

THE BRITISH CLUB

BANGKOK

JUNE 2007



Strawberry Fields Issue 'Emporatically' Exceptional Entertainment!

BC Pipe Band at ANZAC, Balut takes off, Blood Donation Day, Wat Phra Baht Nam Phu

Mad Dogs and and Englishmen...

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summer concert

conductors: leo phillips and dominic sargent

featuring:

shrewsbury international school symphony orchestra and chorus

VIVAIDA MOZATE beethoven-

> shrewsbury international school saturday 30 june 7:30pm

adults: 300 thb, children/students 150 thb, shrewsbury students enter free if accompanied by an adult



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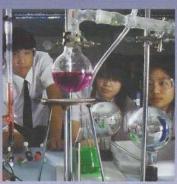




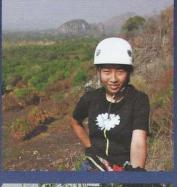








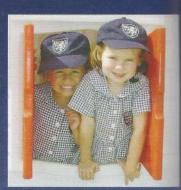
















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This year's **Fun Fair** at the Club promises to be the biggest and best yet, with never-before-seenat-the-Club attractions such as a giant climbing wall (pictured). And it's all in honour of Her Majesty's 81st birthday. See pp 20 & 21 for more.

Summer Strawberries, Portraits of the Queen and Hidden Pirate Treasure

ou may be wondering . . . What's the link between all these things? The answer is simple - They're all part of this issue of *Outpost*!

And why is this issue called the 'Strawberry Fields' issue? Has Billy gone mad? Well, the answer to the second question is of course, 'no' because he's always been mad, and the answer to the first is . . . we want to evoke a feeling. This is the month of June . . . the beginning of summer in the UK . . . Wimbledon will soon be starting . . . and that means long cool Pimms and lots of strawberries. Despite the rain, which does appear to be easing up, we want to stay in the summer mood here at the Club and so from the middle of the month there'll be some **Spectacular Summer Season Strawberry Specials** on the menu to remind you of the first days of summer when you were young . . . aaah . . . Take a look at On The Menu, page 24, for an idea of what's coming.

And just in case you were wondering, the Queen's portrait on the front cover is the **official Canadian portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II**. It was taken during the 2002 Jubilee Visit and unveiled on June 2, 2003, in honour of the 50th anniversary of her coronation. This particular portrait appears on the front cover of *Outpost* not only to commemorate the Queen's 81st birthday, officially in June, but also in honour of Canada's 140th anniversary to be celebrated here at the Club on the 23rd of June – see page 30.

In terms of paintings, the Queen has sat for 139 official portraits during her lifetime, starting when she was just seven years old when she was painted by the Hungarian artist Philip Alexius de Laszlo in 1933. Photographic portraits of the Queen must number in the hundreds at least. The National Portrait Gallery has an impressive collection of 151 photographic portraits spanning the Queen's entire lifetime. Curiously, among these are four silk screen prints by Andy Warhol, done in 1985, but they're not even viewable on the world wide web, so if you'd like to see them, they're on display at the National Portrait Gallery, in Room 32!



There are **five** treasure chests hidden in this issue and they look like this (but of course this one doesn't count). The first five persons (under 14 and one per family) to contact Barry at the Club and correctly state the locations of **all five**

Treasure Chests will each win a ticket to the Pirates of the Caribbean Children's Party.

Billy Beefeater

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, wearing her Canadian insignia



see
 editorial for more.

OUTPOST MAGAZINE

The contents of this magazine are not necessarily the opinion of the Editor, the General Committee or the Club's management. Criticisms and suggestions are welcomed by the Club's management or by Veritas Enterprises.

OUTPOST is produced on behalf of the British Club by Veritas Enterprises. For advertising inquiries contact Jim Fowler (081-844-7015 or Jim@VeritasEnterprises.com); and for editorial matters contact the Editor at OutpostEditor@VeritasGraphics.com

The British Club is a family, social and sporting club set in relaxing grounds, conveniently located between Silom and Surawongse Roads, with an ever-growing international membership.

The British Club

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Letter from the Chair



Dear Members,

I hope you all had a safe and happy Songkran break and are getting used to the daily downpours with the early arrival of the wet season.

This month we have been busy with Club development issues. You will have received a letter informing you of the progress of the development and some of the issues the

management and various committees are currently dealing with. I would like to reiterate our thanks to the members for bearing with us whilst the work on the Churchill Bar, Lobby and Membership Services is completed and our sincere apologies for any associated inconvenience. As mentioned, the progress with The Verandah is slower than we would like but we are working closely with the Project Management team from Jones Lang Le Salle to ensure that the contractors adhere to the revised schedule. We are committed to providing the membership with regular updates on the progress of the Club development so expect to hear more in the very near future.

If you have not already done so, please have a look at the Club website. The website contains information for current members as well as providing an introduction to prospective members and visitors from reciprocal clubs. In the members' section, there is valuable information about events in the coming week as well as a calendar with a more extended view of Club activities for the month and beyond. In the very near future functionality for booking of events will be made available from the website.

On the matter of reciprocal clubs, these are for the benefit of the BC membership and a list of the clubs, and the associated paperwork required in order to visit them, is kept with the team in the Membership Services area. We seek to have reciprocal arrangements with high quality clubs around the world and we are continually investigating potential reciprocal clubs. If you know of any clubs that we should be contacting for reciprocal membership, or if you have had a less than positive experience at a current reciprocal club, please contact the Membership team.

Please make yourself known to me and I look forward to meeting you around the Club .

Yours sincerely,

Stuart BlacksellChairman
BCB General Committee 2007/8

and from the CEO...

Dear Members,

During May I spent a few days in Hong Kong attending the Annual Asian Club Managers Association Conference. There were 103 delegates from over 60 clubs across the region. During various discussions it was apparent there was a lot to be learnt from other, similar, clubs in the region and I hope to be able to implement some new initiatives over the coming weeks. We shall also certainly be entering into new reciprocal agreements with more clubs across the region as a result of the conference.



We are currently working on improving our electronic communication to members regarding the Club's events, working towards a centralised mechanism for complaints/suggestions, moving towards the installation of Point of Sale machines in all our Food & Beverage outlets providing greater efficiency in the way your bills are handled and creating a procedure for members to be able to book British Club events via our website.

Following the AGM in March, we have recently installed two Pool Tables in what used to be the Snooker Room. This room is open to all members (under 14s with adult supervision) and the cue balls and coins are available from the Churchill Bar. We shall be holding a pool tournament in the next few weeks so please take the time to practice and look out on the posters for more details.

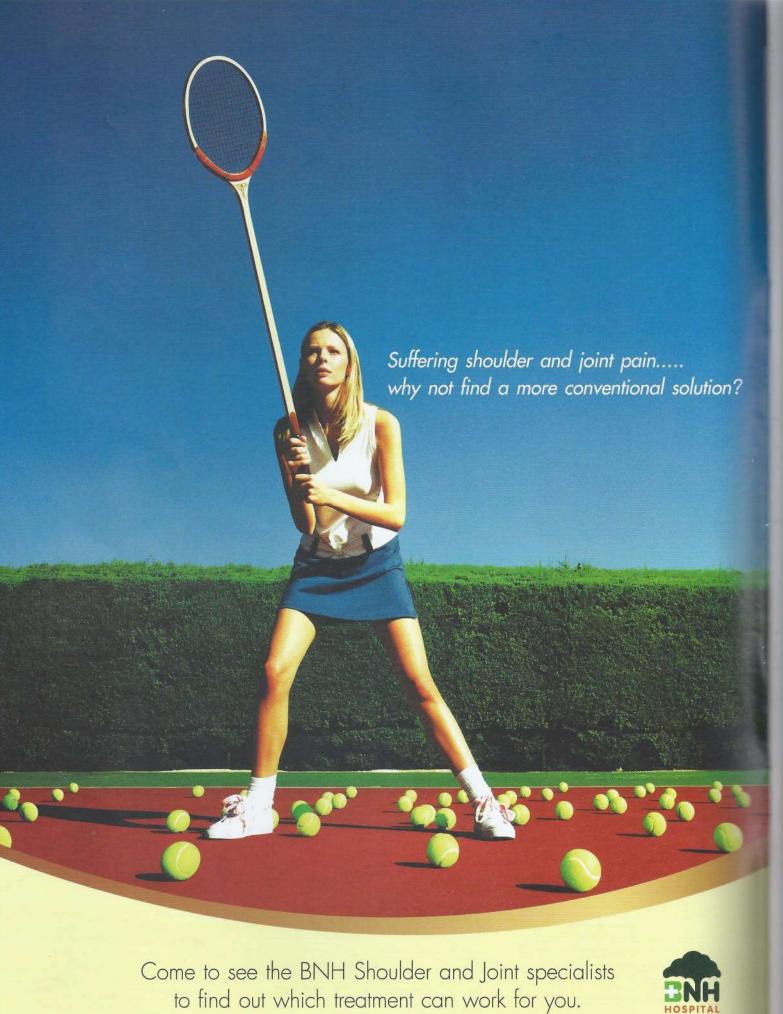
Following our very successful Balut match against the Tanglin Club, Singapore (see page 28), the Club has purchased several Balut boxes for use in the Churchill Bar. This excellent and fun game is a great way to spend a couple of hours over a few beers with friends. If you don't know how to play, there are a growing number of "aficionados" in the bar that, I am sure, would be willing to teach you how to play.

On a more sombre note some of the defects in the Churchill Bar have been rectified and we are vigorously pursuing completion of the outstanding issues as well as continuing to chase completion of The Verandah. Updates will be sent to members on a fortnightly basis and these letters are posted on the Club's notice board along with minutes of project meetings and defects list. If anyone has any queries or requires any clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

I look forward to seeing you often at the Club.

Simon Roberts Chief Executive Officer CEO@britishclubbangkok.org

P.S. I would like to thank everyone who has wished me well following my brief stay in hospital at the beginning of May.



BNH Shoulder and Joint Centre



Bazza's Banter

Bless me Barnacles!

Dear Members,

Well, look what's happened for the last month or so! There has been rain nearly every day and the skies have been grey, depressing and overcast, which is more like the UK rather than Thailand. However, despite the rain, we have still managed to carry on regardless with a host of events here at the Club.

Last month we held the very successful BCT production of "The Emperor's New Clothes" and despite slow sales initially the later shows were completely sold out with many members in the second week left disappointed and tearful. Moral of the story: Book early to avoid disappointment. The show was a great success and well done to Bonnie Hutchinson and her merry band of thespians.

Also last month we visited the Wat Phra Baht Nam Phu in Lopburi which is more commonly known as the AIDS Temple. Please find more on this visit on pages 8-9. We also held our very first Blood Donation Day here at the Club with help from our friends at the BNH, which raised 80 pints of blood — that's 10 gallons! — for the Thai Red Cross Blood Bank. See the report on pages 26-27. Many thanks to all members and friends who came along and donated.

On Friday June 8th we are holding a Pirates of the Caribbean fancy dress party for the kids in the Silom sala from 6pm until 9pm - strictly no parents allowed! There will be plenty of games and activities for the kids - Khun Susie will be on deck to keep things on an even keel - with supper also provided . . . Meanwhile, in the Suriwongse Room, we have a very special event - a truly amazing Magic and Illusion show. As they say, 'seeing is believing' but you won't believe what this guy does! His name is Khun Win-E. This is not a magic show just for the kids - after successful tours of the UK and the US, Khun Win E has recently performed his street magic entertaining bemused pedestrians in Sukhumvit on Thai Channel 7. He is Thailand's answer to 'the Davids' - Blane and Copperfield! The evening kicks off at 7pm with a buffet dinner in the Suriwongse room. Khun Win-E will perform table magic for half an hour to entertain you whilst you dine followed by a one-hour magic show, in fluent English, with a lot of audience participation. The cost of the evening is B500 per person and includes the buffet supper, all entertainment and a glass of wine or pint of beer.

I have personally seen Kuhn Win-E perform and he really is amazing.

This is truly an evening of fun not to be missed. This is one guy who is headed for stardom and your next ticket to his show will probably cost a lot more than 500 baht!

