

OUTPOST

MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB, BANGKOK



SEPTEMBER 1994



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CONTRIBUTIONS

If you would like to contribute to Outpost Contact Bea Grunwell on 2589509. All photographs articles should be received by Bea on 1st of each month.

THE BRITISH CLUB

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While Members are encouraged to write to the OUTPOST the Club reserves the right to edit any contributions both for reasons of space and appropriateness.

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Tel/Fax 258 9509

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NOTE: FROM JAN. 3RD OUR
NEW ADDRESS WILL BE:
8th Fl., Manee Center Bldg.,
518/5 Ploenchit Road,
Bangkok 10330. Thailand.

FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Readers,

Welcome back, I am sure that most of you must be back from your holidays, or are you off again for a well deserved break in Pataya, Phuket or Samui. Some of us have come back exhausted from the family visits, plane rides and miles of deserted motorways.

Outpost is still going strong and I was pleased to see on my return that most of the regular contributors had indeed contributed and left their typing for me to do, jetlagged and all. Unfortunately, Scoop is leaving us for a few months and is handing over to a new soccer scribe.

The new members night was run on a new format due to no interviewers available, I left a questionnaire with David Viccars for the new members to answer and you can look forward to reading their witty and extensive replies.

Remember you still have a few days to come to the Fondue Promotion, we arranged it so all holiday goers can join in the fun of dunking and dipping with the Felix Arnoma Swissotel.

I was pleased to be back into my, or should I say my husband's office, where I answered the telephone (2 lines) and found they were both for the maid. Was I missed, no everything was rearranged, things had not changed though, the driver had not turned up and we have a new maid. I feel like going on a short break to Samui or somewhere to get away from telephones and faxes and computers.

Things had certainly changed in the two years I had not been home. In Holland people are very environmentally conscious and I had to ask my relatives time and time again what could go in which bin and what should be put into the collection box for the special pick up. All articles like batteries, nail varnish remover, fat for deep frying are damaging the environment and will be collected by making a telephone call to the local council's environmental clean up department. There are special big, green bins for stuff like potato peelings,



left over food, grass, old bread which is collected weekly and recycled into animal food. Unfortunately with the hot weather things did get rather steamy in there and a lot of people decided against using the bins. Glass, old clothes, newspapers are taken to the local shopping centre and dumped in specially marked bins. There are even can crushers around now, in which you place your beer/cola or whatever can, the crushers are placed conveniently near the can bins, it crushes your can to a nice flat parcel and this way more cans fit into the container. Of course tropical hardwoods are frowned upon, so replacement materials are sought for construction. A car pool strip on the motorway was constructed (at the usual high expense) where people could meet in the morning to catch a lift to wherever they wanted to go, with whoever was going in that direction. This did not work though and these strips are now closed. I noticed people turning their engines off when waiting for a bridge or railroad crossing, recyclable plastic bags and containers in supermarkets and fast food outlets, less smokers, glass bottles on which a deposit is paid in the shop and monies are returned when the bottles are returned. People were asked to wash and dry only at nights as the cooling water of the main generators had heated up to a dangerous level due to the extremely high temperatures. All water in Holland was declared unsafe for water sports, apart from the sea and swimming pools, due to a high blue algae level. Dangerous poisonous tropi-

cal fish were stabbing people in their feet whilst hiding in the warm sands of the North Sea beaches. Amazing, just like Thailand, only why don't they have blue algae here? Is it because all the chemical rubbish going down the drains here may kill the algae and also of course the fish? So now, in Holland people are keeping the wildlife alive but are damaging their own health at the same time. Amazingly enough, in England everything was still lobbed into the one and only bin, I don't know if that was just my in laws or as I was told the local councils, but I felt almost guilty putting everything in the same bin.

Now back home we will try and live a little bit more conscious of our environment and see if the maid can manage to use the handy little cotton shopping bags I purchased from Villa's, so we don't have to use the plastic ones all the time. Less bleach into the loos etc.

Traveling on China Airways had its pleasant moments, I am sure, for those of you traveling business or first class even. But having to be squashed into a bulkhead seat, with non-moving armrests and 2 youngsters wanting to go to sleep in a comfortable position, that is with either heads or feet on my lap, was not my idea of fun. Next year I think hubbie should go with the kids and I'll attempt to be upgraded. The landing was rather exiting too, my worst times on a plane are taking off and landing. This time the Captain decided we needed to come down with a bump, and everyone on the plane held their breaths for a minute when we shot up in the air (well about 2 centimetres anyway) and swung all over the landing strip for about 50 metres. I almost felt like applauding and was relieved we made it again.

Did you make any resolutions whilst on home leave? I hope you did and one of them may be either advertising in Outpost or sending in an article for publication. I look forward to seeing a lot of your writings for the October Outpost.

Sawasdee Kah!

Bea Grunwell

From the Manager



The advent of the membership system for signing for items at the Club has passed off really well. Many thanks to all those involved for being so adaptable and so willing to make the Committee's plan work. The benefit to the Club is already evident as the normal pile of incorrectly completed chits we see at the end of each month has now disappeared.

The Fondue promotion has proved very popular, there are still a few days left to sample this unique style of dining, but if you miss it make a note in your diary now for 14 to 23 October when we shall be featuring French cuisine in the Restaurant. The Restaurant has been getting very good comments of late, Khun Somchai is doing a super job as the Restaurant supervisor, and the various promotions we are featuring are working well. Give it a try!

September should be a busy month at the Club. We have a host of activities planned for all the family. These are:

Friday 9 September - WHISKY TASTING - 6.30pm

Malts and blends courtesy of Allied Walker, snacks from the Club. B100 per head. Each whisky will be explained and featured by a professional taster from the UK. Come and be 'educated' at no cost! Whisky will also be on sale for those who do not like it if it is free!

Saturday 10 September - LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS - 8.00pm

In the Surawong Room, with a large screen video, dinner and robust patriotic renditions. Sign up at reception.

Dress: Fly the Flag!!

B500 per ticket including a delicious British dinner.

Saturday 17 September - THE BC OCTOBER FEST - 7.30pm

Traditional Bavarian fun and games, an 'Oompah Band', steins of foaming beers, sauerkraut, schnitzel and spretzels, the true taste of Munchen at your own BC!

B450 per ticket including a typical German meal.

Dress: Casual or Lederhosen.

Prize for best authentic German costume.

Sunday 18 September - CHILDRENS SPORTS DAY - 2.00pm

From 2.00pm on the backlawn, B50 per child for the prizes, followed by the well known spectacular BC BBQ.

Sunday 25 September - COVENANT CHILDRENS PLAY - 5.00pm

Back by popular request the Covenant Players will perform for the children in the Suriwong Room. B50 per ticket.

*** For all the above events, please sign up at reception or return the slip elsewhere in this magazine.*

Coming up in October we have a visit to the **PAINTBALL PARK** on Sunday 2 October. Teams of 8 are required, see elsewhere in the magazine for more information. Sunday 9 October sees the **INTERSECTION SPORTS DAY**, note this one all you budding athletes!

The Entertainments Committee, the Management and Staff are trying to organise activities which will appeal to all at the Club. If there are other activities people would like to see at the Club then please tell us!

David Viccars
General Manager

Honours List solutions to page 42

	North		South		East		West	
	No	Hon	No	Hons	No	Hons	No	Hons
C	6	J	3	AQ			4	K
D			4		5	KQJ	4	A
H	1	J	5	Q	4	A	3	K
S	6	J	1	K	4	A	2	Q

CLUB ARCHIVES

Although our archives are not at all complete, thanks very much to Mrs. Mae Barr for spending the time to put what we have into some kind of order. Now that we have some records if any members have any items they feel should be included in the archives, then please contact the Manager.

PROPOSED SPORTS FESTIVAL WITH THE BRITISH CLUB OF SINGAPORE 11/12/13 NOVEMBER

We are in discussion with the British Club of Singapore who wish to come to Bangkok to play us at a number of sports. The list of possible sports includes Tennis, Squash, Football, Snooker, Darts and possibly Swimming and Golf. The outline plan would be to hold an informal social at the Club to welcome the party from Singapore on the evening of Friday 11 November, play the sports on Saturday 12 November, then perhaps hold a BBQ at the Club in the evening. If any of the group from Singapore are still in town they could then also come to our Loy Kratong festival on Sunday 13 November. All this is still to be confirmed, but please mark this weekend in your diaries.

WHISKY TASTING

For all those connoisseurs of fine whisky, don't forget the free

whisky tasting on Friday 9th September. You will get the chance to taste 15 or more blends and malts and to hear from a true expert as to what makes each whisky so special. Enjoy! A charge of B100 will be made for the snacks.

GUESS WHO THIS MEMBER IS COMPETITION - AUGUST EDITION OUTPOST

The answer was, of course, Bea Grunwell. The first (of many!) correct answers was supplied by Mr. Brian Griffin who wins a bottle of fine wine donated by Allied Walker. Well done, Mr. Griffin.

RECIPROCAL CLUBS

There have been some changes to our list of reciprocal clubs, these are as follows:

ADDITIONS

The International Club at Cochin in India
The Singapore Recreation Club
The Kelvin Grove Club in Johannesburg in South Africa

DELETIONS

The Honolulu Club in Hawaii

We are also in active negotiation with a further 10 clubs of international renown in order to further strengthen our list of reciprocal clubs.

INFORMATION

The Tokyo American Club have sent a letter to all their reciprocal clubs reminding them of their Club rules relating to visitors, these are:

"Reciprocal members visiting Tokyo American Club are limited to two weeks per visit (extension only made by the General Manager) and the visits are limited to three times per fiscal year. Residents of Tokyo are not eligible to use TAC on reciprocal basis"

NEW MENUS

September will (hopefully) see the benefits of all the hard work put in over the last few months by Joy Masood and her F&B sub committee as we introduce new menus at poolside and in the Churchill Bar. The aim has been to retain the old favourites but still introduce several new dishes. We hope to have established a wide list of dishes which the staff can produce with confidence so that we can introduce more change on to the bar menu in the months to come. The introduction of these new menus has also given us the chance to rationalise the prices and bring them back in line with market forces, some dishes will go up, but others will be reduced in price.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS

A big thank you to one and all for making the introduction of the membership cards such a smooth process. Only an unlucky few have

NATIONAL MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS COFFEE MORNING

The National Museum Volunteers cordially invite all interested parties to an Information and friendly Coffee Morning on Monday 12th September 1994, at 09.30am in the Regent Hotel, 155 Rajdamri Road. This special annual event is a chance for newcomers to meet current members while getting acquainted with its many stimulating activities such as monthly lectures, special topic tours, study groups and trips.

For further information, please contact Sally Lavin on 261 8908

REGISTRATION OF BRITISH NATIONAL RESIDENT IN THAILAND

1. If you are a resident in or visiting Thailand for longer than 3 months, then it is advisable to register your presence at the Consular Section of the British embassy.
2. Please keep your registration up to date and renew it each year. Inform us of changes of address and let us know if you are leaving the country permanently.
3. We are in the process of removing registration cards that have not been renewed since 1991. If

Management News (From Page 7)

been caught out by not having their cards available and the whole thing has gone very well. Already the club is making savings because all chits are now readily identifiable with the correct and up-to-date members details.

THE BRITISH CLUB WINE CLUB

September sees the reintroduction of the British Club Wine Club. Each month the "Outpost" magazine will feature a small list of selected and exclusive wines from Berli Jucker and Allied Walker. Members may order direct from the supplier who will deliver to the home. Cases may be mixed as the Member wishes, but the minimum order is one case. Please do not ask Allied Walker to supply Berli Jucker wines, or vice versa!

THE BC AT PAINTBALL PARK

The BC has booked Paintball Park at Pattaya for Sunday 2 October, full details of this event are included elsewhere in the magazine. Read what the editorial team of the Thailand Times thought of this particular 'sport'.

PAINTBALL - SPORT OR PASTIME

By Rover D E Craig
The Thailand Times sports desk

Sport as defined by the English Oxford dictionary is: *a physical activity, especially outdoors, for exercise and amusement, usually played in a special area and according to fixed rules.*

By definition paintball is and must be described as a true sport. What is debatable is whether the dedicated sports fan would call it so. The answer has to be, go and see for yourself and discover just how serious you yourself become

once you don the camouflaged clothing, the face mask and arm yourself with a fully working weapon. Forget all about playing for fun and the result being secondary. In the paintball arena your foremost desire is to win, your team demands that commitment.

Luck doesn't enter into it, rather your skill at concealment, the patience to wait for the right moment, the skill of tactics, the courage to charge a position with bullets buzzing all around and yes, fitness.

Having been through the intense competition, it is impossible to refer to paintball as anything other than sport. It is amazingly competitive, whether in an actual competition or among friends, it's charged with excitement and the kind of adrenalin fueled fun that only a fool would call a game. Just give me 10 minutes in the arena with the man that does!

Community News (From Page 8)

you registered before that date and have not renewed your registration since, please complete a new registration card.

4. Registration cards are available from the Consular Section, Monday to Thursday 8-11am and 1-3.30pm, or on Friday from 8am - noon, or from the British Club Membership office.

FRESHLY BAKED BREAD FROM BC'S OWN BAKERY

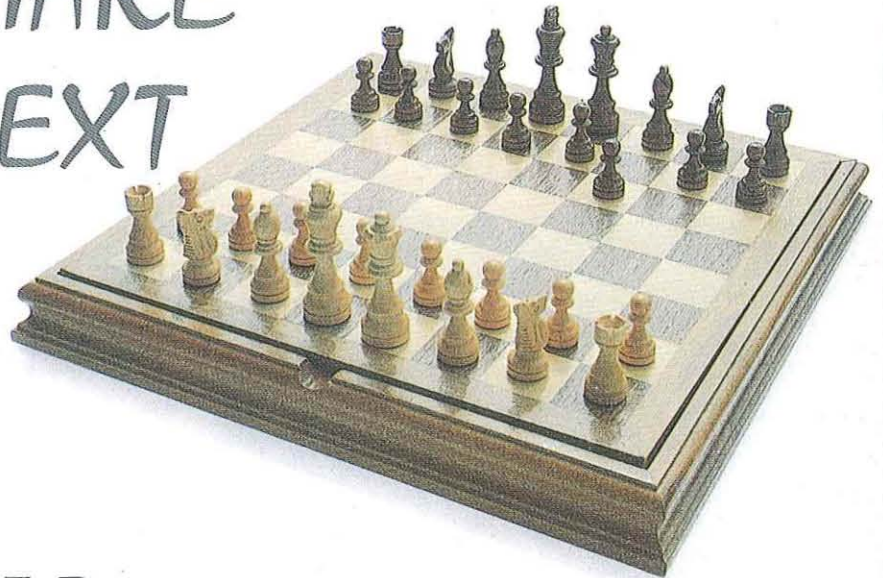
We now make all our own breads and cakes at the Club, we would be delighted to take orders from Members. Provided you wish to collect your order in

the afternoon or evening the bread will be freshly baked and ready for you to collect, should you wish to collect in the morning it will have been baked the previous evening. Please call Khun Orasa at the Club, you will be billed on your account at the end of the month.

White sandwich bread, 500gr loaf	Baht 25
Wholemeal bread, 500 gr loaf	Baht 30
White dinner roll	Baht 5
Brown (Wholemeal) dinner roll	Baht 8
French bread stick	Baht 25
Hamburger bun	Baht 8
Hot Dog bun	Baht 8
Croissant	Baht 12
"Farmhouse" Wholemeal Baguette	Baht 15

All sorts of cakes also available, just liaise with Khun Orasa for what you require.

