

he verana Sparking wine wine Sparking by the second of the The Verandah

Exquisite Sunday Brunch supplemented with imported oysters, antipasti, cold cuts, cheese platter, strawberries, chocolate fountain, and much more !

Adults

Bt 1.750 includes free-flow sparkling wine between 1pm and 2pm

Bt 1.200 without alcohol but with free-flow juice/soft drinks throughout

Under 16s Bt 595 with free-flow juice/soft drinks throughout

THE BRITISH CLUB

book at Reception or by email : events@britishclubbangkok.org

THE BRITISH CLUB

BANGKOK

GENERAL COMMITTEE

Chairman - Phil Alexander chairman@britishclubbangkok.org

Honorary Secretary - Paul Cheesman honorary.secretary@britishclubbangkok.org

Honorary Treasurer - Bill Wilcox

General Committee Members

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Integrated Scheme),

Edith Stewart MBE gc@britishclubbangkok.org

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Chris Watt (Vice Chair, Silom

Sulindy Collacott, Adrian Dunn, Warwick Newton, David Quine,

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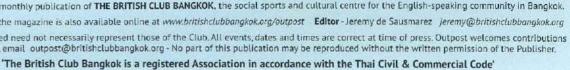
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OUTPOST is the monthly publication of THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK, the social sports and cultural centre for the English-speaking community in Bangkok. A full version of the magazine is also available online at www.britishclubbangkok.org/outpost Editor - Jeremy de Sausmarez jeremy@britishclubbangkok.org/ Opinions expressed need not necessarily represent those of the Club. All events, dates and times are correct at time of press. Outpost welcomes contributions from Members, email outpost@britishclubbangkok.org - No part of this publication may be reproduced without the written permission of the Publisher.

ANZAC DAY CENTENARY





Outpost

FRONT COVER

Our spotlight this month is on the Anzac Day Centenary, when drummers and pipers from several continents flew in to join the Club Pipe Band Members in remembering the Gallipoli Landings 100 years ago. We are proud they represented the Club in Kanchanaburi and were a major part of such a marvellous memorial tribute.

EDITOR'S GREETING

Contents

Dear Members.

May's hopes of chilling rain have been dashed but June may bring relief from the hot spell.

This month we have a great review of the Anzac Day Centenary on pages 10/11, and we have another installment of As We Were on page 19 looking back at Poolside in 1980

Page 18 calls for anyone interested in a Club Chess Evening - let us know so an evening can be chosen for monthly games.

Ed.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

At the start of the new General Committee year I thought it appropriate to update you all on some of the actions already implemented by the GC as well as summarising what has already happened around the Club and outlining some thoughts for the future.

But first I would like to address the position of the Club from a formal and legal standpoint. I have received a number of related questions from some Members and believe that the answers provided to them need to be communicated to the Membership as a whole to dispel any myths and misunderstandings

OUR CLUB

The British Club Bangkok was founded on 23rd April 1903 by a small group of British businessmen and diplomats, in order to create a social club in the style enjoyed by their peers in the British Empire throughout Asia. Its first Clubhouse was a rented Thai house on our current land (see the picture in the 1910 Balcony Bar). It opened in July 1903 and due to rapid growth the second and present Clubhouse replaced this in 1910.

In 1914 His Majesty King Vajiravudh graciously donated the land on which the Clubhouse stands and in 1919 the land area was doubled by the acquisition of the Bangkok Lawn Tennis Club, owned by the Siam Electricity Company – this land area remains the Club's footprint to this day. The Club was re-founded in 1946 following its closure in 1941 due to the Second World War.





Chairman, General Committee

Nowadays, the British Club is an Association registered under the Thai Civil & Commercial Code. The earliest registration document in our records dates back to 1951. Unfortunately a lot of records were "lost" when the Club was occupied during World War 2. As a registered Association, it requires Ministry of Interior approval and the registration of our Constitution each time it changes, with annual re-registration of all Committee members and a non-income Work Permit endorsement for our Juristic person, the Chairman of the General Committee. As a registered Association (in UK read 'Non-Profit Making Organisation'), we pay Land and Property taxes, VAT and withholding taxes to name a few. We are also allowed to generate income and profit. which are excluded from tax, provided we reinvest the monies into the Club and do NOT distribute profits or cash surpluses to our Members. We are not subject to the Foreign Business Act 2542. We can conduct our commercial activities within our land boundaries. We may not engage in any political activities.

QUICK OUT OF THE BLOCKS

This GC year we have already set up a number of Sub-Committees and Work Groups to provide Members with the opportunity of direct input on areas of interest or concern. Each is chaired by a GC member with the difference being that the GC appoints members to a Sub-Committee whilst a Work Group is open to ALL Members of ALL categories. In operation now are:

- Complaints Review Panel a sub-committee chaired by David Quine - to try to mediate and reconcile complaints between Members ahead of any Disciplinary action
- Constitutional Review Sub-Committee chaired by Paul Cheesman- to update and review our constitution, rules & bylaws.
- Family & Young Persons chaired by Sulindy Collacott – to seek out what activities and facilities the nearly one thousand family members and young people in our Club want.

- Food & Beverage chaired by Warwick Newton

 to review menus and make our F&B offers,
 promotions and outlets attractive
- Silom Integrated Scheme Work Group chaired by Chris Watt – more on this below
- Sports Work Group chaired by Adrian Dunn & Bob Merrigan – not yet off the ground but to provide a forum for our Sports and Games sections and enhance our TV Sport on offer.
- Treasury Work Group chaired by Bill Wilcox to review each month's accounts as they come along.

...and we have the Disciplinary Sub-Committee when needed.

THE SILOM INTEGRATED SCHEME

By far the largest single project envisaged again in this year is the Silom Integrated Scheme: covering the Silom Sala, the Children's Pool and Playground, the Squash Courts, the massage room and the changing rooms. The agreed scheme, from the Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) held last August, is to provide a new Sala and Children's Pool and Playground, enlarged Changing Rooms with more lockers, two glass-backed Squash courts, a Family air-conditioned Dining Room with kiddies play area, a Massage and Treatment Room, a Teen Zone where our teens can chill out and finally, as requested by some Members, the possibility of again enlarging the Fitness Centre. It should also be noted that some of these areas will be flexible so that other activities can make use of the spaces at different times of the week.



The work to bring this to a final EGM vote is being undertaken by the Silom Integrated Scheme Work Group, so if you have thoughts and views on this very important area of the Club please make those views known. The work has been delayed for over a year now by Members' inability to agree to the 'best option' to satisfy the 'most Members': after all, we need to satisfy over 1,100 Members which includes more than 2,600 adults and children

MOVING FORWARDS

The first few months has seen the completion of the toilets and changing rooms as well as the upgrade to the cricket nets on the back lawn. The Pavilion coffee shop is performing well against forecast, and the Management and staff, totalling around 82 employees, are maintaining the Club and grounds beautifully with an increased focus on improved service levels. Khun Prem has recently made some important changes to her Management and team's responsibilities to support these efforts.

Yet even here we have a problem: the Staff House built in 1995 is woefully inadequate and nothing short of a disgrace for our valuable staff. Last year's GC placed this as a priority area for refurbishment and I am pleased to note that the majority of this General Committee see the refurbishment of this facility as our next highest priority for 2015.

