



1908
THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE

outpost

www.britishclubbangkok.org

AUGUST
2018



Mother's Day

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12TH

THAI CUISINE BUFFET

AT

SURIWONGSE SALA

TIME: 11.30AM-3.00PM

ADULT: 350 THB

CHILDREN: 200 THB

BOOKING AT RECEPTION OR BY EMAIL: EVENTS@BRITISHCLUBBANGKOK.ORG



1903
THE BRITISH CLUB



“ 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 Majesty Queen Sirikit on the occasion of her birthday and, to express their hope for happiness and prosperity in the coming year ”



1903
THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK



WITH MONTHLY JACKPOT

QUIZ NIGHT

THE VERANDAH - 7:15PM
TUESDAY AUGUST, 14TH

MEMBERS 100 THB
GUESTS 150 THB

TEAM OF 6
OR LESS

Book in reception or by email: events@britishclubbangkok.org



1903
THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK



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FRONT COVER

A glowing youthful, HM The Queen of Thailand

EDITOR'S NOTE

In honour of the Queen of Thailand's Birthday, Mother's Day takes place on August 12th at the Club featuring The Mother's Day Thai Buffet Poolside with selected special dishes for Her Majesty's birthday. We chose a classic photo of the beautiful Queen in her 20's highlighting her youth and natural beauty. It's also the month that saw England put in a fine performance at the World Cup that thrilled many of us here at the Club.

With the final series of Changing Places, photos from our monthly Wine Tasting, Sports Camp, our new Member in The Spotlight page, Cinema Scene movie reviews and Sports sections updates along with the monthly messages from our Chairman, Vice Chairman, and General Manager there's plenty of all the Club's going's-ons to read about and enjoy in this issue.

OUTPOST is the monthly magazine of **THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK**, the social sports and cultural centre for the English-speaking community in Bangkok.

A full version of the magazine is also available online at www.britishclubbangkok.org

Opinions expressed do not necessarily represent those of the Club. All events, dates and times are correct at time of press. Outpost welcomes contributions from

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Jack Dunford | Chairman

The deadline for Outpost this month was the day of the World Cup Final and if England had been playing, my contribution would undoubtedly have been delayed for celebrations, recovery and reflection. But sadly, for those of us lucky enough to remember 1966, watching England winning the World Cup remains for now a once in a lifetime experience. It was great run though, and hopefully there will be lots more to come. In spite of the dastardly late hours, the atmosphere in the Churchill Bar for the last two matches was brilliant, fuelled by free drinks and chip butties. The new bar furniture with high tables and stools proved a winner.

The General Committee has been puzzling for a long time how to address the decline in Churchill Bar usage, one option under consideration being the very possibility of introducing high tables to break up the 'restaurant' feel, which works well during the day but dies at night. We were aware of course that any change tends to be controversial and were wary of investing more capital at a time when our resources are already extended fitting out the Silom Wing.

In May, however, when the popular Molly Malone's closed on Convent Road, we enquired whether it would be possible to borrow their furniture for a trial run until their new premises opened ... only to be disappointed when we found out the plan was to have it refurbished during the closure period. Sadly for Molly's patrons, but luckily for the Club, the plan fell through and we were given the opportunity at very short notice to buy the furniture for a song and have it in place for England's 6-1 thrashing of Panama.

So far the feedback has been mostly positive, as has been the decision to relax the dress code and allow shorts to be worn during the World Cup. This can all be considered as experimental and a few adjustments have already been made to the furniture layout. The dress code will remain under review and we will continue to welcome feedback and suggestions.



Chip butties

SILOM WING

It is exciting watching the final stages of the Silom Wing taking shape. There has been a lot of progress over the last month and most of the main building works will be complete in the coming weeks. This will leave just the finishing touches, the landscaping and furniture, to be added before the stunning Chapman Taylor's design is finally revealed.

Most people seeing the site for the first time continue to be pleasantly surprised at the scale of the project and the thinking that went into planning the interaction between the various facilities and activity areas for children, young families, sports players and other Members. It will add a completely new dimension to Club life.

We still cannot give any firm opening dates as the final works are complex, require a great deal of coordination and are totally dependent in the timely delivery of materials. However, even by the time you read this we should be able provide more details.

The architects are working on planning drawings for Phase 2 so that this can be properly costed, and the Finance Sub-Committee will be carefully reviewing budgets and cash flow projections over the next couple of months. We expect to be able share plans for on-going developments during the second half of the year.

SQUASH AND SNOOKER

Squash courts are often hidden away in noisy and even smelly sports halls, and so the BC squashies are in for a treat. Not only are the glass-backed courts to international standards but the viewing area downstairs will be of generous proportions, light, and opening up directly onto the new terrace bar and seating area. For the first time the Squash Section will have an area to call their own, located in the middle of the action.

We are considering relocating the snooker table to the upstairs gallery of the squash courts thereby freeing up the downstairs room in the Clubhouse. The Membership Office is not really utilised and together with the Snooker Room could be used as a co-working space, snug bar or other facilities.



OUTPOST

Outpost was produced in house last month at greatly reduced cost and should make a surplus this month. The production team have welcomed feedback and we can look forward to more improvements and content over the months to come.



Garden Cafe



Khun Tai and Khun Katie

NEILSON HAYS GARDEN CAFE

Renovations of the Neilson Hays Library are finally complete and we were delighted to be able open the Garden Café on 4th July. It is over a year since we closed the Pavilion Café to be converted into the new staff house and so this will provide a welcome boost to our F&B revenues. The early signs are good with every seat already taken at lunchtime most days. The Café is open from 9.00am to 6.00pm every day and the gate from the Club car park is open all of these hours. It is a great alternative location for Members to have a coffee and we expect it to become a popular evening function option as well.

RECRUITMENTS

A major objective for the GC this last year has been to strengthen management capacity so that we can improve service standards and take on new initiatives. This month there have been two exciting new additions to the team with Khun Katie taking on a new role as Sales Manager and Khun Tai joining us as Outlets Manager. Both speak excellent English. Katie will expand our Membership drive, seek advertisers and sponsors and Khun Tai's priority will be to raise the service standards in all of our F&B outlets

This is usually a quiet time of year at the Club with many families away during the international school holidays and, as we continue to experience heavy rains, this year is no different. But in the last few weeks we are seeing small changes and improvements everywhere, Membership figures are holding up and with the Silom Wing opening soon, there is a great sense of anticipation.

As I put this to article to bed, I have just seen the new Sunday brunch set-up in The Verandah, a really fresh and welcoming new look with a delicious spread. If you haven't been to the Club lately, come on down and try it out. I look forward to seeing you around.

