY AND JANE REGAN

IN THE FOUR YEARS THEY HAVE BEEN IN THAILAND, ROY AND JANE AND THEIR CHILDREN ROBERT AND KATIE HAVE MADE MANY FRIENDS AND HAVE ENTERED WHOLE-HEARTEDLY INTO LIFE IN THAILAND AND THE ACTIVITIES IN THE BRITISH CLUB. ROY'S CONTRIBUTION TO "OUTPOST" WAS OUTSTANDING AND HIS PROWESS AT DARTS WELL DOCUMENTED, BUT THEY WILL ALL BE REMEMBERED FOR THEIR FRIENDLINESS AND CHARM.

GOOD LUCK ROY AND FAMILY! WE HOPE YOU RETURN SOME DAY!

New Records...by Camus



SCHUBERT'S SONG CYCLE

HARKEN to the tale of a young apprentice who falls in love with the blonde daughter of a miller, only to see his love taken from him by a rival. In despair he drowns himself in the waters of the brook which has been his friend and confident.

The story is, of course, that of 'Die Schone Mullerin' (The Fair Maid of the Mill), the poem of Wilhelm Muller having been set to music by Schubert, and while mostly sung in the German tongue, this month NIMBUS records have given us a version sung in English by Shure Gehrman, bass, with Nina Walker at the piano (Nimbus 2135, 4.85).

After the success of 'Winterreise', which Mr. Gehrman recorded in both German and English, we expected a sensitive but highly-illustrative performance of the Schubert 'Schone Mullerin', and we are not disappointed. The twenty items of the song cycle with their acutely-varying moods are sung with great imagination, the singer contrasting the lyrical songs, like the beautiful 'Der Neugierige' (Inquisitive) with the dramatic 'Die bose Farbe' (the hateful colour), and while some prefer the songs in their native tongue, this version will be acceptable to many listeners who prefer the text in English, more especially when the texts of both are supplied with the record.

In 'Whither' (Wohin), the young miller's apprentice meets the brook which becomes his friend and leads him to the fair maid of the mill: he passionately declares his love to her during 'Impatience' (Ungeduld), one of the most popular songs of the cycle, and 'The Huntsman' (Der Jager) depicts his fierce resentment of the uncouth rival as the brook flows stormily reflecting love's infidelity. In the end the brook consoles him with a lullaby as he seeks peace in its waters. The brook is a very important 'character' in the story, and you will observe how its music, bubbling, chattering, agitated, becalmed, reflective, forms a continuous background in the piano part so sensitively played by Nina Walker.

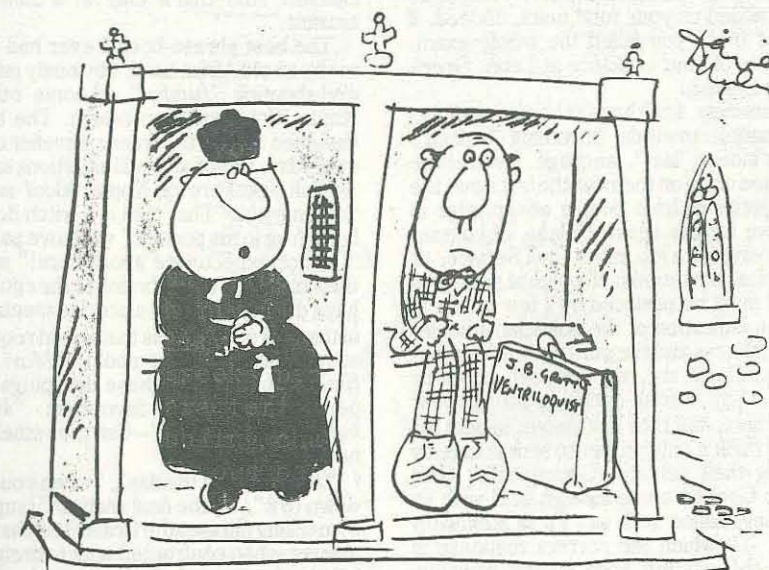
You will fall in love with this story -- and with Schubert's music.

CHOPIN's studies for the piano (Etudes, Op. 10 and 25: Nimbus 2133, 4.85) are considered by many to be the last word in pianistic technique, combining brilliance of execution with refinement and poetry in equal degree. Choose your own favourites from this recital by Ronald Smith, whose playing will undoubtedly afford you enormous pleasure. You may prefer the studies which call for technical expertise - the G flat major No. 5 (famous 'black key' study), where the right hand touches only one white note; the C major No. 1, a study in arpeggios; the thrilling No. 4 in C sharp minor where the theme is played alternately by the two hands; the F major No. 8, with those widespread arpeggio embellishments.

But if you are of a romantic nature, or a sentimentalist, you will like the E. major etude which is nowadays incorporated in the ballet 'Les Sylphides', and the singing tune of the 'Aeolian Harp' A flat Op. 25, the melody appearing above a haze of gently melting harmonies. There is poetry in abundance to be found in many of the studies, the informative sleeve note describing each briefly but appropriately.

Read the notes before playing the record. In any case you'll like Ronald Smith as a pianist. Cultivate him -- Chopin.

** ** *



"Ten Hail Mary's while drinking a jug of water."

FAULTY-LINGUAL

TERRY WOGAN tackles the language barrier

I had one of those educations that passed airily over anything that might have been the slightest practical use to me in later life and concentrated heavily on equipping me to dissect dead languages, and parse and decline live ones. I'm sure it didn't do me and my fellow students at the Dublin College for the Sons of Distressed Gentlefolk any real harm – but the benefits aren't all that easy to discern either. It's all very well to greet the milkman with a cheery Latin tag such as "*Ars Gratia Artis!*" – to which he usually responds breezily, "*Sic transit Gloria Swanson!*" but when you've said that, you've said virtually everything and the conversation tends to flag. There doesn't appear to be any great call for Greek, either, even in the "tavernas" with which London abounds. Nothing in my education prepared me for the rigours of ordering stuffed vine-leaves or fish pâté, nor, if it comes to that, the correct response on being hit on the back of the neck by a flying plate, which is such a feature of these ebullient establishments.

The national language, Irish (Gaelic or Erse to you, gentle reader) was, and remains, a prominent feature of education in Ireland. With the object of making it the "first" language of the land, it was battered into us from an early age. If you did all your state exams through Irish (including Latin and Greek), you got 10 per cent added to your total mark. Indeed, if you failed Irish, you failed the whole exam, irrespective of your brilliance at Latin, Greek or Middle English!

Unfortunately, Irish hasn't shown the slightest inclination towards becoming Ireland's "first", or indeed "last", language. Even as the school gates clang on them for the last time, the great majority of Irish people never utter in their native tongue again. Unless, of course, they're trying for a job in the Civil Service, or have political aspirations: all political speeches in Ireland must be prefaced by a few words in Irish as an indication of the politician's unblemished Irishness and the purity of his Republican roots. There are, we are told, knots or enclaves of native Irish-speaking people west of the Shannon, but they have never sought me out, and I think it only proper to reciprocate by respecting their privacy. Occasionally, Gael will greet Gael on some foreign field with an ancient view-halloo such as "*Tá sé mahogany gas-pipe!*" To which the correct response is "*Póg mo thóin!*", but such arcane badinage need not detain us here and translation would be superfluous, not to say dangerous...