The 2015-16 Committee Year has started well and with your continued support and our improved communications I sincerely hope that it will be a harmonious year within the Club. We will have to go a long way to improve on the last few years of excellent Club results but rest assured the GC and Management will strive to make this the best year ever for the Club and its Members.

WATERLOO A BICENTENNIAL DINNER.

Saturday 20th June 2015 - Surawongse Room, 7:30 pm

Guest Speaker: Col Chris Luckham OBE, (late) Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment

Welcoming: Drum Corps, 1st Batallion Coldstream Guards

4 course dinner with wines
black tie, uniform, evening dress
pre-dinner cocktails on 1910 Balcony
Club Members / Embassy / Guests : Bt 2,500
Others : Bt 2,800

Book or sign up in Reception
Booking / info by email : events@britishclubbangkok.org









One of the new General Committee's first tasks was setting up Work Groups (WG), and this month we have seen meetings with the Silom Integrated Scheme WG, the F&B WG, and the Treasury WG. Dates and times of WG Meetings will be announced in mailings so any Members can attend and this will improve communication and result in better performance and service. More details on pages 2 and 3. I have also revised the Club's organisation chart and Khun Kasem is now the Outlet Manager supervising and helping out all service staff in conjunction with Khun Somboon when there are no functions and also Khun Kamon our Duty Manager. I hope this improves your enjoyment of our outlets and I will welcome your feedback.

Recently I sent a mailing about the need for Members to bring their membership cards whenever they visit the Club, to show to our Security and to give in to staff before placing an order or using any service. We must tighten up this procedure, which is actually in the By-Laws, as errors have occurred with wrong numbers being given or written down and this is not fair on the unfortunate recipient. Some Members have been difficult about handing over their cards or getting temporary ones from

Reception which is disappointing as it is a rule to benefit everyone, so I ask you to help us help you, and thank you for your cooperation.

I am also disappointed to have to mention that there have been reports of some Members taking the Club newspapers or magazines off the premises. We provide these for all Members enjoyment and we quite often receive complaints from Members that the newspapers are missing, so please be courteous to others and do not take them away, and replace them where you found them when you have finished reading them.

The renovation of the cricket nets has been completed and many people using them say they're good, some of the best available in town! Anyone who uses them should keep the centre net fully drawn out for safety when playing. We also plan to improve the lighting on both the Multi-Purpose Court and the cricket nets too. The supplier has been and we are waiting for their report. We have just had all the air-conditioners around the Club cleaned as regular maintenance to make them more efficient, and later this month the outdoor chairs will be repaired where necessary.

OFFICIAL OPENING TIMES

11am - 2pm, 5pm - 10pm (Mon-Thurs) 11am - 10pm (Fri-Sun and Public Holidays)			
3pm - 11pm (Afternoon Tea 3pm - 5pm)			
9am - 6pm (Mon-Fri), Closed (Sat-Sun)			
9am - 6pm	Fitness Centre	6am - 10pm (Mon-Fri)	
10am - 12midnight	Fitness Centre	6am - 9pm (Sat-Sun)	
6:15am - 11pm Last food orders 9:30pr	Thai Massage	10am - 5pm (Tues-Sun)	
	11am - 10pm (Fri-Sun a 3pm - 11pm (Afternoon 9am - 6pm (Mon-Fri), Cl 9am - 6pm 10am - 12midnight 6:15am - 11pm	11am - 10pm (Fri-Sun and Public Holidays)3pm - 11pm (Afternoon Tea 3pm - 5pm)9am - 6pm (Mon-Fri), Closed (Sat-Sun)9am - 6pm9am - 6pmFitness Centre10am - 12midnightFitness Centre	

Reportings



General Manager

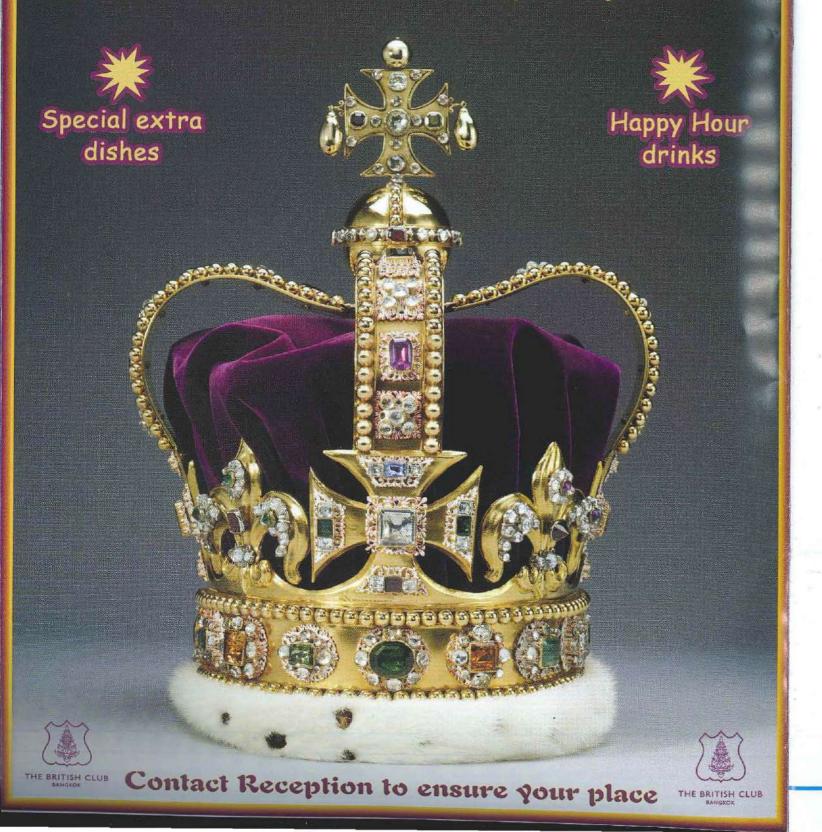
Earlier in May we had a New Members Night and welcomed a group of them to meet with members of the GC and Section Heads, and it was a good evening. Earlier in the month there was the UK Election Day results live on TV in the Churchill which saw a good turnout of Members and friends having breakfast while the news came through.

In June there is the Waterloo Dinner and at the end of the month the start of Wimbledon, but our strawberry and Pimm's promotion will get underway from the beginning of the month. The Wimbledon finals are in July and we will show the Men's Final on Sunday 12th on the big screen in the Surawongse Sala, and remind you by email the week before. We also have Sports Camp and Mini Sports Camp running through July, so contact Fitness for more details as shown on pages 20 and 21.

I hope you will enjoy what is on offer at the Club and look forward to seeing you here soon.

