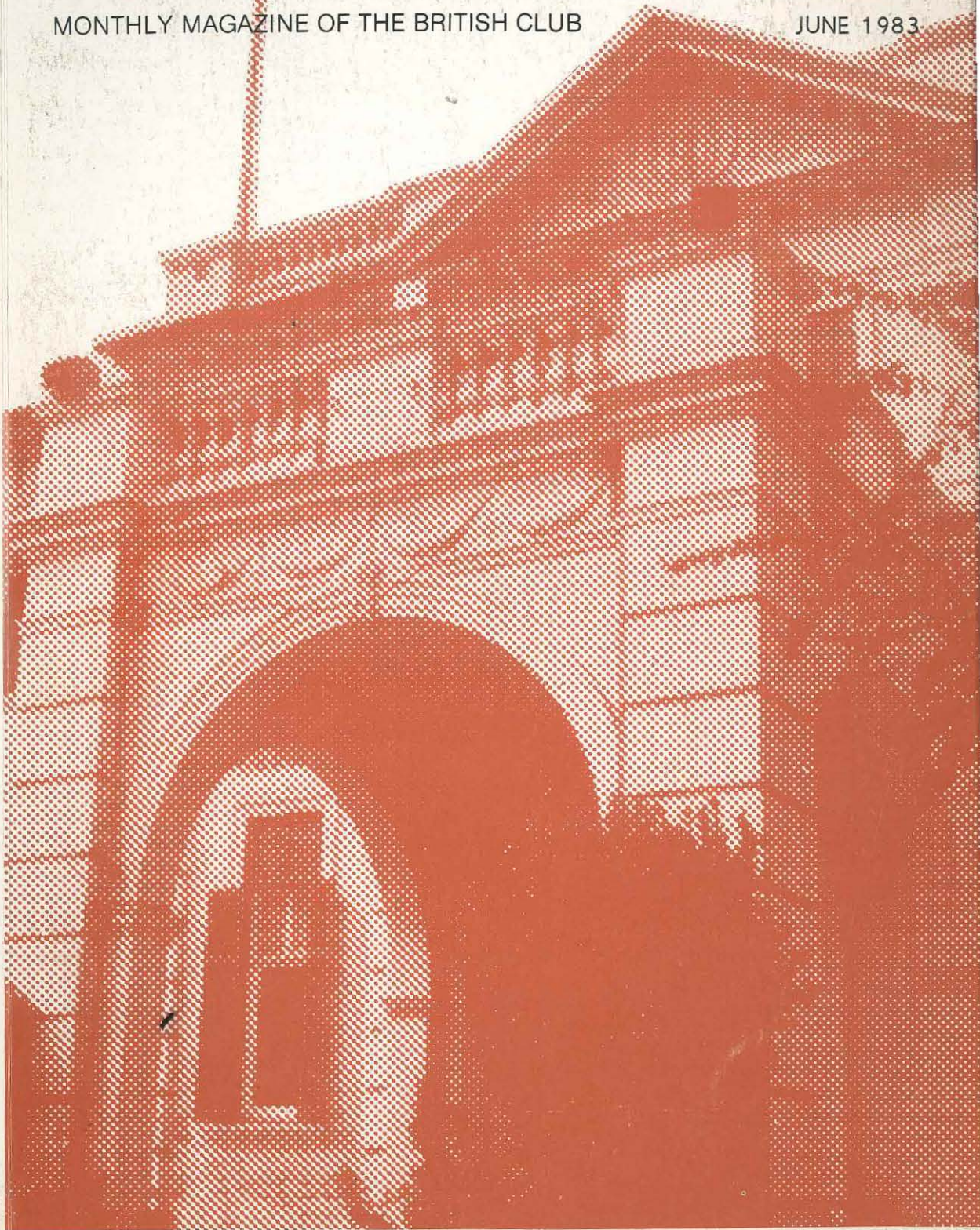


OUTPOST

MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB

JUNE 1983





Cuvée Supérieure

A Rare Cognac

 **Hennessy**

The British Club



189 Suriwongse Road
Bangkok 10500

Telephone: 234-0247, 234-2592

JUNE 1983

General Committee

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John Williams (Chairman)	390 1336	252 8927
Roy Barrett (Vice-Chairman & House)	314 5568	234 2080
Anthony Bekenn (Hon Treasurer & Finance)		233 9160
Barry Collins (Grounds & Poolside)	391 9955-9 x 252	234 3333 x 1755
Tim Hughes (Entertainment)		234 5545
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Bernard Grogan (Personnel)	392 3807	391 5177
Geoff Percival (Membership)	314 2464	
** ** ** ** **		
Bob P. Vlietstra (Manager)		234 0247 234 2592

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

Editorial

The present club atmosphere has not changed much over the past 80 years, it is still a small family club with groups gathering in various parts of the club house and poolside salas to discuss the events of the day with friends. Membership numbers do not fluctuate very much on average one member leaves and another takes his place, all very cosy some say, others tend to take a longer term view, a view of diminishing numbers under the present membership requirements and of course diminishing revenue each year.

The location of the B.C. is prime and could be developed at no financial cost to the club, into a modern complex with hard tennis courts, non-flood covered parking, air-conditioned squash courts, guest accommodation, first class restaurants and perhaps a larger swimming pool. This would mean a large office block where the club house now stands into which the new facilities would be incorporated. Membership could be increased by inviting other nationalities who are at present ineligible, up to say 49% of present membership.

A bold step one may say, but, in a declining situation more financial burden will fall on the shoulders of a reducing membership. There comes a time where resources may not match costs.

This of course, is not the present situation, however, a change in the local economic climate could have repercussions on projects from countries where we now draw most new members from.

Should we continue as the small family club with a fairly stagnant membership base and possible yearly increases in subscription fees, or take the progressive route?

David Frost

Membership Matters

NEW MEMBERS:

The following were elected to membership of the Club in May 1983:

Ordinary

Mr. P.C. Ashdown	Bangkok Investment Co.
Mr. G.A. Barnes	Reed Stenhouse Jenkid Co.
Mr. B. Cable	ESCAP
Mr. J. Garvey	Pepsi Cola
Mr. A.J. Healey	Anglo-Thai Motors
Dr. J.R. Lay	Shell Co. of Thailand
Mr. B.R.O. Pointer	ICI Asiatic Agricultural Co.
Mr. D.P.E. Smith	
Mr. C.D. Stewart	Cathay Pacific Airways
Mr. J.R. Thomson	Exploration Logging Int. Inc.

Non-Voting

Mr. L.M. Wilson	Esso E & P (Khorat)
-----------------	---------------------

Associate

Mr. B. Cronin	The Royal Orchid Hotel
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Status of Membership

The current membership status is as follows:

Ordinary	416
Non-Voting	10
Associate	45
Ladies Privileges	38
Up-Country	23
Candidates	37
	<hr/>
TOTAL	569
Absent	666
	<hr/>
GRAND TOTAL	1235
	====



Jingjok heard the word "Black Balls" mentioned recently and thought this was going to be a musical extravaganza by the ever resourceful entertainment committee. Instead it was mentioned when conversation hovered briefly on the subject of applicants for membership, who appear at the club on committee nights for signatures, without their sponsor or seconder and dressed in a manner that can only be described as "scruffy".

While on the subject of small dark objects; several were spotted floating in the swimming pool, according to a report by Grounds and Poolside. These have been sent to our forensic advisor with a copy of the poolside menu. It appears that a trace on the culprit is easy according to "Sniffa" Smith. All we have to do is analyse the two and check through the chits signed the day before.

Mums! watch out for "Sniffa".

Submissions for inclusion in OUTPOST must reach the Club by the 20th of each month.

Compiled and edited by:

David Frost - Editor

Geoff Percival, Geof Connor, Bill Friel

Advertising Manager - David Frost (Tel: 286-3833 or 286 -2471 or contact The British Club Manager.

"Who says KLM
is the reliable
airline, apart
from KLM?"