But what, I hear you moan, of the live ones? What of the French and German so relentlessly knocked into your thick skull by generations of jaded teachers? What indeed? Is there anything more squelching to the fresh-faced young scholar, his baccalaureate clasped proudly to his bosom, than the discovery that after 10 years of French classes and innumerable exams, *nobody* on the other side of La Manche has the slightest idea what he is talking about – worse still, *he* hasn't the vaguest notion what *they're* on about. What price the endless conjugations, declensions, irregular verbs? So much for the *phrases utiles*: "*Avez-vous de jupes-culottes?*" (Have you any camiknickers?) No call, apparently, for postillions struck by lightning, or pens of one's aunt on gardeners' tables. That invaluable tome, *French Pronunciation Simplified* (Toto: Good day, my uncle! I to you wish a good and happy year. Mamma to me has said that if to me you give a sovereign, I am to take well care to not it lose...) is not worth a sou, *mon brave*...

It's not the British, of course, it's the foreigners. Know perfectly well what you mean, but feign indifference – shrug their bally shoulders, raise their benighted eyebrows and gabble away too quickly for *anyone* to understand. Even when you, a Britisher, actually make an attempt to speak in their ridiculous language, they *pretend* they don't understand...

Phrase books are not a blind bit of use for coping with the recalcitrant foreigner. By the time you've prised the thing from your hold-all, found the relevant phrase and tossed it cautiously into the air, the moment has passed and the waiter's back at the bar, chatting up the cashier. And that's only in a London restaurant...

The best phrase-book I ever had was sent me by an old Africa hand, obviously inflamed by my shouting "*Jumbo!*" or some other fiery Kunta Kinte type expression. The book was designed to help the weary traveller cope with everyday, run-of-the-mill situations among the Swahili speakers of Kopje, kloof and veldt. Starting with "That man is a witch doctor. He has a frog in his pocket," we move pacily on to "Do not expectorate about here!" and "Split the skull and give the brains to the cook." If you have difficulty getting a precise mental picture of the kind of situations that would require such easy badinage, what about: "*Mari haya ya lini?*" (How old are these droppings?) or my personal, all-time favourite: "*Watapala kutiona kutoka lapa?*" – Can they smell us from here?...

"At the end of the day", "when you get right down to it", "in the final analysis" (supply your own telling phrase) the British feel that the only answer when confronted with a foreigner is to speak clearly and distinctly and, if he still doesn't get the message, very loudly.



LADIES' LIAISON GROUP

Saturday morning activities

The next programme of Saturday morning activities for children will be on Saturday June 5th at 9.30 a.m. It will be the last Saturday programme until September, and the activities offered will include Drama, Sewing, Football, Board Games and Creche. There will also be a film or video. Stamp-collectors are welcome to bring their "swaps".

If anyone has any toys or board games they are willing to donate to us we would be very grateful.

Summer Activities

We are hoping to run a once-a-week activity such as Handicrafts or Painting for the children during late July and August – probably on Wednesday mornings, and would be delighted to hear from volunteers, as we do need helpers in order to make a success of the venture. If you would like to help, please contact:

Caroline Sigrist 251-9376

or

Veronica Helmer 391-6000



"I have it in writing—the next rainy day."

This little snippet came into our hands and makes a change from the usual rather lurid notices one sees in offices... Read on it's sound advice!

The Ritual of the Teacups

The Company has invested heavily in half a dozen charming cups and saucers having a floral design in two shades of blue (manufactured by Oriental Ceramics) together with two stainless steel sugar containers and six teaspoons. While these items are fairly resistant to the effects of time it is a well established fact that unlike filing cabinets, teacups improve with use. Also, their use inspires mellowness of temper, a feeling of well-being and an agreeable attitude towards mankind. This is quite the opposite of the filing cabinet.

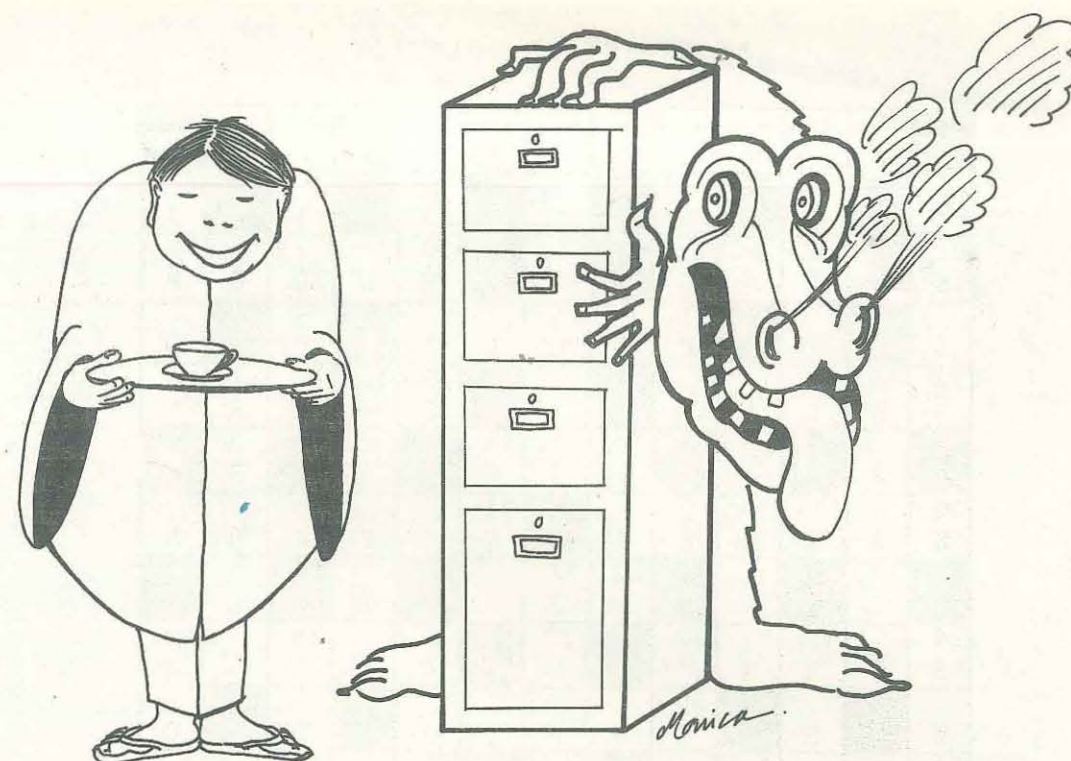
It is therefore recommended that those intrepid enough to approach the filing cabinet do not forget the ritual of using the above items which are placed on top of the filing cabinet for ready access. The ritual should be carried out before turning the key of the lock so that the Beneficial Spirit that lurks within has time to drive away the Evil Dragon of urgency and arrange for some pleasant diversion to occur which eliminates entirely the need to open the filing cabinet at all.

In the event that the cabinet has been opened, the ritual of the teacups can be used again to revive the spirits of those unfortunates who have gazed upon the contents. During this ritual they should consider the follies of mankind, particularly the folly of curiosity.

If they gain wisdom, may they be spared the fate of ever having to open the filing cabinet again.