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER



Premrudee Tanyaluck

General Manager

The month of July was quite wet and rainy almost every day and many Members were away for their holidays, so the Club was a touch quiet during the weekdays. This year's Sport Camp was well attended with as many as 30 children signed up, to take part in a full spectrum of sports activities ranging from squash, tennis, swimming, bowling and even ice skating! Needless to say, the children had a wonderful time. Khun Amnat and his team are always quite busy for a total of 6 weeks with the annual summer Sports Camps. If your kids missed out on this year, please do try and mark your calendars to take part in next year's camps.

Additionally, in July, the World Cup infused the Club with a wonderful energy that culminated in the matches being shown in Churchill Bar and Poolside. It was a joy to see so many new and old faces at the bar enjoying the games and all the exciting promotions and activities during each match. Sadly, England couldn't achieve the ultimate win to become the World Champions but, in the end, their performance was fantastic and brought a lot of enjoyment to us here at The Club.

As both World Cup and Wimbledon were taking place during the same time, we did our utmost to show each match in Churchill Bar and the Poolside Sala when possible. We do hope you were able to enjoy your preferred sports and matches during your visits.

I am pleased to announce that we have brought on a few staff members to our F&B team. Khun Phuthana or Khun "Tai" is our new Outlets Manager, taking care of every Food and Beverage outlet and tasked is to improve the service standards along with Khun Tee as well as updating the existing menu's, food offerings and promotions.

Khun Rung is our new Poolside Supervisor and Khun Nuang is the new addition to the poolside service staff. We are still actively searching for a new Head Thai Chef as well as regular kitchen staff and outlets staff. All of this is part of a new plan to take our Food and Beverage operations to a more productive and higher level operating standard which will ultimately offer a better Member experience.

Additionally, we have enlisted Khun Kotchapphan, "Katie" as our new Club Sales Manager. She will be focusing on attracting and signing up New Members, Outpost magazine advertising, Functions and events sales, and assisting with organizing the Living in Bangkok Fair coming up in September. You will surely see them around the Club, so, please don't hesitate to say hello to them.

I am also happy to report that we have opened the "Garden Café" at the Neilson Hays Library this past month. It's a great place to enjoy breakfast, lunch or a snack in a relaxed and inviting garden setting. All Members are encouraged to try the menu and are entitled to a 10% discount on their food bill. Operating hours are 9am to 6pm every day.

Regarding the Silom Wing Project, the completion date looks now to have moved to late August and the Sub Committee is currently searching for the furniture, fixtures and other necessary equipment to fill the space. We hope to announce to all Members the actual completion date very soon.

Finally, as I had mentioned in the previous Outpost, we have over 350 reciprocal clubs around the world, and any of our Members who would like to enjoy our reciprocal clubs abroad, please contact our Membership department or reception for the Club name list in each country and request an introduction letters for the reciprocal club you plan to visit.

I hope you have a Great Holiday.

Looking forward to seeing you all around the Club.

SEPTEMBER
8TH

5PM

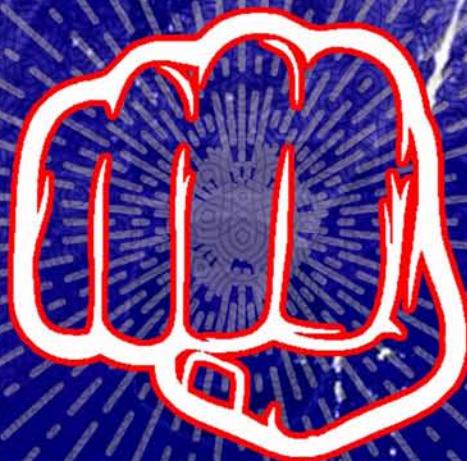
BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK | SLOM SOI 18

BANGKOK 10500

7PM

ANNIVERSARY SPOOFING
CHAMPIONSHIPS



BANGKOK GENTLEMEN SPOOFERS
SOCIAL INTERCOURSE AND CHARITY.

30TH
Anniversary

WE ARE PLEASED TO INVITE ALL GENTLEMEN TO OUR 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IN THE (NEW) CHURCHILL BAR FROM 5 PM ONWARDS.

MEET THE FOUNDERS, ENJOY THE BIRTHDAY CAKE AND CAVIAR MORSEL CREATED BY KHUN LAAK TOGETHER WITH FINEST VODKA, THE BANGKOK PIPES AND DRUMS WILL PLAY A BIRTHDAY SERENADE. AND FINALLY JOIN THE ANNIVERSARY SPOOFING TOURNAMENT UPSTAIRS.



italasia

SINCE 1962



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BANGKOK

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SPOOFER'S CORNER



Walter Kreutzner

Some of you have heard of us. Most haven't. The Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers was founded merely 30 years ago in the Churchill Bar on Tuesday 6th September 1988.

Most of the British Club members giving us a wide berth because we have been considered utterly dangerous and nutty. But, in fact, we are not. Lois Lane wrote an article in the October's Outpost in 1988 which nailed it... "Gentlemen from all over the world gathered for a game of spoof."

Our founders were Hugh "The Leader" Salmon - his story will be presented here another time. David (at that time) "Honourable Secretary" Williamson, Lesley Stokes - World Spoofing Champion had flown in specially for the occasion from the Hollywood Arms, Fulham -, Jim Howard, Paul J. Marriott, Simon Bolton, Peter Snell, Colin Hastings, Vince Swift - with hair and glasses, Brian Thompson - dropped in en-route to Hanoi from Rome, Patrick Wilkerson and Andrew McDowell who obviously became bored after a couple of rounds and went back-bar to examine the bottles.

And here we are.

30 years later, still spoofing every Tuesday in the (New) Churchill Bar. The last tournament we had was the 16th Asians Spoofing Championships held in Phnom Penh early June this year. The ASIANS Spoofing Champion 2018 is Nick "Red Wino" Pelly



During the travelling to Phnom Penh our trophy was stolen and we received a ransom demand of 75,000 Baht. As we are not negotiating with terrorists or any other kind of evil forces, we called the Cambodian Marines - more a ladyboy gang than Navy Seals. But, they did retrieve our trophy just in time. We received a picture of the capture of the culprits.



We look further than just our joy from the game. We turn fun into benefit for Underprivileged Children of Thailand by hosting annual championships to raise money for several charity projects in Thailand. From a new kitchen for a residential home for disabled children, instruments and electrical equipment for a band at a Chiang Mai orphanage, bicycles for children at a rural school in Isaan to a classroom for a slum-school in Bangkok or the British Club Pisamai Fund, we raise and spend millions of baht directly from a game that gathers Spoofers from around the world to support these projects each year.