The big event in June is, of course . . . our celebration of Queen Elizabeth's 81st birthday here at the Club with another Fun Fair that will be bigger and better than the last! This year we'll have even more activities and rides including a giant slide, ferris wheel, a huge climbing frame kindly sponsored by Shrewsbury international School, a carousel and even a rodeo bull along with a host of other games and activities such as pony rides, face painting and our bouncy castle. We'll have live music from Celtic Colours, No Fixed Abode and the Shrewsbury School Band and a Tiger beer garden to quench our thirst. The event runs from 1pm

until 7pm - for more information on this fun-filled day out for the whole family see pages 20-21 or give me a call.

On 23rd of June we will be hosting Canada day here at the Club once again. Please see page 30 for more







The reality

details on how to purchase tickets for this event. Members please note that on these two days there will be no parking allowed on the Club's premises, for safety reasons.

I know these next events are a few months away and you are going to think I'm nuts but I just want to let you know about two great events coming up. I am pleased to announce that the Shangri La Hotel are once again going to be catering the Club's Christmas Ball held here on the back lawn on Saturday December 8th. Also this year we have a fantastic new programme for our New Year's Cruise. This time we all meet at 9pm at the Super Khan building on the Chao Phraya for a cocktail party from 9 to 10pm; we sail from 10pm to 2am; there is a three-hour open bar with dining on the Chao Phraya Princess and music by Paul Jackson's Disco with a proper countdown and Auld Lang Syne, etc, and of course the fireworks at midnight. We have really gone overboard and booked the Chao Phraya Princess 2, probably the most luxurious boat on the river, with a capacity of 350 and two decks with plenty of room to observe the fireworks. For more information please give me a call.



Welcome aboard to Kevin Moore, our New Bar Manager. Kevin joined us at the end of May and will be responsible for the Churchill Bar, Poolside and the new Verandah. Be sure to say 'hello Kevin' next time you are down at the Club. I am

sure Kevin will enjoy working here at the green oasis in the middle of the city.

During the month of June and early July many of our members will be heading off for their annual vacation during the long school holidays. I wish all members a pleasant time with their families and a safe trip - All the staff here look forward to seeing you back down at the Club on your return. If you're going home and want to visit a reciprocal club, don't forget we have over 160 reciprocal clubs all over the world. Just pop in or give us a call and we can make all the arrangements for you. For the members staying here in town please keep visiting your Club as we will have many things here to keep you entertained. Over the next few months we will have a new pool menu and a new menu in the Churchill and of course our new-look Verandah Terrace.

Happy Holidays,

Regards,

Barry Osborne General Manager

A Day of Mishaps, Memories and

As I am president of the Bangkok St. George's Society, I was asked to join the band of merry men and women who were taking



supplies to an HIV/AIDS temple and orphanage near Lopburi. Last December when Barry had approached me with his begging bowl for the orphaned deaf

children's party in December, the St. George's Society had made a donation, and apparently so had many others, resulting in a surplus. It had been decided to give the money together with goods collected to Wat Phra Baht Nam Phu.









he day began ominously with the minibus being late due to it breaking down but when it did eventually turn up, the driver refused to take all the supplies which had been bought with the surplus money together with donations of clothes and toys which the staff had gathered. Barry told him, in no uncertain words, to go away! Barry then proceeded to commandeer a couple of the staff who had 'pick-up' cars so all the supplies were loaded into them and I made an executive decision that St. George's would pay for the petrol so off we went, an hour late!

On the way we survived the most torrential downpour of rain which reduced our speed to almost zero at times, but eventually arrived at the temple. We were a bit disappointed at the seeming lack of organisation but offloaded the cargo anyway and went in search of where the cheque was to be paid. We followed the trail of the voice which was booming out over the microphone from the donations office. However even when we sat down facing the man, he continued to talk to us via the microphone which set me off giggling (I know I ought to know better at my age but when it stops being fun, I will quietly subside into oblivion). The temple is obviously used to receiving donations and

Merriment

Thursday, 10 May 2007 . . .

visitors and has a museum, restaurant and gift shop, of course!

After we had paid in the money and photos were taken, we proceeded to the AIDS hospice. It was not too grim and I think many were pleased to receive visitors and to chat. But there were a few who were obviously very unwell so we respected their privacy. Barry and I shook hands with a person who very proudly showed us the photo of 'himself' with Paradorn, the tennis star and his fiancé, ex miss universe Natalie Glebova, who had also recently visited. We later discovered that this person, who looked a bit manly, apparently had had a sex change one of the staff had asked him outright which set me off laughing again. What a question to ask anyone!!

Barry then asked if I would like to visit the orphanage and I asked how far was it, to which he replied 8km and I said 'Yes - we might as well'. I thought he gave me a look that suggested he was not so keen but did not really understand why! Apparently the orphanage is supplied with goods received at the temple but just to make sure, some of the BC staff went and reclaimed some of the goods we had donated to take them direct. Off we set, armed with one of those wonderful Thai maps, drawn out on a piece of paper with no sign telling you which is N,S,E or W.

After we had been travelling for quite a while and the map had been checked a few times. I made the comment that the 8km seemed to be a long way. '8!' exclaimed Barry, 'You mean 80!' No wonder he had given me a funny look as this meant adding 160 km on to our already long and eventful journey. That set us off laughing again - no good crying! However when we finally found the place, we all agreed the extra travelling had been worthwhile as the children were adorable (some with HIV and others who had been orphaned by AIDS and whose families had rejected them.) We noticed that their evening meal looked good and nutritious and afterwards they all took their plates (those large round metal ones like a party Susan) to the tap, gave them a scouring and left them in a neat pile to drain. One little chap was so appealing and he was called Job, aged only 3. He diligently washed his plate unaided and left it spotless to dry in the pile.

The children were delighted to see a sack of toys but only a few were allowed to be taken out as they would be given away on merit. We looked around the dormitory which was clean and much tidier than my son and daughter's bedrooms used to look when they were younger! We chatted to the teachers and had more photos taken with the group from the BC, teachers and children. One young teacher told us she earned 5000 baht a month but could earn an extra 30 baht a day when she did a 'sleep over' which meant she was on duty when the 70 children

(ages from 3 - 14) were in bed! Such dedication is wonderful to behold.

As we were looking around outside, the little 3year-old had managed to retrieve a water pistol from the sack of toys, had filled it with water and squirted us all. We did not mind and when we called out for him to stop, his laughter was so lovely to hear. What a delightful child but then it suddenly dawned on me that he did not have a mummy or daddy to read him a bedtime story and hold him tight until he dropped off to sleep. I am sure that thought went through a. few minds as we bade farewell - quite emotional.

We returned via a different route but you may have noticed I haven't mentioned when we had lunch - that was because we didn't! We had just bought some crisps and drinks from a garage service station and our stomachs thought our throats had been slit! We travelled until we knew we were on the main drag back into Bangkok (a long way back!) and dined at a roadside 'restaurant' at Nakon Sawan. It was delicious and I love it when Thais order the food as you tend to try different things which, when washed down with a glass of Singha (except the poor drivers!), was just what we needed.

What a day! We were out for over 12 hours but it was ABSOLUTELY GREAT and I felt honoured and proud to be with this lovely group of people who had not only donated goods but given up their day off plus 2 of them driving MANY kilometres in one day! A happy, sad, humbling, thought provoking, emotional but memorable day - thank you so much for including me and please let me know when you are going again!

Gale Bailey

Well, the day turned out to be a success in the end! Many thanks to Gale Bailey for coming along and representing the St George's Society who kindly donated money. Thanks also to Laak and Rit for driving.

A big, big thank you to the generous members and societies who donated to our Christmas appeal. Through your generosity we raised 140,000 baht for a children's Christmas party for 100 kids from the Sutthisan School for the Deaf, a day trip to Dream World for 80 kids from Thungmahamaek Orphanage, and 50,000 baht for the temple in Lopburi. Through the generosity of the Club's staff we also raised enough to spend another 10,000 baht on food and badly needed supplies for the Wat. Many of our staff also donated used toys and clothes.

If any members would like information on Wat Phra Baht Nam Phu and its charities we have brochures upstairs in the office with Khun Prem and myself.

Barry Osborne

WHAT'S GOING ON

Special Events at the Club this month

** DETECTIVE VDO NIGHT - MORSE

Thursday, 7th June, 7-9pm, Suriwongse Room
Join us for our latest episode of Morse – WHO
KILLED HARRY FIELD?: Morse and Lewis investigate
the murder of fun-loving raconteur Harry Field, a
mediocre artist with no real style to call his own,
with many of his paintings featuring the same
mystery woman. There is no charge for this event
but we ask members to please book in advance as
this helps us with our seating arrangements. Full F&B
service is available.

** PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN CHILDREN'S PARTY

Friday, 8th June, 6-9pm, Silom Sala Join us aboard the "Black Pearl" in the Silom sala for our Swashbuckling Pirates Party, suitable for children aged 5 and over. See poster, page 15. Activities include, face painting, sword fighting, fancy dress and pirate games. Prizes for the best dressed pirates and the lucky winner in the treasure hunt. No parents allowed! The cost of the event is B250 per child and includes all games and a pirates' buffet. The event is fully supervised by Khun Susie and her team of pirates with help from the BC staff, leaving time for parents to enjoy a beverage or three in the sala or the Churchill Bar, or take in the marvelous Magic and Illusion show (see below). To book for the Pirates' Party please sign up at the Clubhouse Reception or send a fax or email to the Club. For further information please contact Barry.

** MAGIC AND ILLUSION SHOW

Friday, 8th June, 7-9.30pm, Suriwongse Room Don't miss this amazing show with illusionist Khun Win-E. As they say, 'seeing is believing' but you won't believe what this guy does! This is not a magic show just for the kids - after successful tours of the UK and the US, Khun Win E has recently performed his street magic entertaining bemused pedestrians in Sukhumvit on Thai Channel 7. He is Thailand's answer to 'the Davids' - Blane and Copperfield! The evening kicks off at 7pm with a buffet dinner in the Suriwongse room, Khun Win-E will perform table magic for half an hour to entertain you whilst you dine followed by a one-hour magic show, in fluent English, with a lot of audience participation. The cost of the evening is B500 per person and includes the buffet supper, all entertainment and a glass of wine or pint of beer.

** FORMULA ONE - CANADIAN GRAND PRIX

Sunday, 10th June, 11.45pm, Churchill Bar LIVE from Montreal on the Big Screen. Lewis Hamilton is top of the Drivers' table – how long will he stay there?

** DETECTIVE VDO NIGHT - FROST

Thursday, 14th June, 7-9pm, Suriwongse Room
Join us for the latest episode of Frost – DANCING IN
THE DARK: A murder trail leads to a pole dancing
club, illegal foreign migrants, an escort agency and a
gang of people smugglers, and then . . . another
suspicious death. There is no charge for this event

but we ask members to please book in advance as this helps us with our seating arrangements. Full F&B service available.

** BRITISH CLUB FUN FAIR

Saturday, 16th June, 1-7pm, Club grounds
The Club's grounds will be transformed into a huge
fun fair for the whole family to celebrate Queen
Elizabeth's 81st Birthday Party. See pp 20&21. We
will have a big wheel, giant slide, bouncy castle, a
huge climbing wall, a rodeo bull, coconut shy, the
stocks and live music plus lots more. We have over
40 attractions confirmed. The cost of entry is B350
per person including all rides, activities and
entertainment but excluding food and beverage.
Please note for safety reasons there will be no
parking allowed at the Club on this day. To book
please send a fax or email to the Club or sign up at
the Clubhouse reception. For further information
please contact Barry.

** FORMULA ONE — US GRAND PRIX

Sunday, 17th June, 11.45pm, Churchill Bar LIVE from Indianapolis on the Big Screen.

** QUIZ NIGHT

Tuesday, 19th May, 7.30pm, Suriwongse Room Get a team of friends together and come along to join in the fun – and sample another of Khun Laak's wonderful buffets. There are 4 rounds of 19 questions, all rounds ending in the dreaded "common denominator". Prizes go to 1st, 2nd, 3rd and secondlast placed teams and there are also 3 spot rounds where you have the chance to win a bottle of wine sponsored by Crown Worldwide Relocations. The cost to enter is 100 baht per person. Teams of up to six persons.

