



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

The Magazine of the BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK

# Outpost

June 2009

## Happy Birthday

**Easter Sunday Egg Hunt**  
**The Club's 106th Birthday Party**  
**Squashy Bits**  
**Swimming for Charity**  
**Rugby is Back**

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The International Club for Friends and Families



# Feel Like a Man Again!

## Are you suffering from Andropause?

Andropause is the result of a decline in male hormone (testosterone) levels which can occur with aging. While it can cause health problems you no longer have to accept it as inevitable and unmanageable!

Men Center at Bumrungrad International is a team of doctors who study, understand, and treat health issues faced by men as they age. Starting with an initial evaluation, a Men Center doctor will give you advice and may recommend appropriate treatment by a specialist on the Men Center team.

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THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

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**BARRY OSBORNE**

**PREMRUDEE TANYALUCK**

# JOURNAL

*Maintenance and membership are the main priorities ...*

I hope you have all had the opportunity to read the summary of our April GC meeting which sets out our plans and priorities for the year. In that summary we highlighted maintenance and membership as the main priorities and so I would like to expand a little on our thoughts and plans in these areas.

Clearly these two areas are connected as the Club needs to look its best to retain existing members and attract new ones. A general clean up is underway; rubbish and broken furniture are being removed and a fresh coat of paint applied to many areas. In parallel with this, larger projects are progressing in specific areas of concern:

- we are moving ahead with a tender for upgrading of our electrical systems;
- we are having all buildings surveyed for termite damage and will review our pest control contracts and protection in the light of the survey findings;
- we are completing contractual reviews of works done on the tennis courts, back lawn etc as they are scheduled to move out of defect rectification into warranty and maintenance phases;
- we have identified problems with the drainage system under the Suriwongse Sala and will investigate appropriate solutions; and
- we will renovate the men's changing rooms.

Membership is the other of our top priorities. With a largely expatriate membership, people come and go as their postings or contracts are completed and in a good year about as many people join the club as leave it.

Our total membership has remained steady between about 1,000 and 1,100 members for several years. However, as we all know, this is not a good year and the GC anticipates a higher number of leavers than usual in 2009 and 2010. So like Alice in "Through The Looking Glass", our membership team will have to run very fast just to keep in the same place. We have asked Barry to take a leading role in new member recruitment and have re-assigned some of his workload in areas such as maintenance and sports to other members of the management team in order to allow him to focus on this. But we need your help too. The British Club is a unique institution with a privileged location in central Bangkok.

We all love the Club and should be its most passionate advocates so please talk to your friends and colleagues who are not yet members and encourage them to join – and remember we are still operating a Member Get Member Programme. In the event that your friends are unwilling to join we would also like to hear their reasons – it will help us understand what we have to do better to attract new members. ■

**The British Club is a unique institution with a privileged location in central Bangkok.**

#### Jonathan Truslow

*Chairman – General Committee 2009/10*



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- Outpost is the monthly publication of THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK, the international Club for friends and families in the heart of Bangkok. A full version of the magazine is also available online at [www.britishclubbangkok.org/outpost](http://www.britishclubbangkok.org/outpost)
- Opinions expressed need not necessarily represent those of the Club. All events, dates and times are correct at time of press.
- Outpost welcomes contributions from members, please send them to the Communications Manager at the Club address (left).
- The Club reserves the right to edit all materials or decline publication. No part of this publication may be reproduced without the written permission of the Club.





# COMING UP IN JUNE & JULY

*Come and join us in a wide range of interesting activities at your Club*

**SATURDAY, JUNE 13TH**

## **Car Boot Sale & Fun Day**

British Club Car Boot Sale and Fun Day. To celebrate Queen Elizabeth's 83rd Birthday and Trooping of The Colour in London, we are holding a car boot sale and fun day for the families on the Back Lawn of the Club.



To book your sales table simply call to Khun Weena or Barry. There will also be activities for the kids including our BC Bouncy Castle, Arts, Crafts and Face Painting with Khun Suzie, Welly Wanging, Football, The Stocks run by Khun Reed and his team and lots more. There is no entrance charge for the car boot sale or activities.

We will also have an optional BBQ and beer garden on the Back Lawn with promotional prices on Tetley Bitter and Stowford Press Cider. The Car Boot Sale and activities run from 1pm until 6pm. In the Verandah we will also have a British buffet available at lunch and dinner times and we will be showing British Classic Videos, Fawlty Towers, Allo Allo, Dads army and Only The Royle Family.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 16TH**

## **Bar Quiz Night**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 18TH**

## **The Verandah Pub Night**

Join us for some live music in the Verandah. Music provided by Celtic Colours. We will also have a promotion on The Best Of British, Fish and Chips served in Newspaper, Pies, Cornish Pasties etc all at discounted prices. We will also have a promotion on Tetley Draught Bitter and Stowford Press Herefordshire's Finest Cider.

To book your table, contact the Verandah direct. Music starts at 7pm. Pub menu and promotional drinks prices start at 5.30pm.



**THURSDAY, JUNE 25TH**

## **Wine Tasting**



**SATURDAY, JUNE 27TH**

## **Canada's 142nd Birthday**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 30TH**

## **Mid Year Member Gathering**

A great opportunity for Members to get together before the start of the long school holidays. The evening kicks off with an open bar from 7-8pm. Live music, plus four wine companies on hand to offer their wines at reduced rates, and delicious canapés as well. To book sign up at the Club House reception or send a fax or email to the Club or contact Khun Weena or Barry for further details. See you there!



**THURSDAY, JULY 16TH**

## **Harry Potter And The Half Blood Prince**

SF Cinema Central World. Ticket Baht 500 includes VIP seat, popcorn, and soft drinks

**FRIDAY, JULY 17TH**

## **Hogwarts School Buffet**

We are creating all your favorite school foods, Hogwarts Shepherds Pie, Dumbledore Treacle Tart, Harry's Beef Stew and lots more. Available at lunch and dinner times in the Verandah. Come Dressed in your school uniform or as your favorite Harry Potter character.