"The identity of the culprits hasn't been revealed"

Upcoming events are our 30th Anniversary Spoof on September 8th. A fundraiser for our charity fund. All gentlemen are invited to join us at our 30th Anniversary Spoof in the British Club.

So, gentlemen, meet the "Dangerous" Spoofers in the (New) Churchill Bar every Tuesday from 7:30pm.

WTHAO
Sauerkreut

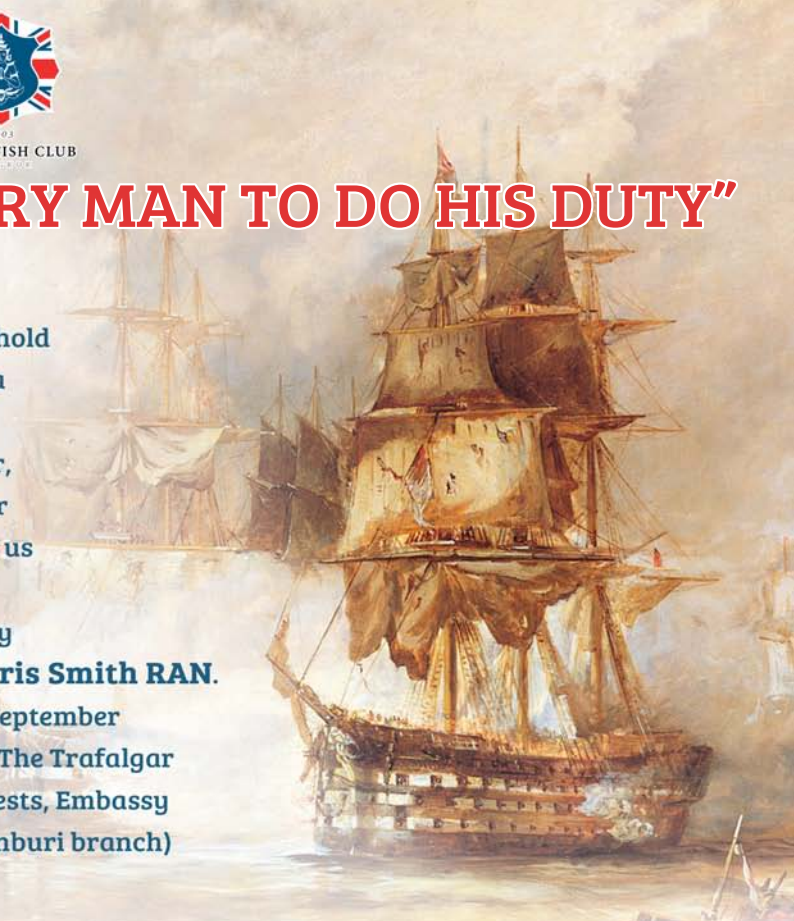


THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

"ENGLAND EXPECTS EVERY MAN TO DO HIS DUTY"

Saturday 20th October 2018

This October the **British Club Bangkok** will once again hold a Bangkok tradition ... The Trafalgar Dinner . . This will be a Black Tie/uniform/national dress, with medals, gourmet dinner with fine wines and a fabulous after-dinner speaker, and Gentlemen, your Ladies are invited. After cocktails, our Executive Chef, Kornnisara Nongku (Khun Laak), will treat us to four fabulous courses interspaced by some of the finest wines. Ahead of "Passing the Port" we will be entertained by the Australian Embassy's Defence Attaché **Captain Chris Smith RAN**. The full menu and price per ticket will be published in the September Outpost but book your table now to avoid disappointment. The Trafalgar Dinner is open to all British Club members, spouses and guests, Embassy staff and guests, members of the Royal British Legion (Chonburi branch) and members of the Military Attaché Group of Bangkok.



TRAFALGAR DINNER

LADIES TENNIS COACHING



9.00AM TO
10.30AM

WEDNESDAY
2ND MAY 2018

750 BAHT
PER CLASS

BOOKINGS AND MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT THE FITNESS CENTRE
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AND SUNDAY

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DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

THE SILOM WING



Ali Adam

Chair Poolside Development SC

In past few weeks, many of you will have seen the Silom Wing development taking shape. Significant progress has been made on the mechanical, electrical, plumbing and the internal and external building works. Over the last month the main focus has been to complete the building, external drainage works and the guardhouse. We are somewhat behind JK Builders revised schedule to complete the works by the end of July. There has been a delay in delivering the doors and windows and starting the external architectural facade steelwork. The squash courts are ready and SEARA will start to fit them out this month. We plan to start erecting the shade sails aka "Sculpture Garden" and commence the soft and hard landscaping elements in August. JK builders target completion date is now mid August and we are still planning on having a soft opening at the end of August. The guardhouse is likely to take a bit longer to complete and fit out. We hope the Silom Wing will be fully operational in September just in time for the start of the new school year. We are excited to be getting closer to opening these spaces and letting you explore them for yourselves.

A lot will happen at the club in the next three months. We will see a new outlet come on line and we will be making significant enhancements to our facilities. All redevelopment projects require a settling in period where modifications and refinements are made. We apologize for any inconvenience and appreciate your understanding as we work to transform The Club and deliver this exciting new facility in a few months time.





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F&B

MORSELS



Chef Laak

Executive Chef

TOM YAM GOONG - Thailand's favorite soup

As Executive Chef at the British Club, the one thing we are always trying to do is improve our menu and elevate the way we prepare and present food for all our members. The British Club's menu focuses on a wide variety of flavours and items from around the world, but our strongest and most popular dishes are of course the Thai and English favorites. One of those favorites is Tom Yam Goong...

It's an intensely flavourful hot-and-sour shrimp soup filled with juicy shrimp, fiery chilis, bright lemongrass, and woodsy galangal and it's a hands down sure-fire favorite at the Club.

Tom Yam Goong, or spicy shrimp soup, is the number one of the top ten most loved Thai dishes simply because it's so flavourful and delicious

because of its uniquely sour and spicy taste that is quite addictive!

Please be sure to try Tom Yam Goong at The Verandah or Poolside the next time you are at the Club.

How to make it:

- Rinse the prawn shells and place them in a large pot with water.
- Heat to boiling. Strain the broth and discard the shells.
- Add the Lime leaves, Galangal, Lemon grass, Shallots and fish sauce to the stock, then add mushrooms, chili and chili paste and cook gently for 2 minutes.
- Add the prawns to the soup and reheat to boiling. When the prawns are cooked, add Lime juice, stir and pour the soup into the bowl.
- Garnish with Coriander leaves and serve.