QUEEN ELIZABETH II BIRTHDAY BUFFET

Saturday 13th June 2015 The Verandah, 11:00am - 3pm, 5pm - 9pm, Bt 595



HAPPENINGS

It was great seeing the results of the UK's General Election coming through on 8th May, despite it being Jeremy de Sausmarez so early in the morning. A close contest indeed, with a surprise result too. I heard gasps of disbelief as well as **Events & Marketing** whoops of joy and relief, but it wasn't the sort of result Manager which evoked the need for sparkling wine! Regardless, we had a good crowd and it was a memorable event. Likewise the New Members Night where the combination of existing and new Members melded advance and I will try and get you on a team, but better well and although it was not a huge crowd, everyone still is just to get a few of your friends together and seemed to have enjoyed their visit. Don't forget that make an evening of it. I doubt you'll regret it! if you introduce people who become Members, there is a benefit to you but your name must be on the form -There's a move afoot to set up a Chess Night once a more details from Khun Prang. Next week we have an month, so we are looking for anyone who would like outing planned for a visit to a winery in Khao Yai, and to take part and find out what day of the week would I just hope that enough people sign up to make the suit them best (see page 18). This would be a welcome outing feasible. addition to the calendar, so let me know.

June starts off with a public holiday in Thailand, Many Members have been disappointed by the Maroon Visakha Bucha, which will open the month with a long 5 ticket escapade. When I asked in a mailing for anyone weekend. We usually celebrate Queen Elizabeth II's interested to let me know, only 3 people answered so I Coronation Day but as it is on 2nd June, many may be got three times as many tickets as they had requested. away so this year we will instead be celebrating the These all sold out the night before the tickets went Queen's official birthday on Saturday 13th June with a on public sale. The next day, within two hours of the special buffet which will include the Club's delicious whole concert selling out, I could have sold three version of Coronation Chicken and the special rice that times as many tickets. So in future, please let me know goes with it, plus some other special dishes and a long as without any feedback, I cannot justify risking Club midday Happy Hour (see facing page). A week later we funds on tickets which might not sell. I'm still hoping have a special dinner which was advertised last month there will be a second concert added, and if it happens, to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the Battle I'll do a mailing immediately. of Waterloo which was the final defeat of Napoleon Bonaparte and his quest for domination of Europe Last month I mentioned that many emails to Members (see page 4). The British troops were led by the Duke come back as 'unknown' (or the binary equivalent) and of Wellington and helped achieve a stunning victory to let me know if you're not getting emails. I have on Belgian soil. The dinner speaker is Colonel Chris heard nothing. As I cannot email you to check, this Luckham OBE, currently Defence Attaché at the British is the only other way, so if you are not getting Club Embassy, who has already given us a marvellous talk at mailings, please let me know so we can update the last year's Trafalgar Dinner, so this year will be another membership records. You can always ask not to get very entertaining evening with the Drum Corps of the the mailings - we just need your address for urgent or 1st Battalion of the Coldstream Guards present as well. important contact. Please sign up in Reception or drop me an email.

As always, we are getting great responses to our regular weekly Kids Movies and the monthly Quiz Managers - I am guite happy to do that, but sometimes Nights. I'm sure that some Mums and Dads have old you might find it easier (even quicker) to send them direct - check the Club Managers email listing on the favourite cartoons which they hope will be shown at left hand side of the Contents page in every edition of Kids Movie on Friday nights, and I would love to hear from anyone with a special request. I'm also sure that Outpost. there a lot of of people who would like to come along to Quiz Night - many times people have tried out an Have a great month, and for those of you going back evening and found they want to return for more, really! to your homes overseas for the holidays, have a great If you're one of these trivia hoarders, let me know in time!



Finally, also about emails, I get quite a few emails from members which request to be passed on to other

Business Luncheons

1st June - 5th June 2015

Starter: 55 baht Tuna Salad Tuna, Tomatoes, Lemon grass, lime and spicy dressing or Chef's Soup of the Day Main Courses : 140 baht Turkey Chilli Con Carne Served with Rice

Fillet of Pork in Pepper Sauce Served with Mixed Vegetables and Lyonnaise Potatoes

Pan-fried Dory Fish in Spicy Herbs Served with Mixed Salad and Boiled Potatoes Gaeng Som Goong Phak Ruam (Sour Soup with Mixed Vegetables and Prawns)

Moo Tod Kratium Prik Thai (Stir-fried Pork Fillet with Garlic and Pepper) Tod Mun Pla (Deep-fried Fishcakes)

8th June - 12th June 2015

Starters: 55 baht Warm Bread Salad of Crispy Bacon, Parmesan and Poached Egg or Chef's Soup of the Day. Main Courses : 140 baht Lamb, Beef and Eggplant Moussaka Served with Mixed Salad and Garlic Bread

Grilled Chicken Breast with Chasseur Sauce Served with Broccoli, Carrot and Roast Potatoes

Pan-fried Sea Bass with Pernod and Dill Sauce

Tom Yam Goong (Spicy Lemon grass Soup with Prawns and Mushrooms) Pad Khana Nam Man Hoy (Stir-fried Kale Oyster Sauce) Kraprao Kai (Stir-fried Minced Chicken with Hot Basil and Chilli)

15th June - 19th June 2015

Starters : 55 baht Grilled Chicken, Mango, Beetroot Salad Served with Balsamic Dressing or Chef's Soup of the Day Main Courses : 140 baht Fish and Chips Served with Garden Peas and Tartare Sauce

Turkey Lasagne Served with Mixed Salad and Garlic Bread

Pork Schnitzel Served with Apple Salad

Panaeng Gai (Chicken Stir-fried with Red Curry Sauce Topped with Sliced Lime Leaves) Kai Jiew Moo Sub (Thai Style Omelette with Minced Pork) Phad Phak Ruam Nam Man Hoy (Stir-fried Mixed Vegetables with Oyster Sauce)

22nd June - 26th June 2015

Starters - 55 baht Waldorf Ham Salad or Chef's Soup of the Day Main Courses - 140 baht

Mini Steak Served with Mixed Vegetables, Roast Potatoes and Gravy Sauce

Pan-fried Dory Fish with Mornay Sauce Served with Broccoli and Mashed Potatoes Grilled -Chicken Breast Tarragon Creame Sauce Served with French Beans, Carrot and Sautéed Potatoes

> Tom Kha Gai (A Refreshing Coconut Milk Soup with Chicken and Herbs) Phad Kraprao Moo Sab (Stir-fried Minced Pork with Hot Basil and Chilli) Phad Tua Ngok Tao Hoo (Stir-fried Bean Sprouts with Bean Curd and Oyster Sauce)

F&B MORSELS

June is the beginning of the quiet season as so many Khun Laak people go away for the summer holidays, so we will be stopping the Saturday Buffets in The Verandah and **Executive Chef** the Poolside BBQ too until later in the year. But the Sunday Brunches continue, and each month we will addition to the mango promotion which we will carry be having a special meal you can come along for! In on as it has been very popular for the last few months. June, it is the Waterloo Dinner which we are arranging with the British Embassy, (the menu will be posted this In August we will have a special South-East Asian weekend) and then in July we will have a Sparkling Buffet and as I've been asked I will start the Paella Wine Brunch like last year which was well-attended and had a great selection of dishes we don't normally promotion once more from all outlets. I hope that later in the year we will have a new set of Healthy have. Menus to offer you, and revisions to some of the other Also in June is a special buffet for Queen Elizabeth's menus too.

Official Birthday on Thursday 11th June which will By the way, there's a separate Breakfast Menu available also include our Club Coronation Chicken and other delicious items. At the end of the month is the start at Poolside now to make starting the day easier, so of Wimbledon, but as it is strawberry season I am take a look. arranging a strawberry promotion for the whole of June as everyone loves strawberries! This will be in Happy Eating!