** CANADA DAY

Saturday, 23rd June, 3pm onwards, Club grounds Come celebrate Canada's 140th Birthday at the Club. There will be games and activities for the whole family and an international buffet dinner. See the poster on page 30!

** DOCTOR WHO - 2007 SERIES

Sunday, 24th June, 11am-12.45pm, Suriwongse Room

Episodes 8 & 9 of the new 2007 series. See opposite page for details.

** MONTHLY WINE TASTING

Friday, 29th June, 6-9pm, Suriwongse Room
Join us for our regular monthly wine tasting
completely free of charge and featuring wines from
all over the world. Four companies will be here to let
members try unlimited samples of their wines.
Members can also purchase wines at specially
discounted prices and the Club will create a range of
canapés to compliment the wines. What a great way
to start the weekend - free wines in the comfort of
your Club.

They Don't Just Scare Crows!

DOCTOR WHO - SUNDAY 24th JUNE - 11am to 12.45pm

It is England 1913 and a quiet schoolteacher, Dr. John Smith, is deeply in love with the school nurse but has dreams of travelling in Time and Space.

One night there are shooting stars in the heavens and new scarecrows in the field: and people start dying! Dr. Smith's maid, Martha, says he is the only one that can save them but how can a humble teacher with dreams deal with aliens who are after a Time Lord, and who is this Doctor they all talk about?

Based upon Paul Cornell's novel 'Human Nature', we are showing this double bill 'Human Nature-Family of Blood' on Sunday 24th June in the Suriwongse Room at 11am.

Summer Concert

Shrewsbury International School is proud to present this year's summer concert.

The concert consists of two sections. The first half will be a performance of Shrewsbury music scholars who will perform the solo parts for three concertos, by Vivaldi, Mozart and Beethoven, which will be directed by guest conductor Mr Leo Phillips, a well known professional musician. The second half of the concert will be selected movements from Carmina Burana by Carl Orff, which will be performed by the school's combined choirs, two locally known soloists and conducted by Dr Dominic Sargent.



jackstraws

shrewsburv



international school

The evening will include a riverside drinks reception.

Date: 30 June 2007

Venue: Khunying Sumanee Memorial Hall, Shrewsbury International School

Time: 7:00-9:00 pm

Tickets: 300 Bt./adults, 150 Bt./Children

For more information or tickets, please contact the school Reception 02-675-1888 or email:

enquiries@shrewsbury.ac.th



Pool for the Young

CORRECTION - In our Pool notice last issue ("Anyone for Pool" p 15) we stated baldly: "Children under 14 may not use the room". This is incorrect. Children under 14 may indeed use the room up to 7pm in the evening provided they are accompanied by an adult.

STOP PRESS!!

The OneNightStand Comedy Club of Singapore are sending their comedians to the British Club on Sunday, 1st and Monday, 2nd July.

Please watch the notice boards and the website for more details!

ANZAC DAY REMEMBRANCE SERVICES

pipe Major Keith Walker and piper Angus McKernan of the British Club Pipe Band recently had the privilege to play the bagpipes at the invitation of the Australian Embassy Defence Attache at the ANZAC Day Remembrance Services held at Hell Fire Pass and at the Kanchanaburi War Cemetery in Kanchanaburi on 25 April 2007.

ANZAC Day commemorates the landing at dawn on 25 April 1915 of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps together with forces from Britain, India and France on the west coast of the Gallipoli Peninsula to open the Dardanelles Campaign of World War I. It was a campaign in which Allied casualties were extremely heavy and subsequently it became the custom each year on 25 April for the people of Australia and New Zealand to commemorate on this day their dead of all wars, including Gallipoli, Sinai, Palestine, France and Belgium, Greece, Crete and Syria, the jungles of Malaya, Indonesia, New Guinea, Pacific Islands, Burma, Thailand, Japan, Korea, Borneo, Malaysia, Vietnam and in peacekeeping operations in the Middle East.

During World War II, in 1942, the Imperial Japanese Army (IJA) decided to construct a railway link connecting the existing railways at Thanbyuzayat in Burma and Banpong in Thailand, now known as the Burma-Thailand Railway or remembered by Allied servicemen as the "Death Railway". The Japanese had invaded and occupied Thailand and Burma at the time.

Construction of the railway as a Japanese military objective required the urgent completion of a significant engineering project through inhospitable and largely undeveloped country, involving the excavation of cuttings and passes through difficult jungle terrain and the construction of bridges and viaducts over rivers and valleys, the Bridge over the River Kwai being one of them.

The IJA was provided with a group of Japanese civilian engineers and other supporting personnel to design and supervise the railway's construction. It is estimated that a total of approximately 15,000 Japanese and Koreans were involved in the railway project. To provide a suitable labour force for construction of the railway the IJA recruited approximately 200,000 Asian civilian labourers particularly Tamils, Malays and Burmese. In additional to the civilian labour force more than 60,000 Allied Prisoners of War (POWs) of the Japanese were forced to work on the railway between May 1942 and August 1943 after the fall of Singapore to the Japanese in February 1942. The Allied POWs who worked on the railway mainly comprised British, Dutch and Australians and a small number of Americans. The POWs were accommodated in numerous and extremely primitive camps

established along the railway route, which extended for a distance of some 400 miles from end to end. These camps were administered by the IJA and their notoriously cruel Korean conscripts who were used as POW guards. As the POWs had already spent months in Japanese detention and some, especially the older men, were in poor physical condition at the time they arrived to work on the railway, and as a result of the terrible conditions associated with working on the "Death Railway", more than 13,000 POWs perished. Although no precise figures are available it is said that perhaps as many as 80,000 of the Asian civilian labour force also perished during its construction.

Many of the POWs undoubtedly suffered early deaths attributable to the after effects of illnesses and privations of their incarceration, such as insufficient medical supplies and facilities to cater for malaria, dysentery, tropical ulcers, beriberi, and being overworked and starved by their oppressors. Many of these men lie buried in the Kanchanaburi War cemeteries and many others lie buried somewhere in the jungles of Burma and Thailand.

It has also been noted that many of the POW survivors owed their lives to the brave assistance given by certain of the local Thais in providing food and medical supplies to them whilst they were working on the railway.

Keith and Angus arrived in Kanchanaburi at the courtesy of the Australian Embassy on the 24th April, the day before the actual services were scheduled and practiced a "test run" at the Kanchanaburi War Cemetery with the Royal Australian Navy Submariners of the submarine HMAS Farncomb, who were to form the Catafalque Party (Guard of Honour) for the official services the next day.

After the "test run" with the Catafalgue Party, in temperatures of around 40 degrees C, we all visited the adjacent Burma-Thailand Railway Museum which proved very interesting and informative. Thereafter we headed off to our hotel on the River Kwai with our newly found Navy friends. Unfortunately the "light and sound" show planned for that evening at one of the nearby resorts was cancelled due to the onset of a very substantial tropical storm with torrential rain, which nearly blew the roof off the lodge main buildings. This storm quickly brought to mind the terrible conditions the POWs were required to endure during their time on the railway. However it was just as well the planned evening show was cancelled because we had to make a very early morning start for the memorial services scheduled for the next day.

The Dawn Service at Hellfire Pass commenced at 0430 on 25 April 2007, one hour before the



break of dawn, so this entailed an early rising at 0200 in the morning to travel to the Hellfire Pass site, where a memorial has been erected and parts of the original railway line preserved. The service was conducted by the Chaplains of the Western Australian Police and Australian Army Reserve. A very moving memorial service was held, attended by many Australians and New Zealanders, some even flying over from the Antipodes just for the occasion, including the Ambassadors of Australia and New Zealand and the surviving ex POWs Bill Haskell OAM and Arthur Leggatt OAM, President Ex-POW Association. At the closing stages of the service and at the breaking of the dawn, Keith and Angus played the pipe lament tune "The Flowers of the Forest" followed by the hymn "Amazing Grace", as both tunes were considered fitting for the occasion. The Royal Australian Navy Submariners formed the Catafalque Party (Guard of Honour) during the Memorial Service.

After the Hell Fire Pass Memorial Service the Royal Australian Navy Submariners and the pipers headed back to the hotel for a hearty breakfast and then travelled on to the Kanchanaburi War Cemetery in Kanchanaburi for the Wreath Laying Ceremony that was scheduled to commence at 1100.

At the Wreath Laying Ceremony, Keith and Angus piped the Royal Australian Navy Catafalque Party into the cemetery and up to the Memorial Cross and awaiting dignitaries and attendees to the slow march pipe tune "The Mist Covered Mountains".

After the Act of Remembrance and just prior to the Laying of the Wreaths, Keith played a beautiful rendering of "The Flowers of the Forest". To close the ceremony Keith and Angus piped the Catafalque Party away from the Memorial Cross through the cemetery to the retreat march tunes "The Green Hills of Tyrol" and "When the Battle is Over", both battle/war tunes appropriate for the occasion.

The ANZAC Day Memorial Services of 25 April

2007 were truly nostalgic occasions for both Keith and Angus and finally closed with a hearty luncheon and refreshments with the Royal Australian Navy and other military personnel in attendance at the floating restaurant situated below the "new" Bridge over the River Kwai. The Allies managed to destroy the original bridge in a bombing raid conducted in the closing stages of the Second World War. The movie with Alec Guinness "The Bridge over the River Kwai", despite being quite a good movie, is Hollywood fiction.

A journey to Kanchanaburi, about two and a half hours by road, is definitely a worthwhile undertaking for Club members and their families. The Hell Fire Pass Museum and War Cemeteries are beautifully laid out and cared for by the Australian War Graves Commission and the adjacent Burma-Thailand Railway Museum is also worth a visit. Moreover, there are many well priced hotels and lodges situated alongside the River Kwai to stay over in the evening as an overnight stay is a must.

The pipers and drummers of the British Club Pipe Band generally practice every Monday evening at the Club in the rooms upstairs, so if any Club members wish to learn the bagpipes or drums or just wish to come and listen to some traditional music of a Celtic nature, you are most welcome to make an impromptu visit upstairs.

CONTACT: Angus McKernan on mckernan2@csloxinfo.com

Susie's Kids Korner

6 Join me in the Silom Room every Sunday!

Rainy Day Crafts

Eggshell Ships

With a tissue paper sail, this boat is kitchen sinkworthy (as long as the wind remembers not to blow too hard).

CRAFT MATERIALS:

- Eggs
- Tempera paint and brushes
- Air-drying clay
- White glue
- Toothpick
- Tissue paper

Time needed: Under 1 Hour

DIRECTIONS:

1. Crack the egg in half and gently break off pieces to get a boat shape. Paint the shell.

2. When the shell is dry, gently glue a 1-inch ball of clay into the bottom of the boat. Use a toothpick to make a hole in the centre of the clay.

3. For the sail, cut a rectangle out of tissue paper, about 4 by 3 inches. Apply glue to one side, lay the toothpick in the centre and fold paper in half to make a triangle. Dab glue onto the end of the toothpick mast and insert it into the clay.

BRAINTEASERS

- 1. How could all of your cousins have an aunt who is not your aunt?
- 2. Johnny's mother had four children. The first was April, the second was May, and the third was June. What was the name of her fourth child?
- 3. Why is it against the law for a man living in North Carolina to be buried in South Carolina?
- 4. Before Mount Everest was discovered, what was the highest mountain in the world?
- 5. Eskimos are very good hunters, but they never hunt penguins. Why not?
- 6. How far can you walk into the woods?
 - 6. Half way, after that you are walking out of the woods 5. Eskimos live at the North Pole, penguins at the South Pole. discovered.
- 4. Mount Everest was still the highest mountain even before it was
 - 3. Because he's still living
 - γουπός.
 - I. Your mom is their aunt. **ANSWERS**

ain Painting

This activity, from the "if you can't beat 'em, join 'em" department, makes the most of rainy weather.

CRAFT MATERIALS:

- Paper plate
- Food colouring
- White crayon

Time needed: Under 1 Hour



DIRECTIONS:

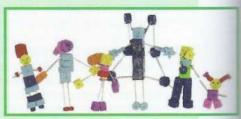
- 1. Sprinkle a few drops of food colouring on a paper plate.
- 2. Get into rain gear and walk outdoors with the plate for about a minute and watch as artistic designs appear.
- 3. Next, for a batik effect, try drawing a white crayon design on a new plate. Then add some food colouring and head out.