The uninitiated should be aware that any deliberate act of despoilation or misuse of the contents of the filing cabinet will cause the Spirit to enlist the aid of the Dragon who will pursue the offender with fire and terrible noises. No amount of tea-drinking (or any other kind of drinking) will prevent the Dragon from consuming the offender's vitals from within. Slowly. This can be avoided by approaching the filing cabinet with due respect and by observance of the ritual of the teacups.

** ** *



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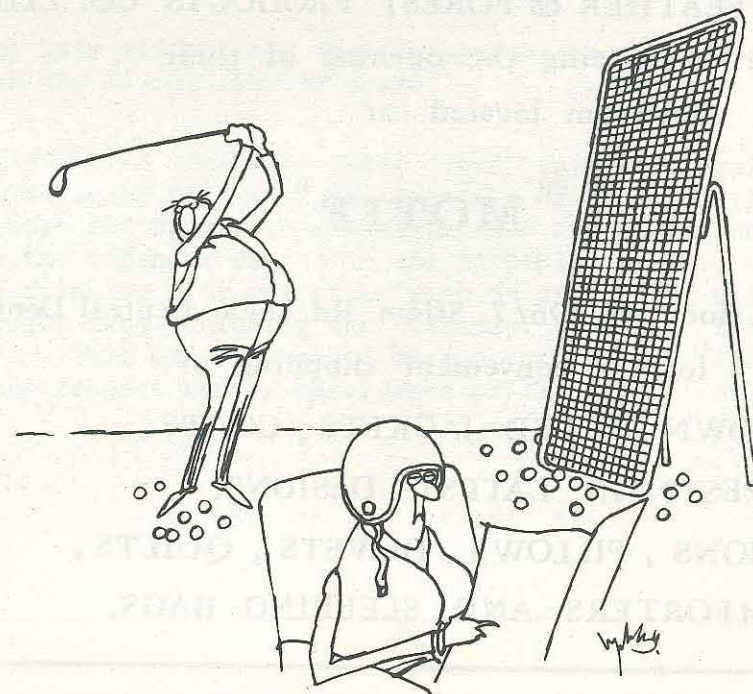
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BILLIARDS

Competitions are progressing steadily, the main activity during May being the snooker doubles competition for our grand new piece of silverware, the Leslie Collings Memorial Trophy (reported below). For doubles competitions our tournament organisers have instituted a system which is felt gives more incentive to players of less than top-match talent. Based on recent form, players are listed as category 'A' category 'B', and for doubles, it has been requested that 'A' category players team up with a 'B' category player. The big guns know who they are and can be easily identified -- they have been consistent winners or runners-up in competitions they have entered!

Leslie Collings Memorial Trophy

There were sixteen entrants for this doubles competition which got off to a good start and was keenly followed to the final on 24th May. Charles Stewart sportingly left the Club bar to fill a vacancy due to illness and, paired with Phil Murray (the old campaigner) disposed of Tony Dickinson and Ian Hill 39-43, 45-32, and 46-36. Ian McLean and David Guy beat Richard Mooney and Duke S. 81-10, 45-54, 53-12, and Stewart and Murray 72-19 and 66-36 to reach the final in confident style.

In the other half of the draw, Ernie Ure and Tony Bekenn beat Ian Ward-McNally and Roy Barrett in a closely contested 19-54, 52-23, 34-27 game while Tom Watson and Nick Nichols beat Tom Moran and Hans Daniels 65-25, 23-49 and 68-38. The semi-final saw Watson and Nichol take the first frame 66-6 and Ure and Bekenn reply in the second 67-25 with no complaints about the quality of the beer. The decider was equally extraordinary, going to Ure and Bekenn 29-23, as near to the lowest possible aggregate as any players wish to get!

On the Monday evening, the contenders for the Final broke for the first frame at about 7.30, watched by a small but select audience. Ure and Bekenn were unable to find their form in the first frame while McLean and Guy played steadily to run out 53-9. In the second frame Ure and Bekenn began to sink colours and ruffle their opponents with careful positioning and good snookers. With McLean and Guy in the lead, Bekenn got the yellow, McLean replied with the green and brown, but Ure stepped up and potted the blue and pink - both difficult shots - to make it a black ball game, and Bekenn polished off the black for a 56-52 frame to level.

In the third frame Ure and Bekenn settled to steady and careful play, potting well and leaving little up. McLean and Guy had a run of errors leaving easy pots, but kept in touch and eroded the lead with colours and snookers. They had chances to overtake in an exciting finish, but Ure made no mistake with the elephant pole when the pink was presented to him over a top pocket. Third frame to Ure and Bekenn 42-30. The fourth frame went to McLean and Guy, building on an early 21 break by McLean, both players taking reds and colours with confidence. Bekenn and Ure came in for their share of errors in this frame and went down 25-42.

In the deciding fifth frame, McLean was first away with a break of 16 and his partner backed up with careful positioning, adding to their score as opportunities arose. Ure and Bekenn missed two chances to pot the black and these errors allowed McLean and Guy to get well ahead. Ure and Bekenn fought back bravely and with only colours left, Ure sank the blue in an attempt to equalise. The pink failed to fall for him and this proved to be the decisive error when Guy polished off the pink and black to take the frame 62-36.

So in the first 5-frame match the Club has seen for some years, the Trophy went to Ian McLean and David Guy. Those who remember Leslie Collings will know that he would have applauded the play and the sportsmanship that ran through this competition. Congratulations to the winners and the runners-up!

It was regretted that Mr. Collings' son was unable to come to Bangkok to present his splendid cup to the winners, but presented it was, accompanied by well-earned applause in the Club bar (remarkably populated!) at 11:30.

Ladder

There has been some activity on the Ladder, but not enough to displace names of infrequent players!

There are 28 positions on the ladder and increasing competition to get on, so those who succeed should challenge and work their way up to get clear of the vulnerable bottom five. And let's gun for the seldom-seen players at the top! David, Jeremy, Arthur (et al) -- your days are numbered! Unless you win, of course!

Mabbatt Cup (Snooker singles)

The first round and some of the second round matches have been played. Ron Armstrong is leading the field at time of writing: other semi-final slots will be filled by winners of Tom Moran v. Phil Murray, Tony Dickinson v. Tom Watson and Ian McLean v. Nick Nichols. No hurry yet, but don't miss the deadlines!

Fothergill Cup



WINNERS IAN MCLEAN AND TOM WATSON (CENTRE AND LEFT CENTRE) RECEIVE THE TROPHY FOR VOLUNTEER WITH RUNNERS-UP ERNIE URE (LEFT) AND TONY BEKENN (RIGHT) PLEASED WITH THE GAME, IF NOT THE RESULT!



BRIDGE

Bridge continues to remain popular on Monday nights with 16-20 people regularly turning up. The standard of play ranges from the "not too bad" to "reasonably good" and we are sure that most other players in the Club would find themselves in this category. We could still do with more players - either couples or singles as there are always one or two single players looking for partners.

On Monday 17th May we had our first Duplicate Bridge Session of the year and twenty players turned up for an enjoyable and keenly contested evening. On the first count, at the end of the evening, it looked as if Norman Scott who donated the first prize (thanks, Norm!) and sub-committee member Geof Connor had won. On a countback, in the more sober light of morning, it was found that Hayward & Claire Marsh had just pipped them at the post. However all scores were close with everyone being within 15% of the average possible score. On the basis of the success of the evening we will be holding another Duplicate Session in the near future whilst we will continue to play Chicago the rest of the time.