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Reportings







ANZAC DAY CENTENARY British Club Pipe Band on Parade Photographs by Anchalee Fordsungnern

ANZAC Day, which falls on 25th April, is a very important day for Australians and New Zealanders, for it commemorates the day in 1915 when the men of the Australia and New Zealand Corps were landed before dawn on the beach that later became known as ANZAC Cove on the Gallipoli Peninsular. The British often find it hard to comprehend why Australians and New Zealanders should celebrate such a humiliating defeat that was rightly blamed on the British high command and cabinet. Britain had totally underestimated Turkey's military capabilities and expected to knock it out of the First World War by quickly seizing the Gallipoli Peninsular and using it as a stepping stone to capture the nearby Turkish capital of Constantinople. At the same time the British expected to forge a supply route through the Dardanelles to the Black Sea ports of Allies.

The reality was, of course, that the Turks, who had the advantage of controlling the high ground at Gallipoli, fought valiantly, sustaining heavy casualties, to defend their homeland and the British Imperial forces found themselves in a stalemate situation, pinned down by constant fire from the heights. Conditions were terrible and more men died from dysentery and other diseases than from enemy fire. Swarms of flies were so thick, due to the numerous unburied corpses that could not be retrieved on account of sniper fire, that it was virtually impossible for the men to eat without consuming some of the flies along with their rations. After eight months of frustration, Britain abandoned the campaign that is now regarded as a heroic but costly failure and evacuated the entire expeditionary force.

It is important to understand that Australia and New Zealand had only recently become self-governing dominions before the First World War and, as such, this was the first war their parliaments voted to join. Thus they were not ordered to send troops but did so willingly, as thousands of Russia, which was on the side of the ordinary Aussies and Kiwis flocked to the colours, forming a volunteer citizen army to help defend the British Empire. In addition, we need to appreciate that the casualties inflicted on the ANZACs at Gallipoli. and in the war in general, amounted to far greater percentages of the populations of those two young nations than most other countries. Indeed, New Zealand, which lost

31% of its ANZAC force, also lost the greatest percentage of men of military age in the First World War of all countries that participated in the war. Despite the incompetence of the British high command, the ANZACs fought bravely and doggedly at Gallipoli and won the allies' only decisive victory of the campaign, the Battle of Lone Pine. Indeed, no less than 10 Victoria Crosses were awarded to ANZAC troops at Gallipoli.

Although the events that took place at Gallipoli a hundred years ago remain a key focus of ANZAC Day, it has broadened out in recent decades to commemorate the sacrifices made by Australian and New Zealand servicemen and women in all wars and conflicts. Thailand plays host to two important ceremonies on ANZAC Day, both in Kanchanaburi Province. The first is the dawn service at Hellfire Pass, the railway cutting that was hewn from the solid rock by Australian, British, Dutch and other prisoners of the Japanese in the Second World War. as part of the Burma-Siam Railway. Later in the morning there is a parade and service at the Commonwealth







War Graves Commission Cemetery in Kanchanaburi Town, near the famous Bridge on the River Kwai.

This year the British Club Bangkok Pipe Band was again honoured to be invited to perform at both of these events by the Australian Embassy, as we have done since 2008. We were determined to put on a good show for the centenary, and the knowledge that there were probably a number of Australian and New Zealand bands that would have given their eye teeth to come to play at the parade put us under added pressure not to let the Embassy down. Our planning started a year ahead and, since the band has lost some key members who left Thailand in recent years, we decided to supplement numbers by inviting quests, whom we knew were good enough to be able to fit in with only a couple of rehearsals. Our Australian friends, Eric Wilson and Paul Skipworth, who come to Thailand to play with the band several times a year, readily agreed to join us, as did former BCB Pipe Band members Mark Dixon, Iain Mowatt (sadly taken ill two days before the parade) and Martin

Our call was also answered in grand style by Mike Smith, a fine piper and an old school friend from Edinburgh, who was my contemporary in our school pipe band. Not only did Mike agree to come, himself, but he persuaded two more pipers and two drummers from his North Tyneside Pipe Band to come too. A final touch to complete the band was the recruitment of an experienced drum major from Brazil, Colin Pritchard of the St. Andrew's

Hodgson, who now live overseas.

Society of Sao Paulo Pipes and Drums, who travelled 10.000 miles to join us. Colin, another alumnus of my old school, Fettes College, in Edinburgh, had visited Thailand and the BCB band with his wife in 2013. They liked Thailand enough that they readily agreed to come back for a return trip, so that Colin could lead the band at the cemetery parade.

Once everyone had arrived in Thailand, we had time for only two rehearsals on the back lawn of the Club and one rehearsal in Kanchanaburi with the Australian soldiers who would form the catafalque party at the cemetery. Those three rehearsals ironed out all musical wrinkles and, by the time we stepped off at the cemetery, pipers and drummers from five different bands were playing as if they had always been one.

Unusually for April in Thailand we were extremely lucky with



the weather for the parade at the cemetery that started at 11.00 a.m., as we were neither scorched by the sun. nor soaked in a tropical downpour. The alternate thunderstorms and 36 °C heat of the previous days miraculously gave way to a benign overcast sky, as we commenced the slow march, My Home, with the catafalgue party marching at the rear. After we had played the lament, Flowers of the Forest and a pair of Thai army buglers had punctuated the service with the Last Post and the Rouse, it was time for us play out the catafalgue party to the old First World War favorites, Tipperary and Pack Up Your Troubles . By the time we had finished, Pipe Major Keith Walker was visibly moved by the experience of having been able to coax such pleasing sounds from his 'band of gypsies' and we hope the dignitaries and members of the public at the service enjoyed the music as much as we enjoyed playing it.

After the parade, we were off for some light relief to play at an Aussie rules football match, followed by a gig at an Aussie pub in the town.

We are eternally grateful to the Club for accepting the Pipe Band as a Club Section and providing us with a place to practice in congenial surroundings. We practice on Tuesday evenings at the Club and any Member who is interested is more than welcome to attend at any time. We provide free tuition in piping and drumming from beginner to advanced level. Also please don't forget that the band is available to play at functions within and outside the Club.





We look back to the history of our Club in 2011 ...

As indicated last month there were some cracks appearing in our management structure and within a short number of months virtually all our senior staff had resigned, one position twice!

In March our General Manager, Dr Doepping, resigned and the recruitment process lead to the appointment of a successor in mid-July. Unfortunately, although the holding of a degree was not a requirement of applying for the role of General Manager, the forging a degree was definitely not a winner with the Club. The new GM was rumbled and resigned from the Club immediately after only seven weeks in the position ... our shortest serving General Manager ever. A Recruitment Panel was immediately re-established and by the end of October had received 188 applications!

Sadly the 'cracks' did not stop there, our Events & Sales Manager resigned, as did our Membership Manager who was dating him, and finally our Sports & Recreation Manager left to join his family company in Australia. All were replaced.

