

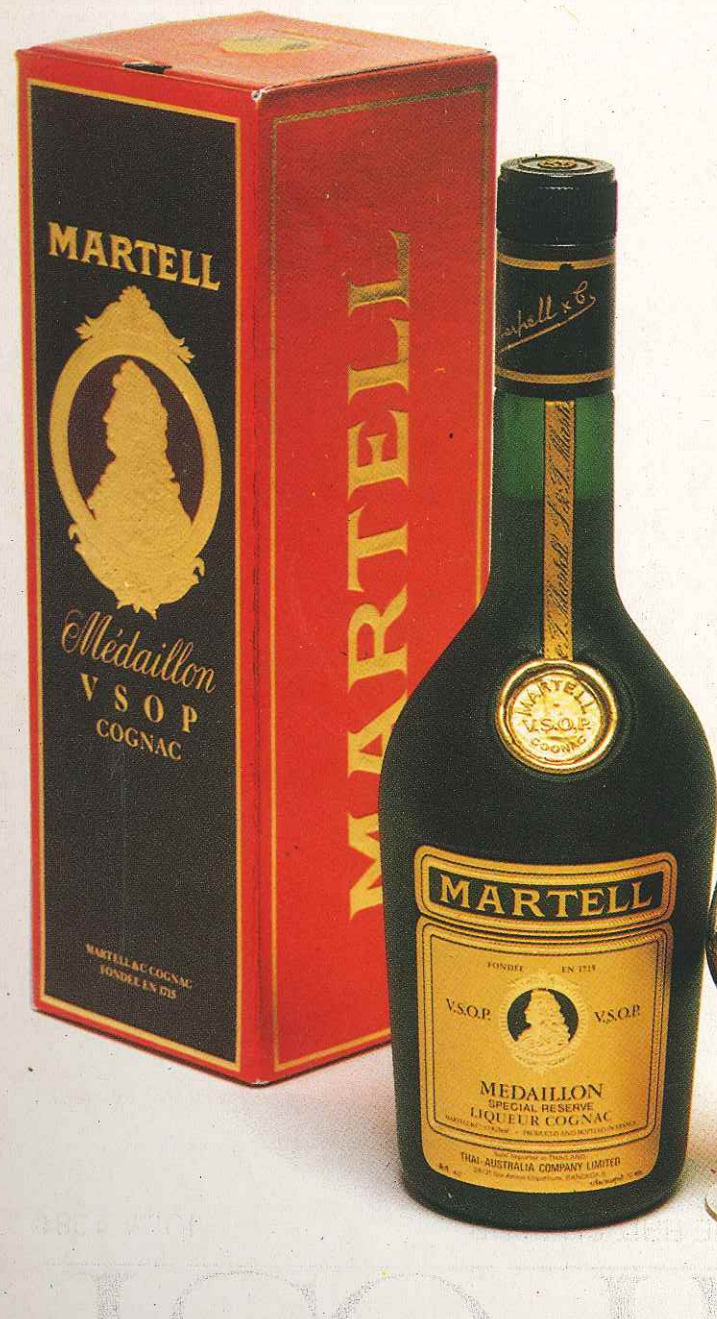
OUTPOST

MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB

JULY 1981



MARTELL.



TASTE
HISTORY.
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THE BRITISH CLUB

189 Suriwongse Road

Bangkok

Telephone: 234-0247, 234-2592



Chairman: Mr. C. Stewart

Vice-Chairman: Mr. A.J. Phillips

Hon Treasurer: Mr. R. Barrett

Outpost Vol. II No. 17 July 1981

In this edition we celebrate the Royal Wedding in London between H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer with a report on events which led up to the Event plus a schedule indicating times of live radio broadcasts for those who wish to listen in.

The Club intends to obtain a full-length video as soon as possible.

While London will be bursting at the seams, the Club will take on its usual "half-empty" appearance traditional at this time of the year as many Members take their annual "home leave".

This did not prevent a full house at two outstandingly good evenings this month and a promise of more to come later.

Your editor will be out of Thailand for July and is passing next month's production to his able companion Roy Regan.

Good luck Roy - don't make it too good!!

WEEKLY CLUB EVENTS

MONDAY	2.00 p.m.	- Children Scottish Dance
	7.30 p.m.	- Bridge
TUESDAY	4.00 p.m.	- Swimming Training
THURSDAY	4.00 p.m.	- Swimming Training
SATURDAY	12.00-15.00	- Buffet Lunch, Dining Room
SUNDAY	12.00-15.00	- Buffet Lunch, Poolside
	18.00-22.00	- Buffet Supper, Dining Room

Articles, drawings, letters, suggestions, ideas, or contributions of any description are invited from anyone.

All material, for the August issue, must reach the office by 20th July.

Editor : Norman Musgrave 317 7001

Roy Regan 289 0131

For the benefit of newly-joined members may we remind you that everyone using the swimming pool must take a shower first. The reasons are those of health and hygiene for all pool-users.

Royal Wedding Ball

To celebrate the marriage of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales to Lady Diana Spencer, a Ball is to be held on the Back Lawn at the Club on

Friday July 31st

Tickets will cost £550 per person, and include:-

Cocktail Reception on the Front Lawn
(including champagne)

4 Course Dinner, catered and served
by the Oriental Hotel

Dancing to Ading Dila's 12 piece Band

Wedding Souvenir by Thai Glass

Door Prize donated by British Airways
2 Return Tickets to London

Post-Midnight snack

Time: 7.30 - 8.15 Cocktails
8.15 Dinner

Dress: Red Sea Rig or National Dress

Reservations can be made in person or by telephoning Reception.

FLY

This is a time when each and every member of the Committee seems to have a full work-load on his shoulders with Club business. Sub-Committees are no less busy and a good example of this during June was the House and Grounds Sub-Committee comprising Scott Younger (Chairman) Tony Blanc, Hugh Jamieson, John Davidson and Adisak.

A considerable amount of detailed work has gone into ensuring that the playing surfaces on our three squash courts are brought up to standard and maintained in that manner. This means close examination of work currently being carried out, perusal of contractual obligations, scheduling of re-surfacing and painting work to ensure that playing Members are inconvenienced as little as possible.

In addition, the sub-committee has sought and received competitive quotations for renovating the Pantry/Kitchen area and work has commenced in order that it may be completed well before the Royal Wedding Ball. New and improved fire exits have been considered and costed as inexpensively as possible.

A model of the House and Grounds is now under construction.

Consideration was given to the Silom Room, Office requirements, Reading Room (including video-tape library) and Tennis Courts, and other items appearing in the various work-sheets include costing of emergency lighting sets, checking fire extinguishers, costing a non-slip poolside surface, removal of high diving board for safety reasons.

Members will also be interested to learn that it is intended to renovate the old poolside Sala just as quickly as funds permit and that a screen of fast-growing trees is in hand to cover the present unsightly backdrop to the New Sala.



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Reward!! Reward!!

If you are interested in a financial reward please read on.

A message from the Finance Sub-Committee:

Subject: The timely payment of member's accounts

The time chart is specifically drawn up to show members the correct billing period, preparation of accounts, postage period and ample time for payment of accounts.

This exercise has been done in this form so as to make members more aware of the financial strain placed on the British Club by not receiving money owed to it by members who do not pay their accounts on time.

There can be only one solution to this somewhat serious matter and that is that all members pay their accounts within the specified time as set out in the rules of the club.

