

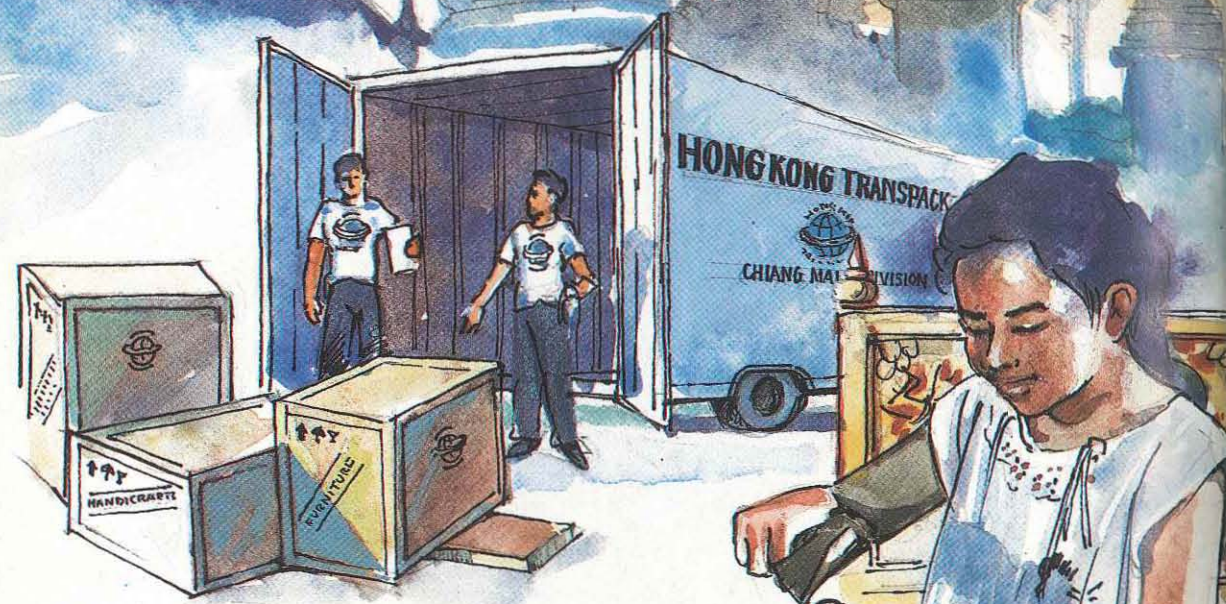
OUTPOST

MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB

JULY 1987



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DIARY

JULY

Wed 1	<i>BWG Bridge : Wordsworth Room</i> Tennis & Squash Club Night	9.30 a.m. From 6.00 p.m.
Thu 2	Ladies' Tennis Ladies' Squash <i>BCT Club Night : Community Services, Soi 33</i>	8.30-10.30 a.m. 9.00 a.m.-12 noon 7.30 p.m.
Fri 3	Yoga	8.30-10.00 a.m.
Sat 4	Dinner Video	6.00 & 8.00 p.m.
Sun 5	Buffet Supper	From 5.00 p.m.
Mon 6	<i>BWG Mahjong : Wordsworth Room</i> Ladies' Tennis New Members' Night/Happy Hour	9.00 a.m. 3.00-5.00 p.m. 5.30-9.00 p.m.
Tue 7	Ladies' Golf Yoga Bridge	8.30-10.30 a.m. 7.30 p.m.
Wed 8	<i>BWG Bridge : Wordsworth Room</i> Tennis & Squash Club Night	9.30 a.m. From 6.00 p.m.
Thu 9	Ladies' Tennis Ladies' Squash <i>BAMBI Meeting at the BC</i>	8.30-10.00 a.m. 9.00 a.m.-12 noon 9.00 a.m.
Fri 10	Yoga	8.30-10.00 a.m.
Sat 11	BC Golf Section Outing to Siam Country Club Dinner Video	6.00 & 8.00 p.m.
Sun 12	BC Golf Section vs Japanese Golfing Association Buffet Supper	From 5.00 p.m.
Mon 13	<i>BWG Mahjong : Wordsworth Room</i> Ladies' Tennis Happy Hour	9.00 a.m. 3.00-5.00 p.m. 5.30-9.00 p.m.
Tue 14	Ladies' Golf Yoga Snooker Doubles Competition Bridge	8.30-10.00 a.m. 6.00 p.m. 7.30 p.m.
Wed 15	<i>BWG Bridge : Wordsworth Room</i> Tennis & Squash Club Night	9.30 a.m. From 6.00 p.m.
Thu 16	Ladies' Tennis Ladies' Squash <i>BWG Lunch at Charlies : Contact Marianne Johns Tel: 392-8019</i>	8.30-10.00 a.m. 9.00 a.m.-12 noon 11.30 a.m.
Fri 17	Yoga	8.30-10.00 a.m.
Sat 18	Dinner Video	6.00 & 8.00 p.m.
Sun 19	Buffet Supper	From 5.00 p.m.
Mon 20	<i>BWG Mahjong : Wordsworth Room</i> Ladies' Tennis Happy Hour	9.00 a.m. 3.00-5.00 p.m. 5.30-9.00 p.m.
Tue 21	Ladies' Golf Yoga Bridge	8.30-10.00 a.m. 7.30 p.m.

Wed 22	<i>BWG Bridge : Wordsworth Room</i> Tennis & Squash Club Night	9.30 a.m. From 6.00 p.m.
Thu 23	Ladies' Tennis Ladies' Squash	8.30-10.30 a.m. 9.00 a.m.-12 noon
Fri 24	Yoga	8.30-10.00 a.m.
Sat 25	Dinner Video	6.00 & 8.00 p.m.
Sun 26	Buffet Supper	From 5.00 p.m.
Mon 27	<i>BWG Mahjong : Wordsworth Room</i> Ladies' Tennis Happy Hour	9.00 a.m. 3.00-5.00 p.m. 5.30-9.00 p.m.
Tue 28	Ladies' Golf Yoga Bridge	8.30-10.00 a.m. 7.30 p.m.
Wed 29	<i>BWG Bridge : Wordsworth Room</i> Tennis & Squash Club Night	9.30 a.m. From 6.00 p.m.
Thu 30	Ladies' Tennis Ladies' Squash	8.30-10.30 a.m. 9.00-12 noon
Fri 31	Yoga	8.30-10.00 a.m.

NOTE: None Club events are in italics

For further information: Ladies' Golf (Tuesdays) contact Wendy Binns Tel: 331-5686

Ladies' Squash (Thursdays) contact Barbara Overington Tel: 260-1965

The Bangkok St. Andrew's Society



As a result of the Annual General Meeting held at The British Club on Wednesday 29th of April 1987, the following persons were elected to office of The St. Andrew's Society:-

CHIEFTAIN	John Wood	COMMITTEE	Duncan Niven
VICE-CHIEFTAIN	Norman MacDonald		Dave Wallace
SECRETARY	Andrew McDowell		Alex Forbes
TREASURER	Mike Masson		Jock Miller-Stirling
HONORARY AUDITOR	Peter Speed		Dugal Forrest

Should you have any enquiries about the Society or the up-coming functions, please feel free to contact any of the above mentioned persons.

Yours Aye,

Andrew McDowell
Secretary

Meet the New Members



Martin & Pam Reed (centre) are English and Australian respectively and have been here since January after 3½ years in Jakarta. Martin is the new Resident Manager of the Oriental. They have two children, a boy of 3 and a girl of 4. Martin plays squash.

Nicky Jackson (left) is no newcomer to Thailand having spent the last 15 months in Tak studying the language. She is in Bangkok to run the Prasert Bookstore for the Christian Literature Crusade.



John & Rachanee Leicester For those you who don't know John and Rachanee, John has been here for 14 years and is the Promotions & PR Manager of a little known Bangkok publishing house. He plays bad golf,* indifferent squash* & terrible cricket*, the latter for the RBSC (booo!). He "used to be a hippy when he had more hair". Rachanee is an ophthalmic optician. They do not have any children because, "they interfere with sport"!!

Apologies to Barbara Adams and Peter Bond who I couldn't find amidst the throng of this particular new members' night - welcome anyway!

*Please address any complaints about this particular piece of copy to Mr. D. Williamson, Manager.



Des Sullivan is originally from Merstham in Surrey and has been here for the past 3 months busy loss-adjusting. Previously spent two years in both Singapore and the West Indies (where he knew Rudi & Su Surr). Plays football and squash and I'm told is something of a thespian. (NB: BCT membership secretary).

Charles Hyland "likes pretty girls" (he isn't married) and is "into duck feathers". An Australian who has been here on and off for ten years, he has been proposed by his father who joined the Club in 1940. Plays squash, tennis and cricket.



Ivor Scott has a Thai mother and a British father and has lived all over the world courtesy of Shell. Educated at Westminster (where he was an oarsman) and Edinburgh. Major love is sailing, also plays squash and rugby and is currently learning Aikido. Has been here for a year and sells lubrication oils.