**F&B HIGHLIGHT IN THE MONTH OF JUNE****EVERY WEDNESDAY****Paella & Sangria specials**

Available every Wednesday Khun Laak will create the Paella, cooked to order please allow 30 minutes cooking time, Paella available is seafood, chicken or vegetarian. Minimum order for 2 persons. Khun Kasem and Khun Asadang will also make some delicious Sangria wines to compliment the Paella. The Paella is available at lunch and dinner times and available in all outlets.

**EVERY FRIDAY****Theme Buffet in the Verandah**

We are once again featuring some recipes from Britain's most popular celebrity chefs throughout the Month of June.

Friday 5th – The Verandah Gary Rhodes Buffet

Friday 12th – The Verandah Delia Smith Buffet

Friday 19th – The Verandah Jamie Oliver Buffet

Friday 26th – The Verandah Gordon Ramsey Buffet

The Buffet Costs Baht 325 per person and is available in the Verandah at both lunch and dinner times.

# Official Opening Times

The Verandah	11am-10pm
Churchill Bar	10am-11pm
Poolside Bar	7am-10pm
<b>(last food orders 9.30pm)</b>	

**Fitness Centre**

(Mon-Fri)	6am-10pm
(Weekend)	6am-9pm

**Thai Massage**

(Tues-Sun)	9am-6pm
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**Kalae Art and Décor**

## GRAND SALE June 2009

**50% Discount on Dozens of :** cabinets, Desks, Tables, Consoles, Mirror, various furniture

**35% Discount on the NEW container**

**CELEBRATE WITH US ON SATURDAY JUNE 13!**

- DRAGON DANCE AND ACROBATIC CHINESE PERFORMANCE AT 3 PM.
- CHINESE CALLIGRAPHER YOUR CHILDREN WILL LOVE IT!
- WINES TASTING WITH "WINE CONNECTION"
- SOFT DRINKS AND SNACKS WITH "FOLIES"
- LUCKY DRAWS: PLENTY OF TREASURES TO BE WON!

**Kalae Art and Décor** : 1040 Suan Plu, Soi 17 Narathiwat Ratchanakarin Rd. South Sathorn Road Thung Mahamek 10120 Bangkok  
Tel: 02 286 5129 Fax: 02 676 3981 Email: Info@kalae-art.com Website : www.kalae-art.com





# Barry's ClubLife

Ben O'SK



Each week now we offer three healthy special dish options in all outlets. This is to compliment our weekly Red Rice Specials, Daily Specials and Laak Recommends Specials...

Dear Members,

Looking back we have had a great few months here at the Club. Easter and Songkran were very busy periods quickly followed by the Club's Birthday Party held on April 25th: see elsewhere in this edition of *Outpost* for more details of these events. Looking forward to June and July, we are organizing a Pub Night in the Verandah with A British Pub Menu featuring all your favourites such as Cornish Pasties, Gammon and Eggs, Fish and Chips, with special prices on Draught Beers and Live Music from Celtic Colours. The date set is for the 18th of June. The June Wine Tasting will take place on Thursday, June 25th in the Suriwongse Room and not a Friday this month as we are going to be busy preparing for The Canada Day celebrations. To coincide with the Wine Tasting Khun Laak will create a delicious buffet from the cook books of British chef Gary Rhodes. The buffet will be available at lunch and dinner times in the Verandah at a cost of Baht 325 per person. In June we will also be hosting the Canadian Chamber's Canada Day event to celebrate Canada's 142nd Birthday. The event will take place in the Club grounds on Saturday June 27th.

**Please Note:** there will be no parking available at the Club from 11pm on Friday June 26th until 10pm on Saturday June 27th. This is for safety reasons due to the amount of children around the Club's premises. There is no alternative parking laid on and I would advise Members to come by Taxi; there is car parking at the Narai Hotel but this is at the Member's own expense.







Hopefully June will be a month of little rain and we will be able to enjoy these events before Members head off for the school holidays.

In June we will continue with our regular Friday celebrity chef buffets re-created by khun Laak. These have proven to be very popular. Please note that the Wednesday Carvery has moved to Tuesday nights and Wednesday menus are now Paella and Sangria nights available in all outlets. Minimum of two for Paella and please see page 5 in this edition of *Outpost* for more information.

In June we will also have a Strawberry and Pimms Promotion to celebrate the start of Wimbledon fortnight in England. In the past few months we have had a Chocolate and Mango Promotion and last month we had a Kiwi Fruit Promotion. Each week now we offer 3 healthy special dish options in all outlets. This is to compliment our weekly Red Rice Specials, Daily Specials and Laak Recommends Specials; new menus have been launched in all outlets and a new Children's Menu will be out shortly.

In this edition you will see advertisements for our popular outside Catering services. Over 200 functions were catered for in this year alone. You will also see an ad for Take Away foods. Yes; did you know that most of the food items available on the Club's menu are available for Take Away so simply order through any outlet, and for bulk orders please book in advance to ensure availability. We as yet are not able to offer a delivery service.

We are also still looking for new Members to your Club. The Member Get Members Scheme is still running so please contact Khun Weena and/or myself for more details.

In July we have booked the whole of the Happiness Cinema at Central World to see the Premier of the New Harry Potter movie. The cost is Baht 500 per person and includes VIP seating; some bean bags available; popcorn and sodas. Also the room is ours so we will be able to avoid those annoying mobile calls!

The following day we will host the Wine Tasting in the Suriwongse room from 6-9pm. There will be a Harry Potter party in the Sala; no parents allowed from 6-9pm. Our Friday theme buffet in the Verandah will be school dinners, Hogwarts school dinners to be more precise, and open to all the family. Come dressed as your Harry Potter favourite character or in school uniform!!

Check out posters around the Club for more details.

These are just a few of the events and activities taking place around your Club. I look forward to seeing you around your Club soon. ■

Regards,

Baz.











## EASTER SUNDAY EGG HUNT

*One of the biggest Easter days ever ...*



Despite only 70 bookings Easter resulted in a great day here at the Club with over 150 members actually turning out for our Easter Sunday Egg Hunt, making it one of our biggest Easter days ever. And once again the Egg hunt was kindly sponsored by Cadbury Adams which donated their delicious chocolates as prizes for all competitors.