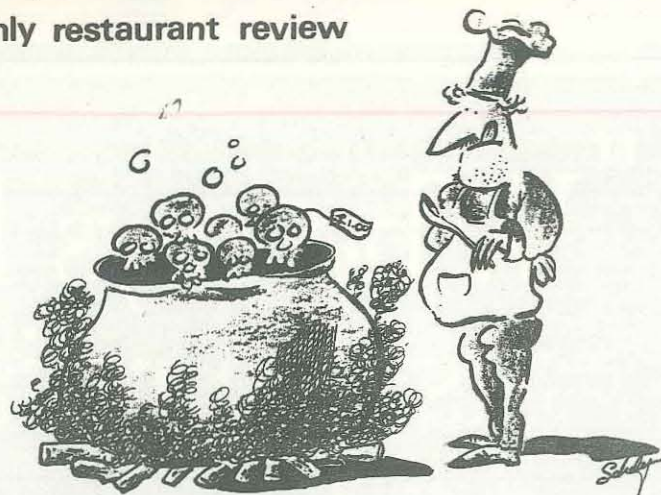
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"TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT"

a monthly restaurant review



This is the first of some occasional columns of comment on the standards of food, wine and service, offered by, and the prices charged by, some of Bangkok's better restaurants.

Getting to Gaysorn Road from anywhere south of Rajprasong makes the Hampton Court Maze look like child's play. One mistake, or being in the wrong lane can add a quarter of an hour to your journey in one of the most congested areas of Bangkok. However, when you do get there and have found "Le Metropolitan" the journey will have been worthwhile.

The restaurant is on two floors, rather dimly lit; the upstairs is less cramped and more popular. The chairs are comfortable, the tables well-spaced, and the air-conditioning is cold. Service under Khun Anand is courteous and efficient (though one does sometimes wish they would take the trouble to remember who ordered what if there is a party).

The menu is short, but pates, terrines, and their fromage de tete de porc are recommended. Other hors d'oeuvres are adequate, but the asparagus is out of a tin even when fresh asparagus is available in the market. They do not serve fresh oysters. The soups are ordinary, the macaroni au gratin excellent (but filling), and oeufs Florentine can be poached or fried.

Among the main courses, rabbit, duck, chicken, and steak can all be commended. The lamb chops are frozen and the pork is without fat -- a plus for some people but a minus for others. In the fish line, Le Metropolitan serves some of the best scallops (coquilles St. Jacques) in town, and other fish is fresh, carefully cooked, and well-flavoured. The rock lobsters are particularly good.

All main dish portions are large. Remember that vegetables (unless specifically mentioned in the menu) have to be ordered separately.

The cheese board is less than adequate; among the desserts the bombe Alaska and the profiterolles are particularly good. The coffee could be better.

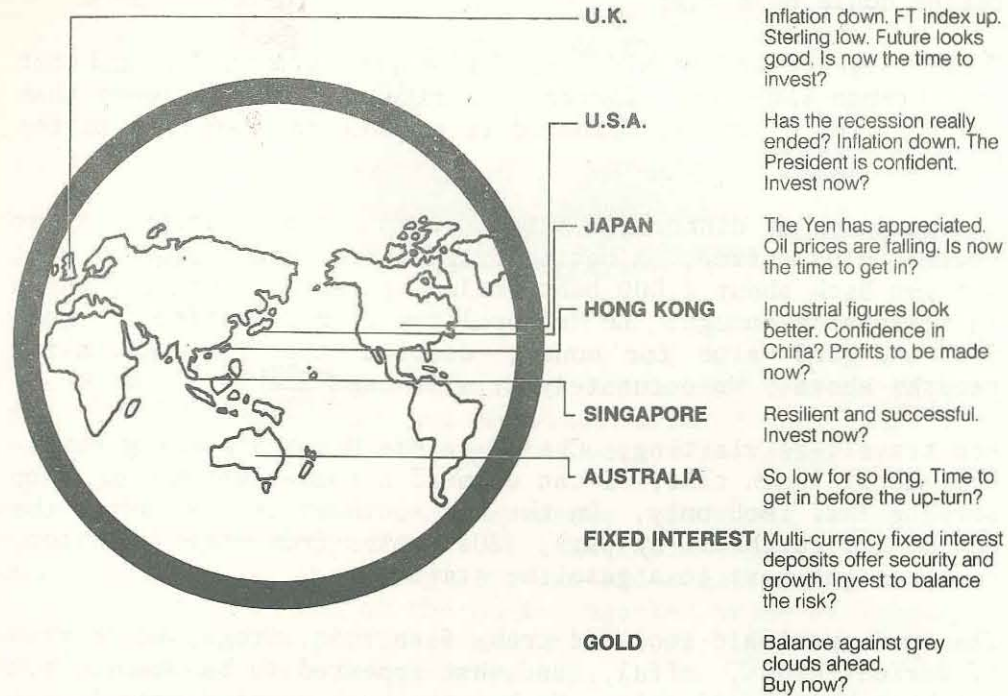
There is a reasonable wine list by Bangkok standards, and not only French wines are offered. Prices are mostly lower than elsewhere of a similar standard (a comment that applies to the food as well as the wine).

A good lunch or dinner for three, with pre-meal drinks, three courses plus coffee, a bottle of good wine and a liqueur will set you back about 1,800 baht including tax and service, which is reasonable enough. Le Metropolitan is recommended for good food and good value for money, despite the few qualifying remarks above. Unfortunately it also has Muzak.

For travellers visiting, Cha'am or Hua Hin and passing Petchburi about lunch time, I can commend a road-side eating shop serving Thai food only. On the way south it is just after the end of the Petchburi by-pass, 200 metres from the junction, on the right next to a gasoline station.

The food available included crab, fish roes, frogs, fresh fish of various kinds, offal, and what appeared to be snakes but may have been dried eels. We had the best curried crab I have had for years, some spiced (very hot) fish roes salad, and a fried fish with rice and two large beers (Kloster). The fish would have been better steamed but was good anyway: the bill was ฿230 for two which is reasonable considering the quality of the food. The three dishes, each sufficient for two people, were priced at 50 baht each. The balance was for rice (10 baht) and Kloster beer (35 baht per large bottle). There are adequate and clean toilet facilities but carry your own kleenex.

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Letters to the Editor

Sir,

Why not cut down the tree in the Suriwongse side of the car park? It is a nuisance, not particularly elegant and prevents more cars from being parked inside the club grounds.

But to compensate for its loss, how about planting some broad-leaf trees on the Silom side? If located in a line in the middle of the car park, these trees could provide welcome shade from the sun and, to use a phrase that appeared recently in the local press, 'prettify' the area.

On a separate matter, it seems odd to me that we have on offer 'Valencia' orange at 16 baht per glass. Not only odd, but expensive too. After all, this orange is merely a concentrate which is mixed with water. Orange squash is available in local supermarkets at about 18 baht a large bottle - enough for 20 large glasses of orange juice (plus ice, of course!)

Besides, Valencia is an imported product - why not use the local stuff which is just as good and considerably cheaper in the bargain.

Yours - not for the last time.

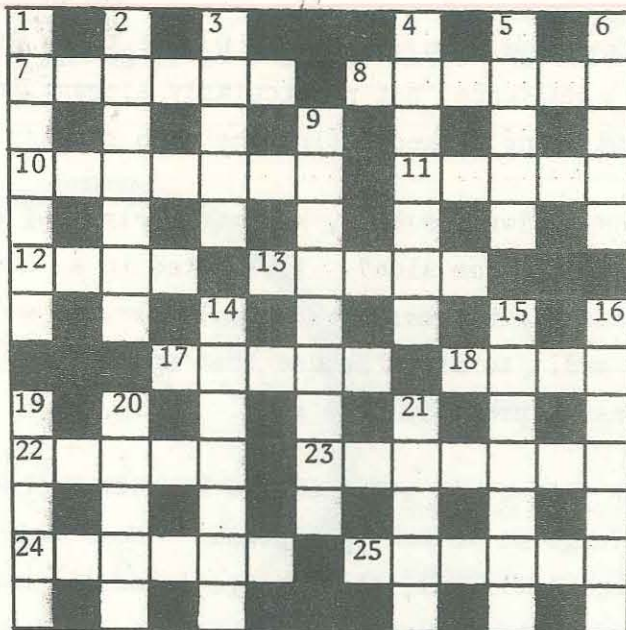
C. N. Hastings

Colin Hastings

H70

It is regretted that certain words used in the St. George's Ball article last month were inaccurate - Editor.