David & Jill Mace arrived in February after two years in China which they loved. They have two grown-up children, a daughter and a son of 21 (his mother tells me that he too is unmarried and that he'll be out here this summer!). They both play tennis and David is the new "boss" of BP. (Sorry about the photo - it doesn't do justice to either of you!).



CLUB ROUNDUP

It's a Splashout!



The winning Soccer team receiving the Milo trophy.



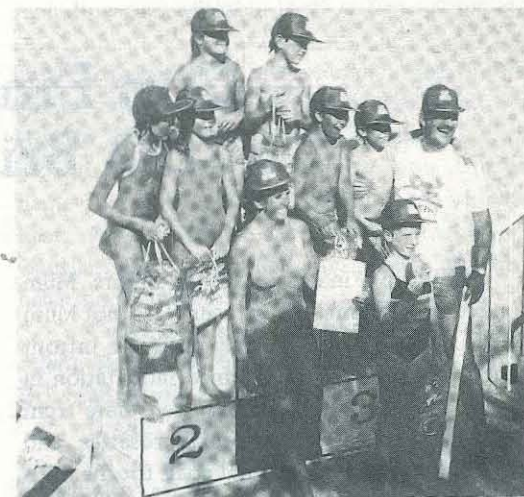
The Tennis team — "these hats are too small".



The runners-up, Cricket, receive Milo T-shirts (including 'bright-white' Nick).



James Rennie, following Dad's example.



Brian MacDonald and Kim Thomson leading the kids team.



The Swimming team — "well, we did try".



"On your marks! Get set! Fall off!!"

Cup Final Night at the British Club

F.A. Cup Finals are family affairs. Mum sits next to Dad smelling of beer (Dad not Mum – well usually). Younger sons prostrate in front of the fire lying in a well formed indentation in the new woollen carpet having been there from 11.30, all decked out in their rosettes and scarves watching the semi-final goals for the 40th time and encouraging Ron Atkinson to say something coherent and sensible. Older sons arriving at 2.59 with eight mates, all with substantial carry-outs. Strange mathematical distribution. There are only so many older son and mate combinations, but each household always attracts at least eight.

"Budge up young 'un".

"Hey Mum, tell him will you. I've been here since half past eleven".

"Now less of it, otherwise the tele's going off! Tell them Father".

"Hey it's nowt to do with me. Anyway, I've got my chair".

Too many bodies in too small a place, all competing for the best view along with redundant incumbent furniture that has seen all the Cup Finals since the early fifties.

From 2.45 onwards everyone is a self-appointed expert. Unpronounceable names become household and Dad again reminds everyone of the Derby County 1946 Cup Final winning team, and is unashamedly critical of the modern game. "Bloody Glen Hoddle! Not fit to lace Raich Carter's boots".

"If he was, it would take a life time, they used to come up to your knees".

And, of course, there never was a better winger than Sir Stanley. (Remember the 1953 final, known as "the Mathews final" – hard luck on Stan Mortenson he scored a hat trick!).

"What about Albert Finney?" drifts in from the kitchen.

"Albert who? You mean Tom Finney, the Preston plumber. Albert Finney was in the film you saw this morning".

"Less of your cheek. You want these chips to brown don't you"?

And so on and so on

What's this got to do with the B.C.?

Absolutely nowt, but if you can't reminisce on Cup Final day when can you?

Anyway the scene was not so different. There were Mum and Dad combinations discussing the past glories of Man City – remarkable memories the Hough's have. There was the older son and mate combination – one sticking his leg in plaster and insisting that the resultant was stuck up the occupant in front. The mate hung-over – rather early on the carry-outs maybe; of course in Bangkok carry-outs are not confined to 7 pint cans of warm Worthington E. Occasionally as insipid and always more expensive though.

The scene did have its parallels, but something was missing. There was a source of irritation that usually accompanies FA Cup Final days. It took a while to appreciate, but slowly the realisation of not having to listen to Jimmy Hill left me with a warm feeling (even the Thai commentator seemed to make more sense). Perhaps watching the Cup Final in Bangkok was not so bad after all. We too have our resident experts far more knowledgeable than Jimmy Hill and his band of illiterate leeches. After all, who would have known that Coventry supplied the only goalkeeper to have played for England whilst in the 3rd Division? They have to have credit for something other than a rebuilt cathedral!

Coventry against the mighty Spurs. The latter, ably supported by Spike Geary proudly thrusting his cockrel in the air, were odds on favourites. Buster, the resident spiv, juggling with the books making sure he won the sweepstake and, no doubt, using the winnings for a latent carry-out. The scene was chaotic, disorganised, and wonderful. Waiters were delivering chicken and mushroom pies to the loudest voice and the

room was swimming in Kloster.

Surprisingly, the game started within an hour of the reported time and commentary was supplied by the newly initiated experts ably assisted by the BBC World Service. You knew the game had to be exciting. Radio commentators can make 'Come Dancing' sound like a wild orgy. Coventry, who had not won any trophy in their 104 year history, looked destined to wait for another century when Spurs scored after 2 minutes. We all presumed it was the first goal, but anything could have happened between 36 Milo adverts and 44 Toshiba ones. (Remember that sickly child's face!?). Actually, the score was 6-2 in England and 3-2 in Bangkok. Hand over the money Buster!

The game continued to excite, but the real winners were all those who were there. It is all too infrequent that most of the British community gather together, and what a witty, friendly bunch we can all be.

Mixed here and there were a few newly acquired associate members and friends,

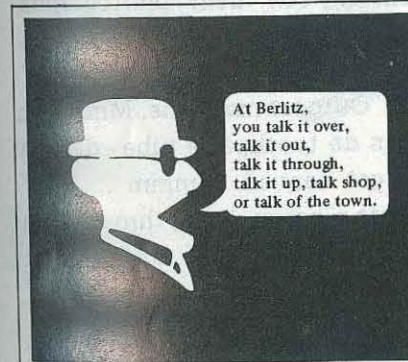
including one notable local Italian referee who saw more goals in our game than he has seen in a career of watching Inter Milan. "The English are true gentlemen", he commented when Glen Hoddle helped his opposite number off the ground. (Even though Coventry won, can you name any of their players)? Well, when you have been weened upon the delicate tackling of Gentile, then Attila the Hun would appear to have sportsmanlike qualities.

A great evening, full of wit with a magnificent air of the understatement that only the Brits can handle.

Thanks to Dave Williamson for maintaining such a glorious atmosphere of chaos and informality which made Cup Final night a very special one indeed.

If you want to know the names of the Arsenal Cup winning side of 1932, Colin Hastings will be only too pleased to give you a rendition.

Steve Castledine



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FRENCH
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LETTERS

Dear Jack,

According to the glossy brochure that came with my June "Outpost", the Gigi Nightclub is "what I've been wishing for".

Well, it's not.

Including adverts for strip-joints (no matter how high class they claim to be) in a family magazine is a mistake. I hope the Committee will ensure this is not repeated.

Yours sincerely,
Nicky Dunne (D70)

Sir,

The June number of "Outpost" contains a flier announcing the appointment of a new Editorial Committee; and I am sure that all of us wish them well in their task. It's not an easy one. The flier invites contributions and reminds writers that their copy should be suitable for publication in a family magazine. In other words, it should be fit for children. "Adults only", "X" and "S rated" copy would not be acceptable. Or so one may infer.

Yet the same issue contains an illustrated brochure about a night club and disco called GIGI. The brochure has in it pictures which would not be out of place in Playboy or Penthouse. So one is driven to conclude that the contents of a "family magazine" can now be far broader in scope than we had previously thought.

Or am I mistaken? Pity old Jingjok is no longer around. He would have had an answer, as between one geriatric has-been and another.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,
Donald Gibson (UC2)

Ed's note: Well, we did receive one positive response to Gigi, "Cor, about time too" (he doesn't wish to be named), but on the whole it seems that the vocal membership would prefer not to see such advertising in the Outpost. Apologies to all who were offended.

Cherry Blossom
Black-eye Beansville
Mississippi

Dear Mam(y),

Lordy li, did ah get me one helluva shock when ah saw dem photographs o' me an' dem bootpolish minstrel fellahs with de bright flashin' teeth in de las' dishun o' de Outpost magazine. Mmmmm jes like on de toothpaste tube - de one dat's gonna get banned. Mmmmm sho' hope day gotta place in de rhythm section fo' me. Mmm ah think ah hear dat glory train a comin'

Hallelujah!
A. Jolson
(Oxford triple blue: retired)

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TRAVEL LOG

Ascent to Annapurna Base Camp

DURING the next several days our smaller group of 8 trekkers and 16 guides, cooks, and sherpas headed through beautiful forests of pines and rhododendrons over high passes and always towards Fish Tail and Annapurna. As we gained height the flora changed from spring flowers to bamboo forests and eventually to rock and scrub. The weather became colder, especially at night, until eventually we were at the snowline.

After 8 days on the trail we reached Machhapuchhre Base Camp and could really view the full majesty of "Fish Tail Mountain" (22,942 ft) towering above us. We had to stamp a platform on the snow to pitch our tents, one of which collapsed in the night due to the high wind. After a somewhat cold night, we got up very early and set off well before sunrise for our goal, Annapurna Base Camp. The snow was still crisp and we made good time to the ridge of the Annapurna glacier in time to witness the most beautiful sunrise. On further we trekked into the Annapurna basin, to the base camp. The weather was now perfect: crisp, clear, sunny, with the sky an azure blue through which, even in daylight, we could still see some stars.