You'll need:

- foam beads or cubes
- toothpicks
- tape (masking or electrical works best)
- fine tip markers
- glitter glue

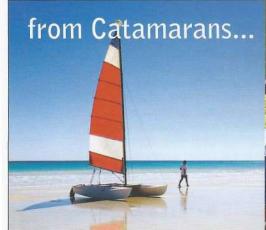
DIRECTIONS: Before you

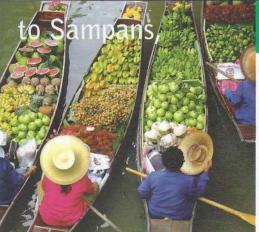
start, cut some of the toothpicks in half so that you will have some short sticks. Use



the short and long toothpicks to connect foam pieces and create foam people!! Use the tape, markers and glitter glue to make faces on and decorate your creations!

*Use adult help for little ones because of the toothpicks. You can also use square tipped toothpicks for safety.



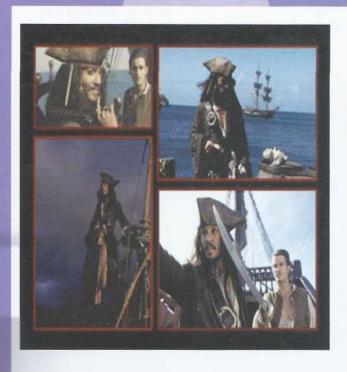


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Pirates of the Caribbean Swashbuckling Children's Party!

Join us aboard the "Black Pearl" in the Silom Sala on Friday 8th June from 6:00–9:00 pm for loads of Pirate games & activities including Face Painting, Sword Fighting, Fancy Dress and more.

Baht 250. – per child includes all Games and Pirates Buffet.

NO PARENTS ALLOWED!

Please Sign Up at Reception or send a Fax or E-mail







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Opening hours: Tue-Fri 10 am -5 pm, Sat-Sun 9 am-5.30 pm Closed: Monday

'Absolutely Fabulous' Reinvents Teak-Wood Designs for Bangkok

from we been down Sathorn Soi 12 recently, you would be mend pressed to miss 'Absolutely Fabulous'. The building's bright red exterior was designed to catch people's attention and once inside, they're sure to be captivated by a mixture of cassical and contemporary furnishings. With concern and awareness for the environment, these furnishings are made from old reclaimed teak interiors imported from Java, a manufacturer in Indonesia. The vibrant green and yellow walls found in the interior of 'Absolutely Fabulous' (named after the famed British sitcom starring Jennifer Saunders that ran on the BBC from 1992 to 2005) were specifically designed by owner Paveena (Bib) McLean to suggest how these furnishings might a in with a modern environment and lifestyle.

"It's the 'East-meets-West' style - a combination of traditional Javanese craftsmanship, colonial Dutch and European influences that gives the furniture a unique appearance and quality," McLean remarked. "The texture and the look of the woods are very natural looking and very simple, yet beautiful."

The quality and fair pricing of the furniture found at 'Absolutely Fabulous' are other things that set the store apart from other furniture outlets. While all of the furniture is built by hand (and the finish is applied by hand as well), the designs are achieved with computers and the wood is dried using computerised kilns. "It's important that the wood is dried properly," explained McLean. "The computerised kiln dries the wood to the standard requirement, and virtually eliminates the risk of cracking. This, combined with modern joinery techniques, allows the wood to move in reaction to its environment."

While furniture made from old teak homes has been popular for some time, before 'Absolutely Fabulous' came along, Bangkok residents would have had to travel to places like England, the United States, Russia, Singapore, and France to purchase items like the ones the store has in stock. McLean hopes that the city's suave expat customers will come to appreciate what her store has to offer (and what some well-known celebrities like Bruce Willis and Pierce Brosnan currently have in their own homes).

It should be noted that teak wood furniture isn't the only thing that can be found at 'Absolutely Fabulous'. McLean also stocks a selection of household accessory items including table lamps, urns, wall mirrors and an extensive range of durable baskets made from natural materials such as water hyacinth, sea-grass, and coco-stick. "We feel that we are offering something different to the Bangkok market," McLean said. "If I can introduce someone to something new and stylish, then my reasons for opening this shop will have been realised."





With famed landmarks like the Jim Thompson House and the Vimanmek Mansion, there's no doubt that Bangkok is home to some incredible buildings constructed of teak wood. And now with 'Absolutely Fabulous', it's home to a retail furniture store that's putting a new spin on the traditional building material.

'Emporatically' Exceptional Entertainment!



The final performance gets underway.



The pompous Emperor (Paul Robere) sings "I feel pretty" while the children hold up the wonderful mirrors that they made pre-show with BNH Hospital volunteers so he can "admire the wonderfulness of me!"



Marco (Belinda Skinner) asks the audience not to tell as the Emperor tries to see the invisible clothes and the Empress (Liz Haines) worries behind him.



The Emperor says to his subjects "Oh my, the fabric is so light!"



A small audience member offers the Emperor her mirror as he, the Empress and the Herald/Mime (Orlando Requiz) walk in the grand procession and Rosa (Stephanie Wallis) starts the rainstorm.















ay 5th, 6th, 7th, 12th & 13th saw the Club grounds overrun with happy children and their parents. Bangkok Community Theatre's production of "The Emperor's New Clothes" brought them in and they stayed on for the picnic lunch and supper on the front lawn, munching on a never-ending buffet of burgers, hot dogs, grilled chicken, pies, chicken nuggets and lots more. The children also made the biggest shortbread cookies you have probably ever seen, and then used mini piping bags full of icing sugar with colouring to decorate their Emperor's crown cookies!! I apologise to members whose children may have been a bit hyper later on - was it due to sugar overload or just the sheer fun of the show?!! The Club also laid on for free our famous Bouncy Castle which, as usual, saw almost non-stop bouncy action.

The Suriwongse room looked magical with all the balloons that Khun Adisorn arranged so artfully. You could hear the children "ooh" and "aah" when they walked in and saw all the colours. And as soon as they came in and met the performers, the children started to show off the wonderful "mirrors" which they had made on the front lawn with Angela Stafford and volunteers from the BNH Hospital.

By all accounts, this children's participation play had them screaming in the aisles "he's over there!!!", "Abracadabra!", "You're in your underwear!" and roaring with laughter. In fact, four-year-old BC member Daisy Lamb commented after the show: "I laughed . . . I laughed so hard my stomach hurt!" While BCT's "The Emperor's New Clothes" was billed as an event for 4-9 year olds, we spotted a lot of the big kids (that means you, Mums & Dads!) enjoying it just as much, if not more so, than the little ones! The children really kept the performers on their toes - especially during the second weekend when well-prepared audience members who'd already seen the show the first weekend (groupies!) came back to join in the fun a second time round.

The 70-minute long play was written, produced and directed by BC Member Bonnie Zellerbach. Bonnie notes, "There were wonderful surprises at each performance because of the unpredictability of the children. One little boy was concerned about the Emperor and Empress's inability to see the magic clothes so he stood up and confidently advised them: 'Just lie!' much to the amusement of the parents. But my favourite part of each show was watching the expressions on the parents' faces when the Emperor's clothes came flying out of the dressing room as he undressed. You could see they were wondering just how far he would go! . . . And during each show when Marco the Tailor (played by BC member Belinda Skinner) caught a support bra that the Emperor threw out while disrobing, the giggles of nervous anticipation grew into outright guffaws!"

"The Emperor's New Clothes" was truly an exceptional family experience - and it was made possible by a lot of blood, sweat and tears (mostly sweat!) on the part of the BC, BCT and BNH. Many thanks to the three B's - they make a pretty good team! - and thanks also to the fourth 'B' (can I say that?) Bonnie and her talented actors and to all the members who came along. It was a great couple of weekends and the Club really did come to life with a fun atmosphere for the whole family.

Barry Osborne (with help from some other B's)





Climbing Wall

oll up! Roll up! . . . for the British Club's monster Fun Fair! Come along and celebrate Queen Elizabeth's 81st Birthday at our biggest QEII birthday bash yet, running non-stop from 1pm until 7pm!!

Attractions include the Shrewsbury School Giant Climbing wall (do you dare?) the endlessly bucking Rodeo Bull, the Giant Slide, the even bigger Ferris Wheel, the Carousel and a host of activities and games run by BAMBI, BWG, St Georges, St Andrews, Neilson Hayes and lots lots more . . . In fact there will be over 40 activities to choose from - puppet shows, stilt walkers, face painting, pony rides . . .

And if you run out of steam or need a break, unwind in the BC Tiger Beer Garden and listen to great music provided by The Shrewsbury International School Music Ensembles and Band, 'Celtic Colours' and 'No Fixed Abode'. And there's plenty of Fun Fair food to eat too - candy floss, toffee apples, pies, pizzas & chips galore.

The cost of entry is B350 per person and that includes all the rides, activities and entertainment but excludes food and beverage.

safety of your own Club. There's plenty of room - last Oh! What year's fun! enjoyed by over 400 people. To book simply send a fax or email to the Club or sign up at the

Clubhouse reception.



BC CALENDAR JUNE - The Month at a Glance

Sunday



10:30am-2:15pm Squash Mix-in

Silom Room 1:00-3:30pm Children's Activities Churchill Bar 3:00pm Bridge Tournament

3:00-6:00pm Cricket Practice Silom Room 1:00-3:30pm Children's Activities

> 3:00-6:00pm Cricket Practice

Monday

Tuesday

Why settle for the second, when you already have the BEST!

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9:00am-12noon BWG Mahjong

6:00-10:00pm Tennis Match Play 9:00am-12noon BWG Mahjong

8:00-11:00am Tennis Ladies Mix-In

> 9:00-10:30am Ladies Tennis Clinic

10:00-11:00 Aqua Aerobics

5:15-8:15pm Squash Mix-in

7:00-9:00pm Football Practice

Churchill Bar 8:30pm-late Spoofing

2 8:00-11:00am Tennis Ladies Mix-In

> 9:00-10:30am Ladies Tennis Clinic

10:00-11:00 Aqua Aerobics

Wednesday

AVAST, ME HEARTIES! TREASURE!

Thar be five treasure chests a-hidden in these 'ere pages. So get thee to lookin', all ye scurvy landlubbers! Five fine free passes to come aboard the "Black Pearl" await ye . . . Aye! The swashbucklin' pirates' party, it be. Arrr!

(translation page 3)

5:00-6:30pm Junior Tennis

> 6:00-10:00pm Tennis Mix-in



6:00-8:30pm Cricket Practice

Churchill Bar 7:00 & 8:00pm PRESTIGE WINE ACCUMULATOR 7:30pm Bottle Draw 35:00-6:30pm Junior Tennis

6:00-10:00pm Tennis Mix-in

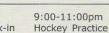


Thursday

8:00-11:00am Tennis Ladies Mix-in

> 5:15-9:00pm Squash Mix-in

7:00-9:00pm Rugby Practice



Churchill Bar 6:30-9:30pm Chess

Suriwongse Room 7:00-9:00pm DETECTIVE VDO

NIGHT Morse

8:00-11:00am Tennis Ladies Mix-

> 5:15-9:00pm Squash Mix-in

7:00-9:00pm Rugby Practice



2:00-5:30pm Junior Swimming

> 5:00-6:30pm Junior Tennis

6:00-10:00pm Tennis Mix-in

7:00-9:00pm Kid's VDO

2:00-5:30pm Junior Swimming Classes

> 5:00-6:30pm Junior Tennis

6:00-10:00pm Tennis Mix-in

Silom Sala 6:00-9:00pm \ **PIRATES OF THE** CARIBBEAN CHILDREN'S PARTY

Suriwongse Room 7:00-9.30pm **MAGIC & ILLUSION** SHOW

2:00-5:30pm Junior Swimming Classes

> 5:00-6:30pm Junior Tennis



7:00-9:00am Adult Tennis Classes

> 9:00am-1:30pm Junior Swimming Classes

9:30am-12noon Cricket Practice

Wordsworth Lounge 1:00-2:00pm Yoga

7:00-9:00am Adult Tennis Classes

9:00am-2:00pm Junior Swimming Classes

9:30am-12noon Cricket Practice

Wordsworth Lounge 1:00-2:00pm Yoga

7:00-9:00am Adult Tennis Classes

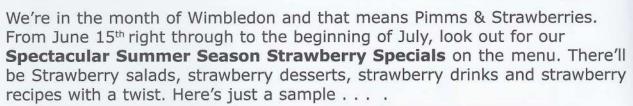
> 9:00am-2:00pm Junior Swimming Classes

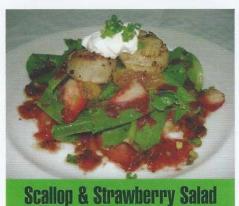
9:30am-12noon Cricket Practice



On the menu

It's time for strawberries! . .