Club Crossword June



CLUES

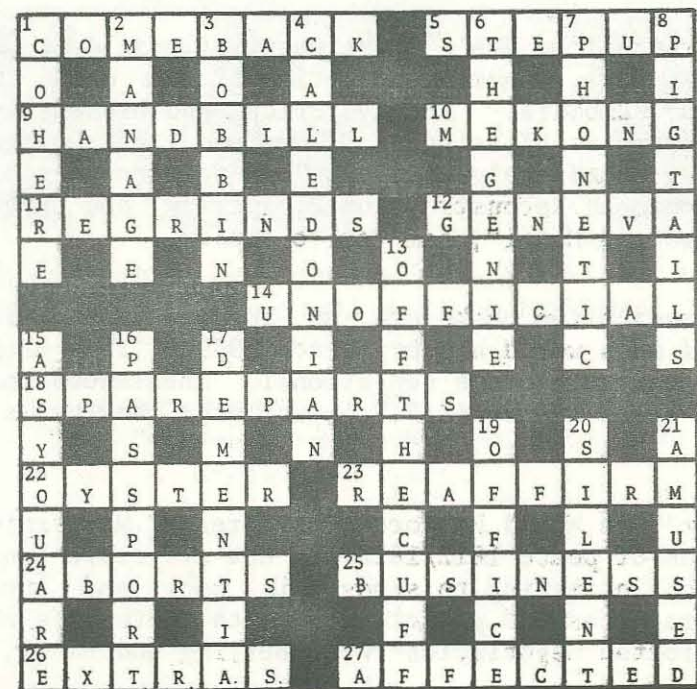
Across:

- 7 Familiar address for our Ed.- but sounds a bit chilly!
- 8 Pacify - like Venus de Milo?
- 10 In great form for an unappreciative chap.
- 11 Lot he put around for a place to stay.
- 12 Socially superior chaps make up our F & B Member's headache!
- 13 Not leaving idle.
- 17 He'll clue ya every Friday afternoon!
- 18 See 14 down.
- 22 Person who might worship on Silom Road
- 23 Prepared to be hitched?
- 24 Soft beam for a predicament.
- 25 Roy's court at the Club.

Down:

- 1 Mrs. Fifa swears it's true.
- 2 Our B.C. Chairman was spotted doing this in the park!
- 3 Hang on it underground in London.
- 4 & 19 Popular item on 12 across (3 words)
- 5 The B.C. Team beat the Australian Navy at this!
- 6 A good one from the kitchen is appetising.
- 9 Len's prone! Never mind ... Bernard Grogan deals with it!
- 14 & 18 across. Beat her drug around for the Club's favourite fluid.
- 15 Grin Meg ... you're getting together.
- 16 Straight laced.
- 19 See 4 down.
- 20 Might be home for 22 across.
- 21 See eye to eye.

May Solution



Book Review



DR. HENRY KISSINGER

By most dimensions larger than normal life size, Dr. Kissinger devotes over 2,500 pages to his two memoirs on US foreign policy, "White House Years and Years of Dissent", the books will probably have to be taken in instalments by most readers. Covering four years as Presidential National Security Assistant and a second four as U.S. Secretary of State, they constitute a fascinating record of many major world events between 1969 and 1977.

Dr. Kissinger's prose is precise, pertinent and sometimes witty; it occasionally suggests a capacity for self appraisal and criticism probably rarely seen by subordinates or colleagues. Wisely avoiding any pretence to objectivity, the record seems as honest and frank as can be expected in dealing with these sensitive matters.

Subjects range from USA's first negotiations with China, the Middle East wars, Sadat's rejection of the USSR, Watergate, Vietnam and Cambodia. The hysterical and biased polemic by Mr. W. Shawcross "Kissinger, Nixon and the Destruction of Cambodia" is completely refuted. This volumes possible sequel, say "Kampuchean Reconstruction Prosperity and Freedom, the Khmer Rouge and Hanoi", has yet to appear.

Dr. Kissinger's two books are an important and interesting account of much world history since 1969. They present a refreshing contrast to the sensational, unbalanced inanities of the daily press and vapid T.V. newflash: they are a very good read.

The author's "a World Restored, Castlereagh, Metternich and the restoration of peace 1812/1822" is not available in Bangkok. It would be intriguing to study this book and speculate on how the practices and policies two 18th century statesmen of genius affected negotiations with Beijing and Hanoi.

The two books reviewed are not yet here in paperback but can be borrowed from the Nielsen Hays or A.U.A. libraries.

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New Records...by Camus



WAGNER'S MUSIC DRAMA

THE HIGH DRAMA of the final episode of Wagner's 'Ring' - 'Gotterdamerung' - is evocatively expressed by Rita Hunter (Brunnhilde) and Alberto Remedios (Siegfried), with the London Philharmonic Orchestra under conductor Sir Charles Mackerras on a current Classics for Pleasure re-issue (Twilight of the Gods : CFP 4403, £2.25).

The highlights chosen feature both soloists and orchestra, the opening prologue signifying dawn leading to Brunnhilde and Siegfried's Entrance from the cave as they sing of their love, 'Zu neuen Thaten'. Siegfried receives her lover's horse and shield as he moves over the edge of the rock and rides away to the Rhine.

Here the orchestra illustrates this scene beautifully in 'Siegfried's Journey Down the Rhine', but the action later turns dramatic as the hero is slain by Hagen, his body being borne away into the rising mists ('Siegfried's Funeral Music'). The final scenes of 'Crepuscule des Dieux', the 'Brunnhilde's Immolation' episode, are vividly pictured by Rita Hunter as she lays Siegfried's body on a funeral pyre with the invocation 'Starke Scheite mir dort' (mighty logs I bid you now pile by the shore of the Rhine). The body is laid as Brunnhilde takes the ring, draws it on her own finger, snatches a fire-brand from one of the vassals, lights the pyre and rides into it on her horse -- 'Siegfried selig grüßt dich dein Weib! (your wife joyfully greets you).

The flames burn more fiercely and the river overflows and the Rhinemaidens appear, one of them holding the recovered ring aloft as the heavens break into flames Valhalla crashing down in flames over the gods.

Alberto Remedios is the ideal partner - his Siegfried being sung with all due passion when required, his lyricism being splendidly in evidence at appropriate moments. Rita Hunter's fine voice aids her superb characterization of Brunnhilde, the orchestral contributions from the LPO and Mackerras complementing the impact of this great Wagnerian music drama. For all opera devotees.

'ALL I have to do is Dream' stayed in the charts for no less than 19 weeks. It was one of those tunes which made the Everly Brothers famous. Now we have one of the brothers, Phil, going solo with a new recording contract for Capitol Records, available here on Capitol EST 27670 ('Phil Everly').

This record demonstrates the lyrical approach that Phil makes to all his music, and the style is very welcome nowadays as a relief from the out-and-out hard rock we hear so much of. His best numbers are 'God Bless Older Ladies' - intimate, relaxed singing, mezza voce at times -- the slow 4-in-a-bar 'A Woman and a Man' which has a sneaking suggestion of the rhythm in Ravel's 'Bolero' -- and the lovely 'Sweet Suzanne', an unsophisticated tune that shows Phil's vocal style to optimum advantage.

Cliff Richard joins Phil in duets -- there is a pleasant blend during 'I'll mend your broken Heart', though the opening 'She Means Nothing to Me' is spoilt by a laboured low-register rhythm guitar backing. Funny that 'Never Gonna Dream Again' doesn't seem to scan musically, but you'll like 'Louise' -- not the Maurice Chevalier 'hit' of the same name -- and the typical Everly Brothers style of 'Sweet Pretender'. I repeat a very welcome return to a very musical idiom. More of this, please. And look out for Phil on television soon.