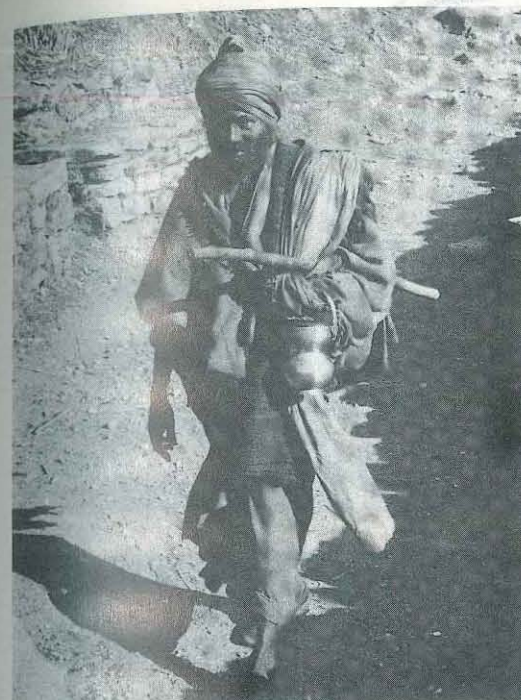
We were surrounded by a ring of no less than 10 giant peaks all higher than 20,000 feet, overshadowed by Annapurna I itself at 26,545. We had made it! The dream of lifetime had come true! We



Annapurna Sanctuary.



Nepalese mountain village.



Holy man.



Nepalese children.

could only sit in awe and look, think and dream. With powerful binoculars and telephoto lenses we were able to identify three campsites on the south face of Annapurna of a Romanian expedition attempting to climb the mountain. Regretably, their attempt was unsuccessful.

With great regret we eventually had to leave this sanctuary – for it truly is a sanctuary – and head back.

The journey back was, in a way, an anticlimax, livened only by a hair-raising avalanche just seconds before we crossed a glacier, and by the memories of our achievement. The walk back was beautiful, again through forests and small villages, over rope suspension bridges and accompanied by the tinkling bells of mule trains carrying supplies to the high villages.

Interesting houses, people and sights – but nothing to match the sanctuary.

Our thoughts were ever upwards and many times I caught my companions looking longingly back over their shoulders to the "high ones", as I myself did frequently.

Finally, we arrived at the last village above Pokhara – to hear a radio for the first time in more than 3 weeks and to discover that the US had bombed Libya; to hear the horn of a jeep on the dusty trail to Pokhara, far below. Our peace and tranquility was shattered!

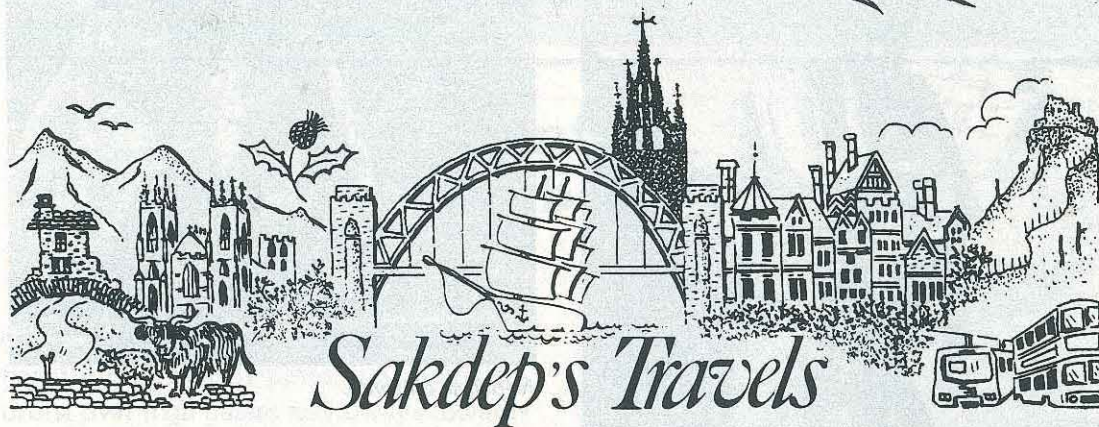
But it was peaceful up there amongst the giants. Yes, it was hard but certainly it was worth it. No cars, no newspapers, no telephones or telexes, just peace, serenity and good companionship. Did I get it out of my blood forever? No, I can't wait to go back again and we're already planning a trek to the Everest region in March next year.

"That's what he thinks! Once in a lifetime is fair enough, twice is pushing it." Angela Butler.

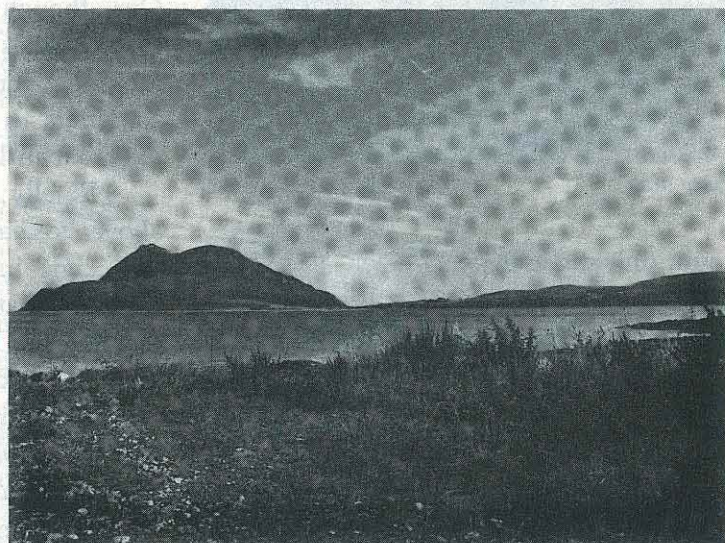
In the next few issues of *Outpost* I'll tell you something about our time in Kathmandu and our visits to the wonderful sights of Bhaktapur and Patan.

Ray Butler

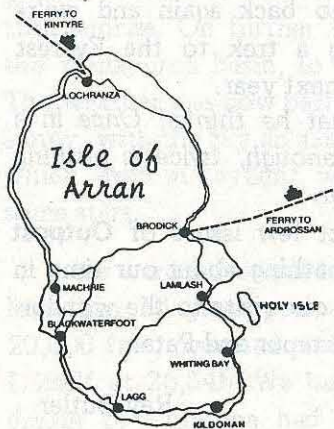
ISLE of ARRAN



SEAGULLS were above our heads, gliding against the wind and swooping up and down in the air to catch food with their natural aptitude. The sea at twilight was harmoniously calm, giving pleasure to viewers. Soon we felt that we were leaving the mainland for miles and were heading to an island which could now be seen clearly. The fresh clean air and nice sea breeze touched our breath as we drew nearer.



The essence of Arran.



We were now on the deck of a ferry bounding for the Isle of Arran, or 'Scotland in Miniature', Scotland's west coast charming island sheltered in the Firth of Clyde.

It was the last sailing from Ardrossan port when we could finally slide our car into the ferry's car deck. The roll-on and roll-off ferry, operated by

Caledonian MacBrayne Limited, had a capacity of about 80 cars and 800 passengers linking Ardrossan with Arran (landing at Brodick port) after fifty five minutes. The sailings are made five times a day, except on Sundays, which have four. There is also, during summer months, a small ferry with a half an hour crossing between Ar-



A perspective of Brodick Castle.

ran (at Lochranza port in the north of the island) and Kintyre.

Arran naturally offered every facility to all types of holidaymaker for their real and wonderful leisure. A little cottage which we hired stood nearby the Viking's Fort opposite Holy Isle.

A sixty-mile unspoilt coastline gave tremendous enjoyment: sea angling, yachting, windsurfing, sub-aqua and other kinds of water sports. The weather was pretty nice and warm as we could feel. It's because of the Gulf Stream running by these regions. No rain clouds formed to rain. The sky and the sea, of course, are as glamorous a blue and as lovely as Thailand's.

Many lovely waterfalls and clear tumbling streams were flowing from high

mountains and green hills down to the sea. Summer flowers in a riot of colour, such as primroses, azaleas, fuschias, heathers and lots of other kinds were in bloom throughout the island.

While driving to see the sights of Arran, we once hit on a seal swimming about near the shore and we dropped off excitedly

to spy on it. This shows the island's features of a wealth of well-preserved nature. Highland cows, unusual to me, are locally kept, together with other cattle on the farmland here.

Most popular activities in the island are: ridge walking, hiking, biking, pony trekking, or riding in the glens. Popular sports are tennis, lawn bowls (which I got a chance to participate in with friends), and golfing (ranging from 9, 12 and 18 hole standard courses around the island). There are about ten peaks over two thousand feet high in Arran waiting to challenge any enthusiastic climbers — professionals or beginners, especially the well known Goatfell.