Donations of cards would be very welcome as those we are playing with at the moment are getting pretty worn!

Don't forget - see you next Monday 7.30 p.m. in the Suriwongse Room.



CRICKET

The Rattanakosin Rains dried up almost as quickly as the Bicentennial Celebrations themselves, and having previously managed only 5 matches in 12 weeks the British Club cricket season ended in a flurry of activity with 4 games played in a 13 day period. And what magnificent days those were!....

Sunday 25th April - 25 overs vs RBSC

With two consecutive washed out weekends some BC players were caught somewhat unawares when suddenly called upon to perform. For the first and only time this season frantic telephone calls had to be made to rouse a team from various other pre-occupations. There were several guilty members but special mention must be made of Don Goodin's magnificent telephone impersonation of a bad case of St. George's Ball 'flu, and Brian Brook's heroic feat in arriving at the ground just 10 minutes after being roused from what sounded like very heavy slumber. Only Don actually failed to make it and he appeared to be more than adequately replaced by an enthusiastic bystander who turned out to be a very capable New Zealand cricketer on his way to play in England -- possibly this year for Surrey 2nds.

The match itself was disappointing, even though the RBSC were in even greater disarray than ourselves. Sloppy fielding with at least 4 dropped catches allowed a makeshift Sports Club team to reach 112 for 7. David Hudson, however, bowled his 5 overs for only 11 runs and our New Zealand conscript took as fine a caught and bowled as one could wish to see in any class of cricket to dismiss RBSC top scorer De Vries. Worse was to follow with the bat. The scoring rate was slow from the start and although John Coghill scored 27, uncharacteristically with no boundaries, no one else came to grips with the bowling and the Club were bowled out for 78 to lose by 36 runs. The real sensation of the game arose later when it was discovered that RBSC had illegally fielded an ineligible player, resulting in a severe reprimand being delivered after a heated League Meeting. The BC, however, had few excuses for a poor performance.

Sunday 1st May - 25 overs vs Indians

Our next match, against the Indians, got off to a dramatic start. Coghill and Lockyer took the score to 18 before the end of the second over in a lightening opening partnership,

and then precipitated a sensational collapse to 22 for 5 with less than 6 overs bowled! Dunford demonstrated the relative merit of playing with a straight bat for a few overs to steady the ship, but when he was out for 20, the score was still only 54 for 7. But then came an equally dramatic recovery. Stocky Gary Burns, who had previously done little to trouble the scorers this season, chose this moment to take the bowling apart and starred in an 8th wicket partnership of 34 with David Apps, and a last wicket stand of 29 with David Hudson. All 3 batted well scoring 34, 24 and 11 not out respectively, taking the Club to a most unlikely total of 117 in the 20th over.

Things went well at the start of the Indian innings, Goodin bowling splendidly to take 1 for 7 off his 5 overs. But as time went on it became clear that the whole team was suffering from a mysterious bout of droppsy, and catches started going to earth with amazing regularity. It would be unkind to mention names, (for even British players were involved), but perhaps to be fair it should be noted that Hudson, Platt and Lockyer did hold catches whilst 8 others were dropped! But the Club never completely lost control, and the Indian batsmen misjudged the run-in, panicking unnecessarily when only marginally behind the clock, and failing by 4 runs to score 9 eventually required off App's last over. BC emerged triumphantly as victors for the first time this season, and long were the celebrations which followed.

Monday 3rd May - 40 overs vs Indians

Brimming with new-found confidence, the Club took on the Indians again, this time in a 40 over encounter, just 2 days later, and all seemed set fair when Coghill and Piper shared in the best opening stand of the season, 49 runs, before Coghill was out for a sparkling and confident 32. But then, almost inevitably, Piper found himself watching a middle-order slump as the following batsmen failed to take advantage of one of the best batting tracks this season. Wickets fell steadily, the scoring rate dropped and when Piper was eventually out for a very fine 56, the highest Club score this season, the score had slumped to 106 for 7 with still 10 overs of the innings remaining. But then came another remarkable late recovery, this time built around David Hudson playing a Boys Own innings. First he put on 19 runs for the 8th wicket with golfer Don Goodin, and then 33 runs in an unbroken last wicket partnership with the unflappable John McBeth. Hudson scored 24 not out, McBeth 15 not out, and Goodin 12. Again early initiative had been gained, lost and then splendidly retaken, and with

161 for 9 the team was confident of pressing for a second victory. But no, despite an early wicket for all-rounder Hudson, cheered on by his ever-loyal mother, the Indians all batted well making good use of a fine wicket. Runs came freely almost from the start. None of the bowlers really got on top and the Indians eventually ran out very easy winners losing only 5 wickets in scoring 165 for 5 with 10 overs to spare. This must have been one of the hottest days of the year, and a very tired and rather dejected team looked forward to the upcoming Marshall Trophy game with some trepidation.

Friday 7th May - Marshall Trophy vs RBSC 45 overs

Rarely can a skipper have been more relieved to win the toss when Dunford elected to bat in this annual trophy match against RBSC. It was another baking hot day and the prospect of chasing red leather for most of it was not an attractive one. Again Piper and Coghill opened confidently but Coghill made most of the early running being out for 17 in an opening stand of 19. Piper went on to score 26, Owen scored 17 and the innings proceeded evenly with wickets falling regularly and runs never coming at more than 3 an over. Hudson again scored double figures with 13, but when he was out, a score of 108 for 8 seemed less than adequate to challenge a very strong RBSC batting line-up. But yes, once again there was a fine last wicket partnership of 30 runs. John McBeth was there again and Varyl Chamberlain played the leading role blasting 21 not out off a very tired and rather dispirited RBSC attack. McBeth scored 14 not out, and these two not only put on 30 crucial runs, but kept the Sports Club out in the heat for more than 10 frustrating overs. The Club were 138 for 9 after 45 overs.

The British Club then proceeded to bowl and field magnificently. The remarkable Mr. Hudson took 2 wickets in his early overs and Phillip Owen immediately settled into a very fine spell of tight leg break bowling at the other end. Coghill replaced Hudson and he and Owen kept the RBSC scoring rate down to around 2 an over for a long period, and wickets began to fall. At one stage Coghill had bowled 7 overs, 3 maidens, taking 2 wickets for 7 runs. Owen at the same stage had bowled 12 overs for just 28 runs. RBSC were 52 for 4 off 24 overs. And so it continued, Wright and De Vries put bat to ball and threatened to take the initiative, but with the Club fielding keenly the pressure was always on. Lockyer took two superb catches at silly mid-off dismissing Baker and Wright, and then as the later batsmen attempted to force the pace, Burns caught another fine effort at full stretch at mid-on.

Having struggled to 109 for 9 there followed some anxious overs as Leicester and Pan grew in confidence and threatened to race to victory. Leicester hit Owen for a lofted 4 and off the next ball went for a 6 which would have put RBSC within 3 runs of victory. Ben Piper got under it, kept his nerve, and held an awkward catch close to the boundary. The Club had won for the second time in 7 days by 8 runs, had won a Trophy to boot, and had ended the season in tremendous style. Coghill finished with 5 for 41 off 12 overs, Owen 2 for 47 off 18 overs, Hudson 2 for 17 and Piper 1 for 24.

