



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

AUGUST 2012

# OUTPOST

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK

[www.britishclubbangkok.org](http://www.britishclubbangkok.org)

## One Fun Fits All



**SPOTLIGHT**  
Canada Day  
Half-Time Report

**COVER STORY**  
Pure Enjoyment

**SPORTS**  
Volleyball  
Sports Camps



# FOUNDATION TO GRADUATION

11  
Chosen as a member  
of the winning  
FOBISSEA Maths team

9  
Drew my own  
superhero on the  
computer – cool!

7  
Gave a speech  
about my country  
to the class

5  
Starred in the school  
play, mum and dad  
took loads of photos!

3  
I learned a song  
about the hungry  
caterpillar

18  
IB almost done,  
Uni here I come

17  
Played the lead in  
the school production,  
it was brilliant!

16  
Helped organise the  
Green charity day at  
school, we raised loads!

15  
Fired my first  
sculpture in pottery

13  
Sang a solo in the  
Christmas Concert



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*“In this auspicious month, the Management of The British Club, its Members and Staff, would like to extend their congratulations and warmest regards to Her Royal Highness Queen Sirikit on the occasion of her birthday, and to express their hope for happiness and prosperity in the coming year.”*



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

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THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

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## FRONT COVER

On our cover this month is a snapshot of some of the 80 Burmese boys who came to BCB for a fun day out. These kids live in a temple, many of them either orphaned or with parents away at construction sites. At the Club they had the opportunity to play a variety of sports, explore arts and crafts, and watch a movie with a Thai buffet and drinks.



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#### OUTPOST IS PUBLISHED ON BEHALF OF THE BRITISH CLUB BY VERITAS GRAPHICS.

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#### OUTPOST

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Performance Exchange



A Shakespeare Company

present

# THE RETURN OF SHERLOCK HOLMES



*starring:*

Nigel Miles-Thomas  
Daniel Foley



Saturday  
22nd September 2012

Suriwongse Room  
8 p.m.



Diogenes Dinner:  
3 courses with wine  
The Verandah  
6 p.m.  
(Speaking is allowed)

Price (performance only) Bt 950

Price (performance and dinner) Bt 1,500

BOOK ONLINE OR WITH RECEPTION



# LETTER FROM THE GM



**Dear Members,**

We have now passed the half-year line in the year and with that the traditionally quieter periods around the Club. We will use this time to go ahead with some needed upgrades around the Club and reviews of menus, offerings, selection and pricing.

## **Membership**

By the time you read this, I will have recruited a new Membership Manager, a decision made from a shortlist of 5 candidates, and I will update everyone when she has confirmed her starting date, expected to be around the 1st of August. Together with this new Membership Manager, our main priority for the remaining months of the year is to improve service levels towards existing Members and of course the recruitment of much-needed new Members.

## **Food & Beverage**

Please do come and enjoy our diverse buffets organised by Khun Laak in The Verandah on Saturdays, and the regular Sunday Brunch of course. We will be presenting another wine dinner soon and most probably a repeat of the very popular sparkling wine brunch! The highly popular quiz nights have started again in July, if you missed it please do join in August!

## **Sports Events**

I would like to thank Paul Ringer and his staff for organising highly popular Sports Camps for children which include sports and activities of the likes of Wakeboarding, Canoeing, Rock-climbing and Ice-skating. I would like to highly recommend this for kids that have not yet attended! Please contact Paul Ringer for more details and next availabilities. I am also happy to announce that we have acquired a professional Boxing Bag to be added to the Fitness Centre after its completed extension.

## **Safety around the Club**

At this time of the year we experience a lot of varied weather patterns, including thunder and lightning storms. Please be advised that we are very concerned for the safety of all Members during such storms and we will close the pool until the storm has passed. Please co-operate and leave the pool during these types of weather.

## **Dress codes**

Just a gentle reminder that some functions and events have a dress code set by the General Committee and Management (like the monthly Wine-tasting). For the benefit of all Members' enjoyment, please adhere to these set dress codes.

## **Guests**

Members are reminded that we allow a maximum of 3 registered guests per Member at any time in the Club, and also please note it is necessary for the Member to be with their guests at all times around the Club's premises. All charges for these guests shall be made to the inviting Member's Club account. Additionally, the same guests can only be introduced a limited amount of times to the Club, if it is the same guest very often we would like to speak to the Member and their guests to look into enrolling for membership at the Club themselves. For Club Members on Single Membership Status that would like to bring their partners to the Club we would request them to change their Membership status to Family.

## **Poolside upgrades**

By the time you read this we will be in the commencing stages of the Poolside upgrades. Contracts are awarded and exact dates will be announced to Members in several places around the Club. For minimal disruption please watch these areas; the noticeboard in front of the Clubhouse, the sports noticeboard at the Fitness area and the Poolside noticeboard. I am happy to announce that I have received approval from the Narai Hotel for our Members to use their fitness facilities and swimming pool during our poolside works. Please take a towel from the Club and present your Membership card, all F&B needs to be paid for in cash as your Club's account cannot be charged at the hotel.

We will also organise a "Centre Court Sala"; an awning placed in front of the tennis courts with the usual tables and chairs, with full F&B service, as well as a "family fun area" on the front lawn, with an inflatable pool, deck-chairs and full F&B service available.

Lastly I would like to wish all of our Members who are going overseas or on holiday a "bon voyage" and hope to see all of you back around the Club later in the year, and hope you all will enjoy the upgraded poolside area.

As always, see you around the Club.

Warmest regards,

**Joost Paijmans**  
**General Manager**






## Medical Miracles Making Smiles!

You can bring the smile of a lifetime to a child's face for as little as 15,000 Baht with a donation to Operation Smile Thailand. We are part of a worldwide medical charity that provides free reconstructive surgery to children born with disfiguring facial deformities.

Although a relatively inexpensive & simple surgery, it remains out of reach for the poorer families living in rural Thailand. With your help we can reach out a hand and touch a heart. We guarantee that by changing a child's life, you will change your own.

Please join us now.

**Operation  Smile Thailand**

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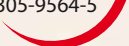
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# HAPPENINGS



## Greetings to you all,

Summer is in place with a much quieter environment and a considerably wetter one too. It's almost predictable what time it will rain every day - curiously enough, the districts that get rained on seem to be constant too, so if I leave the Club just as the rain is easing, it always seems to be starting when I get home!

The last month has been really enjoyable on the whole. There have been many things going on which have seemed to result in pleased people. Sometimes not, however, but on the whole, the level of positive comments has been good, and the best part of all is that more people are commenting than usual, either in person or by email. To me, that's crucial to our move towards greater involvement and a more thorough understanding of what people want, what they like, and what gets up their collective noses. So please do not hesitate to jot down your thoughts and send them through. They get passed on as and where necessary, or answered directly if possible.

The Club once again played host to the early celebration of Canada Day - I just love their Bloody Caesars (which are fortified like a small Roman galley) and the Boat Races. Lots of good moods and a BNH machine which told me I was seriously obese (didn't I know that?) Then we had the Independence Day Buffet which was a wonderful spread at a special price with some very contented diners, followed by the Chandon Sparkling Wine Brunch which saw a superlative feast washed down with velvet-textured nectar. The day that we welcomed about 80 Burmese Kids who are looked after at a temple nearby was fantastic; all boys between 8 and 18yrs, no arguments, no pushing and shoving, no fighting, no shouting, no undue noise, no tears; their behaviour was immaculate and they even queued for food, which is a testament to the manners they are taught by the monks! The Bouncy Castle was overwhelmed but coped admirably, arts and crafts were good, and they even had time for a bit of an Ice Age movie. It was a really rewarding day with Club staff collecting amongst themselves for goody-bag presents for each kid, and a few Members contributing as well. Anyway, most of the aforementioned are covered by reviews later on in this issue.

Last weekend we had a special presentation of a movie produced and directed by a Club Member which saw a greater than expected turnout and was a suspenseful film which everyone seemed to enjoy. Another of his movies will be shown this coming weekend. Earlier this week we saw the return of the Club's Quiz Night with 6 teams showing up despite the horrific downpour which left central Bangkok as red as a force field on Google Maps. Our new quizmasters targeted the questions well as the winning team only achieved 62%, and only the team I was on under-performed but there were only three of us two of whom had headaches, so that's our excuse! It was a great evening and I hope we get a similar turnout (or better still another two or three teams) for the next show which is on 14 August and which we plan will move a bit quicker with hopefully a few more questions too, really testing stuff!

I've spent quite some time on the computer system as well this month. Firstly, I examined the bounced emails and asked about 100 Members by letter to confirm their email addresses but got a very disappointing response, less than 15%; really, it's not difficult to send an email so we can have updated details, is it? I have spent quite a lot of time beefing up the online calendar to include more frequent items and also entries which are informational even if not requiring registration or booking. Most major events posted now have a registration/booking space at the bottom of their pages, and I would ask people to use these if they can. It doesn't commit you and it makes it easier for the staff who prepare the occasion, also providing us with an indication of how it is received. I simply haven't had time to engage in the Club's social media, no spare hands nor enough moments to achieve any continuity, but I'm working on that too.