Ingredients:

- 250g Prawns without shells
- 3 cups water
- 5 Leaves of Kaffir Lime Leaves
- 3 Thin slices of fresh or dried Galangal
- ¼ cup Fish Sauce
- 2 Stalks Lemon Grass
- 2 Shallots
- ½ cup sliced straw mushrooms
- 5 Red Chilis
- ½ cup Lime Juice
- 1 Teaspoon Chili Paste
- 1 Tablespoon chopped Coriander for garnish



WINE TASTING



CINEMA SCENE

The screen is a magic medium. It has such power that it can retain interest as it conveys emotions and moods that no other art form can hope to tackle.” – Stanley Kubrick

It is possible to feel a touch jaded about films inspired by true events, especially when they seem to appear on the big screen so frequently. Luckily, the nautical survival story “Adrift” really does stand out.

It’s story structure is unusual but refreshing, the strength of the two leads cements the film together, as does direction from Baltasar Kormákur (Everest) adapting Tami Oldham’s bestselling memoir, Red Sky In Mourning along with the inspired casting of the very likeable pair of Shailene Woodley and Sam Claflin.

As mentioned, this film is based on the true story of survival. A young couple’s chance encounter leads them first to love, then on an incredible adventure of a lifetime as they attempt to sail a yacht from the East Coast of America to California and end up facing one of the most terrifying and catastrophic hurricanes in history. If you are a fan of intense, real-life survivor stories, chart your course to “Adrift.”

NEW MOVIE REVIEW

ADRIFT

Starring: Shailene Woodley,
Sam Claflin, Jeffrey Thomas,
Elizabeth Hawthorne, Grace
Palmer

Directed by: Baltasar Kormakur



1903
THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

DON'T MISS THE ...

20th ANNUAL

LIVING IN BANGKOK 2018

Saturday 29th September
At The British Club Bangkok

For more information or vendor inquiries please contact
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www.britishclubbangkok.org





AUGUST 2018 CALENDAR

MON

TUE

WED



01

Tennis Mix-in
6 - 10pm
Ladies Tennis
9.30 - 10.30pm

Paella
Dinner Only

06

BWG Mahjong
10am-1pm
Mixed Double team Praticce
7 - 10pm
Sports Camp
9am - 3.30pm
Mini Sports Camp
10am - 2.30pm

07

Squash Mix-in
5.15 - 9.45pm
Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers
8.30pm
Football
7-9pm
Sports Camp
9am - 3.30pm
Quiz Night
7.15 - 9pm

08

Tennis Mix-in
6 - 10pm
Ladies Tennis
9.30 - 10.30pm
Mini Sports Camp
10am - 2.30pm
Sports Camp
9am - 3.30pm
Paella
Dinner Only

13

BWG Mahjong
10am-1pm
Mixed Double team Praticce
7 - 10pm

14

Squash Mix-in
5.15 - 9.45pm
Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers
8.30pm
Football
7-9pm
Sports Camp
9am - 3.30pm

15

Tennis Mix-in
6 - 10pm
Ladies Tennis
9.30 - 10.30pm
Sports Camp
9am - 3.30pm
Paella
Dinner Only

20

BWG Mahjong
10am-1pm
Mixed Double team Praticce
7 - 10pm
Mini Sports Camp
10am - 2.30pm

21

Squash Mix-in
5.15 - 9.45pm
Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers
8.30pm
Football
7-9pm
Sports Camp
9am - 3.30pm

22

Tennis Mix-in
6 - 10pm
Ladies Tennis
9.30 - 10.30pm
Mini Sports Camp
10am - 2.30pm
Sports Camp
9am - 3.30pm
Paella
Dinner Only

27

BWG Mahjong
10am-1pm
Mixed Double team Praticce
7 - 10pm

28

Squash Mix-in
5.15 - 9.45pm
Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers
8.30pm
Football
7-9pm

29

Tennis Mix-in
6 - 10pm
Ladies Tennis
9.30 - 10.30pm
Sports Camp
9am - 3.30pm
Paella
Dinner Only

THU

02

Squash Mix-in
5.15 - 9.45pm

09

Sports Camp
9am - 3.30pm
Squash Mix-in
5.15 - 9.45pm

16

Sports Camp
9am - 3.30pm
Squash Mix-in
5.15 - 9.45pm

23

Sports Camp
9am - 3.30pm
Squash Mix-in
5.15 - 9.45pm

30

Squash Mix-in
5.15 - 9.45pm

FRI

03

Tennis Mix-in
6pm-10pm
Kid's Movie Night
Spoofers
6-9pm

10

Tennis Mix-in
6pm-10pm
Kid's Movie Night
Spoofers
6-9pm
Mini Sports Camp
10am - 2.30pm
Sports Camp
9am - 3.30pm

17

Tennis Mix-in
6pm-10pm
Kid's Movie Night
Spoofers
6-9pm
Mini Sports Camp
10am - 2.30pm
Sports Camp
9am - 3.30pm

24

Tennis Mix-in
6pm-10pm
Kid's Movie Night
Spoofers
6-9pm
Mini Sports Camp
10am - 2.30pm
Sports Camp
9am - 3.30pm

31

Tennis Mix-in
6pm-10pm
Wine Tasting
6-9pm Suriwongse Room

SAT

04

Swimming lessons
9-10.30am
Double team Praticce
7-10pm

11

Swimming lessons
9-10.30am
Double team Praticce
7-10pm

18

Swimming lessons
9-10.30am
Double team Praticce
7-10pm

25

Swimming lessons
9-10.30am
Double team Praticce
7-10pm

SUN

05

Sunday Brunch
11.30 - 3 pm
The Verandah
Swimming lessons
9-10.30am

12

Sunday Brunch
11.30 - 3 pm
The Verandah
Swimming lessons
9-10.30am
Kids Activities
2pm
Mother's day
Thai Cuisine Buffet
11.30 - 3 pm
Suriwongse Sala

19

Sunday Brunch
11.30 - 3 pm
The Verandah
Swimming lessons
9-10.30am
Kids Activities
2pm

26

Sunday Brunch
11.30 - 3 pm
The Verandah
Swimming lessons
9-10.30am
Kids Activities
2pm



Mark Buchanan and Family

MEMBER IN THE SPOTLIGHT

How did you come to hear about the British Club Bangkok and what was one of the main reasons for joining? —

I have been resident of Thailand since 2006 and having now joined the British Club (in May) I am quite surprised I didn't join earlier. Ironically, one of the first places I came upon arriving was the British Club and I have enjoyed events here over the years, but I never got around to joining. On reflection, I feel I consciously immersed myself into the local culture

(as most of my staff and customers are Thai- I thought it would help) and have probably missed out personally by taking that approach. As time progressed and now that I have younger children I realise that the British club is a very special environment and adds a lot of value to the experience of being a Brit abroad for me and the family. Joining has been a great decision, Peach and the kids are really enjoying it too.