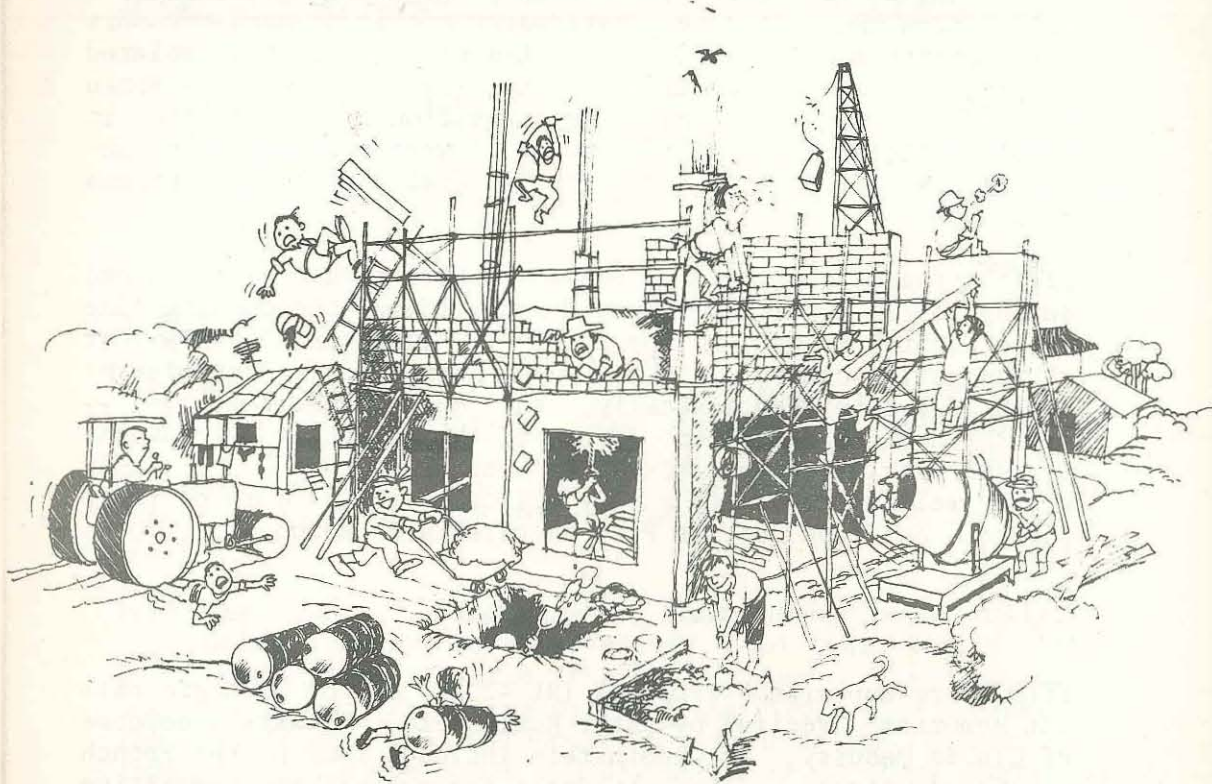
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WELCOME re-appearance from RCA (RL 42024) of the Carnegie Hall 'In Memoriam' recital by Artur Schnabel. Always a devotee of Claude Debussy, Mr. Schnabel includes four of the French composer's pieces -- 'La cathédrale engloutie', that narrative of programme music where submerged bells and Celtic twilight tempt the imagination vividly; 'Ondine', the water-nymphs who lured innocent fisherman to destruction (note the delicacy of the playing here); 'Poissons d'or', brought to darting, quivering life in their bowl-rippling water, trills and tremolos - and, in contrast, that grave sarabande 'Hommage à Rameau'.

The enthusiastic reception afforded Mr. Schnabel can be gathered from this 'live' recording which also includes the Brazilian-flavoured 'Prole do bebe' from Villa-Lobos' 'Puppet Suite', and the Serge Prokofiev '12 Fugitive Visions', wherein the pianist here interprets all the resources of the composer's piano writing, well-pointed rhythms, freshness, grace, drama and lyricism.

A quite delightful recital which should be in every piano-lover's collection.

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"LET'S DO IT" - (REPRISE)

ONE OF THOSE FORGETTABLE SONGS FROM ST. GEORGES NIGHT

They say John Williams in-flight does it
Ian Gibson every night does it
Let's do it, Let's fall in love.

Young David Tarrant is famed for it
Peter Hewland has been blamed for it
Let's do it, Let's fall in love.

In Convent Rd. Vicar Bull does it
With some help from above
Scott Younger will do it
If he's given a shove.

We heard that old David Frost does it
Poor Mike Morgan when he's tossed does it
Let's do it, Let's fall in love.

Old Paddy Dickson for health does it
Tony Erswell all by himself does it
Let's do it, Let's fall in love.

We know Tom Ford with great flair does it
Bernard Grogan when he's bare does it
Let's do it, Let's fall in love.

Old Eric Miller on stage does it
To get in on the act
Quinn at his age does it
As a matter of fact.

We know Chris Chubb a great deal does it
Mrs. Duggan swears that Neil does it
Let's do it, Let's fall in love.

Young Mrs. Murdoch and Bruce do it
Ian Fleming's getting used to it
Let's do it, Let's fall in love.

Sir David Burns after work does it
Arthur Phillips with a jerk does it
Let's do it, Let's fall in love.

We've seen Charles Stewart in the bar do it
With a flick of the wrist
Pravit in his car does it
Every time he gets pissed.

We know that he'll do it, she'll do it
Now we'll go away and we'll do it
Let's do it, Let's fall in love.

BANGKOK COMMUNITY THEATRE'S NEXT PRODUCTION

The famous American playwright Tennessee Williams died in New York City on February 25th this year. As a tribute to his memory the Bangkok Community Theatre are producing his first success, 'The Glass Menagerie', as their next offering to Bangkok's English theatre lovers.

Tennessee Williams once said, "All organic writing is autobiographical; you cannot write about an emotion unless you have experienced it". The Glass Menagerie probably constitutes his most personal statement of his early life. In the play the pretentious but venerable Amanda Wingfield tries to arrange a marriage for her daughter Laura. Williams has acknowledged that Laura was modelled on his sister and the playwright himself clearly can be seen in the character of the brother Tom. In 1979 Williams told an interviewer that he no longer cared to see 'The Glass Menagerie' because, "It reminds me rather painfully of my mother. She never understood how much of her was Amanda".

'The Glass Menagerie' was first entitled 'The Gentleman Caller' but was never performed under this name. It opened on Broadway on March 31st, 1945 and was an unqualified hit, being named the best play of the year by the New York Drama Critics Circle.

Tennessee Williams followed this with 'A Street-car Named Desire' (1947), 'Cat on a Hot Tin Roof' (1954), and 'The Night of the Iguana' (1961). These brought him enormous success and awards but his later works were unfortunately not of the same caliber. The earlier works continue to be popular however and some of his characters, including Amanda in 'The Glass Menagerie', are as prized by actors and actresses as they are by theatregoers who are moved by them.

The BCT production of 'The Glass Menagerie' is to be directed by Gary Kessler and produced by Geof Connor. The cast includes BCT regulars Joy Rodgers as Amanda and Jo Suwannasat as Laura whilst Tom will be played by newcomer Ron Propp and Jim, the gentlemen caller, by Bill Bunch.

The dates to remember are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 9th, 10th, 11th June at Bhirasri Institute of Modern Arts at 8.00 p.m. Tickets will be on sale at the Club, Asia Books and at the door but, as this production will be performed as a 'small theatre' with reduced seating in order to provide increased interface between characters and audience, it would be wise to book early.

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Puzzle

Five well-known stalwarts having left the British Club bar late one night decided on a night cap at one of the better known bars on the Strip. The night cap became long and it was 1.00 p.m. when they at last staggered home.

Next night they were trying to recall the previous evening, in particular one of the more exotic ladies they had observed.

For obvious reasons we will call the members A, B, C, D and E. This was what they recalled;

- A. She was six feet tall, her name was Lek and she was wearing a blue bikini.
- B. She was four feet six inches tall, her name was Toy and she had a see through black bikini.
- C. She was five feet tall, her name was Lek and had a see through black bikini.
- D. She was six feet tall, her name was Pong and she had no bikini at all.
- E. She was four feet six inches tall, her name was Pong and she was wearing a blue bikini.

In fact, when I went back the next night I found that each of the members were correct about one aspect of the lady only (not bad considering their state at the time).

How tall, what name and what dress did the lady in question have?



"I think your obligatos are the finest in the building!"

F & B Correspondent

New Menus

The dining room menu has been revised and will shortly be re-printed (using the same, very popular cover).

Gone are "Toad in the Hole" and "Vichysoisse", two of our more obvious failures; the former we could not cook, the latter we could cook but nobody wanted to eat.

Newcomers include U.S. prime beef steaks. We hope you enjoy them.

In the Churchill Bar, the Snacks menu has been overhauled. Sandwiches have been rationalised (whatever that means!) and new items with meaningless, but tantalising, names added, e.g. "Hunter's Pie" and "Farmer's Brew".

Wine Tasting - Bad News, Good News

First the bad news. Only 23 members showed up for our May wine tasting which was sponsored by the Borneo Co.

The good news was that the wine and food were excellent. The tasting contest proved an exciting affair with Mesdames Collins and Davie outclassing the male competition to carry off the top prizes (2 litre carafes of Paul Masson Californian wine).

As a special treat during the evening British Airways provided generous helpings of the new British Cheese, Limeswold, to complement the wines.

All present voted the evening a great success and we strongly recommend members to come along to the next two wine tastings sponsored by ItalThai and Asia Trade Consultants.

Dinner Video

This has become a major event in the Club's regular weekly calendar. Every Saturday evening at 6.00 p.m. and 8.00 p.m. in the Dining Room we offer a varied programme of British T.V. entertainment.