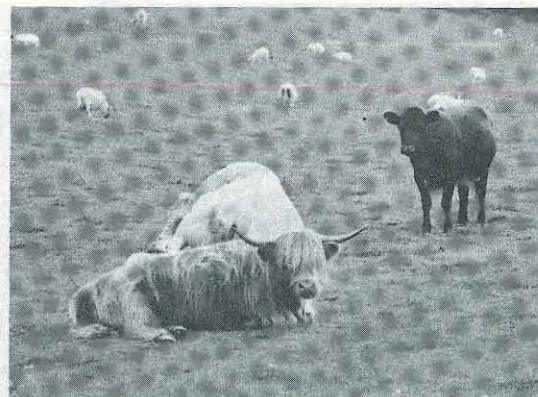
Some ancient monu-



The botanical garden in Brodick Castle's compound.



The elegance of Brodick Castle



Highland Cattle

ments are still remaining to be studied for those who are interested in archaeology. There are two historic castles located in Arran, i.e. Lochranza Castle, a tiny ruined one which served as a hunting place for Scottish kings over four hundred years ago, and Brodick Castle, a former seat of the Dukes of Hamilton. This is in excellent condition and being looked after by the National Trust for Scotland. Inside are displayed many fine examples of paintings, silver, porcelain etc. Things we found, on our first sight of the castle, were a number of red deer heads hung on the walls with names of hunters engraved on them. The castle was set into a sea-facing slope which could be seen from a far distance from the ferry. Its magnificent and famous garden is a place for collections of many kinds of botanical

trees and plants from all parts of the world: eucalyptus and Australian tree ferns, for example. The mountainous area of the castle also has a ranger service centre providing information and demonstrations of existing species of wildlife on the island and guidance for walking the hills or climbing the mountains.

Furthermore, the Arran Heritage Museum is a place that visitors should never miss visiting. And a cruise on the 'Laverick' paddle steamer, starting from Arran to other islands is stunningly joyful. We, however, could not manage the time to do so.

Arran's provisions, e.g. assorted seeded mustards, cheddar cheeses, and other local products, were very tasty and good value for buying and were suggested to visitors to take away home.

A two-night stay on the

Isle of Arran was so precious to my visit that I had fully enjoyed myself together with the favour of British friends who, at their best, so kindly took me around. This warm, welcome friendship will strongly be remembered by me all the time, and I wish I could pay a visit to such a beautiful island one day again.



LOCHRANZA CASTLE

Next month I conclude my last impression ...

An important message for foreigners living in Thailand

Are you wasting money on rent?

There's no need thanks to the Gavintorn Lease Plan

Have you ever considered how much you spend a year on rent? £7,500, £10,000 or even more. It's easily done when you are paying monthly rents of B25,000 or B35,000. And it is all money wasted. For at the end of your tenure, there's nothing to show for such huge payments. Now there's a simple way in which you, as a foreigner, can acquire

property rights in Thailand. It's called the Gavintorn Lease Plan, a new and completely safe method of leasing land for a period of 60 years. Like actual ownership, you can sell the lease at any time. But unlike rent, there's always something to show for your money. The Gavintorn Lease Plan takes care of all formalities.

For further details, please contact:

Mr. Burapa Atthakor, President, Gavintorn Co., Ltd. Bangkok Motor Equipment Building, 23/1 Viphavadi Rangsit Road, Bangkok, Bangkok 10900. Tel: 511-4085-9 Telex: 21809 BMECO TH Fax: 512-1425

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NEW HORIZONS

The Good Book Guide

ONE of the best things I ever did since leaving the UK almost ten years ago, was to subscribe to 'The Good Book Guide'. Even here in Bangkok, where the choice of English books is extremely good, I still find the GBG invaluable. It is not merely a book club, in fact the main attraction for me is to browse through their bi-monthly magazine containing reviews and colour photographs of hundreds of books, plus articles and special selections from well known contributors.

Hundreds of brand new hardbacks and paperbacks are chosen every other month from the lists of all publishers, large and small, and sent to reviewers who provide the editors with sharp, concise, objective appraisals. From these a final selection is made and printed, along with colour photographs of the books.

So it is with great pleasure that I greet each issue when it arrives and look forward to a good few hours of perusal. The books are categorised under such headings as "People", "The Arts", "Travel & Adventure", "World Affairs", "Classics", "Bestsellers", "Children's" and many others.

Through the GBG I have bought and enjoyed books that I am sure I would otherwise not have read, even if I were at home and had the full facilities of the public library.

Of course, as well as the magazines, the GBG has a highly efficient personal,

worldwide mail order service. Unlike many other book clubs, it does not have 'special offers', but nor is there any obligation to buy.

A full subscription to the GBG brings you The Annual Selection in January, plus 5 colour illustrated issues of the Guide in February, April, June, August and October, plus the GBG to Children's Books in September. A must for parents and children alike. Another advantage for Christmas and Birthdays is the GBG Gift Service. Booktokens, when sent with a copy of the Children's Guide, were a great success with nieces and nephews back home.

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• Margaret Currie

TALKING POINT

Dining Out

THE Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy tells us about the restaurant at the end of the Universe. I would be willing to bet that the place is run by a Thai. Let us ponder for a moment some of the curiosities of the Thai catering industry, which surely includes the biggest, the best and the most opulent restaurants in Asia, if not in the world.

Take Tump Nak Thai, for example. Out on Ratchadapisek, a large expanse of ex-paddy field has been converted into a wonderland of Thai salas and 'landscaping'. The largest restaurant in the world, they call themselves. First you park in what must be a world-scale car park and enter through one of many gates. If you were planning on meeting a friend your heart would fail at this point – where oh where in this sea of diners?? But never fear, the man at the gate (yes, whichever gate you come in through) can tell you where your table is and will call over a couple of butterflies to escort you there. Not really butterflies, but dainty maidens dressed in ivory-coloured court clothes with baggy pants and not much bodice. You follow this giggling pair as they hold hands along past the tallest mountain in Bangkok, off which the highest waterfall in Bangkok is cascading, towards your table. Suddenly a hornet zooms past your ear. Not really a hornet, but a man on roller skates, also in court dress, purple this time. As if this were not sufficiently incongruous, he is carrying a tray. The skaters are employed to take food from the kitchens to the Outer Mongolias and Ultima Thules of Tump Nak Thai, but sometimes they zip along unloaded, perhaps for the sheer joy of covering the miles of boardwalk, or is it in order to provide a fast moving alternative to the inevitable, inscrutable, slow-motion traditional dance show? As you watch the show,

mosquitoes zing towards your ankles. Yes, these insects are for real.

Tump Nak Thai is at one end of the Bangkok eating spectrum, at the other end is the noodle lady and, somewhere in the middle, is the buffet lunch. Now, anywhere else, the self-service buffet is introduced to save on staff. But not in Thailand – here there are always spare waiters ready to interpret a dropped eyelid as an indication of a need for another beer, or to move your knife a fraction to the left, your fork a little to the right. It's the Thai answer to the problems of modernisation and unemployment: here the machines are introduced to relieve the staff of the irksome bother of work and leave them free to enjoy the entertainment, i.e. the customers. But overstaffing is not a prerogative of restaurants. We have probably all had the experience of shopping in a well-known department store and seen 4 assistants help us with our 100 baht purchase. Recently I found that 5 could occupy themselves with a B3 transaction.

Another oddity of Thai restaurants is the "mai aroy" phenomenon. If a tourist with no Thai seeks guidance from a waiter, he will be told that "everything is delicious". In desperation he may point to a dish on the menu at random. "Is that good?". "Oh yes," he's told, but he doesn't always agree when the stewed chicken gizzard arrives.

The long-term resident Thai speaker, on the other hand, can run into a different problem. When he asks for a dish from the menu that sounds attractive, he may be told that it is "mai aroy". Is this code for "It's off", or is it a subtle marketing ploy to convince us of the waiter's good judgement in recommending Phuket lobster? Answers on a postcard, please.

Jacqueline M. Piper.

"Limited Overs"

by Mike Gatting

Published by MacDonald Queen Anne Press

MIKE Gatting is the captain of both the Middlesex and England cricket teams. He is a stocky and pugnacious batsman whose reported comments on the recent tour of Australia reached unscaled heights for their wit and perception; viz we won because we were the better team/we lost because they were the better team/he's a great batsman when he's scoring runs etc etc. It was, therefore, with some trepidation that I (was told to) read this book. It took about an hour and



it was distinctly pleasurable – the book, that is. I do not know the relative contributions of Mike Gatting or the mysterious Alan Lee (who apparently “helped” with the writing) but that does not matter. “Limited Overs” is sensible, easy reading, spiced with the necessary anecdotes, caricatures and photographs. He has opinions; limited overs cricket – good, increased emphasis on fielding – good, Kerry Packer multicoloured cricket kit – good???? We are given first-hand accounts of some recent cracking one-day games and he selects a “dream-team” – this is a common procedure following any cricket game after several gallons of the local ale have been downed and re-runs of the day's match are wearing thin. Well, it is a rather contemporary selection (no mention here of Grace, Bradman, Larwood, Hutton or Dunford??) and I did not agree with it.... which may explain why Gatting is captain of England and I As cricket books go, and they do rather, I think this is a pretty good one, so I suggest you borrow it from the Neilson Hays Library or fork out £10. Is that enough? Can I go home now?