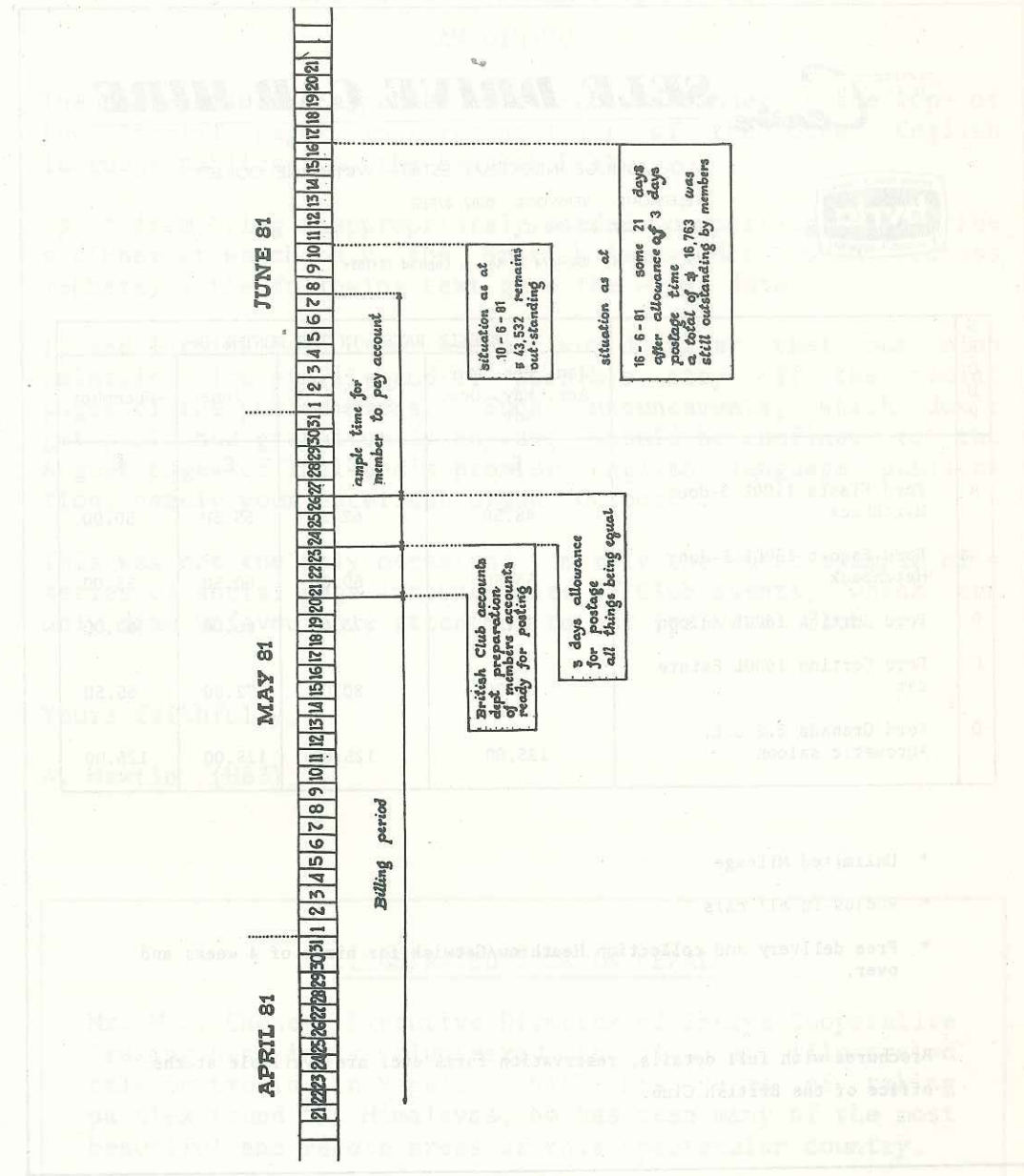
Please be aware of the Rule 61 in respect to payment of accounts.

A chart is attached showing the situation and balance of the May membership accounts, which is self explanatory.

Members, please assist this committee, this fine club, yourselves and other members by paying your account on time. Do not leave it in the bottom of your incoming correspondence pile and thus receive an expensive registered letter.

Your help will be much appreciated.

Convenor Finance Sub-Committee



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		£	£	£	£
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C	Ford Cortina 1600L Estate car	64.00	80.00	72.00	65.50
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Brochures with full details, reservation forms etc. are available at the office of the British Club.

Letters

17th June 1981

Dear Sir,

"BRITISH CLUB'S NIGHT OF WINING AN -DINING"

The above headline appeared as a 4-column banner at the top of the "social page" in a recent issue of the other English language publication, the Bangkok Post.

Apart from being inappropriately worded (purporting to describe a dinner at which H.E. the British Ambassador would address members) - the following text gave the wrong date.

I, and I think most other members would prefer that our club maintain a low profile and if possible stay off the social pages of the public press. Such announcements, which don't get published gratuitously anyway, should be confined to the August pages of Thailand's premier English language publication, namely your excellent organ "Outpost".

This was not the only occasion, merely the worst example of a series of social page announcements of Club events, which can only draw unfavourable attention to our (private) Club.

Yours faithfully,

A. Hawtin (H83)

ILLUSTRATED TALK ON NEPAL

Mr. M.J. Cheney, Executive Director of Sherpa Cooperative Trekking has kindly volunteered to give an illustrated talk on trekking in Nepal. With his years of taking parties round the Himalayas, he has seen many of the most beautiful and remote areas of this spectacular country.

The talk will be held in the Suriwongse Room at 8.00 p.m. on Sunday 19th July - admission free.

Letters continued.....

21st June 1981

Dear Sir,

I entirely agree with your comment on Mr. Duggan's letter in the last issue. Why should we have namby-pamby boring reports on BC events. St. Patrick's night sounded great - I wish I had been there. Compare the report on "St. George's night - all back-slapping and scratching. It was a good do but the reporter was far too obsequious to mention the piffle spouted out by the Embassy rep. People at my table nearly puked at the story of the brave Britisher escaping from the Garuda plane.

Let's have more pithy writing and less candy floss reportage.

Yours faithfully,

D. Bradley (B113)

Editor's Comment

Thanks a lot! I wrote the St. George's Report.

Club News

Members who wish to play badminton are asked to request staff to put up the net for them beside the third squash court. The badminton court will be marked and cut on a permanent basis (weather permitting!)

CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERSHIP

Candidates for membership are reminded that they must obtain the signatures of at least six committee members during their period of candidature. Their usage of the club's facilities is taken into consideration when being balloted upon and they are expected to support official club functions.

Functions

There were no less than 11 special functions held at the Club during June illustrating the growing popularity of this venue. A similar number is expected in July. The two major June events -- "Club Night" and "Old Time Music Hall" were both over-subscribed which is encouragement indeed to all concerned with their organisation.

Club Night

Club Night took place on the evening of Wednesday 17th June when no less than 84 members and guests turned up to be entertained in good style.

After an aperitif in the bar everyone assembled in the Suriwong Room and settled down to listen to a pre-dinner talk from the guest of honour H.E. Mr. Justin Staples CMG - the British Ambassador.

Mr. Staples chose as his subject "The History of Diplomacy" and he gave us all a fascinating view of how diplomats have behaved through the ages starting with a fist fight between the French and German Ambassadors several centuries ago in London over which of them had the right to be first to greet a visiting dignitary!

The meal followed and comprised consomme, roast ducking with all the trimmings, a sorbet and finally stilton and coffee. A selection of wines was available and it must be recorded that, once again, our colleague David Guy from Thai-Australia provided the club with an ample supply of first class sherry and port completely free of charge.

During our post-proudial brandy, Club chairman -- Charles Stewart informed guests that it had been one of the best events he had attended and this was a view shared generally.

Our thanks to Simon Brewin and his entertainments sub-committee and the Club management for organising a great evening. The guest table comprised H.E. Mr. Justin Staples CMG and Mrs. Staples, Sir James and Lady Holt, Club Chairman Mr. Charles Stewart and Mrs. Stewart and General Committee members and their wives.

Births

Our congratulations to Simon and Lesley Brewin on the birth of their son - Peter Berkeley. Seldom can a proud father have had such a distinguished audience to hear the glad news. Simon had just returned from visiting his wife and son when he had to come straight to the BC to open Club Night! (June 17th) He was therefore able to announce the birth to the assembled guests including an ambassador and his wife, a knight and his lady and other V.I.P.'s. Good timing Simon and Lesley!!

* * * * *

WHERE DID YOU GET THAT HAT?

"Where did you get that Hat?" was an apt show stopper on Saturday 20th June in the Suriwongse Room when members, many appropriately accoutred with moustaches, bonnets and bowties, were quickly transported back to the golden age of Music Hall.

Redolent with recondite references, corny cracks, pungent persiflage, an extravagant exhortatance of exaggeration and even meticulously mellifluous magniloquence, Master of Ceremonies, Director and Arch-villain Graham Millington introduced us to a succession of entertaining vignettes of song, dance and melodrama.

A rather tasty repast featuring "coque au rattan" was enjoyed in the "interval" and drinks were unobtrusively served by the club staff throughout the proceedings. The audience lent their voices to the choruses and their groans, boos and hisses when appropriate. The follies in a spirited can-can elicited a few French phrases from the more cosmopolitan members of the audience.

It would be invidious to mention individual contributions but I will. I particularly enjoyed "The Man Who Broke the Bank", "Where did you get that hat?" "Waiting at the Church" and "A policeman's lot".

Mention must also be made of the magnificent costumes. All those lucky enough to have obtained tickets would wish me to congratulate all those involved in what must have been one of the best entertainments ever held at the Club.

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KL 802	Wednesday	22.50
KL 806	Thursday	21.25
KL 834	Friday	22.55
KL 864	Saturday	20.30
KL 836	Sunday	22.20



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LADIES - GOING SHOPPING??

With our home leave on the horizon shopping fever suddenly came upon me last week. Having floated about in voluminous sundresses during the last eighteen months I decided it was time to purchase a few 'normal', covered up dresses, dresses more suitable for the unreliable British summer (I secretly suspect I'll live in jeans, sweaters and anorak).

So off I went along Silom to Central Store and having chosen two 'possibles' found myself safely looked inside a tiny changing cubicle. I tried them on enthusiastically and hastily took them off again. Where was my waist? Surely the lighting must be faulty? Or did I really look like a ghoul from a horror movie?