August is not looking too busy with events at the moment, I regret to say, though as things are arranged they will be detailed in weekly emails, so please check them out. We're spending time planning an exotic Annual Ball, the Christmas Events as well as Trafalgar Dinner, Halloween and Guy Fawkes. There's a play in the pipeline, two more Gourmet Dinners, and the long-awaited Elvis evening. Anyone for croquet?

Best wishes,

**Jeremy de Sausmarez**  
**Events & Marketing Manager**



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

# BUSINESS LUNCHEONS

**30th July - 3rd August 2012**

**Starters – 55 baht**

Waldorf Ham Salad

**or**

Chef's Soup of the Day

**Main Courses – 140 baht**

Grilled Pork Loin Steak served with Apple and Fennel sauce

**or**

Pan-fried Dory with Mornay Sauce  
served with Broccoli and Mashed Potatoes

**or**

Mini Steak served with Mixed Vegetables and Roast Potatoes

**or**

Tom Kha Gai

( A refreshing soup with Chicken, Coconut Milk and Herbs )

Phad Kaprao Moo Sab

( Stir-fried Minced Pork with Hot Basil and Chili )

Phad Tua Ngok Tao Hoo (Stir-fried Bean Curd and Oyster Sauce)

**Dessert of the Day - 55 baht**

**or**

Choose from our à la Carte Dessert 10% off

**13th - 17th August 2012**

**Starters – 55 baht**

Warm Bread Salad of Crispy Bacon Parmesan and  
Poached Egg

**or**

Chef's Soup of the Day

**Main Courses – 140 baht**

Turkey and Leek Pie served with Mixed Vegetables and  
Home-fried Potatoes

**or**

Lamb, Beef and Eggplant Moussaka served with Mixed Salad  
and Garlic Bread

**or**

Fillet of Pork Mushroom Sauce  
served with Green beans, Carrots and Garlic Roast Potatoes

**or**

Gaeng Kiew Wan Look Chin Pla

( Fish Balls in Green Curry Sauce )

Kai Jiew Moo Sub ( Thai Style Minced Pork Omelette )

Phad Kana Nam Man Hoy

( Stir-fried Kale with Oyster Sauce )

**Dessert of the Day - 55 baht**

**or**

Choose from our à la Carte Dessert 10% off

**6th - 10th August 2012**

**Starters – 55 baht**

Grilled Chicken, Mango/ Avocado, Beetroot Salad with  
Balsamic and Honey Dressing

**or**

Chef's Soup of the Day

**Main Courses – 140 baht**

Chicken Korma served with Boiled Egg and Yellow Rice

**or**

Fish & Chips (Choice of Breadcrumbed or Battered)  
served with Garden Peas and Tartare sauce

**or**

Pork Schnitzel  
served with Mixed Salad, Baked Potato and Apple sauce

**or**

Tom Yam Goong

( Spicy Lemon Grass Soup with Prawns and Mushroom )

Gai Phad Khing

( Stir-fried Chicken with Ginger, Onion and Fungus mushroom )

Tod Mun Pla ( Deep-fried Fish cakes )

**Dessert of the Day - 55 baht**

**or**

Choose from our à la Carte Dessert 10% off

**20th - 24th August 2012**

**Starters – 55 baht**

Niçoise Salad with French Beans, Egg, Black Olives,  
Potatoes and Anchovy

**or**

Chef's Soup of the Day

**Main Courses – 140 baht**

Pan-Fried Dory Fish with Spicy Herbs  
served with Mixed Salad and Boiled Potatoes

**or**

Turkey Lasagne served with Garlic Bread

**or**

Mini Steak Served with Mixed Vegetables and  
Roast Potatoes

**or**

Gaeng Som Goong Phak Ruam

( Sour-Soup with Mixed Vegetables and Prawns )

Moo Tod Kratium Prik Thai

( Stir-Fried Pork Fillet with Garlic and Pepper )

Tod Mun Pla ( Deep-Fried Fish Cake )

**Dessert of the Day - 55 baht**

**or**

Choose from our à la Carte Dessert 10% off



# F&B MORSELS



## Dear Members,

Thanks to all of you who have given me so much feedback over the past period. Your comments and suggestions are really helpful to me to ensure the F&B menus at the Club are diverse and have something for all tastes.

## The Verandah

Business Luncheons from Monday to Friday are more popular than ever, please do come down for a good lunch at a fair price 11:30am until 2pm every weekday.

## The Churchill Bar

I am happy to announce that I have started "Happy Hour" bar snacks again, daily at the Churchill Bar. During Happy Hour everyone will receive complimentary bar snacks, ranging from peanuts to sausage rolls and more!

## Poolside

Remember to ask for our breakfast menu at Poolside, a great way to start your day around the pool or watching tennis. Please note that the upgrade of the Poolside kitchen will not directly affect Members, but there might be a slight delay as all food needs to be prepared in the Main Kitchen, so I do hope for your understanding.

## Coffee shop

The coffee shop next to the Neilson Hays Library has proven to be a popular spot for visitors that are not only Members, as it is the only place open for Non-Members to use. Please do go there for a cup of delicious specialty coffee and our home baked cakes and pastries! I recommend trying our scones, simply delicious!

Keep your feedback coming, and as always, happy eating!!

## Khun Laak

## Executive Chef



**Modern  
European**

DINING

1st - 15th August 2012	16th - 31st August 2012
<p><u>Starters</u></p> <p>Chef's Soup of the Day <span style="float: right;">Bt 80</span></p> <p>Pan-Cooked Asparagus and Mixed Seafood <span style="float: right;">Bt 200</span></p> <p><u>Main Courses</u></p> <p>Crispy Glazed Duck Breast with Green Pepper Sauce served with red cabbage jam and croquette potatoes <span style="float: right;">Bt 300</span></p> <p>Lamb Shank Braised with Red Wine and Herbs served with crushed new potatoes and green beans <span style="float: right;">Bt 400</span></p> <p>Grilled Snow Fish with Capers, Olives and Butter Sauce served with asparagus, carrots and French beans <span style="float: right;">Bt 580</span></p>	<p><u>Starters</u></p> <p>Chef's Soup of the Day <span style="float: right;">Bt 80</span></p> <p>Prawn Cocktail <span style="float: right;">Bt 160</span></p> <p><u>Main Courses</u></p> <p>Spaghetti with Spicy Lamb Sauce and Fresh Rosemary <span style="float: right;">Bt 265</span></p> <p>Duo of Red Snapper and Sea Bass with a vegetable, noodle and scallop sauce <span style="float: right;">Bt 335</span></p> <p>Chicken Breast Stuffed with Sun-Dried Tomatoes and Feta Cheese served with crispy polenta, rocket salad and basil pesto <span style="float: right;">Bt 260</span></p>

# HALF-TIME REPORT

## *The Honorary Treasurer*

This year the General Committee has decided to give an informal interim financial report in Outpost. At the time of writing, the half-year figures have just been finalised and reviewed by the General Committee. At the time of reading, of course, we are well into the second half of the year.

Details of the monthly accounts are posted on the noticeboards in the Club and of course every Member receives a copy of the audited accounts prior to the AGM. Additionally, any Member is free to attend the Treasury Working Group, which is held monthly and chaired by the Treasurer. The dates are posted on the noticeboards, however for those who do not visit the Club frequently, the meeting will be held at 1700 hours on the third Tuesday of each month in the Silom Room.

The past few years have not been years of plenty for the Club. One can point to a variety of factors, however these should really be confined to the history pages. In the more recent past, there has been political instability in the city which is our home and natural disasters such as flooding. This has also been against a background of financial turmoil in the world at large.

These factors have all affected the Membership and thus the revenues of the Club to a greater or lesser extent. Closer to home, we have had instability in the Management Team at the Club. The reasons for this have been, and continue to be, debated by many Members. However, one thing that must be clear is that if there is instability in the management structure, there will be financial instability too since the system of driving revenue and controlling costs starts to creak and, as many will undoubtedly comment, the 'Revolving Door' management policy comes at a high price.

We now have a stable Management Team in place and the results will speak for themselves. A corner appeared to have been turned towards the end of 2011, and by early 2012 it was clear that this was not just an unsustainable spike. The comings and goings of the management team caused some distortions to the monthly figures, which have now unwound. Q1/12 saw average monthly operating surpluses of just over THB 700,000 but this was during the period when certain key management positions were unfilled. In Q2/12, we have seen average monthly surpluses in the order of THB 275,000. These figures include monies spent on our enhanced repair and maintenance drive, such as the Deep Clean operation, the replacement of some elderly kitchen equipment, painting works and repairs to the pool pumps.

Our total cash position at the end of June was THB 19.5 million. This compares with THB 12.5 million at the same time in 2011 or an increase of 56%. After provision for the staff retirement fund, this leaves THB 13.4 million.

Costs are under control and the payroll has now unwound from the turbulence of last year and is stable. At its monthly meetings, the Treasury Working Group drills into any costs that appear to be rising, however small the rise. There is no current cause for concern and for that our Management Team are to be congratulated.

We have also had well-attended and profitable events and functions such as the Queen's Jubilee Fête, Canada Day and the Lady Gaga concert. Other ad hoc events, such as the Gentlemen's Final at Wimbledon (in July) were also excellently organised at short notice and well-attended. More events are planned for the future.

For the first half of 2012 we have a net profit of THB 2.9 million compared to a loss of THB 2 million in the first half of 2011.