Seared Scallops & Strawberry Salad with Herbed Goat Cheese, Wild Greens, Tomatoes Tossed in a Balsamic Vinaigrette

Ingredients:

8 each U-8 fresh, dry-pack scallops 3 oz. quartered fresh strawberries 3 oz. herb infused goat cheese 2 medallions of herbed goat cheese 10 orange segments 15 smoked almonds 5 oz. wild greens 1 large tomato sliced thin 4 oz. Balsamic vinaigrette Vinaigrette: 1 cup olive oil 1/2 cup strawberry puree 1/2 cup balsamic vinegar 1 tablespoon fresh tarragon 2 oz. honey Salt/Pepper to taste

Procedure:

Rub scallops with a small amount of olive oil and season lightly with salt & pepper. Sear scallops (both sides) in a very hot sauté pan till nicely caramelized. Pull and set aside.

Toss the greens with the goat cheese, strawberries, orange segments, smoked almonds, add the vinaigrette, season with salt and pepper, toss lightly.

In a circular pattern fan out the thin slices of tomatoes on the base of the plate, sprinkle a little olive oil and salt & pepper.

Place a small handful of the greens in the centre of the tomatoes, place four scallops around the salad and place one medallion of herbed goat cheese in the centre of the salad. Enjoy!

Strawberry Tiramisu

Ingredients:

2 packages (8 oz.each) Neufchatel cheese, softened 3/4 cup powdered sugar

1 container (8 oz.) frozen light whipped topping, defrosted

1 cup strong coffee, at room temperature

3 tablespoons coffee-flavored liqueur (optional)

1 1/2 pint baskets strawberries (18 oz. total), stemmed and sliced

24 ladyfingers split in half

2 teaspoons unsweetened cocoa powder

Procedure:

In large mixer bowl, beat Neufchatel cheese and powdered sugar until well blended. Gradually fold in whipped topping to blend. In small bowl, combine coffee and liqueur, if desired. Line an 8 x 8-inch glass baking dish with enough ladyfinger halves to cover bottom; place rounded sides down. If necessary, cut ladyfingers to

fit dish. Spoon 1/3-cup coffee mixture evenly over ladyfingers. Top with one-third of the cheese mixture (about one cup) and spread evenly. Layer one-third of the strawberries (1 rounded cup) over cheese. Repeat layers two more times, ending with cheese and reserving remaining strawberries. Cover and refrigerate tiramisu and reserved strawberries at least 1 hour or up to 24 hours. To serve, remove cover; sift cocoa powder over top. Arrange reserved strawberries over cocoa. Serve immediately. Yield: Makes 12 servings.

Nutritional Information:

250 calories; 13 g fat; 105 mg cholesterol; 200 mg sodium; 28 g carbohydrate; 1 g fiber; 7 g protein.



Strawberry Delight

grms. 300 Fresh Strawberries Strawberry ice cream 1 scoop 2 tbsp Yoghurt Whipped cream

Place all ingredients to be blended, including the scoop of ice cream, in a blender. Blend for 1-2 minutes. Pour into

glass and top with whipped cream.

ice Espresso

Vanilla ice-cream scoop Espresso Coffee Cup Whipped cream

Melt ice-cream and put into whipped cream. Add coffee and top with whipped cream and serve.



LOOKING BACK

Southerners Resurgent









Oh, and the scores:



aving taken a break for the holiday season the Quiz Night resumed on May 15th with a very strong field of 9 teams. Another delicious buffet awaited, with carnivorous carvery delights, salads for the calorieconscious and there were even some rather tasty Cumberland sausages (who says the British can't make sausages?).

The Southerners emerged as the dark horses of the Quiz, racing out to an early lead. While normally managing a respectable showing with just two or three members, this night they seemed to have attracted an abundance of tanga te whenua to give them a boost. But Sminky Minky were not too far behind, with the Spoofers chasing hard. The Barbary Coast Barbarians, uncharacteristically quiet, were also doing well but were to drop their bundle in the last round . . .

In an exciting finish, and after various appeals to the quizmaster - some allowed, some not - Sminky nipped in ahead of the Southerners, with only a tenuous little point separating the first three teams.

The BGGs scooped up two of the table prizes with a stunning performance and very nearly got the round of drinks as well, but were pipped by the Pirates. Amongst other things, the BGGs got within two degrees of guessing the hottest land temperature ever recorded on earth - in sizzling Al Aziziyah, Libya - of 136 degrees Fahrenheit (58 degrees Celsius).

Apart from the 112,000 known species of molluscs, the other interesting table question concerned the current Land Speed Record. Not only was it higher than most people thought (763mph) but it was also supersonic, set by a British team in 1997. The speed of sound, normally around 760mph, varies according to weather and altitude, and on the morning of the record attempt, was lower than usual due to cool temperatures and high humidity - 748.111mph. Fascinating!

1. Sminky Minky Bang Bang	126	6. Below Par	107
2. The Southerners	125	7. Six No trumps	106
3. Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers	124	8. Pirates	98
4. Jim's Junkies	119	9. BGG's	72
5. Barbary Coast Barbarians	110		

LOOKING BACK

First Blood to Us!

























riday the 11th of May saw our first Blood Donation Day here at the Club. Angela Stafford and her team from BNH Hospital arrived bright & early and prepared everything for the event. The British Club staff set up the room and arranged teas, coffees and snacks for the members donating blood. However the Thai Red Cross showed up at 5 minutes to nine!!! Everyone helped them to set up the room as quickly as possible and we were ready to open at 9.25am (not at the 9.00am start advertised in the flyer and the email I sent out). Once we started there was another hitch: the fact that the Thai Red Cross team refused to take blood from anyone over 60 years of age even though they had agreed beforehand that, providing the doctor considered the person to be fit and healthy, members over 60 years of age could give blood. Unfortunately the doctor and nurse supervisor in the mobile unit that came to the Club were intransigent and so the first member who came to give blood was, regrettably, turned away.

Once we got underway, however, all went smoothly until the Thai Red Cross team announced that they were going to break for lunch between 12.00 noon and 1.00 pm - we hadn't been warned about this. Despite pleas from Angela, Khun Name and myself that people were waiting to give blood they still insisted upon their break!! However we managed to sneak in a few members, who had arrived at that time, to register and sat them on the beds so they

had to be dealt with before the lunch break could start! Luckily no-one else turned up until the team was ready to start again. The British Club provided lunch for all the Thai Red Cross staff and volunteers and for the BNH team in the Silom room.

In the afternoon another steady stream of members, guests, staff from the Club and BNH donated their blood. All-in-all the Thai Red Cross received 81 units of blood and 13 people with rare Rhesus Negative blood groups gave their contact details to the Central Blood Register agreeing that they could be called in an emergency. Our target was to collect a total donation of 130 units but considering there was less time than we thought and restrictions on age, we feel pleased with the outcome that was achieved.

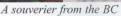
Many thanks to Angela and the Staff from the BNH Hospital, also to all you blood donors. Despite the short notice due to Outpost being late, it was a great success. We are planning to organise another Blood Donation Day later in the year but we will meet with the Thai Red Cross beforehand to make sure that there are no more surprises on that day. It was great to see the Club contributing once again to help the local community. Even I donated blood and was surprised to hear my blood group was Heineken Positive!!!

Barry Osborne

LOOKING BACK

We play our first Inter-Club Balut Match - against the Tanglin Club of Singapore







Drink it all tonight? Oh, come on!

here is much debate over exactly when, where, how and by whom the dice game of Balut was invented, although the words 'Asia', 'Dane' and 'Expatriate' feature in just about every version. What is certain is that it came to the British Club in Bangkok with a bang on the afternoon of Saturday 28 April, 2007, when a small group of members assembled to play a competitive match against a visiting team of experts from the Tanglin Club of Singapore. The stimulus for this occasion was Mr. Kristian Bonnichsen, one of the early Balut players in Singapore, who has been playing and promoting the game at the Tanglin Club, the Singapore Cricket Club and the (now sadly defunct) Singapore Town Club for many decades. Thanks to his initiative and generosity, we were given a leather Balut 'box', dice and scoring sheets and so a small number of BC members were able to learn the necessary rules, etiquette and dark arts in the weeks before 28 April.

Having introduced ourselves during a very social Friday evening, we assembled early on the Saturday evening and the match was played between eight members from each Club in the Silom room over a period of about three hours, with plenty of breaks for snacks and drinks. The format of the game has to be experienced to be understood fully, but let us just say it is a fairly simple game whose main purpose is to stimulate camaraderie and growth in the Club's bar revenues. Both these objectives were achieved admirably. We

played six games, playing in teams of two from each Club and moving tables after each game in order to experience playing different opponents. During the evening the lead changed a couple of times, with the British Club taking an early lead, only to be overhauled by the Tanglin team and then managing to pull it back in the last half of the evening - and eventually running out winners by a respectable margin of 4,721 points to 4,567. Whilst it was a pleasant surprise to succeed in our first competitive inter-club match, the real winner was, of course, the game of Balut itself, which, thanks to Kristian's inspiration, now seems to have taken firm root in the Churchill Bar. I should also mention that Steve Eaton scored the evening's highest single game score, a very creditable 142 in the fourth game, and to everyone's astonishment including her own, Karen Bye scored the highest aggregate

for the whole evening at **664** – or just over 110 per game; given that this was just about the first time she had ever played Balut, this was most impressive.



Karen Bye

There is now a Balut Box and dice, with British Club score sheets, behind the bar and available for use by any member. You will usually find a willing participant or three sitting by the bar of an early evening, so please come and join in the fun. One warning however, it is **very** addictive!

Some members are now making arrangements to attend the 2007 InterPort Balut Tournament in Kuching, Sarawak, over the period 23–25 November. If anyone is interested in participating at this hugely enjoyable annual event, then come and learn the game first and then let Simon Roberts know if you wish to Balut in Kuching!

Roger Willbourn



All smiles before the match



The two teams

LOOKING BACK











St. George's Ball

he 47th Annual St. George's Ball was held on 28 April at The Conrad Hotel, Wireless Road and was rated the best ball in years by many who attended.

The three core members of the Ball Committee, Gale Bailey (President), Susan Bradwell Evans and Sarah Glaze organised this fantastic event for nearly 300 which commenced with the Baron of Beef ceremony. This is a bit of English history brought up to date, but with a cast of Town Cryer, Beefeater, Nell Gwynne, her maid and knight in shining armour (better known as John Robinson, Richard Jones, Jane Bailey, Anna and Nicholas Glaze) to ensure the beef to be served to the guests is fit to eat!

The five course dinner, including traditional roast beef and Yorkshire pudding, was eaten to the wonderful restraints of the Royal Thai Army band led by Lt. Col. Somkiat, culminating in the singing of Rule Britannia, Jerusalem and a couple of resounding renditions of Land of Hope and Glory, complete with flag waving.

The Sweet Inspiration Band, taking a holiday from The Huntsman Pub, Landmark Hotel, came on stage getting everyone to their feet, ready to dance the night away. During a break for the fabulous raffle for which St. George's had received wonderful sponsorship, the first prize of two return flights to the UK on Gulf Air was won by a delighted Alwyn Hill. Other prizes included accommodation at The Conrad, Bali, Poppies and Tongsai Bay, Ko Samui, Central Resort, Krabi, Marriott Resort at Hua Hin, Pattaya and Phuket, flight simulator experience too many to name but great prizes.