So ended a most enjoyable and eventful season.



DARTS

High flyers in the Johnnie Walker Bangkok Darts League, New Cowboys really turned the heat on (or rather turned the air-conditioning off) when your intrepid heroes ventured to Mario's Bar on Soi 33. After losing the singles 6-0 Chris Andrews arrived to make the number of players up to seven and Ingrid Baldwin went home for a well earned shower. Chris and Bryan Baldwin, called inside from the cool of Soi 33 lost the first doubles, but then Captain James Kelly partnered by Denis Heasman closed double 10, and this was followed, believe it or not, by Roy Regan, partnered by Dave Wallace, closing double 5 to pull us up to 4-8. Cowboy, then played his master stroke by buying the Lillywhites a large Kloster each. Naturally this tipped everyone over the optimum Amarit Level except Chris who scored the Club's season highest of 156 with 2 treble 20's and a treble 12. James was the only other player to score a ton.

The following week the BC dartists went to UDO's on Soi 11 to play the only team below us in the League and came away with a 10-7 defeat. Dave, Denis (who both registered their first solo wins) and Captain James levelled the singles at 3-3, and then we went into a 5-7 lead when James/Denis, and Norman/Roy won their doubles. James 120 close was enough to get a mention in the Bangkok Post! However, remaining points went to UDO's. BC tons were scored by Roy (100, 100 and 132) and James (100, 120 and 121).

Roy Regan (Nai 008) asked teammates if we could have a win before he and Jane go back to UK at the end of May, and team trainer Khun Orin rallied everyone together in the bar for the visit of "Our Place" on 13th May. Ian Ward-McNally, James, Chris and Bryan all responded with singles wins, and James achieved his victory with only 11 darts! Bryan/Roy and James/Dave then won their doubles to extend the lead to 8-4, and the game was sewn up when Roy, Bryan and Chris won the first triple. Ian (WM) closed the team game for an 11-6 victory, only the 3rd in the season so far.

Tons were scored by James (2), Roy (110 and 140), Ian, Bryan and Chris (121).

We will all be sorry to see Roy and Jane leave, but the following evening our former captain was presented with a suitably engraved pewter tankard with the "Optimum Amarit Level" clearly marked on it. He has promised to carry it around in his briefcase all the time he is working in London, so that he can be reminded of Thursday darts nights every time he pops into the old "Bull & Bush" or a British Rail Cafeteria for a quick one!



THE BC DARTS TEAM SAY A FOND FAREWELL TO ROY AND JANE REGAN.



GOLF

The Club Championship

Episode 1. On May 2nd, 45 perspiring aspirants/aspiring perspirants vied in the first round of the Club Championship, refusing to even consider that they may eventually be one of the 44 who wouldn't be the 1982 champion. Some scores soared in line with the temperature, to the extent that one stalwart whose surname shall be nameless (but whose other name is Prestige Pravit) threw in the towel after nine holes (when he had reached 99), muttering something about mad dogs and The warmth suited others. In the subsidiary competition (best nett over the two rounds) Nellie Duggan recorded a glorious 63, George Walck 65 and David Factor/Nigel Bond 66 each. Such scores are simply unacceptable in the best of golfing circles where such statistics should be thought about, but not become fact. They even had the gall to accept settlement of personal side bets after the game, from normal mortals. (For our non-golfer readers, nobody should ever take less than 72 strokes, or they display gross indecency). That apart, we reached the semi-final stage of the Dunlop Trophy competition, being run concurrently, and the line-up now reads as follows:

J. Kerr/P. Speed vs J. Aitken/J. Davidson
E. and Mrs. J. Jurgens vs L. Vize/N. Duggan



"Well, is there a caddie around who could take him a message?"

A brief study of the expanding waistlines of 3 of the aforementioned couples, brings the pundits to forecast the Jurgens as hot favourites to eventually win this particular competition.

Anyway, on to the main business. Front runners at the end of the day comprised Peter Smith (we now have 2 new member Peter Smiths so be careful whom you congratulate), John Kerr (not content to just be captain) and Ian MacLean (trying to wrest the Championship back from himself again for about the 19th time). This trio had 80 gross, a commendable, laudable, (and quite disgusting total, for the rest of us to catch on the 2nd round) performance. In the wings Hans Daniels and Hugh Jamieson both had 81, with David Frost (hanging back Nicklaus-style for a charge on May 16th), on 83. Most improved ladies were Koy Armstrong and Fauna Goodin; we welcomed back Joe Stewart after a long break; we missed Messrs. Younger, Moran, Pott (who will be debited a 50 Baht fine accordingly); the return, on a visit, of a youthful, slim, rejuvenated and streamlined John Salter was noted; and Messrs. D and D of the Guardian and Commercial Union Assurance Coys were accorded due gratitude for their sponsorship. So, read on for the next exiting episode, as we take you to the 2nd round, and you may just find out WHO THE CHAMPION IS.



EPISODE 2: May 16th came and went. Some of the hopefuls mentioned above departed into the mists of the 1983 championship. Duggan, Daniels, Jamieson, Frost and Smith were among them. Keep trying chaps. Over 40 golfers braved another sweaty 5½ hours of Hua Mark to cheer the new champion. We learned with regret that Peter Isle would not be joining us again due to his transfer to Hongkong. Allan and Kathryn Uvhagen were guests and kindly donated 24 new golf balls for distribution to grabbing hands. The ladies' charge was limited to 3 where have all the birdies gone?

And so, the results. The subsidiary competition, for the Boyd cup was won by George Walck, who, with nett rounds of 65/70 edged wee Norman Bond into second slot with 66/70. Third spot was shared by those two young and handsome lads, Factor and Halliday, both with 139 totals. The nearest-the-pin prizes went to Ken Long and Hugh Jamieson. Then we had Peter Smith, handicap 6, after a disastrous start in which he was 8 over after 3 holes, staging a magnificent charge to come in 3rd in the Championship fight, with rounds of 80 and 82 (162 gross). A potential candidate for the big honour next year, one feels. Our captain, John Kerr, returned a commendable couple of cards of 80 and 79 (159 gross), with handicap 11, to fill the runner-up position, and we all felt proud to have a captain who is also a good golfer, in addition to having the manners not to win 1st prize. The MacMahon Cup, awarded to the 1982 British Club Golf Champion was presented to Ian MacLean, for the Nth time in his career. A tremendous gross tally of 157 (80/77) saw Ian through a magnificent consistent player if ever there was one. Our congratulations therefore go to him, from not only the Golf Committee and members, but from the BC in general. (Purely by coincidence, Ian is, of course, a Scot).

The next match will be at Bang Phra on June 13th at 9.30 a.m. and champions and non-champions alike are all welcome. If you are a new member in the British Club, a special welcome awaits you.

** ** *

St. Peter was interviewing a golfer for entry into Heaven and asked him had he ever sinned. The golfer replied that he had sworn once (???) and related that it was during the final round of the Club Championship when he needed two putts on the 18th to win. "I lagged the first one to within 15cm" and St. Peter -- butting in -- said "Don't tell me you missed the bloody thing!"



