

OUTPOST

MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB

AUGUST 1981





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Outpost

Vol. II No. 18 August 1981

The lean month of July, at least in terms of the size of this edition of Outpost, with no club events to report and many other activities dormant during the home leave season. Your editor in chief certainly chose the right time to abandon these shores for more exotic places, leaving his sub-committee ably assisted by James Kelly (not he of St. Patrick's fame) to scratch around for some material.

Besides major contributions from the now very much alive Snooker section and once again from the Golfers we offer the usual fare, though less of it with only a passing mention of "that" event.

[Actually we are acting under strict instructions from the Chief to ensure that he justifies his position on his return]

WEEKLY CLUB EVENTS

MONDAY	2.00 p.m.	- Children's 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 September issue, must reach the office by 20th August.

Editor : Norman Musgrave 317 7001

Roy Regan 289 0131

The opinions expressed in OUTPOST are not necessarily endorsed by either the Editors or the Committee.

ENTERTAINMENT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat	Aug 22	Family Sports Day, with BBQ & Teenage Disco
Fri	Sep 25	Gilbert & Sullivan Night
Wed	Oct 21	Wine Tasting sponsored by Caldbeck MacGregor Ltd.
Wed	Oct 28	Club Night
		Guest Speaker: Mr. Ian Fawcett, Managing Director of Allied Newspapers
Mon	Nov 2	St. Andrew's Ball Dancing Practice
Sat	Nov 7	Fireworks BBQ
Mon	Nov 9	St. Andrew's Ball Dancing Practice
Mon	Nov 16	St. Andrew's Ball Dancing Practice
Mon	Nov 23	St. Andrew's Ball Dancing Practice
Tue	Nov 24	Pipes & Drums of 1st Battalion Queen's Own Highlanders
Sat	Nov 28	St. Andrew's Ball Breakfast
Fri	Dec 18	Christmas Ball

** ** * * *

MEMBERSHIP STATUS

The current status is as follows:

Ordinary	398
Non-Voting	5
Associate	30
Ladies Privileges	49
Up-Country	22
	<hr/>
Total	504
Absent	629
Candidates	42
	<hr/>
Grand Total	1175
	====

FLY

At the committee meeting on July 7th 13 new members were elected and this brings total membership to over 500 with over 30 more candidates awaiting election.

At the same meeting on July 7th. The Chairman reported that he had received Standard Management Ltd.'s formal notice of termination of the Management Contract, effective 2nd October 1981. This means that after the end of September the familiar figure of Big Rupert will not be seen quite so often around the Club and members are warned that should they complain to him after that date about the number of tea bags in their pot of tea or some other important matter they are likely to be thrown in the pool (The member not the tea bags)

The Finance Sub-Committee has been busy for the last few weeks reviewing the Club's financial position and proposals were put to the committee for increases in entrance fees, subscriptions and deposits. These increases are essential for the future of the Club but are more moderate than those proposed at the last AGM and so the long range plan will even with these increases not proceed quite as quickly as previously intended. The proposals will be put to the membership at an EGM to be held on 21st September. If previous experience is anything to go on it should be an interesting evening so note it in your diary.

The House and Grounds Sub-Committee reported that the scale model of the clubhouse and grounds would be ready by the end of July after which it would be displayed in the Club so that members could see the improvements to be implemented under the long range plan.

The Chairman congratulated the Entertainments Sub-Committee on the recent successful events at the Club and on the organisation of the Wedding Ball to be held on July 31st.

The committee agreed to reduce the price of Club ties so if it's a bargain your looking for hurry to reception before they are all sold out.

Your normal fly has flown away on Holiday and is currently buzzing round Hawai but will be back in time for the Wedding Ball.

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MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

NEW MEMBERS

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

Ordinary

Mr. J.P. Coghill	Dow Chemical (T) Ltd.
Wing Cdr. J.F. Davies	British Embassy
Mr. H.E. Eilenberg	
Mr. P.J. Gravestock	Manpower Consultants
Mr. L.H. Lewis	ESCAP
Mr. P.W. Nicholas	Thai Glass
Mr. P.R. Passmore	World Vision
Mr. W.F.B. Price	British Embassy
Mr. P.H. Scarlett	British Embassy
Mr. M.J. Sexton	British Embassy
Mr. E. Ure	Stent Seafco Ltd.

Non-Voting

Mr. E.W. Blake	A.O.P.T.S.
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Ladies Privileges

Miss T. Devahasdin

Associate

Mr. G.C. Paola	Lepetit (T) Company
Mr. J.P. Sheridan	Italian Thai Sheridan

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.

Good News

BAR SNACKS

A limited amount of pork pies and ingredients for making sandwiches are now being left in the Main Bar after the Main Kitchen closes.

Bar staff will prepare sandwiches as required.

** ** *

Old Time Music Hall - Corrigendum

The tribute to the performance of the cast of the Old Time Musical Hall in the July edition of Outpost made specific mention that they were members of the Bangkok Community Theatre.

We have been asked to point out that this was in fact a joint production with the Bangkok Music Society.

We apologise therefore to the members of the Bangkok Music Society and assure them that the remarks made were intended as a tribute to all the cast and the Societies to which they belong. We look forward to seeing further joint productions in the future.

** ** *

Sorry!

The poem in last month's issue seems to have offended a small number of members.

The British have always had a reputation for being able to laugh at themselves -- and it seemed to the editors that the poem in question was directed more at the British and a system which permitted such abuse, rather than those who might take advantage of it.

To members whose interpretation differs from ours -- the Editors apologise. We would point out that the content of OUTPOST is entirely the responsibility of the editors but does not necessarily reflect their or the Committee's opinions.

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Brochures with full details, reservation forms etc. are available at the office of the British Club.

Warning

As always we are very sensitive to the reactions of our readers and therefore for the benefit of those who have already seen enough about that forthcoming event in UK please close your eyes until you reach page 10.