It is against this background therefore that the General Committee believes it is time to move from focusing on cost-saving towards a policy of prudent expenditure on improvements and introducing new services and facilities for Members.

The much-delayed painting of the Clubhouse was completed in the early part of the year and the entire estate is now undergoing a deep clean, landscaping and maintenance programme. This includes brightening up the gardens, making modifications to the back lawn and the all-weather playing area and painting those areas often neglected, such as the front gate area, as reported recently by the GM. Investments have been made in Bangkok's biggest Bouncy Castle and a trampoline, both of which were seen in action at the Jubilee Fête. All these costs and investments are already included in the figures reported.

There is no major capital expenditure planned, however there are four projects in the Poolside area that will be undertaken as soon as the required tendering and analysis procedures have been correctly completed. Some of these are now urgent since they were put off in leaner years. To minimise inconvenience to Members, these will be carried out concurrently, subject to the conclusion of tender processes and contract negotiations. By the time you read this, we anticipate that the work will be well underway.



These are:

(1) Refurbishment/partial rebuild of the Suriwongse Sala: this is due to existing damage to the roof structure which has been postponed repeatedly and can no longer be postponed. As part of the same project, the preparation room and kitchen at the back of the Sala will be refurbished and modified.

(2) A solution to the pool lining issue: previous GCs have, through no fault have their own, postponed full repairs or applied the sticking plaster approach through lack of funds. This can no longer continue as tiles continue to break free and accidents will and, sadly, do happen. At the time of writing, two independent consultants have given their views and a number of suitably qualified Members have added theirs. Suffice it to say that there is no single view. The Poolside Works Working Group is ploughing through this. Four companies have tendered and their submissions are under scrutiny for compliance with the Club's procedures.

(3) Repair and overhaul of the pool pumps: these pumps are ancient. Nevertheless, it is the opinion of those consulted, inside and outside the Club and including the Club's own maintenance team, that a full overhaul and replacement of key parts will keep us going for years to come.

(4) The extension of the Fitness Centre outwards towards the pool.

These are not development projects but essential works. In carrying these out, the GC also aims to add value by making modest improvements in the areas where the works are required.

On the back lawn, a working group is looking into extending the permanent walkway from The Verandah to the multi-purpose playing area, adding fixed barbecue pits, a drinks station for regular outdoor events and resurfacing and providing more suitable fencing and perimeter boards for the playing area.

Overall, the first half of 2012 has been a good one financially. The emphasis is now on revenue: how to increase membership numbers, functions, events and Members' services so that we can continue to grow financially, plan for the future, and provide a Club environment and atmosphere in keeping with the wishes of our Members.

Thanks to the hard work of the previous incumbent, this Treasurer is in the happy position of considering projects on which to spend money rather than ways of cutting costs, and we are therefore keen to receive ideas and suggestions for the improvement of the Club, its services and ambience. This is your Club.

**Peter Deman**  
Honorary Treasurer

## OFFICIAL OPENING TIMES

<b>The Verandah</b>	11am - 2pm, 5pm - 10pm (Mon-Thurs) 11am - 10pm (Fri-Sun and Public Holidays)		
<b>Accounts Office</b>	9am - 6pm (Mon-Fri), Closed (Sat-Sun)		
<b>Neilson Hays Coffee Shop</b>	9am - 6pm	<b>Fitness Centre</b>	6am - 10pm (Mon-Fri)
<b>Churchill Bar</b>	10am - 11pm	<b>Fitness Centre</b>	6am - 9pm (Sat-Sun)
<b>Poolside Bar</b>	6:15am - 11pm Last food orders 9:30pm	<b>Thai Massage</b>	9am - 5pm (Tues-Sun)

# MAPLE MERRIMENT

## *Celebrating Canada's 145th Birthday*



Members of the local Canadian community and their friends gathered at the British Club on Saturday, June 23, 2012 to conduct an early celebration of Canada's 145th Birthday. This year's Canada Day event offered a great opportunity to connect with old friends, express some national pride and enjoy some great Canadian comfort food and drinks.

While our day started off with a beautiful blue sky, Mother Nature made sure we were blessed with a short and humidity-breaking rain around 4:30pm. In the end, everyone took the short monsoon downpour in their stride and we never missed a beat. We even conducted our annual boat races under dry conditions with the Flying Farangs taking this year's honours.

In total, 329 adults and kids turned out to share in this year's festivities. The front and back lawns of the British Club were a hot bed of activity with Don Lavoie and Ali Fancy supervising volleyball, ball hockey, tug-of-war games and a pickle-eating contest on the back lawn, while BNH Hospital, Michael Albert and the "Right To Play" crew managed all of the children's games on the front lawn. One clear winner with the kids at this year's Canada Day event was the British Club's all new and massive Bouncy Castle. The late afternoon rain helped

turned the castle's slide into one super Slip & Slide. This year's buffet offered some Canadianized dishes with the support of Bernie and Pauline Tweedie. Their efforts are worthy of special recognition since Bernie served his committee support role from afar in Afghanistan, while Pauline handled the local logistics support.

Additionally, no Canada Day event would be complete without our traditional Bloody Caesar Bar which was manned by John Stevens and Yves Gaboriault who poured over 60 litres of Clamato Caesars from 3pm to 5:30pm. This year's guests were also treated to an endless supply of Singha draft as well as specially flown-in Moosehead beer.

We wish to thank the Canada Day 2012 Committee members of Sam & Sumon Cohen, Don & Daniele Lavoie, Claudia van der Heyden, Michael Albert, Germain Bergeron and Randy Shockley, as well as Delphine & Walter Jamieson, Claudia & Andre van der Heyden, Eva Dagmar, Sranyoo Chanate, Fang van Haren, Kay Stevens, Yui and Aomy for helping to staff the event's registration desk.

And to the British Club and its staff, we say thank you for delivering a great 145th birthday party for Canada.



BNH Hospital Team



Approaching the Castle



Canuck Pride



All smiles!



Preparing for the Boat Race





Busy Bouncy Castle



Canada!



Cutting the cake



Excellent beer!



Face painting was a big hit with the kids



Boat race underway



I can handle this..



No argument!



Pattaya Pickle-eating contest



Flying Farangs win this year's race



Someone say "Go"



Ticket supremos



What a great day!



Yeah, right!



Yes, Kay & John - The Bloody Caesar Crew



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# CHANDON D'AMOUR...

There wasn't a huge amount of preparation time, but we wanted to have the chance to invite the Brand Ambassador of Chandon to speak at a special brunch, and we had some great ideas for foods that would make that particularly delectable sparkling wine sparkle all the more. And for those who came, I think it really paid off.

There was a fantastic spread of imported rock oysters and mussels with fat prawns too, all nestling comfortably on ice. The antipasti selection was mouth-watering, in addition to an unusual array of salads, a good cheeseboard and of course roasts and other hot dishes. Even the desserts were impossible to refuse!

But it was the sparkling Chandon wine which made these diamonds shine, and during the one hour of free-flow, the cuisine really became as special as we had all hoped.

The good news is that there is a Chandon promotion at the Club until the middle of August, and sampling a bottle will make most menu items sparkle!



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# CELEBRATING HALF A CENTURY

## *Anglo-Thai Society's 50th Anniversary Gala Dinner*

On 11th June 2012 at a gala dinner in the House of Lords, with a spectacular view overlooking the River Thames, members of the Anglo-Thai Society (ATS) celebrated their 50th Anniversary.

The ATS was formed in 1962 following the King of Thailand's auspicious visit to Britain in 1960, when there were already close ties between the two Kingdoms. Samaggi Samagom, the Thai Students' Association, was established by King Rama VI circa 1901 to bring Thais living in Britain together through a variety of events and activities.

During its 50 years, the ATS has organised innumerable events to further relations and understanding between the two countries. With the sponsorship of several British peers, annual summer receptions have been held at the House of Lords. Society members have enjoyed a variety of events including winter receptions for Thai students, visits to the Buddhapadipa Temple in Wimbledon, art exhibitions and theatres, lunches at Thai restaurants, celebrations for Songkran and Loy Kratong and talks about Thai culture and history.

The ATS has raised funds for Thai people in need and also supports the education of Thai students in financial difficulties. The ATS scheme of Educational Awards for Excellence, acknowledging the achievements of Thai postgraduates at British universities, was set up in 2005. It has received

support from H.E. Kittti Wasinondh, the Thai Ambassador, and others including Liverpool University, Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press and Bangkok Bank.

Based in London, the ATS is a friendly and welcoming society that works closely in the UK with the Royal Thai Embassy, Samaggi Samagom, the Tourism Authority of Thailand, Asia House, Thai Societies at various universities, Thai and British businesses and the Royal Over-Seas League.

The 50th anniversary gala dinner was attended by H.E. Kittti Wasinondh; Lord Geddes, current patron of the ATS; five former British Ambassadors to Thailand; representatives from the Thai Embassy, ATS members and their guests. Entertainment included puppetry from the Thai Dance Academy and traditional music from the Thai Music Circle.

Current ATS Chairman and former British Ambassador to Thailand David Fall thanked the many sponsors and the event's organisers. H.E. Kittti Wasinondh, who completes his time as Thai Ambassador to the UK shortly, gave a splendid speech as well.