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New Members

A very short edition of the new members this time, just shows you, they can't do it without me (or Suzanne) for that matter. The answers to the questions I put on a piece of paper were short and sharp. I hope to meet up with all of you in the near future so you can tell me all the juicy bits about yourselves. Have fun at the Club and see you soon!



Simon Collins and Liza Hutchinson are British and have been here for 1 month. He is the Ops Director for Makro Auto and find they have not been here long enough to comment on what they think of Bangkok. Unlike some people who are here for 3 days on holiday and know *exactly* what they think! They both enjoy tennis and swimming. Their last place of residence was London, England.

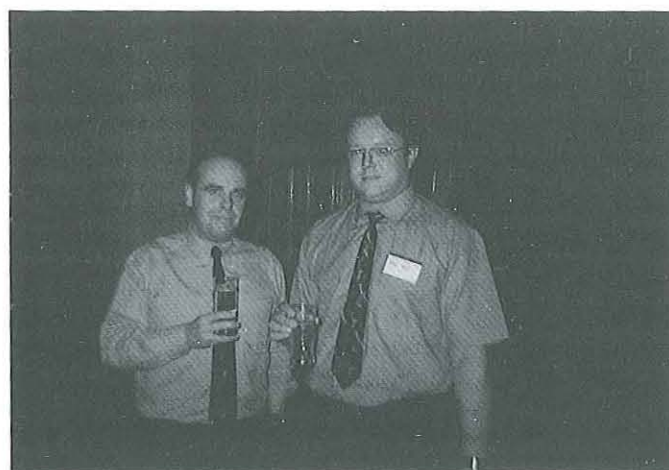


Les and Gill Elliott are English and have a daughter called Hannah. They spent 2 years in Ghana before joining us in Bangkok 3 and 1 month resp. ago. Reading their questionnaire carefully (leave that to me, B.) I noticed they actually

met in Ghana, how romantic. He is an Engineer with Norconsult and likes tennis, golf and cricket. Gill plays tennis and Mahjong, keeps fit and enjoys cooking. They think Bangkok is great, Les is an old hand he was here in 1987.



Simon Sinclair is a bachelor lawyer with Freshfields and has been here for 2 months. He is British and lived in Paris before. He thinks Bangkok is a terrible place, but hopefully he will get used to it! He plays football and golf.



Rene Frei another bachelor boy is the General manager for Westown Limited and has been here for one month. He is Swiss and spent 2 years in Hong Kong, 3 years in Pakistan and 4 years in Taiwan and reckons Bangkok is a lot better than any of the above. He likes to play squash and his hobby is music, he did not tell us if he meant playing or listening to it.

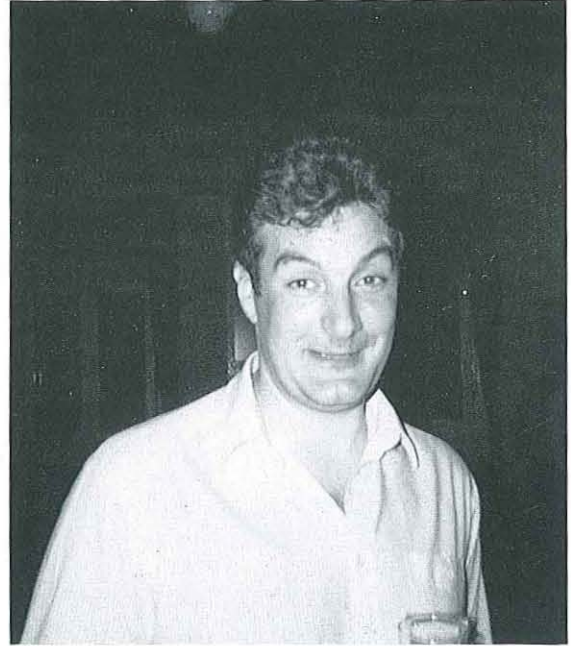
New Members



Gordon Waring and Denise Hawkins are British and have been here for 3 months. Gordon works for the International Air Transport Association as their Regional Technical Representative, quite a mouthful isn't it. They are staying in the Hilton Hotel at the moment and are looking for an apartment.



Andrew and Susan Kerr are British and have 3 children, James (9), Ross (7) and Francesca (10 months). He is here with Shell Company of Thailand and they have been here for 2 months. Andrew enjoys playing Rugby, snooker, soccer, squash and skiing and he does the occasional crossword and jigsaw as well when he can fit them in. They think Bangkok has it's good and bad sides like everywhere else really.



Paul Gambles and Anna Roche are British and when asked on the form if they have children filled in "Love Story", so make up your own minds about that. He is a Financial Consultant for EFS and hopes it won't scare anyone off. They have been here since the beginning of June and were in Streatham (London SW16) before they came to Bangkok. He likes football, cricket, golf, tennis, drinking (not Thai beer) and telling Irish jokes. Anna enjoys aerobics and loves listening to Paul telling Irish jokes. They think Bangkok is weird and wonderful.

Ronald and Deborah Webb unfortunately did not have their photograph taken as they arrived late (or the photographer left early!), so sorry folks, we'll try next month again. They are British and have 2 children, Bianca (7) and James (5). He is the M.D./CEO of Saatchi and Saatchi and they arrived one month ago from the UK.



Unocal and US – before the big sweat!

Keep Sunday morning of the 17th free this month, as we're hoping to hold another of those third-Sunday tournaments; new and old members, TAKE NOTE! In the meantime, there's a match report with Unocal and the American Tournament from July to report on - who says we do things by halves!

After a rather dry spell on court of late following the departures of many of the stalwarts of the section, I'm delighted to say that there are several people in Bangkok who still play this noble game because attendances are picking up (including mine). More good news is that I've been meeting several at New Members Nights who also claim to have swatted a shuttle in their misspent youths, so we're going to try to get these people down to the courts as well.

For a start, I was delighted with the turnout we managed for the rather impromptu 'preparation friendly' against **Unocal** on **Sunday 10th** - all of two days to turn out a healthy team of 13, and that with many away on leave! This get-together was informally arranged as a "let's see roughly how good you lot are" meet as a run-up for a better-organised match possibly in September/October, when we'll organise a buffet and the full Monty.

A murderously humid morning on court, we kicked off with a ladies and a mens doubles, followed by the rather

established couple of Steve Rees and Carol McGregor (see below) who had a marathon match, in which good overcame oil after what must have been nearly an hour. Other matches worthy of note were Judi and Katy eventually drawing a close one against Jeup and Su 15-11, 11-15: can't get much more level than that; Henry and Carol with a similar score against Jud and Jaeng and of course Steve's singles at the end! Indeed, I would say that most of the matches were of a high standard, certainly very few low scores around, and boy did you have to work for it in that heat! In the end, it all hinged on that final game - an indication of how well-matched we were - in which Steve recently over pneumonia battled it out in a singles against Chali, and after a monumental struggle managed a draw... which meant that Unocal won 6-4. Our team comprised: Anne, Judi, Carol, Katy and Gaynor for the ladies and Phil B, Mel, Steve, Henry, Bill, newcomer Anant, Peter and Ed for the men, who should slap themselves on the back for some great performances. The sweat was coming off in

gallon cans! Many thanks to Khun Thanasak of Unocal for captaining their team and being amazingly organised, and a note of, um, gratitude to David and Alex for landing this on me with what could be termed 'short notice'! You missed a good day!

Then there was the **American Tournament** on the 24th... apologies to everybody for my absence on this one, blame it on Bangkok belly, you know, the rumbling type. Whatever, many thanks to Maurice for stepping in the shoes of chief organiser and getting everyone playing American-style, him being kind of proficient at this sort of thing! Despite the odd moan about not being able to run around court, Carol and partner Steve (now apparently fully recovered!) went on to achieve the perfect 75 score - that's winning all five games to 15, before you try working it out - and earning the prizes that were sitting in my bag, in my room...sigh. So no photos of jubilant prize-winners this month, that'll be something for next month's issue. Must also report that the fight for second place was ferocious to say the least, with three couples on 64 (after the correct adjustment of scores for matches that accidentally went over 15 points): Maurice and Kosol, Katy and Barry, and Wanna and Bill sharing the honours there. Henry played with Alison Barr and Peter and Anant brought up the rear, but noone disgraced themselves!

Also in this month: the long-



Peter and Ed practise the 'stroll' while Pinya and Chanchoen battle with Steve Carol



Dr Kriengsak Jirapaet accepting the TWO incubators - this photo says it all!

awaited photo from Pauline (remember her?) from Pattaya regarding the handing over of the two incubators to Siriraj Hospital New-Born Unit, which we the Badminton section in conjunction with the BWG helped raise over 60,000 Baht for! Yes, I know there was something about this in last Outpost but a) I feel a Section contribution is necessary given our input into this, and b) I think the photo of Dr Kriengsak Jirapaet receiving this marvelous equipment is great and says it all. Many thanks again to all those who took part for this great cause, perhaps we should try another sponsored event one day - any suggestions as to recipients, please contact a member of the Committee.

On the social side, a rather belated **CONGRATS!** to Marion and Robert Jones, who got spliced in Blighty on the 6th August. Honeymoon over, hope to see you back on court soonish! And no sooner had my little piece on Su in July's issue hit the streets did we see her in the Surawong Sala head to toe in canary yellow, as noticeable as she could be!! Who says the power of print is dying out? And having mentioned Pauline, she is now hearing the patter of tiny feet at her home in Naklua.... yes, she's bought a puppy! A fitting breed if you ask me: a daft dalmatian - Dalton's dotty

dog!!

Back to the badminton for a tic, due to a disappearance of any form of 'flick' in my shots of late and a decided surge of tennis-type sweeping forehands, I'm tempted to take some extra coaching lessons to put me back on the right track again. Anyone else wanting coaching please contact Wanna (321 4599); if nothing else I can almost guarantee effectiveness - last time I had some coaching I went and won a Round Robin a week later, against all the odds!!

Here's the apology for the lack of my wise words in the last issue, just for once I was too busy earning me keep. Compensation? A quick joke:

This nun had just got in the bath when a blind man came to the front door and rang the bell. Not wanting to get out, the nun yelled "Who is it?" from the bathroom. "It's the blind man," yelled the man in return. So the nun thought: "What the heck, he's blind, I'll run downstairs with nothing on and he won't know the difference." So she hops out of the bath and opens the door, whereupon the man says: "Nice body, darling, where do you want the blind?"

Cheers!

Lek Farang
XXX

LATE NEWS: Having just read August's Outpost, I find that there's due to be an **Inter-Section Sports Day** on the 25th of this month, so all commando-types step my way and everyone else I'll sign up for the team! I would like to improve on our 'utterly last' placing from two years ago, really I would, so please volunteer your services before I have to pressgang you to do so.

GAYNOR-GUIDE TO BADMINTON

This week's medical special:

"HOW TIGHT ARE YOU?"

OF COURSE, I am talking about the tension of the strings in your racquets here, what else would I be referring to. No, don't answer that.

As you may or may not know, the tension of your strings is quite important, and becomes more so the better a player you get. Likewise, the tension of your strings increases the better you get. Beginners should have their racquets strung at around 14 pounds, which helps on the longer strokes when the strength in the arm isn't there; and as you improve to intermediate (which I could safely class myself as) it is advisable to upgrade to 15 pounds. Very good club players should have their racquets strung at 16-ish pounds and pros usually have theirs at 17 pounds, to give you an idea of the effect such an apparently small difference can have. (I hope I have all these figures right, I got 'em off Henry months ago! - G)

There is also a trend towards thinner strings, seen in tennis as well, which maximises the control factor given a particular tension. You could certainly string up a tenor violin with the strings in my racquet at the moment... indeed, it might have more effect as a musical instrument, the way I play.. but enough of my woes.

So in general, the tighter the tension, the more control you have but the stronger you need to be. At the other end of the scale, looser strings give you more power but decrease on the old accuracy side, but not noticeably enough when you're only intermediate anyway. So my bat is strung at 15 pounds, which Henry assures me is about right.

Any ideas on how tight yours is?

KEEP FIT HOLIDAYS

Hubby asked his mate Rolf
to teach him the game of golf
Now is just the occasion
To go off on a vacation

We'll invite your pal Dennis
He'll teach us to play tennis
Then we'll ask young Tosh
To show us how to play squash

Off we all went trying to get fit
I tagged along (what a real twit)
The first day was great fun
They all spent hours on their bum

Don't fret they cried with cheek
We'll play much better come next week
You don't have to be all that good
To take aim with a number one wood

Then all sitting on their hunkers
Spent three hours in the bunkers
I smiled at their waving hands
As they disappeared beneath the sands

When at the end of just one week
Feeling stiff and very weak
I said to hubby with a grin
"Oh heck love, you've gone so thin"

He cried "My love if only you knew
The hell that I've been through:
"Oh darling if only I could
Have one great shot with my new wood"

Then he grabbed poor old Tosh
And stormed off to play squash
I'll challenge all that I meet
Quite forgetting about the heat

Next day came young Dennis
Who tried to teach hubby tennis
His shirt was sticky and wet
As he collapsed over the net

He peered up through one eye
Then shouted out with the cry
"One day love, wait and see
I'll have a taste of victory"

I then answered with a smile
"Don't worry love, if it takes a while"
Then his face turned all red
As he flopped down upon the bed

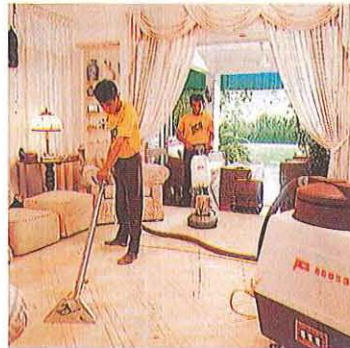
So if your holiday of tribulations
Didn't come up to expectations
Say goodbye to Blackpool rock
And be happy to be back in Bangkok

TRIXIE BRANN

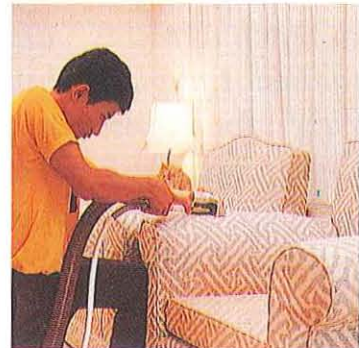
Fully integrated services to meet the demands of all businesses



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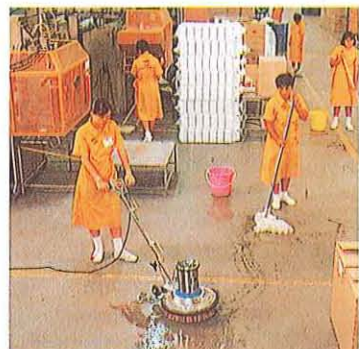
and on construction sites



Cleaning offices



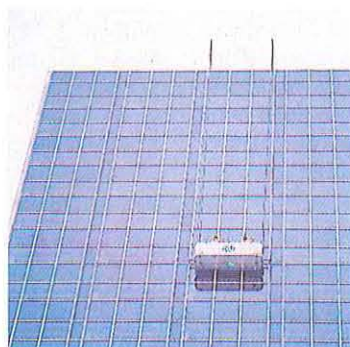
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Tennis

'Skool daze' are here again, and just to kick off the new term we're going to have a chance to teach a lesson to those worthies who teach our kids - don't miss the match against Bangkok Patana School on the 25th! And with the onset of the Graded Championships and another Pen-nant League season, be prepared to book courts well in advance this month!