For the benefit of those members who have still to take home leave in UK and for those avid readers of Outpost already on leave but who have made special arrangements to have their favourite magazine forwarded to them, we pass on the following information.

April - September "A ROYAL ENGAGEMENT". A PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION covering the life of H.R.H. Prince Charles from 1953 to the present day. To be held simultaneously at Woburn Abbey and the Kodak Photographic Gallery, London. The Parlour, Woburn Abbey, Woburn, Bedfordshire is open from 11.00 to 18.45 hours. Price included in ordinary admission to the Abbey. Adults £1.80, Kodak Photographic Gallery, 246 High Holborn, London WC1V 7EA is open from 9.00 to 16.45 hours. Closed Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holiday. Admission Free.

1 July - 14 August "ROYAL CONNECTIONS". AN EXHIBITION OF EMBROIDERIES and commissions designed for the Royal Family to mark the Royal Wedding including the restored coronation robes of King George IV, at the Royal School of Needlework, Princes Gate, Kensington, London. Open 9.30 to 17.00 hours. Admission £1.00.

14 July - 16 August ROYAL WEDDING DRESSES ON SHOW at the Museum of London, London Wall, London EC2. Open 10.00 to 18.00 hours Tuesday to Saturday; 14.00 to 18.00 on Sunday.

20 July - 8 August "A PRINCESS FOR WALES". An exhibition of royal wedding souvenirs dating from the wedding of the last Prince of Wales, in 1863 up to the present date. Organised by the Commemorative Collectors Society at the Guildhall, High Street, Windsor, Berkshire. Open 10.30 to 17.30 hours each day.

BURMESE MASSAGE IS A MUST

"MINGALABA" meaning "We wish you well"

In salutation, greet we; the people of the Golden Land.

To jet-lag weary travellers, from lands far and wide.

As homo-saipans (sic), at times, our health don't feel
right.

Toiling, struggling, through life, we must make it bright.

Because of various maladies, jet-lag travelling, accidents,
aches.

Pains, strains, sprains, strokes, tiredness, dislocation.

Carrying heavy weights, by hand, on shoulders, or back-
packs.

Your nerves, bones, muscles, circulation, may be out of
balance.

If you don't feel normal, out of sorts, you think you are
sick;

Or you just feel like it, for the experience and pleasure
of it.

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By a typically homely, kindly, folksy, Burmese family.

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atmosphere.

"Snooze" away your precious hour, in our cosy Massage
Parlour.

Our arts, techniques (sic), pressures, bends, stomps, and
stretches.

Can be adjusted to suit your pleasures and wishes.

Please bring your wife, for care by our lady masseur's
expertise.

You will feel well being, alleviated (sic), relieved,
relaxed and delight.

As though you are a new person, or like a bird in flight.

Come one, come all! Ladies and gents; do in us trust,

Rare experience in life, you will with joy burst,

While in Rangoon, BURMESE MASSAGE IS A MUST.

Burmese Masseur

Tunes of days gone by

Music and Records

FOR SIX YEARS Saint Patrick led the flocks of his master Miliuc around the foot of Slemish mountain in County Antrim. If the Saint were there today, however, he would be hearing music -- the music of the Seven Towers Male Voice Choir, who hail from nearby Ballymena. For the choir have now made a record of well-known Irish tunes -- tunes which reek of the nostalgia of days gone by, but which are just as fresh today as they ever were (Seven Towers Male Voice Choir: SN 1009, Sine Records, Newtownabbey Co. Antrim).

Conductor Raymond Marshall has achieved a goodly blend and balance from his choristers together with some finely-graduated singing -- "The Ould Lamma Fair" opens pianissimo to contrast a full-blooded unison ending -- and there is certainly a note of nostalgia discernible all through "Stilly Night" (which tells of "The light of other days" -- St. Patrick's light of Christianity?).

Director/piano accompanist Heather Clarke's personal arrangement of "The London derry Air" for the Seven Towers Chorus sheds a new light on this best of all folk melodies, introducing episodes of solo/chorus and solo/duet, while John Vine's version of "The Lark in the Clear Air" highlights the admirable blend of tenors and basses in the choir. For the next occasion I commend the late Carl Hardebee's arrangement of this near-perfect traditional air.

Highlight? If I must choose, it is for the singing of Tom Moore's "O Breathe not his Name." Here the choir achieve a splendid contrast moving from a forte, via mezza voce to a lovely pianissimo ending -- just listen to it.

For "divertissement" (or "divarsion" in Ulster language!), solosits Thelma Strange and Lorna Hughes contribute items like "The Green Glens of Antrim" -- adjacent to Hamilton Harty's "Blue Hills?" -- and "The Last Rose of Summer" (voices nicely blended in duet), and Alan O'Loan plays both flute and tin whistle now and again. In "Love Thee Dearest" the flautist's warm legato was well in evidence. Perhaps an appoggiatura or two would have enhanced his performance; and I do prefer "She Moved thro' the Fair" as a vocal item to reveal its full impact.

The infections 6/8 rhythm for "Dear Old Donegal," and "The Beauty of Ballyporeen" (she was "Donegan's daughter from over the water") are additional choral items which add a bit of "Crack" to the proceedings. You'll certainly appreciate this recording from the Slemish country. Saint Patrick would have love it.

YET AGAIN.....

Our thanks to BRITISH AIRWAYS for the new umbrella shades at the Poolside.

MORE BROLLY NEWS.....

Through the good offices of Arthur Phillips, Louis T. Leonowens have donated two golf umbrellas to the Club for use by Members between car and Club during inclement climatic conditions. They are available at Reception, which will also try to provide a bearer (thus ensuring that brollies are RETURNED!)