It was an eggstremely hot day but thankfully the mastercool fans were working overtime and Somboon had a fully stocked bar to help us cool down and get in to the spirit of the event.

This year we hid over 400 eggs with prizes for everyone; there was also 3 silver eggs and one golden egg. The lucky winners were:

*Gold egg: Zoe Evans*

*Silver egg: Ben Flaherty, Monique Poustie, Joel Noble and Sara Jarman*

Apart from the egg hunt there was plenty of other activities to keep the kids entertained including the Club's bouncy castle, egg painting, cookie decorating, arts and crafts, an excellent magic show, and a walk-about magician. After lunch the kids moved upstairs into the aircon to watch *The Curse of the Were Rabbit* leaving time for mum and dad to cool down with a drink or two.

Meanwhile the Churchill Bar and Verandah were also a hive of activity with over 90 diners attending the Easter Sunday Brunch. The Club really was a hive of activity. Over the Easter week we also sold out of all our Easter novelties and sold over 500 BCB Hot Cross Buns. Later in the afternoon many Members made their way to pool side to cool down with a dip in the pool.

Despite also being Songkran week, we had one of our busiest Easter days all around the Club. Well done to the Staff, and also many thanks to Cadbury Adams for their generosity and of course to you the Members for once again supporting your Club. ■





# *The Club's 106<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party*





On Saturday April 25th we celebrated the Club's 106th Birthday with a party on the back lawn from 11:00 am until 3:00 pm. The Club's actual Birthday is April 23rd, St George's Day, but we decided to hold the party on the Saturday instead.

The event and all activities were free to members and activities included Bouncy Castle, Cricket Games, Football, Welly Wanging, a huge Giant Slide, Crafts and activities. The Neilson Hays Library and BNH Hospital also organized crafts for the children. We were very lucky as it had rained everyday before the party. However on the day it was very hot although the 3 days after the Party it rained.

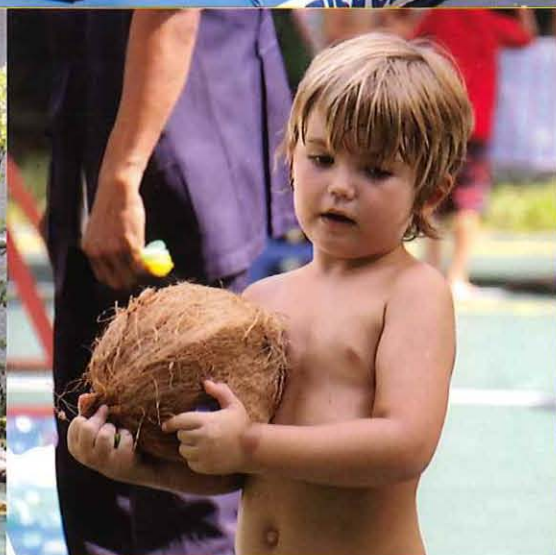
Whilst the kids were busy with the events mums and dads also had time to relax in the beer garden and listen to some excellent music performed by Celtic Colours. As the day was so hot many members also moved into the welcome aircon in the Verandah and Churchill Bar and enjoyed our British Buffet Lunch and promotion on Tetley Bitter and Stowford Press Draught cider whilst watching DVDs of British classic comedies, Fawlty Towers, Dads Army and Allo Allo.

As with all parties the day was rounded off with a happy birthday sing-a-long and a cake in the shape of the Club House.

As with Easter and Songkran the event led to many members staying on and enjoying all the outlets of the Club leading to a very busy and very successful day. Plans are already in progress for a bigger bash next year for the Club's 107th birthday and the Club House's 100th birthday. ■

See you then,

Baz.





**COMING SOON!**  
To A British Club Near You



Exclusive Premiere  
Thursday 16 July  
SF Cinema Central World  
VIP Ticket 500.-  
With pop corn  
and soft drink



**Hogwarts School  
Dinner Buffet**

**Friday 17 July 2009**

**The Verandah**

**Cost 350.- / adult**

**200.- / child**

**Come dressed in your school uniform  
or as your favourite HARRY POTTER character**



**Harry Potter**

**AND THE HALF BLOOD PRINCE**

**Children's Party,  
No parents allowed!!!**

**Friday July 17**

**Silom Sala from 6-9 pm**

**Ticket cost 390.-**

**Includes school grub**



**BOOK NOW!**

For more information and booking please contact the club house reception



## OSTEO CLINIC

British Osteopathy



Better Health... Naturally



The Osteo Clinic is the place to find British trained English speaking Osteopaths in Bangkok. We are at Ratchakru Medical Center near Ari BTS. Parking is available at the Clinic  
Web: [osteoclinicbangkok.com](http://osteoclinicbangkok.com)  
Tel: 02-619-5911

Hands on treatment for  
Back Pain  
Neck and Shoulder Pain  
Sports Injuries  
and many other conditions

## ASIAN TIGERS

Your Move. Our World.

*Moving this Summer?...*

...we'd recommend you start planning now :



Book your move dates early, as May, June, and July are the peak season months for household goods export shipments. Call our moving division to schedule a pre-move survey to secure your preferred packing & moving date.



Pets - Many E.U. & some Asian countries require blood testing and 3 months or more delay here before shipping can occur. We can provide all the Info.



Staying in town but want to change home to a better one? Our Housing division has a large stock of expat rental properties available.