Also in September, on the 17th and 24th, are the Volvo semi-finals at the Volvo courts (address: back of nowhere, aka Ramkhamhaeng soi 13). Now I normally wouldn't bother mentioning these sorts of high-falutin' events that we normally come nowhere near reaching, but at the time of writing we had just boosted our score considerably (see report below), so you never know...

And don't forget: the Juniors' Round Robin is on the 4th at 9am, with the grown-ups' tournament on the second Sunday, the 11th. This month the latter is a Handicap Tournament and is rather laughingly going to be run by Chris 'Confused' Aspden, with considerably help from Carol-who-will-be-his-wife-by-now-Young and anyone else who understands the rules. Wonder if Maurice scheduled this one during his holidays on purpose?! Just turn up at 2pm as usual.

Quick apology for Phuket not quite happening in August as fanfared last month - it's now going to be early next year, when a) the weather will be better, and b) the sea will be safe to swim in. Sorry if you'd gone to all the trouble of buying a bucket and spade, but hold onto them, the October bank holiday weekend will be with us soon.

On the subject of referred tours, the fabulous Ayutthaya tour has been sort of definitely booked for January 22nd (1995), so scribble that in the diary as an excellent day out.

But onto jolly July, and what an action-packed month that was! -

Junior Round Robin - 3rd July

Many thanks to Shelagh (I hope!) for this report:

Tension was evident in every household on Sunday 3rd - not so much with regard to the outcome of this month's Round Robin, but to the big question: would it rain yet again? Well, those six whose determination won the day were rewarded by a good morning's tennis, only briefly halted by an early downpour. If the boys (and it was only boys this time) had had their way, play would have continued through the rain (Robert Campbell take note! - G), and Robert Tilby was keen to demonstrate his skating skills; however, we didn't think his injured Mum would appreciate another hospital case!

Nick and Guy Rendell, Lochlan McBain, David Lindsay, Chris Reed and Robert Tilby played several rounds of singles, with some long rallies and close scoring. It was all good to watch and all of the boys had some shots to be proud of. The winning position was shared by Nick Rendell and Chris Reed on 17 points each.

Thanks again to the parent-supporters/umpires and to all who turned up. Challengers please come forward on the 4th September, but please do a fair-weather dance on the 3rd!



The Paradise Poseurs:- Matthijs and his band of Merry-makers



BWG and BC Tennis ladies presenting two incubators to Siriraj Hospital

Tennis Section Summer Party - 9th July, Senior Pico's

The sort of evening we're trying to promote in the Section, this was a fun night with several hundred years of July birthdays being celebrated at the Senior Pico Mexican restaurant at the Rembrandt Hotel. Pride of place went to Bruce Gordon (60), Maurice Lamb (50, see below), David Ingham (40) and Dawn Monk (30), while Gisi, Kate, Mike and Gaynor were all celebrating less significant (but still older) birthdays. That evening also marked the forthcoming wedding of Carol Young and Chris Aspden in Glasgow in August, and the imminent departures of Andy Hunter, the Cowies and the Freeman family.

There must have been some 50 people at the party that night, with the margaritas going down very well indeed. Everyone had a special name tag by which to identify each other in the pass-the-parcel game. To my disgust I was John Major; but other notaries present were Boris Becker (Chris), Bjorn Borg (Pat), Julius Caesar (Andy), Adolf Hitler (Bruno), Madonna (Carol Williams), Elvis Presley (Kiyoshi) and John Lennon (Bruce). Never did find out who General de Gaulle was; and as for Maurice, who was officially without a titular badge, well, we all know he's Chairman Mau anyway. Or was it the famous Field Marshall Maurice? Answers on a postcard. Whatever, another good night, with several semi-bachelors (wives on leave) chatting long after the restaurant had officially closed!

Away Match v. RBSC - 10th July

This report by Maurice:

A large contingent of Section members made the short trip north to the Royal Bangkok Sports Club early on the 10th for this match against our old rivals. This occasion marked the first battle for the Dunnvatanachit Cup - a new trophy donated by those great stalwarts Surin and Chalathip for annual competition between the British Club and the RBSC.



Mexico here we come!



The 'singles' – the stragglers left after the party!



It's alive! The Mexican food appreciation society

Regrettably, despite a good start by the British Club (indeed, everyone seems to remember when we were two matches to love up, but nothing past that - G), the RBSC were again victorious and amassed a winning score of 28-6. The winning combinations for the BC were:

Mens: Pat Dean and James Young
David Ingham and Clive Tilby
Surin Dunnvatanachit and Bruno Straub
James Thomson-Glover and Bruce Gordon
(all winning 6-1 except Surin and Bruno, 6-2)

Ladies: Gisi van Walbeek and Surin Dunnvatanachit, 6-4
David Ingham and Kaye Swallow, 6-3

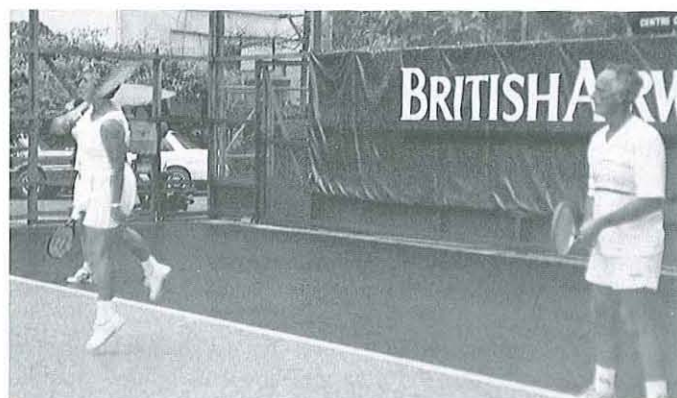
To conclude the day, we were all royally entertained to lunch by our RBSC hosts, prior to bidding farewell to the Dunnvatanachit Cup until next year.

Note: All the matches had been played on real grass, a good excuse for the result, but a pleasure to play on such well tended surfaces. Perhaps we can transform the back lawn at the BC to create two new grass courts to cater for the burgeoning number of tennis players!

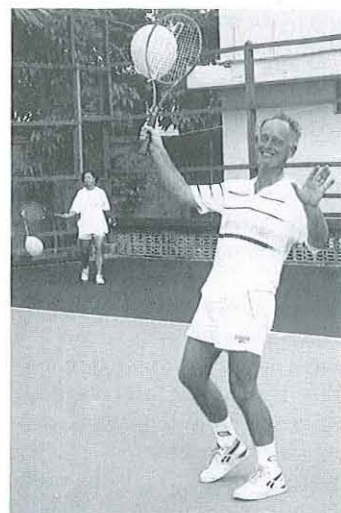
Still in virtual reality mode:

Fun Tournament - 17th July

Another mish-mash of daft events, this, the most popular this year being the balloon game... amazing how long it took some people to realise that not only was it easier but was also legal to serve underarm, to prevent the balloon flapping away from hitting the face of the racquet! Glad to say that it did little more than spit all afternoon, although there were one or two occasions



Julia Freeman, now in UK, does the "pas de forehand" as Andy looks on, impressed – Fun Tournament



"The Fun Tournament brings out the big kid in me!"
Any 'The Video' Hunter

that almost reached where Robert would have run off the court with his racquet up his shirt!! And while I was watching the final game from the shelter of the sala sipping my afternoon cuppa, I was half wondering whether it would be possible to set up Bangkok-wide league of 5 or 6-aside tennis, it being quite a fast and furiously-paced sport rather akin to volleyball (or 'velleyball', in Volvo-speak). Any takers, let me know!

Andy's video, Maurice's 50th Birthday - 27th July

Another great Section party this evening turned out to be, with a good chunk of the section seated in the Wordsworth Room either laughing or groaning with embarrassment at our antics

Tennis

during the Pattaya weekend, as viewed by Andy through that ubiquitous camcorder of his, as well as a brief nostalgia trip with the premier showing of the first Racquet Tournament of June 1993 - amazing how many of the establishment have left since last year. The Pattaya blue movie was Andy Hunter's swan song, as he left the country for the UK at the end of the month, so after the showing he was duly presented with a BCB plaque, his wife with a BCB bag, and one of those large-ish home-made cards from you-know-who. I must say the acceptance speech came out well considering he had no idea what was coming!

Then as we all piled down to the bar for eats and drinks, the decision was made to present Maurice with his cake with candles for his big 5-0 birthday... especially seeing as the game had almost been given away by some rather unfortunately-chosen words from one member! A milestone birthday for farangs, everyone had been very generous in the chipping-in stakes, so we had been able to buy a beautiful map of old Siam (approx 1750 A.D.). The 'fun' present was a bath towel signed by most members of the section in loud fabric paints, and of course there was the topical card with room for the prodigal five hundred to sign. Maurice managed to blow out all five candles - no girlfriends in the closet there - and 80% of the delicious cake (cheers, Bruno!) was devoured PDQ! A great evening, enjoyed by all present, and representative of the spirit of the Tennis Section - we're a good lot to get involved with!

Volvo: Away match v. Ramkhamhaeng - 30th July

Another not-exactly-prompt start to a Volvo match: when Clare, Gaynor and Maurice turned up almost an hour late (we went the wrong way traffic-wise), the rest of the team who had arrived on time were still sitting there waiting for something to happen. Never be minding, Noel and Owen were quickly shoved on court, followed by the first hour-and-a-half ladies doubles match. Brian and Archie, those renowned golfers, had to wait over two hours to go on court due to restricted court space (we were sharing the Volvo courts with another Volvo match, and it didn't help that the second ladies doubles match also lasted three long sets) against another group 3 bloke and some lad who fiercely resembled a 'knocker' - Brian's word for a pro. The final result was 4-1, although most of the matches were close. Ahem... I've just got to write that I was part of the winning partnership, but full credit to Kaye Swallow who has a 100% record in Volvo matches, with differing partners!

Volvo: Home match v. Volvo 850 - 31st July

A strong team raring to go on the soon-dried hard courts were very disappointed when the opposition, who had deferred this match from last Saturday, called to say that because it was raining where they were (as described above, in the back of nowhere), they kind of assumed it was doing the same where we were, so they gave us the walkover, 5-0. Of course, this boosted our scoreline in a very healthful way, hence my bothering to mention the date of the semi-finals in September... On top of that, it ensured a good group playing in the mix-in, indeed, one of the toughest and most enjoyable Sunday afternoons of tennis in a long time.

Veterans/Crumblies Finals - end-June

A late report from Maurice, no excuse really:

This was Surin's day: he swept the board at these championships in all the events he was eligible to play in! Interesting that he played with Roy in the doubles and against him in the mixed, when he was of course playing with his lady wife (as was Roy), a repeat of last year's mixed doubles final that never actually



The X-rated video crowd watching Tennis antics of this and yesteryear.



The Birthday Boy shares a joke... he won something!



Chairman Mau makes a gift of the "Slice" award as Abdy's leaving present.



Jaree with seconds and thirds of Maurice's cake!



All those Veterans finalists and not a wheel chair in sight!

happened. This was also the last official sporting appearance of the Cowies before they left the country.

Plate winners were Andy Hunter for the singles, Brian and John Sands for the men's doubles (there were no ladies singles or doubles), and Noel and Carol scraped through in an extremely close final in the mixed against Maurice and Gisi, winning in two tie-breaks. Good stuff, and no fatalities, broken bones, warped Zimmer frames or lost bus passes reported!

July also saw the rounding off of another Paradise Sports coaching clinic; it will be interesting to see the improvement in those participants in the coming months, especially with their snazzy t-shirts kindly donated by K-Swiss.. (See photo of bunch of poseurs somewhere on one of these pages).

Now come the end bits, starting with the June mixed doubles league results:

Division 1	Chris Aspden and Carol Young (married Aug 6th)
Division 2	Andy Hunter and Jaree Lee (Andy left end-July)
Division 3	Maurice Lamb and Gisi van Walbeek (Maurice's 50th on 28th July)

And the only winners in the ladies doubles in July (we're really up to date here):

Julia and Anna Freeman (left for UK 31st July)

Good grief, there was something significant or deserving about each of those partnerships, they must have risen to the occasion to get their names in print. And now for **Robert's bit**, the ladder:

1st	Surin
10th	Bernie Adams (a bit more respectable!)
25th	Inactive player - akin to a government official
40th	Graciela Haube
55th	Inactive player - it's contagious

And the jammy winner of the 500 Baht for the month was David Bryant.

Committee Witterings

This month Robert came into his own and showed his true colours by firming up the rules of the **LADDER** to clamp down on apathy, inertia, shyness and excessive holidays - what a man! Basically, some new laws were accepted by the Committee as follows:

- 1) Challenges may now be made ten active places above you on the ladder, as opposed to the previous measly five.
- 2) Walkovers:
 - a) Any challenge going unanswered over 3 weeks will result in a walkover to the challenger, provided the challenged player is not inactive (see below).
 - b) Players who do not turn up for an arranged match and who fail to notify their opponent one day in advance will lose the match by walkover.
- 3) If a player does not play any singles league or ladder matches in a three month period, then they will drop ten places on the ladder!!

So if you're intending to disappear on leave for a month, inform either Chris (for the league) or Robert (the ladder) **PRONTO** to register as "**ladderly inactive**", or else you may find yourself freefalling down the rungs... he's hard, that Robert, but fair! Actually, if you work it out you only need to play four matches a year to avoid such devastating action, so make it your new school term resolution to play at least one ladder match per month, or at least participate in the singles league every third month.

Quote of the month came from the July committee meeting: as Maurice was pressing Surin to squeeze as many inter-port matches as possible into an already-full schedule, the latter was heard to mutter under his breath: "That's it, Maurice keeping us all busy so that we don't have time for anything else..." Many a true word spoken in jest!!

Looking ahead to **October**: apart from the Junior Round Robin on the 2nd and the adult version of same on the 9th, there is an away match against the Polo Club 'A' team on the 16th with a home match against their 'B' team to be arranged. There is also to be the men's equivalent of the Ladies extravaganza in February: the **Bangkok Mens Inter Club Tennis Tournament**, to be held at the British Club over the last weekend of the month. I would mention the Volvo finals on the 15th but that might be viewed as realistic as converting the back lawn to tennis courts, so I doubt I'll bother.. but again, you never know - stranger things have happened. I could also mention that there's supposed to be a tour on the Chula long weekend (22nd-24th), but after August's boob I'm keeping my mouth shut until I have something more definite.

S'nuff for now. Goodbye to all those who left this month, especially Andy Hunter, Roy and Tharntip Cowie and Tony and Julia Freeman (and family), a great big happy birthday to all it applies to and happy unbirthday to the rest of you, and hopefully we'll get a wedding photo to go into the next issue from Chris and Carol! In the meantime, enjoy the photos from July.

Lotsaluv,

Me
XXX



"Eric Hudson handing over the cup to the victor Lloyd Houghton."

JULY 17, 1994 - SUBHAPRUECK - CAPTAINS DAY

This event was for the Captain versus Ex-Captain Cup. As the most recent Ex-Captains were unavailable, in Peter Ingram, who left Thailand earlier this year and Dugal Forrest who was taking a "well-earned" (?) rest in the U.K., it was left to Lloyd Houghton, who was Captain for several years, to take on Eric Hudson.

JULY 31, 1994 - BANGPOO - SPONSOR GILLETTE

The format for this Club event was a Pairs Best-Ball Stableford competition using full handicaps.