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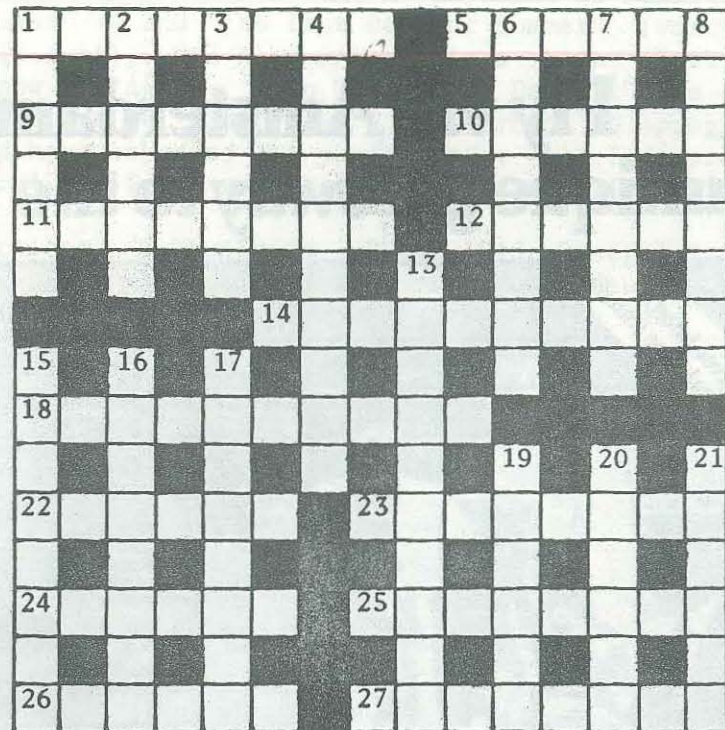
KLM departures

Flight	Departure	Time
KL 812	Monday	21.20
KL 862	Tuesday	20.30
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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CLUB CROSSWORD



CLUES

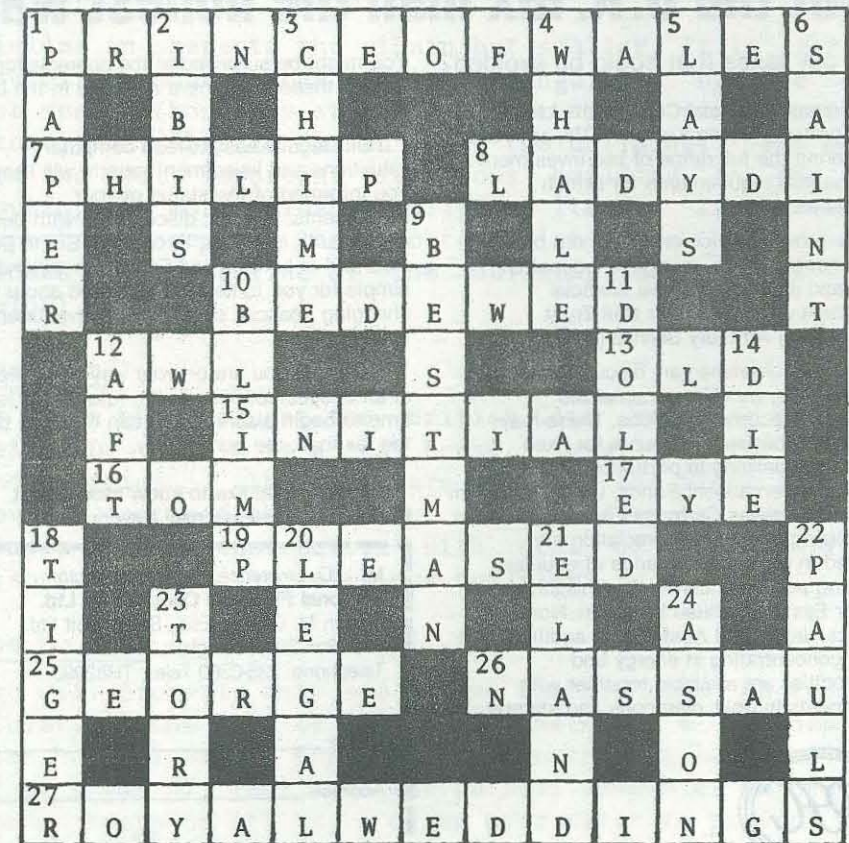
Across:

- 1 Did Ferdinand the Bull kiss these flowers?
- 5 Point in the cost for a fairy-tale hero.
- 9 Threatening.
- 10 Rocky hill freed to make it sultry.
- 11 Eric's toe is not for the general public!
- 12 Not really square.
- 14 Might be a hundred lines.
- 18 Before before notable excels all others.
- 22 It's a phenomenon!
- 23 Southern composer and he's quick!
- 24 Is she really shrinking?
- 25 Government and Insurance.
- 26 Small street tale makes the news.
- 27 Is out of 25 across to be left with these men.

Down

- 1 Sounds as if he's intent.
- 2 Old abandoned woman.
- 3 Communication that sounds as if it gives the lady permission.
- 4 Britain's is the Mother.
- 6 Looks like a crazy 12 across.
- 7 Bracing vehicle whirled around for a dope
- 8 Woody plants.
- 13 Walls have ears? Not these!
- 15 It's the O.K.
- 16 Furthest back ... to the lady who can bring up the largest family?
- 17 Point on Ma's and extinguishes.
- 19 Two bit island!
- 20 Treat one round for gear.
- 21 A hundred on holiday for tops.

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OUTPOST 3/81

A BRIEF GUIDE ON HOW TO IMPRESS OVERSEAS VISITORS WITH YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THAI CULTURE

The next time that you show overseas visitors around Wat Po or Ayudhya, it might help to have a few facts up your sleeve with which to dazzle, and, hopefully, put an end to further awkward questions.

What follows is an idiot's guide with apologies to the scions of academe.

WATS

A Wat refers to the whole group of buildings in the temple compound, consisting (sometimes/mainly) of:

The Viharn

The main place of worship for the congregation. Probably the largest of the buildings, rectangular in shape, highly decorated, the viharn usually faces east so that the light of the dawn may catch the Buddha images on the altar.