As an Expat living in Bangkok, what is one thing you find hardest to get used to here? —

I have never found living in Thailand to be that difficult – 12 years ago some may have thought it was a hardship posting but I could never buy into that. Bangkok has changed tremendously and is now far more foreigner friendly.

I guess it was always about choosing a mindset for me – you can either choose to see what is good or concentrate on what is difficult. Over the years any home comforts that I may have been missing (Mainly food and drink- otherwise known as good booze, cheese, sausage and bacon) have all become plentiful here so apart from regularly attending Newcastle United games and missing family - it is all good!

Thailand has been good to me and my family and I am so grateful for all the experiences - positive and negative.

What are some of the things you and your family like to do the most at The British Club?

Its still early days for us but Peach and I have really enjoyed the Sunday Brunch and lazy weekend afternoons- Xander and Isy the freedom of bouncing on the trampoline and having a splash. My older daughter Macy is returning from UK soon and I am sure she is going to love it.

We had a great time during the World Cup in the Churchill bar, the staff are very impressive and the fellow members great craic.

Is being the Managing Director for Fitness First Thailand a rewarding experience? —

When I originally came here I would never have imagined that I would still be here doing the same thing 12 years later.

I am still so motivated by being part of the team at Fitness First, we have continued to grow the business year on year (no matter what the Kingdom has thrown at us) and we are recognized as one of the most successful Fitness Chains in Asia. It is really fulfilling to have developed a team of 1500 + Thai fitness professionals and to be making a difference to the health of so many people on a daily business. Not only that but being the only non-Thai on the team is a unique experience, one which has taught me so much and continues to test and challenge me. Probably the highlight of my time here was being awarded Best Employer Thailand 2017 in recognition of our achievements. I always consider myself as a guest within the country and try and act as one – I feel that this is a good approach to visiting or living anywhere – my approach to work is the same – It is a privilege to work here and share my ideas and skills. It keeps me on my toes and ensures that I keep learning and staying current. No one wants or needs a lazy guest!

Tell us an interesting or funny experience you've had in your line of work, —

As you can imagine when dealing with the public every day I come across some strange habits and behaviors. What sticks in my mind as particularly unusual came when managing a chain of clubs in the UK. I had reports of one family being terribly difficult to handle for the staff. I was in the area, so I went to assist....

However, nothing could have prepared me for what I found – this gentleman was enjoying a picnic on his towel in the changing rooms - using the Sauna coals for heating up his Curry and bread, while he enjoyed his appetizer from party plates on the floor. Meanwhile, in the female changing rooms - I was equally surprised to find his household washing being worked on in the shower cubicles (using our soaps) by his good wife and seeing the ladies Sauna complete with bespoke washing lines drying his underwear and shorts. To be fair they were using the iron and ironing boards for their correct purpose... pressing his shirts.

Lastly, when you're not working, you can be found at... —

I spend a lot of time in my house in Hua Hin, riding my bike and preparing to perform very averagely in triathlons. Of course, this is partly driven by the fact that I am never too far from a nice glass of wine and good restaurant. Life in balance!!



BCCT T3+1 NETWORKING NIGHT



“IN MEMORY OF DAN”

Return of the Jedi Black Tai Supper Club

The **Black-Tie Supper Club** met on Friday 13th July to commemorate the first anniversary of the passing of its founder, British Club Member Dan Paterson [obituary in August 2017 Outpost]. Thirteen Club Members and friends gathered to share memories of him, indulge in his favourite Prosecco and enjoy a fabulous meal.

The **Black-Tie Supper Club** was founded in December 2016 to create a formal dining experience for Dan and his friends after the Trafalgar Dinner of that year had to be cancelled. It met twice more before sadly Dan passed away in July 2017, and a fourth time last December. It was felt that the time was right to relaunch the ‘club’ on the anniversary of his passing.

The Club’s Executive Chef, Kornnisara Nongku (Khun Laak) designed the menu, two choices for starter and main course plus dessert and tea/coffee. The Seafood Medley was particularly delightful as a starter and the Duck was a mouth-watering great main course. Members chose a variety of wines and Irish coffees before retiring to the Churchill Bar for a nightcap or three. Carriages were called at midnight.

As well as thanking Khun Laak for the food, we thank Khun Somboon and Khun Tae, and their staff, for excellent service, and the **Black-Tie Supper Club** will convene again at the Trafalgar Dinner 2018 on 20th October.



FRIDAY
AUGUST
31ST 6.00PM
TO
9.00PM

MONTHLY
Wine
TASTING
Suriwongse Room

Members 150 THB | Guests 250 THB

Bookings at reception or email: events@britishclubbangkok.org



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CHANGING PLACES

PART 3



Jack Dunford | Chairman

The last two months I have shared some pictures of Vientiane taken in 1990 when the country was just opening up after the communist takeover in 1975 and then in January 2018 when I returned to try to find some 'then' and 'now' comparisons.

Other than the historical sites this wasn't easy.

This month features Pha That Luang which has undergone some major reconstruction, and Wat Ho Phra Keo now resplendently re-gilded.



Pha That Luang 1990



Pha That Luang 1990



Pha That Luang 2018



Pha That Luang 2018



Pha That Luang from street 1990



Wat Ho Phra Keo 1990



Pha That Luang from street 1990



Wat Ho Phra Keo 2018



Wat Ho Phra Keo 1990



Wat Ho Phra Keo 2018



Wat Ho Phra Keo from street 1990



Wat Ho Phra Keo from street 2018

LIVING IN THAILAND AND UNINSURED?

Thailand has long been a popular holiday and retirement destination for British people and, according to Thai Immigration statistics, is home to around 78,000 expatriates from the UK, including a growing retiree population.

The consular team at the British Embassy Bangkok is one of the busiest globally and supports hundreds of British people facing problems in Thailand every year. Over half the help we provide is related to hospitalisations and deaths – our data shows that the number of uninsured individuals rises significantly with age: in 2017, 50% of British residents aged 55 and over needing consular assistance for hospitalisation were without adequate health insurance.

The cost of some medical treatment in Thailand is comparable to that of private hospitals in Europe, and many people are putting themselves at risk of high medical bills by living here uninsured. Many British people living in Thailand mistakenly believe that they can automatically access free medical care if they return to the UK: this is not guaranteed.

Having adequate insurance, and understanding any policy exclusions, mitigates the risk of financial difficulty when something unexpected happens, whether you need long-term care, repatriation to the UK, or costly medical treatment.