Move management | Home Search | Immigration | Property Services

The Relocation Specialists



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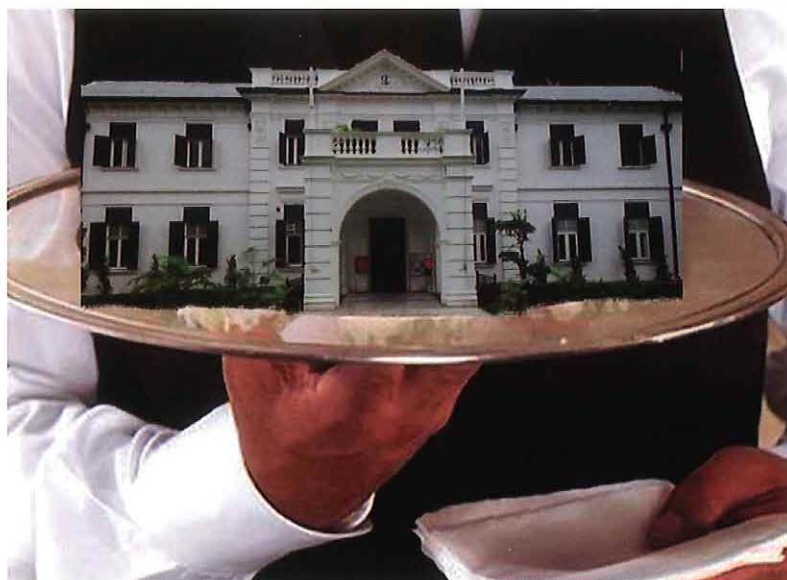


# ***Khun Somboon and The British Club's Catering Team***

## **BRINGING YOUR CLUB TO YOUR DOORSTEP**

Whether you're planning for a corporate function or a private party, the Club's catering service can help take the pain out of planning.

To find out how the Club can make your next function a success, call our Catering Manager Khun Somboon 02 2340247 or [somboon@britishclubbangkok.org](mailto:somboon@britishclubbangkok.org)



## **TAKE AWAY**



***Did you know that most items on all the Club's menus are available for take away?***

***Simply order direct from any outlet in person or by telephone.***

***For bulk orders, please contact Khun Somboon or Khun Barry in the Club House office.***



# Come celebrate CANADA'S 142nd BIRTHDAY

BRITISH CLUB,  
SATURDAY, JUNE 27th, 2009



**DISCOUNT TICKETS SOLD IN ADVANCE -  
LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR**

**BUFFET DINNER FEATURING SALMON & BEEF  
CANADIAN BEVERAGES, CHANCE TO WIN FABULOUS PRIZES**

## Tickets Prices

- Adults
- Children (6-12)
- Children 5 and under
- Reserved tables of 8

850 baht in advance/1000 baht at the door  
400 baht in advance/500 baht at the door  
100 baht in advance/at the door  
You can reserve tables to ensure seating arrangements  
( in advance only; contact TCCC before June 19th )

## Schedule

3 pm Doors open  
4 pm Children's games  
4:30 pm Ball hockey, volleyball tournament & adult games  
6 pm Greetings and grand draw prize  
6:30 pm Dinner



## June 2

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
	1	2 The Verandah Tuesday Carvery Available from noon - 2pm and 6pm-10pm	BCB Balut S @ 7.05 pm Paella & Sang Available at dinner times
7 The Verandah Sunday Carvery Lunch time only  Junior Squash 3.30 pm	8	9 The Verandah Tuesday Carvery Available from noon - 2pm and 6pm - 10pm	Paella & Sang Available at dinner times outlets.
14 The Verandah Sunday Carvery Lunch time only  Junior Rugby 3.30 pm	15	16 Monthly Bar Quiz 7.30 pm The Verandah Tuesday Carvery Available from noon - 2pm and 6pm - 10pm	Paella & Sang Available at dinner times
21 The Verandah Sunday Carvery Lunch time only  Junior Football 3.30 pm	22	23 The Verandah Tuesday Carvery Available from noon - 2pm and 6pm - 10pm	Paella & Sang Available at dinner times
28 The Verandah Sunday Carvery Lunch time only  Swimming Gala & Water Day – 12.30 pm	29	30 • The Verandah Tuesday Carvery Available from noon - 2pm and 6pm - 10pm • Mid Year Member Gathering” Start 7 pm	



# 2009

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>3</b> Field gria Special lunch and in all outlets	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> The Verandah Gary Rhodes Buffet Lunch & dinner times	<b>6</b>
<b>10</b> gria Special lunch and in all	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> The Verandah Delia Smith Buffet Lunch & dinner times	<b>13</b> Queen Elizabeth's Birthday Celebration British Club Car Boot Sale & Fun Day 1pm-6pm
<b>17</b> gria Special lunch and in all outlets	<b>18</b> The Verandah Pub Night	<b>19</b> The Verandah Jamie Oliver Buffet Lunch & dinner times	<b>20</b>
<b>24</b> gria Special lunch and in all outlets	<b>25</b> June Wine Tasting 6pm-9pm Suriwongse Room	<b>26</b> The Verandah Gordon Ramsey Buffet Lunch & dinner times	<b>27</b> Canada's 142 Birthday Celebration



Reed Passmore

## SPORTS &amp; LEISURE



River Kwai Adventure Race – Reed biking

Welcome to another edition of sports and recreation at the British Club.

I want to start by thanking all the members that came along to the club for Easter and Songkran and made the holiday period a very busy and enjoyable time at The Club.

School holidays are fast approaching and we have numerous activities, sports days, coaching and recreational activities planned for all.

During the month of June we will be running different activities for children on Sundays. Sunday afternoon activities will be organised in advance (see next page) plus impromptu games on Saturdays.

**Sunday 7th June** – Junior Squash with Khun Rit. Sign up early. Bring a racquet or borrow one from the BC. This will be a fun hour of squash with Khun Rit. Bt.125 per child.

**Sunday 14th June** – Junior Rugby. Running shoes only. J.Rugby is noncontact, fast, fun and active. Baht125 per child.

**Sunday 21st June** – Junior Football with Khun Rit and Khun Amnat. Running shoes only. Football skills, games and development. Baht 125 per child.

**Sunday 28th June** – Swimming Gala and Water Day. FREE! On the 28th we will run a swimming gala with prizes for most improved, fastest in each category plus some surprise awards. After the swimming gala we will have a water day on the front lawn, water pistols welcome, water slide plus some water games.

## Fitness Facts

- 91% of adults that have not lifted weights in the past month. You're never too old to start.
- 3% of children's fast food meal that meet dietary guidelines.