The Bot

Similar in shape to the viharn but smaller, it is for the use of the monks alone and is distinguished by the eight "ba sema" (boundary stones). There is a ninth boundary stone, but this is buried under the building. The bot is now the most important religious building in the Wat, housing the more valuable religious items. Its increasing importance over the last two centuries or so, is usually linked to the decline of the building of "stupas" (see below).

The Sala

As those who frequent the British Club swimming pool will tell you, a sala is a rest house, available for visitors and pilgrims. The sides are open and the floor is raised several feet off the ground. The building is usually of simple wooden construction with none of the decoration associated with the religious buildings.

The Ho Trai

You will probably only see a fine example of a ho trai or library in the Wats of Chiangmai (there is a particularly fine ho trai at Wat Phrathat Haripoonchai at Lamphun). In other areas of Thailand the ho trai resembles an ordinary wooden house on stilts, often over water to prevent white ants from destroying the books.

Stupa

Stupa means mound-shaped. When the Buddha was dying, he instructed his followers to bury his cremated remains under a mound resembling a heap of rice. In fact, his remains were distributed and other stupas were built.

Stupas have been built around the remains or relics of other people such as venerated monks and ruling princes.

There are two main types of stupa found in Thailand.

1. Chedi

The word chedi is derived from "cetiya" meaning "reminder of the doctrine". The shape of the Thai chedi developed from Sri Lankan stupas during the 12th and 13th centuries. The classic chedi consists of the "drum" (a square, round or indented base), the dome (smooth and bell-shaped), the "umbrella" (tapering moulded rings) and finally the "spire" (smooth, tapering to the top).

2. Prang

Khmer in style, with an elliptical rounded tower instead of a pointed one. The base is usually square or indented, and stucco decorations proliferate.

Pagoda

This is a term not commonly used in Thailand, but it is derived from the Sri Lankan word "dagoba". A pagoda is simply another word for a stupa-like structure.

BUDDHA IMAGES

I will not attempt anything more than a superficial glimpse of a subject which is hotly disputed by experts and collectors. What is geographically present-day Thailand has seen an extraordinary number of peoples, cultures and cultural influences through migration, conquest and trade so that styles are often very difficult to recognise and categorise. The Thais, for example, only emerged culturally in the North in the late twelfth century.

Furthermore, there was a tremendous fluidity of craftsmen who were brought or captured by ruling princes, leading to assimilation of styles.

/Continued on page 19

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So, now that you have plenty of excuses for making mistakes in informing your overseas visitor - the traditional division of styles is:

Devaravati (6th-11th centuries)

Mon in appearance, with broad, usually smiling faces and tight curls, often showing Indian influence especially in the robes and the slightly curved bodies of standing figures.

Srivichaya (8th-13th centuries)

Contemporaneous with Davaravati but from areas farther south and strongly influenced by Javanese art.

Lop Buri or Khmer (11th-14th centuries)

Similar, sometimes identical, in style to the art of Cambodia, with many stone and bronze figures of Hindu deities as well as Buddha images. Figures look strong and masculine.

Chiang Saen (12th-20th centuries)

From North Thailand. Rather plump, somewhat Chinese-looking faces and curled hair.

Sukhothai (13th-15th centuries)

The first purely Thai style. Images have long, flowing, idealised bodies and faces with enigmatic smiles.

Ayudhya (15th-18th centuries)

A mixture of styles, with graceful but stylised figures, lavishly decorated.

Bangkok or Ratanakosin (late 18th century to today)

Round, rather sweet faces and elaborate Thai costumes. More decorative than figures of earlier periods.

/Continued on page 20

The "Mudra"

These are the symbolic gestures or attitudes of the Buddha.

1) The "Dhyana Mudra" - Meditation

The seated statue has one hand resting in the other, lying in the lap of the cross-legged figure. The Buddha assumed this attitude during his final meditation under the Bodhi tree and again when the demon armies of Mara attacked him.

2) The "Abahya Mudra" - Dispelling Fear (or Triumph over Evil)

This derives from the Buddha subduing the elephant sent to attack him by Devadatta. The hand or hands are held up in front of the torso, palm or palms outwards and the fingers and thumb stretched vertically (as if to say stop!).

3) The "Bhumisparsa Mudra" - Subduing the Mara (or calling the Earth to Witness)

The left hand stays in the meditative position (1) above and the right hand drops down over the right knee with the palm inwards and the fingers and thumb pointing vertically downwards. This is derived from the Buddha calling on the gods of the Earth to subdue the Mara.

4) "Dharmacakra Mudra" - Turning the Wheel of Law

The figure is seated cross-legged with both hands in front of the chest, the thumb and forefinger of each hand joined to form a circle. The Buddha assumed this position when he preached his first sermon at Sarnath and set in motion the Wheel of the Law.

5) "Vajra-anjalikarma Mudra" - Adoration

Basically a "wai" at chest level, but with the right thumb covering the left and fingers interlocked at the tips.

6) "Vara Mudra" - Dispensing Favours

The left palm of the seated or standing figure is exposed, open and empty, sometimes with fingers slightly bent.

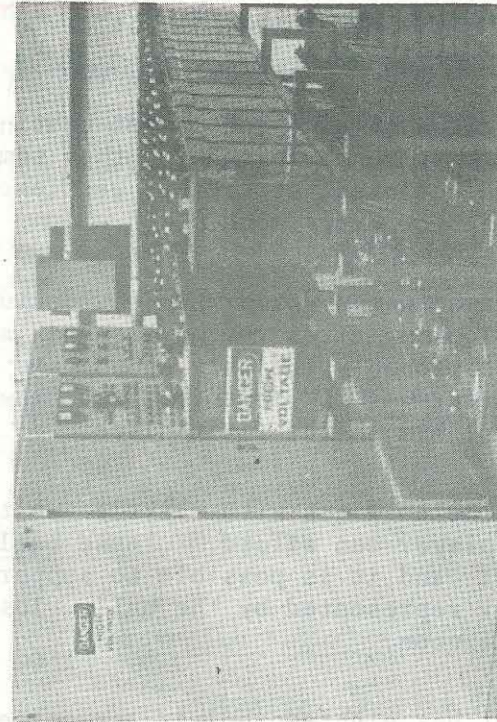
7) "Vitarka Mudra" - Exposition or Argument and Teaching

A recognisable gesture with the hand(s) at chest level with the thumb and forefinger of each hand touching.