Breakfast was served to the stalwarts in the early hours and the partying continued on and on.....! Helping to keep the evening flowing smoothly and keeping Gale in check was Paul Jackson of Jam Entertainment who acted as Master of Ceremonies and DJ. Great job Paul - well done!

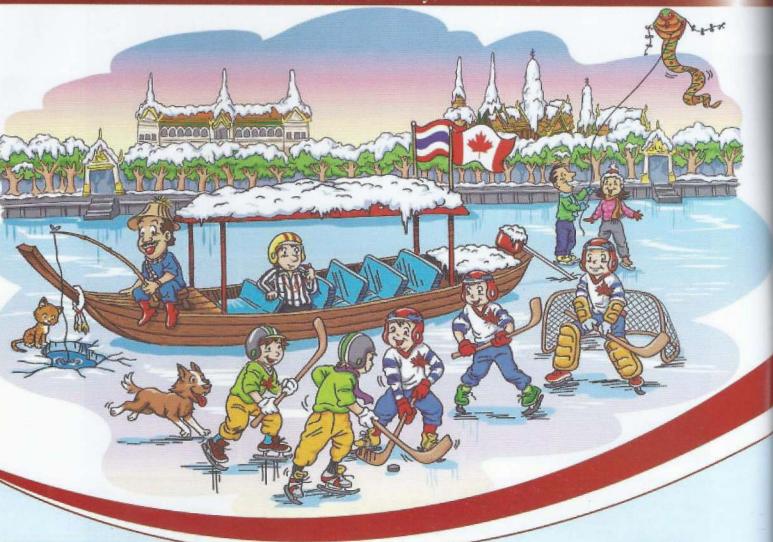
If you would like to become a member of St. George's and enjoy a little bit of England at future events, please contact Susan Bradwell Evans on membership@bangkokstgeorgesoc.org or check out the website www.bangkokstgeorgesoc.org



Come Celebrate Canada's 140th Birthday

樂

at the British Club, Saturday, 23rd June, 2007



Ticket Prices

- Adults: 800 Baht in advance, 1000 Baht at the door
- Children (5-12): 400 Baht in advance, 500 Baht at the door
- Children under 5: 100 Baht
- Doors open at 3:00 pm
- Buffet dinner served at 6:30 pm
- Games and activities for the whole family including volleyball, ball hockey and tug-of-war
- Casual dress for an outdoor event

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featuring salmon &
beef, Canadian wine
and Canadian beer.
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Sponsors











There's hope for us all

Recently an elderly lady in America had a hole in one; not so unusual really, except that she was 104! That is the wonderful thing about golf, you keep hoping you will improve - against all the odds - and sometimes you do. What a wonderful game; several of our members have parents in their eighties still playing golf several days a week. Some people get a hole in one whilst they are still children, others play all their lives and never get one. We have had several during B.C. events. This can be a pretty expensive achievement as tradition dictates that you buy everyone a drink (actually several). However, it is very easy and inexpensive to get golf insurance and believe it or not, part of the cover gives you a very nice bonus if you get a hole in one - enough to buy those drinks and a case to display that special ball. It also covers you against breaking a golf club, or having one nicked and most importantly covers you should you whack someone with a ball! Policies vary, but they are well worth it - check it out.

Lots of golf happening this month - our usual Milward Brown Firefly medal and Hassall Stableford, plus the first of this year's 'majors' and a great favourite - the three day Eclectic competition at Majestic Creek, Hua Hin. This is a nett competition, but there is also a prize for best gross score over the three days, plus best day's scores, and lots of other prizes. You simply play the three rounds and pick the best score on each hole, then add up the total and deduct three quarters of your handicap for your nett score over the three days. Each individual chooses how he would like to play this; some go all out on the first round and then steady it up in order to make sure they don't end up with any 'blow-ups', some play very cautiously the first day in order to log reasonable scores and then they can really go for it on the following days. The real pressure is on the third day if you still have some really bad holes. Maureen will tell you this - last year she had scored 11 on the second hole two days running. Maureen is a 22 handicapper, so you can imagine this was not a skill thing - purely mental! On the third day she once again plopped the ball into the water, panic set in, her third shot cleared the water and she ended up with a seven. Not a score she would normally celebrate with, but she was as happy as if she had got a par. It wasn't enough to put her into contention, but it was enough to knock me into last place! Pat took the trophy and Mike won the prize for best gross score. See this year's results below.

Seara Intl. Matchplay Competition

We have had the draw for the Seara Matchplay competition and very interesting that turned out to be. Last year's Cup winner, Joom, has drawn last year's Plate winner, Peter Gale. Matchplay matches can be arranged on any course at any time within the round allowance time - this round has until 19th August, to accommodate summer hols. The matches can be played during one of our BCGS

games, but in that case they forfeit the chance to win, although technical prizes are still awarded. The rest of the draw is on the website, www.geocities/ bcgolfsociety.com. None of the matches have been played at the time of writing, but we will keep you posted ...

Hassall Stableford - Royal Lakeside

This is one of our favourite courses and the scores reflected the fact that it is not as difficult as some others. However, there are lots of trees and water too, so trouble is never far away if you go looking for it. We were very happy to see Adrian O'Brian back having a game with us. He and Mook and little Olivia have settled well in Melbourne, but he still feels he is coming home when he returns to Bangkok. Dave and Cheryl Lamb were back after a long and exotic holiday and it was also good to see Roy again. Welcome back to Colin, who had a break with an injury and is now playing twice a week in Pattaya as well as joining us again.

It was a close thing for those at the top, but George took the prize with 38 points, David L and David H tied with 37, but David Lamb took second prize on countback. Near pins went to Pat, Rosemarie, David Lamb and Ray, ladies' long drive Val, men's David H, Long putt Peter Gale.

Milward Brown Firefly Medal

An excellent turn-out for the medal, even though quite a few regulars are away on holiday or business. Mike Poustie came up from Pattaya, Robert was back from his trip to Scotland - it didn't rain so he didn't want to come back; hard to imagine anywhere more beautiful on a sunny day, but then think of Cornwall or ... getting nostalgic, two days of drizzle and a pub lunch costing a week's wages would soon get me back to reality. Back to business.

Flight A

Mike Staples nett 70 Peter Skinner 72 David Humphries 73 Well done Mike, suggest the first thing you order for your new house is a trophy cabinet. Good games for Peter and David (again).

Flight B

Great scores from: Gordon and Mike P with nett 68, Gordon won on countback, Barry 70 and Rosemarie, 72. Her first game with an official handicap as this was her fourth card. A great start Rosemarie. Like her other half, Gordon, Rosemarie looks set to reduce her handicap by leaps and bounds. She hits the ball a long way and her putting is very good, plus she could hold a bunkershot master class.

Near pins to Gaew (2), Maureen and Robert. Long drive (monster) Maureen and Peter S, long putt Colin.



We can't see you, but we can hear you!



Hat trick





Winner takes all

Let it go Peter

Humphries was off to a flying start, so was Roy, Gordon and Rosemarie (our 'wildcard').

Day two was also perfect playing weather, with a little cloud cover to keep us cool. There was some good scores coming in, notably Maureen, with a gross 92, which put her up there. Carole-Anne played very steadily on days one and two, ready to race to the finish on Day three. Yurachatr played beautifully until she got to 17 and 18 on days 1 and 2 (she conquered them on the last day). However, one of our favourites, coming in second last year, had two very disappointing days; Peter G picked up and submitted a no return for the best nett on both days, but he is very competitive and had by no means given up. Rosemarie's name was being whispered everywhere would she continue to play so well and knock yet more strokes off on the third day? Could David H manage to improve on an already brilliant score and could Roy do the same? Most of us then gathered on the beach at Springfield, Cha Am, to play boules courtesy of David and Cheryl and to have some good seafood on the beach, before making our weary way to bed.

Day three - the last chance

From one of our reporters in the field: Playing by the rules, well one of them! On the final day, with everyone attempting to eliminate those double bogies, George, standing on the teebox of a par 4, is determined to take that bogey from his scorecard. A straight drive, but as luck would have it, it lands smack in one of the palm trees bordering the fairway and firmly lodges there. A brief inspection and a ball is visible some 5 metres off the ground, but can it be clearly identified? (No problem if it had been one of Dianne's balls, which are liberally

illustrated with green cats and can be ID'd from the moon). In order to avoid the need to play it again our hero, who is made of very stern stuff indeed, shimmied up the tree, removed and identified his ball, brushed off a thousand or so red ants and dropped the ball. There is an unwritten rule in golf that you should not follow a mistake with an attempt at a miraculous recovery, rather play for position, but a par is a par and extra yardage off the next shot was called for. Doug's tip about a light

grip, went out the window; forearms tightened, biceps bulged and George let it rip. In cricketing terms the ball soared over mid-on, vanished out of sight over wide long on and probably ended up in the Kennington Oval gasometers! He who dares ... Our captain, Peter



Straight into the palm

Eclectic at Majestic Creek, Hua Hin

Our first major this year and a great turnout. Four days of torrential rain in Hua Hin preceded this event, but did anyone think of cancelling? As Mike said "we are golfers, we have to be washed off the course". I was down there before the match looking out the window and it was like the end of the world. Maureen rang and asked for the Majestic telephone number; was she asking if the course was closed no she wanted to book her caddy!

Saturday dawned clear and sunny. Majestic drains really well and there was no standing water. Only one quick shower dampened the day and the results were surprisingly good with many people playing to their handicap or better, despite those greens! No matter how often you play this course it is soooo hard to read the speed. Well, lack of it actually. They are very slow indeed and, thanks to the rain, the ones that are usually super fast coming downhill defied gravity too. There were some clear favourites from day one, David

S had a very successful day. Gordon was playing very well, as usual, David Lamb had an excellent last day, so did Gaew with a gross 88 and Rosemarie did knock several strokes off her already impressive score.

Suspense killing you? Well here are the results:

Technicals: too numerous to mention, except for Maureen, who hit ladies' long drive on all three days! Fantastic Maureen.

Best nett scores for days one, two and three: Rosemarie, Gordon and David Lamb.

Best Gross over the three days: Pat - last year's champ.

and now, DRUM ROLL please, in reverse order: Roy Barrett,62, David Humphries 61, and our new Champion, Peter Gale, with a nett score of 60. He had a personal best, 85, on the last day. Put 'responds well to pressure' on your CV Pete. It couldn't have been much closer, and, just like the US Masters, it went right down to the wire. Very exciting stuff!

Upcoming Events:

Seniors and Juniors, 9th and 10th June; Dunlop Cup 28th-30th July - courses to be advised; and, of course, our monthly Hassall Stableford and Millward Brown Firefly Medal. Check the website for dates.