I had just put on my T-shirt and was wrapping my ever-so-convenient skirt where, to my utterastonishment a hand appeared from beneath the cubicle partition and snatched my bag. It had been right beside my own two feet! My immediate reaction was to rush out shouting - no, not 'kamoy' - just "my bag my bag" and then to try to reach the cubicle containing the thief.

With great gusto this T-shirted, underpants clad 'farang' pulled open a door and leapt through -- only to discover she was trapped in a meter cupboard. What a sight for anybody watching!

My next instructive reaction must have looked equally as ridiculous. I dashed back to the cubicle, threw myself flat on the floor, pushed my head under the partition, and looked upwards. Standing there, with mouths agape were two girls, my bag lying at their feet. Almost as quickly as the hand had snatched the bag it pushed it back to me! I decided then that it must have been my face, not the lighting which was at fault. I had succeeded in frightening somebody out of their wits!

Having hastily donned my skirt I sprinted to the department behind and spied the culprits' feet beneath the cubicle door. Eventually the bodies belonging to the feet emerged and I confronted my kamoy. A few choice Thai phrases were thrown at me and I retorted with a few choice English ones. It is probably just as well that neither knew what the other was saying. (My after-leave resolution -- to learn Thai.) The security man made a late appearance and we all trailed through the thronging shoppers, many of whom probably thought I was the kamoy.

I did not press charges as I was just so relieved and happy to have my bag, complete with rubbish inside!

It was with trembling hands and shaking knees that I left the scene of the crime.

So ladies, don't feel you are secure when closed in a cubicle. Hang your bag on the hook provided, dive to the floor and have a look. If you see a pair of feet, be on your guard. The attack could always come from above!

Kamoy Katcher

This magazine has been asked to publish the following extract from a recent "Catering" Sub-Committee meeting: Minute 5 -- "Chits for drinks and food should be signed by Members immediately the drinks/food is delivered and before any further orders are dispensed."

The committee would like to make another plea to Members to cease speeding in the Club's grounds. This month saw at least two near-accidents involving vehicles and children. Please therefore remember the dangers involved and, perhaps most importantly of all, instruct your drivers accordingly.

Staff Report

There are currently 78 full-time and 5 part-time members of staff. During the month one employee was engaged on probation, two were confirmed as permanent staff, one was suspended and one was transferred to another department.





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OUTPOST 3/81

Drama

Recently, the Bangkok Community Theatre presented one of Alan Ayckbourn's plays -- "Round and Round the Garden" -- at the Bhirasri Institute of Modern Art. It was comedy rather than farce and several members of the British Club were taking part.

The play centred around "Norman" brilliantly portrayed by Graham Millington (of St. Georges' Society cabaret fame) as a footloose and fancy-free chap who tries to chat-up all the ladies on a fairly continuous basis.

The ensuing confusion during a family week-end attended by Norman's long-suffering wife Ruth (played by Anne Prince - remember her in "Move over Mrs. Markham"?), Annie, the target of Norman's attentions, (Olive Lawson), her suitor Tom (Chris Young) and the unlikely married couple of nervous and fretful Sarah (Jan Collins) and ebullient Reg (Edward Kenney) made for a lot of laughs. The production was overseen by director - Sandi Connolly in a most professional way and her imminent departure from Bangkok is regretted.

A lot of people put a lot of effort into these productions so please do support them by going along to the theatre next time and swelling the audiences.

A CHANCE FOR YOU TO BE PERSONALLY INVOLVED IN THE WEDDING.....

From the 13 July **BRITISH AIRWAYS** will have a Congratulations Book in their Sales Shop at Rajprasong which will duly be sent to London. When you are shopping in the Daimaru or saying your prayers at the Erawan Shrine why not pop in and add your name and address.

All those who sign will receive a beautiful 10 x 8 colour photograph of The Wedding.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

NEW MEMBERS

The following were elected to membership of the Club in June 1981:

Ordinary

Mr. S.A. Fergus	Thai Coats Thread Co. Ltd.
Mr. R.G. Jackson	Australian Embassy
Mr. R.P.C. Hyde	Skypak International (T) Ltd.
Mr. M.J.D. McAlister	Philipp Brothers (T) Ltd.
Mr. S.W. Metherell	Thai Coats Thread Co. Ltd.
Mr. R.J. Mooney	Ted Bates Ltd. (T)
Mr. A.D. Pfeiffer	Thai Industrial Gases Ltd.

Ladies Privileges

Miss M.T. Sparling	British Embassy
--------------------	-----------------

A Tribute!

Promoters of Professional Theatrical extravaganzas are usually not slow to publicise the "carte of thousands" and their "budget of millions". All too often this merely indicates that quantity has prevailed over quality, and that the producer has added another solid gold cadillac to his stable.

Last night's production in the Suriwongse Room of Old Time Music Hall by Bangkok Community Theatre left the audience in no doubt that a caste of 13 enthusiastic, well rehearsed and directed can provide just as much entertainment.

What is more, the costumes were worthy of any fancy budget. How do they do it? Imagination and do-it-yourself hard work, I suspect.

A superb evening of can-can to melodrama, interspersed with wine, ale and a simple dinner: our grateful thanks to you all.

Well done everyone! - Ed.

Night Birds

The last Member leaving the Bar after 11.00 p.m. is asked by the Bar Staff to sign a chit indicating the time he leaves - this is to compute staff overtime.

Sometimes, in an over-tired state, he generously may add a few minutes (or even hours) to give the Barmen leeway to clear-up etc.

Bar staff are automatically given an extra hour's, overtime pay, over and above the time indicated by the Member on the chit, so please - sign to actual time that the bar closes.

LEAVE HOUSE - LONDON

Fully furnished 4 bedroom house with garden to the river - Chiswick area - for rent for five weeks from Wednesday 29th July - Wednesday 2nd September 1981, at £250 per week.

Use of 1979 Ford Escort Automatic included.

If interested please contact Bruce Murdoch

391 4944 (Home)

393 0138 (Office)

VIVALDIAN VARIETY



A 'POTPOURRI', a 'melange' -- or if you prefer it in English -- a hotchpotch. But in any case Tony wrote it -- Antonio Vivaldi, that is -- the red-haired Venetian who was ordained priest but was soon 'retired' because while he was celebrating Mass, musical themes came into his head and he rushed to the sacristy to jot them down and then rushed back again.

Tony wrote concertos for instruments of all kinds -- a veritable hotchpotch of music, much of it designed for the flute family which included the recorder --

and we are now privileged to sample some of these highly-attractive compositions on a Classics For Pleasure re-issue titled 'Vivaldi Concertos' played by distinguished soloists with the Toulouse Chamber Orchestra under conductor Louis Auriacombe (CFP 40353, £ 1.99 in the U.K.)

A fine example of Vivaldi's flair for 'programme' (story) music, the G Minor Op. 10 (known as "La Notte") features the soloist as a successful 'harbinger of night', conveying all the concerto's 'shades of darkness' most convincingly -- rhapsodic, slumber, nightmare, visions of beauty, ghosts, etc., ending in quiet repose. More dreamy music is heard during the Recorder Concerto (C Major) -- especially due to the lovely tone-colour produced by the sopranino soloist during the sumptuous 'siciliana' movement before a dancelike finale reveals some typical Vivaldi vivacity.

-- Maligned --

Two concertos for that sometimes maligned instrument, the mandoline, are included, the solo work being noteworthy for the composer's success in proving that the instrument is indeed capable of producing sustained notes or wide-ranging melodies to a slow rhythm. In the 2-instrument concerto, soloists and orchestra contribute acrobatic passages which are virtuosic in the extreme, Virtuosity also in the Trumpet Concerto - scintillating runs, arpeggios, sudden leaps, etc., before we come to the concerto for 4 violins.

Now we have what is called 'Vivaldi's new world of sound', also his brilliance as a writer. This is particularly apparent in the second movement of the work, the largo, where, over the held notes of the violas and basses, the four violins weave arpeggios on various degrees of the scale -- "an 'harmonic vapour' of poetry which beckons to unknown spheres", as it has been described.

And so this 'melange', this vertiable anthology of concertos stresses the fact that although the church may have lost a redoubtable cleric, the realm of music gained a composer of enormous stature.

MANUEL - and his Music of the Mountains-provide a brief moment of 'FANTASY' (EMI Digital TWOD 2004) with his distinctive instrumental blend which produces all the glamour and excitement of our sojourn in the mountains, wherever that may be. To begin with it's "Summertime" (the little lullaby Clara sings to her baby at the opening of Gershwin's "Porgy & Bess") but soon its the world of "Fantasy", shimmering strings, trembling violins, wordless voices, and indeed James Galway must just have passed by, for we hear the mountains echoing "Annie's Song" -- and inviting us to dance to Leroy Anderson's "Blue Tango".