In the April, the Pisamai Fund was re-launched as the 'British Club Bangkok Fund for the Education for Staff Children'. Founded in 1993. the Pisamai Fund was named after Khun Pisamai Raksa, a staff member who died of cancer, in order to provide "for the education of Pisamai's granddaughter and other worthy cases of children of staff" [see Past Participle, December 2013]. The granddaughter, Khun Pakvipa Kaewraksa, had completed her education and so the fund, keeping the name, moved to its secondary purpose. The fund gives grants twice yearly to staff children at school or University who meet certain grades, to help buy books, uniforms etc. Donations are always welcome.

Cost cutting was high on the agenda for both the incoming and outgoing General Committees. Capital Expenditure was reduced further by delaying the repainting of the Clubhouse by six months into the next financial year, and a series of small cuts were made to ease the way: The Verandah was closed in the afternoon on weekdays, two telephone lines to the Club were removed, the number of copies of the Bangkok Post was reduced as was the number of UK newspapers by satellite. We reduced the number of guards on site by one, replaced the paper towels in the toilets with power dryers (in reality because they were being stolen by Members for use in their cars!) and we gave Members an option to collect Outpost not have it posted to you ... which hundreds of Members opted to do.

As part and parcel of our marketing strategy started in 2010, we set about redefining the Club. In 2006 we had made a bold move to set ourselves up as the 'International Club for Families and Friends' but it gave us no marketing edge and statistically membership fell most years thereafter. After months of debate with some external guidance, the Club and its website were rebranded as 'the social, sports & cultural centre for the English-speaking community in Bangkok' ... and we have grown our membership every year ever since!

October and November saw severe flooding hit Bangkok: initially around the outer khets (districts) and as the weeks rolled on, into the inner suburban khets. The floods caused havoc for the Club with Members and suppliers unable to come in (we ran out of tonic water and onions at one point); many Members could not get to work let alone to the Club, and others were flooded and unable to leave their moobans; and many staff not only could not get to work but their homes were severely flooded and they lost much.

There were two rays of sunshine however, in order to ensure that if the flood waters were to reach the Club that the Clubhouse would be sealed secure, our Engineering Supervisor decided to sleep at the Club each night for a whole month; and Members were so touched by the losses that some staff members had endured that nearly 100,000 Baht was donated to help out with repairs to their homes.

Lots of other things happened in 2011: in the July we were able to get the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration to agree to place direction signs in Soi 18 and on Suriwongse Road [see insert]; in December we finally said goodbye to the 'Policy & Procedures' folder ... a list of guidance items for the General Committee when they were all added to the Bylaws; the number of Annual Members hit the '100' mark within nine months of its start, bringing new life to the Club and allowing us to end the year with 1,012 Members; and finally the two



British Club of Bangkok

Club Features

Outpost

years of austerity began to pay off with November and December returning operating and real surpluses for the first time in years ... but you will have to wait until next month to see what we did with the money!



"Way to go!"

The author is Honorary Secretary of the Club

6:30 PM reception 7:30 PM performance



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

You can order in person from any outlet, straight from the menu. Or order by telephone from the take-away menu on the website.

Bulk orders available from Khun Somboon.

Tel: 02 234 0247, Website: www.britishclubbangkok.org/index.php/Promotions/takeaway-menu.html

Club Features

Outpost

THE 2015 CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW "Tempora mutantur, et nos mutamur in illis"

The General Committee is seeking to review the Club's Constitution and Rules as it last did in 2005, following the underlying concept of:

"In order to honour the nature of the gift of our Clubhouse land to the British Club by H.M. King Vajiravudh the basic premise, objects and purpose of the Club

A general review will look at interactions, anomalies and practices that need amending and a more Member-orientated review will look at key policy areas that have been raised by Members such as (but not limited to):

> Absent Members Is this abused more than used?

Associated Groups Should we open our doors to a wider range of community groups?

Country Membership Should this be restricted to 10 days use of the Club each month?

Disciplinary Code Should the GC have a right to expel a member for bad behaviour?

> General Committee Election Should the Chairman be directly elected?

General Meetings Should attendance be extended beyond voting members? Should Proxy votes be abolished?

> Loyal Societies Is the historic link with the Club still extant?

Membership Categories Should we reduce the types to just Full, Annual, Honorary & Temporary?

Members are invited to email comments and suggestions to the Honorary Secretary prior to a draft Report for the General Committee due in August

Email: honorary.secretary@britishclubbangkok.org

2015.



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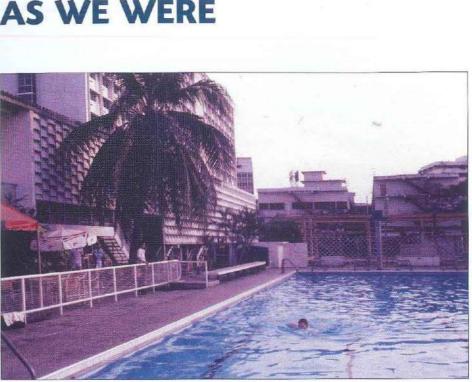
Some Members are keen to start a monthly Chess Evening.

If you would like to play, please email us with your preferred day of the week.

BOOK IN RECEPTION OR BY EMAIL TO : EVENTS@BRITISHCLUBBANGKOK.ORG



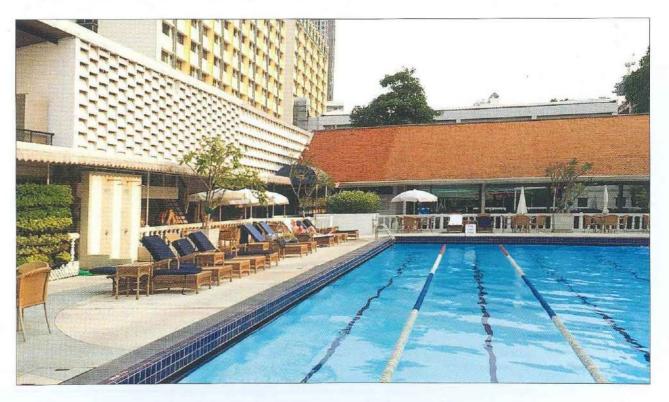
AS WE WERE



Back to the Swimming Pool this month with a poor quality but interesting picture from about 1980 (above).

It shows the original 'municipal' poolside fittings are evident and the swimming lane starting blocks which were removed quite recently. Just right of the second block is the high diving board, which was great fun but also a bit of a liability and removed in the 80s I think. There was also a springboard the other side, which survived much longer. The Silom Sala was under construction, built on what had been a putting green. The buildings behind were the shop-houses that were relatively recently converted to the Triple2 Hotel and this was before the Narai Hotel built their ballroom which now borders the Club.

The picture below is the same view today.



Club Features

Outpost



Week 1 Monday 29th June - Friday 3rd July Week 2 Monday 6th July - Friday 10th July Week 3 Monday13th July - Friday 17th July Week 4 Monday 20th July - Friday 24th July

SPORTSCAMPS

DATE	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
TIME	Bt 950	Bt 1200	B1:950	Bt 1200	b t:950
9:30 - 10:00	ADMIN	ADMIN	ADMIN	ADMIN	ADMIN
10:00-11:00	TENNIS	ice Skating	TENNIS		TENNIS
11:00-11:15	SNACK		lee Skating	SNACK	lce Skating
11:15-12:15	FOOTBALL		FOOTBALL		FOOTBALL.
12:15-1:00	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
1:00-2:30	SQUASH	Bowling	Cooking	Real lines	SQUASH
2:30-3:30	SWIMMING	exemuting	SWIMMING	Bowling	SWIMMING

THE BRITISH CLUB

· Children should be 7+.

