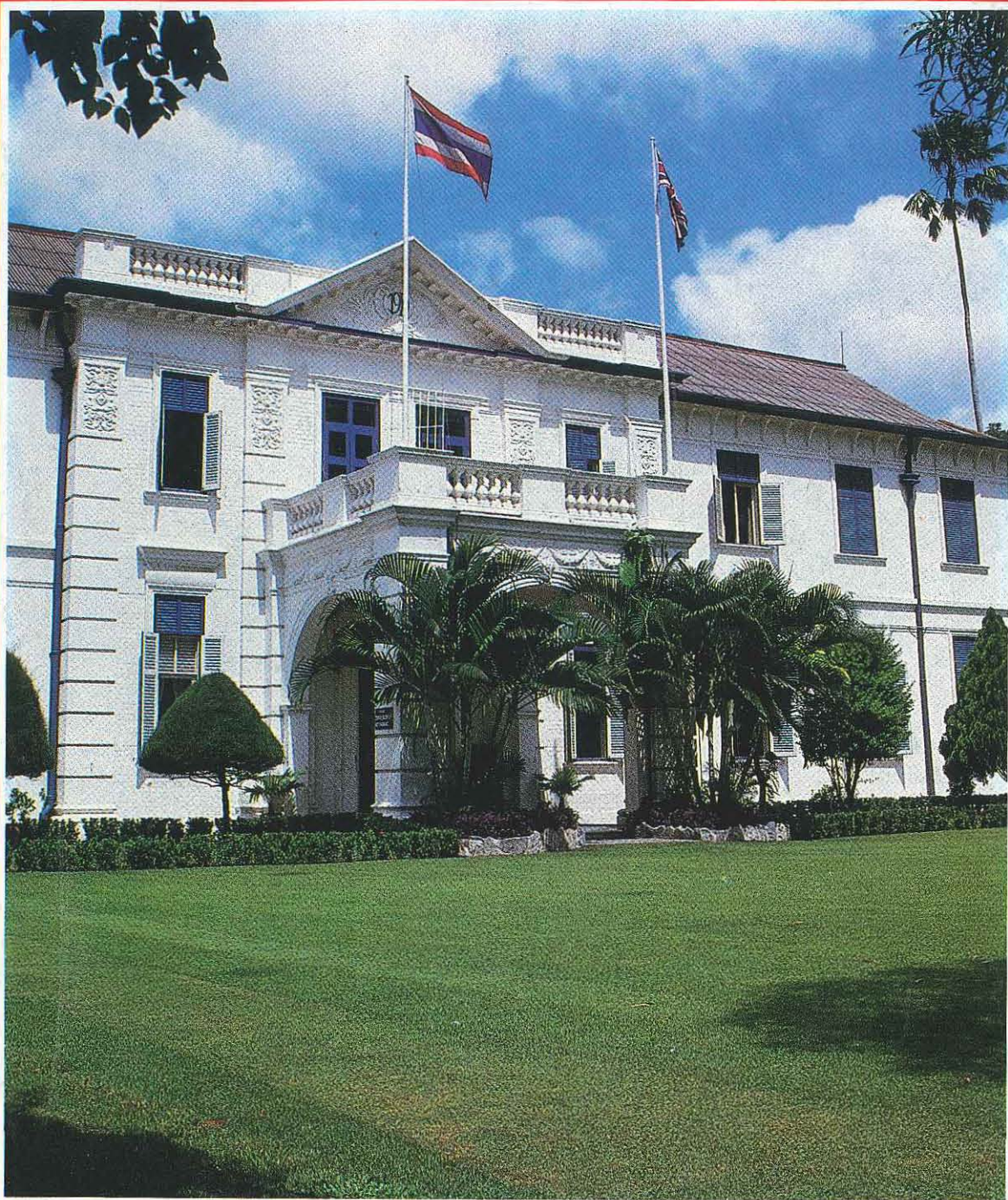


# OUTPOST

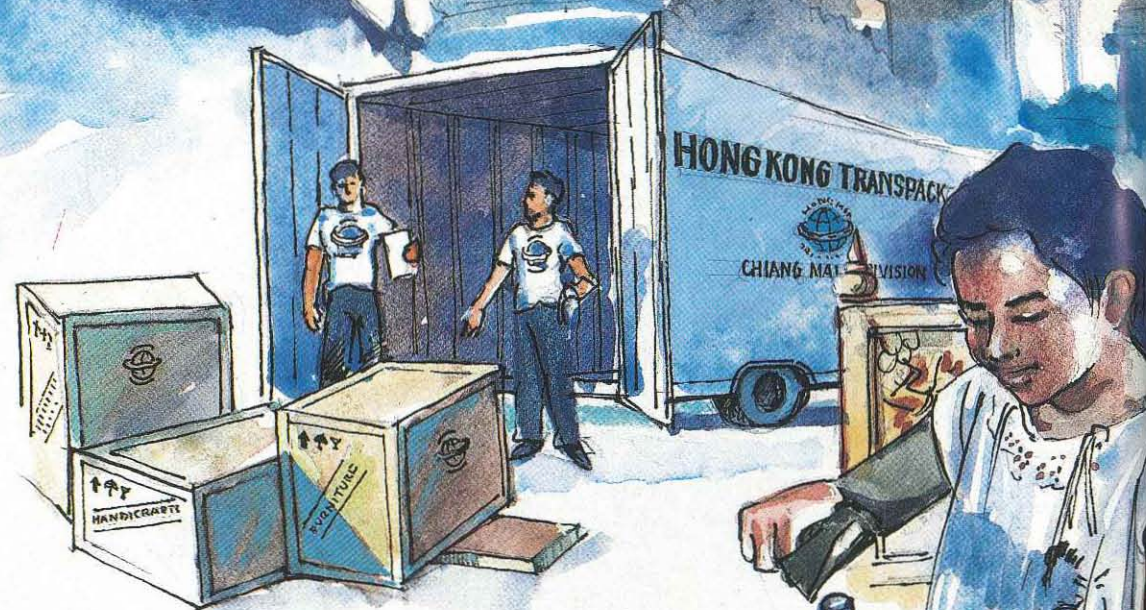
MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB

AUGUST 1987





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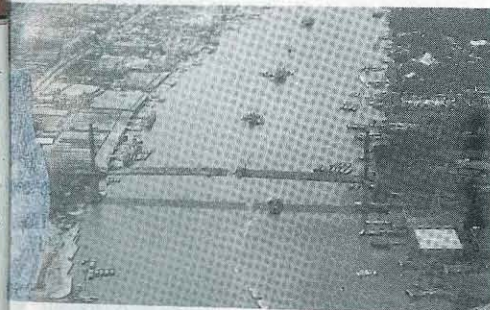
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# DIARY

## AUGUST

Sat	1	Dinner Video	
Sun	2	Buffet Supper	6.00 & 8.00 p.m.
Mon	3	<i>BWG Mahjong : Wordsworth Room</i>	From 5.00 p.m.
		Ladies' Tennis	9.00 a.m.
		New Members' Night/Happy Hour	3.00-5.00 p.m.
Tue	4	Ladies' Golf	5.30-9.00 p.m.
		Bridge	
Wed	5	Tennis and Squash Club Night	7.30 p.m.
Thu	6	Ladies' Tennis	From 6.00 p.m.
Sat	8	Dinner Video	8.30-10.30 a.m.
Sun	9	Buffet Supper	6.00 & 8.00 p.m.
Mon	10	<i>BWG Mahjong : Wordsworth Room</i>	From 5.00 p.m.
		Ladies' Tennis	9.00 a.m.
		Happy Hour	3.00-5.00 p.m.
Tue	11	Ladies' Golf	5.30-9.00 p.m.
		Bridge	
Wed	12	Tennis and Squash Club Night	7.30 p.m.
Thu	13	Ladies' Tennis	From 6.00 p.m.
		<i>BAMBI Meeting at the BC</i>	8.30-10.30 a.m.
Sat	15	Dinner Video	9.00 a.m.
Sun	16	Buffet Supper	6.00 & 8.00 p.m.
Mon	17	<i>BWG Mahjong : Wordsworth Room</i>	From 5.00 p.m.
		Ladies' Tennis	9.00 a.m.
		Happy Hour	3.00-5.00 p.m.
Tue	18	Ladies' Golf	5.30-9.00 p.m.
		Bridge	
Wed	19	Tennis and Squash Club Night	7.30 p.m.
Thu	20	Ladies' Tennis	From 6.00 p.m.
		<i>BWG Lunch : Neil's Tavern. Contact Marianne Johns Tel: 392-8019</i>	8.30-10.30 a.m.
Sat	22	Dinner Video	11.30 a.m.
Sun	23	Buffet Supper	6.00 & 8.00 p.m.
Mon	24	<i>BWG Mahjong : Wordsworth Room</i>	From 5.00 p.m.
		Ladies' Tennis	9.00 a.m.
		Happy Hour	3.00-5.00 p.m.
Tue	25	Ladies' Golf	5.30-9.00 p.m.
		Bridge	
Wed	26	Tennis and Squash Club Night	7.30 p.m.
Thu	27	Ladies' Tennis	From 6.00 p.m.
Sat	29	Dinner Video	8.30-10.30 a.m.
Sun	30	Buffet Supper	6.00 & 8.00 p.m.
Mon	31	<i>BWG Mahjong : Wordsworth Room</i>	From 5.00 p.m.
		Ladies' Tennis	9.00 a.m.
		Happy Hour	3.00-5.00 p.m.
			5.30-9.00 p.m.

Note: Non Club events in italics

# FROM THE EDITOR

I am standing here on the sizzling tarmac at Don Muang International Airport, bidding farewell to the editorial team as they begin their journeys to far flung corners of the world for some well deserved R&R. It's been a tough few months around the OUTPOST table at the British Club. We will all miss the tea and scones and young William Herbert gurgling in the corner as his mother, Kate, wrestles with the diary.

To be a little more serious – heh hmmm! It has been very gratifying to see the steady flow of contributions to the magazine coming in every month. Many thanks to those who have made the effort, providing us with the printed word and, often, a lot of laughs as well. Keep up the good work.

David Williamson has volunteered (no arm twisting – honest!) to gather together all the material for the September issue; so watch out and make sure you put on your dark glasses before opening the envelope.

We will all be back towards the end of August, rested and refreshed (we hope)! So, in the meantime, have a good Summer and see you in September.

Maren White



THE following announcement was sent recently to the BC by Donald Kennedy for inclusion in OUTPOST:

"The St. Patrick's Society of Bangkok held its Annual General Meeting recently at the British Club at which time the following officers were elected: President, Mr. Ronald Armstrong; Vice-President, Mr. Frank Rowland; Secretary, Mr. Brian Butterfield; Treasurer, Mr. George O'Brien. A number of Committee Members were also chosen to assist these officers in the arrangement of the social programme for the coming year, the most important function being the St. Patrick's Ball at the Oriental Hotel on Friday, 18 March 1988. Membership in the Society is open to anyone who was born in Ireland or who has a parent or grandparent born there. The Secretary, Mr. Butterfield, will be very glad to accept applications for membership. Phone: 235-0559."