Layla Slatter MBE, HM Consul to Thailand said:

'Many British people understandably choose to spend their retirement years in warmer climates, and Thailand is one of the world's top tourist and retirement destinations. Medical treatment can cost thousands of pounds and returning to the UK may not be an option for everyone. In many cases there will be a direct financial impact on friends and family. The British Embassy endeavours to work with charitable organisations and do everything we can to help people, but we cannot pay medical bills or fly people home. This is why we strongly encourage people to make provision for their health and medical needs when choosing to live abroad, as it is the most reliable way that costs can be covered'.

Living in Thailand

If you are thinking of retiring or moving to Thailand, it is important to research your destination and consider your personal circumstances carefully.

Living and working in Thailand

There are many opportunities to live and work in Thailand. Ensure you understand how the move will impact on you and your family.

Retiring in Thailand

Thailand is an attractive retirement destination. You need to carefully plan to ensure you can support yourself, particularly if you encounter any health problems.

Travelling in Thailand

British travellers make around 1 million visits to Thailand each year; most visits are trouble free. Make sure yours is too!

wise up: take our test to check if your plans are working for you today... and tomorrow.



Do you have the right kind of insurance and understand the exclusions?

Prioritise getting comprehensive insurance and update your provider to ensure that you are covered for any pre-existing conditions. Understand any actions or circumstances that may invalidate your insurance.



Do you have emergency funds, and who can access them if you cannot?

Ensure that funds can be accessed by a trustee so that appropriate care and access to hospital services are available when needed.



Can your next of kin be contacted if you cannot communicate?

Always carry a copy of the details of your emergency contacts in the back of your passport and keep them up to date.



Who would be your legal power of attorney to act on your behalf, if you cannot?

Obtain legal advice about getting a living will and granting power of attorney so that decisions about your welfare, family and financial affairs can be made on your behalf.



How would you address any long-term care needs in Thailand?

Have the right insurance cover with income protection and medical evacuation provisions in case you are without an income, unable to travel and cannot meet medical bills.



Have you considered the impact on your family?

Seek financial advice about income security for your dependants and family, so they are not at risk if anything happens to you.



When making decisions about living or retiring in Thailand, you should research and make plans for your long-term care needs. This test (bit.ly/2sB2EI1) provides some helpful hints and advice about preparing to live in Thailand.

In addition, British people retiring in Thailand should note that the majority of locally-operated insurance companies will only provide medical/health cover up to the age of 70. You should make provision for any possible future health or medical needs, including medical evacuation, repatriation and, in the event that you may be unable to make decisions about your welfare or financial affairs, power of attorney. You might also consider accident insurance and savings funds as a minimum cover against risks.

For more information on healthcare in Thailand and a list of insurance companies, co-created with Thai General Insurance Association, visit: www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-thailand

Subscribe to Travel Advice at www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/thailand

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HARD BALLS



Ben Eastwell

COUPLE OF WEEKENDS AWAY

With a rest from the league, the British Club Cricket Section was blessed with a couple of well-deserved weekends away in June – and what better way to spend them than playing cricket. BC finished 4th/8 in the annually hosted Pattaya Super 8s tournament before the tourists embarked on 2 matches in Kuala Lumpur. The Eastern Seaboard League has resumed throughout July, with BC fighting it out against 4 other hopefuls which will bring a long season to an eventual close. The beach cricket tour is scheduled in August, which will see BC take their match winning form to the dunes of Koh Chang for the 4th edition of a tournament which has become a highlight on the Thailand cricketing calendar.



Pre game warmups

KL TOUR 22ND–24TH JUNE 2018

After celebrating a relatively successful run in the league, the blazers were dusted off at the end of June for the eagerly anticipated KL tour.

Having last year's success as reference undoubtedly piqued the interest that little bit more, which even inspired the tennis and squash sections away from the club for the weekend. Whilst the chairman decided he was too busy to attend such an important occasion, there were plenty of new faces who came along for the ride, including BC's captain who decided it was probably a good time to get involved following the carnage in 2017. After a leisurely Friday afternoon dip in the luxurious pool courtesy of the glamorous accommodation once again heavily discounted by Brewis, the adventurous team's evening took a carbon copy route of the previous year – Chinese grub, beer, rubbish cocktails, hours of unresolved cricket related arguments, and more beer.

Both the Saturday and Sunday games were played at the glorious Royal Selangor Club ground, where players were treated to a manicured grass wicket and the people's favourite refreshment cart trundled on at the drinks break. Most of the team were glad for the aptly arranged lunchtime start and Denzyl was especially glad not to see the umpire who gave him out LBW which he still hadn't



Representing

stopped talking about since last year. An overnight downpour fortunately bought a few extra minutes to peel the eyelids open as the ground staff frantically prepared the pitch which had taken on a bit of moisture.

The toss was won on Rahul's first visit to the ground, and prompted him to make what turned out to be a cracking decision as BC ripped through the top order courtesy of an outrageous spell from Dilip (1-18, 5 overs) and Denzyl – who, with sharp support from Dave and Glenn taking a couple of screamers at slip and point respectively, had the top order in all sorts of trouble – 5 overs, 2 maidens, 7 runs, 4 wickets were the numbers to brag about and surely a match winning performance if the match had not been called off. Rain was threatening for the whole session, and the heavens finally opened at the start of the 14th over – leaving a dangerous amount of drinking time before the plans for the evening.

Sunday's opponents and increasingly familiar side, Pangolin, hosted Sri Lankan food, drinks and a late-night jam at the cricket-themed 'Sticky Wicket' pub in which BC went 1-0 up in the series after leaving the local boys in the dust during the ceremonial boat race. Dilip falling asleep in the bar marked the end of that chapter as others rolled on to various other forms of entertainment.

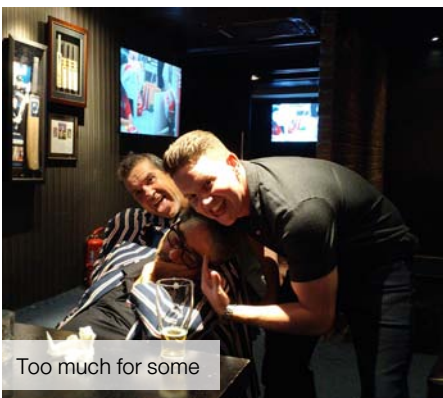
A deafeningly quiet bus ride to the ground following an early Sunday start was met by an excitable opposition captain who couldn't keep quiet he had a couple of ringers and quite possibly the 'strongest ever Pangolin side ever to face BC'. The local side won the toss and opted to bat first in conditions which were a stark contrast to the previous – just a few clouds and a considerably more relaxed grounds staff.