LADIES' GOLF

We have continued to enjoy our competitions at the Army Course despite the very hot weather and the fact that many of our regulars are on home leave. Judy King is playing in the Lufthansa Golf Tournament International and Joan Jurgens in a tournament in Germany, we wish them every success.

Our Lady Captain Eileen Ford is out of hospital we all hope that she will soon be back in action.

Results of Competitions

20.4.82 - Stableford

"A" Flight

Winner: Gunilla Farnstrom - 33 Stableford Points

"B" Flight

Winner: Ann Johnstone - 35 Stableford Points

Longest Drive: Kerstin Persson

Nearest Pin: Joan Jurgens

27.4.82 - LGU Medal

Silver Division

Winner: Ella Mallaret Net 70

Runner up: Gunilla Farnstrom Net 71

Bronze Division

Winner: Lise Dencker-Nielsen Net 79

Runner up: Joan Sewell Net 81

Longest Drive: Gunilla Farnstrom

Putting: Ella Mallaret 30 putts

4.5.82 - Stableford

Winner: Pam Hardy - 35 stableford Points

Runner up: Ella Mallaret - 34 Stableford Points

Longest Drive: Tiena Svensson

Putting: Ella Mallaret - 30 Putts

11.5.82 - All Irons Stableford

Winner: Pam Hardy - 36 Stableford Points
 Runner up: Gunilla Farnstrom - 33 Stableford Points
 Longest Drive: Tina Svensson
 Nearest Pin: Tina Svensson

The results of the Eclectic played over six weeks from March 24th to May 4th:

Winner: Ella Mallaret - 62 Net
 Runner up: Ann Johnstone - 64 Net
 Third: Joan Jurgens - 66 Net



"So, look at the bright side. We got the whole course to ourselves!"



SOCCER

British Club Soccer 1981/82

The Farang League finally began in earnest during February with six teams competing on a single round-robin basis. This shortened format was necessary following numerous cancellations in November and December due to both waterlogged and otherwise unavailable pitches.

The B.C. team meanwhile have emerged as League Champions thereby winning the Scan-Dutch Cup, with the Indian Team as Runners-Up. The completed League program reads as follows:

| | | | |
|------------------------|---|-----------------------------------------|--------------|
| V Indian Cougars | : | Drew | 0 - 0 |
| V German All Stars | : | Won | 4 - 1 |
| | | Cobbett (pen), Hastings, Niven, Wallace | |
| V Scandinavian Vikings | : | Won | 1 - 0 |
| | | Fields | |
| V Dutch Poldermen | : | Won | 6 - 0 |
| | | Cobbett (3), Thompson (2), Lewis | |
| V T.S.D. | : | Drew | 0 - 0 (Void) |
| V Swiss Mountaineers | : | Won | 4 - 0 |
| | | Barlow Morton (2), Thompson | |

Notable among the above victories was the closely contested match against the Scandinavians, who at that time were rated as favourites for the title, but eventually faded during the long wait between matches. The match was almost all one-way traffic with the B.C. attacking the Scandinavian goal incessantly. Nevertheless faced with a packed Scandinavian defence together with some bad luck, the match seemed destined for a draw, until Bill Fields collected a loose clearance and rifled the ball home from close range, with just 5 minutes remaining.

All matches, except the unfortunate one against T.S.D. which was abandoned, were as usual played in a very good spirit with the B.C. defence proving to be the strength of the team. Goal keeper Peter Smith while inactive for long periods, produced some excellent saves, and fierce debate still continues about the solitary goal he conceded.

Fortunately Captain Dave Wallace has been able to field a fairly consistant team during the later League Matches, but analysis will show that 20 different players have been used for our dozen or so matches, including pre-season friendlies and the R.B.S.C. Floodlight Cup where incidentally we finished Runners-Up to a fast and fit R.B.S.C. team.

The "Cup Final" play off against the Indians will be reported in next months Outpost.



SQUASH

The squash action has been centered on the new style league, number 35, played throughout May. Undoubtedly the hottest league of the year at least in terms of weather conditions. Other news concerns coming events of which we look like having a full calendar stretching into next year.

35th Squash League

Under subtle pressure from the league coordinators a total of 97 squash players rushed in their applications to partake of the new league competition. Some players, particularly at the lower half of the league, must have had a rethink about their haste to play as at press time they are obviously hoping for an onset of cooler weather before disposing of their matches. Despite some delayed starts the new format, providing for 5 games to be played in 30 days, has given strong impetus to the clubs' major ongoing competition. Its good to welcome the large number of new players (20) into the league ranks and lets see their progress into the 36th League (applications forms coming out mid June)

Squash Handicap Championship

This is an annual event for which application forms have been distributed. Remember its not as serious as it sounds being more fun than anything else so everyone is welcome to join no matter what shape one is in. The scoring is very different to standard squash so be prepared for that before finding yourself going off the court wondering how a game can be lost so quickly.

Ladies Squash Morning

According to the ladies who attend the Tuesday morning ad-hoc games its good value for all. There is no charge or special organising just a matter of turning up around 9.30 a.m. on Tuesdays, beginners or veterans, then everyone can have a game or games with someone on their own level. The ladies attendance runs up to 15 players average giving plenty of scope for all talents. Ladies newly arrived or not sure can ring Lyn Cook to get up to date news on this weekly social event.

Proposed Events in 1982/83 as per Drawing Board

| | |
|-----------|------------------------------|
| July | 36th League |
| August | Chiengmai Trip |
| September | 37th League |
| | Interclub Game with RBSC |
| October | 1982 Don Johnston Tournament |
| November | 38th League |
| December | Rod Carter Shield |
| January | 39th League |
| February | Annual Fun Day |

Disco Dance/League Prizes/Squash Social

All at the one time and place open to every squash member and their families this event will be a great chance to meet off-court and probably put a few faces to names. With about 140 active and not so active players the squash section has all the character mix to make it a great night.

Elton John was unfortunately unable to get his piano organised through customs so we are settling for other exotic sources of musik which can be heard on the night of Saturday 19 June starting local time 8 p.m. We hear the best place for the venue is the Sala at the poolside with dancing on the lawns behind (boards provided) so hopefully we will get the best of both areas. League prizes will be the engraved cups/goblets for the 35th league and not something else from that other disco centre a little East of the British Club. The organisers are democratic however and willing to promote dance art of most forms if it is offered. Congratulations in advance to the MC who has to steer our lot through the night.

Bits and Pieces and Piccanninis

There is a board on the wall between courts 1 and 2 called the "AVAILABILITY BOARD" which should have caused curious comment by this time. The scope for comment is endless but in this case availability means any player at the club who is looking for a game but can't get a partner is deemed available to play.

The board should be very useful and provide a meeting spot for the many players who would like a hit but can't find someone at the time. Just put your name down and someone will come along.

The strip of wood above the tin on court 2 has been causing some doubtful returns because of its flatness so the carpenter is going to (or has already?) round it off. No more controversy on court 2.

If you want to "walk the Barrett way" its easy, just play 3 ladder games in one day and ask Roy what he does about his blisters.

Babies we are talking about up there, one girl type (her name is Emma) to Ron and Ann Skeldon and a boy type to Steve and Sue Balme. Heartiest squash congratulations to both families and shall we put down for the 99th league?