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WHAT IS GOLF???

GOLF is a form of work made expensive enough for a man to enjoy it. It is physical and mental exertion made attractive by the fact that you have to dress for it in a 5,000,000 Baht clubhouse.

GOLF is what letter-carrying, ditch digging and carpet-beating would be if those three tasks had to be performed in the same hot afternoon in short pants and colored socks by gentlemen who require a different implement for every mood.

GOLF is the simplest-looking game in the world when you decide to take it up and the toughest-looking after you have been at it ten or twelve years. It is probably the only known game a man can play as long as a quarter of a century, and then discover that it was too deep for him in the first place.

GOLF is played on carefully selected grass with little white balls and as many clubs as the player can afford. These balls usually cost from 40 to 60 Baht and it is possible to support a family for months on the money represented by the balls lost by some golfers in a single afternoon.

GOLF is played on a course that has eighteen holes, seventeen of which are unnecessary when you get to the eighteenth. A "hole" is a tin cup in the center of a "green", which is a small parcel of grass costing about 40 Baht a BLADE. It is usually located between a brook and a couple of apple trees or a lot of "unfinished excavation".

GOLF is simply trying to get the golf ball from a given point into each of the eighteen cups in the fewest strokes and the greatest number of words. The ball must not be thrown, pushed or carried. It must be propelled by 8,000 Bahts worth of curious-looking implements especially designed to provoke the owner. Each implement has a specific purpose and a few golfers ultimately get to know what that purpose is.

GOLF is concluded after the final or the eighteenth hole when the golfer adds up his score and stops when he is on the fringe of respectability. Then he has a swim, a pint of gin, sings "Sweet Adeline" with six or eight other liars and calls it the end of a perfect day.



LADIES' GOLF

Our numbers continue to keep a very good average for this time of the year. Despite the Army Course being very wet under foot, we've managed to avoid the rain whilst we play.

The Kitchen Sink Competition will be played on Saturday September 26th starting at 9.42 a.m. at Rose Garden, keep your eyes open for the list which will go up on the Golf notice board nearer the time and we hope lots of the Men's Golf Section will participate.

PROGRAMME FOR AUGUST

Tuesday 4th August - 3 Clubs & a Putter

Starter: Sheila Kerr (252 6517)

Tuesday 11th August - Stableford

Starter: Millie Marshall (251 9558)

Tuesday 18th August - Bogey

Starter: Eileen Ford (252 2074)

Tuesday 25th August - Medal & 1st Round of Club Championships

Starter: Joyce Lumsden (252 8402)

Tuesday 1st September - 2nd Round of the Club Championships

Starter: Sheila Kerr (252 6517)

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GOLF

Thirty five golfers and a lively Don Goodin vied for honours and the prizes donated by Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank in the comparatively new venue of the Railway Course. The match was played on Sunday June 28 and although the course was a little wet, most golfers appreciated the change in venue but not that the club house ran out of cold Kloster.

Ian McLean took the major A flight prize with, in close pursuit, Gillian Allen who, it appears, is considerably better at this game than virtually all the men. In the B flight Joan Jurgens and a trim Les Vize were the worthy winners.

The venue's major attraction was the club championship's final between "El frostie Frost" and all rounder Allen. The score card showed a seesaw situation with a sudden lurch in favour of Bob Allen on the sixteenth hole. Congratulations to both winner and runner up.

The next outing of this "fun packed month of golf" was at the Rose Garden on July 12, the first of three consecutive fortnightly fixtures at this course being (not the triple crown) but the ever popular Thai Glass Gestetner "eclectic" competition. It is rumoured by the old B.C. golfers that, like making a good bowl of noodles, to win this competition one has to strike the delicate balance of but a few elements. Given persistent attendance, maximum use of handicap, a soupcon of skill and a smidgen of luck the aroma of success is guaranteed. An early leader in this event is John odd-socks Salter who has however flaterly denied smelling like a bowl of noodles.

The July 12 outing saw, thanks to Singer Thailand Ltd., a handsome array of celadon gifts with winner in the A flight the two Johns (Burrows and Kerr) and in the B flight John O.S. Salter and George Walck. David Frost and Brian Lewis displayed a talent of putting their balls closest to the pin on the sixth and fifteenth hole respectfully and received three balls and much applause.

The third contest of the day was the Dunlop finale and saw victors Hans Daniels and George Walck completing the task on the seventeenth hole in a close, tense and entirely nerve racking game. The winners interviewed later at a popular down town Patpong resort said their win was entirely unrelated to Mr. Daniel's hip flask and certainly had nothing to do with brutal injuries sustained by the losers a week earlier. Congratulations to the winning pair.

The fourth element of the day was the Pat Beston leaving trophy being for the best nett score of the day and was won by a magnificent round of Gross 75 from Geon Paolo. This is the best gross score of the season and makes a fitting return for Geon.

Turning to the social news of the Golf Section, many congratulations to Clive Miller on his recent engagement. Is it just rumour that he has taken his fiancée to Scotland, the home of golf, to buy her a made to measure set of clubs? Also the section's best wishes go with Pat Beston and Brian Stewart two regular companions of the golf section who recently left to countries where you don't have girl caddies and you play a round in three hours - can't imagine that!