Two new batches of tapes have just arrived from the U.K. so we can offer fresh episodes of comedy (Open All Hours, The Good Life, Are You Being Served) and drama (Jamaica Inn, To Serve Them All Our Days, Brideshead Revisited).

We are also happy to announce that the last four parts of "The Citadel" are now in our possession. The conclusion to this excellent series is not to be missed so we plan to screen the remaining episodes fairly soon so as not to be caught out by the coming home leave period.

Poolside Snacks

It is hoped to provide malt bread (with butter and marmalade) and Chelsea buns with afternoon tea or coffee at the poolside only. Please watch the Club notice boards for further information.

I'm not sitting here in this ridiculous manner unless the nice lady with the 2 litres of red does our table again.



Methinks there is a Limeswold cheese around here somewhere!

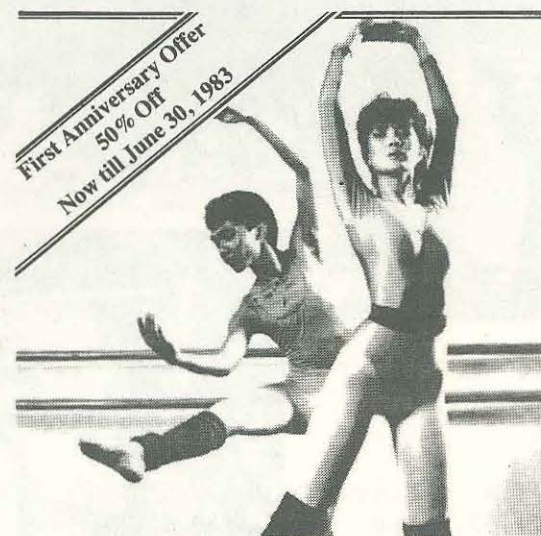
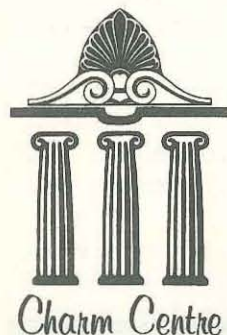
Woman's Own

"The pursuit of beauty is not narcissistic, it is an essential way to build up confidence without which there is little achievement in anything."

Beauty is not just a pretty face or a perfect body, it also embraces a lively mind and a proper grooming. Nowadays, these can be achieved through professional guidance and various beauty programmes, designed through years of experiments to make one look and feel better.

The concept of beauty is not the quick cover-up effects, it requires tremendous amount of effort and will-power. Women who are aware of their more active roles in society and growing public presence, should consider with priority these efforts toward better health and grooming. To be concerned with one's beauty is no longer an ego or vanity, it has become a social necessity.

"Beauty is a science now. You are responsible for your body; your first move starts here..."



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THIS IS HOW IT USED TO BE

If your husband loves you, don't be stubborn; honour him every day; do not be wilful. When it gets dark, you should not stray away but light the lamp, go and see to the bedroom, make and clean the bed, sweep away dust. And every night when he retires to bed crouch at his feet and pay him homage. Never forget!

If he is stiff with aches and cramps, ease them with soothing massage. When you go to sleep, be decorous; don't let your hands and feet stray over him while you are asleep. If you sleep thus, your goodness will shine forth.

And if your husband should rise up in anger, you should abase yourself to quench his wrath. Do not allow yourself to raise your voice and answer back.

If he is fire, you should be as water sprinkled on him.

If both of you are aflame, the fire will spread -- anger which then can never be suppressed.

Your private conjugal feelings will escape, to become known to all the world outside. What neighbours didn't know, they now will know. So therefore, don't indulge in your own wrath.

Don't go on sleeping till the sun is high; you should get up before your husband, and prepare water for him to wash his face. Then do the cooking and prepare the tray of dishes to give a beautiful effect, along with the spittoon, polished and shining. Make sure no dust is in the drinking water.

And if you know he has to go somewhere but find that he has not yet woken up, then gently get him up without delay to eat his food. Sit near him while he eats, in case anything lacks; don't give him cause to shout for it. Pay careful heed until he's finished eating. Then you yourself may eat. Don't eat before he does; it is not seemly, and he won't like it.

Sunthorn Phu

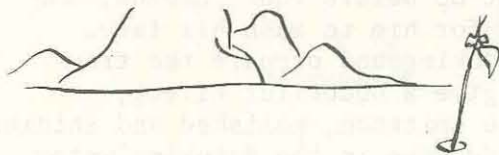


GOLF

Well, they say golf is a demanding if not frustrating game at the best of times and that's when you play with your own ball! but when the game is played when your opponent can tell you to hit a different ball than your own, then it most certainly is a crazy but fun game and definitely not to be taken seriously. May-day saw the stalwart British Club golfers playing such a game on the Sathahip links which under the scorching sun and drought conditions of previous months was in good condition with the greens being somewhat different to the ones we have become accustomed to on the Bangkok courses.

What you might ask, would a game as described above be called, for your information and should you ever want to hold a match that is different, for fun, I have enclosed the rules of RYESOMES (foursomes with a difference)

1. All players drive off (teams of two)
2. The opponents choose the worst of the two drives for continuous play.
3. The best drive ball of the partners is picked up.
4. The worst drive ball is then played alternatively by each member of the partnership starting with the person who did not make the drive.
5. The handicap for this competition is the average of the two handicaps.



"It's a nice simple game without a lot of rules. You just hit it into that hole."

Colpper

All in all it was a fun day with the winners receiving a magnificent challenge trophy and tankards donated and presented by your new committee member - Jeremy Watson. The worthy winners were Ron Armstrong and David Factor with 28 Stableford points in second place with 27 points was Fauna Goodin and Ian McLean on countback from Ken Boughton and Tom Ford.

Nearest the pins sponsored by Chartered Bank went to Joan Jurgens on hole eight and to Ian McLean on hole 13.

"Dinkum Dummies" were presented by our Captain, courtesy of American Standard and Shanks to Joan Jurgens and Ron Armstrong for the longest drives.

A laugh in one!



"There it was . . . the club championship . . . right in the palm of my hand . . . Then we went to the second hole."

Our next two outings will be at Hua Mark on May 15th and 29th and will be the Club Championship.

Other dates to put down are the following, with starting times to be advised:

12th June	Bang Phra	Stableford
26th June	Unico	Medal
10th July	Hua Mark	Stableford
24th July	Rose Garden	1st Round Eclectic



SWIMMING

BCB Gala; Sunday, May 8

On a day that was almost too hot for comfort; better in the pool than out; 26 BCB swimmers battled out their Free, Back and I.M. races.

A special "Thank You" must go to the timers who braved the scorching sun and tiles, between cool beers.

Whilst sadly saying goodbye to another of our departing stalwarts;

Good Luck to Mark McCall, keep swimming!

We are very pleased to welcome our new (i.e. first recorded races) swimmers, whom our coaches Messrs. Choon / Suparb feel are showing great potential.

<u>Welcome to:</u>	Sophie Myer	Rosemary Kay
	Hope Temple	Natalie Passmore
	Benjie Fathers	Simon Kay
	Bliss Temple	

and the Kent girls, who are impressive during training but unfortunately missed the Gala.

We definitely need your support if we are to further improve upon our improving BCB team position in the tri-annual 3-way Friendship Gala meets; next at ISRC on June 26; so please try not to miss the training sessions; every Tuesday & Thursday with special sessions to be arranged for Saturday mornings.

Outstanding Performances

- * Our 6 & Under record holder Melinda Laing swam a fine 25m Free race in 20.6 secs, just 0.2 secs off her club record time.
- * Jeannie Collins (7 & 8 yrs) improved on her best times in all 3 strokes to win the "Improver of the Month" award for May.
- * Maree Prendergast (9 & 10 yrs) recorded her best ever Free and I.M. times.
- * Ann Williams (9 & 10 yrs) reduced her Free (-4 secs) and Back (-13 secs) stroke best times by significant margins.



* Mark Gillett (9 & 10 yrs) shared his best Free time (37.8 secs) to inch even closer to the club record (35.5 secs) whilst knocking 2 secs off his best I.M. time.

* Seksan Collins (13 & 14 yrs) recorded improvements in all 3 strokes for the third month running and is closing fast on all records in his age group.

Well Done to the above, and all of our swimmers!