SWIMMING

A little bit of catching up to do this issue on some of the results and achievements of the past couple of months.

Karen Prendergast deserves the first mention for beating the Club Record during her breaststroke event in the Friendship Gala on 28 March. This was the Meet with the Dusit Club swimmers. They were a good team and came close to several pool records. Karen's performance that day helped her in being nominated Improver of the Month for March.

Improver of the Month for April was Sharee Laing, and for May, Alexander Fleming, with a special mention for Mark McCall. Most swimmers record improvements in one or two of their events at each Gala, but its the exceptional performances that win the coveted awards.

Proficiency testing is now firmly established on the third Saturday of every month and many swimmers have now earned certificates. The Rainbow distance awards will soon be added to these Saturday sessions. Proficiency certificate winners for April were:-

| | |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Beginners | : Sally Dunford, Nicky Hill and Rachel Sigrist |
| Intermediate | : George Dunford |
| Junior | : Mark McCall, Sara McCall and Linda Wellnam |
| Senior | : James Hodgson and Michael Hodgson |
| Advanced | : Lisa Laing and Sharee Laing |

Other prize winners in May, this time on dry land, were Edward Adams and Sally Dunford for their coloured drawings on the poolside noticeboard. There are prizes every month for this competition and entries can be sent in at any time. A picture with a swimming theme is the simple rule.

The next Gala is 6th June which will be followed by a threeway Friendship Gala on 27th June with ISRC and Lions Club of Nonthaburi at the ISRC pool. The British Club will host the second meet on 3rd October. So, good performances at the 6th June Gala will help to earn places in the team for the Friendship Gala.

Swimming section meetings have been retimed to 5.30 p.m. on the Tuesday following the monthly Gala. All parents of swimmers are welcome to participate. Meetings are at the poolside Sala.

Most parents will now be aware that Khun Choon, our coach, is using the services of an assistant. The reason for this is that Khun Choon will be taking a post graduate course at University starting early June and he will not be able to attend all coaching and training sessions at the Club.

The normal coaching and training will obviously continue and to do this we will have the services of Khun Suparp who has been introduced to most children since mid May. Khun Suparp, who holds BSc in Physical Education, has been teaching swimming for the past three years and is well equipped to coach our children. He has taught at the YMCA & Alliance Francaise. While Khun Choon will be at the pool whenever possible, Khun Suparp will be present every Tuesday & Thursday. The testing for the various grades, usually arranged on Saturday mornings, will continue as usual with Khun Choon doing the testing. We wish Khun Choon every success in his studies. To Khun Suparp we say "Welcome" and also wish him every success in the improvement of the children's swimming performance.



TENNIS

During May two events were held. On Saturday 1st a very enjoyable round-robin handicap doubles was played. A total of ten pairs competed and at the end, after application of our specially devised secret handicap, the difference between the winners and runners-up was only half a point, which indicates the keenness of the competition.

The winners were Mr. & Mrs. Dencker Nielsen, who maintained a steady average throughout and looked like strong contenders for one of our traditional club events, the husband and wife mixed doubles tournament, which it is hoped to revive as soon as our courts are improved. Runners-up were Mr. & Mrs. Walck, who also looked likely contenders for the same title. Both couples amply refuted the old adage that husbands and wives don't mix well on the tennis court. Coming in third and not too far behind were Mayurin Fordham and Max Wellman, who were always in the running.

Prizes for this event were donated by the Sheraton-Bangkok Hotel and the Tennis Sub-Committee herewith expresses its appreciation.

On Saturday 8 May we entertained the Stanley Club of Hong Kong. Owing to a regrettable confusion in transportation the visitors mislaid some of their players so the full inter-port match was replaced by a friendly "mix-in". Some excellent play was seen and the afternoon was enjoyed by all. BC pairings:- Stein Valbjorn and John White; Max Wellman and Michael McAlister, were altogether too powerful for anything that the visitors could provide, but then maybe the home team ably supported by Geoff Berry, George Walck and George Grader, had the edge in being used to our courts, which were playing superbly.

Unfortunately, it looks as though this will be the second and last interport fixture with Stanley. As we understand it, tennis is being down-graded at their club. Thankfully, many of their team members have memberships at other Hong Kong clubs and their captain has assured us of further fixtures with one or more Hong Kong clubs in the future. Following an exchange of mementoes and reviving liquid refreshment, the Stanley players were last seen heading for corporal manipulation to improve their muscle-tone in preparation for their interport with the RBSC the following morning. Thankfully for them, more reinforcements were to be flown in from Hong Kong.

The Tennis Sub-Committee is very happy that visitors such as Stanley enjoy and appreciate the fixture against the British Club, and is grateful for the hospitality that the Club has extended to our visitors. We look forward to welcoming them back again.

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|-----------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| | | Jan. May. | Feb. Oct. | Mar. Nov. | Apr. Dec. | June, July, Aug. September |
| A | Ford Fiesta 1.1L 3-door H/back | | | 61.50 | | 68.50 |
| Aa | Ford Escort 1.3L 5-door H/back | | | 67.50 | | 76.00 |
| B | Ford Cortina 1.6L Saloon | | | 72.50 | | 80.00 |
| C | Ford Cortina 1.6L Estate car | | | 81.00 | | 88.00 |
| D | Ford Granada 2.8 G.L. Automatic Saloon | | | 137.50 | | 137.50 |

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The Bangkok Samaritans is a voluntary organisation. It is worldwide, confidential and non-religious, aiming to reach out to those in despair.

If you are feeling unhappy, distressed, desperate or suicidal please telephone 235-4000. The volunteer at the other end wants to listen and to talk through your worries, anxieties and problems with you. All that is said is strictly confidential and there are no charges or obligations.

We try to keep the number manned 24 hours daily, but there is always someone available between 2 p.m.- 7 p.m.

Calendar for June

"... Hello ... Samaritans? -- Hello -- ?"

"Khrap?"

"It's blinking edit night and they haven't done the calendar and the Chairman's entertaining and the Manager's mending chairs in the Thai Sala and -- are you listening -- ?"

"Khrap?"

"Look, I can't stand it any longer -- the calendar is easy -- the busy-bodies only have to send their list of doings and the whole thing is automatic but John's running a marathon somewhere and Brians on leave, poor chap, and Peter's moaning again about the price of beer in the bar! God knows what liaisons the Ladies are up to and I tell you, the new Sathorn Bridge may have messed up the Wittayu intersection but it's nice and high".

"Khrap?"

"And now they tell me that all the previous calendars were wrong anyway and no-one used them -- except in personal emergency. The Chao Phya runs strong - should do the trick. Maybe not very tasty -- what do you recommend?"

"Khrap?"

"The Chokchai building is higher. Maybe quicker. And on the way up...."

"Khrap?"

"Toe Sam Hah, Si Soon Soon Soon --- Khrap?"

"Mai chai khrap, Toe pit, khrap".

"Khrap! -- They'll have to use other pages!" "Anyone for a game of snooker?"

* * * * *

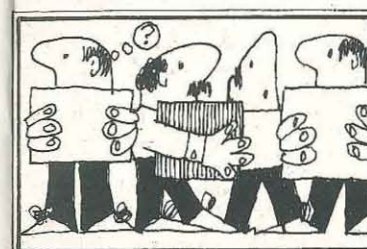
Editor's note -- we may succeed in preparing a loose insert!