Nick White

SINCE the latter half of last year, there has been a concerted effort to increase the news coverage of environmental issues in the local media. The English language press has been doing an excellent job, and the Thai press hasn't lagged too far behind. New groups of concerned people have sprung up, both in Bangkok and the provinces, aware of the now critical state of affairs and striving to slow down, halt, and eventually reverse the devastating destruction continually going on.

Thailand is a front-line state, lying in the tropics and containing tracts of virgin rain forest, together with other types of forest, not very many kilometres from your office. If you want figures ... roughly 7%, or 16 million km² of the earth's surface is covered with rain forest, yet those forests gave birth to 50% of all our living species of animals, birds, reptiles and insects; while around 155,000 out of approximately 250,000 known species of plant life can be found in them. And they are under dire threat. After 60 million years of evolving, a third of them could be gone forever in the next century at the present rate of destruction – worldwide. The equivalent of 27 football pitches are razed every 60 seconds around the globe ... the only one we have.

Considered opinion here in Thailand estimates that if we cannot strictly enforce protection of our remaining forests and the life they support within the next decade, then we may as well forget it ... forget about enjoying the same “quality of life” as we presently do. Thailand's natural resources above ground will last for another 25 to 30 years before they are completely denuded. Then what? The World Wildlife Fund has spent US\$200m on conservation in its 25 years of existence, mostly raised privately. That's what Thailand will pay for 7 of the 12 F16's currently on order.

So, what is a tropical rain forest? For your children, and those of you who may have only a vague idea from David Attenborough documentaries, here is an outline...

More than half the world's jungles are described as tropical rain forests. They are found

straddling the Equator, cutting across the Amazon River basin in South America, the Congo River basin in Africa and the mainland and islands of South East Asia. They contain everything from mangrove swamps on the coast, to the gigantic hard-woods of the lowlands and the cloud forests of the mountains. Three main features are common to them all: they are ever-green and are found in those parts of the tropics with the most evenly distributed rainfall; they are generally humid and occur in areas of high rainfall; they are the home of a great abundance of animals and plants with thousands of different species living together to make up an enormous thriving community of life.

Trees make up the scaffolding of the jungle with the largest reaching up to 45 metres. These giants have trunks that are often fluted and many form great buttresses at their base to hold the tree firmly in the thin layer of soil. Clinging from them are great woody climbers with a large crown of leaves forming part of the forest canopy.

Except at the edge of river banks and roads, where light-loving plants form a dense mass, the interior of the jungle is usually open and easy to walk through.

The steamy heat under the canopy is ideal for many plants and on the forest floor miniature trees and shrubs, which are adapted to living permanently in deep shade, grow. Other shade-loving climbers and ferns grow at the lower levels, often having enormous leaves.

Epiphytes (plants which grow on other plants) depend on the scaffolding of other plants for their survival. Some of them like the moist, dark, lower layers of the forest. Others, especially the beautiful orchids, are sun-loving and drape themselves in the canopy of the forest.

Next month: What makes tropical rain forests so special?

By kind courtesy of WWF/WFT

Rod Carter

CHILDREN'S CORNER

"Waiter, Waiter....." Jokes

Waiter, waiter, you've got your thumb in my soup.

That's all right, sir. It's not hot.

Waiter, waiter, bring me a cold fried egg, some greasy chips and some sausages like rubber.

We don't serve food like that, sir. You did yesterday: What's changed?

Waiter, waiter, this lobster's only got one claw.

It's been in a fight, sir.

Well, bring me the winner then.

Waiter, waiter, there's a dead fly in my soup.

It's the hot water that kills them.

WHAT IS THIS FLY DOING ON MY ICE-CREAM?



WINTER SPORTS!!

HOW DID YOU FIND YOUR STEAK MADAM?

WITH THE HELP OF A MAGNIFYING GLASS!



Waiter, waiter, my bill please.

Yes, madam. And how did you find your steak?

With a magnifying glass.

Waiter, waiter, what's wrong with these eggs?

I don't know, madam; I only laid the table.

Waiter, waiter, how long have you worked here?

Two weeks, sir.

Oh, it can't be you that took my order then.

Waiter, waiter, what do you call this?

It's bean soup, sir.

I don't care what it's been, what is it now?

Waiter, waiter, what's this fly doing in my ice-cream?

Winter sports, madam.



IF IT'S LOOKS YOU WANT MADAM, WHY DON'T YOU ORDER SOME GOLDFISH!

I DON'T LIKE THE LOOK OF THIS TROUT!

Waiter, waiter is there soup on the menu? No madam; I wiped it off.

Waiter, waiter I'll have my bill now please. Yes sir. And how did you find your steak? 'Just moved a chip and there it was'

Waiter, waiter what do you call this? Cottage pie, madam.

Well, I think I've just bitten on a brick.

Waiter, waiter, if this is haddock I'm an idiot.

You're right sir, it is haddock.

Waiter, waiter, this soup isn't fit for a pig. I'll take it back and bring you some that is.

Waiter, waiter, is this chicken pie or minced beef?

Can't you tell the difference madam?

No.

Then does it matter?

Waiter, waiter, why have you got your thumb on my steak? Well, I don't want it to fall on the floor again.

Waiter waiter, I don't like the look of this trout.

Well if its looks you want, madam, why don't you order some goldfish?

Waiter, waiter, what's this? Scotch rarebit, madam.

And what is a Scotch rarebit?

A Welsh rarebit with less cheese.

Waiter, waiter, have you any wild duck? No sir, but we've got a tame one we can irritate for you.



NO SIR, BUT WE'VE GOT A TAME ONE WE CAN IRRITATE FOR YOU!

DO YOU HAVE ANY WILD DUCK?

Jokes by: Jenny Harris

Cartoons by: Hild

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

CRICKET



CRICKET

THE ANNUAL CRICKET DINNER

THE Annual Cricket Dinner and Awards Ceremony was held at the British Club on May 22nd. A record attendance saw more supporters present than at any time during the entire season, together with a large percentage of the 24 players who played for us this year.

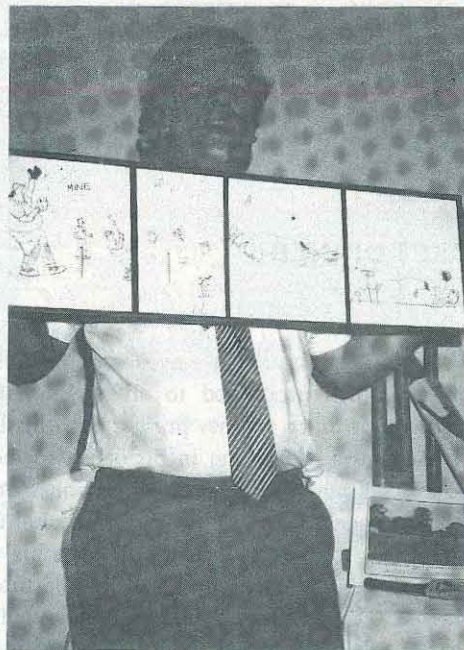
After the obligatory 32 pints of gin and tonic in the bar, we all sat down to an excellent British Club meal in the Wordsworth Room; the main feature of this meal was that the menu had not been chosen by Terry Adams, memories of last year's jam roly-poly pudding still being vivid in the memories of many of the assembled company. Jars of some of the best Sydney grape-juice available for under fifty baht a bottle were freely imbibed (although some looked suspiciously at the doctors in our midst) and clearly the task of giving speeches was going to be the speech-maker's equivalent of placing an effective field for Frank Hough. Not to fear, however; chairman Mike Binns brought tears

of laughter to everyone's eyes even as he stood up, and then proceeded to elicit the maternal instincts of every mother present with his heart-rending tales of waiting in his office to the last possible moment on Friday afternoons for that telephone call begging him to play cricket in the weekend's match. Jack Dunford gave his traditional captain's speech in which he said that this was the best-ever social side we had ever had at the British Club, just as he did last year and the year before. As this was, however, possibly his last speech as BC skipper, we all agreed to believe him. Jack also enumerated the season's highlights, an exercise which in previous years has taken about twenty seconds and has tended to include things like the time we all managed to get onto the field without one of us tripping over the boundary rope. This time we had several new records, one of them not even set by David Dance, and several famous victories to remember with pleasure and store up to tell our grand-

"This was the best-ever social side we had ever had".

"A record attendance saw more supporters present than at any time during the entire season".





Wicketkeeping catch of the year.

children. ("My grandad played in the team that came third in the thirty-over league in Bangkok, and he scored eleven not out against the Bangkok Post.") David Hall then recounted some of the season's sillier statistics, e.g. that if our top eleven batsmen had all been on their worst form on the same day, we would have been all out for 5.