- This is not an elitist camp, the emphasis is on joining in, trying out new sports, having fun and making friends.
- A five child minimum is required to run each day so please sign up.
- As travel arrangements need to be made for Tuesday & Thursday activities please sign up 48hrs in advance.
- A no show booking will still be charged the full amount. Cancellations up to 27hrs before will be charged 50%.
- Whilst the British Club and its staff will provide the highest level of care possible for your children, sports/activities camp participants take part at their own risk and the Club accepts no liability for injuries caused during activities on or offsite or travel to or from the Club.



Week	1	29 Ju	ne
Week	2	6 Jul	у,
Week	3	13 Jul	у,
Week	4	20 Ju	IY,

	TIME	
X	10:00 - 10:15	
	10:15 - 11:00	
	11:00 - 11:15	
	11:15 - 12:15	
	12:15 - 1:00	
	1:00 - 1:45	
A	1:45 - 2:30	
0.2		

Bt 650 / day

- Children must be between the ages of 4 and 6 yrs.
- · The children must be capable of feeding themselves, changing their clothes and using the bathroom unsupervised.
- A no show booking will still be charged the full amount. Cancellations up to 24 hrs before will be charged 50%.

1 July, 3 July 8 July, 10 July 15 July, 17 July 22 July, 24 July



Activities Admin Games Snack Mini Tennis Lunch Play time Water Fun

. Whilst the British Club and its staff will provide the highest level of Care possible for your children, sports/activity Camp participants take part at their own risk and the Club accepts no liability for injuries caused during activities on or offside or travel to or from the Club.

TENNIS In the Mix

On any given Sunday our own professional photographer, bon vivant and mix-in enthusiast Chris Watt can be spotted playing tennis, walking the Sala chatting to members and sometimes partaking in some S&M – San Miguel to you.



Farewell Kim

Chris caught some of the action at a recent Sunday afternoon mix-in at the Club. The photos you see attached represent a good cross section of the tennis section or simply tennis spectators whiling away an hour in the Sala and admiring those crazy guys playing tennis in 35 degrees heat!

Open to players of all levels, Participation in the BC Tennis mix-ins is open to players every Sun (4-7pm), Mon,Wed and Fri (6-10pm), with Women's morning mix-ins available on Thursdays from 9-11 am. Joining is easy: Show up, write your name on the white board, and get on court with your foursome as soon as a court is free. All matches are eight games only and the score can be 4-4 or 6-2 etc but after 8 games you are out so the next group can play.Don't be shy: Join a BCTennis mix-in today!

Ladies Doubles Interclub

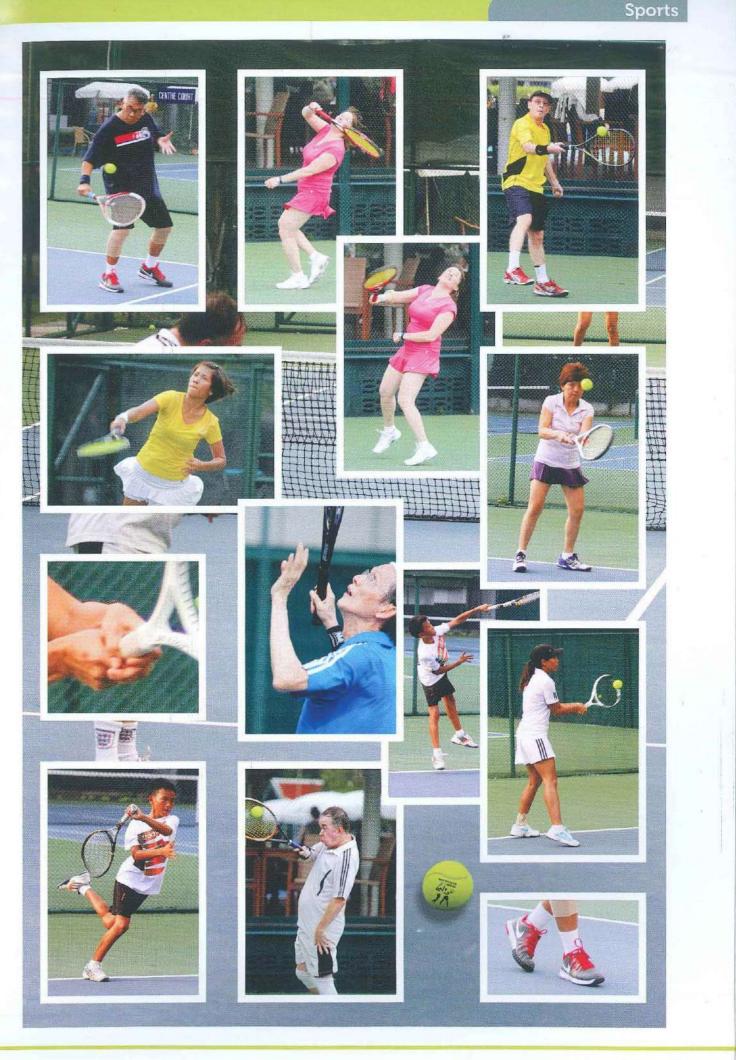
The gloriously pink outfitted BC ladies team led by Raquel Evans came fifth out of a field of ten teams in February this year. The BC team pictured here included Wandee, Hilde, Corine, Khun Wan, Tip, Jeab, Sasaluck, Nisa, Na, Raquel and Khun Yubharet. Special thanks to Khun Tum for being the team's Secretary and to Khun Nemit, Khun Pornchai and Khun Virat for support and providing coffee and a welcome barbecue for the team.





BC Ladies team

On Saturday June 6th from 1pm to 6pm there will be a fun event, coinciding with the French Open finals, comprising random doubles pairings playing a 4 game only match. Each person in the team takes his 'games won' score through to the next match (playing with a new partner) and at the end of the afternoon the player with the highest aggregate number of games is declared the winner and the person with the lowest aggregate games winner is awarded a wooden spoon or wooden racquet. There will be an announcement by email and a sign-up sheet organised in the coming weeks so please sign up.



Outpost Sports

SQUASHY BITS

Tanglin, Winnin', Cyclin', Losin', and Hoardin'!

The other day we played a match against some blokes and a bird from a club in Singapore called Tanglin. We played it ear in Bangkok and not over dare in Sing.

We'd played them before a few times and they've usually frashed us, but this time we were prepared and we done 'em over 8-1. Actually, they had promised to bring 12 players, but three of them went on a bicycle ride the morning of the match and were murdered by a 15-year old local lass driving a Honda Jazz at 50kms/ hour on the wrong side of the road while applying her makeup and surfing Facebook on her iPhone 6. Shame that. Local police blamed the cyclists as they were foreigners and were sensibly cycling in single file in broad daylight instead of three abreast and causing a traffic hazard and that was why the driver failed to spot them. The driver's family has demanded substantial compensation from the deceased's grieving relatives for the minor damage to the Honda Jazz's bonnet and grill and for the cost of a new iPhone 6 screen as, apparently, it got scratched as a result of the incident, and also to pay for counseling for poor Ploy who has been 'well shook up by it all' according to her mum. "She'll never get over it and she's got exams coming up!"