Captains greet on Saturday clash



Denzyl with his



Too much for some



Tennis, squash and cricket

The first 5 overs went for 9 runs as Denzyl (1-28, 5 overs), and Dilip (1-28, 6 overs) continued where they left off from the day before and locked into the top order. After settling however, the run rate picked up and switched the momentum to the batting side who ended up with 2 retirees (50 runs) at around the 20 over mark. A fight back from Glenn, who bowled his maiden spell for the British Club – impressed with 2-15 from 3 overs, highlighted with a sublime catching effort of his own ball. Mirrored at the other end, Dave took 3-13 from 3 overs to restrict Pangolin to 160 from their 30 overs.

A tired reply from an experimental batting order didn't see anyone settle into the crease despite a couple of positive starts from Dave (10) and Dale (19). After a majestic duck from Sir Nick, the middle order was propped up by a strong innings from Mossy (39) who was supported for a large portion by Glenn, who in his committed exhaustion ended up throwing chunks on the pitch and had to retire temporarily for a chunder break. But, as the run rate crept up faster than Denzyl's determination to maintain his average, the tail collapsed and the tourists perished with 37 runs still to get and 21 balls to spare, marking a historic first ever win for Pangolin against BC. Fines and sundowners followed in their masses before the weekend drew to a close and the airport beckoned.

BCB FANTASY FOOTBALL

BCB FANTASY FOOTBALL LEAGUE



Bruce Magde

Following on from last season's triumphs and tribulations the BCB is again running its Fantasy Premier League starting Friday the 14th of this month with the first encounter at 20.00 GMT between Manchester United and Leicester City. Who will win that one? Or any of the other nine fixtures of week one? Who will be crowned EPL Champions next May? Man City again? Arsenal? Liverpool? Chelsea? Man U? Spurs? West Ham? How will the three newly promoted teams of Cardiff, Fulham and Wolves fare? Who knows? And who really cares at this stage as it's the fantasy side of the game we are most interested in here. Last Season Paul Harland was our BCB FF Champion with his team 'H' and with more than 20 managers our small league was competitive until the very end. This season's BCB Fantasy Premier League Champ? Well, it could be you, if you join up to play.

If you are a BCB member and have played Fantasy Football before, you know what to do and are more than welcome to join the BCB Fantasy League for the 2018/19 league. It is open to all BCB members and their families and is called simply BCB League. The web link is <http://fantasy.premierleague.com>

Clink the link, create a profile/account (It's completely free!) and with your budget of £100 million pick a squad of 15 current EPL players - two goalkeepers, five defenders, five midfield players and three strikers with no more than three players from any one EPL club. Give your team a name, design a team strip and enter your team into the BCB Fantasy Football League using the exclusive code which is 377274-80791. Any problems email bruceanthonymadgehotmail.com. Remember – BCB members and family members only please.

As well as being a manager in the BCB League, your team will automatically be entered into the overall Fantasy Football League and you may join any other Fantasy Football leagues if you wish.

The FPL system takes care of all the calculations of points and other technical stuff. All you have to do is to manage your squad, select your team before the deadline each week, and hope that your players perform in the real EPL and score you sufficient points to make you competitive in the BCB Fantasy Football League. Stars such as Kane, Hazard, Salah, Lukaku and type were the main point scorers last season so expect them to be popular again this time around despite possibly being hung over from the World Cup.



How are the points scored? They are based on how your players perform in the real EPL matches each week. Here are some examples:

Plays for 90 minutes

- 2 points

(up to 60 minutes - 1 point)

Clean Sheet (defenders)

- 4 points (midfielders - 1 point).

Goals

- strikers/midfielders/defenders (incl goalie) – 4/5/6 points.

Goal assists - 3 points.

For every three saves - 3 points

Penalty save - 5 points

Bonuses for best players

- 1 to 3 points

Yellow card - minus 1 point

Red card - minus 3 points

Penalty miss - minus 2 points

For every 2 goals conceded by goalkeeper/defender

– minus 2 points

Own goal - minus 2 points



Player selected as captain (regardless of whether a captain in the real EPL) - all points scored are doubled.

There are other rules regarding transfers, injuries, suspension, etc., but it is all explained in very simple terms on the website. The main thing is that you enter the BCB Fantasy Premier League for this coming season and help make it bigger, better and more exciting than last season.

And good luck for that!

We must mention the world Cup now - this column cruelly wrote the England team off before the competition even began. Well, they did better than expected and to reach the last four was a splendid achievement. In the end, we weren't quite good enough to make the final, but Gareth Southgate has brought great improvements to the national side and he deserves a lot of credit, as does the entire squad. Well done boys! We are proud of you! If you're not English, say French, Croatian, Belgian, Spanish, German, Russian, then very well done for making the final (and possibly winning it!), great job for getting to the last four along with England, I guess you would have hoped to do better, what the hell happened to you?, and thanks for hosting a great tournament, respectively.

Until Qatar 2022.....



TENNIS SECTION GOES ON TOUR



Graham Johnston

The tennis section's more socially-inclined travelled to Kuala Lumpur from 22-24 June for the much-anticipated rematch with the Royal Selangor Club. We arrived at RSC on what seemed like a beautiful day only to have a storm roll through. As we socialised with our hosts and waited for the rain to pass, Dawa snuck off to get a much-needed recovery snooze. This provided a prime opportunity for a photo op next to the now famous 'Reclining Dawa.'

The rain, alas, didn't let up, which forced the cancellation of the official friendly with RSC. Nonetheless, our members lived up to their billing as a rugged bunch and braved the downpour for a bit of soaking-wet tennis. In the unofficial main event, Raquel dragged yours truly to an upset win over a revived Dawa and Ann (we're still waiting for our champagne by the way).

Outside of puddle tennis, we had our share of fun out on the town. Highlights include Fiona sharing some insightful linguistic tips on Thai and Malay pronunciation of a certain English word, Raquel generously providing cosmetic samples to the boys, and Aaron putting on a dancing performance that would make Elvis Presley jealous.

All in all, it was a successful tour, and perhaps next time we'll even play some proper tennis. We would like to thank Ian for his outstanding organisation and RSC for being such welcoming hosts.



Dawa Serving in the Rain



Good Times



The Ladies on the Pitch at the RSC



The 'Reclining Dawa'

FIRST TENNIS LEAGUE RESULTS ARE IN

The first BC Tennis League series of 2018 wrapped up this month. Newcomer Jim Fralick became the first and last (I hope) person to start a series in division 4 and win division 1. Despite dropping a match to division 1 stalwart Dawa, Jim was able to win his remaining three matches to top the table. Graham Johnston shook off the Iraqi dust to sweep through division 2. We're now all wondering if he'll accept a promotion to the big league!