However, Mr. Kennedy felt that the announcement was somewhat "dull", and could we please "spice it up" a little "a la typical OUTPOST style", in order to reflect a truer picture of the Society and its Members. We thought this was best achieved by quoting Mr. Kennedy, as follows:

"You are well aware that the St. Patrick's Society is composed of fun-loving members and very little serious business is conducted at an AGM. Nominations for the election of officers and committee members are generally accompanied by some "roasting" and "ribbing" by the proposers. For example, Brian Butterfield is only quasi-Secretary. His very capable secretary (office), Khun Kenya, was nominated and elected ....."

PS. The invitation for new members is serious."



## Meet the New Members



◀ **Tony Brazenell:** "brand new" — he has been here for just seven weeks, and likes it. He works for Gulf Air and this is his first posting abroad. His wife and ten year old twins will be joining him soon. 'Sportwise' he's a squash and golf player.



▲ **Tina & Barry Disney (with Bob Coombes):** Tina was Dutch and Barry was English — they are now based in Australia. To add to the confusion (or was it just my confusion?) Barry has an American accent — mid-Pacific! He has been commuting between Australia and Bangkok for the last few years, usually staying here for just a few weeks at a time. This stint is for six months so Tina has come too, leaving the "big kids" (18-26) behind.



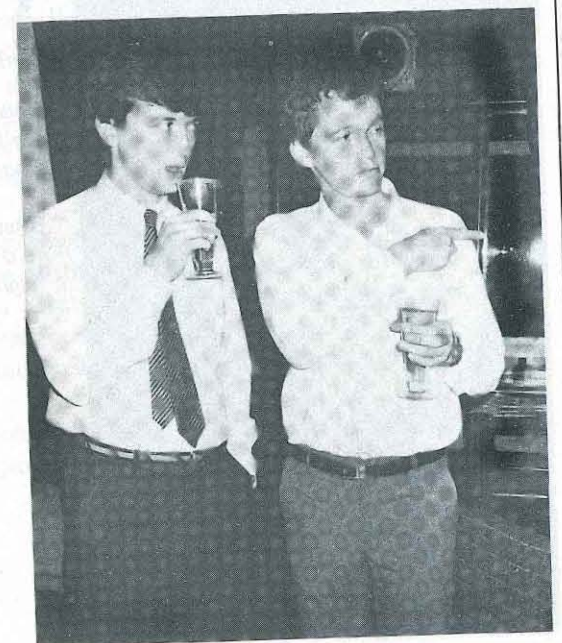
◀ **Bill & Deide (Didi) Black (with Brian Heath):** from Vancouver have been here for four months. Bill is the General Manager of the Regent Hotel, and I am reliably 'informed' that they started 'managing' in a shack out in the prairies, moved up to a log cabin, and then spent four years on a junk in Hong Kong! They have a 4½ year old son. Definitely the best dressed people in the bar!



◀ **David & Rosemary Wyatt (with Mike Kelly):** have been here for two years already, saving up for their BC membership! David is Head of Chancery at the British Embassy — no medals yet though. They have two children (13 and 14) at school in the UK.



◀ **Rob Barksfield (with Brian Heath — again!):** from Bournemouth has been here for six weeks and previously spent six months here in 1985. He's here to "sort out" the Thai telex system and is a "hill climbing sprinter" (?) — for the uninformed, you do that in cars! He is also a Hash House Harrier and says that his current back injury is a result of exercising at the Dusit Thani (a likely story).



▶ **James Nichols (with Geoff Simmons):** from Birkenhead. A "manager"; watches, watches! Has been here for a year, and was previously in Taiwan and Hong Kong. Plays squash and football, and would very much like to set up a chess club — any takers?





Mark Pease (with David Williamson): has been here for three weeks, in which time he's got to know Vince Swift — need I say more?! Jean and the kids are coming out soon. Mark "would not like to be a reliable member of anyone's team", but is a keen supporter. In the past he's "hung around" various British Clubs in Nairobi and Africa generally.



and a non-member....

David C. Williamson: (is it Clive, Cecil, Cyril, Cedric or Cary?) popped in for a sherry. Likes not too much work, a fair amount of alcohol, and flirting with the ladies — they seem to quite like flirting with him too! Is believed to be a bit of an under-achiever, is as transparent as the day, and has a terrible line in patter. B5 for the person who comes up with the best suggestion as to what he won the cup for!



and some exceptionally old members....

Bob Coombes: non-alcoholic, non-smoking, trim, even svelte. Better known as "Bangkok Bob"; owns Choice Foods and much more.

Brian Heath: wanted his picture in OUTPOST to prove he'd been there, although I think there were enough "sightings" of him that night to last a life time!

## CLUB ROUNDUP

The Manager  
The British Club Bangkok  
189 Suriwongse Road  
Bangkok  
Thailand



10 Downing Street  
Whitehall

28th June 1987

Dear Mr Williamson,

Mr Denis Thatcher has very kindly asked me to inform you how much he appreciated your dubious hospitality during his recent visit with the wife. He has authorised me to make one or two observations on his behalf, which I hope you will take with the good spirit with which they are intended.

Firstly, the airconditioning is not efficient. This can lead to excessive heart palpitations which, combined with copious quantities of gin, produces some extremely unpleasant side effects. Mr Thatcher assures me that he suffered numerous hallucinogenic experiences whilst at your establishment, some of which remain as horrible scars. I quote, "and then Barbara Cartland appeared wearing a beard". Do you get the picture, Mr Williamson?

I have listened at length to the descriptions of the goings on, and can only suggest that the majority of your members visit a Doctor, and quickly. Here in England we perhaps do not understand the pressures inflicted on ex-patriat businessmen; however, we do feel that something has gone seriously wrong. I hasten to add that the services of that More Nick doctor should not be retained; his last diagnosis has resulted in an advertant fear of frogs and cricket.

Moreover, the standard of the bar staff is questionable. Mr Thatcher feels that perhaps a career in acting would be more beneficial to all concerned. In fact, it appears that some of your members sing rather a lot. I am not sure that this is suitable especially as most of them do it dressed up as women. I really feel that you should do all you can to discourage this type of activity, especially when the majority of your members are trying to eat their dinner in a peaceful manner.

Mark, it appears, enjoyed his visit immensely. However, we are all aware of his limitations. It was far too kind of that nice American 'female' to devote so much of her time to entertaining him. I do have one request though — could you please provide a copy of the story that the Australian gentleman told him, so that I could at least attempt to explain the relevance of Hot Dogs, which currently, I am at a loss to do? By the way, Mark is most apologetic about the bus. Perhaps if there is too much damage you would let him know directly. (Mr Thatcher wishes to make it clear that he is not responsible.)

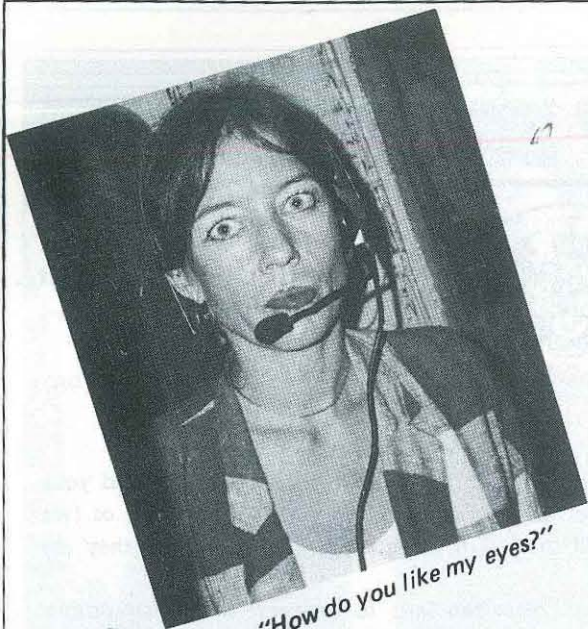
Mr Thatcher is so disturbed at the lack of civilised behaviour at your Club, that he has commissioned me to set up a Charity fund. The purpose of this fund is to provide you with some proper form of entertainment, and you will be pleased to hear that we have recruited the services of the Blue Peter production team under the auspices of the Tooting Broadway Strollers. We have negotiated a fairly reasonable fee, and I am sure that your members can be persuaded to contribute to this educational feast.

I enclose a few snaps that Mr Thatcher took at the party you so kindly arranged. I feel that one glance should suffice for you to appreciate my general concern.

Yours sincerely,

Bill

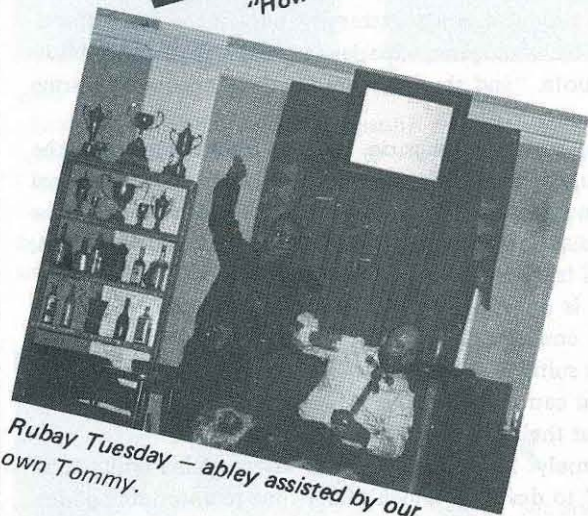




"How do you like my eyes?"



"Bruce, wherever you go Bruce, we'll be thinking of you Bruce" — The Director.



Rubay Tuesday — able assisted by our own Tommy.

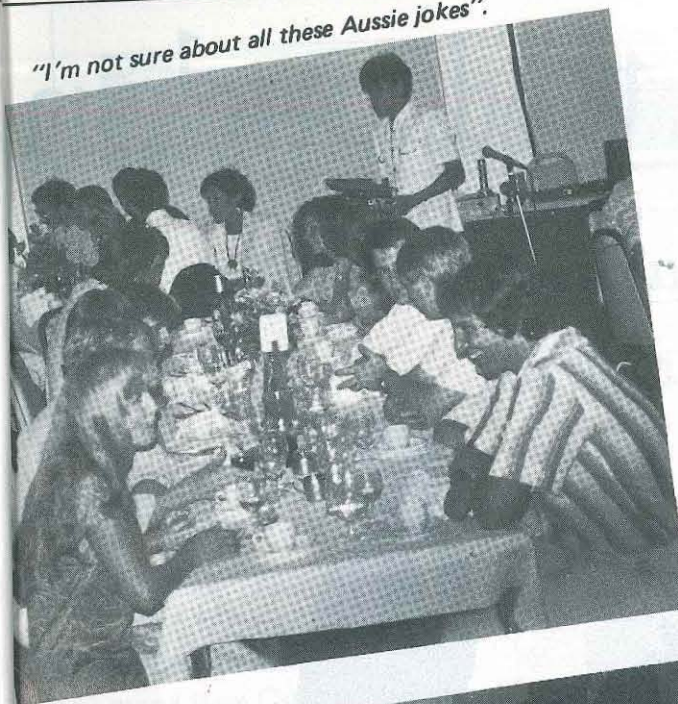


"How do you like my eyes?"



"I, I, I, I, I like you very much".

"I'm not sure about all these Aussie jokes".



Mr. Thatcher thought this the rowdiest table of all.



Ain't Misbehavin'.



The Chairman and Mandy's Mum (amongst others).



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## TRAVEL LOG

### Travels in Nepal : Kathmandu

**I**N my previous articles I described our momentous trek to the Annapurna Base Camp. In these next few I try to capture the colourful scenes of Kathmandu, Bhaktapur and Patan.