## Did you know?

The British Club now offers members healthy meal options – weekly specials.



**Here at the British Club we wish to welcome all families to come and use the great facilities and participate in the activities.**

## SONGKRAN WATER DAY APRIL 14TH

Just like last year we held another Songkran water party and just like last year it was the mothers that had the most fun.... wetting staff. This was another beautiful, hot and enjoyable day at The Club. Forty children played on the soapy bouncy castle, slid on the slippery slide and threw sponges at each other in the stocks. ■





# SPORTS CALENDAR

**June –  
Sunday  
7th**

3:30pm  
Junior Squash  
Baht 125 per  
child



**June –  
Sunday 14th**

3:30pm  
Junior Rugby  
Running shoes  
only  
Baht 125 per child



**June – Sunday 21st**

3:30pm  
Junior Football  
Running shoes only.  
Baht 125 per child



**June – Sunday 28th**

12:30pm  
Swimming Gala and  
Water Day  
Free







## THE BC TENNIS UPDATE

*A fantastic day for the Singapore Recreation Club at the BC ...*

**Reed Passmore**  
Tennis Section

Over the last six weeks the tennis section has played in two interclub social tournaments and two intracub tournaments plus regular league matches and the club championship pool matches (very busy).

On May 2nd The Singapore Recreation Club came to Bangkok to play the British Club. This was a fantastic day with 50 tennis players enjoying the warm afternoon and frozen margaritas. It was great seeing another club enjoy our facilities and compliment the staff and new tennis courts.

The tennis section will run numerous fun and family days over the next six months so keep an eye out for these.

We had had close to 140 members sign up already for the tennis section which is great news. To join the tennis section sign up at the fitness centre. Baht 300 per person per year.

One further note is that Pierre has rejoined the coaching staff and has 20 children signed up to play this term, great work Pierre. 🟡





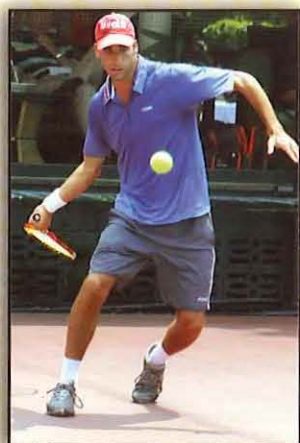
NEW ACTIVITY AT THE BRITISH CLUB...

# NEW TENNIS SCHOOL

STARTING 1ST SEPTEMBER

*Fun tennis for everyone!*

Supervised by Pierre Séquier



- Certified by the French tennis federation
- Major Degree in sport's science
- Former coach at ISP tennis academy (International high level academy)



Please contact the gym for more information and booking



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK



# Squashy Bits

This is my Swan Song! After 4 years of Squashy Bits I'm passing the quill to the capable hand of **Bruce Madge** ... going out the way I came in, with a report on the AGM.

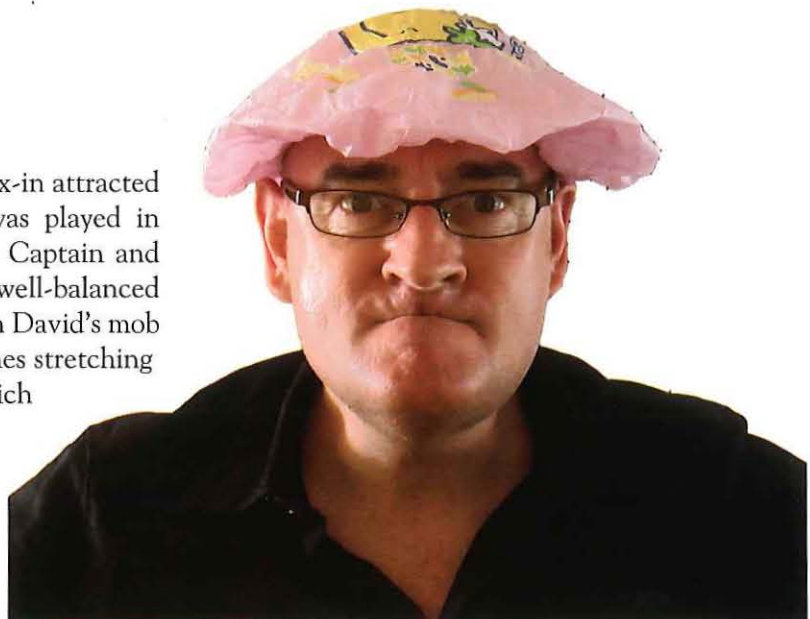


*Stunned silence*

## AGM AND MIX-IN

This was a strangely subdued affair. The mix-in attracted a respectable pool of 14 players and was played in the new format of a match between the Captain and Chairman's teams. These were supposed to be well-balanced but it turned out to be a very one-sided affair with David's mob easily beating Peter's lot 5-2 with only two matches stretching to 5 games ... two great matches, however, in which pugnacious Ignacio beat a very frustrated Peter after being 2-0 down whilst mature Charles pipped young Steve Bell.

The AGM was held on the refurbished back lawn for the first time but attracted only about 20 members ... most of who seemed



*Over to you Bruce!*





Re-elected

to be from the Grimshaw family. The reason for the poor turnout was probably something to do with the fact that it had been leaked out that the Section finances were in crisis and the usual free flowing booze would be reduced to a trickle of draft Tiger. The meeting went on longer than usual ... a full 12 minutes ... as the stunned assembly digested the two-page treasurer's report. It seems that that Section accounts had been ... err ... "liquidated" ... at the Christmas Party ... leaving a balance of 23 Baht and 50 Satang.

Of course, in this day and age, the obvious way of fixing this, would have been for the Committee to pay itself a huge bonus and request a bail-out from the GC. But Squashies are made of sterner stuff than that and instead it was agreed that all Section members would make voluntary "honesty" contributions towards the wine consumed at the Christmas Party. What a great bunch we are!