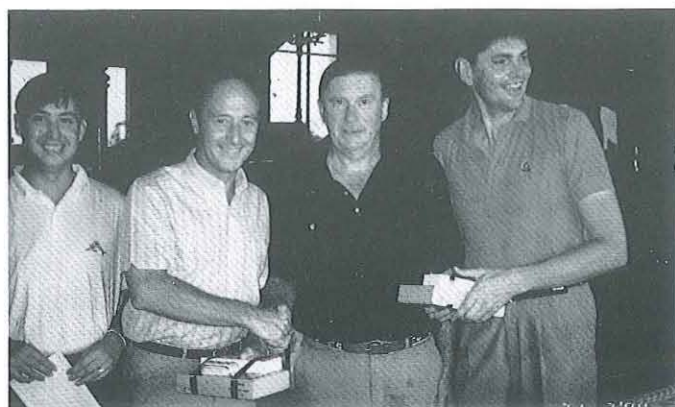
The hit-off time being 7.45am was used as an experiment. Obviously some of our regulars had difficulty in getting out of bed as the numbers were down. Their loss, as Geoffrey Lamb of Gillette presented some wonderful prizes to the winners.

1st	Paul Nears/Mike Corey	43 Points
2nd	Eric Hudson/Liz Southcombe	42 Points
3rd	Geoffrey and Diana Lamb	41 Points
4th	Brian and Lavita Hughes	40 Points

Nearest the Pin: Ron Sparks, Jeff Rydon, Alex Southcombe, Eric Jurgens.

Longest Drive - Men: Barry Johnson, Ladies: Diana Lamb Paul (all Smiles) Nears, had an Eagle on the 18th so earned himself 2 dozen golf balls.

Thanks to Gillette for sponsoring the day. As you can see



"Geoffrey Lamb presentive the first prize to Paul Nears and Mike Corey."



"The winning team whether gifts and Lloyd with the Cup"

The format was Singles Match Play.

Well, Eric has gone down in history as the first Captain to lose this event since it was resurrected 3 years ago, The scorer for the day, Mike Poustie, did his best to "sway" the result towards Eric, but at the end of the day the result was Ex-Captain Lloyd 7 to Captain Eric 5.

Eric presented a nice gift to each of the winning team. As the sun set Lloyd was seen to be sipping pink champagne.



Geoffrey Lamb presents to Liz Southcombe and Eric Hudson their runner-up prize."



Other prizes went to Brian and Lavita Hughes. Presented by Geoffrey Lamb of Gillette."

the Lambs did pretty well for themselves. I assume your prizes, Geoff and Diana, were returned to the Gillette stocks!!

Happy Golfing,

Neil Buttery



ROSE BOWL

The 2nd Annual Rose Bowl Competition was held at the Rose Garden on July 19, 1994. The format was four ball match play best net score, BCLG vs FLOGG sponsored by ALEXI AND JEFFREY HUGHES.

Five teams participated, however B.C.L.G. had to relinquish several of their players to even up the teams. Perhaps next year we can persuade more FLOGG members to join in the fun.

"Hats Off" to the FLOGG team for managing a 3-2 victory over B.C.L.G. CONGRATULATIONS!

The Rose Bowl Trophy filled with Champagne, was presented to Alison, who was representing FLOGG, by Alexi and Jeffrey Hughes.

Beautiful pewter vases were awarded to the winners of each match.

Technical prizes as follows:

Long Drive Ladies	- Gui Yong
Long Drive Men	- Jack Philips
Shortest Drive	- Kanda

Near Pins: #4 - Gui Yong, #6 - Liz, #14 - Ade, #15 - Russell.

A very special "THANK YOU" to Alexi, Jeffrey, Lavita and Brian for a most enjoyable day.

FAREWELL! KITTY, MAGDA, NENA AND WILL

A special Stableford Competition, hosted by the above ladies, was held at Muang Ake on June 7 1994.

Twenty girls were on hand to compete for the trophy and prizes as well to bid farewell to their fellow golfers.



Farewell Competition for Nena, Magda, Wil and Kitty.



2 Teams; BCLG/FLOGG Participating in the Rose Bowl.



Winning Team - FLOGG Acting Capt. Alison/Alexi, sponsor have a drink of champagne from THE bowl.



The girls here with their BCLG souvenir.

The Winner :	Sally	36 Points
Runners Up :	Merete	35 Points
	Yoshiko	34 Points
	Joke	33 Points
	Vera	32 Points

Near Pins: #6 Ade, #8 Yoshiko, #12 Sue, #17 Sally
Long Drive - Silver Yoshiko, Bronze Rita H,
As a farewell memento the BCLG presented Kitty, Magda, Nena and Wil with an engraved Thai pewter plate.

GOOD LUCK!

Barbara Wehrle

Calendar

BRITISH CLUB – SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMME, SEPTEMBER 1994

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
			1 7-9 pm Rugby Training 7-9 pm Badminton 6-9 pm Squash Mix-In FONDUE PROMOTION
5 8-10 am Ladies Tennis 8 am BWG Mahjong 6-8 pm Squash Coaching 5.30-9 pm Happy Hour 7-9 pm Badminton 7-9 pm Tennis Top Twenty Practice 8 pm New Members Night	6 7 am Ladies Golf 7 pm Rugby Training 8 pm Friendly Bridge 7-9 pm Football Training 9 pm Gentlemens Spoof	7 6-8 am Early Bird Tennis Mix-in 9.30 am Aerobics 5-8 pm Squash Coaching 6-9 pm Tennis Mix-in	8 7-9 pm Rugby Training 7-9 pm Badminton 6-9 pm Squash Mix-In
12 8-10 am Ladies Tennis 8 am BWG Mahjong 6-8 pm Squash Coaching 5.30-9 pm Happy Hour 7-9 pm Badminton 7-9 pm Tennis Top Twenty Practice	13 7 am Ladies Golf 7 pm Rugby Training 8 pm Friendly Bridge 7-9 pm Football Training 9 pm Gentlemens Spoof	14 6-8 am Early Bird Tennis Mix-in 9.30 am Aerobics 5-8 pm Squash Coaching 6-9 pm Tennis Mix-in	15 7-9 pm Rugby Training 7-9 pm Badminton 6-9 pm Squash Mix-In
19 8-10 am Ladies Tennis 8 am BWG Mahjong 6-8 pm Squash Coaching 5.30-9 pm Happy Hour 7 pm Cricket AGM 7-9 pm Badminton 7-9 pm Tennis Top Twenty Practice	20 7 am Ladies Golf 7 pm Rugby Training 8 pm Friendly Bridge 7-9 pm Football Training 9 pm Gentlemens Spoof	21 6-8 am Early Bird Tennis Mix-in 9.30 am Aerobics 5-8 pm Squash Coaching 6-9 pm Tennis Mix-in	22 7-9 pm Rugby Training 7-9 pm Badminton 6-9 pm Squash Mix-In
26 8-10 am Ladies Tennis 8 am BWG Mahjong 6-8 pm Squash Coaching 5.30-9 pm Happy Hour 7-9 pm Badminton 7-9 pm Tennis Top Twenty Practice	27 7 am Ladies Golf 7 pm Rugby Training 8 pm Friendly Bridge 7-9 pm Football Training 9 pm Gentlemens Spoof	28 6-8 am Early Bird Tennis Mix-in 9.30 am Aerobics 5-8 pm Squash Coaching 6-9 pm Tennis Mix-in	29 7-9 pm Rugby Training 7-9 pm Badminton 6-9 pm Squash Mix-In

OPENING TIMES

10 am-11 pm	CHURCHILL BAR
11.30-2 pm	LORDS RESTAURANT LUNCH
6-11 pm	LORDS RESTAURANT DINNER
7.30 am-10 pm	POOLSIDE BAR
6 am-9 pm	FITNESS CENTRE MON/SAT
9 am-9 pm	FITNESS CENTRE SUN/HOLS
9 am-5 pm	THAI MASSAGE TUES/SUN

VENUES

ALL EVENTS ARE AT BRITISH CLUB
EXCEPT THE FOLLOWING:-

CASUALS FOOTBALL	- BANGKOK PATANA SCHOOL
BADMINTON (SUNDAYS)	- NEAR BANGRAK POLICE STATION
BADMINTON (MONS-THURS)	- SOI KLANG
GOLF	- AS ADVERTISED
RUGBY MATCHES	- AS ADVERTISED

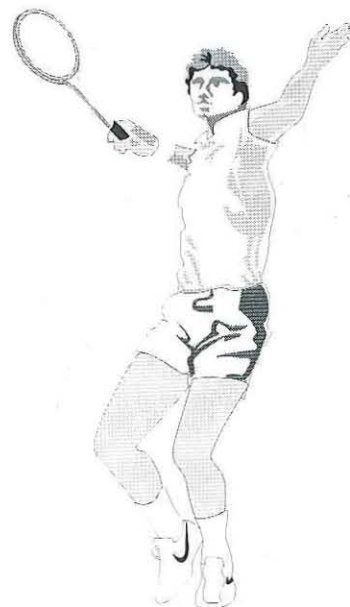
****Don't forget t

**SURIN ELEPHANT
IN NOVEMBER**

OCT 2 PAINTBALL

**OCT 9 INTER SCHOOL
SPORTS DAY**

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
30 am Aerobics 3-9 pm Tennis Coaching 9 pm Accumulator Lucky Draw Sponsored by JVK FONDUE PROMOTION	3 8-10 am Children's Tennis Coaching 10-12 am Adult Tennis Coaching 4.30 pm Casuals Football FONDUE PROMOTION	4 11 am-1 pm Badminton 9-11 am Childrens Round Robin 3-6 pm Tennis Mix-in Childrens Sports & Video FONDUE PROMOTION
30 am Aerobics 3-9 pm Tennis Coaching 9 pm Accumulator Lucky Draw Sponsored by JVK 30 pm Whisky Tasting Allied Walker	10 8-10 am Children's Tennis Coaching 10-12 am Adult Tennis Coaching 4.30 pm Casuals Football 7.30 pm Last Night of the Proms	11 11 am-1 pm Badminton 1 pm Squash Handicap Mix-in 2-6 pm Tennis Handicap Tourn. 7 pm Tennis BBQ Childrens Sports & Video
5 30 am Aerobics 3-9 pm Tennis Coaching 9 pm Accumulator Lucky Draw Sponsored by JVK	17 8-10 am Children's Tennis Coaching 10-12 am Adult Tennis Coaching 4.30 pm Casuals Football 1 pm Tennis Volvo League Volvo Courts 8 pm October Fest.	18 11 am-1 pm Badminton 1 pm Squash Handicap Mix-in 3-6 pm Tennis Mix-In 2 pm Children's Sports Day Childrens Sports & Video
3 30 am Aerobics 3-9 pm Tennis Coaching 9 pm Accumulator Lucky Draw Sponsored by JVK	24 8-10 am Children's Tennis Coaching 10-12 am Adult Tennis Coaching 4.30 pm Casuals Football	25 11 am-1 pm Badminton 1 pm Squash Handicap Mix-in 8-1 pm Tennis vs BPS. 5 pm Covenant Players perform for Children Childrens Sports
0 30 am Aerobics 3-9 pm Tennis Coaching 9 pm Accumulator Lucky Draw Sponsored by JVK		



SPORTS SPORTS SPORTS

If you are interested in joining one or more of the Sports Sections of the British Club, please contact the following person(s), they will be happy to tell you all about it.

ROUND-UP

PARK TION

BADMINTON	David Overington	312 0100
CRICKET	Peter Young	679 7644
DARTS	Frank Hough	642 1500
GOLF	Stuart Davy	367 1000 (F)
RUGBY	Joe Grunwell	262 0220
SNOOKER	Mike Brann	758 7128
SQUASH	Barbara Overington	258 7306
SOCCER	Peter Rodgers	240 0678
TENNIS	Maurice Lamb	272 4530

NON BRITISH CLUB SPORTS:

LADIES GOLF BCLG	Will Agerbeek	259 7019
LIGIT LADIES GOLF	Eileen Cook	287 3605



It is presently the off season for cricket and just to keep one interested in the world's greatest sport, here is an article that recently appeared in "The Cricketer" magazine on the West Indian batting sensation Brian Lara.

Paul Allot salutes West Indies' latest genius, being hailed as the best since Sobers....

BRIAN LARA: THE PRINCE OF TRINIDAD

I have just met him and he said, "I told you so". Let me explain. I have just bumped into Brian Lara, the West Indies superstar batsman, and it is a Tuesday night at the Hilton Hotel in Trinidad. Not any old Tuesday night but THE Tuesday night. The night of the day which promised so much for the young England team in the West Indies.

The day dawned in the Third Test with five West Indies second innings wickets still standing and a slender lead of 67 in favour of the home side. It ended in disaster with England on 40 for eight and staring a 3-0 series defeat in the face. Brian Lara had told me so during a brief conversation by the hotel pool on the rest day. He said that if West Indies got more than 150 ahead then England would lose. He was confident, West Indies were confident, and they are winners. Brian Lara is a winner par excellence, he is accredited with being the best batsman in the world, not by statisticians, scores, spectators or pundits, but by former great batsmen of the game - Sobers, Kanhai, Lloyd to name a few - and also by every opposition.

Mike Atherton, the current England captain, accords him perhaps the greatest compliment payable by calling him an opposing captain's 'nightmare'. The word is usually reserved for describing a particularly dismal period of form or an innings without any redeeming features but to think of any opposing batsman as a 'nightmare' is praise indeed. Michael qualifies this alarming statement by explaining that Lara is almost impossible to set a field to. He has no obvious flaws in his technique and can score equally well on either side of the wicket. Brian Lara takes the game away from the fielding side, says Atherton, and consequently makes bowlers and fielders feel impotent.

To illustrate this perfectly, an instance during the early stages of his 167 against England in Georgetown springs to mind. A genius was at work. Lara, playing himself in

against Ian Salisbury, bowling a good line and turning his googly, was so confident as to play the leg-spinner off the pitch - a good ploy early in the innings against a bowler not previously encountered. It took only a couple of overs for the magic to begin. A slightly shorter delivery and Lara thought about pulling the leg-break. It was not a leg-break but a well disguised googly which turned away from the left-hander. No problem, Brian stood up and in an instant changed the shape of the shot from cross bat to perfectly perpendicular and the ball shot through extra cover like a tracer bullet. That was the moment the nightmare began.

Lara is an engaging and amiable 24-year old, born in Trinidad and is undeniably a product of the modern game. He has played in 68 One-Day Internationals but only 14 Test matches. This apparent imbalance, Lara feels, has been more of an advantage than an hindrance: 'Playing in so many one-day matches has given me the confidence to be attacking in my approach to Test cricket.'

His success in the one-day game has obviously played a part in attuning himself to Test cricket and not only is he successful but he is hugely entertaining. 'I don't consciously go out to entertain, but I love to attack,' he says, a statement which seems slightly contradictory. He certainly doesn't defend as other batsmen do; his forward defensive push has all the weight of a Mike Tyson jab and such is his timing that frequently his non-attacking strokes streak to the boundary. Whether he goes out to please the crowd or not, invariably he does so, to the extent that every time he walks to the wicket in the Carribean he receives a standing ovation.

He is Trinidad's most accomplished batsman, not of this generation but ever according to Tony Crozier. His popularity extends through all the Carribean islands, perhaps the first product of the satellite television coming to the West Indies. He has played many remarkable innings in his short career. In this season's Red Stripe Cup in the game against Jamaica at Queens Parks Oval, Lara scored 180 in the first innings. Nothing particularly remarkable in that, but when you consider he went to the crease at 38 for 2 and was last out with the total on 257 the innings requires scrutiny.