All this was followed by the awards, of which it is a British Club tradition that everyone gets at least one. The serious awards (i.e. batsman, bowler and fielder of the year) were dealt with first, with Geoff Thompson winning the latter and David Dance winning the first two (combined into the single award of "best cricketer"). Mounted balls were presented for outstanding performances - Nick White's thirteen wickets in Chiangmai, Nigel Grocock's century in the last match of the season, and feats of varying types by David Dance. The highlight of the evening, though, was the presentation of the less-serious awards: the mounted ball with stuffing coming out of it for Nicky Dunne's "Over of the Year" (one over, none for fifty in the Nations Sixes); the framed cartoon of Alistair Rider's non-catch against RBSC; a carrot for Geoff Thompson's "Princess Anne Water-Jump Refusal of the Year"; a fuzzy duck for Jack (not



The Captain the morning after



Sponsor of the year.

quite sure of the origin of that one); and the pièce de résistance, surely, the "Australian Bush-Whacker's Sponsor-of-the-Year" award for Mike Binns. Altogether, some twenty awards of this nature were made. Then Alistair revealed that he had, by chance, brought with him a video recording of the International Sixes; also by chance there was a video playback machine and monitor in that very room. Thus, were we treated to one of the funniest half-hours I can remember in a very long time (in fact I thought several people were in danger of choking) as we witnessed our lads losing in the quarter-finals at very high speed both backwards and forwards, the whole being topped with selected highlights from the unforgettable British Club cabaret which closed the four-day tournament. Ah well, another season over, and those who are leaving between now and the beginning of next season can justifiably feel sick as parrots about leaving such a great crowd.

The leading averages and positions in the final league table will be published next month; in the meantime, a full breakdown of the season's statistics may be found on the main notice-board at the Club.

David Hall

DARTS DARTS



The cream of Britain's darts players, otherwise known as the British Club 'A' Team, are having an extraordinarily good season! Quite raised the whole tone!

Frank Hough gets his name in the Bangkok Post regularly with 5 tons in consecutive matches and Mike Majer even got a maximum 180 recently, the only male member of the Club ever to achieve this in league matches. George O'Brien plays a dedicated game and Jim and Sherie Fletcher have been finishing consistently well. Still that's only to be expected. Mike Evans has been away planting cabbages and listening to cricket, but has managed 3 closes on 2 occasions when he has been able to turn out. All this success is having a worrying effect on Captain, Peter Downs, who downs the occasional Kloster and mislays the occasional score sheet.

Results

- 9th April British Club 'A' 4 : Dollar Car Rent 13
 Closes : Jim Fletcher, Sherie Fletcher, George O'Brien
 Tons : Peter Downs, Jim Fletcher (2), Sherie Fletcher (2), Mike O'Connor, George O'Brien
- 16th April British Club 'A' 16 : Shell 1
 Closes : Mike Majer (2), Sherie Fletcher (2), George O'Brien (2), Peter Downs, Jim Fletcher, John Morgan, Mike Evans, P. Whitehead
 Tons : Mike Majer (3), Sherie Fletcher (2), Peter Downs, John Morgan, Mike Evans, George O'Brien



Bryan hands the Castrol Cup to Mike Majer, with George O'Brien, defeated finalist, on the left. (See May Outpost)

23rd April British Club 'A' 12 : Domino Stone 5
 Closes : Mike Majer (2), Jim Fletcher (2), John Morgan (2), Peter Downs, George O'Brien
 Tons : Sherie Fletcher (2), Peter Downs, George O'Brien, Mike Majer, Jim Fletcher

30th April British Club 'A' 8 : Domino Brothers 9
 Closes : Mike Majer (2), Jim Fletcher (2), Peter Downs
 Tons : Mike Majer (2), Peter Downs, Jim Fletcher

7th May British Club 'A' 11 : New Cowboy 6
 Closes : George O'Brien (2), Sherie Fletcher (2), Mike Majer, Jim Fletcher, Mike O'Connor, Frank Hough
 Tons : Mike Majer (2), Sherie Fletcher (2), George O'Brien (2), Peter Downs, Jim Fletcher, Frank Hough

14th May British Club 'A' 16 : VX 1
 Closes : Mike Majer (3), Mike Evans (3), Sherie Fletcher (2), Peter Downs, Jim Fletcher, George O'Brien
 Tons : Frank Hough (5), Sherie Fletcher (4), Mike Majer, Mike Evans, George O'Brien

21st May British Club 'A' 11 : DOT 6
 Closes : Frank Hough (3), Mike Majer (2), Peter Downs, Jim Fletcher
 Tons : Frank Hough (5), John Morgan (2), George O'Brien (2), Mike Majer, Sherie Fletcher

4th June British Club 'A' 12 : Zoon 5
 Closes : Mike Evans (3), Peter Downs (2), Jim Fletcher, Sherie Fletcher, John Morgan, George O'Brien



Captain, Roger Daniel, presents the Ladies' Challenge Trophy to Carol Anwar. Erica Majer nearly completed a family double. (See May Outpost)

At the other end of the scale, the 'B' team is languishing at next to bottom in the league. Andy Pickup and Wan Chaichanla are improving, but the rest of us seem to have only the occasional purple patch. One recent debacle took place when Zoon, the only team below us and the only team without a win, came to the Club with only 4 players. Well, we struggled (and I do mean struggled) to pip them by 9-8, with Jackie Gramond closing the team game. The best thing we can say about the 'B' Team is that they help the bar takings on Thursdays and write this rubbish once a month.



Andy Pickup goes for a double!



Silawan & Mike Miles will be missed by the Club's underwater formation darts team.

Results

23rd April British Club 'B' 9: New Cowboy 8
 Closes : Andy Pickup (2), Terry Adams (2), Wan Chaichanla, Roger Daniel, Mike Miles
 Tons : Silawan Miles, Terry Adams, Bryan Baldwin

30th April British Club 'B' 6 : White Lightning 11
 Closes : Bryan Baldwin (2), Terry Adams, Roger Daniel
 Tons : Roger Daniel, Andy Pickup, Orin Kongmee

7th May British Club 'B' 3 : Domino Stone 14
 Closes : Andy Pickup (2)
 Tons : Terry Adams, Mike Miles

14th May British Club 'B' 2 : Dollar Car Rent 15
 Closes : Jackie Gramond
 Tons : Bryan Baldwin

21st May British Club 'B' 9 : Zoon 8
 Closes : Terry Adams, Andy Pickup, Bryan Baldwin, Jackie Gramond. (Plus 3 Walkovers)
 Tons : Terry Adams, Bryan Baldwin, Mike Miles

28th May British Club 'B' 3 : Silom Swinges 14
 Closes : Jackie Gramond, Bryan Baldwin, Andy Pickup
 Tons : Jackie Gramond, Bryan Baldwin

4th June British Club 'B' 1 : DOT 16
 Closes : Andy Pickup
 Tons : Bryan Baldwin (3), Wan Chaichanla

We said farewell to Silawan and Mike Miles last month. They returned to Canada suitably feted at a party at Bryan's apartment and complete with pewter tankards from the team. They helped to make all the 'B' team's defeats enjoyable and will be missed.

Bryan Baldwin

GOLF GOLF

Contrasting weather conditions marked the first two rounds of this year's Eclectic Competition played in total over three rounds at the Rose Garden.

On the 17th May, it was hot and humid taking a severe toll on many members, including at least one who failed to finish the course. A sparkling 24 points from Ron Armstrong on the first nine (what happened to the second nine, Ron?) and solid 18 hole performances from Bob McEwan, Lloyd Houghton and Roy Barrett were the highlights of the outing sponsored by Ansell (Thailand), courtesy of Captain, Keith Ross. David Brittain managed to hit two straight irons to win two 'nearest the pins', and a rare straight drive from Les Kentwell secured him the men's 'long drive'.

Heavy rain greeted the start of the second round on the 31st May sponsored by Louis T. Leonowens, courtesy of Mike Binns. This did not dampen Terry Merry's game and she trounced the field with a brilliant 46 points. This produced a handicap cut of 5 strokes, so only 41 points next time, Terry! Good scores by Ron Armstrong (over 18 holes this time) and Rick Schramm were other highlights, along with a first nine 23 points getting Dick Chessman into the winner's enclosure for the first time. New member, David Lamb, made his mark with a 'nearest the pin' and Margaret Ross celebrated her welcome return with a similar success.