Wesoone recovered and marvellous Marvyn once again merrily regaled is with Welsh Folk music whilst prizes were handed out to ... well, anyone who held their hand out. Da and Jonny Bell won meal vouchers from Martin as the most improved players of the year. And, oh yes, the Committee was re-elected for another year, with Bon van Es bolstering numbers. ■



The Treasurer prepares his case



The prettier side of squash



Section Members were treated to an Exhibition Match on 8 April 2009 between Poowis Poonsiri and Adam Pursglove. And as a sample of treats to come, **Bruce Madge** reports:

We're rather a modest bunch here in the Squash Section; always have been and probably always will be. None of us, can really consider ourselves as greatly talented players. We're all competitive and keen, but, on the whole, fairly average. Although, it does need to be said that Mr. Chris Venvell is certainly not average in the looks department and is indeed the most handsome man in the section and perhaps even the club, maybe even Bangkok.

Anyway, be that as it may, it was a great pleasure to welcome Poowis and Adam to entertain and educate us with an exhibition of fine, fine squash.

Poowis is the current Thai number one and our current Rod Carter



David and Peter's Teams

Champion and Adam is a semi-professional player and squash coach who spends part of his year in the UK between trips to Thailand.

Mr. Peter Corney, our esteemed chairman, refereed the match and before a reasonably packed gallery Poowis took the first game 9-5. It was immediately apparent that the most remarkable difference between this standard of squash and our usual level is the power that these players have and just how hard they can hit the ball while still maintaining perfect control. Amazing to watch, and listen to!

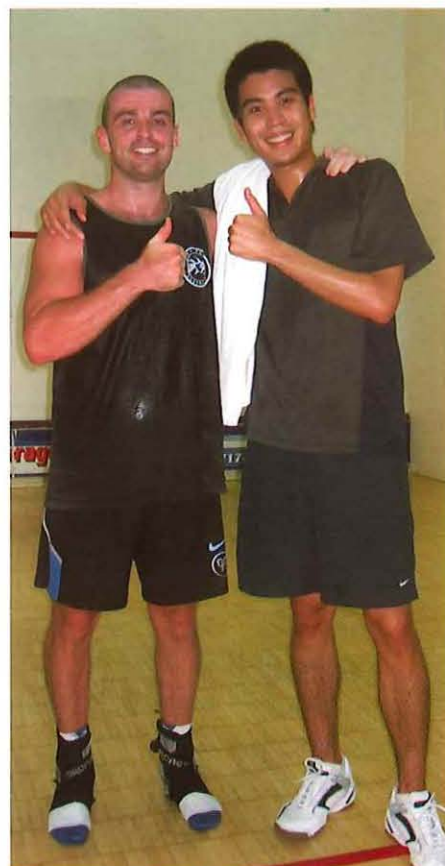
In the second game Adam came back to win 9-6 to level the match and the third went Poowis'way 9-3. By this time Poowis was feeling the pace as many of rallies lasted 20 shots or more such is the ability of these players to retrieve seemingly winning shots and their ability to play almost error free.

The fourth game had Adam on game point at 8-6 and if he could have hung on the enthralled spectators would have witnessed a final fifth game. However, Poowis came back to level at 8-all and then win the tiebreak 10-8, the match 3-1.

A superb display of movement, agility, anticipation, game reading, shot making and power and, it needs to be mentioned, sportsmanship for, despite numerous collisions, lets called and strokes awarded, the match was played in the greatest of spirit.

Brilliant entertainment, far, far better than anything any of us can produce. Just writing about it can never do it justice-it has to be witnessed to be fully appreciated. Thus, all who saw it went away extremely impressed and grateful to Poowis and Adam for taking the time to visit the BCB and display their talents. Thanks guys and please come again.

The usual Wednesday team training session was due to take place after this match, yet when we considered just how far we had to go to even remotely match anything we'd just seen, a few beers seemed a better option. ■



The entertainers: Adam and Poowis





## SWIMMING FOR CHARITY

*... for more than 1,500 lengths and total of Baht 250,000*

**E**arly one Sunday morning in March this year, the British Club pool was full with children and enthusiastic swimmers, all sponsored to swim for two hours non-stop. With the youngest aged just two, and at least six swimming at any one time, the teams managed to swim more than 1,500 lengths and raised a total of Baht 250,000.

The sponsored swim was organized in memory of Fiona Pinnell who tragically died aged 36 from breast cancer last year, leaving behind her partner Matt and her children Jacob and Eve Chadwick, aged just 7 and 5. They are now living back in the UK and are coping admirably. Fiona lived in Bangkok for over 3 years and was an inspiration to all her friends and everyone that knew her. She taught at Noddys Playgroup and Shrewsbury School, as well as working for the arts and culture department at the British Council. She was a strong swimmer and was to be found most weekends at the British

Club pool, swimming with her children and all their friends.

All monies raised were donated to the Queen Sirikit Centre for Breast Cancer and will go towards acquiring a body composition machine to help with pioneering research into the effects of chemotherapy on all aspects of the body. The vision of the Queen Sirikit Centre, which is still very much in the process of being realised, is to create a world class facility available to all women in Thailand, and in particular the poor. They rely entirely on donations for their funding.







## RUGBY IS BACK

*The BC boys just couldn't get it enough ...*

**Rob Milsom**

Rugby Section

Rugby is back after our first break in about 2 years for Songkran and university holidays, the bad news is we have to rebuild the team again with only 6 players left from previous seasons.

Our first task was getting enough players for the annual Pattaya 10s. Burapha University in Bang Saen where we have been coaching helped us out with 10 players, all forwards, which made for a very interesting team.

Our first game was against the host the Pattaya Panthers a usually easy game. However, this year they were a bit more prepared and not having one back in the side didn't help matters, the game ended in a loss.

Our second game against the Singapore Cricket Club Nomads, luckily for us Max our inspirational fly half tuned up along with Mal and Ding, all backs. We were a different team with just these players. With Max pulling the strings with some dazzling play we pulled off some what of a shock and beat the Singapore team 3 tries to 1.

Next up was Bangkok University, all ex BC players, they all had a lot to prove and our fitness was no match. A close game but not close enough 3 tries to 1 to the University side, sweet revenge for Bangkok University as we put them into the bowl last year, and it was their turn to put us in the bowl this year. No complaints though as the bowl games kicked off after mid-day on Sunday....woohoo!!