The 18 repetitions of Ravel's haunting "Bolero" theme are heard over a relentless rhythm, the instruments succeeding one another in a crescendo of excitement before we have a spot of magic -- "That Old Black Magic", in fact, which is just as palatable as the chocolate -- and much cheaper! Ten melodies altogether. Stereophonically superb -- digitally dynamic.

The more we listen, the sooner we'll want to join Manuel again with his music -- in the mountains.

England My England

Come to England poor and broke,
Go on dole, see labour bloke,
Fill in forms, have lots of chatters,
Kind man give me lots of packers'!
I thank him much, and then he say
"Come back next week and get more pay.
You come here, we make you wealthy,
Doctor too, he make you healthy."
Six months on dole, get plenty money,
Good "Pal" meat to fill your tummy!
Send for friends Tom, Dick and Khan
Tell them come as quick as can:
They come with me, we live together,
One thing bad - the bloody weather".
One day young man come inside
Ask me if I wash in Tide?
Too dam cold to wash out-tide!
All get nicely settled down,
Find big house in busy town
Fourteen families, nice big rent,
More in garden, live in tent.
Soon I send for wife and kids.
They not have to live in 'digs'!
Six months later, big bank roll,
Still go labour, get more dole;
Wife want glasses, teeth and pills
They are free, we get no bills.
Bless all these men, big and small
For paying tax to keep us all!
We think England damn good place
Too damn good for English race!
If they no like Dick and Khan,
Plenty room in.....

The Lady & The Prince



"She's perfect," the Queen Mother is said to have assured her favourite grandson. "Quite exceptional," Lady Diana's family blushing confirmed -- "she really does not have any blemishes at all." And in the characteristically radiant words of Barbara Cartland, her redoubtable, romantic novel-writing step-gran, England's future queen is "purity itself".

At Buckingham Palace, on the morning of 24 February, the present Queen was beaming with happiness and pride when, just as an investiture ceremony was about to begin, the Lord Chamberlain stepped forward and soberly intoned:

"It is with the greatest pleasure that the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh announce the betrothal of their beloved son, the Prince of Wales, to the Lady Diana Spencer, daughter of the Earl Spencer and the Honourable Mrs. Shand Kydd."

Gasps and champagne corks quickly filled the air. The band of the Coldstream Guards struck up with Congratulations. World-wide fascination and delight was, of course, instantaneous, and, at the age of 19, Lady Diana exchanged the sheltered life of a kindergarten teacher for numbingly sudden exposure to global super-stardom as the nation's royal sweetheart.

The press and television went mad. After such a long and frustrating chase, in what had become a kind of Prince of Wales handicap stakes -- with the repeated stumblings of the also-rans yielding moments of high farce and the persistent rumour-mongering giving rise to other moments of bad-tempered tension between the palace and the media -- the announcement of an official winner was greeted with shrieks of overwhelmingly rapturous joy.

Not since the flag-waving launch of the Mini-Metro (which Lady Di, of course, was photographed driving) had so many column-inches been given over to such unstinting admiration. It was a glorious day. It was a love-match made in heaven. The bride-to-be was a paragon of poise, and yet delightfully shy. She was glamorous and elegant, the columnists cooed. She was innocent, cool and serene. Yet she was capable, they chorussed, sweet, even-tempered, motherly, sophisticated, and the girl-next-door. She was a natural aristocrat, too, and though she was a thoroughly sensible and frightfully tidy sort of girl, she was also rather fun. She was even, ahem, sexy.

Not one single flattering adjective was left undeployed. Wonder Woman couldn't compare -- she was the greatest-ever Charlie's Angel. "A blooming English rose," gushed Time magazine in one strikingly corny example of the torrent of sugary cliché into which every newspaper in the world raced to tip its own particular honey-pot.

"A woman not only marries a man," Prince Charles once remarked, "she marries into a way of life -- a job, "No one understands better than he that public scrutiny, curiosity and sentimentality on a preposterous scale goes with the job of being a royal -- never more so than in the media-mad 1980s -- and that the subsequent near-total loss of privacy can be infinitely more wearing than even the toughest schedule of official engagements. "I wanted to give her a chance to think about it," explained His Royal Highness when his intended sought refuge in Australia for a few days before the storm broke, "to think if it was all going to be too awful."

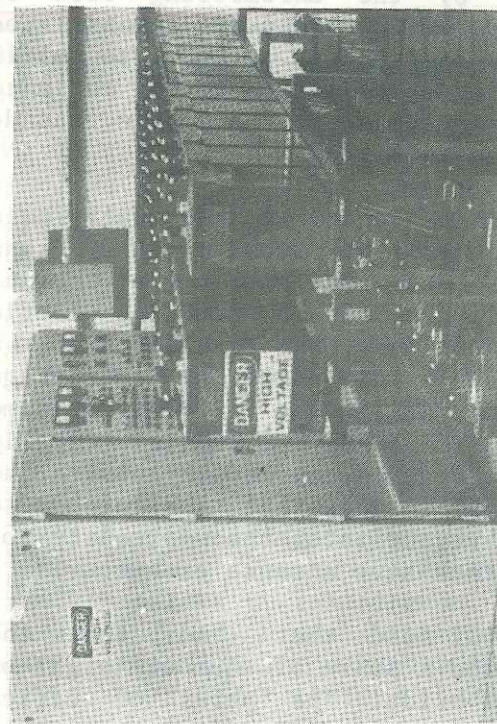
"Oh!" Lady Diana chipped in disarmingly, "I never had any doubts about it!" With the Prince of Wales at her side, she later added, a girl could cope with just about anything.

/Continued on page 26

Uninterruptible Power Systems

An Uninterruptible Power System is comprised of three or more electronic subsystems plus a battery. It is connected between commercial power lines and devices to be protected from the fluctuations and outages of these power lines. The UPS performs these major functions:

- * Regulates the quality of power delivered.
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- * Prevents electrically noisy loads supplied by commercial power from interfering with sensitive loads supplied by UPS.



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Tel: 317-7260, 317-7001, 317-7341-2.

And cope she most certainly did. Never once did Lady Diana seem to have the slightest difficulty in shrugging off the ritual ordeal by media overkill. A picture of modesty, she stood firm against engulfment by the unremitting flow of treacle. Royalty's latest apprentice quickly demonstrated that she is able, with natural dignity and aplomb, to fulfil the regal obligation of appearing at all times to be radiant, gracious and composed -- even if underneath the public facade she may be bursting to laugh, or to scream.

Indeed, just as the first gasps of wonder at the fairy-tale perfection of it all began at last to subside, Lady Diana pulled a fast one on the press and made her first formal appearance as Prince Charles' fiancée in a stunning little black number that was straight out of *Gone With The Wind*, a strapless, silk-taffeta gown with a wolf-whistling décolletage. *DI THE DARING!* chortled *The Sun*, whilst *The Daily Mirror* came up with the paralysing pun: *LADY DI TAKES THE PLUNGE*. Clearly the queen-to-be wasn't all reserved modesty and shyness. She seemed almost mischievously eager to show that she intends to put some youthfully individual vigour into the formality of royal fashion -- and that she does have a sense of humour.

There can be no doubt that she'll need that -- nor that the Prince of Wales would have placed a sense of humour high on his list of musts for the royal bride. The perks of office are, of course, legion: there'll be no need to go house-hunting, no difficulties wondering what to rustle up for supper, whether the Mini-Metro could do with a service, whether when the time comes there'll be anyone to lend a hand with changing nappies. And though her former flatmates described their friend Di as terribly efficient about the house -- always first to tackle the washing-up -- the teacloths and Fairy Liquid are now for her things of the past.

Nevertheless, the chores of her new office are no less demanding. Years and years of ribbon-cutting, tree-planting, foundation stone-laying, factory visits, gala evenings, and keenly interested hand-shaking lie ahead. Every moment of every day will from now on be scheduled down to the last second. Without a sense of humour -- as well as tremendous physical stamina -- the royal commitments would be absolute misery to discharge.

It's no secret, of course, that a very long list of necessary qualities for the extraordinary position of queen-to-be received long and meticulous study, that the Prince of Wales agonised over his duty to the country as well as stuck tenaciously to his declaration that he would marry only for

love, whilst the public grew increasingly impatient and titillated by the gossip which constantly surrounded each newly-rumoured hopeful.

Lady Diana is an Anglican and therefore there exists no legal obstacle to her marrying the man who will one day, as king, head the Church of England, be Defender of the Faith.

Unlike several of Prince Charles' earlier dates, Lady Diana is also what Fleet Street coyly calls "a girl without a past" -- a delicate, but nevertheless crucial point for a sovereign-to-be's bride who must, even in these supposedly enlightened times, be seen to maintain the established moral standards.