Membership of the ATS is open to all who share its values. Further details may be found on its website:

[www.anglothaisociety.org](http://www.anglothaisociety.org)



# PURE ENJOYMENT!

## ***Meinhardt (Thailand) Ltd. and The British Club Bangkok sponsored a 'Fun Day Out' for needy children***

On Saturday 7th July, the Back Lawn of the British Club was taken over by nearly 80 children aged 9 to 18 years. The children (all Burmese boys) live in a temple in Bangkok and most are either orphans or their parents are away working on construction sites. They have a regulated life within the temple walls learning languages and basic education, but they very rarely get to leave the temple to enjoy the kind of activities that most take for granted while growing up.

Meinhardt arranged with the British Club to bring the children for an afternoon 'Fun Day Out' so the children could play on the supersize Bouncy Castle, play football and cricket, and take part in some arts and crafts activities including T-shirt painting. The event was part of Meinhardt's Corporate Social Responsibility to give back to the community through its 'MiHeart' brand.

At midday the children were collected from their temple in Songthaews and brought to the Club. They were so excited and after a quick lunch they couldn't wait to let off some steam. The Bouncy Castle was a huge favourite - many of the children have never seen a Bouncy Castle but they soon got the hang of it!

We were lucky with the weather although later in the afternoon many of the children went up to the Surawongse Room to escape the heat and watch a movie in the comfort of the aircon.

The final activity of the day was a group 'Tug of War' which involved all the children, volunteers and some of the British Club staff. The children's enthusiasm and teamwork was brilliant and it was a great workout for us adults! The children were amazingly polite and respectful and a pleasure to entertain. No tears, no arguments, no fighting, just pure fun!





Unknown to the organisers, the staff at the British Club spontaneously arranged a collection amongst themselves during the afternoon to raise money to buy the children some toys and sweets. This was a totally unexpected and immensely charitable thing to do. The children were so grateful when they were presented with their goody-bags at the end of the day after their buffet dinner. There were also some donations from British Club Members on the day and these were put towards rice for the Temple and presented to the head Monk.

It was such fun and also a humbling day to see how well-behaved the children were as well as the enthusiasm from all the volunteers and particularly the British Club staff. Meinhardt would like to thank the British Club for their brilliant organisational skills and for opening up the Club to these children for the afternoon. The children receive a lot of support from the Melissa Cosgrove Children's Foundation, and both Melissa and Tracy Cosgrove were there on the day to support the event and help with the fun.

The Meinhardt Group was originally formed in Australia in 1955 as an engineering consultancy. The Group expanded into Asia in 1972 and is now headquartered from Singapore. The Meinhardt Group is employee-owned with more than 3,000 professional staff located in over 30 offices throughout Australia, Asia, the Middle East, North Africa, USA and the United Kingdom. Meinhardt (Thailand) Ltd. was established in Bangkok in 1991 and now employs 250 staff with an expertise focused primarily on engineering consultancy services (Civil, Structural, Mechanical, Electrical, Facade, Lighting, Transport and Construction Management).





# BC CALENDAR - AUGUST 2012

## MONDAY

30

**BWG Mahjong**  
10am - 1pm



6

**Tennis Mix-In**  
6pm-10pm



**Monday Night Club**  
*The Green Man*  
Wordsworth Lounge, 7pm



**BWG Mahjong**  
10am - 1pm



13

**Sports Camp**  
9:30am



**Tennis Mix-In**  
6pm-10pm



**Monday Night Club**  
*The Way Through the Woods*  
Wordsworth Lounge, 7pm



**BWG Mahjong**  
10am - 1pm



20

**Tennis Mix-In**  
6pm-10pm



**Monday Night Club**  
*Mrs McGinty's Dead*  
Wordsworth Lounge, 7pm



**BWG Mahjong**  
10am - 1pm



27

**Tennis Mix-In**  
6pm-10pm



**Monday Night Club**  
*The Soul of Genius*  
Wordsworth Lounge, 7pm



## TUESDAY

31

**Ladies Mix-In**  
8am



7

**Fitball**  
10:30am



**Squash Mix-In**  
5pm - 7pm



**St Andrew's Society**  
Scottish Dancing, 7pm.

**Senior Football**  
7pm - 9pm



**Ladies Mix-In**  
8am



14

**Fitball**  
10:30am



**Squash Mix-In**  
5pm - 7pm



**Senior Football**  
7pm - 9pm



**Quiz Night**  
7pm - 9:30pm

**Sports Camp**  
9:30am



**Ladies Mix-In**  
8am



21

**Fitball**  
10:30am



**Squash Mix-In**  
5pm - 7pm



**Senior Football**  
7pm - 9pm



**Ladies Mix-In**  
8am



28

**Fitball**  
10:30am



**Squash Mix-In**  
5pm - 7pm



**Senior Football**  
7pm - 9pm



## WEDNESDAY

**Artists @ British Club**  
9am - 1pm



1

**Ladies Tennis Coaching**  
10am - 11:30am



**Tennis Mix-In**  
6pm - 10pm



**Balut Shield**  
Wordsworth Lounge, 7pm



**Artists @ British Club**  
9am - 1pm



8

**Ladies Tennis Coaching**  
10am - 11:30am



**Tennis Mix-In**  
6pm - 10pm



**Artists @ British Club**  
9am - 1pm



15

**Ladies Tennis Coaching**  
10am - 11:30am



**Tennis Mix-In**  
6pm - 10pm



**Balut Shield**  
Wordsworth Lounge, 7pm



**Sports Camp**  
9:30am



**Artists @ British Club**  
9am - 1pm



22

**Ladies Tennis Coaching**  
10am - 11:30am



**Tennis Mix-In**  
6pm - 10pm



**Artists @ British Club**  
9am - 1pm



29

**Ladies Tennis Coaching**  
10am - 11:30am



**Tennis Mix-In**  
6pm - 10pm



## THURSDAY

**Ladies Mix-In**  
8am



**Fitball**  
10:30am



**Squash Mix-In**  
5pm-7pm



**Cricket**  
**Thursday Night Trio**  
7pm

**Ladies Mix-In**  
8am



**Fitball**  
10:30am



**Squash Mix-In**  
5pm-7pm



**Cricket**  
**Thursday Night Trio**  
7pm

**Ladies Mix-In**  
8am



**Fitball**  
10:30am



**Squash Mix-In**  
5pm-7pm



**Cricket**  
**Thursday Night Trio**  
7pm

**Sports Camp**  
9:30am



**Ladies Mix-In**  
8am



**Fitball**  
10:30am



**Squash Mix-In**  
5pm-7pm



**Cricket**  
**Thursday Night Trio**  
7pm

**Ladies Mix-In**  
8am








**Fitball**  
10:30am



**Squash Mix-In**  
5pm-7pm



**Cricket**  
**Thursday Night Trio**  
7pm

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<div>2</div> <div>    </div>	<div>3</div> <div> <div>Children's Friday Cinema 6pm, Lion King</div> <div>Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm</div>   </div>	<div>4</div> <div> <div>Italian Buffet Lunch &amp; Dinner All day</div> <div>Junior Netball Back lawn, 3pm - 4pm</div>  </div>	<div>5</div> <div> <div>Junior British Club 10:30am - 1:30pm</div> <div>Verandah Brunch 11:30am - 3pm</div> <div>Open Pairs Bridge Surawongse Room 2:30pm</div>  <div>Yoga 2:30pm</div>  </div>
<div>9</div> <div>    </div>	<div>10</div> <div> <div>Children's Friday Cinema 6pm, Scooby-Doo</div> <div>Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm</div>   </div>	<div>11</div> <div> <div>Canadian Buffet Lunch &amp; Dinner All day</div> <div>Junior Netball Back lawn, 3pm - 4pm</div>  </div>	<div>12</div> <div> <div>Junior British Club 10:30am - 1:30pm</div> <div>Mother's Day Buffet Brunch 11:30am - 3pm</div> <div>Open Pairs Bridge Surawongse Room 2:30pm</div>  <div>Yoga 2:30pm</div>  </div>
<div>16</div> <div>    </div>	<div>17</div> <div> <div>Children's Friday Cinema 6pm, Mulan</div> <div>Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm</div> <div>Sports Camp 9:30am</div>    </div>	<div>18</div> <div> <div>American Buffet Lunch &amp; Dinner All day</div> <div>Junior Netball Back lawn, 3pm - 4pm</div>  <div>Volleyball Tournament</div>  </div>	<div>19</div> <div> <div>Junior British Club 10:30am - 1:30pm</div> <div>Verandah Brunch 11:30am - 3pm</div> <div>Open Pairs Bridge Surawongse Room 2:30pm</div>  <div>Yoga 2:30pm</div>  </div>
<div>23</div> <div>    </div>	<div>24</div> <div> <div>Children's Friday Cinema 6pm, Peter Pan</div> <div>Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm</div>   </div>	<div>25</div> <div> <div>Curry Buffet Lunch &amp; Dinner All day</div> <div>Junior Netball Back lawn, 3pm - 4pm</div>  </div>	<div>26</div> <div> <div>Junior British Club 10:30am - 1:30pm</div> <div>Verandah Brunch 11:30am - 3pm</div> <div>Yoga 2:30pm</div>  </div>
<div>30</div> <div>    </div>	<div>31</div> <div> <div>Wine Tasting Suriwongse Room 6pm - 9pm</div>  <div>Children's Friday Cinema 6pm, 101 Dalmatians</div> <div>Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm</div>   </div>	<div>1</div>	<div>2</div> <div> <div>BC Golf Society</div> <div> <div>5 Aug</div> <div>18 Aug</div> <div>26 Aug</div> </div> <div> <div>Lam Lukka GC</div> <div>Kiarti Thani GC</div> <div>The Royal GC</div> </div> </div>



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

Question:

*What's happening on  
Tues 14 August at 7pm  
in The Verandah?*

Answer:

*It's the August  
Quiz Night!*

**QUIZ**  
**NIGHT**

Teams of 6, Members **Bt100**, Non-Members **Bt150**  
Book online or contact **Jeremy**



# HOLIDAYS & FESTIVALS

By Paul Cheesman



This is the third most important Buddhist holiday in the Calendar and is called to celebrate the day that Buddha gave his first sermon to his first five disciples. This sermon is commonly known as Dhammacakkappavattana Sutta or The Setting in Motion of the Wheel of Dharma. Although the sermon was proclaimed around 527 BC (or later with some scholars) the earliest known copy of the accepted text comes from 170AD. As explained last month, for this year it is being celebrated one month later than usual.