Before we set off on our trek we took the chance to have a brief look at Kathmandu – my first visit to this fascinating city. We just had time to experience the sites, smells and bustle, in between sorting out gear for our trek and last minute shopping for things forgotten and for warmer clothes.

On returning from the Annapurna Sanctuary and our trek, we took the time to really explore Kathmandu. Our first trip was across town to the Tibetan refugee camp, where we watched carpet making – from carding the raw wool, to intricate weaving,



*Tibetan refugee camp. Kathmandu.*

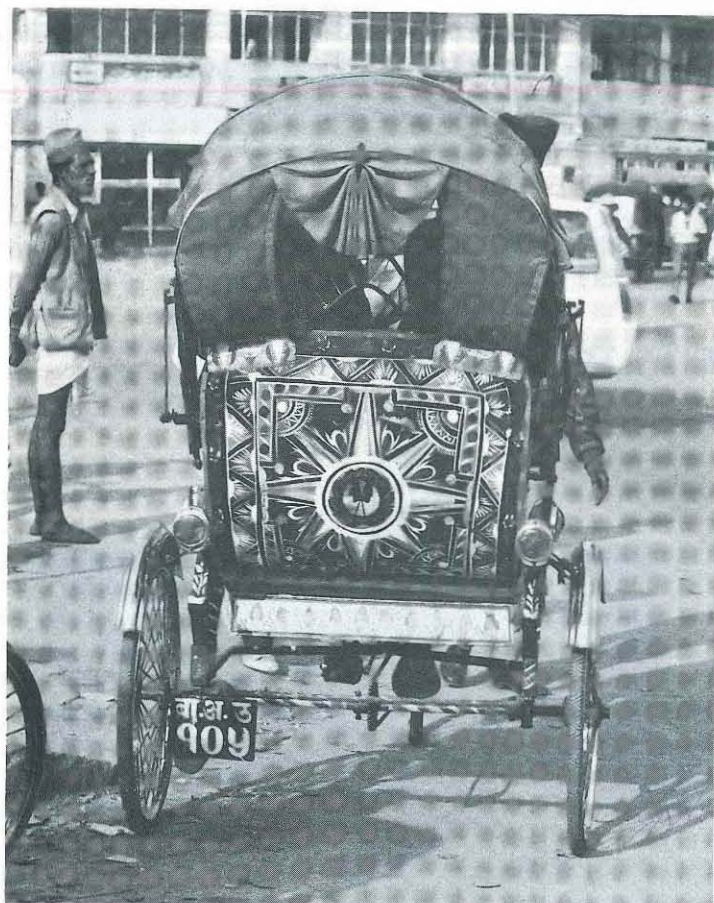


*Street scenes, Kathmandu.*

all by hand. We duly bargained for two carpets each, then wondered how

we were going to carry them all back to Bangkok!





*Kathmandu tricycle.*



*Street scenes, Kathmandu.*

Kathmandu is a photographer's paradise. we walked the many narrow streets — somewhat muddy underfoot from a brief rain shower, but at least it laid the dust — capturing the many colourful sites: old ladies selling fruit and produce in the streets, Indian shops selling exquisite jewellery, antique shops with both old and new (always difficult to tell the difference!), carpets hung out for sale and the general hustle and bustle of a rural market town.

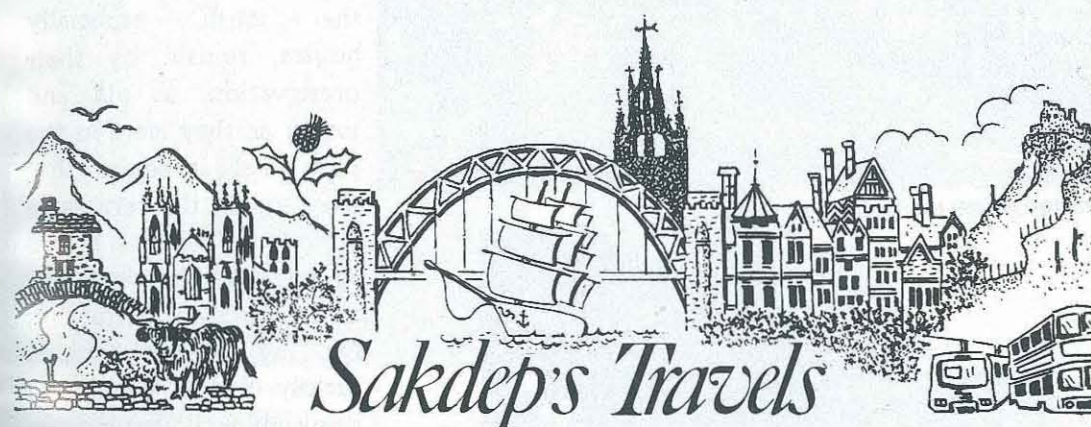
To just stand in a corner of the market square with a telephoto-lens is an experience, enabling one to capture everyday life as it happens: old men sitting on balconies quietly smoking, children on their way home from school jostling for space with gaily-painted tricycles, cattle, and hill-people carrying heavy backpacks of produce for sale.

Temples abound in Kathmandu, as in all towns of Nepal. In the smallest market square prayer wheels are set up for the faithful to turn as they pass.

Ray Butler



## MY LAST IMPRESSION

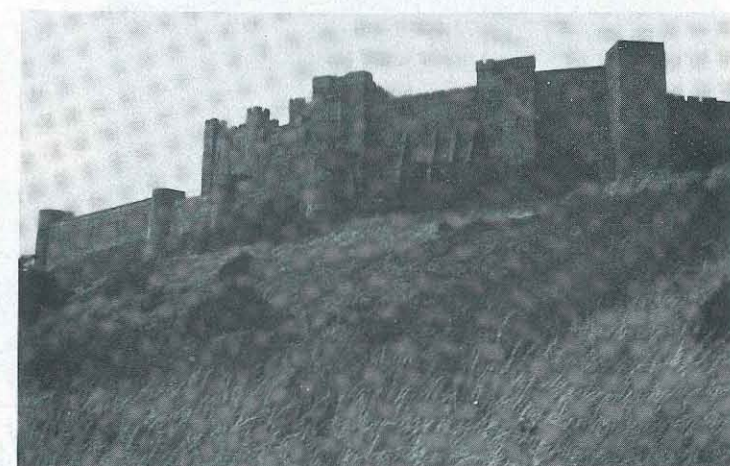


THE following writing deems to be my trips in Britain at long last, and it is not 'least' in my memories that I still do wish to impressively mention about such a wonderful trip:—

HOLY ISLAND, Northumberland — off the north-eastern coast; can be approached by cars on causeway only when low tide. A tiny fort called 'Lindisfarne Castle' which was later converted to a residence, now in the care



*Lindisfarne Castle, Holy Island.*



*Bamburgh Castle on the crag.*

of the National Trust, is very popular on the island.

BAMBURGH CASTLE, Northumberland — set on a basalt crag overlooking the North Sea is a massive size, and inside is fully furnished with valuable things. It is owned by Lord Armstrong's family.

DURHAM CATHEDRAL, Durham — stand-

ing in a very long history. A good place for the archaeological study. Walking up a 325-step stairway to the top roof for overlooking the city views is most exciting.

LAKE DISTRICT — Windermere, Coniston (the place where a famous English poet, William Wordsworth, used to live)





*Coniston village nestles by mountains.*



*Malvern Priory Church, Malvern.*

and Ambleside. These provide a romance of real beauty of nature, ie. chain of mountains, long lakes, streams and waterfalls which are more beautiful than I can describe. And yet man-made stone walls spreading for miles over farmlands are superbly fantastic.

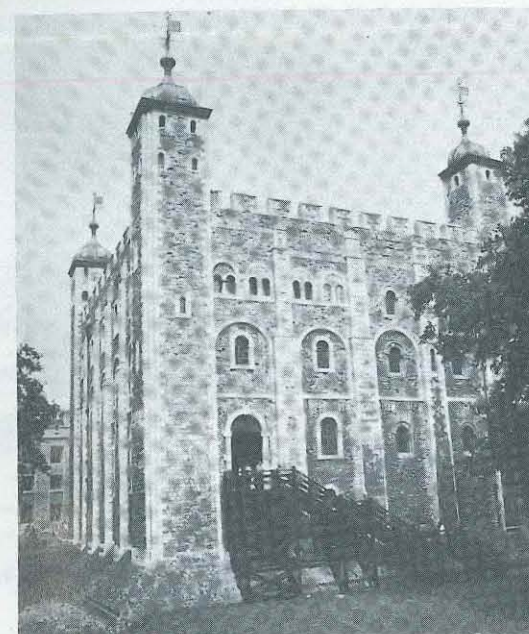
MANCHESTER — even though it is a centre of many communities, located in an industrial area, and becomes a dead city on Sundays, buildings in it are of great interest for



*An open-top bus for London City tour.*

their architectural designs and period.

GREAT MALVERN, LEDBURY, UPTON-UPON-SEVERN — differentiating scenes between counties in the north and the south, especially houses, remain by their preservation, as old and lovely as they were in the past, and it seems that they are of the very same period as York's. I also found that thatched cottages are most attractive. On my further trip, I luckily had a chance to drink mineral water from the 'Holy Well'. All my short trips down in the south were with the very kind guidance of a British friend.



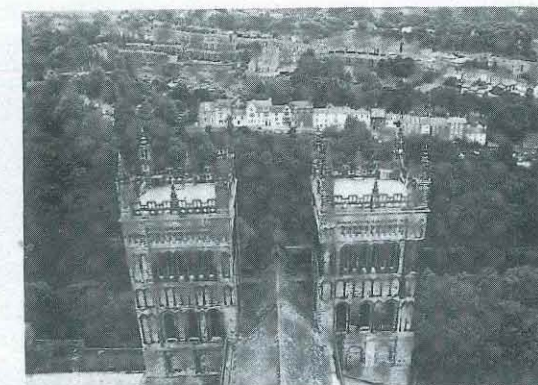
*White Tower, Tower of London.*



*The Old Mill, Ambleside.*



*Durham Cathedral.*



*Bird's-eye view from the Durham Cathedral's top roof.*



*The Market House, Ledbury.*

LONDON — this was scheduled to be my last visiting place before my departure. The time was definitely limited as there are a lot of things and places which I would have liked to see in London. The Tower of London, London Zoo and Madam Tussaud's Waxwork Museum were quickly visited.

In conclusion, not being British, I, together with other people in Britain jointly admire the well-preserved and priceless heritages. I would like to





*A countryside scene of Upton-Upon-Severn.*

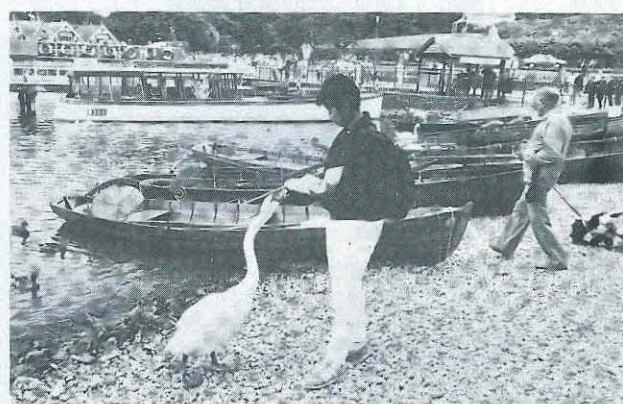


*The Old Bridge House, Ambleside.*

express most of all, that we all owe the National Trust and its members, and also other certain groups of conservationists, a great deal for their hard endeavours in preserving, maintaining and looking after invaluable things, historic places, beauties of nature and wildlife in order to ensure that these will survive for a long time in the future.