Full results were:

Sunday 17th May – Rose Garden – 29 members
Sponsor – Ansell (Thailand)

A Grade:	Winner	Bob McEwan	38 points
	Runner-up	Ian McLean	37 points (on count back)
	First 9	Ron Armstrong	24 points
	Second 9	Alistair Johnstone	22 points
B Grade:	Winner	Lloyd Houghton	39 points (on count back)
	Runner-up	Roy Barrett	39 points
	First 9	Barry Mancell	20 points
	Second 9	Terry Merry	21 points
Nearest the Pin:	Hole 4	Keith Ross	
	Hole 6	David Brittain	
	Hole 14	David Brittain	
	Hole 15	Jock Miller-Stirling	
Longest Drive:	Ladies	Dolores Aaron	
	Men	Les Kentwell	

Sunday 31st May – Rose Garden – 39 members
Sponsor – Louis T. Leonowens

A Grade:	Winner	Ron Armstrong	39 points
	Runner-up	Lloyd Houghton	37 points
	First 9	Mike Ryan	19 points
	Second 9	Ian McLean	20 points

B Grade:	Winner	Terry Merry	46 points
	Runner-up	Rick Schramm	39 points
	First 9	Dick Chessman	23 points
	Second 9	Dugal Forrest	21 points
Nearest the Pin:	Hole 4	Wendy Morris	
	Hole 6	Margaret Ross	
	Hole 14	David Lamb	
	Hole 15	David Benham	
Longest Drive:	Ladies	Terry Merry	
	Men	Ian McLean	

The final round of the Eclectic will be played at the Rose Garden on 14th June. Leading contenders after 2 rounds are:

Terry Merry	56 nett
Keith Ross	59
Ron Armstrong	61
Dugal Forrest	61

LADIES' GOLF LADIES' GOLF

May was a busy month of golfing, merry making and farewelling! The Gestetner Trophy was played over two Tuesdays at the Rose Garden, followed on the final day by the most scrumptious lunch and prize-giving at "chez" Whalley. Thank you to Gestetner for sponsoring the competition and to Penny & Trevor for their hospitality.

Special congratulations must go to Pat Dodsworth (Silver Division) and Penny Whalley (Bronze Division), the winners of the 1986 L.G.U. Medals. Well done.

There have been many handicap cuts this month – Helen Benham has shot down from 40-38 and Terry Merry from 27-25, both in a very short time. Keep it up!

COMPETITION RESULTS

GESTETNER TROPHY – 12th & 18th May – Stableford – at Rose Garden

			H/c
Overall Winner:	Wendy Binns	78 pts	25
	Deanne Boucher	74 pts	30
	Helen Benham	74 pts	40
1st Day Winner:	Kanda Phillips	37 pts	26
	R/Up:	Nena Reid	34 pts 18
2nd Day Winner:	Wendy Morris	35 pts	16
	R/Up:	Gai Pitre	34 pts 22

The prize for this competition were ALL elephants!

L.G.U. – MEDAL – STROKE PLAY – 26th May

				H/c
Silver Div	Winner:	Wendy Morris	78 nett	16
	R/Up:	Margaret McEwan	80 nett	16
Bronze I Div	Winner:	Terry Merry	73 nett	26
	R/Up:	Penny Whalley	75 nett	27
Bronze II Div	Winner:	Helen Benham	71 nett	36
	R/Up:	Mal Chessman	83 nett	36

Well done Helen – super score.

MATCH PLAY AGAINST WENDY MORRIS – 2nd June:

1st:	Mary Brittain	+ 5
2nd:	Penny Whalley	+ 4
3rd:	Margaret McEwan	+ 3

..... and many more – too many to list!

This was Wendy's Farewell Day, which she sponsored with the most beautiful prizes of Indian brass teapots. The prize-giving was held following a delicious lunch at Wendy Binns' house. Thank you to both Wendys for a super day and we wish Wendy M lots of happy golfing in the future.

We welcome two new members this month, Benjamine Bronee and Lotta McDonald. With so many people off on home leave at this time of year, our numbers will temporarily decrease. However, Tuesday golf WILL continue and new members are always welcome.

Call Wendy on 331-5686 or Penny on 258-9415 during July.

SOCCKER SOCCER

It was a warm summer's eve in Bangkok, a world metropolis in S.E. Asia. There was a magic in the air. The kind of electric atmosphere that could only mean one thing. It was Cup Final day. For the second year running the blue and white ribboned British Club Soccer Section supporters (Vince's secretary and Craig's wife) had the opportunity to make the famous pilgrimage to the ISB ground Soi 15, that Mecca of Farang League worshippers.

By kick-off time a crowd of 50,000 (ants) plus 100 or so true aficionados of expatriate soccer had gathered, marvelling at the fact that the BC squad had all arrived 15 minutes before the kick-off and, yes it's true, someone (well Vince actually) had actually remembered to

bring the ball.

By now the weather conditions had deteriorated and a strong wind had blown up. The BC elected to play with this at their backs and in a stirring first half built up a two goal lead. Both goals came from right winger Dave Bennington who latched on to goalie, Craig Rennie's long punts and created havoc in the Mercedes Benz defence (I almost forgot to mention the opposition). The goals were the first Dave has scored since joining the Club two months ago and the second will be remembered by the crowd as a goal worthy of any Cup Final, including the big one i.e. the Scottish. A rasping shot on the volley from 40, well 25 yards from the edge of the box that almost burst the net.

What happened in the second half is well known to readers of the Bangkok Post. Two up, but playing into horizontal rain, the Club were holding until, kerpon!, the lights failed with 25 minutes to go. After a delay of twenty minutes the game resumed on a paddy field, but nobody told the British Club who seemed to be thinking more of whether to fill the cup with Kloster or Singha. The result was a nasty shock, and 3 to 2 to Mercedes Benz. We were left to think of what might have been and rue a missed penalty at 2 to 1 up. Best performers on the night were Bennington, Pomfret, Swift and in the first half, Morton. All credit to Benz for their fight back and referee, Augusto Romei, who had an excellent game and helped to make it, as the Bangkok Post said, "The most memorable final for years".

Season Summary

All in all, it was an enjoyable if slightly disappointing season. We finished third in the league behind Mercedes Benz and ISB, having suffered defeats from the bottom three teams before rallying. In effect, we drew with the winners twice and took three points from the second team.

In the various cups we were runners-up in the Farang League Cup, beaten semi-finalists after extra time in the Sports Club tournament, and sixth out of ten in the Senior World Cup. In the last named competition we had the distinction of being the only team not to concede a goal over the two days, but alas, apart from penalty shoot-outs we did not score one either.

Player of the season, for me a toss between Steve Castledine and Mike Pomfret. We had some notable arrivals (Bennington, Forbes and Martin) compensating for the loss of Doctor Barlow, Jimmy Taylor and Glen Gladwell (gone, but not forgotten).

AGM and Dinner

On Friday June 5th the AGM of the Soccer Section was held, followed by dinner. Memories are rather fuzzy, but the following are the office bearers for 1987/8:

Captain	: Alex Forbes
Vice Captain	: Vince Swift
Treasurer	: Alan Morton
Secretary	: Andy Maynard

We were regaled to some mediocre, but enjoyable, after dinner speaking from Vince and Andy officially, and from Billy Duncan unofficially. This was followed by a fashion show (honest!), featuring 'cush' Castledine in school blazer, Craig Rennie in striking gloves and Jim Howard in a natty new line in soccer shorts. Alan Morton was presented with a muzzel for his speech efforts, on behalf of the Club, and then it was after dinner cocoa and home to a quiet night by the fireside by 9 o'clock (if you believe that you'll believe anything).

Well, that about wraps things up for the season, except for me to thank, on behalf of the Club, the outgoing officials, particularly retiring captain Vince Swift, who did an outstanding amount of off-field work as well as turning in consistently good efforts in the field. A special thank you too to Vince's secretary who also did a power of telephoning.

Training and practice games for the new season start in September so watch this space. All newcomers to Bangkok and old-timers having a second flush of youth are welcome to join. Feel free to contact any of the office bearers (phone numbers in the BC directory).

In the meantime, if you're off on holiday enjoy yourself but watch the calories.

Meanwhile for all pessimists, please remember that a kettle, even whilst up to its neck in boiling water, can still find time to whistle.

Alex "Scoop" Forbes

SQUASH SQUASH



The British Club closed squash competitions in May produced some lively matches, particularly in the semi-finals of the Don Johnson, where Rudi Sirr and Ralph Tye played a vigorous, well-fought match in which physical contact figured minimally with Rudi collecting a couple of stitches above his right eye after colliding, accidentally, with Ralph's racquet. In contrast, Dick Chessman and Mervyn Rattray appeared to be playing a game more akin to chess than the "slash and run" squash more often seen around these courts, Mervyn beating Dick after a beautifully played game in which both players acquitted themselves well. In the finals Mervyn beat Ralph in three games, 9/0, 9/1, 9/3 and never seemed to be at risk in a fast, hard-hitting game in which Mervyn's tightly controlled shots proved conclusive, and ear defenders proved a necessity for the spectators.

In the Men's Plate competition (the Parra Handy), Rod Carter met defending champion, Les Kentwell, a man who, it is rumoured, has won enough plates to start a catering business. However, on this occasion, Les failed to pull together the shots for which he's justly renowned, and Rod took the plate after four games.

In the Ladies' Cup, Barbara Overington met a nervous Sue Kunzmann to win the first

game 9/0. Sue rallied in the second but failed to change the course of the match with the last two games going 9/6 and 9/1 to Barbara.

The Ladies' Plate was probably the most closely contested of the four matches. Belinda Prince lost the first game 6/9 to Jackie Checkley but narrowly managed to level the game score in the second at 10/8. At this juncture, fitness, the heat and nerves began to tell, with Belinda taking the next two games 9/4 and 9/1 for a 3/1 victory.