## ASARNHA BUCHA

August 2<sup>nd</sup>

## KHAO PANSA

August 3<sup>rd</sup>

This is a Buddhist holiday, literally 'Rain Retreat Day', to celebrate the start of Vassa, or Buddhist Lent, and 'traditionally' the start of the Monsoon Season. It was also the traditional start of the main crop growing season thus monks would remain in their monastery for three lunar months to meditate and also to avoid damaging young crops during their spiritual wanderings. For the lay Buddhist, the three months are a time to give up meat, alcohol, or smoking – some followers even add gossip and sex to the list of abstinences.

Her Majesty Queen Sirikit was born on 12th August 1932 and thus this day is honoured amongst Thai people and celebrated as a Public Holiday, Thailand's Mother's Day.

Born M.R. Sirikit Kitiyakara (M.R. [Mom Rajawongse] being a noble title equivalent to 'The Honourable') she was educated at Rajini School, then Saint Francis Xavier Convent School, before moving to the UK where her father served as Siamese Ambassador to the Court of St. James (the formal title for an Ambassador to the UK). She then studied in Paris where she met H.M. King Bhumibol. After a quiet period of getting to know each other, they became engaged on 19 July 1949 and they were married on 28 April 1950, a week before The King's coronation, where she was elevated to the rank of Queen Consort (as H.M. Queen Sirikit). In 1956 Queen Sirikit served as Regent of Thailand whilst His Majesty was became a monk in honour of the passing of his Grandmother (Queen Savang Vadhana) and The Queen was elevated to the rank of Queen Regent.

Her Majesty Queen Sirikit is the world's longest serving consort to a ruling Monarch although at the age of 91 The Duke of Edinburgh (consort to Queen Elizabeth II) remains the eldest.

In 2012 it is a Sunday so Monday 13th is a substitution day for the holiday.

## H.M. THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY

August 12<sup>th</sup>  
(August 13<sup>th</sup> is  
substitution day)



"Long Live The Queen"

## AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY

August 27<sup>th</sup>  
(August 6<sup>th</sup> in Scotland)

Prior to 1834 the Bank of England (as the main clearing bank) alone closed for 33 religious holidays each year but that came to an end with the Bank Holidays Act 1871 which outlined four Bank Holidays for all people. One of these was the August Bank Holiday, set on the first Monday in August. This remained so until 1965 when a trial was held in England, Wales and Northern Ireland to push this holiday to the end of August or beginning of September. Finally in 1971 it was agreed to be the last Monday in August and the Banking and Financial Dealings Act 1971 was passed to confirm this. As Scotland has its own legal system the change did not affect Scotland which still celebrates the Bank Holiday on the first Monday in August.

# PAST PARTICIPLE

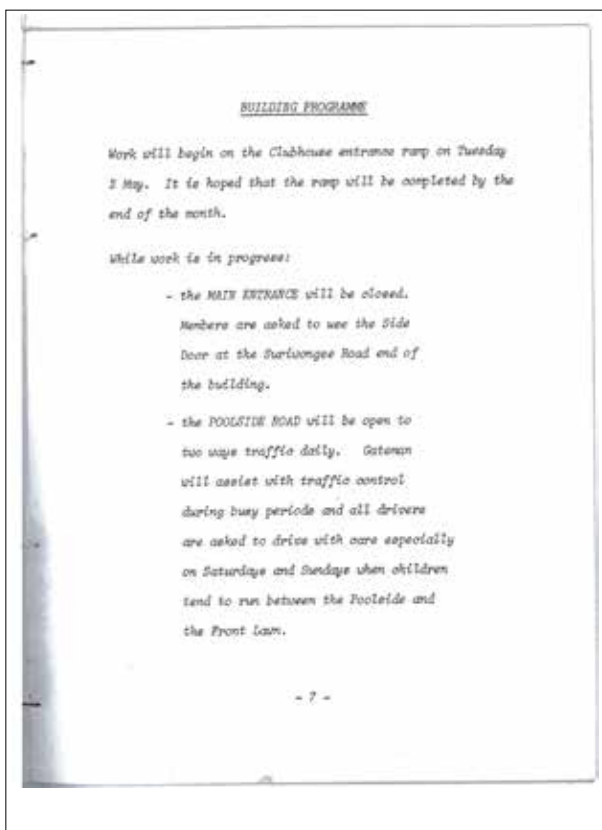
## *Auspicium Melioris Ævi*

By Paul Cheesman



We look back at events of 1978 ...

**1** Citizenship, and in particular what defines a British Citizen, took up much committee time in 1978. Although the (UK) Immigration Act 1971 had been in effect for many years, it had no bearing on the Club until we changed the membership criteria in 1977 to 'British Citizen' and removed the term 'of British descent'. The Club had used the holding of a British Passport as proof of being a British Citizen only to find out that such passports were being issued for a number of reasons, under the 1971 Act, to persons of Irish and Commonwealth nationality. After months of talking with the Embassy, the British Consul was able to provide a legal definition and from on then all applicants had to show the words 'right of abode' in their British Passport ahead of being considered for 'ordinary' or 'country' membership.



"Rebuilding for our next 34 years"

**2** The year 1978 was the Club's 75th Anniversary and as such a potted history of the Club's founding (extracted from 'Twentieth century impressions of Siam' by Arnold Wright & Oliver T. Breakspear) was published in the British Club Newsletter. In addition an anniversary cocktail party was held on the 7th July to celebrate the 75th opening of the Club's first Clubhouse, a wooden house situated just off Suriwongse Road – pictures of which are in Reception and The Verandah.

**3** The Club came under the firm hand of the law in 1978, twice for not complying with it! We were fined in January for not joining the Workman's Compensation Fund – this had been created by a National Executive Council Order in 1971 and came into force in 1974 but we seemed unaware of it. In August two drivers and a staff member were arrested for gambling on the premises, and in November we were fined again for failing to register our Chairman with the police. At least we implemented on time the increase in minimum wage from 28 to 35 Baht which affected 15 staff, with a further 24 staff needing increases to maintain their salary differentials, which was announced for October.

**4** The Long-Range Plan approved in 1977 started to come to life after the Chartered Bank agreed to loan the Club 1,000,000 Baht. The first of the 'new life' being born into the Club was a Poolside Kitchen (adjacent to the Squash Courts) which opened in May, and a huge Stores, Bakery and Main Kitchen extension which opened on 18th December. Minor works like air-conditioning the Restaurant, moving the Water Pumps to the side of the Clubhouse and adding a ramp to the front entrance approach road were also completed.

**5** The addition of 10 Associate members, the expansion of core nationality to Australian, Canadian and New Zealand citizens plus a strong recruitment drive amongst the Embassies did its job with membership at the year-end rising to 447, an increase of 15% over the previous year. The Club thus ended the year one member short of its previous membership record of 448 in 1973.

The author is Honorary Secretary of the Club





## 'RULES BRITANNIAE'

*A monthly peek into our rulebook for things you probably did not know!*



### RETIRED PARENTS

**DID YOU KNOW...** that if you have parents retiring to Thailand they can join the Club at a 50% discount?

Some conditions apply, see Rule 59 (c) for details.



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

### A limited edition of 500 fine prints of the The British Club Bangkok, by Louise Truslow



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK



**Framed: 4,750 baht**

**Unframed: 3,000 baht**

*20% of the sale proceeds will be donated to the Pisamai Fund for the Education of Children of the Club's Employees*

**Order forms are available from Club Reception**

# SPORT & LEISURE

By Paul Ringer



Dear Members,

I Hope you are all enjoying the "summer holidays" or have returned safely from your travels. I myself will be on holiday for the first week of August in deepest darkest Borneo; this however will not stop any of the sporting activities we have at the BC.

## VOLLEYBALL:

On June 16th we had a volleyball competition on the front lawn with five teams entering. A lot of fun was had as teams battled for supremacy and the standard was pretty good considering no one had played for such a longtime.

Despite big welts and large bruises on wrists and forearms people have been asking for more, more, more, and so it shall become a regular fixture in the BC sporting calendar with the next tournament being held on **AUGUST 18th**.