Dmitry Zybenko pulled out a tight three-person race to win division 3, and Nisa Young won division 4 without dropping a set. In division 5, Anjelica Manalo won all 4 of her matches to top the division. Both Anjie and Jim deserve a hardy applause for winning their first ever series. Overall, the tennis league got off to a great start with 5 full divisions and nearly all matches played. Well-done to all the competitors.



Anjelica Manalo



Dmitry Zybenko



Nisa Young



Jim Fralick



Graham Johnston

BC MEMBER WINS JAPAN SENIOR TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP

Khun Phairoj Chansevikul added to his overflowing trophy case in May by winning the 37th All Japan Senior Tennis Championship in the 60+ doubles division. He and partner Michael Dunn, an overseas BC member, defended their title from 2017. Given the success of Khun Phairoj in Uniqlo garb, is it any wonder why Roger Federer decided to make the switch?

BCHOSTS BANGKOK JAPANESE WOMEN'S TENNIS CLUB

On the morning of 12 June, the BC ladies hosted the Bangkok Japanese Women's Tennis Club for a friendly doubles competition. The event was well-attended with 12 players on each side. In the end, the extraordinary doubles strategies and skills of the Japanese side won the day. Still, it was a great opportunity for BC members to play against some stiff competition and share some early beers. I'm sure the BC side will be ready for the rematch in the fall.



Khun Phairoj Wins Another Title

BCGS

GOLFING NEWS

Gordon Milne

BACK TO BUSINESS AS USUAL

After the variety of the last couple of months, with two away weekends (in Khao Yai and Hua Hin) and two inter-society competitions against the Londoners and the Wanderers (which sad to say we lost on both occasions), for June it was back to business as usual with our stableford at Subhapruek and our monthly medal at Royal Golf & Country Club Lat Krabang.

At Subhapruek, two pairs did kick-off our annual match play tournament, with Neil Davis prevailing over Pete Gale and Carole Ann Eastgate beating Thorsten Leppek and we await the results of other pairs' games.

Congratulations to Varghese Rose on his victory in the June stableford competition, which was certainly helped by an impressive pitch shot on one of the holes, which holed out from about 100 yards. Great golf, but Varghese, if you are going to play shots like that please reserve them for a hole in one, so we can all benefit from a round of drinks!

Thought you all might like to see a photo of our illustrious captain in his new golf shirt – which shrank on first washing (or so he says) ... (photo)

In the June medal it was victory in Flight A to Martin Weber and in-Flight B to Nui Clark. Well-deserved winners. Enjoy the wine.



Flight A medal winner – Martin Weber



Captain Frank

But the best player on the day was Gus Wilson, with an excellent net 66, but as visitor he was not eligible for the prize. Gus – why not join us?

On that note we say welcome back to David Lamb after a long cruise around the Pacific ring of fire. David, now you are back we look forward to seeing you at future events.

In the technical prizes Neil Davis walked away with a full tube of golf balls, having got a nearest the pin, longest drive and most improved on the back nine – by a walloping 13 shots.

Must say something about the standard of his golf on the first nine! Neil's getting the longest drive was also something of a surprise as was made clear by the note of incredulity in the Captain's voice when announcing the prize. The secret was that only two men's drives landed on the fairway!



Flight B medal winner - Nui Clark

DID THEY COME FOR THE GOLF OR THE FOOD?

The July stableford event saw the golf section return to Krung Kavee GC. This unassuming mini club house has some of the finest Thai food in northern Bangkok which is always a consolation for many of us.

New member Stephen Fowler was the run-away winner of the stableford event with 42 points. By his own admission this was his best round of golf and he graciously put his commanding performance down to the relaxed atmosphere of the golf section. Stephen can be seen accepting his prize from Captain Frank Fawkes.

Congratulations to all the winners and to all who played and support the group.

We would love to have more members come and join us. Don't be shy.

We welcome players of all abilities. If you are interested, do visit our website <http://www.bcgsthailand.org/> for details of upcoming events and the contact details of our Captain.



Neil has balls



Varghese wins the booze

OUTPOST SPORTS CAMP






SPORTS CAMP

2-6, 9-13, 16-20 July 2018 (4,999 Baht/week) | 23-26 July 2018 (4,049 Baht/week)
6-10 August 2018 (4,999 Baht/week) | 14-17 August 2018 (4,049 Baht/week)



	950฿ Monday	1,300฿ Tuesday	950฿ Wednesday	1,300฿ Thursday	950฿ Friday
9:30-10:00	Admin				
10:00-11:00	Tennis	Ice Skating	Tennis	Ice Skating	Tennis
11:00-11:15	Snack		Snack		Snack
11:15-12:15	Football		Football		Football
12:15-1:00	Lunch				
1:00-2:30	Squash	Bowling	Squash/ Cooking	Bowling	Squash
2:30-3:30	Swimming		Swimming		Swimming

Book at Fitness Centre 02-234-0247 ext.26 | sports@britishclubbangkok.org

- Children should be 7+.
- This is not an elitist camp, the emphasis is on joining in, trying out new sports, having fun and making friends.
- A five child minimum is required to run each day so please sign up.
- As travel arrangements need to be made for some activities, please sign up 48hrs in advance.
- A no show booking will still be charged the full amount. Cancellations up to 24hrs before will be charged 50%.
- Whilst the British Club and its staff will provide the highest level of care possible for your children, sports/activities camp participants take part at their own risk and the Club accepts no liability for injuries caused during activities on or off site or travel to or from the Club.



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MINI SPORTS CAMP

2, 4, 6 July 2018 (1,699 Baht/week) | 9, 11, 13 July 2018 (1,699 Baht/week)
16, 18, 20 July 2018 (1,699 Baht/week) | 23, 25 July 2018 (1,049 Baht/week)
6, 8, 10 August 2018 (1,699 Baht/week) | 15, 17 August 2018 (1,049 Baht/week)

TIME	ACTIVITIES
10:00-10:15	Admin
10:15-11:00	Games
11:00-11:15	Snack
11:15-12:15	Mini tennis
12:15-1:00	Lunch
1:00-1:45	Play time/ Cooking/ Art and Crafts
1:45-2:30	Water fun

650 BAHT PER DAY

Book at the Fitness Centre 02-234-0247 ext.26
Sports@britishclubbangkok.org

- Children must be between the ages of 4 and 6 yrs.
- The children must be capable of feeding themselves, changing their clothes and using the bathroom unsupervised.
- A five child minimum is required to run each day so please sign up.
- A no show booking will still be charged the full amount. Cancellations up to 24 hrs before will be charged 50%.
- Whilst the British Club and its staff will provide the highest level of care possible for your children, sports/activity camp participants take part at their own risk and the Club accepts no liability for injuries caused during activities on or off site or travel to or from the Club.



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