I extremely wish that my own country had people who would at least bear in their minds being conservationists, and would realise that all our historically long-standing places, beauties of nature and existing wildlife are now amidst vandalism and danger. Determinedly, we are lacking in preservation by the people themselves. Can we hope that in the foreseeable future we can still similarly retain the aforementioned as well as British people do?

Additionally, the expe-



*Ferry service and rowing-boats at Windermere.*

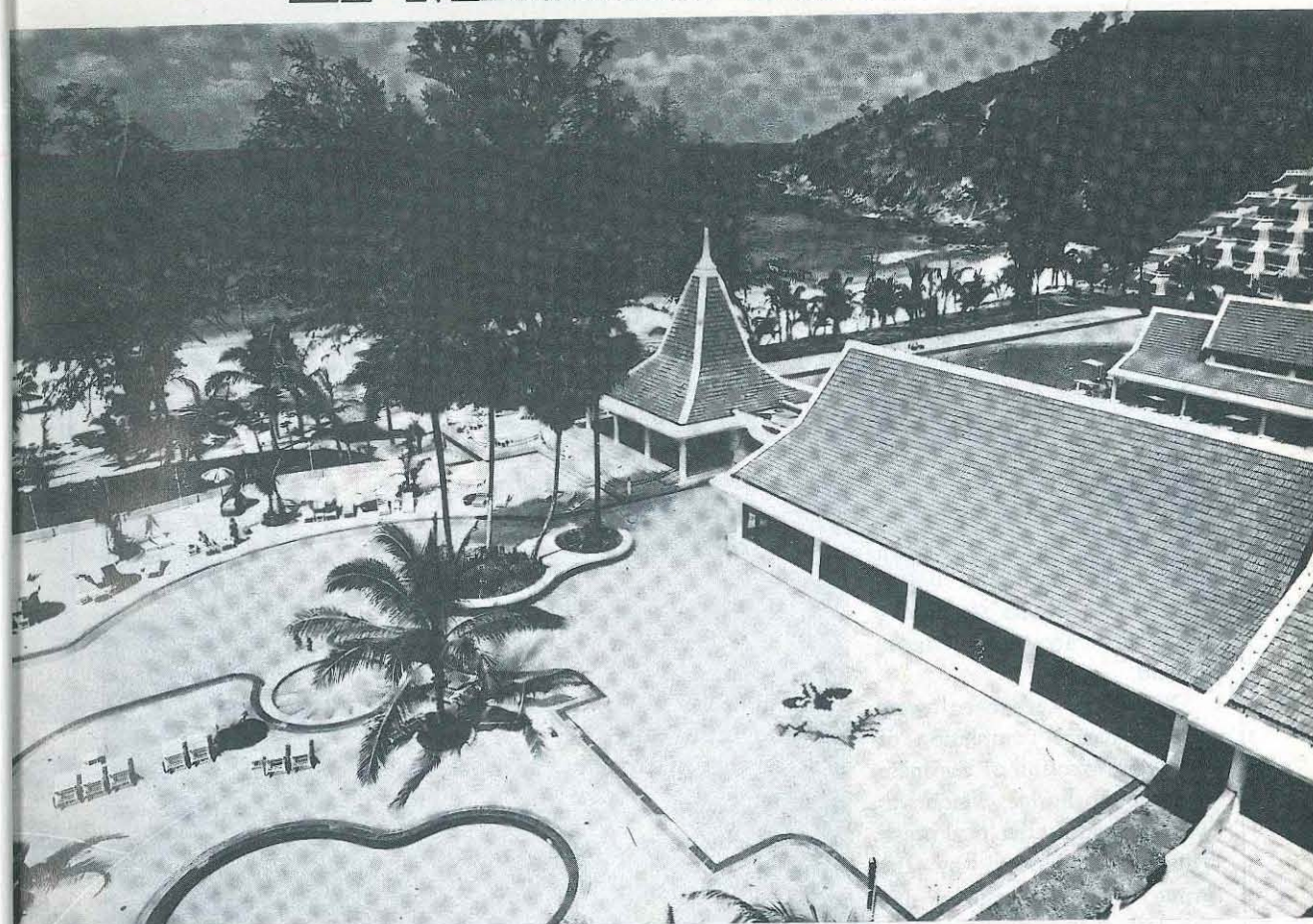
riences which I gained on my trips in Britain are most precious and memorable for having visited wonderful places, and having known friendly and helpful people and their way of life. I cannot conclude this writing without once again ex-

pressing my sincere and grateful thanks to all those people who were concerned with the trips and who so kindly supported me to make it all possible and successful. You know, "Britain is a place where you will find everything most wonderful!".



*Lake District.*

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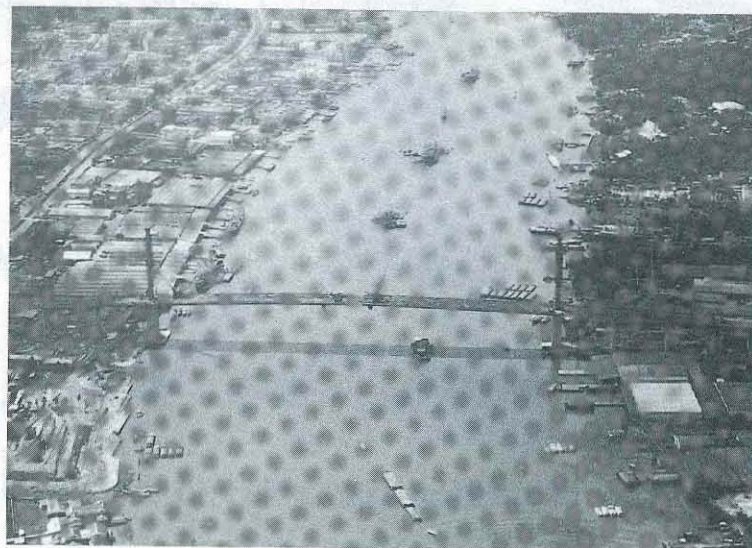
## Dao Khanong Cable Stayed Bridge Completion and The British Contribution

**F**OLLOWING the last article about "the Bridge" for OUTPOST, (May issue), I thought it would be of interest to readers to learn a bit more about the background.

You may have been aware of the recent completion of steelwork erection of the main span of the bridge, which was well covered by the local press. This was followed by the Prime Minister's visit to lay the last structural weld. This was a very colourful and well attended ceremony which all took place, of course, out there in the middle of the bridge, 45 metres above the water.

The pictures were taken on June 6th when the final section was lifted into place. This one was shorter than all the rest, and weighed only 100 tons compared with the average 180 of its predecessors.

Like many others, you may have imagined that slotting this one into the space between the two arms would be especially difficult, because how to get the length just right? In fact, the problem of space was solved simply by moving the Bangkok half back 15 centimetres. This was enough to give adequate clearance for



lifting the section in the early morning coolness, and to then allow the daytime expansion of the two bridge arms to take place without them colliding prematurely.

So the section was lifted and fixed to the Thonburi arm in the same way as all its predecessors (welding the deck plate, but bolting all the rest). But then the next enigma: why the apparent blunder of the difference in levels? Here again, there is a simple explanation in the extra 300 tons of cranes and 100 tons of final section supported by the otherwise identical Thonburi bridge arm.

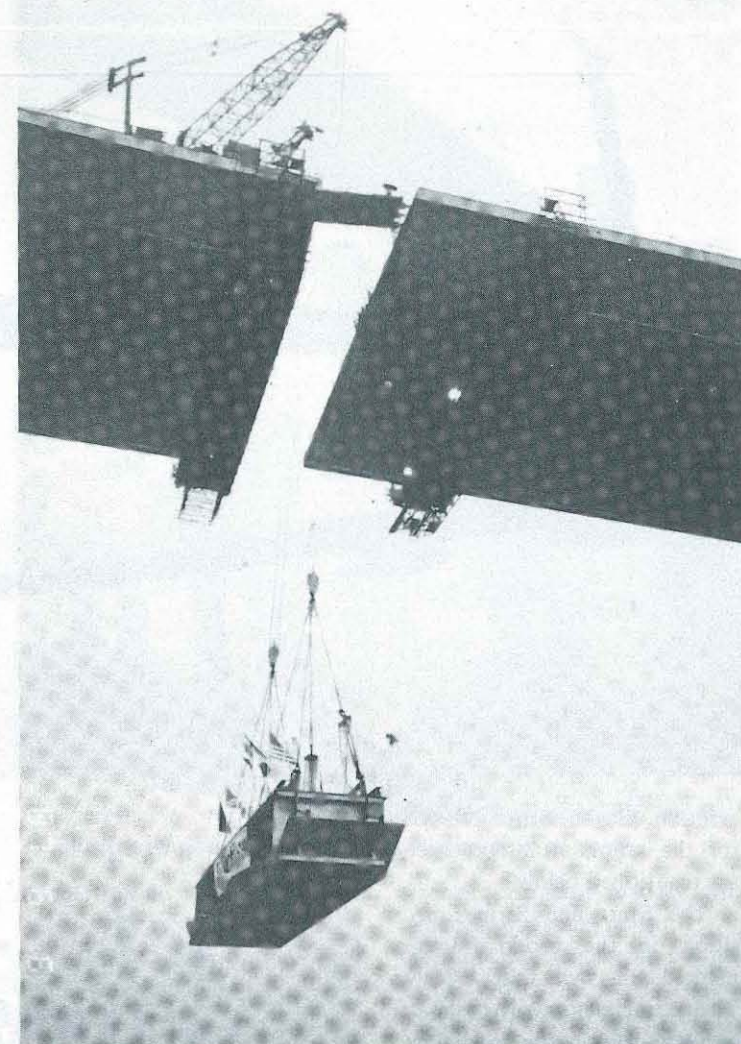
Removing the level difference was, then, a simple matter of taking away the two Thonburi cranes, and balancing the weight of the final section with extra ballast on the Bangkok arm. By the subtle use of these expedients all the major mismatches were removed, leaving only minor length errors to deal with before the final joint could be tackled: this particular joint was designed as fully welded, so that length corrections could be quickly and easily made by flame cutting.

During all these preliminary procedures, the two arms were happily expanding during the

day and contracting during the night, without actually touching. They also tended to droop at the tip during the day because of the fact that the sun heats the top plate of the 4 metre deep steel deck structure more than the bottom plate (by anything up to 20 degrees Centigrade). These relative movements obviously have to be stopped when the final joint is made, and this explains why a certain agreed minimum of the welding had to be completed in the first night after the two arms were finally brought into contact (the night being the only time when one can rely on even temperatures). This was done on 15th June and the rest was completed without any constraints, except the one metre or so which had to be left for the PM on the 22nd!

Returning to the events of June the 6th, the crowd of spectators who eventually gravitated to the middle of the bridge would have noticed that amongst the many flags with which the final section was bedecked, those of the five nations involved were the most prominent: namely those of Thailand, Japan, Germany, Great Britain, and the USA.

The largest and most prominent was, of course, Thailand's, not only because of the bridge's location, but also because all the actual labour (except for two crane drivers and two foremen) were Thai (excluding, of course, the labour content of the imported Japanese steel plate and German cables and a few other more minor items).