## SUNDAY CYCLE:

On the 24th we had our 2nd Sunday Cycle. This time we did the Historic Bangkok Tour which started from the Grasshopper Adventures office near Khao San Road.

We all met at the BC bright and early, 7:30am, before being transported to Grasshopper HQ. It turns out that the day coincided with the 80th anniversary of the change from absolute monarchy to constitutional monarchy and so despite the earliness of the hour a large swathe of Ratchadamnoen Ave. was being slowly but steadily populated by red shirts.

Once fitted for bikes and after the briefing we ducked out of the shop and down a back street which led us down Khao San Road which was startlingly quiet and peaceful. From here we cycled through the temple grounds which brought us to Phra Atthit via Soi Rambutri. Another short alley brought us out on the edge of the Chao Phraya, which we cycled besides, on and off, till we reached Rama VIII Bridge. Having scaled the stairs, crossed and descended we were now in a quieter, peaceful and more local area of BKK. Mr Wut, our guide, took us along narrow alleys, quiet streets, raised walkways and a selection of different communities taking in temples, locals, their communities and the riverside lifestyle.

After a stop at a train station to see a steam train we headed to Siriraj and then the ferry to cross back to the Grand Palace area. From there it was only a short distance back to the shop, AC and cold drinks.



We will have another Sunday cycle in the not too distant future, please keep an eye out for more details

## TENNIS & SQUASH CAMP (7+ yrs), MINI TENNIS & MINI SQUASH CAMP (4-6 yrs):

MON	WED	FRI
July 30 <sup>th</sup>	Aug 1 <sup>st</sup>	Aug 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Aug 6 <sup>th</sup>	Aug 8 <sup>th</sup>	Aug 10 <sup>th</sup>
Aug 20 <sup>th</sup>	Aug 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Aug 24 <sup>th</sup>

TIME	MON β500	WED β500	FRI β500
10:30-12:00	TENNIS	TENNIS	TENNIS
1:00-2:00	SQUASH	SQUASH	SQUASH

(No lunch will be provided. A 5 child minimum is required to run each day so please sign up)

**SPORTS CAMPS:**

Were very popular last month and we will be running the same program for a week in August.  
AUGUST: Mon 13th - Fri 17th

This summer's sports camp will see yet another new activity - Wakeboarding on Tuesday.  
On Thursday we will return to Imperial Mall Ladprao for bouldering, rock climbing and ice skating.  
For both Tuesday and Thursday children will need to bring their own snacks and around ฿100 for lunch money. We aim, traffic permitting, to have the kids back between 3:30-4pm.



**AS TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS NEED TO BE MADE FOR TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS PLEASE SIGN UP 48HRS IN ADVANCE. A NO SHOW BOOKING WILL BE CHARGED 50%.**

This camp is specifically for children aged 7/8yrs and up. It is about joining in and trying out new sports, having fun and making friends.

**A 5 CHILD MINIMUM IS REQUIRED TO RUN EACH DAY SO PLEASE SIGN UP.**

**As always, children of non-members are welcome to join.**

TIME	MON ฿950	TUES ฿1200	WED ฿950	THUR ฿1200	FRI ฿950
9:30	ADMIN	ADMIN	ADMIN	ADMIN	ADMIN
10:00-11:00	FOOTBALL	WAKE BOARDING	FOOTBALL	BOULDERING ROCK CLIMBING	FOOTBALL
11:00-11:15	SNACK		SNACK		SNACK
11:15-12:15	NETBALL		NETBALL		NETBALL
12:15-1:00	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
1:00-2:30	TENNIS	WAKE BOARDING	TENNIS	ICE SKATING	TENNIS
2:30-3:30	SWIMMING		SWIMMING		SWIMMING

**MINI SPORTS CAMPS:**

August: Mon 13th, Wed 15th, Fri 17th.

MINI BALL SKILLS - will be team and individual games to improve hand/foot eye co-ordination

MINI TENNIS - will be run in a squash court out of the sun or in the shade of our cricket nets

PLAY TIME - will be supervised play in the kids playground with the bouncy castle or trampoline opposite

WATER FUN - will be supervised play in the kids swimming pool

The mini sports camp is for children between the ages of 4 and 6 yrs.

**The children must be capable of feeding themselves, changing their clothes and using the bathroom unsupervised.**

**IN THE INTERESTS OF SAFETY AND QUALITY FOR YOUR CHILDREN THERE IS A MAXIMUM OF 8 CHILDREN PER CAMP. MINIMUM REQUIRED TO RUN THE CAMP IS 3.**

**PLEASE BOOK YOUR PLACES TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT.**

**As always, children of non-members are welcome to join.**

TIME	MON ฿650	WED ฿650	FRI ฿650
10:00	ADMIN	ADMIN	ADMIN
10:15-11:00	MINI BALL SKILLS	MINI BALL SKILLS	MINI BALL SKILLS
11:00-11:15	SNACK	SNACK	SNACK
11:15-12:15	MINI TENNIS	MINI TENNIS	MINI TENNIS
12:15-1:00	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
1:00-1:45	PLAY TIME	PLAY TIME	PLAY TIME≠
1:45-2:30	WATER FUN	WATER FUN	WATER FUN

**YOGA:**

The British Club has yoga sessions every Sunday from 2:30-3:30. They are run by Tawat and you can sign up in the fitness centre.





# SQUASHY BITS

By Bruce Madge

## Action!

**A Report on the Squash Section Club Championships from the Section Chairwoman, Peter Cornflakes. These Championships are known as the Don Johnson Cup, the Parra Hardy Plate and the Peter Corney Cornflakes Bowl.**

Dear All That Can Read,

Bruce Madge beat Den Sod 3-1 in the Cornflakes Bowl part of the event. This match was one of the worst I've ever seen. Den isn't a good player and Madge, at the moment, isn't that much better, although I've seen him play at a much higher level so I assume this loss of form is just a blip. Anyway, this match had mis-hits, mistakes, deliberate errors and just plain crap play evident in each rally most of which were less than three shots in length including the serve. Den was very nervous and the heckling from the gallery unnerved him further. Delaying tactics and banter from Madge also disturbed Den's already fickle concentration. At one point he looked ready to cry. Racket from beer cans being ripped open twice during his service toss briefly distracted Madge, yet he knew he'd win as he's never lost to Den. In fact, very few have. Regardless, neither player has anything to be proud of. Pathetic, the pair of 'em.

In the Plate bit Bob Van Es beat Gary Bain 3-1 in Gary's first tournament. Bob's superior experience at cheating and bad sportsmanship helped him to a shameful and immoral victory. Gary showed great tolerance of Bob's slowness to clear the ball and his ability to retrieve from the back corners using his hands so Gary may now be the man to watch for cheating in the future after all the crooked tricks he witnessed from Van the Villain. Bob



Evans-alcoholic!



Farewell H!



Bob Insults Gary!



Cereal Bowl!



I'm a Woman!

likes to kick his opponents and shout at them during the rallies. He doesn't know the rules and thinks the ball is allowed to bounce twice and that it's ok to head it. He also believes that playing the ball with one's nuts is also acceptable. Gary has been playing only a relatively short time but has already been cruelly corrupted so he can forget about employing any of his speed and reflexes as they will be useless against players like Bob who see honesty and fair play as human weaknesses. Bob played terribly unfairly and pushed Gary against the wall several times which made him bleed. The whole match was played in a dreadful spirit with Bob trying his hardest to lie, cheat, and disrupt, and to insult Gary on a very personal basis. At one point Bob called into question Gary's persuasion. Now then, no one who has met Gary will argue that he isn't a very nice boy, and that he doesn't have a voice that is a trifle mincey, yet, at the same time, I didn't think that anyone would have the temerity to question him in that manner. However, Bob



Where's Evans!



Madge Abuses Den!



Winner!

did, and that coming from him just smacks of pure hypocrisy. What did Gary do? He walloped Bob in his goolies with his racket. Excellent stuff there from Gary Bain.

In the Don Johnson final Tom Kelly thrashed Neil Evans 3-0. This was a terribly painful thrashing the likes of which the Romans dished out to poor Jesus during the Biblical era. Tom retrieved everything and didn't make one mistake while Neil paid the price of a heavy night out drinking with other alcoholics like Bob and Madge and expat fools such as himself, H and JCS. Neil tried his hardest to try, but made the usual errors like hitting the ball back to his opponent, hitting the ball back to himself, hitting the ball in the tin, hitting the ball out of the court, or the astonishing and futile feat of not even hitting the ball at all. At crucial times Neil had zero momentum and looked as though he may pass out. With Tom's speed and retrieving ability you really should be playing sober to beat him. However, even if he hadn't still been smashed out of his head, he wouldn't have won as Tom is brilliant and a worthy Club Champion and Neil isn't. By the way, there is no truth in the rumor that Tom paid Haroon and Madge to get Neil drunk the night before as, a) Tom didn't require any advantage and, b) it was Neil who did it all by himself as he is a self-confessed alcoholic.

On that note, there were alcoholic drinks and high fat, high cholesterol eats along with the trophy presentations with the last freeloaders leaving about 9am the next morning.

Tom received 5,000 baht cash and a trophy fashioned from tin cans as BCB Squash Section Club Champion.

Neil got 3K and a piece of plastic stuck on a block of pine as runner-up.