Further, though Lady Diana's family is not actually royal, it is rather more than just average well-to-do and has long-established royal connections. Her father, Earl Spencer, is not only extremely wealthy, he's the late Queen Mary's godson and a former personal aide to both King George VI and the present queen. Lady Diana's maternal grandmother, Lady Fermoy, is a lady-in-waiting to the Queen Mother. For many years the Spencer family rented a large country home on the royal family's estate at Sandringham. It seems certain that Prince Charles and Lady Diana first met there as children, though neither can actually remember the occasion. And, of course, Lady Diana's elder sister, Lady Sarah, was herself a one-time companion of the Prince of Wales and it was she who re-introduced Charles to Diana at a shooting party at Althorp, the Spencers' magnificent Northamptonshire pile -- and the romance proper began.

Lady Diana, in short, knows the ropes of royal protocol. She's altogether British, besides, the first British subject to marry the heir to the throne for more than three centuries. Add to all this the fact that Lady Diana shares her husband-to-be's passion for the country-side and great outdoors, is an athletic skier, keen swimmer, a demon on her bicycle and only lost her passion for horses when she suffered a nasty fall and could not get her nerve back -- and everything, but everything, seems to fit perfectly into place. Lady Diana is even tall, slim, has what the popular papers brazenly described as "a smashing pair of legs" after she was photographed in the grounds of the kindergarten in which she taught, wearing a diaphanous skirt with the light behind it, leaving little to speculation, and is by any standards a match for the blonde beauties whom Prince Charles has long favoured as his sort of girlfriend.

/Continued on page 29

AMBASSADOR FASHION HOUSE



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Yet Lady Diana has not been entirely cosseted through a sheltered, fairy-tale life of ease and privilege. She is, after all, the child of a broken marriage and was only six years old when her mother, Frances, left Park House, on the royal Sandringham estate, for good. The divorce, two years later in 1969, was acrimonious and custody of the children vigorously contested. Lady Diana's father, then Viscount Althorp, won the day.

That same year, Lady Diana's mother married Peter Shand Kydd, whose family had found fortune in the wallpaper industry, and the couple later settled at a farm on the island of Seil, off the west coast of Scotland. Lady Diana and the other children would see their mother and their step-father for holidays and emotional links remained strong. As time went by, her mother's influence on Lady Diana grew more and more.

But for the early years of her life, through preparatory school at Riddlesworth Hall, near Diss, in Norfolk, home was with her father who was alone at Park House. She was not, by all accounts, brilliant at school, but Lady Diana did establish a reputation as a jolly good sort and very eager pupil. She tried very hard to please -- and succeeded.

In 1975, when Lady Diana was 14, her father inherited the family seat at Althorp, Northamptonshire, and succeeded to the title of the eighth Earl Spencer. The following year he married the Countess of Dartmouth, the capable, ebullient and altogether extrovert daughter of Barbara Cartland, the romantic novelist and tireless champion of wholesome food and vitamins.

Things quickly changed at Althorp. With characteristic verve, Raine Dartmouth set about extensive re-modelling of the house, made changes amongst the staff, and opened a shop in the old stable block -- partly to off-set the crippling burden of death duties which her husband had inherited along with his Earldom.

But then Earl Spencer was himself crippled -- suddenly and tragically struck down by a brain haemorrhage. At the local hospital, doctors told Raine that he was unlikely to survive, but she doggedly refused to accept defeat. She got hold of a private ambulance and sped her stricken husband to London. There she tried specialist after specialist, finally getting hold of a "wonder drug" which, she claims, did the trick, together with her own single-minded efforts to keep talking to him and playing him tapes of his favourite opera. Madame Butterfly.

It worked. Today the only reminder of this whole extraordinary episode is Earl Spencer's slight speech impediment. Whilst it was all going on, Lady Diana had progressed through boarding school at West Heath, near Seven-oaks in Kent, from where she was despatched to finishing school in Switzerland. She hated it. She did not at all take to being away from home and, after only a few months, returned to London where she was the "landlady" at a South Kensington flat she shared with three chums. She took a job as a part-time cook, was for a while a nanny, then settled into teaching at a fashionable kindergarten.

There was also, of course, a busy social programme -- parties, week-ends in the country, race meetings, shoots -- with royalty often in attendance. At a 1977 shoot at Althorp, the Prince of Wales remembers finding Lady Diana, then 16, "very amusing and jolly" whilst she thought he was "pretty amazing". They got on very well, but at that time His Royal Highness got on well with lots of girls and, 13 years his junior, Lady Diana may not at first have struck him as an obvious front-runner for marriage which, even then, was a prospect which preyed heavily on his mind.

But by 1980, when the couple met and chatted more expansively as Charles fished for salmon at Balmoral, things quickly got more intense. "I began to realise what was going on in my mind -- and in hers," Prince Charles recalls, and pretty soon a lot of other people had begun to realise, too. It was to her mother that Lady Diana now turned for support and advice. As the press cottoned on, "Shy Di" was relentlessly pursued by paparazzi and her London flat was soon under more or less continuous siege.

In Europe, the press embarrassed everyone with ever-more fanciful flights of imaginary scandal and grotesque distortion of the facts. In Britain, too, one newspaper enraged the Palace with a claim of a secret "love-tryst" on the royal train. Life became more and more traumatic for Lady Diana. Every meeting with her beau needed to be surreptitiously arranged like a top-secret military exercise. Prince Charles grew more and more crotchety at the constant badgerings of the press and so, too, did Lady Diana's mother, who had more than a shrewd idea of what was at stake. Finally, she lost patience and wrote an outraged letter to The Times. "Is it necessary or fair," she asked, "to harass my daughter daily, from dawn until well after dusk?"

For a while, last Christmas, the pressures did ease up just a bit. But the hope of capturing a snap of Lady Diana on a New Year's visit to Sandringham was irresistible and teams of newsmen shouldered their way through the usually off-limits

woods in the hope of a scoop. The Queen took angry exception to that, but the effect was further to fire the now unstoppable rumours that an announcement was at hand. There was even a further rumour that the Queen had said in no uncertain terms to her son that. "The idea of this romance going on for another year is intolerable to everyone concerned."

So now we know. "To me," Prince Charles once said, "marriage which may last for fifty years seems to be one of the biggest and most responsible steps to be taken in one's life," but take it he finally did, proposing to Lady Diana over a private dinner in the sitting room of his quarters at Buckingham Palace.

And as you may have gathered, she said yes. On 29 July, St. Paul's Cathedral will be packed to capacity and London will wallow in a day of pomp and ceremony, romance and sentiment, carnival mood, non-stop television coverage from every conceivable angle of the procession and ceremony, not to mention the distribution of several thousand commemorative mugs, plates, hats, flags and souvenir medallions.

For an apparently perfect young bride, it promises to be a perfect day.

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"High Life" magazine

AFTER THE CROSSWORD WHAT IS THERE?

VIDEO!

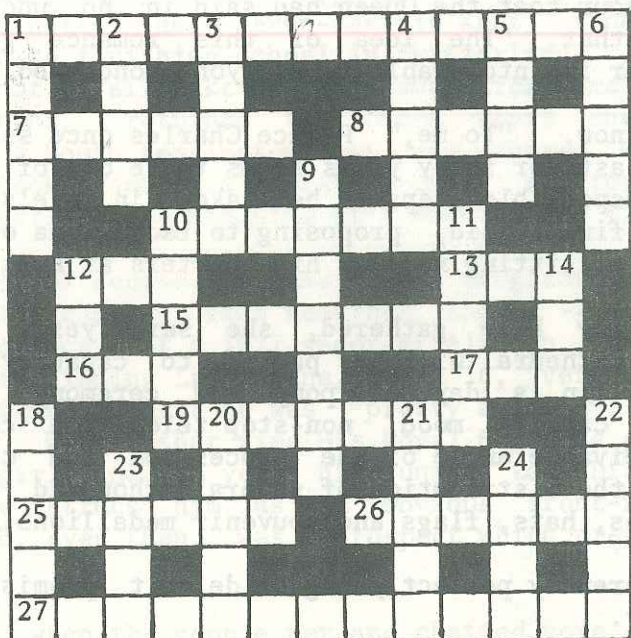
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CLUB CROSSWORD