The wicket was dry, the bounce uneven, the opposition bowlers of high quality - namely Courtney Walsh and Robert Haynes - and such was Lara's superiority and feeling of confidence that he thought it was necessary to keep the strike at all times. The field set by Courtney Walsh was such that the boundaries were protected by six or seven fielders for the first four balls of each over. No matter, Lara's precision and timing slotted exquisite strokes into the fence. When the time came to prevent him taking a single to retain the strike, Brian chipped the ball with

unerring accuracy over the in-field and was content with one run at the end of the over. Lara is almost dismissive of the achievement, saying that it was a necessity for him to face as many balls as possible. He was confident to hit the ball over the fielders and into the gaps, and as captain he made that decision and carried it through.

The Test match stage is where Brian Lara really belongs and in his short 23 innings career he has been accredited with having played the best inning of the modern era. His 227 at Sydney against Australia in 1993 was awesome and according to Garfield Sobers one of the best innings he had ever seen.

Brian Lara felt confident, the pitch was true and at no time during his innings did he feel he would get out. His form and timing over two days never faltered. To concentrate for that long in an innings at the highest level, motivation is essential. Conscious of comparisons with Sobers, Lara felt that the only way for him to be compared with the great man was to emulate his 365 not out. Lara feels he would have got there had he not been run out. His motivation stems from a need to be the best, to prove not that he is as good as Sobers was, for he has been heralded as the new Sobers for four years, he is called the Prince in Trinidad and one day he will be the King.

Confidence and self belief are not a problem, but a more self effacing individual off the field you could not wish to meet. His attitude to players, media and supporters

alike is friendly and well meaning. He remembers with affection playing friendly cricket in England in the summer of 1990 and turning out for me in all my benefit matches. The crowds that turned up to watch had no idea who the diminutive left-hander was. His class turned heads then and will continue to do so for many years, especially if his wish to play county cricket is granted. Nightmares for opposing captains maybe, but sweet dreams for all West Indians and cricket devotees.

The Cricketer, May 1994

Since the article Lara has broken the Test record for a single innings - 375 and smashed a world first class record of 501 runs in the English county competition.

The cricket season on Bangkok will commence in late November but we plan to have a few training sessions in the BC nets prior to this, beginning in September. There will also be a social function along with the AGM during September.

Anyone interested in playing for the BC please contact:

Peter Young

Telephone: 679 7644 or 01-498 6006
or

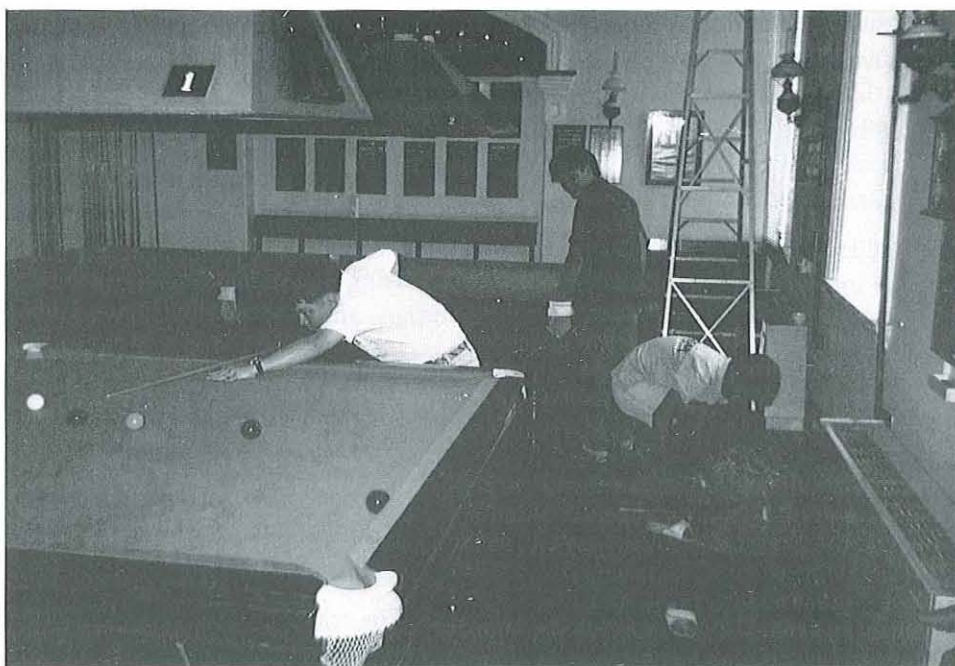
Adam Caro

Telephone: 251 7337

SEPTEMBER 19, 1994

7.00 PM CRICKET AGM

Snooker



Khun Jitta testing No. 1 table.

I suspect that some of you are wondering why your game of snooker has improved, well, it's probably due to the fact that the snooker tables have been re-furbished and brought up to international standard.

On the 16th of July a very nice bloke from the snooker association of Thailand, Khun Jitti, came along to the British Club to renovate the tables. It was no easy task though, he had already noted previously that the number two table had tremendous problems (yes, now you know why the balls insisted on doing their own thing) the slate was badly cracked and had to be replaced.

Jitti actually took the whole table apart and rebuilt it, what a craftsman, eh? the good news is he did all the extra work for us at the original price quoted, which we thought was excellent.

The only thing left to do is practice your game, but please try to remember the rules of the snooker room, someone was spotted smoking over the table and also some members have allowed non-members to use the tables, as we all know this taking a big risk with our new tables, it is very easy to rip the cloth!!!

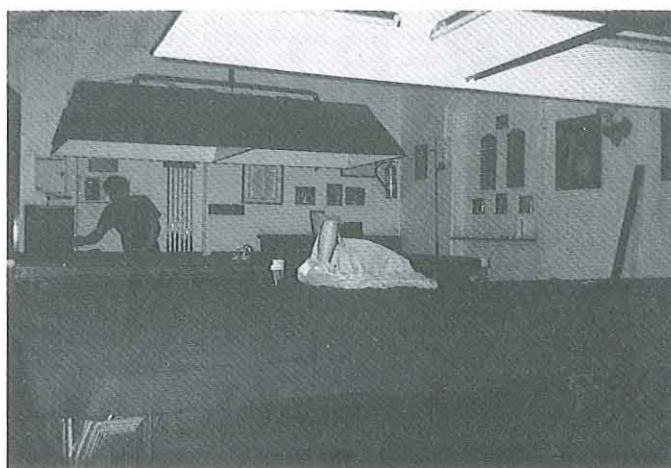
I'm beginning to think that the "Maggie Thatcher Challenge" is jinxed or something, we have to postpone it yet again, due to a clash in other events taking place at the same time, sorry about that, but we will try to arrange another date as soon as possible.

Well, that's all for now folks! see you in the snooker room on Sundays, we normally meet in the Churchill Bar first, any time after 11.30 until around 2pm.

Trixie Brann



No. 2 table being re-covered after replacing slate & re-building the whole table.



Replacing the cloth on No. 1 table the shoulders and pockets have been brought up to standards.



SOS and BC get together for a pre-match roll call.

Hi footballfiles,

Welcome back to those who went on holiday. The past two months saw a slowing down in the action as Patana and ISB both enjoy the long summer break but there is still lots to report. What about the World Cup then. Didn't the Irish do well. At least they were better than any of our lot. The mega match of the reporting period was not Brazil-Italy however but our own "biggie" Scotland versus England.

MATCH REPORT

You will remember this game was postponed due to unseasonal rains and this was to work to the Scots disadvantage. Already with a very small squad the delay meant three players were unavailable due to vacation, one of whom was the only genuine striker. The English scented blood but in the true spirit of the game and displaying great sportsmanship their Captain, Chairman Ron, agreed to allow one Scandinavian to be drafted in to augment the Scots Squad. This was to play a major part in the course of the game. The teams lined up in traditional colours and the fans settled down for what was to be a great game of football. It started off at a frantic pace with the adrenalin pumping. The English took the game to the Scots and had the better of the opening 10 minutes. Disaster then struck both teams in quick succession. First Scotland lost central defender John Sheehan with a pulled groin muscle and then in an accidental clash of heads with John's replacement, Andy Lazenby (now nick named Assassin), Houghman came off worse and was taken to hospital with a wound requiring 23 stitches. The English pressed on undaunted and had five corners in a row which all posed danger. The Scots soaked up the pressure and from a long clearance a moment of indecision between centre back Greg Watkins and goalie Norman Bright allowed Chris "Jimmy" Davin a race like a

whippet from the trap and neatly lob the ball over the advancing Bright - Oh Flower O' Scotland. Truly a goal of quality even though the moment of hesitation lead to the opportunity. The rest of the half saw honours even, with the rain threatening to destroy any possibility of cultured play.

The second half saw the English in determined mood press for an equaliser but the Scots defense stood firm with goalie Neil Torrance in outstanding form as he was in the previous two fixtures defying the Sassanach hordes. The Scots 4-3-3 line up seemed to have the tactical edge and with guest Swede (well they are grown in Scotland), Johan "Angus" Gustavson linking well in mid-field with Jimmy Davin they were growing in confidence in direct proportion to the English's heightening frustration. The England tactic was surprisingly to play potential match-winner Mark Viccars man marking Gustavson and this stifled their attacking potential. The wind had changed and the scent of victory was wafting up distinctly Caledonian nostrils. Debutante mid-fielder Terry Grogan tried a long range shot with Norman Bright seemed to have covered but in a "silly" moment let the ball squirm through his arms and over the line for Scotland's number two. Dash and oops and other such expletives were heard to fall from the English lips. They redoubled their efforts but there was no way back and as if to rub salt in the wound the Scots got number three late on when Jerry Stewart picked up the ball in the overlap passed it inside to Andy Robertson who deftly side-flicked it on in an almost text book example of the wall pass for Stewart to rifle the ball past Bright. Three nil, three nil, three nil the chant went up which Chairman Ron found less than amusing. It was all over and the Scots were elated with their totally unexpected victory which meant the English have still to lay both hands on the Anglo-Scots Trophy. Best for England were Peter Hockley and Mark Viccars whilst for the Scots everyone was a hero. Particular praise must go to goal keeper Torrance and also the lesser players. By this I mean the once and twice a year player brigade like Bobby Ferguson and Andy Robertson plus Derek Cheyne who hadn't played for 12 years - and boy did they suffer on Sunday. It was only left for the section Chairman Ron Aston to hand over the coveted trophy to Scots Captain, Willie Carruthers and to name the winner of the Frank Haffey Trophy for the player who left the biggest impression on the game. It was a close run thing but in the end English goalie Norman Bright was a popular choice of his

team-mates.

VIETNAM TOUR

The week before Scotland - England a party of thirteen players including new recruit from the rugby section Steve Rees out for our first ever tour to Ho Chi Minh City. We were to play at the National stadium in a tournament with the Saigon Raiders, and Q7 of Vietnam plus the Singapore Hotspur Casuals. With three full games in two days and the social demands touring places on a team it was always going to be a trial of strength. We opened against the Raiders and in a tight, well contested game finished with a nil all draw. The Singapore/Q7 match followed with Singapore sneaking a 3-2 victory in the last minute. It was then party time with our hosts, the Raiders putting on a splendid buffet.

Day 2 saw the Raiders beat Singapore 3-0 and then we faced our greatest trial. We had to play Q7, the local side who had 6 substitutes at 11:30 which meant the match spanned the hottest part of the day. It was a real test but the fantastic team spirit that has prevailed throughout the year continued as we fought our way to a one all draw with Ron Aston scoring our goal.

The first match of the afternoon session saw the Raiders go down 2-0 to Q7 which meant if either of ourselves or Singapore was the last game we could win the tournament. A draw would leave all four teams level with 3 points each. In what was the match of the tournament both teams played quality football in the late afternoon sun. It was fiercely competitive but also very sporting. We opened the scoring with a Steve Castledine goal before Ron Aston in trying to head clear from a corner only succeeded in heading it off the bar into our net to make it 1-1 at half time. Singapore took an early head before that veteran tourist Jimmy "Ratcatcher" Howard head home an equaliser. The Vietnamese were really enjoying this game. A draw and honours even would have been great result but the larger squad from Singapore told in the end they managed to snatch a late winner which was enough to leave them as champions. If the previous nights hospitality was excellent, the Awards Dinner was truly outstanding. Thanks to heavy sponsorship from Carlsberg (take note Jim Napier) and Jack Daniels a tremendous party was had with all teams mixing, socialising and reliving past glories. Our hosts were truly magnificent. Saigon Raiders, we salute you. Thanks also to Ron Aston for organising the trip.

The trip was memorable for one other thing. As we passed the impressive main post Office building, someone, perhaps a little cruelly, suggested Jim Howard should be collecting his pension instead of running (OK a slight exaggeration) up and down a football field. Hence the demise of "Ratcatcher" and enter "Giro Jim". When he scored in the afternoon the shout of "Giro Jim, Giro Jim, and he heads the next goal in" went up from all quarters.

SONGKHLA TOUR

In a hectic tour period a combined Casuals/First squad headed off to Songkhla to take on the Songkhla Oil Field Soccer Team (SOS). The usual quiet first night saw us turn up for the game with only jet lag to worry about (and if you believe that, I'm Baggio). The Songkhla team had pulled out all the stops with welcoming banners, snacks, beer and gifts for each player laid on plus an excellent commemorative trophy. Their hospitality was only surpassed by their enthusiasm and this was rewarded when in what was their first ever game they opened the scoring in the first minute. We began to think of last year when we were over-run in the first twenty minutes to be 4-0 down but as reported earlier this year's squad play for each other. Now it has to be said that Captain for the day Storm Norman Bright, was not going to select club captain Willie Carruthers at centre forward because he was "too slow to score goals against a Thai team". He was

pressured into it however and whether it was a touch of the old psychology working but Big Wull reacted to the jibe and raced away to score a first half hat-trick with three excellent goals. SOS started out strong at the beginning of the second half sensing the "jet lag" was taking its toll on a thirteen men squad and we were on the rack for fifteen minutes during which Dave Haworth made his footballing debut in plimsols and almost set Willie up for number four. Ten minutes was enough for our Dave as we were resting him from the next days golf but it also allowed Steve Goldsby to recharge his batteries and he came on to take up a roll in centre of defence with yours truly reverting to full back. With Greg Watkins and Downsie in the other back four positions the defence steadied, and from then on losing was never really on. Not content with soaking up the pressure Willie Carruthers got our and his own number four with fifteen minutes left and it was all over. Vaughan Elias and Terry Grogan had great games in midfield but man of the match undoubtedly was Captain carruthers. A great after match dinner and soiree followed with a highlight being John Sheehan's dancing display in the Offshore Bar - eat your heart out Patrick Swayze.

It was then off to golf on the Sunday against the Songkhla Society of Ancient Golfers. In a mirror image of last year having managed to win the footie we then lost the golf. Organiser Graham Cowley had been to generous with handicaps last year and made up for it, also taking second place. All too soon it was on the bus and heading for the airport. The "Crack" this year (no its not a drug but rather the camaraderie and banter) was as vintage as before. New tourists emerge all the time and if their debut was anything to go by Messrs. Grogan and Goldsby will be Hall of Famers for the repartee.