We all managed to make the kick off on Sunday and unusual occurrence for a BC side, we had a few tough games but managed to elude all challengers and meet the Bangkok Bangers in the final.

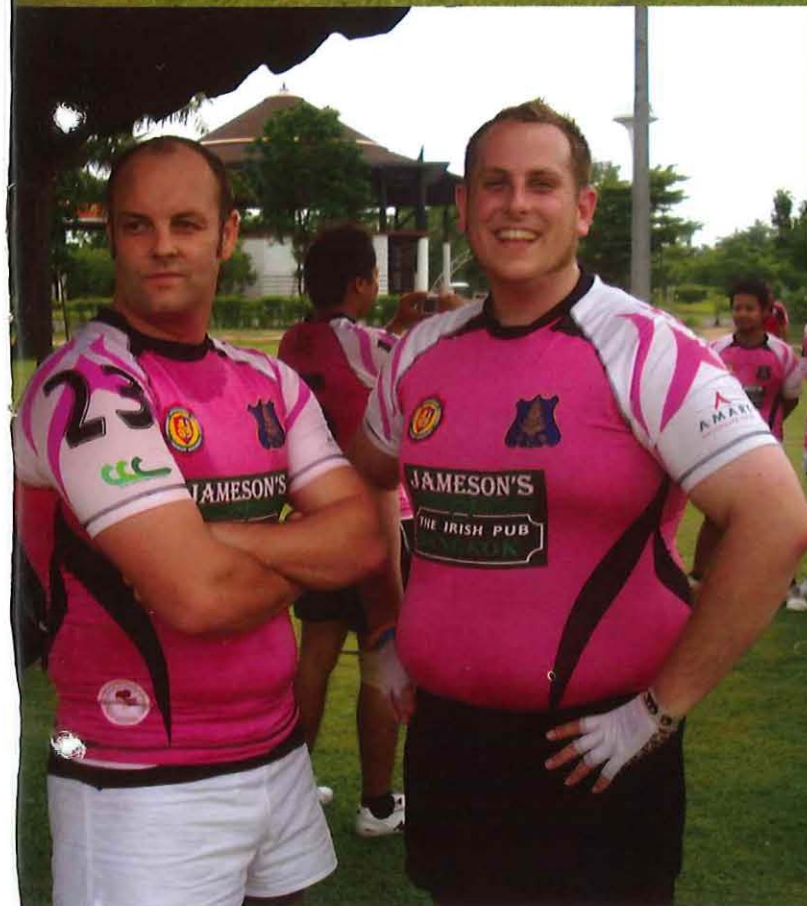
The Bangers started the quicker taking a 12 – 0 lead in at half time. The BC boys just couldn't get a hold of the ball. A nice calm half time talked, with a few tactical changes changed the ball game.

Max in the second half started to get his hands on the ball and beginning to make the Bangers work. As the Bangers chased our much smaller backs, the openings came. Max scoring of a tap penalty, dummying every Banger, the BC boys and all the crowd for the easiest of scores under the post.

Was a fight back on the cards. The BC boys gave it their all managed to score more tries, however the Bangers showed their true grit and ground out another try under the posts. Ding's final touch down was not enough, the hooter sounded, 19 – 17, a thoroughly exciting and enjoyable final. Congratulations to the Bangers on another deserved trophy.

It's back to the drawing board for the BC boys, Phuket 10s at the end of May, we hope the University boys are back from their holidays or we really will struggle. 🍀









## QUICK AND EASY CRAFTS

### PAINT A BATCH OF BEETLES

Decorating a colony of brightly colored beetles. We usually spread out our bug-making over two afternoons – one to mold the beetles and one to paint them. To start, mix a cup of plaster of Paris according to the directions on the box. Pour the mix bit by bit into disposable plastic spoons and let them dry overnight (we usually make 20 to 40 at a time and save some for later).



The next day, pop the bugs out of the spoons and have your kids paint them with acrylic or tempera paints. An insect guide can offer some fun inspiration for colors and designs. Painting the bugs can take up the better part of a rainy afternoon, but you can also extend this project in other ways.

For example, make your beetles more functional by gluing them onto magnets. Or challenge everyone to create an interesting beetle cage from any supplies around your house (toothpicks are a good jumping-off point).

### PAPER DOVE CRAFT

You won't mind this critter invading your next picnic: a high-flying dove made from paper plates and plastic spoons.

### Craft Materials:

- Paper plate
- Scissors
- Tape
- Two plastic spoons
- Pebble
- Rubber band
- Markers



1. Cut the plate in half, then cut one half into three equal wedges. Tape one wedge to the bottom of the intact half.
2. Draw the bird's face on one spoon with the markers. Then sandwich the pebble between the two spoon bowls and bind them with the rubber band.
3. Tape the spoons to the bottom of the paper plate half.

**Tips:** To fly, throw like a paper airplane. Adjust the pebble size to improve flight.

### FOOD JOKES FOR KIDS

**Q:** Did you hear the joke about oatmeal?

**A:** It's a lot of mush.

**Q:** Why did the man stare at the can of orange juice?

**A:** Because it said 'concentrate.'

**Q:** What do you call cheese that isn't yours?

**A:** Nacho cheese!

**Q:** What kind of coffee was served on the Titanic?

**A:** Sanka!

**Q:** What do you call candy that was stolen?

**A:** Hot chocolate!

**Q:** Why don't they serve chocolate in prison?

**A:** Because it makes you break out!

**Q:** What are the four seasons?

**A:** Salt, Pepper, Ketchup, Ranch.

**Q:** When do you stop at green and go at red?

**A:** When you're eating a watermelon



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 **Royal Air Force Club** and **The Naval Club**

For more information please contact the Membership Department at: [membership@britishclubbangkok.org](mailto: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.