Doug's Way to Play

Six Fundamentals to Great Putting

- 1. Same length stroke, back and through (pendulum)
- Always accelerate through the ball for solid contact
- Putt with your shoulders and arms, use your hands for feel only
- 4. Forearms and the putter shaft form a straight line
- 5. Keep your head steady and body still
- 6. Position your eyes directly over the ball

Three Mental Keys to Great Putting

- 1. Same routine without fail
- Make your practice strokes with your eyes looking at the line you want to roll the ball on, to sink the
- Take dead aim Example: if it is a straight putt pick a small spot at the back of the middle of the hole and hit that spot











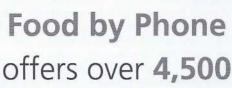












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Regular Sports, Games & Activities

Aerobics

Monday 10:30-11:30 Wednesday 10:30-11:30

Aqua Aerobics

Tuesday 10:00-11:00

Chess

Thursday 6:00-9:00pm - Churchill Bar

Cricket

Wednesday 6:00-8:30pm Practice - Back lawn

Footbal

Tuesday 7:00-9:00pm Practice on the Tennis Court

Hockey

Thursday 9:00-11:00pm Practice on the Tennis Court

Rugby

Thursday 7:00-9:00pm Practice on the Tennis court

Spoofing

Tuesday 8:30pm until late - Churchill Bar

Squash

Tuesday 5:15–8:15pm Mix-in Thursday 5:15–9:00pm Mix-in And 1st Sunday of every month 10:30am–2:15pm

Swimming

Friday 2:00-5:30pm junior classes Saturday 9:00am-2:00pm junior classes

Tennis

Match Play

Monday 6:00-10:00pm Mix-in All Standards

Wednesday 6:00-10:00pm Friday 6:00-10:00pm Sunday 4:00-6:00pm

Ladies Mix-in

Tuesday 8:00-11:00am Thursday 8:00-11:00am

Tennis Coaching

With Nelson Thein . . . Friday 4:00–6:30pm: Junior tennis Saturday 7:00–9:00am: Adult tennis

Youa

Saturday 1:00-2:00pm in Wordsworth Room

Sports/Activities Price List

Aerobics Aqua Aerobics Cricket Massage Squash

Squash courts Swimming Tennis

Adult Tennis
Junior Tennis
Tennis courts
Tennis knockers

Yoga

Bt 4,000 for 10 sessions; drop-in Bt 500 per session
Bt 3,000 for 10 sessions: drop-in Bt 400 baht per session
Use of cricket nets - Bt 300 day/Bt 600 evening if lights needed
Thai massage/foot massage - Bt 250 per hourly session
Private coaching with David Lines - Bt 700 for 1 hour; group session
Bt 1200 per 45 min
Bt 50 per 45 min

Classes with Bangkok Dolphins - Bt 3,500 for 10 lessons of 30 min Private coaching with Nelson Thein - Bt 800/hour

Private coaching with Khun Jang – Bt 550/hour Bt 3,500 for 10 lessons (Saturday morning – beginner to advanced)

Bt 3,000 for 10 lessons (Friday) Bt 30 per hour am/Bt 90 per hour pm

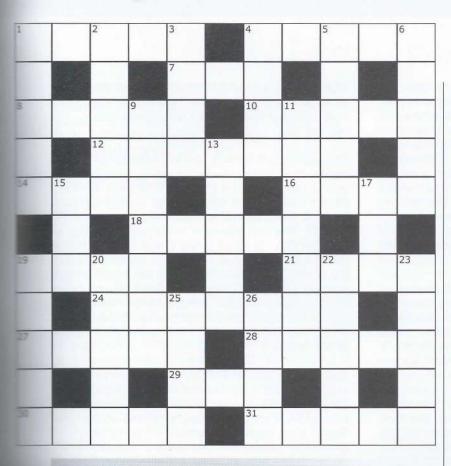
Hourly knocking sessions with - Khun Kaew (Bt 500), Khun Tom (Bt 400),

Khun Phon (Bt 300), Khun Champ (Bt 300) Bt 1,000/month; Bt 300 per lession





Join Jenny Dibbayawan at the pool every Tuesday from 10-11am for Aqua Aerobics! The body thrives on exercise and Aqua Aerobics gives you a great "no impact" workout where you can keep cool and feel good . . .



Fax or deliver your completed crosswords to Barry Osborne as soon as possible after receiving Outpost. After a five day collection period, the author of the first correct entry drawn out of a hat will win a bottle of wine.

Congratulations to the winner of the May crossword - and the first under the new rules - Mr Stephen Eaton (for the third time n a row!). So, it all goes to show, when you're hot, you're hot!

May Solution

Across: 1 Abandon, 5 Steak, 8 Vista, 9 Perjury, 10 Repented, Cask, 13 Enlist, 15 Ostend, 18 Quay, 19 Shutters, 22 Initial,

Rouse, 24 Tight, 25 Tickled.

Down: 1 Adverse, 2 Aesop, 3 Diagnose, 4 Nipper, 5 Sari, 5 Emulate, 7 Kayak, 12 Esoteric, 14 Loafing, 16 Distend,

17 Chalet, 18 Quiet, 20 Equal, 21 List.

Each Sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically without guessing. Enter digits from 1 to 9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digit. So must every column, as must every 3x3 square.

Rating: 'Super-difficult'

Solution times: < 30mins - you don't belong on this planet; 30-50mins - sublime; 50-80mins - well done; longer than 80 mins - keep practising . . .

Good Luck! Fax or deliver your completed sudoku to Barry Osborne as soon as possible after receiving Outpost, After a five day collection period, the author of the first correct entry drawn out of a hat will win a bottle of wine.

The Sudoku winner for May was Ineke Cook (for the second time in a row!). Another Outpost puzzle winner who's on a roll. Congratulations Ineke. Can you make it 3 in a row?

CROSSWORD Clues

Across

- 1 King who slew the innocents.
- George Cross Island.
- Wrath.
- 8 Where the cowboys ride.
- 10 Whisper from the actor.
- 12 Colonist.
- 14 Smooth and level.
- 16 Change 3 Down to prepare for publication.
- 18 Wallop!
- 19 Cute in America!
- 21 So be it.
- 24 Just a trace.
- 27 Somehow least and not fresh.
- 28 The part of the verb that expresses time.
- 29 Sounds like teacher's approval but is a nervous twitch.
- 30 Choose for Office.
- 31 " _____ Ho!", shouts the sailor.

Down

- "My Kingdom for a ____ (Richard II)
- Somehow risen to wash lightly.
- Watch it to keep your figure. 3
- Maybe lame but can make a repast!
- 5 Landlord in Scotland.
- 6 On the ball!
- 9 Very well bred.
- 11 What was leaked.
- 13 Have confidence.
- 15 Swear word.
- 17 What sank the Titanic.
- 19 Perceive by the palate.
- 20 Dodge and slip away.
- 22 Brainy ones join this Society.
- 23 Child of a sibling.
- 25. Where a badger lives.
- 26. Have a yen for.

							8	
6		8				7		
3			2		8	6		4
				2		1		3
9				8				6
7		6		5				
8		5	4		6			2
		2				5		7
	6							

pril 2007 was an active month for the British Club Rugby Section with the team lorganizing a friendly game against the Bangkok Japanese at the Bangkok Pattana International School on April 29, 2007. The purpose of this game was to prepare a strong team for the annual Pattaya 10s Rugby Tournament (Chris Kays Memorial Tournament) hosted by the Pattaya Panthers RFC. The British Club won this game against the Japanese by 20 to 10, a hard-earned victory against a very determined Japanese side. Further details of this game are given below.

Section Committee members Angus McKernan (Chairman) and Morcar McConnell (Secretary and Team Captain) attended the British Club's New Members' Night on May 8, 2007. This event is considered important in terms of the Section's efforts to foster a better relationship with both new and old members of the Club.

There are a number of events planned this year with the Section's largest annual event, The Pink & Black Ball, scheduled for 29 September 2007, the theme being that the ladies each wear something pink to the Ball - as the British Club Rugby team's playing strip comprises the colours pink and black. This event is a black tie gala event and one of the social events on the Bangkok Calendar, so all interested persons are welcome. Tickets are limited - so get in fast and will be put on sale in the near future. Tickets will also be available to Club members at the Club Reception. The Ball is intended to raise funds for the Rugby Section's annual operations and player development. We will keep you posted on this matter!

FIXTURE REPORT / TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Bangkok Pattana International School, 29 April 2007 versus Bangkok Japanese

Although heavy rain hammered down during the game a weary British Club team managed to score a try just before the final whistle to win the game 20 to 10.

Whilst both teams were fresh from victories the previous weekend and were looking to improve their game plan for the Pattaya 10s Rugby Tournament, the British Club prevailed in the end.

In the first half, the Japanese's structured attack saw the ball stay largely within the British Club's 22, but the British Club defence was too strong and many Japanese attacks were thwarted. Winger Thong opened the scoring with a beautiful try to finish a well pieced together string of phases. Next was fly-half and vice-

captain Wai, whose fierce running took him through a strong Bangkok Japanese defence and over the goal line to score the British Club's second try.

The Japanese's hooker saw an opportunity and capitalized, scoring an excellent individual try with a ball caught off the top of his own line out. British Club hooker Jonah Kadish scored the next try; a brilliant call off a lineout on the Japanese's 5 meter line and excellent vision allowed "The Chicago Bull" to drive straight and touch down in the corner. Scrumhalf Mac would score the last try of the half with a well timed but horrific grubber kick that fortunately with a touch of luck bounced back into his hands to allow him to score. His would be the last points of the half, giving the British Club a comfortable 15-5 lead at the break.

Early in the second half an off-the-ball incident erupted into a bit of a hand-bag slinging match (boys will be boys) and resulted in a not-sosweet talk from the referee, with one of the British Club players unfortunately being sinbinned for retaliation. The Laws of Rugby Union do not allow retaliation to a foul inflicted by the other side so invariably the non-aggressor is penalized. Anyway it was with some satisfaction that the culprit who caused the fracas, the Bangkok Japanese prop alias "The Grey Barber from Yokohama", was put out with a stretched hamstring due to a vain attempt to catch up with the British Club's strongest runner, Morcar McConnell, who was blazing down the midfield.

Down one man, the British Club's fitness began to wear. Toward the middle of the second half, the well disciplined Bangkok Japanese side used its fitness advantage to spin the ball wide, resulting in a second-half try coming from the backline. The last of the British Club's tries would come from a brilliant run from a penalty taken quickly and spun out to the reliable Thong on the wing, who touched the ball down in the corner. Final score was a 20 to 10 win for the British Club against a very strong Bangkok Japanese side.

Pattaya 10s Rugby Tournament — 5 and 6 May 2007

This tournament is hosted annually by the Pattaya Panthers RFC at Horseshoe Point in Pattaya in memory of Chris Kays, a former Pattaya Panthers rugby player who was one of the many others who died in the Bali Bombings in 2002.

The British Club did reasonably well at the tournament but could have performed better had it not been for some silly mistakes and indiscipline on our part.

The results were as follows: Day One — Pool Games

Vientienne Buffaloes Lost 5 - 21 Odds and Sods (Pattaya 2nd Team) Won 12 - 5 Kasetsart University 1st Team Won 7 - 5

Day Two — Knock-out Games

Southerners Lost 10 - 12 Odds and Sods (Pattaya 2nd Team) Won 25 - 5 Lost 19 - 12 Nung Len

The tournament rules provide that the top two teams from each Pool go through to the Cup play-offs. So after stupidly losing to the Vientienne Buffaloes, after Kasetsart University had soundly beaten them, the British Club had to make sure it won its remaining Pool games by enough points to finish second. The British Club did just that and scraped through into the first of the Cup play-offs, the Quarter-Finals against the Southerners, the favourites to win the tournament and the team who eventually did win the tournament.

The Southerners took a 5 - 0 lead at half time. Our game plan was to run them around and keep the score down in the first half by using





Above: BC Rugby v Southerners

our smaller and quicker Thai players in the backline. In the second half we put on the bigger scrum players to tire out their forwards and this tactic worked very well. The Southerners had no answer and were



unable to get out of their own half. The British Club scored quickly in the second half making it 5 - 5 and with about 3 minutes to go Captain Morcar McConnell scored, taking the lead 10 - 5. We played a very controlled game, not giving the ball away. After the hooter went, the British Club was given a penalty for the Southerners diving over the ruck. All we had to do was to kick the ball out of play and the game would have been ours. Unfortunately due to an act of indiscipline the penalty was reversed and the Southerners scored and won the game 12 - 10. So, in

> summary, a close and exciting game but due to indiscipline the British Club was relegated to the Plate Quarter-Finals, which we won convincingly against Pattaya 2nd Team by 25 - 5.

The next game was the Plate Semi-Final against the fancied Nung Len (Thai Ba Baas) who, because they were so worried about losing against the British Club, had resorted to recruiting the entire Royal Thai Navy pack, a very mobile pack, and some of their very fast backs into their team. However, British Club played a clever game against them by using forward tactics to make up for our lack of pace out wide, i.e. by playing for the contact, running directly at players, tackling hard and slowing the game down. The British Club were in the lead with 5 minutes before full time when unfortunately due to a lack of concentration the Ba Baas scored two quick tries and won the game 19 - 12.

All in all this was quite a good rugby tournament for the British Club and hopefully we will have learned from the mistakes we made and as a result our performance will improve during the season. The Rugby Section's main goal this season is to win the TRU League which is definitely not beyond its playing ability.

Magnus Andersson Rugby Section Club Captain

Quote of the month:

I have always considered tennis as a combat in an arena between two gladiators who have their racquets and their courage as their weapons.