CLUES

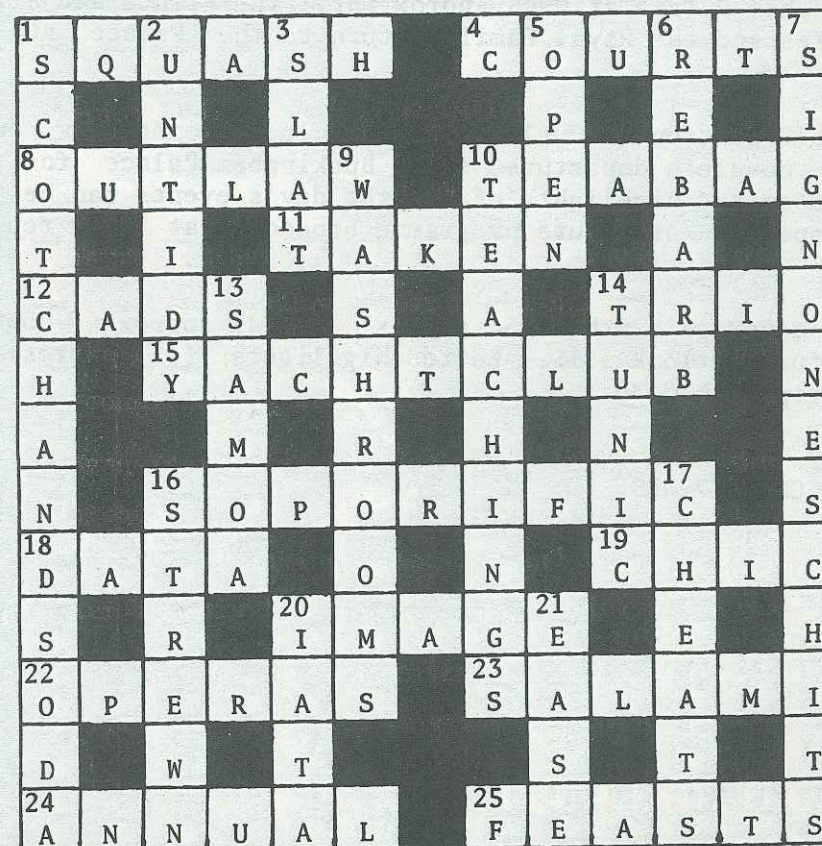
Across:

- 1 Three feathers for a potential monarch. (3 words)
- 7 Sounds like a stimulant for the bridegroom's Dad!
- 8 Briefly, the bride. (2 words)
- 10 Venerable Adam got married....sprinkled with drops of water?
- 12 Sounds like the lot for a boring aid.
- 13 Just keep breathing if you want to be it!
- 15 Mark the beginning.
- 16 Drum this chap twice.
- 17 Every one is on 8 across.
- 19 One is delighted to be.
- 25 No. 6 was Grandpa to 1 across.
- 26 Saunas made for a Caribbean capital.
- 27 State occasions which should secure the line! (2 words)

Down

- 1 & 18 Gate ripper for a sheep in wolf's clothing. (2 words)
- 2 One twice for a bird.
- 3 A carillon will for 1 across on 29th July.
- 4 Big chap who sounds like a singular bit of 1 across.
- 5 Old songs a bird does.
- 6 & 22 City site for the latest 27 across. (2 words)
- 9 May he win, they say, but not the bride! (2 words)
- 10 Pompous old officer.
- 11 Distributed the unemployment pay?
- 12 Back in the boat.
- 14 Never say it.
- 18 See 1 down.
- 20 They'll make it this in 6 down!
- 21 500 under the French spirit for a graceful creature.
- 22 See 6 down.
- 23 True Blue!
- 24 1 across is to 7 across. (2 words)

SOLUTION LAST MONTH



THE ROYAL WEDDING - Radio Coverage

On Wednesday 29th July, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales leaves Buckingham Palace in a Royal Procession through the streets of London to St. Paul's Cathedral for his marriage to Lady Diana Spencer. BBC World Service will be broadcasting full continuous coverage of the procession and the wedding ceremony.

Some 32 years ago Wynford Vaughan Thomas, broadcasting on BBC radio, gave the world the news of the birth of a baby boy - Charles Philip Arthur George. Wynford was reporting from outside Buckingham Palace and he will be there again on the morning of 29th July. BBC commentators will be in key positions along the route - down the Mall, through Trafalgar Square, in the Strand, along Fleet Street and up the hill from Ludgate Circus to St. Paul's, and, of course, outside Clarence House to describe the scene as the bride leaves the home of the Queen Mother on her way to the wedding ceremony, which begins at 1000 GMT.

World Service listeners can hear coverage of this historic occasion from the time the first carriage procession leaves Buckingham Palace, at 0905 approx until the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Royal Family return to the Palace at about 1145.

The 1515 edition of Outlook will include commentary on the royal couple's departure from Buckingham Palace for their honeymoon and highlights of all the day's events can be heard in a special 45 minute programme broadcast at 2030 rep 30th 0030.

Live coverage 29th 0905 approx - 1145 approx. Honeymoon departure Outlook 1515. Edited highlights (45 minutes) 29th 2030 rep 30th 0030.

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LADIES' LIAISON GROUP

With term about to end most of us are about to go on leave and will be away for some or all of July and August. There will, therefore, be no Saturday morning children's activities during these two months. However, at the time of writing, feelers are being put out to see if there is any interest in organising some mid-week activities for the children at the Club during the School holidays. Should anything come of this, there will be full details at the Poolside.

Our June activities were well supported with a new venture in the creche. The under 5's made peppermint creams (many of them bright green - as food colouring was added liberally) these they decorated with nuts and raisins and were enjoyed by all.

Our next Saturday morning Activities will be held on September 5th.

We are very sorry that Val Conway has had to resign from our committee and we would like to thank her enormously for the interest she has shown and the effort she has put into arranging films for the children. Mrs. Caroline Sigrist will take over Val's responsibilities as from September.

Despite School holidays'leave etc. it is felt that there will be a considerable number of children here in July and August.

To celebrate the marriage, on July 29th, of Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer, a "Tea Party" is being organised for the children by the ladies of the Club. This will be held in the Thai Sala on, or around, the day of the wedding. A number of ladies have agreed to help, and this committee is being headed by Mrs. Christine Tyrie and Mrs. Jennifer Tittle. If you haven't already been approached and are able to help in any way on or before the day, please get in touch with these two ladies. Thank you. Also, watch the notice boards at the Poolside and in the main Club building for details of this.

Finally our coffee morning which we held last month. As this was the first of its kind for some time we were unsure as to the response we would get. In the event it was very successful indeed. Despite "the floods" eighteen ladies turned up and the Poolside staff were very helpful in ensuring a pleasant morning. We feel that we have identified a need here. New ladies often need help in settling down in Bangkok and this is one thing we can do. We now propose to hold these on a regular basis and the next one will be in the Thai Sala on Monday September 21st at 10.00 a.m.



SQUASH

31st Squash League

The following may collect their cup at the reception desk in the main lobby.

Division 1	T. BLANC
Division 2	T. PRINCE
Division 3	J. SALTER
Division 4	C. PLATT
Division 5	B. LANHAM
Division 6	D. SOUTER
Division 7	K. LITTLE
Division 8	F. HAMILL
Division 9	B. DENNY
Division 10	A. SILL
Division 11	S. ENGLAND
Division 12	M. MITCHELL

Squash & Billiards Charges

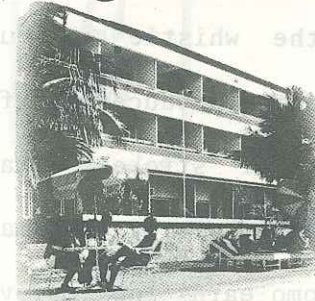
The Committee has ruled that charges are for the use of these facilities, and are payable whether or not a prior booking has been made (in the case of Squash) and regardless of whether lights/fans/air-conditioning are utilised.

The staff have been instructed to check that if use is being made of a squash court, a sticker has been placed in the appropriate place on the booking sheets, and to ask a player to affix a sticker if this has not been done prior to play.

Billiards Room stewards have been similarly instructed regarding the use of billiards tables.

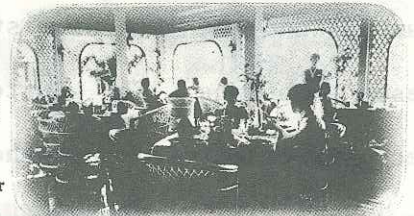
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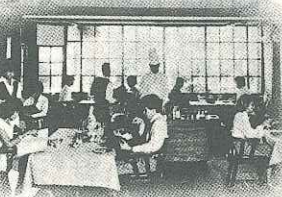
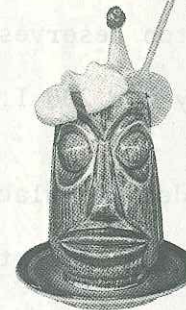
A Mister Donut shop open 24 hours with free welcome donuts for your children.



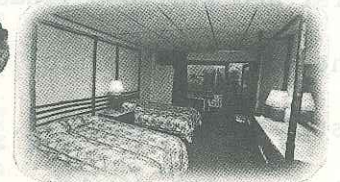
Thai Garden Restaurant serves delicious seafood and Thai, European and Chinese cuisine.



Free Welcome drink.



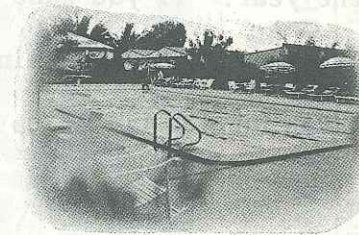
Feast like a country squire at the Hideaway Restaurant. 20% discount for hotel guests.