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SQUASH

Len Alexander Squash Tournament

After several hours of energetic squash where the rules were often conveniently forgotten our two departing members John Sill and Vic Betteridge were presented with their hard earned trophies. (Did someone even suggest a fix)

In particular in court two, there was some spectacular play when Bernie Grogan at one point decided he could play better without his racket! Upon departing company the latter eventually arrived at the front wall. Later Bernie reckoned that he was more suited to racket ball and played Frank (the stagger) Hamill with a modified racquet that he redesigned during play.

While squash rules were conspicuous by their absence, there was considerable activity and enjoyment by all who participated. However it seems that a handicap of -8 for Steve Balme is still not fair to his opponents. Someone suggested that the strings of his racquet should be removed or he should play with Bernie's modified racquet.

Our thanks to Len for organising the "fun" tournament. It was heartily enjoyed by all.

Sincere good wishes to all our departing squash members and a special thanks to John (the Daddy Brute) Sill for all his good work.

Next league starts on 3rd August 1981 and as all three courts are now operational (isn't court No. 1 looking good) no delay's are anticipated in completing league programmes. Good luck.



DARTS

For the third time in as many editions, you have a new darts scribe. At an ever increasing rate, members are heading West presumably to seek either some coaching at the home of the game or to carry out some intensive practice with a milder training medium.

A different month certainly, if not from the team's performance but from the location of the fixtures -- two weeks in succession in Patpong followed by a home game against the Ladies!

The first game against the Tavern saw a good turn out of players and a noticeable increase in female supporters. Was this due to it being John Sill's last darts night or some other reason?

After a disastrous start in the singles with Arthur being the only winner, Captain Norman took the controversial decision to split the Duo. Had he at last found the magic formula? Unfortunately not. Although John and Norman and Roy and Arthur won their doubles, these were to be the last points of the evening, the Tavern winning 12-5.

It was at this point that the real reason for the supporters presence become known. They were obviously very concerned that the team did not know their way around Patpong and were prepared to act as guides between the Tavern and the carpark. Your scribe is not certain, but he believes he heard some strange mutterings about Panthers and Bunnies coming from those being escorted.

The second game against Bobby's arms saw initially five stalwarts and double the number of supporters present. (It's difficult to find the Carpark from Bobby's Arms).

Besides James' win in the singles and his closing of the team game, the only other point of note was Brian Heath's bravely agreeing to pretend that his usual partner was playing with him in the doubles. The final score will not be reported.

And so to the first home match for many weeks against the Ladies with this time more than enough players. (I wonder why?) Although the opposition were in fine form in more ways than one, BC morale was high. All the team stayed close to the

/Continued on page 33

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dartboard between games supposedly to support their colleagues. Either this or the BC brew must be the magic ingredient since the BC registered their first win for a very long time. Tom and David Wallace won their singles, David Wallace and Norman, Peter and James their doubles to make the scores all square at this stage.

Roy, Peter and David Wallace followed by Tom, David Frost and James then won the triples to give BC the match with a total of 7 tons, including 140 by David Frost. The team game was gallantly lost by the BC so that they could buy the Ladies a drink, under the careful scrutiny of the same supporters, this time disguised as Bridge players.

The last game was played against PTT in which one team scored sixteen points and another team scored one.

James won his singles!



SWIMMING

Sunday 29 June was Fun Gala day and as usual attracted a larger number of swimmers than we normally see. Those that took part in the hard work side of things by swimming the normal race programme put in many good performances with Mark Duncan again lowering his Club record in the backstroke.

We shall protect the names of the guilty who took the easy option of swimming in the Fun events only but give due praise to Timothy Collins and Graeme Walsingham for their three first places and Rachel Hill as the Improver of the Month.

No event was more fiercely contested than the Toddler's One Width, nor were parents' vocal encouragements more loudly heard. Its a long hard road from one width and a bag of sweeties as a prize to the 1500 metres and a Gold Medal at the 1992 Olympic Games but first things first.

Good progress is now being made on completely reorganising the training and coaching sessions given by Khun Choon and its hoped to introduce a new scheme on 1 September 1981. A new Award Scheme is also being considered for introduction on the same date.

Dates for the diary - 2 August Gala and 6 September Family Gala.



BILLIARDS

Mabbatt Cup Competition

The competition ran at a leisurely pace through May and June, as befits a game for gentlemen. Maybe a mis-spent youth leads to the adoption of a dignified pace.

The semi-finalists were Phil Murray, Ron Armstrong, Les Collings and Peter Prince. Both games were affected by one player being below his usual form, but in the second semi-final Mr. Collings played as cautious a game as has been seen for some while, leaving Mr. Prince with precious few clear shots.

In the final, Mr. Collings continued on remarkable form - more like the Les we expected - and took the first frame 57-43. Mr. Armstrong stormed back and won the second 60-29. The third frame was an uphill battle for Mr. Armstrong who was at one stage more than 20 behind. Two blacks and a blue eliminated the deficit and Mr. Armstrong went on to win the frame 60-41, and with it the Mabbatt Cup. Congratulations Ron!

* Apology - this report missed the last issue of Outpost.

Match: Royal Bangkok Sports Club

On 3rd July, a team of seven players from R.B.S.C. together with nearly as many supporters responded to our invitation in magnificent style. The match consisted of three singles and two doubles, all playing best of three frames. Much excellent snooker was played but RBSC proved the stronger side, winning 5-0. This result in no way diminished the pleasure of the evening, and we look forward to regular matches in the future. The formal proceedings were finished by about ten o'clock but friendly games continued for some hours confirming the success of the event.