Yannick Noah, 1983 French Open Champion.













ith the unseasonably early arrival of the rainy season, many tennis section members have seen their matches and mix-ins rained out . . . here's hoping for better cooperation from the weather service . . . In any case, in early May, a handful of BC players had the honour of playing against the Silom Club for one last time. After nearly 100 years of history, the club is being torn down and the site redeveloped by the owning Crown Property Bureau for the nearby Christian College. The Bangkok tennis community will sorely miss this club, site of many famous close encounters.

The tennis section Committee has come to the end of its one-year mandate and is looking for volunteers for the incoming committee. New blood is sorely needed!! Don't hesitate to raise your hand!! We need volunteers!!

For the record . . .

On the opposite page are the BCB Tennis Championship Results for 2007 and on this page there's more action photos from Finals Day, taken by Chris Watt.

Next month, look for some words of wisdom from professional coach Marcel Petit, winner of the British Club's recent Men's Singles Championship. Starting this summer, Marcel will be writing a column sure to benefit players of all ages and levels!

Marilyn August

TIP OF THE MONTH -- Shorten your racket!

Question: How can I avoid over-hitting when I get a real sitter?

That's easy! Shorten your racket and shorten your backswing! Unfortunately, they haven't invented a racket with a button that shortens the grip for these sort of shots, but you can achieve the same effect by shifting your hand up the grip a couple of inches. This should give you the feeling that you've got more control over the swing.

Shorten your backswing too - just a shoulder turn will do. But still go for a full follow-through, because the last thing you want to do is trade your over-hitting for a "nothing" shot that sets you or your partner up for the kill.

		****	SATURDAY 31st MARCH 2007 MAIN			ICVENTS
io.	MAIN EVENT	TIME OF PLAY	CENTRE	SCC	RE	COURT
1	LADIES SINGLES FINAL	8.30 to 10.00 a.m.	MINT THUMRONGLUK	6	1 1	MOOKY THUMRONGLUK
2	LADIES DOUBLES FINAL	10.00 to 12.00 a.m.	MINT THUMRONGLUK & MOOKY THUMRONGLUK	6	2 2	MIREILLE JOFFRE & NATACHA NUSSAUME
3	MEN'S DOUBLES FINAL		JAMES YOUNG & MARC HAGELAUER	6 2 5	3	PHAIROJ CHANSEVIKUL & NUT WATANALI
1	MEN'S SINGLES FINAL	3.00 to 5.00 p.m.	MARC NUSSAUME	4	6	MARCEL PETIT
				1	6	
5	MIXED DOUBLES FINAL	5.00 to 7.00 p.m.	JAMES YOUNG & MINT THUMRONGLUK	6	4	MARC NUSSAUME & MIREILLE JOFFRE
			SATURDAY 31st MARCH 2007 PLATE	6	4	EVENTS
О.	PLATE	TIME OF PLAY	SATURDAY 31st MARCH 2007 PLATE NUMBER 1	6 scc	4 RE	EVENTS COURT
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0. 1 2 3	PLATE MEN'S SINGLES FINAL LADIES DOUBLES FINAL LADIES SINGLES FINAL MIXED DOUBLES FINAL	TIME OF PLAY 8.00 to 10.00 a.m. 10.00 to 12.00 a.m. 1.00 to 3.00 p.m.	SATURDAY 31st MARCH 2007 PLATE NUMBER 1 KRAISORN SUNTIASVARAPORN WANDEE BRUTON & URACHAT BROOK	scc 6 6 6 6 6 1 3	1 0 0 4 6 6 6	EVENTS COURT ORI DOLEV NA NUSSAUME & ANAIS NUSSAUME TIP WATT DAVID PADGHAM & RAQUEL EVANS



British Club Bangkok 39

















Squashy Bits

here have been lots of Squashy goings on lately but since inevitably I managed to miss most of them I have had to draw on some highly dubious sources for this edition.

UK Over 50's National Championship

I asked Captain David Lines for a report on his much anticipated participation in the prestigious UK Over-50s National Championship which, in true Yorkshire fashion, he'd promised us he was going to win. Here it is:

"I got stuffed"

Things people don't normally talk about

I bumped into a hobbling David Eastgate the other night and discovered he was suffering from gout. He was feeling a bit sorry for himself but felt much better when I told him I was a fellow sufferer ... in fact, so much so, that he passed it on to me and the very next day I went down with a bout myself! Why is it that certain afflictions never get any sympathy? ... and yet are such rich sources of conversation once you find fellow sufferers? ... I have always found piles to be a great dinner conversation starter.

Comings and Goings

Club #1 James Quinn sadly left us this month and a number of Squashies braved the rains on a stormy night for a farewell mix-in, drinks and squashy VDO. James was great for BC squash... and a great lad. He'll be in touch and has promised to try to join the next BC Chiang Mai tour ... and if anyone wants a game passing through London ...

It seems like George and Vicky only left for the UK the other day but, by the time you read this, they will have passed back through on their way to live and work in New Zealand. Vicky is expecting a prawn which as you can see already bears a strong family resemblance (big-head). Poor Da, about to become a grandmother! And as you can see from



Farewell James

the other picture George has been busy grooming himself for his new responsibilities. Great legs!

I bumped into Steve Tapner at the poolside a few weeks ago, one of BC's best squash players never to get his name on the honours boards. He was around in the early 80's and regularly lost out to super-champ Len Alexander. He was visiting for the first time in 25 years, looking in great shape though no longer playing squash. He was asking after the likes of Colin Hastings and Bernie Grogan.

Standing for committee

I actually made a squash committee meeting the other week. It was new members' night and there were four of us present as Peter conducted the meeting standing around a cocktail table. We all agreed to everything and it was all over in about 4 minutes.

Chiang Mai Cup, RBSC

Last year I thoroughly enjoyed watching the Squash Doubles at RBSC for the first time but unfortunately wasn't able to make it this year. Peter

Corney filed this report:

"The Chiangmai Cup is an International squash doubles tournament and this year there were 58 teams competing consisting of 21 clubs from Thailand, Malaysia, India and Singapore. It was held from the 28th April with the final being played on the morning of the 1st

The BCB entered two teams, David Lines teamed with James Quinn and the oldies Ray Coleman and Peter Corney teamed together. Both teams lost the first round to go into the plate event. Ray and Peter defeated two ladies from the





The prawn

That's my boy





Doubles Action

More Doubles Action



David and James double up



Runners Up



Doubles champs

HKFC (10) in the first round of the plate but then went down to an experienced team from the Tanglin Club (8).

David and James lost to Tanglin 2 in their first round of the Plate.

The final was played between the HKFC1 and Singapore Cricket Club 1. Phil Head and Glen Gitch from the HKLFC defeated Zainal Abidin and Lim Jit Uel in an entertaining hard fought match.

If you have never seen the game played I recommend you try and see the final next year they have free drinks and eats on completion so it's worth the effort.



Don't ask!

Once again RBSC provided some interesting entertainment for the dinner on the Saturday night. Fortunately I lost the photographic evidence so our esteemed Club Captain is safe until next year. I think his partner will probably accompany

him next time to keep him out of trouble"

Team Training

Team training has apparently been a great success with up to 8 players turning up on Wednesday nights. David Lines is making a huge impact with his coaching, many members showing a marked improvement in their playing. Everyone is welcome.

Dave and Steve

I have no idea what this one was about ... an invitation to a joint birthday party at very short notice. I'm looking forward to the pictures.

Upcoming Events

A team from the BCB will be going to Singapore over the weekend of the 23/24th June to play the Singapore British Club and hopefully the Tanglin Club as well.

The Annual Club Championship for The Don Johnson Cup and Parra Handy Plate is scheduled to commence Tuesday 5th June with the finals on Sunday 17th June. There will be drinks and eats on completion of the finals.

League Winners

Congratulations to the winners of April League # 218: Division 1 Ja Chaturan, 2 Ruengrit, 3 Peter Corney

Happy Squashing.

Jack Dunford

Reciprocal Club Benefits

As an active British Club Member, you are entitled to enjoy the full use of other associated Club facilities around the world. This month we feature the reciprocal club . . .



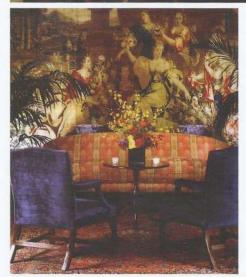
The Regency Club











he Regency Club is reputed to be the premiere dining club in Los Angeles and features elegant dining rooms, private meeting and board rooms, a library, grille, reception gallery, piano lounge and barroom, all traditionally furnished with English antiques, Flemish tapestries, objets d'art, paintings and an abundance of fresh flowers.

The main focus at the club is its superb cuisine, delivered with personalized service amid the sumptuous décor of a stately home atop a Los Angeles high-rise with sweeping city and ocean views.

Website: http:// www.the regencyclub.com

For more information please contact the Membership Department at membership@britishclubbangkok.org

If you regularly visit an overseas club that is not already reciprocal with the British Club, please do let the Club know and we will see if reciprocation can be arranged.

and GOODBYES

Welcome Aboard!

Please join us in welcoming the following new members and their families. We look forward to seeing them around the Club.

- 1. Robert Palmer & Judy-Anne Clark
- 2. Julia Latchford
- 3. Graham Sullivan
- 4. Kachamas Watanapalin
- 5. Nathawut Watanapalin

Farewell and best wishes to . . .

- 1. Niklas & Anna Lindegardh
- 2. Kenneth & Cherie Lo
- 3. James & Sophie Quinn
- 4. Enrique & Fan Valero
- 5. Michiel & Marife Vreedenburgh
- 6. Richard & Janjira Banks
- 7. Lavender & Kumar Howard
- 8. Simon & Judith Fisher 9. Peter Myers
- 10. Ravi & Prem Sharma
- 11. Mark & Shelagh Fraser

New Members' Night













Khun Laak once again created an imaginative range of canapés and laid on some delicious carved baked ham, while the music was provided by "Latin Connection" - many thanks to Marvin Lewis for recommending this excellent band to us. Although perhaps not the busiest of New Members' Nights, certainly a pleasant time was had by all, the last members departing at 2.30am!

Please remember the Club is always on the look out for more new members. If you have any friends who you think would be interested in joining, then please give the ladies a call in the Membership Department.

Barry Osborne

Getting in touch

General Committee			email		
Stuart Blacksell	Chairman		chairman@britishclubbangkok.org		
Mark Hamill-Stewart	Hon. Treasurer		gc@britishclubbangkok.org		
Nick Day	Vice Chairman		gc@britishclubbangkok.org		
Paul Cheesman	Hon. Secretary		gc@britishclubbangkok.org		
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Gavin Broad	Committee Member		gc@britishclubbangkok.org		
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Nungruethai Lakul	Functions & Events Secret	tary	eventbooking@britishclubbangkok.org		
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Badminton – Anand Leighraha	thorn	Golf - Peter	Skinner (pskinne@hassell.co.th)		
Bridge - Winlock Hsu/Chareler	ne Wang	Rugby - Ang	Rugby - Angus McKernan (mckernan2@csloxinfo.com)		
(winlock@duraform.co.th)		Spoofers - 3	ohn Boisclair (benedict@ksc.th.com)		
Cricket - Zeeshan Khan (shan	@bangkokgemmart.com	Squash - Pe	Squash - Peter Corney (peter@acagroup.com)		
Football - Peter Rodgers (p_a_	_rodgers@yahoo.co.uk)	Tennis – Ma	Tennis – Marc Nussaume (marcnus@hotmail.com)		
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St Andrew's - Alan McAllister ((mcallister@hotmail.com)	St George's	- Gale Bailey (galebailey@hotmail.com)		
St David's - Darren Jones (Da			St Patrick's – Gerald Wright		
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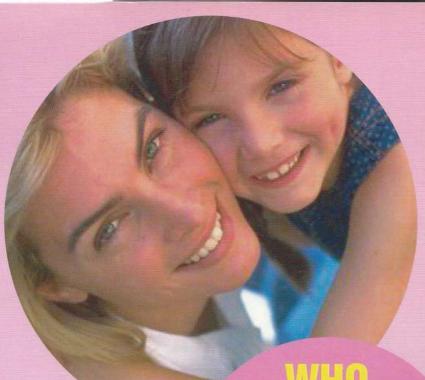
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