Bob rudely snatched 3,000 baht in Supersports' vouchers and was given a toxic, lead plate to eat off.

Gary received 1,500 baht in Supersports' vouchers and a plastic thing similar to Evans'.

Bruce was awarded a 2,000 baht Supersports voucher and a child-size, plastic cereal bowl while Den Sod received nothing.

The lucky draw of 4,000 baht Supersports vouchers was luckily won by the lucky Simon Davies.

The vouchers had actually expired so are useless, while the cash was counterfeit, but can still be fobbed off to ladies, or even boys, or those in between, depending on your taste (I prefer the in between!), of the night who aren't usually in the habit of checking 1000 baht notes for authenticity according to my experience.

Thank you to all the competitors, markers, spectators, BCB staff, Supersports, the junk shop that supplied the trophies and the bloke that prints the fake bank notes for making the Squash Section Club Championships a farcical event once again.

The next squash section embarrassment will be the Handicap Championships in August featuring three-legged cats and dogs, deaf hippopotamuses and gangs of fruit and veg bats.

I'm off to chat up some kangaroos.

G'day!

Cornflakes.

Excellent report, Peter. Couldn't have written it better myself. And finally, we had a farewell mix-in for H at some point. It might have been the day before all that nonsense above took place, but we can't remember as we were all drunk. Anyway, we gave him an engraved plate with some soppy message on it and he came out with some tripe about how he'd had a great time with the section, and that we were a good bunch of lads and we would keep in touch, and blah, blah, blah, and we took some photos, and said cheers to H, and then he said he'd be back in BK often, and, and, and, and so what! Off with you Gandhi!

Until the next one leaves.....



Toxic Lead Plate!



Tom K-the Champ!



Unlucky Gary!



# TENNIS

By Paul Ringer



In partnership with



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Dear BCTS,

We are now in the quietest period of the year for the Club. Quiet as in fewer people as opposed to noise, as I gather there is probably a lot of crashing, banging and waloping going on right now with the installation of the new Sala roof, retiling of the pool and extension to the gym. Anyway, I hope you are all comfortably sat in/under the temporary Sala courtside.

It may be quieter at the Club but there's still been a huge amount of tennis happening with The Thai Lawyers Team Friendly on July 14th, The Bruce Gordon Cup on July 20th and a new tennis event, King of the Court, on July 28th.

Pictures and details of all these events will follow next month.

We were hoping to invite the Japanese Association along this month for another friendly, however due to the construction work we decided to postpone till a time when the Club is more amenable to both members and guests.

With no photos or match results on hand I think this is a good time to outline some of the changes the new BCTS Committee is bringing to tennis here at the BC.

## MIX-INS:

**Monday night** - will no longer be a mix-in but will become a training night. We have enlisted the help of an experienced coach who will run these training sessions. THIS IS TRAINING FOR ALL MEMBERS AND ABILITY LEVELS AND WILL INVOLVE AN ELEMENT OF GENERAL FITNESS TRAINING TO IMPROVE YOUR GAME. **Wednesday & Sunday nights** photos or match results on hand I think this is a good time to outline some of the changes the new BCTS Committee is bringing to tennis here at the BC.

**Wednesday & Sunday nights** - will remain as social mix-ins

**Friday night** - will become a Club Night. This means courts cannot be booked from 6-9pm, however anybody is able to turn up and play with whomever they please. The general format is doubles play, 8 games, players to exit the court after games are finished to allow the next 4 players on.

These changes will not all happen at once but will be rolled out in a timely fashion as and when we see fit. Specific details will be presented before any real changes take place.

In addition to the shakeup of the Mix-Ins we intend to have one friendly match per month with a visiting team. The matches will happen on a Saturday and the proposed schedule is as follows;

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| - August    | Japanese Assoc. (postponed due to construction work) |
| - September | Sai Thip   |
| - October   | Krung Thai   |
| - November  | Doctors  |
| - December  | Port Authority                                       |

On top of this we hope to invite various expat groups to join us on Wednesday evenings for our social mix-ins.

## JUNE LEAGUE WINNERS:

- Div 1 - James Young
- Div 2 - Nathawut Watanapalin
- Div 3 - Luc Charrier
- Div 4 - Anton Rutledge-Bontje
- Div 5 - Jesada Tanking
- Div 6 - Ann Brenneman

**BCTS TENNIS LEAGUE RULES****FORMAT OF PLAY:**

Best of 3 Sets; 1st & 2nd Set is First to Win Six Games; Tie Break at 5 games all; 3rd Set is Super-Tiebreak

**POINTS ARE AWARDED AS:****STRAIGHT SET WIN = 4pts****3 SET WIN = 3pts****3 SET LOSS = 2pts****2 SET LOSS = 1pt****FAILURE TO PLAY A MATCH = -1pt.****ALL MATCHES MUST BE PLAYED TO RECEIVE PRIZES.**

- 1) Any player can call another player and organize a match/book a court.
- 2) If you book the court your opponent must provide the balls.
- 3) You are responsible for recording your own score clearly on the league sheet.
- 4) All matches must be played by the end of the month.
- 5) Any mistakes in points or positioning must be reported within 5 days of the new leagues posting so adjustments can be made as soon as possible.
- 6) You must play all your matches to receive the league prize.
- 7) In the event your league has only 3 players or less the division prize will be for a free massage only.

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**2010**

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**2011**

- Best in Thailand AS-level Business Studies
- Best in Thailand A-level Business Studies
- Best in Thailand across 4 A-level subjects
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# HARD BALLS

By Squire Legge



The rains have set in and there is no BC cricket to report this month. We may make an out-of-season tour to Phuket but, if not, our 2011/12 season record stands at Played 10, Won 2 and Lost 7 ... the other game being against ourselves which we both won and lost!

We rarely played to our potential, but the most important thing is that we had fun, played cricket as gentlemen (most of the time) and made many friends along the way. There will be a full report on the season next month but for now here are a few pictures with happy memories of great times both on the field and off.

30 Years on



Better looking than Marc



Annual BBQ



Amazing Polo Club



Looking better than Dad



Beautiful Gymkhana Club



Nine slips for the Doctor



Oooooh Aaaaargh

Magnificent RBSC



The Tree



Man At Work



Trips to the seaside



That was a good one



# BCGS GOLFING NEWS

**Bunters Foods**  
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**CROWN**   
RELOCATIONS

## Dunlop Cup: Black Mountain, GC Hua Hin Sat 2 / Sun 3 / Mon 4 June 2012

The BCGS's third major of the year, the Dunlop Cup was played at the superb Black Mountain Golf Course outside of Hua Hin. This course has hosted in recent years the Royal Trophy, a professional match play contest between Asian and European tour players. The less ambitious BCGS event is a pairs competition, with 16 teams entering making for a full field of 32 golfers. Day one is a Stableford better ball format. The top four pairs proceed to the Knock-out stages to battle it out for the Cup, which is a better ball Match Play format. The 12 remaining teams contest for the Plate and continue under Stableford with the team accumulating the most points after all three days being awarded the Plate.

In the main competition four very competitive teams advanced; Frank Fawkes & Karen Carter, Tim Mitchell & Tracy Carter, John Carter & Marcus Prior and Ed & Barry Ashman, making the finals somewhat of a family affair. The competition always produces some top-notch play as Black Mountain separates the grit from the grind in a golfer's game. Congratulations to John and Marcus who won a thrilling match against the Ashman father son combination (1). The Ashman's having taking a commanding 4 up early lead found themselves 2 down with 2 to play on a windy final afternoon (2). Barry Ashman needing to sink a tricky 15 foot birdie putt on the 17th hole to keep their hopes alive sunk his pressure packed putt. On the 18th hole, JC exuded confidence as he neatly carded 3 strokes on the temporary par 3 18th hole to win the final 1 UP.

In the match for 3rd place in the Cup, another tight contest saw Tim and Tracy victorious. In the Plate competition, a runner-up finish for the team of Bryan Dodd and tournament host David Lamb (3) who could not overcome a very impressive three day point haul of 131 by Brian Brook and Roy Barrett, congratulations to the Plate winners (4). Brian Brook has now held the Plate for three years running.

Day prizes were won by Chris & Vicky, Kirsty & Belinda (5) and Karen & Frank. Many thanks to David Lamb for hosting the event and providing winners with some fine prizes and BCGS organizers for their work and the Saturday night dinner held at Lo Stivale, which might have incidentally influenced some team's scoring ability on the Sunday morning.



### June Stableford: Lam Lukka Country Club Sunday 10 June 2012

The June Stableford, played at Lam Lukka CC, attracted a relatively small field, and scoring was less competitive than usual. Frank's total of 30 points was good enough to hold off challenges from Marcus and Jack.

### June Medal: The Royal Golf Club Sunday 24 June 2012

The Monthly Medal was played at the Royal Golf Club under some very tricky course conditions due to annual maintenance on the greens and fairways. This culled the patient from the impatient and congratulations to David Humphreys (6) and John Underwood (7), who won their respective divisions. Despite the testing conditions, Flight B was competitive with Ray B and Vicky chasing the leader, but David's win in Flight A was unchallenged.