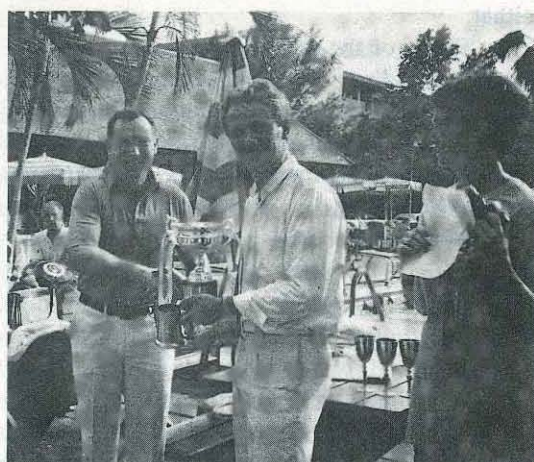
A vote of thanks must go to Colin Reid who umpired all four finals.

Congratulations to all winners of the May League, but especially to Mike Kelly, who, although naturally right-handed, has had to resort to playing with his left hand due to a lingering sports injury incurred at home one evening.

The Dunlop Inter-society Tournament on 7th June was enjoyed by all participants. Six teams of 3 men and 3 ladies played each other in this inaugural competition, on a handicap basis, to win the Dunlop Cup. It was a very close contest with St. Andrew defeating St. Patrick in the last round of the day to become the winners. The St. Andrew's team of Les Currie (captain), Dugal Forrest, Rob McEwan, Margaret McEwan,



Dunlop Cup Winners, St. Andrew.



David Lamb presenting the Dunlop Cup to Les Currie, with tournament organiser, Barbara Overington.

Margaret Currie and Jane Rodgers, were presented with individual trophies by David Lamb, the General Manager of Dunlop. There were three people, out of 36, who were undefeated at the end of the day; Sriwan Forrest, Mike Kelly and Mervyn Rattray, a commendable feat. Many thanks to Dunlop for their sponsorship.

June sees a number of regular squash players leaving Bangkok for the lush fields of, amongst others, Fiji and U.K. Our best wishes to Colin Reid, who has done much to raise the level of umpiring and introduced the idea of weekend competitions to the Club, Rudi Sirr, Ben Piper, Nigel Nicholson, Jenny Baillie, Brian McDonald. Good luck to you all in your future postings.

The squash committee is becoming concerned about the increasing number of injuries incurred on the squash courts. The "LET" is part of the squash game and is for the protection of the players. If there is ANY danger of hitting your opponent with the ball or racquet please hold up your shot and ask for a let. There is a simple book of rules available from the committee for the cost of photocopying.

Finally, Dunlop have offered a 15% discount to any member of the British Club at their Convent Road shop.



The casualties of the Don Johnson.

SQUASH FEATURE – BY THE UNSQUASHABLE

RULES OF SQUASH – RACKETS

No racket appears to be like any other racket.

The newer the racket, the greater the chances of it getting broken.

Somewhere there's racket just right for each one of us – but no-one can ever find it.

Your happiest moments with your new racket will be those before you discover that you can't play any better with it than you could with your old one.

You are more likely to blame your racket than yourself.

Banging your racket against the wall before serving doesn't usually make you play any better.

Keeping a racket on the back window ledge of your car is no indication that you can play squash.

TENNIS TENNIS



The A.G.M. was held on the 26th April. The following members did not put themselves up for re-election:

Johny Kelly
Gordon Martin
Barbara Noon

Three new Committee members were elected:

Dick Chessman
Mal Chessman
Bua Wyder

The new Committee for 1987 was elected as follows:

Financing	: Johnny Boucher
Coaching Organizer	: Pru Pointer
Matches/Tournaments	: Dick Chessman
Ladies' Tennis	: Bua Wyder
Social Secretary/	: Terry Merry
Ladies' Matches	
Public Relations	: Mal Chessman
Liaison with British Club	: Bruce Pointer

I am sure we all wish the new Committee a good season and thank Barbara, John & Gordon for all their help in the tennis activities for 1986.

Following this meeting another successful Round Robin was held. There was a good tournament and some very close matches were played. The Men's winner was Bob Merry and the Ladies', Mal Chessman.

On the 29th April a Tennis Farewell Party was held for John and Elaine Kelly which was a very enjoyable evening. An excellent dinner was put on in the Restaurant arranged by David Williamson and our thanks to him for making the evening such a success. We are all very sorry to see John & Elaine go, and wish them every happiness in their new life in Australia.

On May 14th the ladies held a Round Robin Tournament with the object of introduc-

ing beginners and new members to the regular Thursday morning sessions. The 14 participants were divided into 7 fairly evenly balanced couples, with each couple playing 1 set against 3 different couples. There was a tie for 1st place between Barbara Noon/Eileen Trigwell and Bua Wyder/Marianne Johns, on 18 points. Well done ladies! We all agreed it was a fun morning's tennis, and hope to arrange similar events in the future. Meanwhile, for those ladies who have not yet taken the plunge, come and join us on Thursday mornings 8.30-10.30 you'll be made very welcome, no matter what your standard of tennis.

Terry Merry organized a Ladies' Match on Friday 22nd May against the American ladies. Eight players from each side turned out, our team being:

Helen Benham	Barbara Noon
Jackie Gramond	Pru Pointer
Robin Harrison	Supatra Tansantikul
Terry Merry	Bua Wyder

The British Club won by a small margin of 10 games to 8.

The regular monthly Round Robin was held on 31st May with 12 participants - 6 men and 6 ladies. After many close fought games Julie Freeman and Jackie Gramond emerged joint winners of the ladies' section and newcomer, Jorgen Schmidt, triumphed in the men's section, with Frank Wilson a close second. A small trophy was presented to the winner, whilst the runner-up received a brain twister puzzle in order to encourage him to try harder in the future.

A mixed handicap tournament is being organized for July and we hope this is well supported by all members.

Ladies - please remember there will be a Round Robin on the 1st Thursday of each month commencing 8.30 a.m. All grades are welcome.

RECIPROCATING CLUBS

At a time when many of us are going on home-leave, or are travelling to other countries, it is useful to remember that the Club has reciprocal arrangements with a number of other clubs around the world, whose facilities are available for our use. All that's needed is a letter of introduction which can be obtained from David Williamson.

		TELEPHONE
ADELAIDE	The Naval, Military and Air Force Club of South Australia (Inc.) 111 Hutt Street Adelaide 5000	223-2422
BAHRAIN	The British Club P.O. Box 26401 Bahrain	72-8245 72-9394
BRISBANE	Johnsonian Club Johnsonian House 428 Upper Edward Street Brisbane 4000	831-8705 831-8706
BRUNEI	Royal Brunei Yacht Club	
CANADA	Ontario Club P.O. Box 7 Commerce Court South Toronto M5L 1A1 Canada	
EDINBURGH	Caledonian Club 32 Abercromby Place Edinburgh EH2 6QE	031-557-2675
HONG KONG	Hong Kong Cricket Club 137 Wong Nei Chong Gap Road Hong Kong	5-747023
	Hong Kong Football Club Sports Road Happy Valley Hong Kong	5-778828 5-762808 5-772320
KUALA LUMPUR	The Lake Club Peti Surat 642 Kuala Lumpur	298-5133
LEEDS	Leeds Club 3 Albion Place Leeds	0532-450755

LONDON

Royal Automobile Club
98 Pall Mall
London SW1Y 5HS 01-930-2345

The Naval Club 01-493-7672
38 Hill Street
London W1X 8DP

United Oxford & Cambridge University Club 01-930-4152
71 Pall Mall
London SW1Y 5HD

MANILA

Manila Club, Inc. 833-3506
Magallanes Commercial Center
Magallanes, Makati
Metro Manila

MIAMI

* The Jockey Club (305) 893-3344
11111 Biscayne Boulevard
Miami, Florida 33161,
U.S.A.

PENANG

Penang Club 373-366
Northam Road 373-490
Penang, Malaysia 373-507

* Penang Sports Club 20834
Jalan Utama
10450 Penang
Malaysia

SINGAPORE

American Club 737-3411
21 Scotts Road
Singapore 0922

British Club 467-4311
73 Bukit Tinggi Road
Singapore 1128

Tanglin Club 737-6011
5 Stevens Road
P.O. Box 3015
Singapore 9050

SYDNEY

Royal Automobile Club of Australia 17-5656
89 Macquarie Street
Sydney 2000

VICTORIA

Bentleigh Club 557-2718
Yawla Street
P.O. Box 218
Bentleigh 3204
Victoria

*Both these clubs are newly affiliated.

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ACTIVITIES

ANYONE WHO IS INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN ANY ASPECT OF THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES SHOULD CONTACT:

BILLIARDS/SNOOKER	— RON ARMSTRONG	390-2445
BRIDGE	— MIKE EVANS	236-8655-8
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DARTS	— MIKE MAJER	513-1970
GOLF	— DAVID BRITTAIN	573-0074
LADIES' GOLF	— WENDY BINNS	331-5686
OUTPOST	— MAREN WHITE	258-1481
RUGBY	— JAMES HOWARD	252-2635 251-3056
SOCCER	— CRAIG RENNIE	236-0205 236-4281
SQUASH	— MIKE KELLY	253-0191 x 220
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