Amazing then that after that tragic event the Tanglin players had the stomach for a match with us, but they did and it's not surprising they lost so badly as they probably had their minds elsewhere. However, they did present us with a nice plaque and some squash shirts and managed to scoff plenty of the curry buffet and tons of beer to drown their sorrows at losing three of their players and the match! RIP Tanglin Cyclists.

So that's the Tanglin, some of the Winnin', and the Cyclin' out the way so let's move on to some more Winnin' - BCB beat Rama Garden Hotel tonight 5-1 in

the RBSC team league. We had 2 walk over points because they only had 3 and they therefore missed a singles and doubles game. Thanks to Chris, Tom, Chris and Neil.

Brilliant!



And the Losin' - The BCB lost 5-1 tonight against OV2 with only Chris Childs picking up a win. Last game of the competition. Thanks to Chris, Tom, Chris and Neil for playing.

Not so brilliant!



Ploy prior to the collision!



Deadly

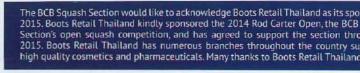


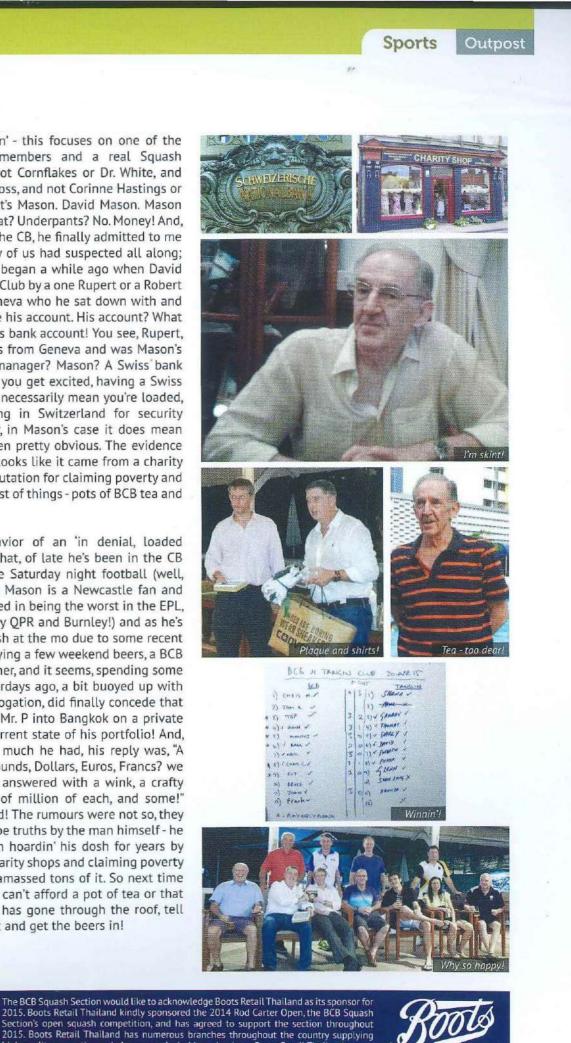
Finally to the Hoardin' - this focuses on one of the BCB's more senior members and a real Squash Section Codger. No, not Cornflakes or Dr. White, and no, not Ken the Albatross, and not Corinne Hastings or Lord Dunford either. It's Mason. David Mason. Mason hoardin'? Hoardin' what? Underpants? No. Money! And, a few weeks back, in the CB, he finally admitted to me and Evans what many of us had suspected all along; he was minted! It all began a while ago when David was paid a visit at the Club by a one Rupert or a Robert or a Richard from Geneva who he sat down with and proceeded to examine his account. His account? What account? David's Swiss bank account! You see, Rupert, Robert or Richard was from Geneva and was Mason's Swiss bank account manager? Mason? A Swiss bank account? Now, before you get excited, having a Swiss bank account doesn't necessarily mean you're loaded, many opt for banking in Switzerland for security reasons, etc. However, in Mason's case it does mean he's loaded as it's been pretty obvious. The evidence being: his squash kit looks like it came from a charity shop and he has a reputation for claiming poverty and moaning about the cost of things - pots of BCB tea and the like.

Classic pattern behavior of an 'in denial, loaded hoader.' Having said that, of late he's been in the CB regularly to enjoy the Saturday night football (well, suffer it more like as Mason is a Newcastle fan and they were only bettered in being the worst in the EPL, if that makes sense, by QPR and Burnley!) and as he's not able to play squash at the mo due to some recent leg op he's been enjoying a few weekend beers, a BCB Saturday evening dinner, and it seems, spending some money. So, a few Saturdays ago, a bit buoyed up with booze he, upon interrogation, did finally concede that he had indeed flown Mr. P into Bangkok on a private jet to evaluate the current state of his portfolio! And, when we asked how much he had, his reply was, "A couple of million!" Pounds, Dollars, Euros, Francs? we demanded, and were answered with a wink, a crafty smile and "A couple of million of each, and some!" David Mason is loaded! The rumours were not so, they have been proven to be truths by the man himself - he admitted it. He's been hoardin' his dosh for years by buying his kit from charity shops and claiming poverty and in doing so he's amassed tons of it. So next time he complains that he can't afford a pot of tea or that the price of bananas has gone through the roof, tell him to put a sock in it and get the beers in!

Until he does.....







HARD BALLS

The return of the nets

After a long wait the BC cricket training facility was finally completed in the beginning of May, just in time for the rainy season! The careful thought that had gone into improvement was immediately evident; now with more flexibility and an extra few feet of height, the nets have a new lease of life, not to mention the ability to accommodate Jack's bowling. With the added benefit of the newly built showers, changing block and





kit area, the BC back lawn must be nearing Thailand's number one cricket centre.

What better way to put it through its paces than a 15 man strong training session on the return to BC weekend practise. Encouraging signs once more as the new option to play with the nets fully opened out via a sliding rail design had to be sacrificed due to the swelling attendance. Thanks paid to all those involved in moving the operation forward and ensuring the high quality we can enjoy for seasons to come.



RBSC T20 @ Polo 14th March 2015

BC's enjoyed appearance in competitive league cricket continued on a sizzling hot morning at polo club against RBSC. Captain Dale was back on the scene to carry out his unfathomable approach to order and devotion largely comparable with that of Kim Jongun and Ed Miliband. The 'random field placement technique' which has now been recognised globally was immediately put to test as BC stepped inside the rope once more.

It was common knowledge that the opposition batting attack would need a few strokes of genius to tame. Unfortunately and somewhat expectedly that wasn't the case as RBSC came steaming out the blocks averaging a steady 10+ per over from start to finish. Steve preached his way to 3 wickets for 37 runs, helped by catches from Goti and David. Anil (1-37) had the



remaining wicket to keep the opponents to a modest 225 runs. Inconsistency or perhaps the absence of a car park catching routine seemed to poison our fielding

performance, a below average display all round saw more drops than a dubstep album. Ben seemingly forgot what sport he was playing when he converted a one bounce four into a six with his head.