Awards

At the May Gala our Swimming Committee Chairman, Hugh Jamieson, presented the following proficiency certificates:

Shark:	<u>Melinda Laing</u>
(top award)	<u>Mark McCall</u>
	<u>Elaine Friel</u>
	<u>Joanna Davidson</u>
	<u>Mark Gillett</u>

and track-suit badges for:

"Improver of the Month:" Sara Gillett (March)
Jonathan Albright (April)

Congratulations to all!

Please see the Swimming notice board for the list of swimmers invited for proficiency tests on the 4th June (i.e. the Saturday before the June BCB Gala).

Dusit Swimming Club Gala

At time of going to press, we are making final arrangements for our rematch visit to the Dusit Swimming Club on Thursday, May 26.

This is one of Thailand's leading swimming clubs with several past and present national swimmers. With an expected BCB team of some 20 swimmers, it should be a great day out and an opportunity for our swimmers to improve on their best performances against top class competition. Results will be announced in the next Outpost.

BCB Gala: Sunday June 5, starting 11.30 a.m.

Friendship Gala: At the ISRC (Sukhumvit Soi 21, Asoke) on Sunday June 26, starting 0730 (1st race 0800)

AGM: Please watch the notice board for the time/place of our Swimming Committee AGM. All interested parties are welcome.

There is a lot of work involved in organising the Swimming activities:

- * Training
- * Proficiency Tests
- * Outpost Articles
- * Accounts
- * BCB and Outside Meets
- * - fielding complaints

and for many years the Jamiesons (Helen & Hugh) have been the backbone of this thriving section. If you have the time, patience, (telephone), interest etc. to help in this rewarding work (for the children) please try and make it to our AGM and help us make the 1983/4 season our best ever.

See you at the pool!



SQUASH

Very close competition in the May league at time of writing this report. We have to tip the lid to the coordinators for most of the division placements as most players are talking, or gasping, about tough games in their ranks so it sounds even right through. Those noticing a wrenching drop in their placings can attribute that to a squeeze in the top divisions filling up causing the lower divisions to drop correspondingly down. In the dark old days when there was no actual limit to entries in the divisions this squeeze merely caused some divisions to swell up in number but on the negative side it also sparked underground letters to coordinators and increased the games hence extension of playing time for the league itself. We could go on with our comparisons but anyway lets just say that Jack Crunchford seems to have the right formula with the 6 man / lady divisions rigidly held to a fixed month format.

All this talk about leagues should not overshadow the ladder competition which hasn't been mentioned for a while. Those in the know are well aware of the cold war grimly going on behind the league scenes. Amazing the interest shown by some players in the leave and health status of other players around the 4th to 5th rung higher up on the ladder. Let a pale, flabby and very relaxed ladder player slide behind his desk the first day back at the office and guess what his first phone call will be?

Usually variations of "Fred how was the trip?" followed by an almost decent pause to hear the answer before going into the main thrust of the call i.e. "I have a court tonight just came free and I was wondering...etc.

The word goes out via some magical grapevine that Fred caught a cold while he was away and then Fred better keep the phone off the hook or steel his secretary to deflect the ladder game invitations bound to flow in.

So remember fellow league sufferers who always get pipped for a cup or goblet or whatever the prize, keep a few forward court bookings up the sleeve and be poised by the phone soon as that unqualified rumour filters in. Maybe you can get so high up the ladder that the scrabblers below will invite you out to Pat Pong on their account (they will be on orange juice because of some allergy). Then the trick is to disappear about midnight seconds before the host can make his offer for a "small challenge at 6.30 the following morning.

42nd Squash League - July 10th Anniversary

The "Super League" is not just the 42nd league held at BCB but it also falls very close to the 10th anniversary of the 1st British Club Squash League held in mid 1973. For this auspicious occasion a commemorative T shirt with all the right wording will be given to every entrant in the 42nd league. All it will cost for this free T shirt ahem, is a 75 baht entrance fee instead of the normal "50 baht entrance fee. So for a measly 25 baht we will have a new T shirt to carefully store away for best use on any squash court in a foreign country where its hoped the natives will spot the international "ACE" from Thailand. Besides the T shirts the normal league prizes will be awarded probably duly engraved but that will be confirmed in the entries invitation for the league which normally goes out mid or 20th of the preceding month (June in this case).

Watch out for this league. Hope we get a record field (think Jack said 119 was our best to date). Historians keen to know about the first league can ask Rod Carter or Dave Sims about that era or even Bernie G or Dugal F can remember just about back to then.

Fun Day Coming Up in September

Still a while to go but start to note the date set for 10 September where we have a sponsor backed fun squash day for young and old, MCPs, WASPs, travellers and anyone who can hold a racquet. There will be a Bar-B-Q and all sorts of frolics going on with plenty of prizes involved. More, much more will be written about this event soon.

Visits

Closer to our time frame is the July 17 visit of the Lancing College squash team of 7 boys led by John Thompson. This will stretch the playing abilities of the BCB but anything is possible on the home ground.

In August the Selangor Club players from KL region (no not MCPs) will be having their social squash visit. Plenty of chances to enter and play so watch out for details.

Farewells/Arrivals

Bye to Steve McCall who has been in the country, and diving around it as well, for quite a few years. Steve was becoming a familiar sight on the courts in May. Ian Ward-McNally has left at time of writing while Monica was about to go to eventually be in Cairo with Ian. Happy squash in Cairo mate.

A recent arrival was Steven thanks to Leslie and Simon Brewin who now have 2 boys to enter the world ranks around the year 2000?

Finally a coming dreaded arrival is the return of a meek, mild squash player name of John Sill. John fought his way up to division 2 some years back before moving to Hong Kong but he's coming back and will be in the July league to get his T shirt. John is said to train with steel bars instead of racquets.

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LADIES' GOLF

Since the last edition of Outpost SHE has not been around the golfing scene much, and has taken to visiting further afield seeing what is going on in Northern Thailand, seeing various hilltribes, reaching the Golden Triangle and on to the northernmost part of Thailand at Mae Sai. Then by way of a complete contrast, on to Hong Kong, so if the news is a bit thin on the home front and somebody has done something outstanding which would have been worth a mention I'll get it for the next issue.

Muriel Harrold, our Treasurer, is back from leave and wasted on time in getting out on the course. Although not playing golf for several weeks I hear she is still on form and runner-up in her first game back.

We welcomed two more new members to our group, Fauna Goodin and Emilie Fangman and we wish them many happy golfing days with BCLG.

Results

26 April L.G.U. Medal

Winner (Silver Div) Ella Mallaret nett 68
R/Up (" ") Eileen Ford nett 70

Winner (Bronze Div) Wynne Fraser nett 70
R/Up (" ") Pam Hardy nett 75
(on countback from Lise)

Longest Drive - Ella Mallaret

Low Putts - Millie Marshall and also nearest to pin

3 May Three Throw Outs

Winner : Wynne Fraser nett 41 (nett 63 for 18 holes)
R/Up : Kerstin Persson nett 49 (69 nett for 18 holes)
Longest Drive - Tina Svensson

10 May Bisque Bogey

Winner : Ella Mallaret + 6 (gross 85 - 17 nett 68)
R/Up : Sheila Kerr + 5
Longest Drive - Kerstin
Nearest to Pin - Lise Dencker-Nielsen

17 May Stableford

Winner : Joan Jurgens 36 points
2nd : Muriel Harrold 35 points
3rd : Millie Marshall 34 points
Longest Drive - Lise and Joan (equal)
Nearest to Pin - Joan

Bang Phra - 7th June at 8 a.m.

We have been invited for a game of golf at Bang Phra and this will take the form of a stableford competition. The invitation also extends to lunch at a member's house, therefore it is important that we know how many intend to play. Please ring Eileen (252-2074) as early as possible before the day.



"SPRINGTIME NOTWITHSTANDING, I DO WISH THEY'D ASK
IF THEY COULD PLAY THROUGH!"



BRIDGE

Things are very quiet on the bridge scene at the moment with many people away. There has, in fact, been no organised bridge during May.

June, however, will start with duplicate on the 6th with special and surprise prizes. All are welcome and if you don't have a partner there are usually a few other singles to team up with. Standard varies from precise Precision to awful American so don't be shy.

Before battle commences we will have a short A.G.M. at 7.30 p.m. to pick the new section committee.

See you all there.

BRITISH WOMEN'S GROUP

BANGKOK

On Wednesday 22nd June the British Women's Group are holding a Chicago Bridge and Mahjong morning to raise money for Thai Charities.

The venue is at the Chartered Bank Manager's House, 87 Wireless Road and will commence at 9.00 a.m.