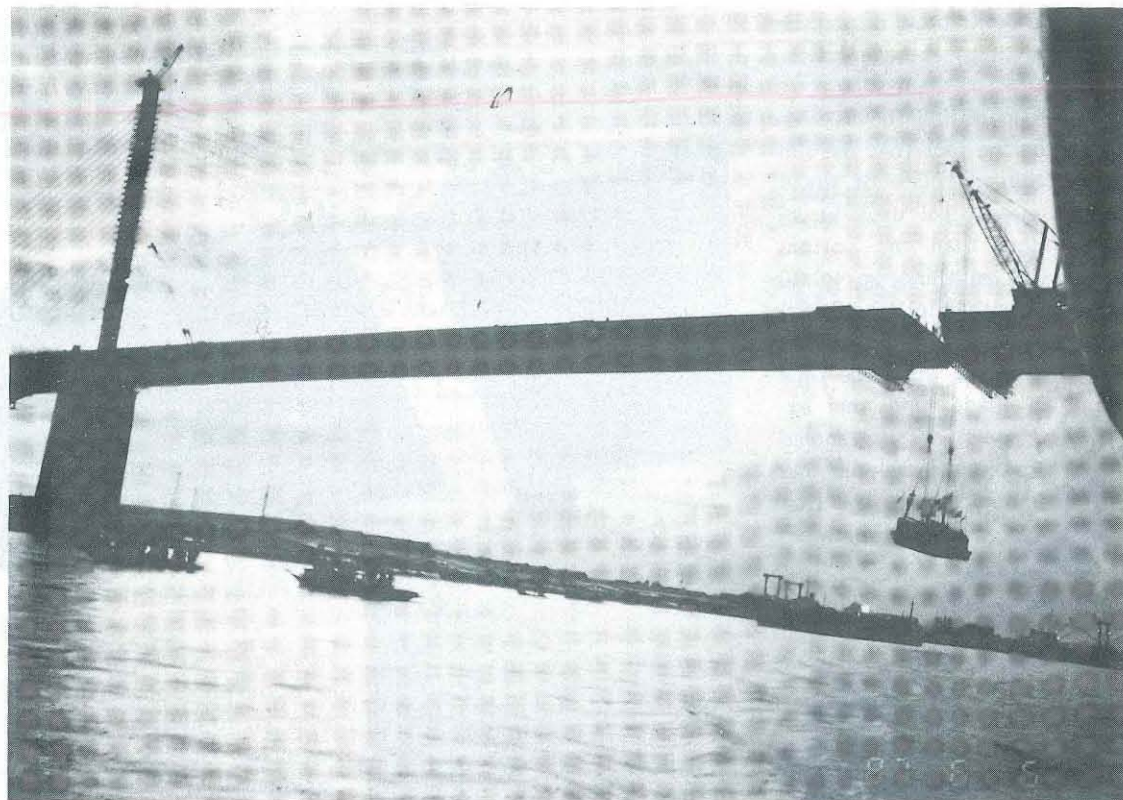
Japan's rising sun was there because the main steelwork contractor is Japanese, and provided all the experienced engineers and supervisors for the successful rapid transfer of a complex new technology to the local Thai subcontractor. The local contractor, who built the piers and foundations, also has a Japanese partner who gave technical advice and management assistance.

The West German flag flew because the design of the steel bridge and all its foundations are German and the 1,100

tons of special cables were manufactured in Germany (by far the biggest ever made, by the way). Another German firm also provided the design and some parts of the aerodynamic dampers.

The Union Jack was fluttering proudly because the lead member of the design and supervision joint venture is British. Another British consulting firm also stepped in valiantly last September to fill the breach left by the departure of the German designer at a critical stage of the steel



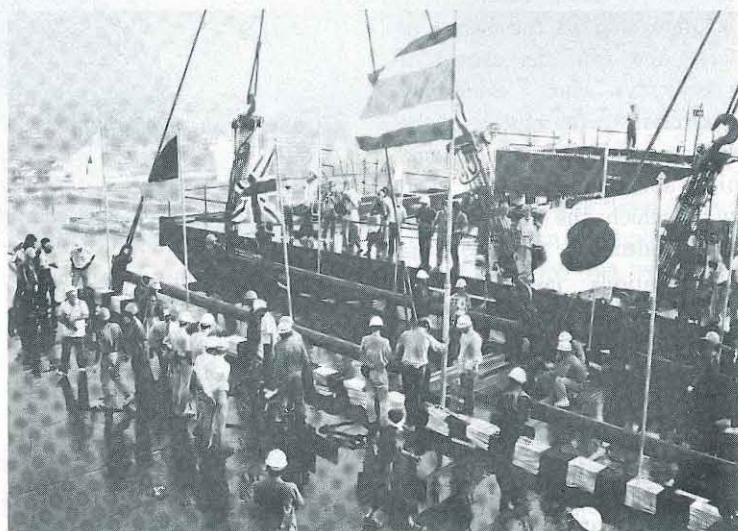


erection. Seven other reasons for the union Jack's presence are mentioned below.

The Stars and Stripes position in the proud line-up marked the fact that a New York firm was involved in an advisory role in the feasibility study and design stages, and provided members of the construction supervision team.

Having said all this, it is interesting to note that all the expatriate construction supervision staff were British, notwithstanding the fact that they were appointed, not only by the British, but also by the German and US consultant firms. This should perhaps be justifiable cause for a warmish tinge of pride for any British readers!

Eric Phillips(M), the Chief Resident Engineer, looks after the administration of all the



four contracts (bridge, 2 approaches, and interchange at the Thonburi end) and is, of course, employed by the lead consultant, Peter Fraenkel International (PFI) of London. With him in the overall contract administration and engineering support team are Roger

Clifford (employee of Parsons Brinckerhoff International of New York - PBI) and David Ferguson(M) (also now with PBI having switched from his initial PFI role after the first year).

Then, supervising Contract 1, the main bridge, have been

Tony Freeman(M) and Paul Medland, both initially sent by Dr Hellmut Homberg of Hagen (HH), the bridge's designer. (Paul started once the emphasis was switched from foundations and piers (which David had looked after) to steelwork erection.)

When Dr. Homberg departed both Tony and Paul switched to employment by the remaining JV, but in a new role working closely with Freeman Fox & Partners (FFP), the British consulting firm brought in to take over from Homberg. Tony's pre-existing contacts with FFP (his father's and grandfather's firm) were useful in establishing and maintaining the rapid communication rate necessary to keep up with the fast track construction. The daily faxes in each direction already fill many files.

Also in Tony's expat team have been Bill Hunter, mainly at the Samut Prakarn factory, and Joe Pumhirun, both from PBI. Joe is Thai, but was sent as an "expat" from the USA where he had spent all his previous career with PBI.

Chris Pearson and Peter Hines, both from PFI, and naturally British, have supervised the approach viaduct contracts, not only the construction of the massive concrete viaduct spans, but also of extensive ground level roads and other works.

So, the team fielded by the multi-national group of consulting firms, has, in fact, been



*The Brits who were left during the bridge closing activities.*

almost entirely British. And a good cross section too: Eric and Roger claim Wales as their motherland; David is Scottish; Tony, Chris, Peter and Paul are from England (though Paul might claim his native Cornwall to be a special subset of England!), and Bill is from Northern Ireland.

Other Brits who have been involved are Ian McCarthy(M) and Peter Rogers(M) whose piling company, Kin Sun Onward Co Ltd did sterling work building the very large main bridge bored piles to a much reduced schedule, and Andrew Pickup(M) who has been assisting the approach

viaduct contractor, Maeda Construction of Japan, coped with the idiosyncracies of the British form of construction contract. Andrew was recently joined by Alastair Smith, another Scot.

As with all construction jobs, as completion approaches, the team has unfortunately to be disbanded and dispersed. At the time of writing this process has already started: Joe, Peter, Paul and Bill have already left. The remnant then expects to depart at or about the end of September, the original contract completion date.

Tony Freeman.





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## WELL WORTH READING

### Love for Lydia

by H.E. Bates

THE story is set between the Wars, beginning before the Depression in 1929, in a small English country town. It is an unsentimental and beautifully written tale of a young man's first love, his subsequent happiness, passion and sorrow. The young lover, Mr. Richardson, is the narrator and the story starts with his first view of Lydia as she returns from the funeral of her elder brother.

"In that moment, before the car straightened and righted itself and went on, she seemed, I thought, fifteen. It was my first mistake about her."

The development of their characters, their love and the ensuing dramas unfold, making gripping reading.

This is, however, not only a tale of love and drama. One is given a vivid picture of rural and small-town life in England at the time, the social conditions and mores, family life and, later in the book, the Depression. There are also

wonderful descriptions of the countryside, "across the valley the floods of January, frozen to wide lakes of ice, were cut into enormous rectangular patterns by black hedgerows that lay like a wreckage of logs washed down on the broken river."

H.E. Bates was born in 1905 and was a journalist with a local newspaper before he published his first book in 1925. Apart from acquiring a reputation for tales of the English countryside, he also wrote books on gardening, a children's book, short stories and essays on country life. During the war he was a Squadron Leader in the R.A.F. and spent some time in the Far East, subsequently writing several novels of Burma and India.

'Love for Lydia' is published by Penguin and is available in paperback at the Neilson Hays Library.

And now for something completely different....

### "The Falcon and the Snowman"

by Robert Lindsey

IF you haven't seen the film yet you should read the book. This is a spy story with a difference in that it is true.

It is the story of two boys who grow up together in a wealthy Los Angeles suburb in the 50's and 60's. They become embroiled in the drug sub-culture of the time and this, coupled with political disillusionment, leads to dire consequences.

The descriptions of elements of Californian society at the time is all you imagine it might have been — awful; the effects of excessive wealth, on young and old — nauseating.

American National Security is given a far from flattering image and the questions posed at the end of the book, certainly make one think. Although this is not a brilliant piece of writing, it is a good and intriguing quick read with a difference.

Robert Lindsey, the author, is himself a Californian. He is a journalist with the New York Times and lives in Los Angeles.

"The Falcon and the Snowman" is published by Penguin and is available at Asia Books.

Maren White



# Make the most of your British Expatriate status

When you decided to work abroad, you knew that your decision would bring many advantages. Most people regard two of these as being particularly important.

Earning more money and paying less tax.

But, for most people, these benefits are likely to be short-lived. The trick is not just to be better off whilst you are actually abroad, but to ensure that you continue to enjoy advantageous tax treatment long after you come home.

*However, this can only happen if you plan your financial affairs properly before your return to the UK.*

## Examples of costly mistakes can include:

- Failing to claim your tax refund due for the year of departure from the UK.
- Realising a profit before departure from the UK or a loss before returning home.
- Owning UK properties in the wrong names.
- Wasting a wife's annual tax allowances.
- Failing to recognise the significance of currency movements when disposing of investments, which could even result in Capital Gains Tax being paid on a loss.
- Falling foul of the complicated residence rules which determine UK tax status.
- Leaving money on deposit in UK Banks and Building Societies.
- Failing to establish a personal 'tax shelter' for investments, which can reduce taxation substantially when you return to the UK.
- Stopping National Insurance Contributions while you are away.

Unfortunately, few people realise this fact, and they pay a severe penalty. For example, many expatriates believe – mistakenly – that UK tax only concerns UK residents. A misconception which can prove expensive.