Same rate for single or double occupancy. No extra charge for children in the same room.



20 Baht discount on family-size pizzas at Pizza Hut.



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expect in a luxury hotel. Like a swimming pool, 4 friendly bars, 3 restaurants, and shops galore. Plus many others that ordinary hotels wouldn't think of. Such as two tennis courts, a special playground for the kids and a 24 hour Mister Donut shop.

What's more, our elegant Hideaway Restaurant gives a 20% discount to Hotel guests. And our Pizza Hut gives a 20 Baht discount on family-size pizzas.

Some people might think we put too much into the Royal Garden. But we believe you can never have too much of a good thing. And at just 400 baht* a night, the Royal Garden is a pretty good thing.

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SWIMMING

The Gala on 7 June was one of the more quiet affairs in terms of numbers and saw Ken Sigrist take the whistle in Hugh Jamieson's absence. The Butterfly events produced a few suspect styles but it's not the easiest of strokes. Many improvements came in Breastroke times particularly Rosamand Sigrist and Claire Salinas but Chris Shomo earns the Improver of the Month title for his new personal bests in both Breastroke and Butterfly. Karen Prendergast too deserves a special mention for her solo swims, particularly the 200 I.M.

A reminder to all swimmers that points are awarded for places in each and every race leading to special awards for the highest points scored at the end of the year. If you want to know how well you are doing so far this year the High Points sheet showing the position after the 7th June Gala is up on the Notice Board.

The next Gala on 28 June will be a Fun Gala with some of those more unlikely extra events thrown in. One is going to be 'feet first' race -- I must sit and think about that.....



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GOLF

Rose Garden: June 14th

This should have decided the Club Championship, already postponed due to the light spring showers of May 31st. Alas, the gremlins struck again! Due to the fact that 2 of our members, in the forms of David Frost and Bob Allen, decided to have a tie for 1st place, our readers will be kept in suspense for a little longer. Each blamed the other for various misdemeanours e.g. putting too well, on-form chipping, straight drives, consistency in the bunkers, and not conceding on the 18th. Anyway, it couldn't have happened to two nicer chaps. For those interested in statistics and records, their gross scores were 166.

Other prizes and praise were distributed as follows:

Best nett 1st round:	Sally Vorawarn	(69)
" " 2nd round:	Peter Isle	(73)
Best nett over 2 rounds:	Richard Mooney	(143)
Runner up over 2 rounds:	John Watkins	(145)

We had another finalist pair for the Dunlop Trophy, Johnson/Lewis defeating Goodin/Long by 2 and 1. This win should remotivate Derek Johnson, whose play has been deteriorating recently. The two Chartered Bank ("thanks again you kindly sponsors") nearest-the-pin prizes were awarded to Joan Jurgens and David Frost.

The whole championship was sponsored by Commercial Union and Guardian Assurance Companies, and our thanks go to those friendly and popular lads who manage those Companies in Thailand, namely, John Davidson and Marshall Douglas respectively.

It was good to see return appearances by a few old stalwarts, e.g. Ian MacLean, Ann and Alastair Johnson. And finally, a warm welcome to our newest member, Graeme Mitchell, who on the spot, kindly agreed to sponsor our next meeting at the Railway Club on June 28th, on behalf of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. Well done, and many thanks, HK and S Bank for this wonderful generosity.



DAVID FROST AND BOB ALLEN, (NOT DRINKING POLARIS AS ADVERTISED) AFTER TIE-ING THE GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP



PRIZE WINNERS (L to R)
Isle, Mooney, Sally V., and Watkins



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SHRIMP STUDIOS



SOME BC GOLFERS



SOME MORE BC GOLFERS!



"Les Vize and Neil Duggan relaxing at the 15th hole"

"(Conversation overheard at The Rose Garden Course recently between Joe Urwin and Marshall Douglas)"



"No sense buying a good set 'til I know if I can play."



DARTS

Darts Wars

Your regular dartsplayer taking a (well earned) holiday, this month's darticle falls from the chalky fingers of the pig-bristle paragrafter, who hopes to remain anonymous, for obvious reasons.

Well, the performances of your favourite team during the month under review have been erratic to say the least. Our first outing, the first of a long series of away games, was to fellow cellar dwellers Toby Jug and resulted in a rewrite of the Dartsday book. Yes, a record was broken when BC annihilated the luckless T.J.'s 16-1. Toby Jug's point came when renegade club member Keith Bradbury sneaked a point off our Tom Alderton*. For the rest it was a pointsfest all the way. Tom redeemed himself by closing his triples and the teagame. Other tons came from James (100), John (112) and Arthur (121). The fact that Nai Norm was home in bed with flu was not, is not and shall not be mentioned.

Over at 20 Hotel for a cross-league fixture against Relax a creditable 3 points were prized from the Division 1 team. One of the points came in the singles when Roy Regan played a politically astute member of his staff. James and Peter salvaged 2 more in their doubles. Tons were by James and Roy - 9 tons being thrown by the opposition.

The following week to a new darts venue to play Thad Thong - apparently a nom de guerre for last season's Spotlights. The BC came second in this sweaty cross-leaguer, partly owing to the heat but mainly because of vigorous consumption of the wrong aiming fluid, our own brand of dartslube being unavailable. BC's 3 points came from James/John in the doubles and from the team game. James, Roy and Arthur notched tons.

* In a high scoring singles (Tom 134, Keith 124)

Darts continued....

The last match was at Our Place. The home team was looking groggy and BC dartsports were talking of yet another big win, based on the 5-1 scoreline after the singles. Even the singles marathon between Brian Heath, the Derby Uno, and Our Place's shapely Att could have been won, Brian throwing 48 darts at his closing double on his way to defeat. Your jubilant team then imprudently got on the outside of a few celebratory Amarits, one-armed pundit Chris Andrews bought yet another round for scoring under 3 and the BC sank to an unretrievable 7-9 deficit by the end of the trifles. Even the arrival of a supporter, non-other than ex-Nai Ian Gadsden could do no more than enable us to salvage a point in the team game, conceding a final 9-8 victory to Our Place.

This month we are losing our best player, John Sill. We all wish John and Audrey good luck in England and hope that John's future visits to Bangkok will co-incide with Darts nights.

Readers will hope that Bryan Baldwin gets back soon.



LADIES' GOLF

The weather has been particularly kind to us on our Tuesday golf days - we have not yet been rained "off" (or on!), which of course makes our days even more enjoyable.

We have not played any Major Competitions recently but we do have one big event which we will be playing in a few months time, and for this competition we will need your support. It is the "Kitchen Sink", a mixed competition, and it is a fun day's golf (but we still give lots of super prizes) so if any male golfer reads this column we are giving you plenty of warning that you will be coerced into playing in this competition which we hope to hold on a Saturday at the Rose Garden. Time and Date later!

Congratulations to our Lady Captain Eileen for winning her Division in the RBSC Lady Captain's Prize. Eileen received a beautiful cut glass bowl which was well earned with a super nett 63.

Results May/June

Tuesday 5th May: NO COMPETITION - Public Holiday

Tuesday 12th May - Flag Competition

Winner: Krystina Kukielka Nett 75
Runner-up: Judy King " 77

Tuesday 19th May - Stableford

Winner: Anne Savage 28 pts.

Tuesday 2nd June - Stableford

Winner: Eileen Ford 29 pts.

Tuesday 9th June - Medal

Winner: Silver Division
Ruth Kennedy Nett 75
Bronze Division
Pam Hardy Nett 70

Tuesday 9th June - Ts & Fs

Winner: Anne Savage Nett 30½

Tuesday 16th June - Bisque Bogey

Winner: Ella Mallaret + 5 (on count back)
Runner-up: Eileen Ford + 5

PROGRAMME FOR JULY

Tuesday 7th July - Ts & Fs

Starter: Sheila Kerr (252 6517)

Tuesday 14th July - Bisque Bogey

Starter: Eileen Ford (252 2074)