There will be door prizes, raffle and competition prizes. The admission charge of Bht. 130 per head includes morning coffee and a finger buffet lunch. This event is not restricted to members of the British Women's Group and participants are asked to arrange their own partners, if possible.

Tickets will be available from:

Gwladus Adams 286 5775 BWG

Beverly Laing 251 0722 (3C)

Australian Women's Group

Numbers will be strictly limited and admission will be for ticket holders only. Please book early to avoid disappointment.



TENNIS

The playing surfaces of our two new raised courts have been cause for considerable concern during the month and every effort is being made to find a solution to the problem. A new pumping system has been introduced to provide more water on them and an experienced groundsman formerly responsible for preparation of the lawn courts at the RBSC has been employed to assist in bringing them up to playable condition as soon as possible.

League action has continued despite the court difficulties and the Ladies League has now 'taken off' after some restructuring. League positions to mid-May are as follows:

Men's League Div. 1 (to May 23rd)

Name	Matches		Matches		Games		Points
	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Won	Lost	
S. Tapner	9	7	2	-	99	29	16
Joti B.	6½	5	1	½	79	43	11
S. Valbjorn	7	4	2	1	77	46	10
C. Dencker-Nielsen	8½	3½	1	4	67	65	8
M. Wellman	3	3	-	-	37	10	6
S. Metherell	5	2	1	2	45	48	5
P. Rosenfeldt	7	2	1	4	36	67	5
O. de Braekeleer	6½	2	-	4½	34	73	4
R.V. Fordham	3½	½	2	1	36	42	3
M. Smith	5	-	-	5	21	64	0
M. Aerts	5	-	-	5	13	61	0

Div. 2 (to May 23rd)

J. Kerr	5	5	-	-	60	13	10
D. Apps	5	3	1	1	47	27	7
L. Alexander	4	3	-	1	40	18	6
B. Grogan	6	2	2	2	49	41	6
W.F. Kinnaid	3	2	1	-	38	21	5
G. Walck	4	1	1	2	32	43	3
N. Musgrave	4	1	-	3	14	39	2
R. Edmonds	2	-	1	1	13	22	1
E. Jurgens	5	-	-	5	14	60	0
J.A. Christopher	1	-	-	1	1	12	0
M. Broughton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Ladies League Div. 1 (to May 23rd)

Name	Matches		Matches Drawn	Lost	Games		Points
	Played	Won			Won	Lost	
P. Pointer	6	5	1	-	72	20	11
S. Rendle	5	4	1	-	56	19	9
A. Wilson	3	2	-	1	30	22	4
S. Metherell	3	2	-	1	26	17	4
J. Baillie	1½	½	1	-	15	9	2
Y. Olver	1	1	-	-	12	3	2
C. Kay	3½	1	-	2½	21	37	2
M. Fordham	4½	1	-	3½	27	45	2
F. Dickson	3½	½	-	3	19	37	1
M. McAlister	4	-	1	3	12	45	1
K. Barnes	2	-	-	2	0	24	0

INTER-CLUB TENNIS

British Club v. International School, Bangkok

Our intended fixture with ISB was postponed twice. The first occasion because we could not raise a team, on a holiday weekend. The second because ISB, the 'home' team inadvertently failed to make the necessary court bookings and no alternative courts were available. Apologies were received and it is hoped to reschedule this match sometime in the future.

British Club v. Gymkhana Club, Chiangmai

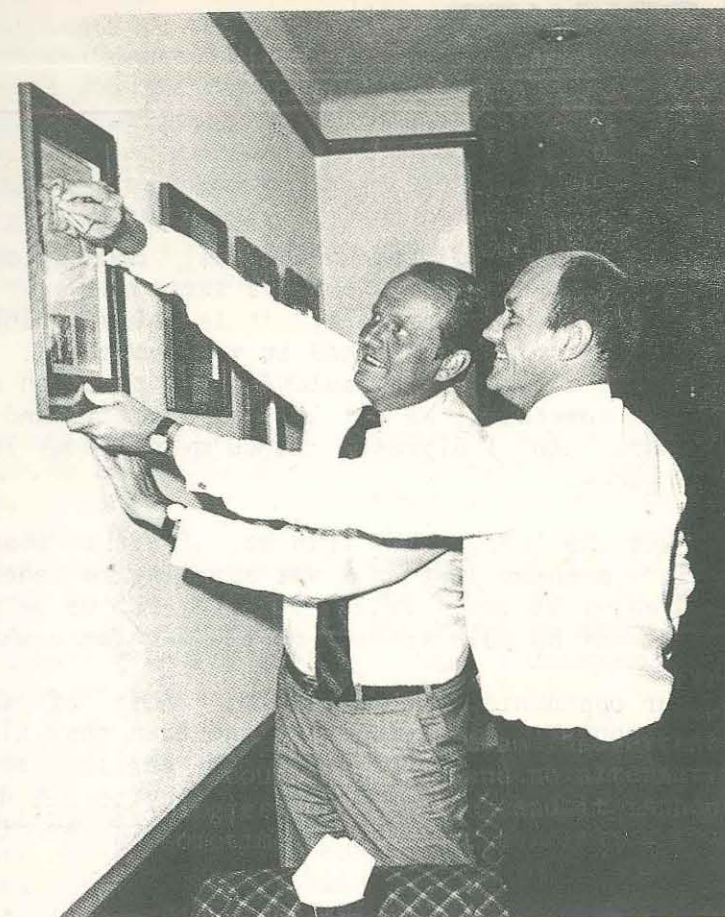
Our efforts to attract members to make a trip to Chiangmai during the last week in May were a dismal failure and as only six members signed up we reluctantly abandoned the fixture. Apologies were sent to our prospective hosts.

A further attempt to play this match in early December will be made and members are asked to make an early note to reserve the holiday weekends of 5th and 10th December for a trip to Chiangmai. Details will be advised later.

OTHER MATTERS

Court Bookings

All courts are bookable Monday thru Friday, excepting holidays. Courts are unbookable Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays. On unbookable days, players must vacate the courts after one short set (6-5) if others are waiting to play. Singles play is allowed on unbookable courts for the time being.



"Carsten Dencker Nielsen has very kindly had the score sheets of the Bjorn and Mariana Borg matches played at the Club framed and they can now be found hanging in the Churchill Bar, Carsten, you will remember, was the umpire on that memorable day. A bronze plaque commemorating the opening of the new courts by Bjorn Borg is also being made and should soon be ready. This will provide hard proof that that day in January really did happen -- it wasn't just a dream.

The photograph shows Carsten and Mike McAlister trying to remove their incriminating finger prints from one of the score sheets."



CRICKET

Dear Reader,

When I last wrote to you from Chiang Mai, decency obliged me not to mention all the facets of this extraordinary game we play here. By the way, reader, it is called cricket, not croquet, as some of you mentioned in your comments. We'd be good at croquet though, as we wouldn't have to catch anything. One did catch something, we all laughed about it and have not seen him since. But I digress; since my previous letter, we played two games.

The first was the last, they told me, in the league this season. It's a shame just as I was starting to understand it all. And enjoy it too. Well, at least, let us be positive, my wife will not be able to stop me playing for a while.

Anyway, our opponents were the Colts. Most of them were indeed very young and inexperienced and then they also had a doctor who is one but not the other. He was supposed to look after them, strange they all seemed healthy to me, but would have done a lot better looking after our lot; he finished by looking after himself.

The toss was won, that usually means a lot of activity for our captain. He has to put all the names in a hat, make the draw and tell the lucky winners. By an amazing coincidence the first names to come out were Piper and Coghill. That's the second time this season. So off they go to affront the colts.

Every other member of the team is also allocated various duties; the ost-ralians are usually asked to vocally support the precedings; when desperately short, they are sometimes asked to umpire but that task is usually reserved for the Brits who apparently think they know the rules: the lone N.Z. national has to comment on the running between wickets and the other farang keeps the score which brings me back to this particular game.

An excellent start by both batsmen with John opening his tally with a boundary; he cannot resist temptation, as we all know. The first wicket falls at 49 made in just about even time. Coghill, the man out for 23, Ben Piper follow him soon after the drinks interval, having scored 35 runs.

A word of explanation about the scoring system might now be in order for the reader unfamiliar with this sport. If you know the rules you can therefore jump to the next paragraph. Once you have established how to hold your bit of willow (bat), you are thus allowed to attempt to hit the leather object (ball) coming towards you at various degrees of speed and accuracy (line & length). If you accidentally make contact (good shot) you are encouraged by your skipper to amble about 20 yards (one run). There are other ways to score, not often in use by our team.

Right!