As UK tax legislation becomes more and more complicated it is essential to receive expert professional advice if you are to capitalise on your expatriate status.

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At Wilfred T. Fry, we provide a comprehensive tax advisory service, designed specifically for the overseas resident and based on more than 80 years' experience in assisting the British expatriate. Indeed, we now act for clients resident throughout the world, concentrating on taxation and personal financial and investment planning, with the emphasis on individual advice.

Our new booklet 'The British Expatriate' provides a guide to the most important ways in which you can make the most of your British expatriate status. For your free copy simply complete and return the coupon below.

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# WELL WORTH WATCHING

## Culture Shock : 'Crocodile Dundee' and 'Local Hero'

EVERYONE has been recommending 'Crocodile Dundee' – even my Mum who saw it coming over on a BA flight. It must be good if she enjoyed it in those circumstances!

It certainly is a highly entertaining film and parts of it are quite hilarious. I'm not sure it translates well onto a small screen, especially the first half which is set in the stunning outback of the Northern Territory, Australia. However, the video is well worth setting aside an evening for – slump back in your armchair with a couple of 'tinnies' by your side!

The story is relatively simple: a female American journalist investigates a tale she has heard about a white inhabitant of the Australian bush who had an encounter with a huge crocodile. His leg was allegedly severed and he only just made it back to civilisation, crawling for days through the swamp and living off the land. When she arrives at 'Walkabout Creek' she finds that the tale has been somewhat embellished, but she does find a remarkable character in the shape of Michael J. Crocodile Dundee. He takes her on a trip to show her the scene of his fight with the crocodile and their trip turns into quite an adventure.

After her experience in the bush the journalist hits on the idea of taking Dundee back to New York with her as he has never been out of the bush – let alone to a city.

Paul Hogan plays Dundee who takes his new surroundings completely in his stride. There are some lovely scenes and he is a master of the art of the 'pregnant pause'. Each new experience is assessed and he takes action in his own inimitable way. He copes with all aspects of New York life from his first ride on an escalator to his encounters with cocaine sniffers, transvestites and muggers, and the overwhelming number of

people and traffic. His incredulity is not far fetched – your reviewer once met a Western Australian in the bush who had 'done' Europe. Stretch had never even seen traffic lights until he went to Perth to catch the plane to London. Having arrived at Heathrow in his shorts in November, three weeks abroad was enough for him, and all of that time was spent in Earls Court!

The strength of the story lies in the radical differences between the cultures of outback Australia and urban New York and the formula works well.

Another film which exploits a similar idea is 'Local Hero'. This film has been around for some while, but remains one of my favourites. An American oil executive from Houston is sent to a remote part of the Scottish coast to negotiate the purchase of some land and coastline for his company, Knox Oil. Gradually the tranquil spirit of the place effects him to the extent that, in a drunken moment, he offers to swap his Porche, salary and lifestyle in the States for the ownership of the sleepy in and life ever after in the remote village. The village is full of characters who relish the idea of being rich and as the American gradually winds down, they endeavour to negotiate a more and more favourable price for their land. The outcome is somewhat unexpected. Perhaps there is some justice in the world after all.

Two very funny films: both are highly recommended.

Kate Herbert



# CONSERVATION MATTERS

## The Tropical Rain Forest

**T**ROPICAL rain forests are the greatest, most enduring celebrations of life ever to have evolved on this planet. No other area of the earth has so many kinds of plants and animals. A hectare (2.45 acres) of British woodland, for example, normally contains no more than ten different species of tree 8 inches and upwards in diameter. By contrast, a hectare of rich rain forest generally contains more than 100 species of large tree, and can boast more than 200 species. The profusion of plants and animals is remarkable.

In the forests of South-East Asia there are estimated to be more than 25,000 species of flowering plants, and 49% of the main groups are found nowhere else.

In a single hectare of Costa Rican forest, 269 bird species have been observed, and in one locality in Peru, 410. Thung Yai Naresuan wildlife sanctuary in west Thailand now claims 375 species of birds sighted, slightly higher than Khao Yai, with 874 being counted countrywide, including migratory species. Insects, amphibians and many other animals abound in equally impressive numbers.

Every time we drink a cup of coffee, eat some chocolate, peel a banana, crack Christmas nuts, or use anything made of natural rubber, we are enjoying the tropical rain forests. Brazil nuts, cashew nuts, passion fruit, papaya and avocados are all plants of the

rain forests, just as are cacao and bananas.

Tropical rain forests are often portrayed as deadly dangerous, yet without them many of us would be dead. Major surgery depends on curare to paralyse the nerves. Curare is made from plants found only in the tropical forests of South America. Another important surgical drug, eserine, comes from the Calabar bean growing in the tropical forests of West Africa. And if the operation is on the heart, serpentroot from South-East Asia's tropical rain forests will be used to keep it going. Rauvolfia is a blessing to a great many people: a drug made from it is used to promote a regular heartbeat. Another, reserpine, is the main drug used in tranquilisers.

Some of the tropical rain forests are extremely old. In some parts of South-East Asia, the forest has had a continuous history, on much the same site, since flowering plants began.

The EMERGENT LAYER consists of the giant trees of the jungle, which push up through the canopy and enjoy the best light, but have to be able to deal with high temperatures and high winds; and must withstand the very different conditions under the canopy at the start of their lives.

The CANOPY contains the broad crowns of the main canopy trees, forming a continuous band and bound together by large climbing plants and creepers. This part of the

forest forms the ideal home for orchids.

The UNDERSTOREY can basically be divided into: Smaller Trees — some are young trees which will grow to full canopy or emergent height. Others are fully grown slow-growing trees; The Shrub Layer — some young trees, but many are small, mature, woody plants often with crowns of large leaves and sometimes showy colourful flowers; The Jungle Floor — seedlings and scattered herbs make up the sparse growth on the jungle floor; Rivers — slicing through the jungle allowing light to come through and leading to dense growth of plants along the banks.

Because tropical rain forests are the home of so many different plants and animals, thousands of species will become extinct if they disappear. Orang-utans, gorillas, tigers and Sumatran rhinoceroses require deep cover and a lot of space so they are normally rare. If the forests are cleared their normal life cycle is upset and their breeding slows down. Does man have the right to threaten the future existence of these species? And what of the thousands of plants that could disappear before their possible value could even be investigated?

By kind courtesy of WWF/WFT.