Teams were:	Royal Bangkok Sports Club	British Club
Singles:	M.R. Kraideb	v Mr. Ron Armstrong
	Khun Opas Lertpruk	v Mr. Les Collings
	Khun Temsook S.	v Mr. Tom Moran
Doubles:	Khun Charn K.	v Mr. Tom Watson
	Maj. Gen. Baraweec	Mr. Chris Lewis
	Pol. Gen. Somkid S.	v Mr. Peter Adcock
	Khun Sukhum	Mr. Peter Prince

Hamilton Cup Competition

Progress seems to have been interrupted somewhat by annual holidays, wives or hangovers. Who can tell? Messrs. Prince, Barrett, Mc Nally and one Watson have been honorably dismissed and we're only waiting for Messrs. Brewin, Adcock, Salter and the other Watson to surface and things can proceed. Get with it, you lot!

Snooker Ladder

The ladder board is now fixed and the ladder will be started any day now (one small item is awaited). The rules are few and will be posted in the Billiards Room. Names will be placed initially at random (maybe we'll seed one Ron at the bottom while he's on holiday). Results slips will be provided to be completed and put into the box. There is no charge!

Is there a demand for a Billiards ladder? It so please nag Ian Hill about it.

General

Playing Members are pleased to see that Table No. 2 is sporting a new cloth.

At the same time, there is evidence that some players have been mistreating the facilities. Members are requested to treat the equipment with respect and to see that their guests and others do likewise.

Early this month the game of Skittle Billiards was re-introduced by Les Collings. An enjoyable change. The skittles are available on request at the Reception Desk.

Also available there is a set of billiards balls. They're new. Please return them (and the skittles) on completion of use.

Ladies

Are there any Lady players in the Club? At risk of raising a controversy involving tradition, Women's Lib, politics, religion and Home Rule for Chipping Sodbury, Ian Hill is prepared to arrange a rendez-vous in a suitably discreet place (such as the Club Bar) with any who would answer 'yes' to the above question. Collar him any time.

Farewell

On Friday, 10th July, much to the regret of his friends, drinking partners and snooker adversaries, Mr. Leslie Collings carried out his threat to relinquish his pad in Bangkok and retreat to the bosom of his family in Hong Kong. Les professed to have good reasons. He yearned for the fishing. The fact that in Thailand one can always get someone else to do that seemed to carry no weight.

Les is well known to most Members as a congenial companion and a lethal snooker opponent when on form. He also has a repertoire of ninety-nine old favourites which will be missed by those who have heard him sing. Less known, perhaps, is the enthusiastic contribution he made in getting the Billiards Section running after the reconstruction of the Club House last year.

Good luck, Les! A good health and happy times in HK - good frames and good fishing. You'll get a game for a beer any time you call back. Note: Les promised to be on tap in the Chinery, Bull & Bear, or the Captains Bar if anyone wants to hear a fishing story in HK.

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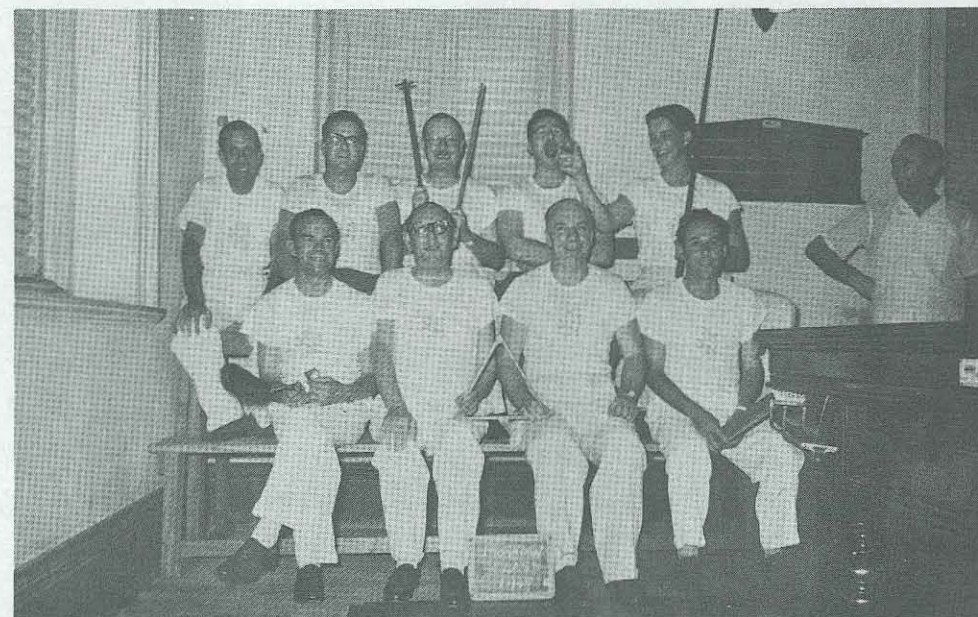
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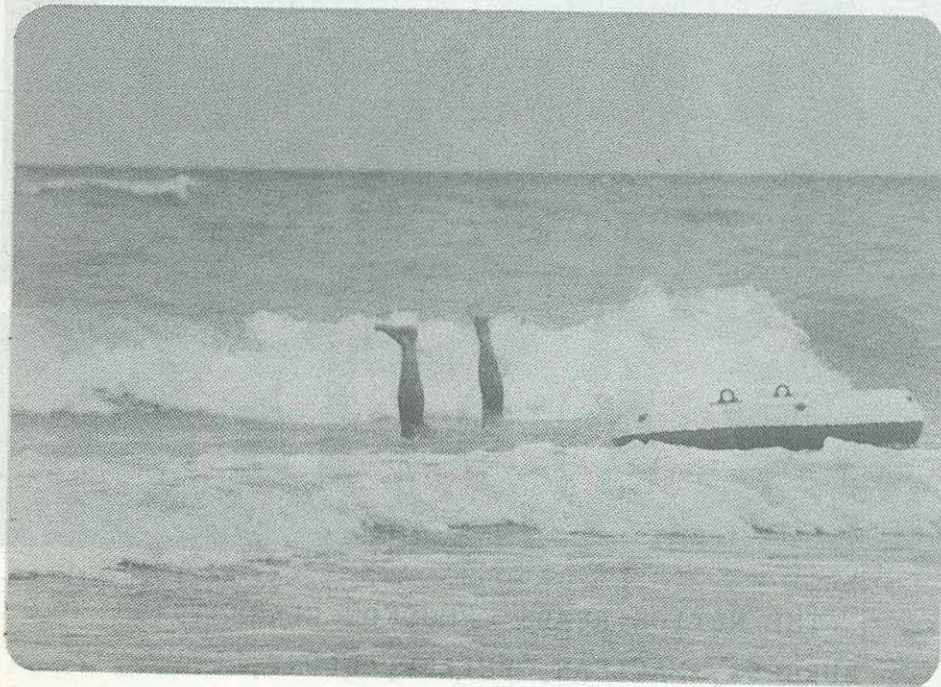