Despite not quite satisfying the required run rate, BC batted encouragingly and the top 5 batsman all scored over 20 runs (Rahul 25, Goti 27, Ben 21) sparing Dale who's eves lit up after a loopy spinner and got bowled off his first ball. Even H (22) put on a display with his acclaimed injury he sustained in Pattaya while trying to catch a ball apparently. BC batted all 20 overs, impressively only losing 7 wickets to finish 108 runs short of the ambitious target.

Parrots T20 bowl play off @ Polo 4th April 2015

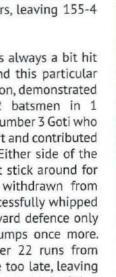
The T20 league was concluded with a play-off weekend. BC were hopeful at the prospect of another shot against BFF; their closest game to date. However, a mix up somehow led to a last minute change which drew an all-star bowl play off V Siam Parrots. Rumour has it that BFF resorted to bribery in order to avoid the inevitable threat BC's bowling attack imposed on the friendship bonds keeping the team together.

BC were fielding first, looking to improve on last games performance. The opening Parrots partnership stood strong and the first wicket didn't fall until the eighth over, picked up by H (1-11) who contributed 2 good overs, clean bowling his victim in the first to slow down the run rate. Aseem then came into the attack after a revolutionary drinks break to take an impressive 3-25 from 4 overs, leaving 155-4 as the target to chase.

When it comes to batting it's always a bit hit and miss in the BC camp, and this particular performance was no exception, demonstrated perfectly by losing first 2 batsmen in 1 over(both run outs!), before number 3 Goti who was on fine form, held the fort and contributed a very respectable 55 runs. Either side of the man of moment - Ben didn't stick around for long, and Dale somewhat withdrawn from his airshot last game unsuccessfully whipped out his under-practised forward defence only to hear the thud of the stumps once more. Harpoon generated another 22 runs from 13 balls but it was too little too late, leaving statto Sarg stranded again on 5, think of that average! 112-8 was the final score, BC proud runners up in the bowl final.

Next month's report will cover BC's BBQ hosting of the touring Australian 'Richos', return of the fireball 6s league, and whatever other surprises pop up in between. Exciting plans are underway for an all new beach cricket tournament in Koh Chang which will hopefully go ahead later this year.

Don't forget to check the Club website for more match reports, season stats and other information at www.britishclubcricket.com.





Sports







BCB 1910 FANTASY FOOTBALL

All But Over!

Carlos the Jackal's Spanish Armada was 60 points clear at the start of week 37 and by now he is most certainly the 2014/2105 BCB 1910 Fantasy Football League Champion! Runner-up is Smoke and Mirrors, managed by Harry Houdini (Phil), or Bangkok Rockets (Peter Charlseworth - who's he?) or Haroon's Artois5.2. Most of the money

went on Harry. Well done Carlos! 38 weeks of shrewd transfers and crafty team selections, coupled with plenty of luck, mean you triumph over 33 other hopefuls – no mean feat. We'll have a knees-up to congratulate your success, present the trophy and drink plenty of beer on iCheck inn Hotels & Resorts.

▶ 1	Spanish Armada	Carlos the Jackal	2,041
▶ 2	Smoke and Mirrors	Harry Houdini	1,978
▶ 3	Bangkok Rockets	Peter Charlesworth	1,971
▶ 4	Artois5.2	Haroon Rashid	1,937
▶ 33	Bangkokbob's FC	Bob Merrigan	1,405



Bob remained in last place with his team unchanged from day one and so is a wooden spoon the richer. Consistency!

And that's it, really. The season is over and the new one begins early August. Chelsea were EPL Champs with QPR, Burnley, and it looks like Hull going down. Up come Bournemouth, Watford and either Norwich or Middlesborough who will all more than likely go back down come next May!

See next month's column for pics of our 'Champion Crowning Event', the final 1910 League places in full and a FF season post-mortem.



Quiz Night

BCGS GOLFING NEWS

















Outpost



The last month has again been a busy one for the hardy golfers of BCGS. Three competitions with very hot weather making each occasion all the more challenging.

The monthly Stableford was played at Lam Luk Ka, a beautiful course which as always was in fantastic condition. The day was hot enough without the added excitement of a forest fire very close by - but it did get them moving down the back 9! Winner was Tony Moore and in Second place, Chris Maclarty - well done to both.

Aprils monthly medal played on the home turf of The Royal was another well attended day. Congratulations went to Martin Weber, winner of Flight A & Peter Thompson who won Flight B with an impressive net 65 - that handicapping is tumbling Peter!

A great weekend was had by all at Royal Hills in Nakorn Nayok for the 3 day Eclectic Major. Weather and course were fantastic with a birthday celebration for Ann Mackinnon thrown in too! Overall winner by 2 shots was Sharon Moore who also retained her title - well done Sharon, a fantastic result! In second place was Martin Weber who is becoming a regular name in the monthly reviews. Best Gross score for the 3 days went to John Stewart - Congratulations to all.

A mention must also go to the other half of team Weber - congratulations to Fiona for winning a hattrick of Ladies Longest Drives.



BRIDGE Results for April 2015

EVENT	RANK	NAME (PAIR)	SCORE%
Sunday 5th April (12 pairs)	N/S Winner	Boa & Hanne	62.27%
	E/W Winner	Daniel & Christian	61.82%
Sunday 12th April (12 pairs)	1st	Michael Winckless & Helmer	61.88%
π.	2nd	Khiri & Sujinda	59.38%
Sunday 19th April (12 pairs)	N/S Winner	Supote & Kittiya	64.58%
	E/W Winner	Daniel & Christian	63.02%
Sunday 26th April (12 pairs)	1st	Judy Hunt & Daksha	60.37%
	2nd	Geraldine & Sandy	57.78%



WIMBLEDON 2015 29th June - 12th July



KIDS MOVIES JUNE Fridays Silom Sala, 6.30pm	<section-header><text></text></section-header>	19th Jane The Tale of Princess Kaguya	THE BRITISH CLUB BANGROX	with with lc
	<text><image/><text></text></text>	26th June Frincess and the Frog		

Pimm's No 1 Glass - Bt 110 Jug - Bt 550 Strawberries: h Cream - Bt 125 ce cream - Bt 125



HARROW INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

BANGKOK

We provide a world class British day and boarding school education for students aged 11 to 18 years, ensuring all our children are well guided and supported in reaching their academic potential. Our innovative 'Leadership in Action' programmes allow students to develop their leadership attributes in diverse and purposeful extra-curricular activities, building resilience, creativity and responsibility. Outstanding results at A Level ensure that our graduating students secure places in the prestigious universities of their choice worldwide. A Harrow Bangkok education is challenging, holistic and relevant.

Due to popularity, the oustanding boarding facilities at Harrow Bangkok are growing. The 'home away from home' family atmosphere has been successful in helping students gain confidence and take leading roles in our School, to have more time for study and the pursuit of other interests and less time time travelling to school.

For boarders, in-house one-to-one tutoring from our teachers is on hand for that extra help, at no extra cost.

For further information about Harrow International School Bangkok Telephone: +66 (0) 2 503 7222 ext 1127 or email: admissions@harrowschool.ac.th

Visit our website: www.harrowschool.ac.th