Tuesday 21st July - Stableford

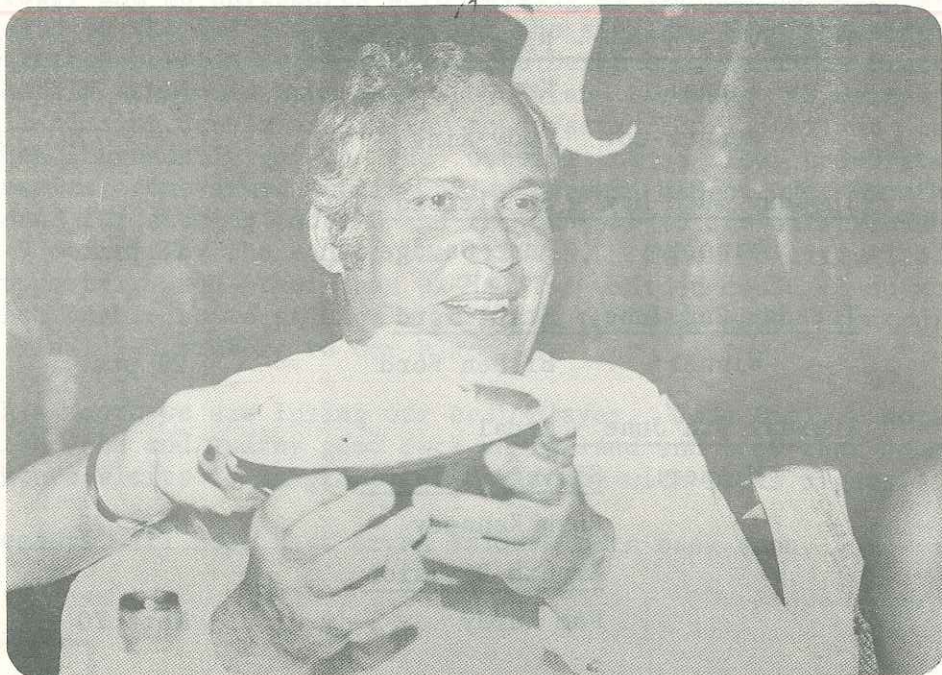
Starter: Sheila Kerr (252 6517)

Tuesday 28th July - Medal

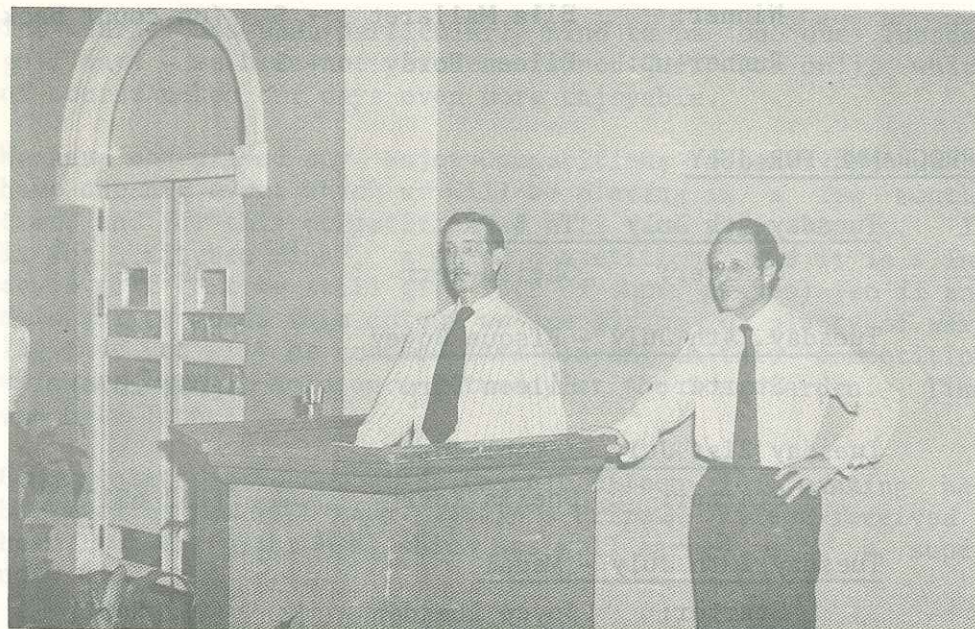
Starter: Joyce Lumsden (252 8402)

Candid Camera

JOHN (SOON TO BE DEPARTED) SILL



STOCKING UP FOR THE BIG JOURNEY



SO YOU'RE NEW AMBASSADOR! I THOUGHT IT WAS GOING TO BE ME!



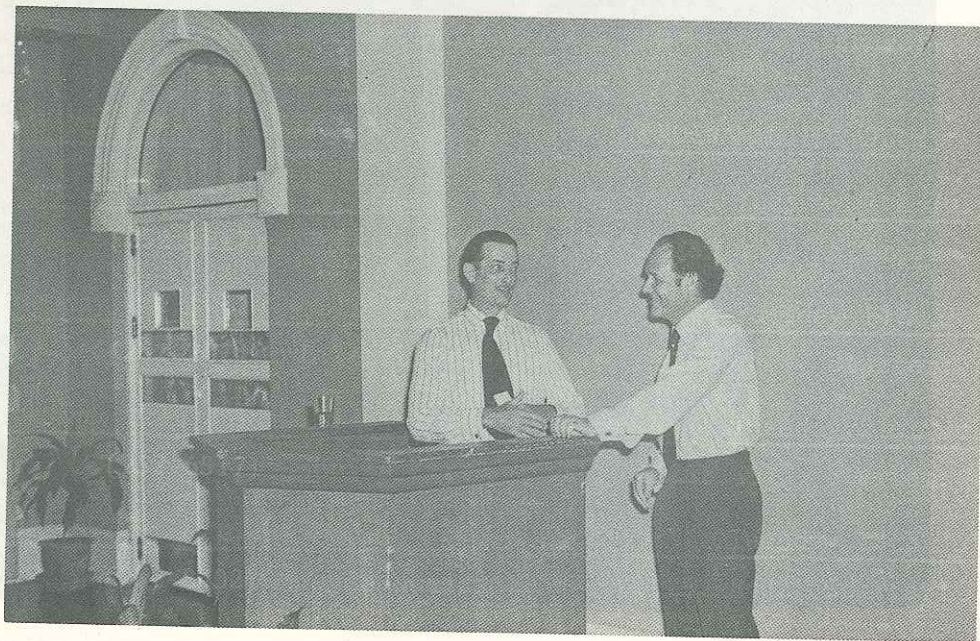
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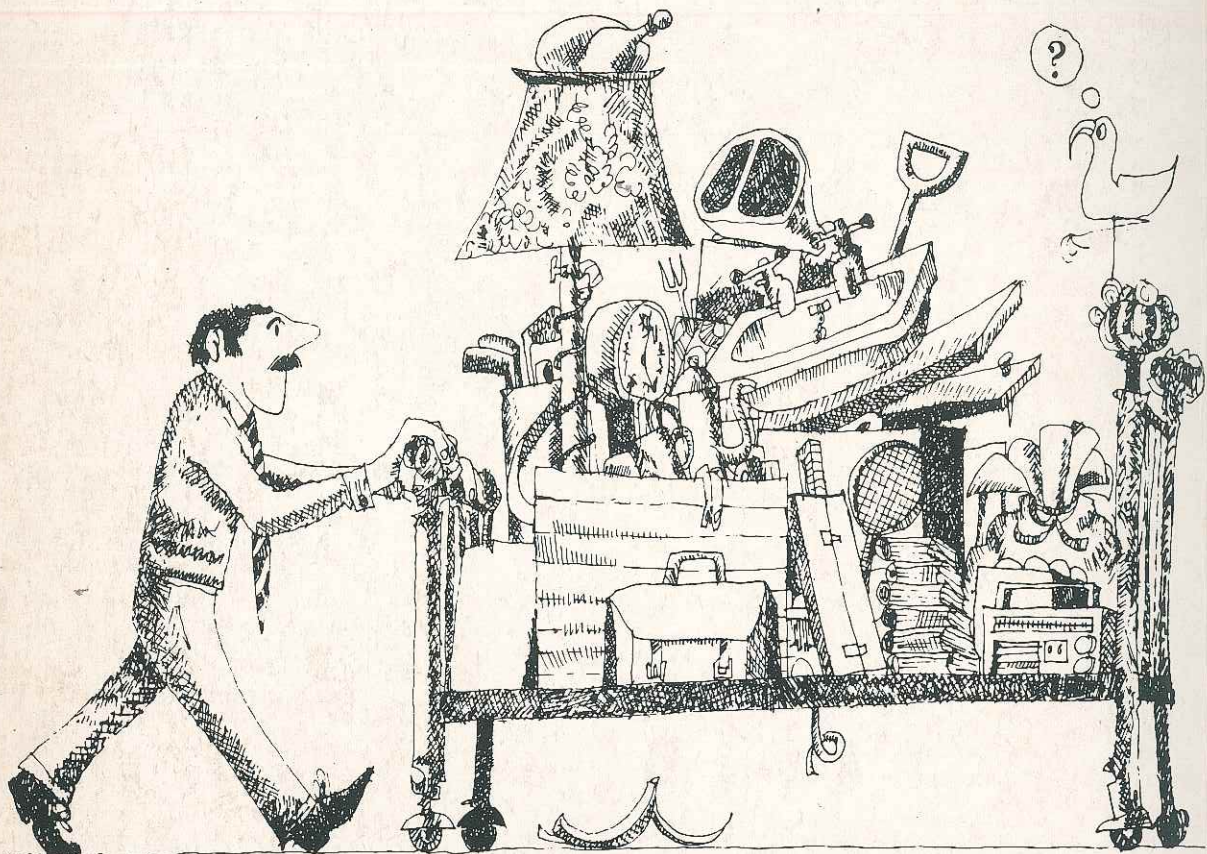
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