Rod Carter

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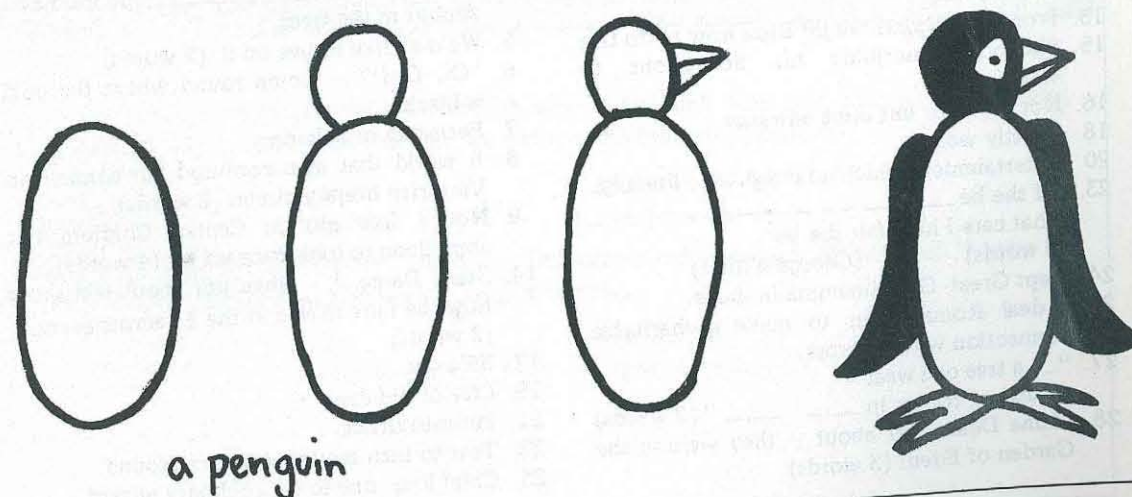
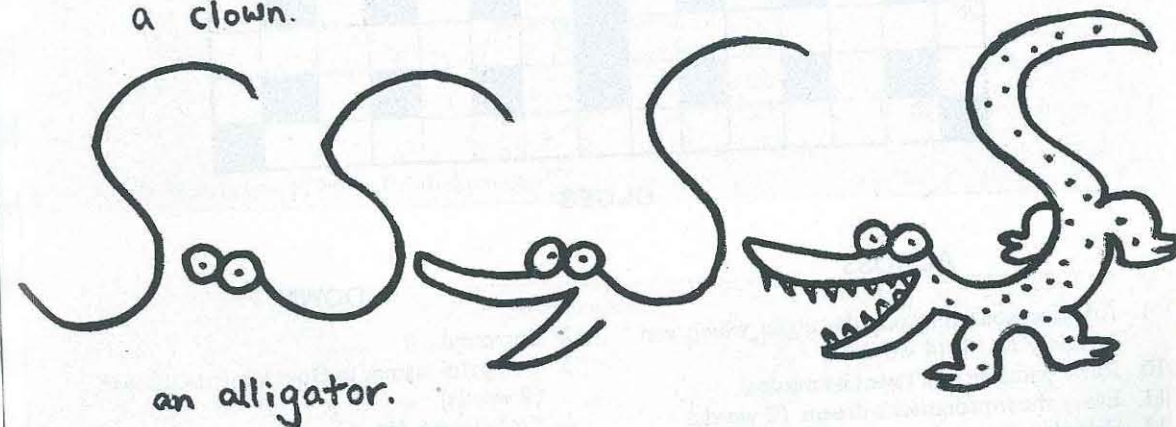
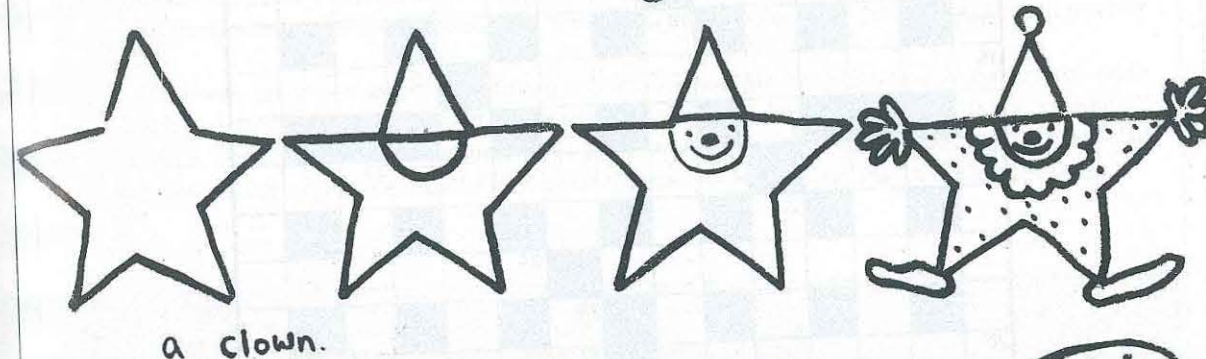
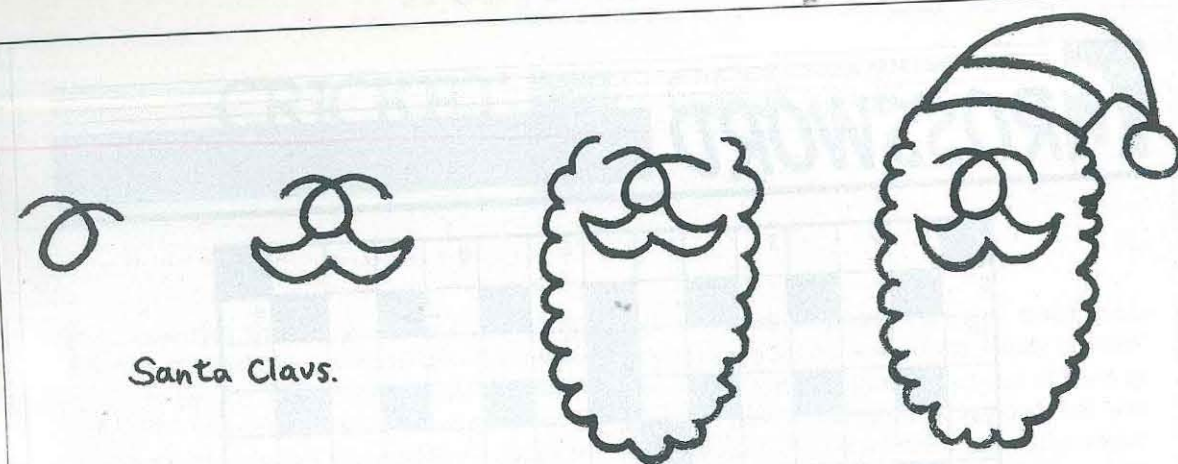
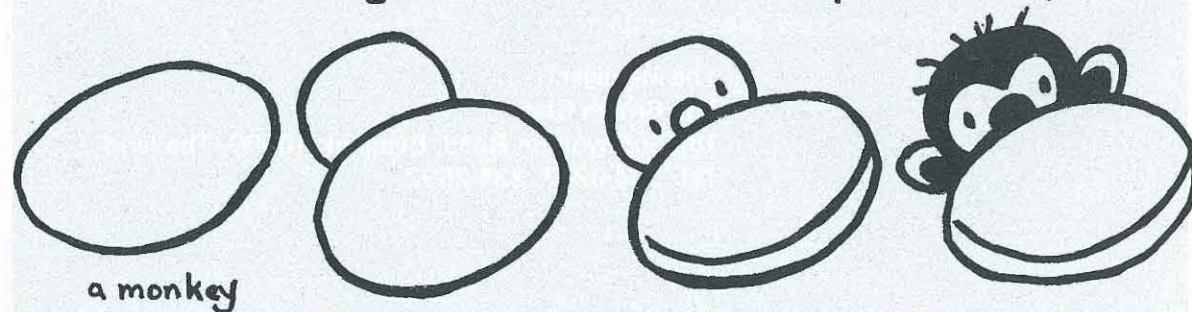
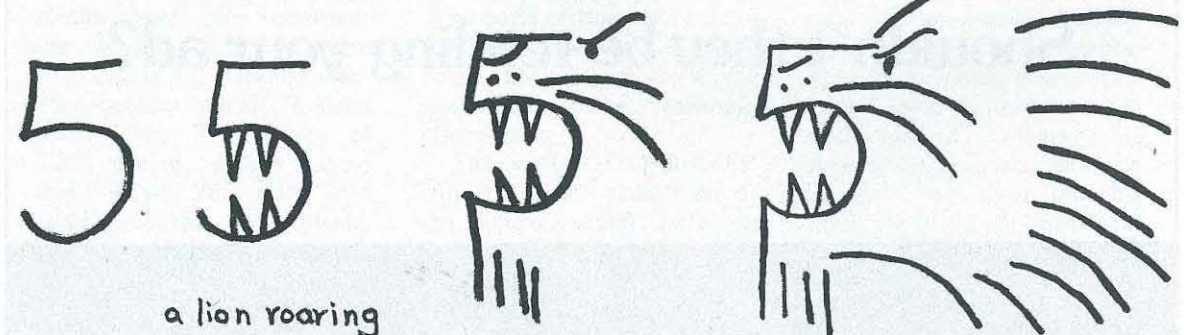
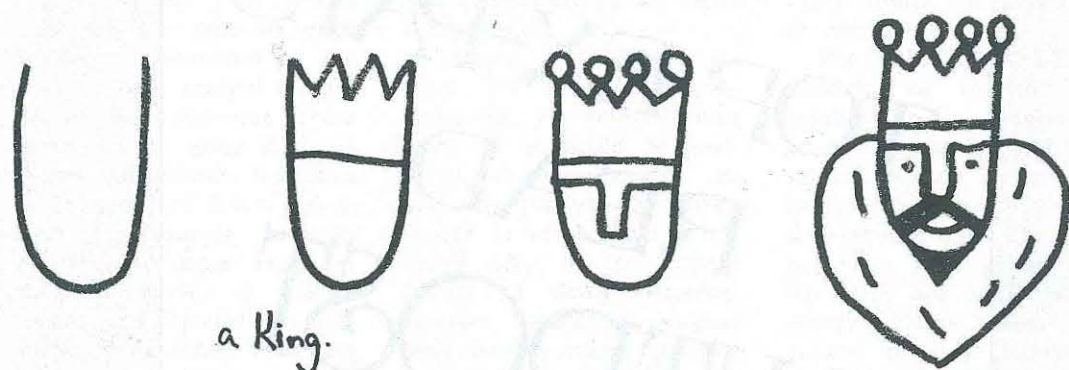
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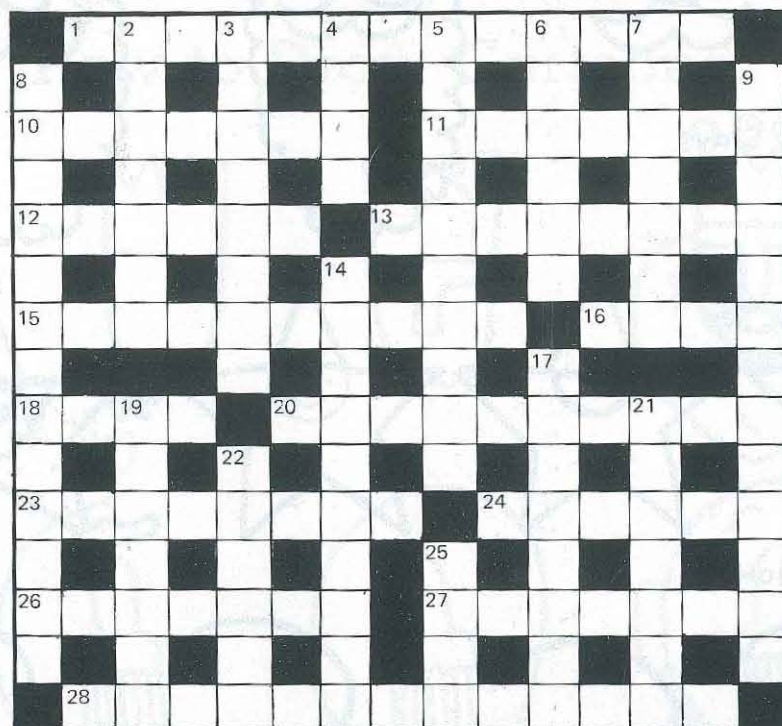
# CHILDREN'S CORNER

## How to Draw Cartoons





# CROSSWORD



## CLUES

### ACROSS

1. Arrogant-sounding popular claim which was certainly No. 1. (4 words)
10. Rural paradise in a twenties musical.
11. Every show-promoter's dream. (2 words)
12. Helen's race.
13. Professor Higgins taught Eliza how to do this.
15. Sherlock describing his deductions to Watson.
16. Not my door but mine entrance.
18. Priestly wear.
20. Entertainment which is far-sighted – literally.
23. "If she be \_\_\_\_\_  
What care I how fair she be"  
(3 words) (George Wither)
24. Kept Great-Grandmamma in shape.
26. I deal Roman four to make a charitable connection with 1 across.
27. ".... a tree can wear  
A nest of robins in \_\_\_\_\_" (2 words)
28. Mama Deane fell about – they were in the Garden of Eden! (3 words)

### DOWN

2. Surround.
3. Colourful strings in Government Offices? (2 words)
4. "Intelligent Mr. \_\_\_\_\_" the hero of a zephyr in the trees.
5. We'd all like to live on it. (2 words)
6. "Oi, Girl!" – come round where the gold is black!
7. Bernstein or Hutton.
8. A world that men confused but admired in Victorian literary circles (2 words)
9. Not a free gift in Central Chidlom but something to look forward to. (4 words)
14. Stern Dame, I – when put about will show how the fans arrived at the 11 across event. (2 words)
17. 35¼ ozs.
19. City of old Java.
21. Put into office.
22. Tear to turn around and turn around.
25. Chief loses one to be a culinary wizard.

# CRICKET



I suppose that now it's established that "OUTPOST" is a family magazine, I'd better make some attempt to get tits and bums into the cricket article this month. At least, if my family are anything to go by. My nine-year-old daughter has only once in the last four years taken any interest in "OUTPOST" (despite my enforced selection of the cricket article as bedtime reading) and that was when last month's glossy t'n'b brochure dropped out. Reluctantly. Yorkshire's current top-of-the-league statue notwithstanding, one must admit that interest in t'n'b covers a wider age range than interest in cricket.

However, let other sections of this publication lower their standards and go for the wide family market, this column will remain resolutely unbawdy and keep mentions of the word "bum" to a minimum. Instead, here are what you've all been waiting for: the final league tables. Unofficial, of course; after all it's only three months *bum* since the season finished and the TCL has a lot to do.

50-over League						
	P	W	L	Bats	Bowl	Pts
1. Indian CC	6	5	1	19	27	126
2. British Club	6	4	1	20	26	110
3. AIT	6	4	2	8	22	94
(4. RBSC; 5. Wanderers; 6. Post; 7. Chiangmai)						

30-over League						
	P	W	L	Bats	Bowl	Pts
1. Chiangmai	7	6	1	25	25	146
2. Post	6	5	1	23	19	122
3. British Club	6	4	2	14	24	102
(4. RBSC; 5. Thai CC; 6. AIT; 7. Indian CC; 8. Wanderers)						

It is, surely, worth pointing out, though some may think *bum* this is clutching at straws, that by adding the two league tables together, we arrive at the following positions:

1st	: British Club
2nd-8th	: Everyone else.

We also retained the Woods Trophy (vs Chiangmai) and won back the Marshall Trophy (vs RBSC), thus giving the following placings for Trophy matches:

1st	: British Club
Last Equal	: RBSC & Chiangmai.



## Leading Averages

### Batting

	Inns	Nor Out	Hi-Score	Aggregate	Average
1. Dance	15	3	124	653	54.42
2. White	13	2	81	391	35.55
3. Grocock	9	1	113	283	35.58
4. Hough	14	4	58	188	18.80

### Bowling

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average	Runs Per Over
1. Dance	163.3	36	486	43	11.30	2.97
2. Dunford	29.4	0	151	11	13.73	5.09
3. Piper	83.1	3	374	27	13.85	4.50
4. Cohen	15	2	87	5	17.40	5.80
5. Hough	40.2	3	177	10	17.70	4.39
6. White	139.4	16	432	24	18.00	3.09

### Fielding

1. Rider (15 catches, 3 stumped); 2. Thompson (9 catches); 3. Hough (8); 4. Dunford (5); 5. Dunne (4).

### Partnerships

1. 165	White & Dance	3rd wicket vs Chiangmai	(30-over league)
2. 160	Adams & Dance	3rd wicket vs Post	(50-over league)
3. 91	White & Dance	3rd wicket vs AIT	(50-over league)
4. 89	Grocock & Dance	3rd wicket vs ICC	(50-over league)

### Highest Scores

Team: 251-6 vs Post; 230 vs ICC; 207-9 vs Wanderers; 197-3 vs Chiangmai.  
Individual: 124 Dance; 113 Grocock; 96 Dance; 81 White.