Back to our innings with Brook & Parry in action. Jeff having broken sweat to break his duck, is promptly in need of oxygen and retires to rest. Jack Dunford now at the crease, the run rate speeds up. Brian, wanting to avoid too many close shaves, decides to offer a return catch and is out for 23. "De Brickie" is soon caught out which brings John McBeth at number seven. Silence falls on the crowd as every spectator wishes to savour McBeth's calling - what a disappointment, no joy, no calls, no runs...

The situation becomes serious with the score at 108 for six. At number eight, we have the most unproved cricketer this year; take it from an expert! He bowls well, he bats confidently, he has taken three catches this year, a nice clean living Australian (if that is not contradictory) he is Paul "The Admiral" Niemczyk.

Forty runs were added for the seventh wicket before Jack is bowled having made 34. But the Admiral lives one and with help from Gordon Burles and Don Goodin the total reaches 164 for 8, Paul is unbeaten on 27, having in the process forced the doctor to visit the first aid room.

A word of thanks is due to Caltex, our sponsors, who flew Paul Eastaway back for the game (no expenses spared), and to his girlfriend for allowing him to play. Sorry, you didn't get a bat, Paul!

A refreshed Parry opens with a wicket in his first over; Eastaway, no bat, but the bit between the teeth, starts with a wicket maiden at the other end. Glove Burles snaps both chances. A third wicket soon falls to Jeff and, with pressure on, the medic appears at the crease. Slowly but surely he keeps our opponents in with a chance, ably supported by one of the younger colts. The skipper decides to replace pace by spin but neither Coghill nor Goodin get support from the fielders which reminds me; did you know it was possible for

a fine to be levied against two players for the same dropped chance? It certainly is, especially between first slip and wicket keeper which also reminds me, we need a volunteer to explain to "the brickie" that he is very good to put his chest in the way of the ball, but that it is easier to catch it with his hands. Yet another fine.

"Bring on the Admiral" shouts the crowd which Jack does and sure enough, second ball - Nick is caught and bowled. After a little more resistance from some of the older horses, Ben & Don share the last 5 wickets.

The final bowling figures read Piper 3 for 25, Goodin 2 for 28, Parry 2 for 29, Niemczyk 1 of 12 and Eastaway 1 for 2 in 5 overs.

A good win in a pleasant atmosphere.

As this was due to be John Coghill's last game the skipper had arranged a meal out for most players and their better halves. The surroundings were suggested by the Burles family (who must have vested interest in the place), the food was good, an excellent evening; and Coghill didn't turn up, otherwise engaged. It is just as well that it wasn't after all his last game!

And then the big day came, May 7th, the Marshall trophy. We had no intention to relinquish it so, after many discussions, we all agreed on the tactics. Very simple, similar to last year, all we had to do was to win the toss.

The national press was kind enough to lend us Charlie and we also had JC Superstar, Captain for the day. All was well until the coin was tossed. From there on, it was downhill all the way. "Lucky Jim" survived three half-chances, one of the first ball of the innings. Eastaway and Niemczyk opened accurately and kept the scoring down to a trickle; when both RBSC openers fell in short succession to our Kabul born Australian, the game was still wide open. However the Sports Club had other ideas. Their next pair was a blend of youth and experience. We were then treated (if it is the correct word) to an exhibition of how to hit the ball hard. It suffices to say that Doug Beckett, yet another member of the British Club to play for the wrongside, scored 202 in superb style. He also took a particular liking to our sponsor's bowling, scoring thirty off one over. He finally departed going for yet another six (fourteen in total), caught by David Apps off Ben Piper. Gibson scored a half-century before falling to Eastaway, the Admiral took another wicket and Dottore Blauco, to crown it all, scored six off the first ball he faced.

Our ground fielding was excellent, but in the air we made a few unforced errors! The bowling figures reflected on this, Niemczyk taking 3 for 57, Piper 1 for 43 and Eastaway 1 for 82. Unlucky on the day were Parry, Coghill and Apps.

With a score of 327 on the board, we needed a good start and quick runs. We all tried but to no avail; nobody stayed long enough to make an impression on this massive total.

Jeff Parry and David Apps top-scored with 17 each, closely followed by Jack Dunford and Olivier de Braekeleer on 16. Our secret weapon, Charlie Price, got 15 and John Coghill 10. Despite a heavy defeat, it was a most pleasant day.

All there is now to look forward to is the skipper's summary of the season and the averages. He has promised to return to you for the next issue of Outpost which no doubt will bring you great relief.

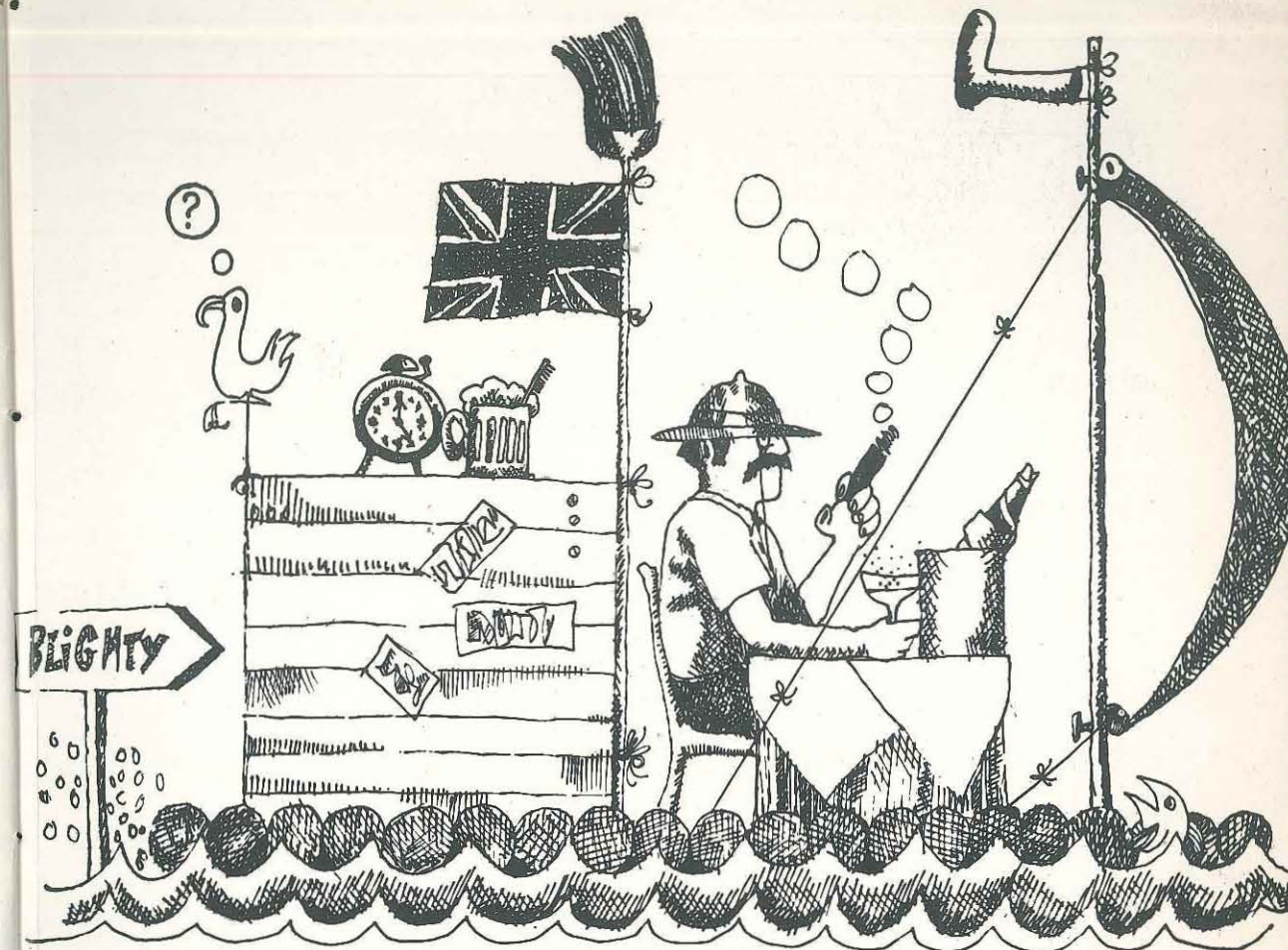
Your average, dear Reader, is your weight in kilograms divided by the number of large Klosters you consume after the game. As I'm told my average is rather poor, there is only one solution: gain sufficient weight before next the start of next season.



The End

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