I could not finish without thanking the people who made it possible. Graham Cowley organised the golf and Khun Somchai got the football team going from nothing. The Unocal team could not make the date and so the Contractors in Songkhla rallied by Khun Somchai put out a very good team. Khun Sompong, Samarn and Sutanya respectively, all helped with pitch and hotel bookings, transport and organising meals. Thanks to you all and last but not least to the 100 or so people who turned up to watch. See you next year.

THE CHAIRMAN'S CUP

Retiring Chairman Ron Aston who is not only leaving to return to the UK for a few months but is, temporarily at least, going into retirement donated a magnificent Trophy to be played for annually between the Farang League Select and the British Club. It was very apt then that the outgoing Chairman of the F.L. was our very own Steve Casteldine who is also departing to take up a prestigious teaching post in Sweden. For once the F.L. got its act together and as a mark of the high esteem these two are held in managed to field its strongest side with the possible exception of Angelo of the Italians. We on the other hand were going to have a tough fight as we were missing our team regulars Davin. Torrance, Carruthers, Hockley and of course Casteldine himself. Again however the famous team spirit carried us on and at half time it was one all thanks to a brilliant goal from Adam Caro. We've all heard of the Siegfried Follies but now we know of the Caro Vollies as he is making a habit of unleashing spectacular left foot vollies from 35 yards into the corner of the net. The League pressure was ultimately to tell and they went 2-1 up with around ten minutes of the second half gone. The middle period of the second half was real end to end stuff but with the BC chasing the game gaps to appear in our defensive mid field and this was exploited with two late goals to see us go down 4-1. Best for the BC were goal keep Bright, Greg Watkins and Adam Caro whilst Zielinski, Gustavson and Emberley were useful for the Select. The result perhaps flattered the Select a little but it was probably for this game of little consequence. What was important was that



SOS and BC represented by Khun Somchai and 'Scoop' exchange mementoes.

both teams played good football in a fantastic spirit of friendship and sportsmanship. Even the referees were part of this and the accord carried over to the after match Cup presentation and party. Both the Indian Cougars and the German All Stars presented mementoes to the Chairmen which was a much appreciated gesture of the esteem they are held in. The BC then made its own presentations to the two section legends. It will indeed be changed days next year but at least they have left a permanent reminder to be played for in Bangkok.

CASUALS CORNER

I managed to take in two Casuals games in the period and I have to say I was pleasantly surprised by the spirit and rising standard in the team. Resplendent in their new maroon and yellow kit supplied by sponsors Richard Ellis they not only look like a football team but play like one. They took on the German All Stars who more than hold their own in the Farang League and came out with a deserved three nil win. Scorers were Stuart Edwards, Terry Grogan and Greg Watkins. Peter Downs and Captain Norman Bright have got the team moving in the right direction ably assisted by John Sheehan and Greg Watkins and a good core of regulars. All are to be congratulated.

In the second game the score was an even more impressive 1-0 win over a strong ISB team bolstered by four stars from other Farang League teams who had just missed out on the League select.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM was held last month and the following have been elected on to the Section Committee.

Chairman	Vaughan Elias
Captain	Greg Watkins
Casuals Captain	Norman Bright
Treasurer	Peter Rodgers
Secretary	Peter Downs
Social Secretary	Peter Hockley

There are some new faces there to continue the good work of the past few years. If you see someone in a BC football shirt just shout "Peter" and the chances are you'll be correct.

POST-SCRIPTS

As we mentioned above before you read this we will have said farewell to another cornerstone (or is it boulder) of the

section namely Chairman Ron Aston who is returning to the UK initially. Before he left however he and another mainstay of our section, Steve Casteldine bowed out in the Singapore Veteran 7's where we pitched our strength against Bobby Charlton and crew again. Watch next month's space for the details. In the meantime what can we say about Ron that hasn't already been said. He has been immense both in terms of his torso but more important in his contribution to the Club. Ron is a "do-er". He has a raw, untreated enthusiasm for the game and for life itself. He can be a little bit short with the "takers" of this world because he cannot understand how people can be that way and in match situations also he can let tension get to him. Make no mistake however we have been very fortunate to have him on the Committee and the section has progressed under his leadership with participation in the Singapore 7's and the Vietnam Tour as two fresh additions at his instigation. Ron we thank you and hope it's just goodbye and not farewell.

Meanwhile on a lighter note...

Where do you take a baby cow to eat - the calf-etaria!

If you put a crowd of Master Mind Contestants on a London Underground train what do you get? - A tube of smarties.

Who makes suits and eats spinach? - Popeye the Tailorman!!

Finishing on a footballing note: It was the Bosnian Cup Final and all the big scouts were out to watch an up and coming young centre forward Borislav score the winning goal and generally having a brilliant game. AC Milan, Ajax, Ranger, Bayern, Tottenham and Manchester United were all after him but eventually he signed for the Glasgow Rangers. In his debut season he became a cult hero in Scotland whilst the war in Bosnia raged on. He lead Rangers to the treble scoring 45 goals including a hat trick in the Cup Final. The following year he continued his phenomenal form and with two minutes to go in the European Cup Final against AC Milan weaved past three players to score a brilliant, individualistic winning goal. Rangers Manager Walter Smith was over the moon. "Well son", he said, "we are so pleased you can have anything you want, just name it." Borislav being a family lad elected to phone his mum. When she picked up the phone a proud Borislav told her he'd just scored the winning goal in the European Cup Final. Mum replied "Son, I have bad news, your sister has been gang raped and is in Intensive Care." "Yes Mum, but listen to my news. I've just scored the goal of my life to win the European Cup Final." Mum went on "Son, there is worse. Your brother has been stabbed fifteen times and we think he is going to die." Borislav was unrelenting "But Mum listen to my news, I am a hero. I scored the winning goal." Mum was becoming more intense. "There is more son, your father and two uncles have been shot dead." Borislav wasn't hearing this and again repeated he had scored. Mum was by now shouting "What makes it so bad, Borislav, is that they are blaming you for all the tragedy". It eventually sunk in with Borislav. "Blaming me, but why, I have been playing in the European Cup Final." Mum replied "They say if the family hadn't moved to Glasgow this would never have happened."

O.K. its bad but I got it from the Glasgow Tourist Board. With jokes that bad you'll be relieved to hear I'm handing over the Football Column, for a few months at least, to John Sheehan. If his pen is as flowing as his line in patter we are in for some entertaining stuff. I've done this for almost six years and feel the column needs freshening up, so best wishes to John.

Tara for now and thanks for all your support and nice comments as readers over the past few years.

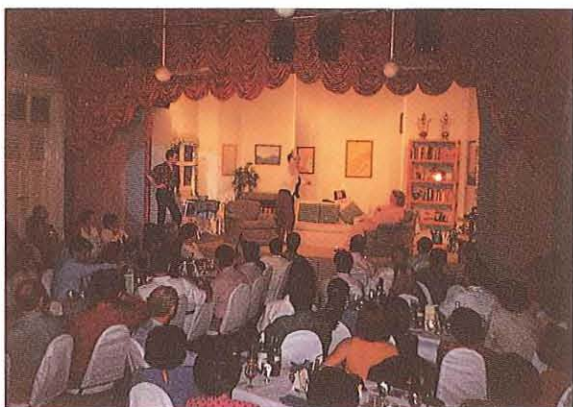
C.U.

Scoop!!

Club Photo Round-Up



Rugby, Paul Meggison's leaving match.



BCT dinner theatre. Packed room for "Straight and narrow."



Dinner theatre at it's best.



Lunch for the participants at the Childrens Sports Camp



Childrens Sports Camp



Childrens Sports Camp



Childrens Sports Camp

CHILDRENS SPORTS DAY – SUNDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 1994

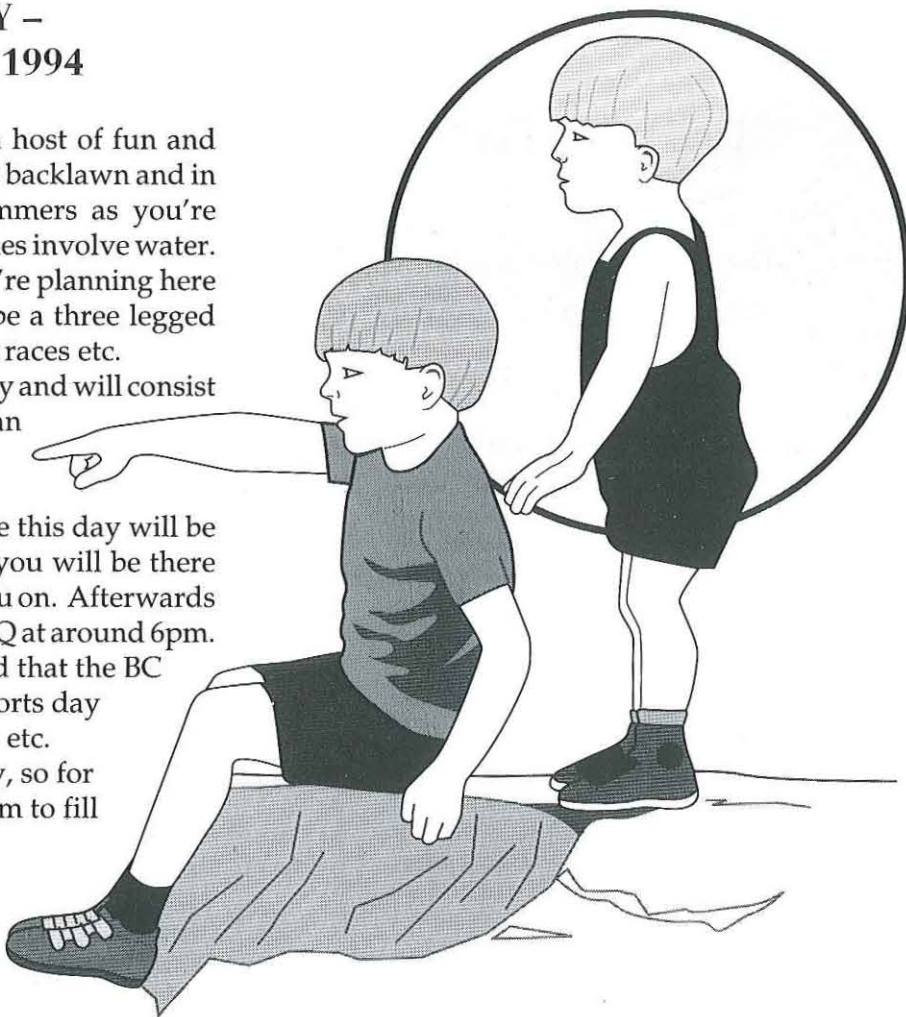
Starting at 2pm there will be a host of fun and games for children of all ages on the backlawn and in the pool. Please wear your swimmers as you're bound to get wet as some of the games involve water.

To give you an idea of what we're planning here are some of the games, there will be a three legged race, sack race, obstacle race, water races etc.

Teams will be selected on the day and will consist of all ages, so the young children can help the older children out, or vice versa of course.

The BC team of organisers hope this day will be a whole lot of fun and that lots of you will be there with parents and friends to cheer you on. Afterwards you can bring them to the family BBQ at around 6pm.

You can tell your mum and dad that the BC will charge B50 per child for the sports day which will cover the cost of medals etc. The BBQ will be charged separately, so for a full day of fun and games ask them to fill in the form below.



ENTRY FORM CHILDRENS SPORTS DAY 18 SEPTEMBER 1994

(Please return to the BC by fax or hand in at the desk)

Name child and age

.....

.....

.....

Please charge my account number for children
at B50 each.

Name member Signature

Inter Section Sports Day

SUNDAY 9TH OCTOBER 1994

The annual Inter Section Challenge Sports Day is on Sunday 9th October starting at 9am till 5pm and will be followed by a buffet supper for all the family at 6pm.

Teams of 8 are required. Teams should represent the different sports sections of the club, so football, rugby, tennis, squash, badminton etc. The entry cost will be B500 per team which in the past has been charged to the section, purely to cover the prizes. The buffet will be charged to the members accounts. Sign up at the Club or return the chit below.

ENTRIES CLOSED ON MONDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER.



Please return this form to the British Club by fax or hand in at the reception before Monday 26th September 1994.

NAME OF TEAM

TEAM MEMBERS

.....

.....

.....

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.....

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.....

.....

** Please note a charge of B500 will be made to the Section to cover the cost of prizes etc.*

OBITUARY - JEREMY PONSFORD



It is with the greatest possible regret that I record the death of Jeremy Ponsford at his mother's home in Holbrook, Suffolk on 27th July after a seven month battle with leukemia.

Jeremy whose club number was an unforgettable P45 would have been forty-two on 2nd August. He was an active member of the Bridge and Chess sections, a regular evening swimmer, and a fitness freak using the gym several times a week. Jeremy also attended the Club's Annual General Meetings, feeling that it was necessary for at least some ordinary members to be present.

Jeremy Ponsford dies, as he had lived, a deeply committed Christian, "... in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life, through Our Lord Jesus Christ". He returned home for Christmas feeling unwell and was soon diagnosed as having aggressive myeloid leukemia, a prognosis which offered virtually no hope from the start. However, his faith did not for one moment weaken or waiver; on the contrary it was greatly strengthened

and to the last he remained convinced of the Almighty's ability to cure him. With quiet dignity and resignation he passed away in his sleep. "Thy will be done."

Jeremy had worked in Thailand for ten years as a teacher of English, for the government on teacher training programmes and at Kasetsart, Rangsit and Mahidol Universities, as well as for many prominent business organisations. He was widely known and respected in both the education and business communities and had made many friends, both Thai and expatriate by whom he will be sadly missed.

Jeremy was entirely incapable of even the faintest of falsehood, indeed he was frequently painfully truthful and honest. Yet he was incredibly tolerant and forgiving for his friends when they did not behave as well as they might have, very much including the present writer. He was the proposer for my membership of the Club in 1988 and for me The British Club, Bangkok will never be quite the same without him.

*Rest eternal grant unto him O Lord,
And light perpetual shine forth upon him,
May his soul, with the souls of all the
faithful departed,
Through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.*

Paul H Coulson
C108

THE MANAGER - MR. DAVID VICCARS



Outpost thought it might be nice for Members to know a little bit more about the now not so new Manager David Viccars. As he says so himself a "background man" who should

be "seen and not heard" it is maybe a little bit more difficult to get to know him, but from what we've seen he has the best interest of the Club and it's Members at heart, so read on!

David, could you tell us about your family background.

Although my father lived in South Africa for a long time, my family is English. On my mother's side we are from Devon, and that is where my family are now, just outside Honiton. I have a married sister, 3 years younger than me, who lives close to Exeter. My father was a civil engineer and retired about 10 years ago, my mother has recently died. She was diagnosed as having inoperable liver cancer on the same day I learnt that I had this job. She then underwent chemotherapy but died in early February of this year. I still find this very hard to take in. With this drama going on in UK the first few months here were not easy.

What education did you receive.

I went to Public School in Devon and had a casual job in a Greengrocers before joining the Army as a private soldier. After 18 months in the ranks I was selected for officer training and went to the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. Later I was selected for Army Staff College at Camberley and spent a year doing professional and academic training.

Can you tell us about your job in the Army?

I joined the 3rd Royal Tank Regiment, the Tank

Regiment of the West Country and became a Tank Troop Commander. My last posting with the Regiment was as the second-in-command. That job was really very similar to the position here at the Club, in that I was responsible for the fabric of the barracks, the catering, the Messes, the welfare of the soldiers and their families etc.

Which countries did you serve in?