### Honda Cup: Subhapruek Golf Club Sunday 1 July 2012

The annual Honda Cup competition against the Japanese Association of Thailand (JAT) was hosted by the BCGS this year. This is a wonderful cross-cultural event where different golfing styles are on display. Each squad entered a 24 person team, played off a better ball doubles match play format. The Japanese have held the trophy for a number of years now, yet there was a palatable sense that the British side was ready to

end that streak as we gathered at the first tee box (8). But the Honda Cup is an important event for the Japanese and they come out to play. While the BCGS golfers looked quite spiffy in their new team shirts, it wasn't enough to overcome the Japanese this year. A tight match ending 6.5 to 5.5 saw the Japanese victorious (9). The BCGS golfers took solace in the fact that of the matches we did win, we did so by a considerable margin.

Afterwards, we hosted the award dinner and ceremony at the British Club, with speeches and several "lucky draws" to complete the night's program. Strangely, the Japanese were quite fortunate all around, having taken nearly all of the day's golfing technical prizes as well as nearly all of the lucky draws. Nevertheless, the match and evening's entertainment was played in fine spirit by all and we were among very genial company throughout the night (10).



Website: <http://www.bcgsthailand.org/>

Email: [bcgs2002@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bcgs2002@yahoo.co.uk)

Phone: Golf Society Captain, Frank Fawkes - 0891651953





# How To Make The Most Of Market Volatility

VOLATILITY is a fact of life when it comes to investing in shares, and it is one that will always have the ability to spook investors into making rash decisions that they may come to regret in the longer term. So it is vital to understand that this can be your friend as well as your foe.

We are currently seeing a marked increase in the volatility of markets around the world, with the European debt crisis playing a major part in the way that the other markets are performing, either directly or indirectly, thanks to the increased globalisation of the money markets. You may not think that Europe would have an effect on your investments in Asia or the US for that matter, but you would need to think again.

The ongoing problems in the European Union may feel like they are a world away from Asia, but the nature and depth of the issues there are having a much wider impact than you may think.

The position Europe now finds itself in is unprecedented – four of

the world's influential economies, Spain, Portugal, Ireland and Greece have all had to request bailouts from their counterparts in a bid to stave off disaster. The position is looking increasingly tenuous for the likes of Italy, and Cyprus has already said that it too may need additional help to continue to pay its debts.

The European Union itself is rethinking strategies in light of recent elections in Greece, France and Spain, and the German electorate is increasingly anxious about acting as the banker for more of its profligate neighbours.

This drama is having a wider effect because of the way that financial institutions have become much more closely aligned in their business



models and dealings. At one time, the Chinese economy would have been largely ignored by its Western counterparts, yet in a short period it has grown from a fledgling emerging market to an economic powerhouse which now occupies the number two slot in the world's biggest economies, lying only behind the USA.

The impact of something that would have been a relatively small move in the markets in one country can now be felt elsewhere much more keenly, thanks to the way that the financial institutions now work together across the globe. So a decision about sovereign debt in Europe can mean a significant move in markets in Asia, which will automatically have an impact on how much your own investments are worth.

The changing pace of the EU crisis has been incredible at times, with the latest warning from the International Monetary Fund in July that it expects the European Central Bank to do more to stabilise the region's economies. It is already moving towards banking union in a bid to save the single currency, but there are concerns that this is not moving at a fast enough pace. With Nouriel Roubini - the New York professor who predicted the financial crisis - suggesting there will be a 'perfect storm' to derail the global economy next year, including a 'hard landing' for China and a further slowdown in the emerging economies, there is likely to be more volatility to come.

The Nikkei 225 has seen a 9.5% fall in its value since the start of the year, at the time of writing. The Hang Seng has dropped by 9.1%, but, this has certainly not been a one-way street.

The markets have peaked and troughed throughout the year, de-

spite currently being below their start point.

But what does this mean for you as an investor? The reality is that markets around the world are becoming ever more sensitive to news - both good and bad - from countries that at one time would barely have merited a flicker on the trading screens of the investment houses. Now, and partly thanks to the euro crisis and the continued inability to resolve the issues surrounding the indebted countries, such flickers are costing investors thousands of dollars at a stroke.

### **So what can you do? The best thing is to speak to a professional adviser to get yourself in the best position you can to protect and grow your family's wealth at this time of uncertainty.**

So what can you do? The best thing is to speak to a professional adviser to get yourself in the best position you can to protect and grow your family's wealth at this time of uncertainty. It is a difficult job for the professionals to keep up with the fast-moving news in the financial markets, so for the layman to both keep up with it and then interpret it correctly to make a financial decision that will benefit rather than harm your portfolio, is a Herculean task.

It is important to realise that although volatility can result in losses for your portfolio, it also presents buying opportunities for investors who are brave enough to take the step and buy on the dips. If you think about it, you are far more likely to see a return on your investment if



you buy when the prices are lower, and regular savings plans are a good way to benefit from this and smooth out the volatility relative to your portfolio.

However, you need to consider all of your financial affairs before investing to make sure you are not taking excessive risk in a single area. This is where a good financial adviser comes into his or her own, with the ability to both guide you in the right direction and steer you away from potential mistakes that could cost you dearly.

There are likely to be more financial storms on the horizon, and if Professor Roubini is right, next year could be even more volatile than this year. You want to be sure that your portfolio can weather any storm, while simultaneously benefitting from market falls that provide the opportunity to buy at a discount. With a good adviser behind you, you will know that you are doing the best you can for your own and your family's future.

For more information or to review your investments please contact [info@infinitysolutions.com](mailto:info@infinitysolutions.com)

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# THE MONDAY NIGHT CLUB

As we enter our Fourth year, the Monday Night Club is coming to the end of some of the Detectives' series that we have followed since July 2009, so sit back and relax, there are still some murders in the house!

## JULY

7pm in the Wordsworth Lounge. Full F&B Menu available.

## THE MONDAY NIGHT CLUB

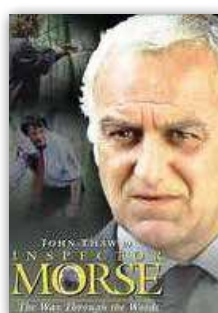


*"Alas poor Yorick"*

### 6th The Green Man

The restoration of a 19th century canal in Midsomer Worthy reveals a skull with NHS fillings; the taunting of a hermit leaves a bullet in a boy's head; a mobile phone tells more than who was mobile; and we say farewell to the worst driver in Midsomer constabulary!

This strange case casts John Nettles as DCI Barnaby with guest stars David Bradley, John Carlisle and Tim Woodward and says goodbye to Daniel Casey as Detective Sergeant Gavin Troy.



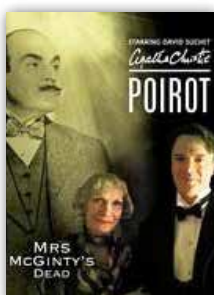
*"The camera never lies ...much!"*

### 13th The Way Through the Woods

Morse's final countdown continues ...

A solved murder is unsolved when the murderer's last breath says he did not do it, then when the only witness to say he did, dies, Morse wants to re-open a case of dead girls, a wood, a camera, some photos and lots of dirty old men ... however will he see the wood for the trees one wonders?

John Thaw is DCI Morse with a guest cast of Nicholas Le Provost, Gary Powell and Vivienne Ritchie.

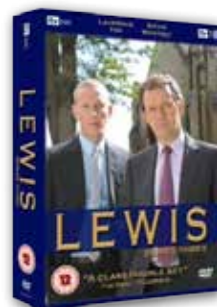


*"Leave no stone unturned"*

### 20th Mrs McGinty's Dead

The only things we know for certain is that Mrs McGinty is dead and that someone murdered her. Yet when a comet on a Sunday reveals two other deaths connected with the righteous of picturesque Broadhinney, Poirot believes the suspected murderer could not have done it ... yet can he piece this together before yet another Bentley is wrongly hanged?

David Suchet is Hercule Poirot with guest stars Zoe Wanamaker, Joe Absolom, Richard Dillane and Sarah Smart.



*"A Circus Act"*

### 27th The Soul of Genius

We start the 2012 series of Lewis with a stunner ... the agony in eight fits!

As the proud owner of an original Snark is murdered with infinite humour will our intrepid crew find it an impossible voyage to find the murderous creature? Or was it all through the looking glass?

Kevin Whatley is Inspector Lewis with guest stars James Fleet, Nadine Lewington and Oliver Johnstone with Laurence Fox as Sergeant Hathaway.





THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

# EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



THE BRITISH CLUB  
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## FRONT OF HOUSE



SANGVON PORSIM  
WAITRESS

MAY  
2012

## BACK OF HOUSE



SAMORN BUEKHUNTOD  
HOUSEKEEPER

## KIDS MOVIES - August Fridays, 6pm, Silom Sala



3 August  
LION KING



10 August  
SCOOBY DOO



24 August  
PETER PAN



17 August  
MULAN



31 August  
101 DALMATIANS



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Steam continuous  
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- ICFM Continental Awards, Thailand 2012
- Finance - Monthly Tax & Estate Planning Firm of the Year, Global Award 2012
- Finance - Monthly Tax & Estate Planning Firm of the Year, Thailand 2012
- Lawyers World Annual Jurisdiction Awards 2012
- Lawyers World Global Leading Firm, Top Tier Rankings 2012
- Lawyer Monthly Legal Award 2012
- The DealMakers M&A Awards 2012, Independent Financial Consultancy Firm of the Year (Thailand)



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