Affiliated Clubs

| CITY | CLUB AND ADDRESS | TELEPHONE |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| ADELAIDE | The Naval, Military and Air Force Club of South Australia (Inc.) 111 Hutt Street Adelaide 5000 | 233-2422 |
| HONG KONG | Hong Kong Cricket Club 137 Wong Nei Chong Gap Road Hong Kong | 5-747023 |
| KUALA LUMPUR | The Lake Club Peti Surat 642 Kuala Lumpur | 985133 985267 |
| LONDON | Royal Automobile Club 98 Pall Mall London SW1Y 5HS | 01-930 2345 |
| | The Naval Club 38 Hill Street London W1X 8DP | 01-493 7672 |
| | United Oxford & Cambridge University Club 71 Pall Mall London SW1Y 5HD | 01-930 4152 |
| MANILA | Manila Club, Inc. 1461 Felipe Agoncillo Street Ermita, Manila | 50-10-07 |
| SINGAPORE | Tanglin Club 5 Stevens Road PO Box 3015 Singapore 9050 | 7376011 |
| SYDNEY | Royal Automobile Club of Australia 89 Macquarie Street Sydney 2000 | 27-5656 |

Everyone would agree that moving can be troublesome, worrisome and wearisome. Right?

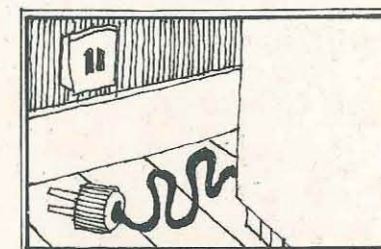
These useful tips will help you...



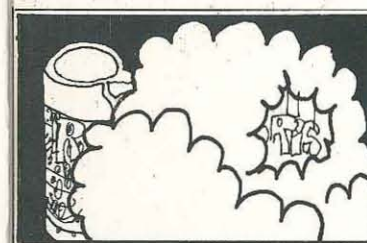
Avoid crowds during packing days by selling unwanted items well in advance. Packing is more secure and faster if only packers are present during packing days.



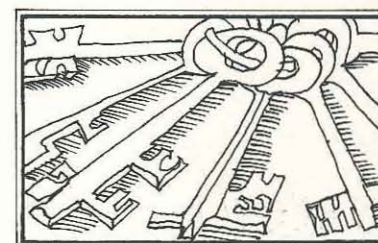
New furniture should be delivered at least two weeks before packing to ensure dry finishes. Furniture should not be oiled during the last two weeks as the oil might seep during transit: wrapping paper may adhere to and spoil finishes.



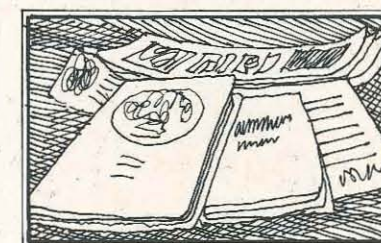
If possible, disconnect all electrical appliances, particularly refrigerators, deep freezers, airconditioners and stoves, the day before packing.



Discard all combustible liquids (such as lighter fuel) and aerosol cans from your belongings.



All furniture keys should be taped to respective items, preferably to the insides of drawers, etc., and you should keep a complete set of duplicate keys for yourself.



Have all your travel documents - passports, tickets, tax clearances, etc. - assembled prior to packing.

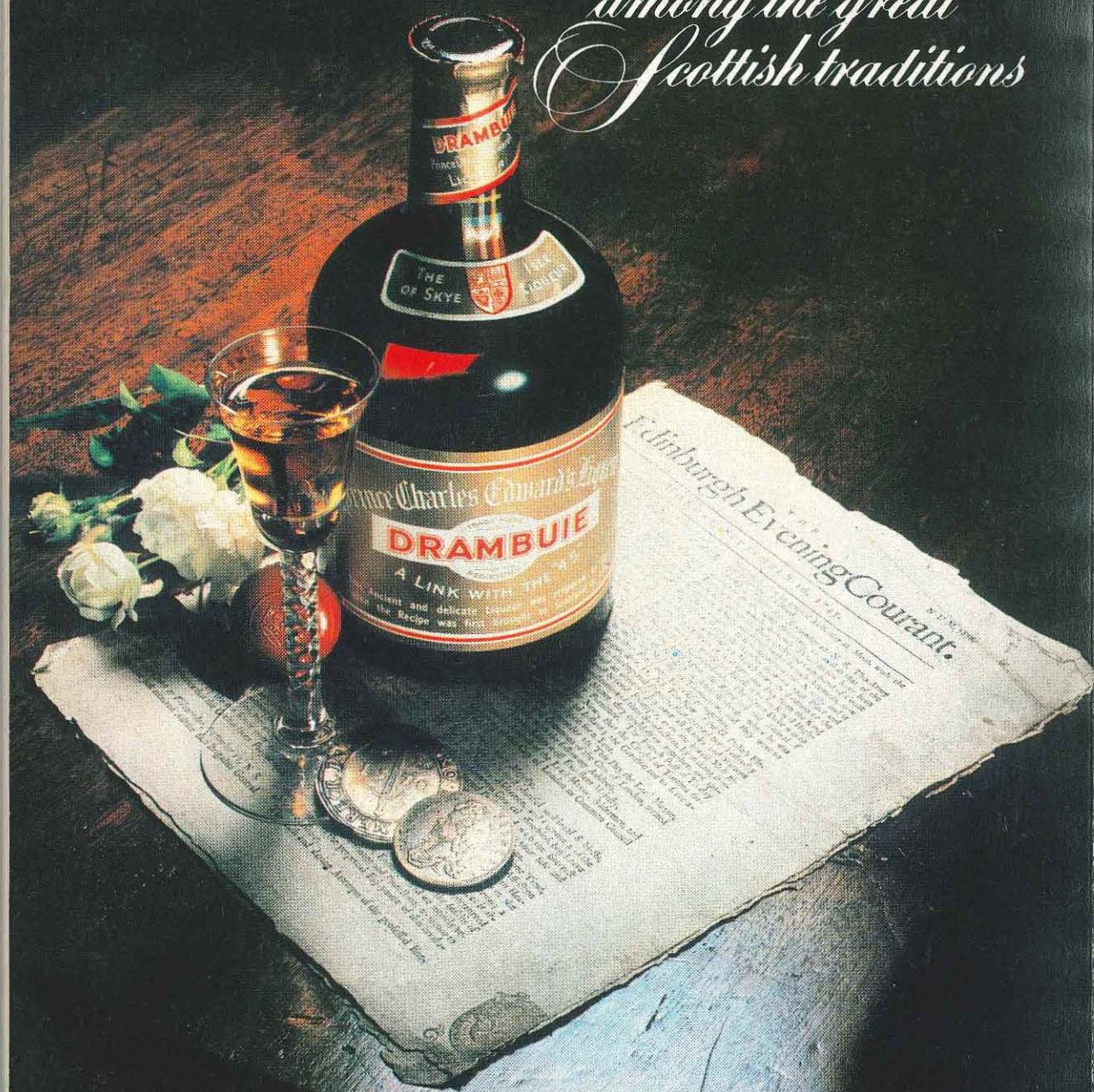
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