I spent the bulk of my time in Germany, about 15 years or so. I also served in Cyprus, Ulster (several times), Canada, Kenya, America, Denmark, Austria, France, Holland, Belgium, Hong Kong, Cambodia, Nepal, Korea and many other places!

So o.k., the Army lets you travel the world but it can't have all been fun and games. You said you were in Ulster, were you around during the Falkland war and the Gulf crisis? Can you tell us some more about this?

I served in Ulster on a couple of occasions. As we were tank men we went to Ulster as landrover borne reconnaissance troops. I was on the South Armagh border, and at Dungannon, we had some 'interesting' moments! But I must say that few equalled my introduction to the BC, the 1993 Guy Fawkes night! I was not able to go to the Falklands, no Tanks did - it was too wet! My Regiment was the next in line for the Gulf, but it was all over before we were called for.

What did you do in Hong Kong?

I was sent to Hong Kong in 1988 to work in the Combined Forces Headquarters on the staff of the General. My role was multi faceted but I spent much of my time working between Government House and the Headquarters. It was a really fun job and one in which I met many of the (so called) 'Great' people of this world. I was lucky enough to travel extensively from Hong Kong, both on Army business and to represent Hong Kong as a rugby referee.

Of course we have seen you in action here as a rugby referee, tell us how you came to the decision to referee rather than play.

Hong Kong gave me a great opportunity as a referee. I officiated all over Asia and at 3 Hong Kong

international 7's competitions, a really marvelous experience. I also did some 15-a-side internationals involving Asia-Pacific sides as well. I took to refereeing at the age of 32 after I smashed my leg playing rugby, and the doctors said that I could not play again. I was also on the Hong Kong Rugby Union Committee as the Development Chairman, and thus became involved in taking the game to the Chinese. This was a very satisfying and rewarding position.

Why did you leave the Army?

The recent defence cuts removed so many opportunities for Tank soldiers that it became obvious to me that it would be prudent to leave. Also I had found out that I liked Asia and the prospect of a further 10 years in Germany made up my mind for me. So after 20 or so years service for Queen and Country I resigned. I feel that I left at exactly the right time, I have no regrets at all. I enjoyed my time, I made many good friends and I have many happy memories of my time in the Army.

The way you spotted the advertisement for a General Manager of the BC is a rather amazing story. Can you tell us about it?

When I was in Cambodia with the United Nations I was serving in a very remote, small village just inside Thailand, opposite Surin. One day my interpreter returned from the village market, or more accurately the one stall that was normally open, with his lunch wrapped in an old copy of the Bangkok Post. Once he had his meal and discarded the wrappings I was casually glancing at the paper and saw the job advertisement! I knew the Club from the visits I had made to Bangkok as a member of the Hong Kong Football Club, and I had already identified the type of work being an area I was interested in, so I thought I would apply. I penned a quick letter on whatever grubby pieces of paper we had to hand, then I drove into Thailand in search of a post office! I found one and returned to my village, the whole thing having taken about 10 hours. Many weeks later I got the message, via a very circuitous route involving New York and Phnom Penh to attend for an interview. So I drove to Surin, caught the overnight train to Bangkok and met the Committee in my best jungle clothes! The rest is history!

How have you found the job so far?

Living in Bangkok has not presented any difficulties to me, it is just as I expected it to be. I have however been surprised at the many different facets of the job and by the staff. Dealing with the BC staff is not as straight forward as I thought it would be, but they are much easier than the Khmer Rouge! Also dealing with a Committee is not as easy as I had hoped, but the Army is not strong on leadership by Committee so I do not have much experience of this style of management!

Military life and civilian life must be very different, can you tell us what you think of civvy street in Bangkok?

One of the differences I have noticed is the matter of comradeship, or respect. I must say that I find it disappointing how people seem to be taken for granted. Similarly where as straight talking was regarded as an asset in the forces, I have learnt that this style of communication is not so well received in other situations! I must also mention the children, controlling the "gangs" which roam the Club at the weekends presents a challenge I have not had to face before!

How do you see the job as GM of the British Club?

The job is certainly stimulating and I am enjoying it. From my observations, from being a member of similar Clubs in the past, I believe that the General Manager of a Club such as the BC should be "seen and not heard". I see my role very much as being in the background to ensure that the members are as well served as possible, within the limitations of the Club and the Staff. I do not see that my job is to spend time idling "front of house". In summary, I see myself as the Business Manager and Administrator of the Club, rather than the genial "mine host" of the Churchill Bar.

Thanks very much David and I am sure all the Members appreciate you taking the time to do this interview.

BRITISH CLUB AT PAINTBALL PARK

- YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED?!

WHERE? WHEN?	Paintball Park, Pattaya Sunday 2 October, 10.30am – 3.00pm	WHAT WILL BE THE BRITISH CLUB PLAN?	We hope to get about 5 teams of 8 players and we can then play on a league basis with everyone playing everyone else, with the two top teams playing in the final. This way everyone will get at least 4 games.
HOW DO I GET THERE?	Head down to Pattaya and follow the map on the opposite page, it is a very easy journey, allow say 2 1/2 hours.	CAN SPECTATORS VIEW THE ACTION?	Yes, there is a fully protected grandstand within the compound.
WHAT IS IT?	Paintball is a team game, played between two teams of between 5 and 8 peoples who advance towards one another in a small compound (built to resemble a village) and try to capture the others headquarters. Games last about 10-15 minutes each, so we will play on a league basis.	WHAT ABOUT CATERING AND OTHER FACILITIES?	We will take a BBQ down to the site and we will also run a BC bar and waiter service for members at the site. There are also full toilet and shower facilities on site.
HOW DO THEY MAKE THE CAPTURE?	All the players are 'armed' with guns (very like modern water pistols) which shoot washable paint pellets out to about 30 meters. The games also have umpires so if you are hit you come out of the game.	WHAT IS THE SCHEDULE?	The plan on Sunday 2 October (depending on the number of teams we get) is as follow: 10.30am Team briefing and welcome drinks! 11.00am Game one 12.30pm BBQ Lunch 3.00pm The Grand Final and prize giving
IS IT SAFE?	Yes, it is entirely safe, the players wear coveralls to protect their clothes, and masks to stop paint getting into the eyes, ears or mouth.	WHAT IS THE COST?	We will charge only B500 per player for 3 games and 120 paint balls. This will not include the BBQ lunch.
CAN CHILDREN PLAY?	Yes, the only limitation is on the sizing of the protective clothing, about 4ft 6 inches tall is OK, anything less may be hard. However, there is an area set aside where even very young children can use the paint guns.	HOW DO WE ENTER?	Simply complete the form below and return it to the Club, we need a minimum of 5 teams to run the day.



TO: General Manager, British Club
Fax: 235 1560

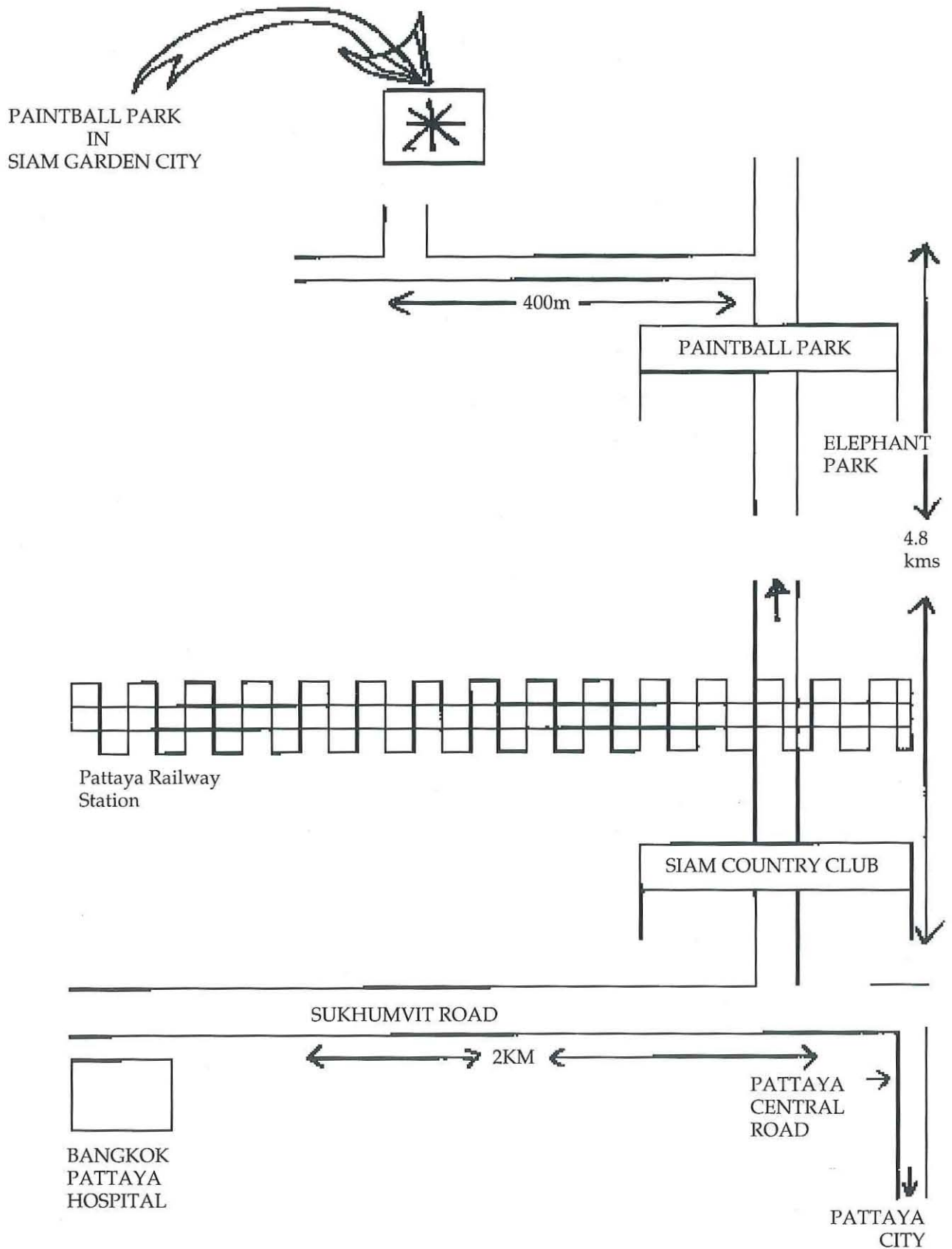
PAINTBALL PARK – SUNDAY 2 OCTOBER

I will enter a team on Sunday 2 October at the BC Paintball Championships. Please debit my account B4,000 for one team of 8 players.

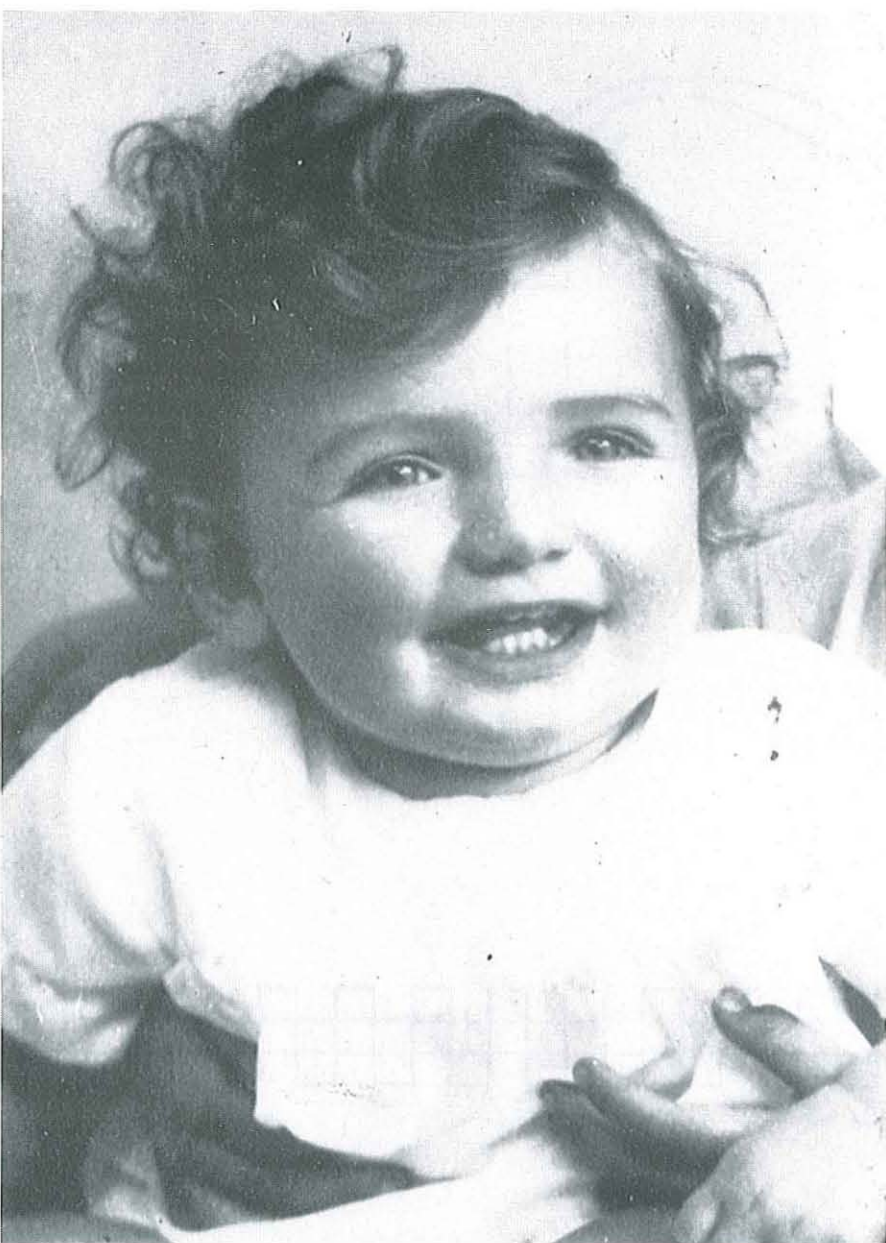
Members name : Club Number

Team name :

British Club Outing



this Member is



SS WHO THIS MEMBER IS?

ve a go, guess who this member is. The first person,
rect answer to telephone David Viccars wins a bottle of wine.

nding member of the BC, to be found all over the grounds.
n the Churchill bar regularly and meets with other thespians.

Relatives are excluded from this competition.

WHEN HE DIES MY DEAR, ALL THIS WILL BE YOURS

Financial Times weekend June 11/12, 1994

Peter Marsh asks how the life assurance industry, with such a strong position in society, became accused of a breach of trust.

Ghayur Butt was told how to stand at a pub bar and knock a pint of beer over a fellow customer. Profuse apologies were then supposed to be offered and the victim would be bought another drink. It is an old salesman's trick; you then chat about the victim's life, hopes, ambitions and fears. You gain their confidence and then, as a friend, you let them in on the deal. It was a trick taught to - but not used by - Ghayur Butt. But he was not selling amazing cures for baldness, an elixir of youth or quarter price stereo sets. He was working in a respected financial services industry, controlling STG 400bn of funds. Butt was one of 200,000 "financial advisers" helping clients to choose appropriate life assurance and pensions for the security of themselves and their families. At least, that is what they said they were doing and what an array of providers such as Cornhill, Legal and General, Scottish Widows, Colonial Mutual and Guardian Royal Exchange, claim is their mission.