## ROYAL AIR FORCE CLUB

*The Club in the Centre of the West End and at the Heart of the RAF*

### Reciprocal Club Benefits

**T**he Royal Air Force Club is located in Piccadilly; the heart of Central London. The Club offers great facilities for relaxing, dining and after dinner drinks. We gladly welcome families and offer complimentary children's activity packs to all children under 10.

**Accommodation:** The Club has 82 air-conditioned bedrooms, all of which are furnished and decorated to a high standard. If you are a member you can log in and view information on room rates and to request a room reservation. If you do not have a password, please request one here.

There are many areas in the Club where members and their guests can meet and relax: the Dining Room, Running Horse Tavern, Cowdray Room, Club Bar and Library, each with its own individual appeal.

**The Dining Room:** Start the day with a buffet-style, full or continental breakfast in the well appointed and well proportioned Dining Room, located on the ground floor of the Club.

Later in the day, reserve a table for lunch or dinner, when you can choose to eat à la carte or from the Club Chef's table d'hôte menu. Both menus feature superbly cooked and presented dishes, accompanied by carefully selected wines from the old and new worlds and supported by attentive, but not intrusive, service.

**The Cowdray Room:** The stylish and elegant Cowdray Room, with spectacular views over Green Park, is the most popular venue for drinks before and after lunch or dinner. It is situated on the first floor of the Club.

**The Club Bar:** The Club Bar is located on the ground floor at the rear of the Club,



with a friendly atmosphere that is everything you would expect from a typical and traditional Club bar.

**Recreational Facilities:** The Hall Porter is pleased to provide assistance and information for a range of activities, including recommendations for sightseeing and shopping, theatre and travel reservations, or information about the Club's facilities. There are a range of small toiletry items available for sale or loan at the Hall Porter's Desk.

**Offer:** The Royal Air Force Club is offering a "Reciprocal Summer Sizzler Sale" to all Reciprocal Club Members. During the month of August, reciprocal members can stay for just £56.00 per person, per night (based on Double occupancy); inclusive of breakfast. ■

#### Travel Date:

August 1st-August 31st, 2009

#### Booking Window:

April 6th-August 25th, 2009

Please contact Craig or Ann on  
Tel: +44 (0) 207 399 1010 or  
email: [frontoff@rafclub.org.uk](mailto:frontoff@rafclub.org.uk)

### Royal Air Force Club

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Tel :+ 44-20-7399 1000  
Fax : + 44-20-7355 1516  
Website: [www.rafclub.org.uk](http://www.rafclub.org.uk)



# THE NAVAL CLUB

*All superb facilities of a traditional London Club*

The Naval Club offers all the superb facilities of a traditional London Club in a beautiful listed 18th century building. The Club provides an oasis in the heart of Mayfair, London's most fashionable district, where all seafarers and like-minded people can feel at home.

The Naval Club's home at 38 Hill Street is a classic listed London townhouse, built in the early eighteenth century as part of the exclusive new Mayfair development. One of the first occupants of the house is reputed to have been William Pitt the Younger, Prime Minister of Great Britain.

The Club is most conveniently placed for visits to Oxford Street, Knightsbridge and the world of theatre in Leicester Square and Covent Garden. It is close to Green Park and Bond Street tube stations giving easy access to the complete underground network and stations for rail links to Heathrow and Gatwick airports.

The Club's public rooms include the beautiful oak paneled bar, an elegant Reading Room, and up the magnificent grand staircase is the Dining room where all meals are served.

Private function rooms are available for hire for receptions, conferences, meetings, lunches and dinners.

The Club has 28 single and double bedrooms, most of which are en suite. All bedrooms contain TV and tea and coffee facilities, and are fitted with direct dial in and out telephones with individual voice mail.

## Reciprocal Club Benefits



Some rooms are fitted with internet access points. All room prices are considerably lower than hotels in London, and a special weekend break rate is available.

The club is open throughout the year except for 5 days over the Christmas period, and the front desk is manned 24 hours a day.

A Club aims not only to provide the day to day facilities to its members but also to offer an atmosphere where new and old friends can meet and feel at home. There is a regular social programme of dinners and lunches during the year as well as evening lectures. There are also organized Club visits to attractions such as the annual Beating Retreat on Horse Guards Parade. 🟢

## The Naval Club

38 Hill Street London

W1J 5NS UK

Tel: +44-20-7493-7672

Fax: +44-20-7629-7995

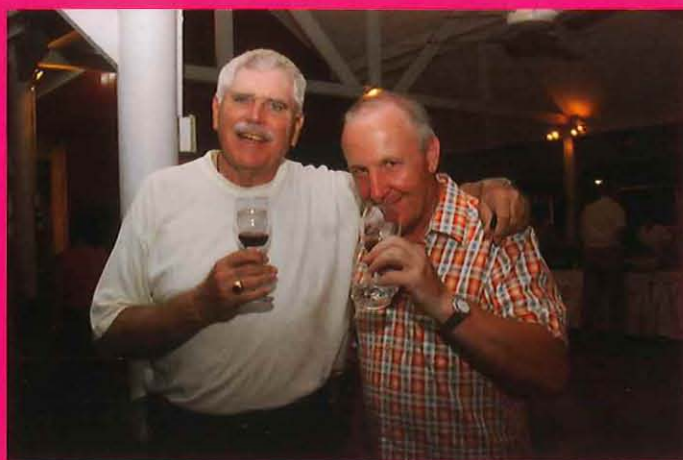
Website: [www.navalclub.co.uk](http://www.navalclub.co.uk)





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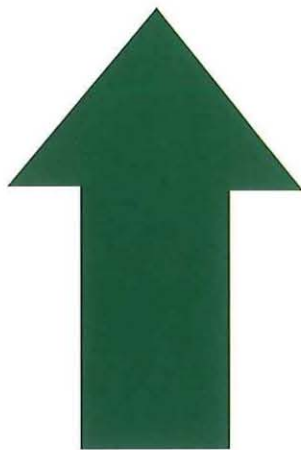
For more information **contact Khun Weena**

Tel 02 234 0247 Email : [membership@britishclubbangkok.org](mailto:membership@britishclubbangkok.org)



# Essential Examination? (5, 2)

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