### Best Bowling

Team: Chiangmai 52 all out; Chiangmai 69; Wanderers 83; Wanderers 85.  
Individual: 8-33 Dance; 7-26 Dance; 7-34 White; 6-48 White.

Well that's all the bum I have room for this month. While I'm off on leave, someone else will no doubt dig something out to fill in a page or two about cricket. Remember, there are only three more months to go until nets!

David Hall

## DARTS



## DARTS

We have a small problem this month. Our normal (?) darter and well known celebrity, Bryan Baldwin, is on vacation and has taken with him, one presumes, all our records except those for the second fifteen for the last two weeks.

So here goes. On June 24 a team called Shell benefited from a fixture against us, and although Terry Adams, Andy Pickup and Roger Daniel got tons, the famous team went down by 14 games to 3. Not very good really, especially if you compare it with the following week, when we could only field four players instead of the usual six, yet still managed to get 4 points. Needless to say, we lost again. I won't bore you with the name of our opposition that evening, our main problem that night was a shortage of players. And I'm not referring to Orin's height either.

The 'A' team. What more can be said that

hasn't already been said? What can this humble scribe add to the legend? He could say a lot more if he had the records that B. Baldwin ran off with, that's what. The team has had more ups than downs, keeping the good name of the British Club up there where it belongs – about third place in the third division!

The amount of money in the fund contributed to by players throwing three or less has now reached such proportions that it rivals the top performing Unit Trust in Peter Downs' portfolio – and you should see the size of his portfolio.

Keep watching this space for the latest news of your favourite teams. In the meantime, anyone interested in joining our little group, please call Roger Daniel, Peter Downs (of portfolio fame) or, as a last resort, Terry Adams, whose portfolio is not worth talking about.

Roger Daniel

## GOLF



## GOLF

Rose Garden: 14th June

The final round of the Eclectic was a mad scramble for a number of people. Terry Merry's 57 net for two rounds seemed a sure winner, but became only second when our bearded average-keeper, Les Kentwell, shaved 8 shots off his 64 to finish champion at 56. As Les left Thailand to work in Jakarta on the 1st July, it was a great "swan song" for him. Dave Wallace provided the prizes for this outing. Individual winners for the day were:

			Points
"A" group:	1st	: D. Williamson	37
	2nd	: E. Jurgens	36
	1st Nine	: R. Armstrong	17
	2nd Nine	: D. Benham	19
"B" group:	1st	: D. Ferguson	40
	2nd	: A. Rider	36
	1st Nine	: D. Chessman	17
	2nd Nine	: A. Pickup	22
Closest Pin:	R. Barrett, R. Armstrong, D. Benham, I. McLean		
Long Drives:	Ladies	: M. Ross	
	Men	: D. Benham	



Railway: 28th June

Twenty six golfers played this outing at a greatly improved Railway Golf Course.

On this club sponsored outing the two winners hardly got to the course on time and still managed to finish at the top.

			Points
"A" group:	1st	: D. Williamson	40
	2nd	: L. Kentwell	36
	1st Nine	: R. Armstrong	19
	2nd Nine	: D. Frost	19
"B" group:	1st	: A. Rider	36
	2nd	: K. Chappell	36
	1st Nine	: K. Armstrong	18
	2nd Nine	: B. Mancell	18
Closest Pin:	L. Kentwell, J. Morehouse, J. Jurgens, J. Leicester		
Long Drives:	Ladies	: M. Ross	
	Men	: L. Kentwell	

- Please note :
- Steve Chappell has taken over the job of average keeper and the latest listing is on the board.
  - On August 16th there will be an off-week match with the Golfer's Cocktail Lounge. This will be a shotgun start at 7.00 a.m. so be early please. We need 40 players from the British Club - bring all the guests you like. This will be played at the Royal Thai Army course which is in magnificent condition. Green fees £ 250, plus Caddy Fee. - A real bargain!
  - The latest golf section membership list is now on the notice board. Please check for any errors or omissions.

## LADIES' GOLF LADIES' GOLF

After what has been an extremely busy past few months on the golfing scene, our numbers have dwindled to a mere handful following the holiday exodus! However, the few stalwarts will still be meeting at the Army Golf Course each Tuesday at 7.00 a.m. New members are especially welcome.

A sad farewell to Mary Brittain this month, who has been a regular supporter over the last 18 months. Good luck with your return to domesticity Mary!!

### COMPETITION RESULTS

9th June - Stableford

			Points	H/c
Flight A	Winner:	Wendy Morris	37	16
	R/Up:	Gai Pitre	36	22
Flight B	Winner:	Penny Whalley	36	27
	R/Up:	Pam Hardy	34	25
Flight C	Winner:	Helen Benham	37	38
	R/Up:	Lotta MacDonald	35	32T

### 16th June - Better Nines

			Nett	H/c
Flight A	Winner:	Joan Jurgens	34	16
	R/Up:	Marg Ross	36½	9
Flight B	Winner:	Wendy Binns	34	24
	R/Up:	Anne Hendrie	36	26
Flight C	Winner:	Helen Benham	29	38
	R/Up:	Penny Whalley	35	27

This was Mary Brittain's farewell game. Mary gave some lacquer ware as prizes - thank you Mary.

### 23rd June - Bogey

				H/c
Flight A	Winner:	Wendy Binns	+2	22
	R/Up:	Gai Pitre	-3	22
Flight B	Winner:	Lotta MacDonald	0	27T
	R/Up:	Benamine Bronee	0	40T

### 30th June - L.G.U. MEDAL - Stroke Play

			Nett	H/c
Silver Div.	Winner:	Nena Reid	73	18
	R/Up:	-		
Bronze I Div.	Winner:	Anne Hendrie	68	23
	R/Up:	Gai Pitre	75	22
Bronze II Div.	Winner:	Benamine Bronee	78	36

There were no runner-up prizes awarded in the Silver & Bronze II Divisions due to the low number of players.

A stableford will be played on 4th August. The starter will be Penny Whalley.

### June - Handicap Changes

Wendy	24-23-22
Helen	38-36
Margaret C.	34-33
Joan G.	28-27-26
Anne	26-25
Lotta	27T
Kanda	25-24
Penny	27-26
Congratulations!!	

Finally we welcome Margaret Moorehouse to our group. Margaret is not in Thailand for long, but plans to golf as much as possible while she's here!

Anyone interested in joining us should phone Penny Whalley (258-9415) until 4th August and then Wendy Binns (331-5686) thereafter.



# SNOOKER SNOOKER

May and June saw a rejuvenation of snooker at the club with fourteen showing to contest the O'Connell and Leonowens Volunteer Snooker Singles events; and then fifteen showed to fight out the Outpost and Donofield trophies (handicap singles events).

It was also very noticeable that some top-calibre players have fronted up at our club, as the competitions were extremely close.

O'Connell Trophy: Les Kentwell beat Bill Goodwin 2-1 in the final.

Leonowens Trophy: Dave Street beat Mick Bond, K. Ross beat F. Kunzmann. The final with K. Ross and D. Street has not yet been played.

Outpost Trophy: M. Bond lost to R. Armstrong 2-1 in the final.

Donofield Trophy: L. Currie beat A. McDowell in the semi-final. A. Pickup has yet to play A. Rider to see who will meet L. Currie in the final.

# SQUASH SQUASH



## 65TH SQUASH LEAGUE

Entries for the July League were reduced to 60, owing to so many of the regular players going off on home leave. However, we did welcome 9 new players – Wendy and Tim Davis, Christina Bennington, Jan Briggs, Ivor Scott, Howard Bills, Jorgen Toft, Yves Poher and Anthony Bekenn. Back after over one year's retirement from the game, we also welcomed Paul Buckland. As usual, League Winners will receive either a tankard or a goblet, to be presented during Club Night on Wednesday 5 August. Otherwise prizes can be collected at Reception.

## SQUASH TOURS

The Squash Section will be competing against a visiting team from Jakarta over the weekend of 31 October to 1 November. If any other Sports Sections want to take on the visitors at their own sport, please contact any of the Squash Committee.

We are also arranging our own tour to Singapore over the long weekend at the begin-

ning of December. Teams from other sections are all invited, so contact the Squash Section for details, and come and join in on the fun. We have negotiated a very cheap rate for the air fare and hotel, so it won't be very expensive. The more the merrier – and kinder on the pocket!

## WEEKEND SQUASH EXTRAVAGANZA

Before departing for a new life of 3 years on a tropical island in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, Colin Reid organised another weekend marathon squash tournament for a few players with more energy than sense. After straining their aching limbs through 3 days of competition, Mike Rickard beat Ben Piper 3-0 in the Men's Tournament Final, and Barbara Overington rallied well to beat Fiona Casbon 3-1 in the Ladies' Final. The Men's Wooden Spoon was awarded to David Jezeph who lost to Rudi Sirr 1-3 and Maren White took the other spoon from Anne Kelly by losing 0-3. Thanks for your contribution to squash over the past year Colin, and good luck in bringing the Fijians to heel.

## MEMBERS

Hailing from a slightly larger island on the edge of the Pacific, we must also bid our farewells to Les and Wendy Kentwell, who left last month for KL at very short notice. Les has been a very active member of the Squash Section during his stay in Bangkok, both as a regular player and father figure on the new Squash Committee, where he has been serving as Chairman since the beginning of this year. Good on yer Cobber! – and here's to all you've done for the social scene at the Club, both in this section and others. Good Luck in KL.



For the last few months of this year David Jezeph will take over as Chairman of the Squash Committee.

Also recently departed are Rudi and Su Sirr (Kloster to Fosters?), off for a spell in Perth to enjoy some fresh air and the wide open spaces (and a nice fat salary too). Rudi will be sadly missed by all who knew him, but not forgotten – he's promised to be back in November to have his birthday party at the club.

Peter Dawes will replace Rudi on the Committee for the rest of the term.

## • RULES OF SQUASH • SERVICE – BY THE UNSQUASHABLE

Service is the stroke you fight hardest to achieve, and the one you most easily throw away.

The surest way to win a point on service is to mishit the ball.

When you hit a high lob service that feels like a winner, it usually goes out.

If, by chance, it's in, your opponent will say he wasn't ready.

You'll do the same when he's serving.

Although you can start serving from either box, you invariably start from the right.

If he's going to serve overarm, he has violent intentions.



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For further details and a letter of introduction, please see the Club Manager, David Williamson.



*"Now will you stop stating things without fear of contradiction?"*

## COMMITTEE



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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
CRICKET	— JACK DUNFORD	236-0211
DARTS	— MIKE MAJER	513-1970
GOLD	— RON ARMSTRONG	390-2445
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
SWIMMING	— ERIKA MAJER	252-7492
TENNIS	— BRUCE POINTER	286-0500



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