Even life offices with respectable names such as these have been embroiled in the industry's recent troubles. All five were fined by the industry's regulator (Lautro) for breaching the rules (though not for practices as extreme as those described by Butt). Norwich Union, another household name, was forced to suspend its entire sales force of 800 recently so that they could be retrained to give proper financial advice.

Ghayur Butt has left his job with the once high-profile MI (formerly Merchant Investors) insurance group, for which he worked at around the time of the industry's frenetic expansion at the end of the 1980's. It was then, he says, that he was taught the pub sales trick by

a colleague. He says there were other similar tricks in the industry, for example: "Some salesmen sent letters to married women, talking about their company and appending a blank form with a piece of paper telling the woman: "This is what you will get when your husband dies". In order to get the job with MI he had to convince his future boss that he had a voracious appetite for money: "I told him my ambition was to own six or seven houses and an aircraft." But says.

He is one of the 100,000 salesmen who have left the industry since 1990, around the peak of the business's prosperity. Hundreds of those who dropped out have started legal action against their former companies alleging unfair dismissal and poor business practice. The charge against the industry is that in far too many cases it has been filling the pockets of salesmen, senior managers - and in the case of limited companies, of shareholders - by extracting fat commissions from the high pressure selling of schemes which customers did not really want or need. In tens of thousands of cases, policies are thought to have been against the best interests of customers.

The industry is in a fearful mess, which would have astonished and saddened the founding fathers of life assurance, who established the first mutual assurance fund in 1672. This was based on a mathematical theory, which ensured that the premiums of members would pay the benefits promised by their policies. The first prospectus called *A short Account of the Society for Equitable Assurances on Lives and Survivorships*, published in 1764, says: "These considerations induced a number of gentlemen ... to form a design of establishing a Society for equitable assurances upon lives, with a view to the sole benefit of the Persons Assured, whose interest hath been all along considered as wholly distinct from, not to say incompatible with, that of the Assurer's; a society in which the assured being at the same time mutually assurers one to the other, the interests of the one might be the interest of both ..."

More than two centuries later, the mutual societies operate in a world in which these principles of self help and mutual support are mixed with modern ideas of marketing and salesmanship. They compete with profit maximizing companies, and have absorbed some of their ethos. Although many independent advisers ensure that clients get good value for money from respectable organisations, there are many other who are forced to sell poor quality products, because they are tied agents trapped in a commission structure, which requires them to sell or starve. And many policyholders are left unaware of how much is being deducted from their premiums. As Jean Lucas, who sold insurance for the Pegasus Investment company in Plymouth, Devon says: "You would see that some prospective clients might have to struggle to pay the premiums, but because your livelihood depended upon it, you would play on their emotions to try to sell them something."

Later this summer, the Securities and Investments Board, the main government regulator for financial services, is to publish a report on pension transfers which may require life companies to pay hundreds of millions of pounds to consumers found to have lost out because they were sold inappropriate products. How could an industry with such a proud history and such a strong position in British society become accused of such breach of trust? Nearly 70 percent of UK families have some form of life insurance, with the industry paying out about STG 10bn a year in benefits. One answer is that not nearly as many people would have bought life assurance if the policies had not been actively sold to them/ This is because the benefits are often paid far in the future and are difficult to evaluate. Moreover few consumers have the expertise to compare the benefits and costs of different policies. "What the consumer buys is all about who gets to him first and how persuasive he is," says Kit Jebens, chief executive of Lautro.

So from the mid-1980's, as the business responded to the surge in-

terest by cash-rich consumers in investment products, life companies took on ten of thousands of new sales agents. New business was also offered by the government's decision in 1988 to allow people to switch from occupational pension schemes to individually tailored pensions offered by the private sector.

These were exiting times. Successful sales people - mainly self-employed - could earn commission of STG 500,000 a year and the very top ones up to STG 1m. Few were more successful than Trevor Deaves, the flamboyant founder of Porchester Investment Group which reversed into Merchant Investors in 1987 and built up a reputation for highly aggressive selling. Deaves was known for his stable of Porsches and his love of the big occasion - he once financed an over-the-top production of Aida in the Earls Court exhibition hall in London. Deaves used to invite his 2,000 sales people to the London Palladium to harangue them, sometimes with colourful language. They called him "god". After leaving his job as chief executive of MI in 1991 following management disputes, he is now chief operating officer of LifeCo, a US investment group in Florida. "Looking back at my time in MI I don't have any regrets," he says. "My supporters think I had a dramatic and productive effect (on the life industry), while the old fogeys are glad to see the back of me. I know which side I'm on." Deaves adds: "We had few unhappy customers, we were ahead of our time."

But Alan Roberts, a former MI director who worked with Deaves, says that the sales force was "brain-washed" into maximising sales. "Trevor could be very hard on them (the sales force)," he recalls. "You sometimes had to kick people to get them off their backsides." Although MI would probably carry off the prizes for hard-sell techniques, Allied Dunbar was also well known for its vigorous approach. Patrick Bearchell, who worked for the company between 1991 and 1992, remembers "strong pressure" from managers. He says: "We were licensed to give the best advice but it wasn't." A superior product offered by another company would not be mentioned, he says. This is standard practice; under Lautro rules, direct salesmen need not discuss competing products. Stephen Day, who worked for the UK arm of Australian Mutual Provident, says: "It's a very calculating industry, appealing to people's basic instincts. My personality was completely

changed during the six months I worked in the business."

Day was alluding to the system of rewards and punishments which continue to characterise the industry's sales efforts. The system was particularly powerful in the 1989-1991 period when the atmosphere in some sales teams could be best described as Wild West mixed in with eastern bazaar. Although product sales were still strong, the market was beginning to become saturated and the first signs of the early 1990's recession were starting to make selling conditions tougher. Sales people were put under increasing pressure and encouraged by a range of incentives, some of them fairly obvious, such as bottles of whisky and holidays in the Bahamas. But in one life office, the manager would loan his Rolex watch for a day to the agent who had made the best sale during the week. Bizarre punishments were also devised for those who had done badly; at one branch of a big insurer, the man who was bottom of the sales league over the previous month would be told to walk round the building for a day dressed in ladies' underwear. a variation of this would be to make the person at the bottom of the pile wear an oversized nappy all day. This culture was made the more frenetic by a rapid ebb and flow of sales people. One authoritative estimate puts the annual turnover of sales representatives in the early 1990's at nearly 60 per cent compared with 30 to 40 per cent in more normal times.

They included all sorts of people; former airline pilots, computer programmers, students, wine merchants, lawyers and amusement arcade operators. "In many cases people were told to draw up a hit list of family and friends; after they had sold to them they would often leave to be replaced by others," says Ray McKay, a former Merchant Investors' salesman.

Derek Rogers, a director of the UK arm of the US insurer, Lincoln International, and a 30 year veteran of the industry recalls: "If you took on 1,000 people you's be lucky if 100 were any good. It was the mud on the wall principle; you'd throw a lot on but a lot would drop off." However, he says the industry has changed, with much more attention being paid to hiring the right people, retaining them for reasonable periods and making sure that they give appropriate advice. But can the industry really reform it self in this way?

Jebens of Lautro says a series of "draconian" measures by the regulator - including tougher rules on training, supervision of agents and the degree to which representatives with poor sales records can transfer between companies - has led to much more ethical sales behaviour. "I am confident the level of abuses (to the consumer) is now at a more acceptable level," says Jebens. Other from the industry say the criticism has got out of hand.

"The Law Society gets numerous complaints about lawyers but this doesn't get the same publicity," complains Mike Wilson, a former Allied Dunbar chief executive, who is now chief executive of the J. Rothschild Assurance company set up two years ago. Rogers, the Lincoln director, believes the industry is the subject of a media vendetta. He says sardonically "Perhaps we will soon do away with insurance companies and leave financial journalists to write about the products people should have. But then 95 per cent of the population wouldn't have proper insurance cover." But Jon Minchin, head of Pensionline, a company in Cheam, Surrey, which advises on pension transfers, says: "For the insurance industry the rules haven't changed anything. The commission structure remains, so does the pressure to sell and the abuses will continue." One veteran of the industry, who asked not to be named, says: "Having trained a lot of rottweilers they (company managements) are expecting us to behave like poodles, hoping we won't bite."

** Equitable Assurances, by Maurice Edward Ogborn, George Allen and Unwin, 1962.*

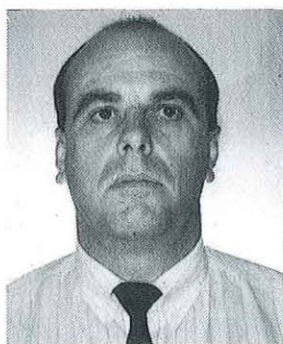
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240 3679 (F)
258 8228 (H)



Joe Grunwell

*Vice Chairman/
Entertainment*

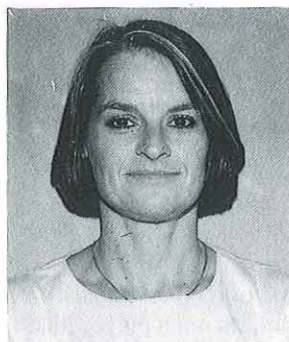
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258 9509 (H/F)



Dugal Forrest

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399 1564 (F)
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286 5384 (H)



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286 1356 (H)



Doug Whittaker

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398 9821 (F)
321 4667 (H)



Des Keane

Treasurer

256 7474 (O)
256 7472 (F)



Mike O'Connor

234 0247 (O) (H)
235 1560

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

We are almost half-way through the Committee year and as usual the members could be forgiven for thinking that there is not too much to show for all of these Monday night meetings. No excuses, but we have lost two of the Committee already, and work commitments and travel plans have made it difficult to get most of the members together to push things through.

But rest assured, progress is being made. In particular, Maurice Lamb (one of the now ex-Committee members) has done a great job in finishing



drawings and concepts for the staff changing and dining facility. Costings are now being done and all being well construction should start in October/

November and be finished before the end of the year. Ron Thomson (the other ex-Committee man) has also done a lot of the preparatory work for expanding the Associate Member group.

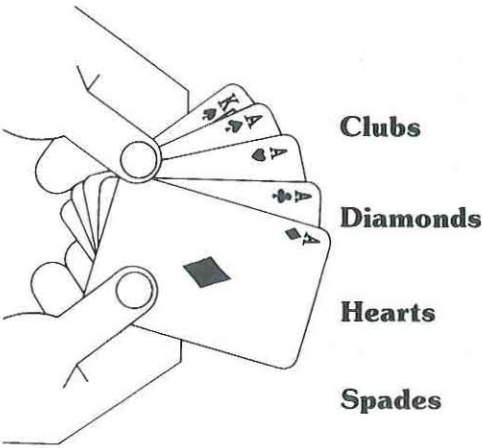
Finally, we welcome Doug Mather to the General Committee. Doug is always one of the more vocal members at A.G.M.'s and E.G.M.'s and so it is good to have him on board.

Nigel Oakins
Chairman

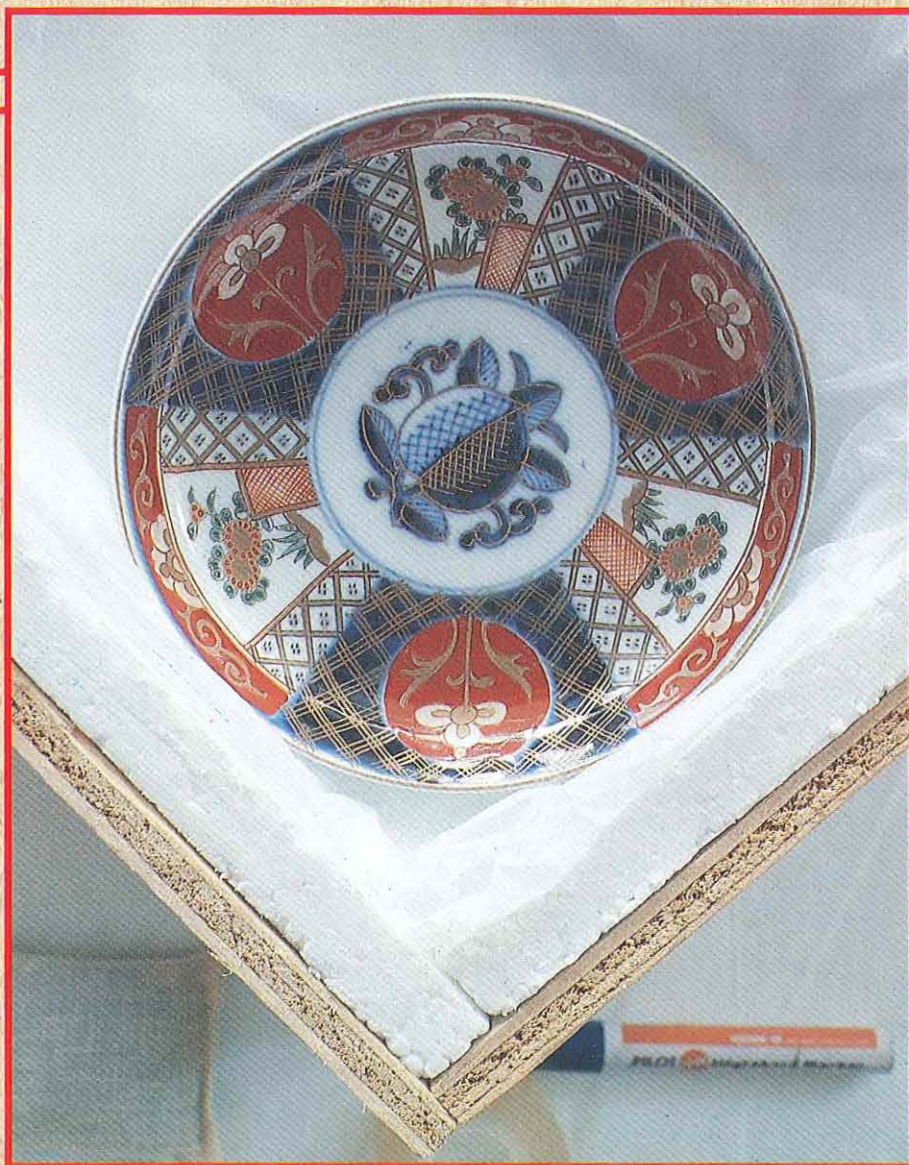
HONOURS LIST

Nicola North, Edwina East, Shona South and Wanda West have been dealt thirteen cards each. Of the court cards (honours), an Ace is worth four points, a King three points, a Queen two and a Jack one, and for the purposes of this puzzle, points referred to are honours points. Using the following information, can you work out how many cards each player holds in each suit, and which hand contains which honours?

West has the same number of diamonds as clubs, while East, whose hand contains the most points, has as many spades as hearts. North, whose hand is worth 3 points, has equal length (ie same number of cards) in the black suits. South has no suits of equal length in her hand, which is worth 11 points, and which has one more heart than it has diamonds. One hand has three Jacks, two players have a void (no cards in a suit), and two have a singleton (one card in a suit), one of which is the King of spades. No hand contains Ace and King of the same suit, but one person has the Ace, the Queen and one other club. West has two Kings, and all of her four honours are in different suits, while South has only one red honour. It is not South who has the hand with two Aces, which in turn is not the hand containing two Queens. One hand has the King, Queen, Jack and two other diamonds, and South has at least two hearts.



North		South		East		West	
No.	Hons	No.	Hons	No.	Hons	No.	Hons



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