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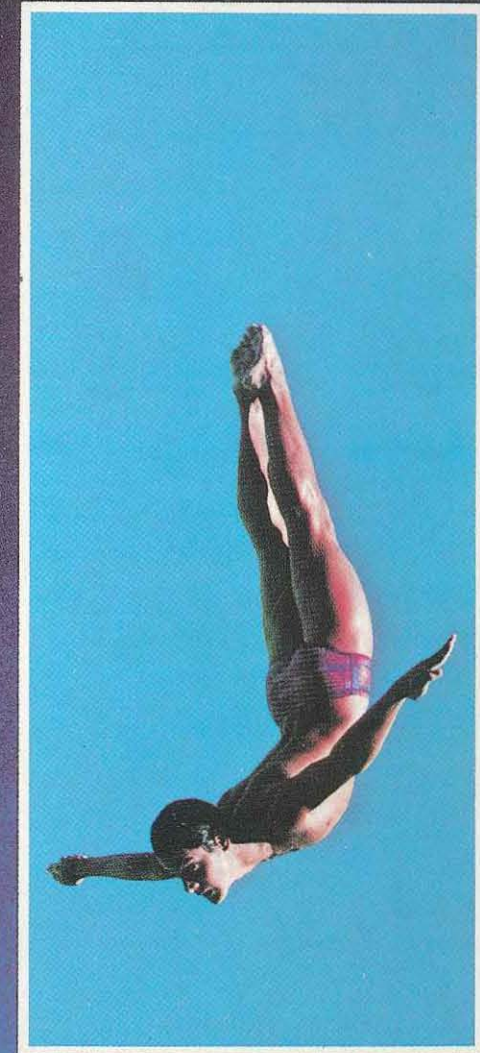
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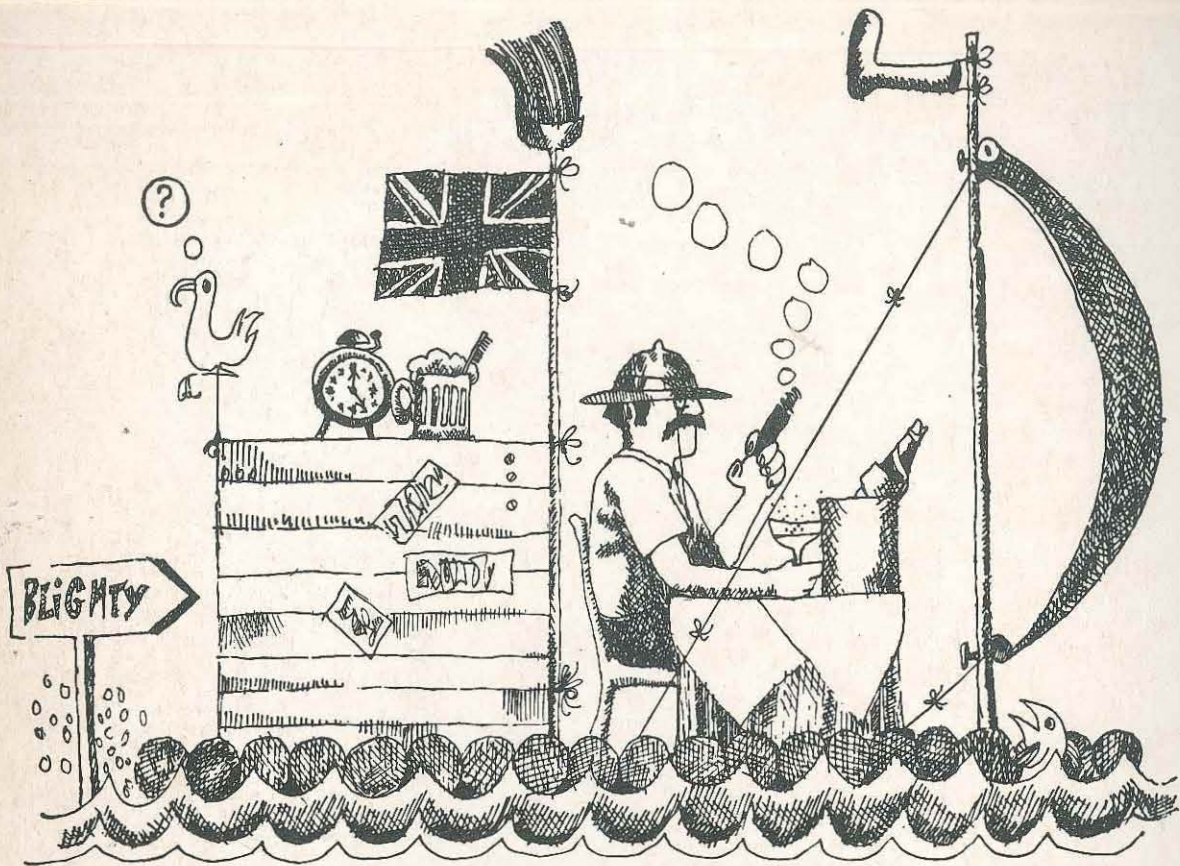
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