

SEPTEMBER 2013



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

# OUTPOST

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK

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## Bangpakok 9 International Hospital Achieving Global Standard with TFM



**Dr. Vichai Dachattantant, M.D.**

Chief Investment Officer ; Bangpakok Hospital Group  
Assistant Managing Director of Bangpakok 9 International Hospital

Any healthcare provider must be ready to compete globally in this era of borderless business. Staying ahead with the highest quality of service, not just locally but internationally, is the key to their competitiveness and sustainable success.

Bangpakok 9 International Hospital is a leading private hospital which is committed to providing the best service in diverse fields of expertise with the best medical team and the most advanced equipments.

Dr. Vichai Dachattantant, Chief Investment Officer, Bangpakok Hospital Group, kindly spares his time to talk about his experience and decision to put his trust in OCS' Total Facilities Management (TFM) service in response to the hospital's rapidly growing business.

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### Delivering Professional Service

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## FRONT COVER

Nobody really knows exactly who, when or why, in relation to the Suriwongse Room balcony's closure. Now the rubbish and cupboards have been cleared out, it can already be seen what a magnificent part of the Clubhouse was lost, and will soon be available to Members once again.



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

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# LETTER FROM THE GM



**Dear Members,**

This month at the Club has been a time of consolidation and construction.

The refurbishment of the main kitchen in the Clubhouse was completed mid-August. It now looks much brighter, more spacious and has new equipment for Khun Laak and her team. The Games Room has also been redecorated and a darts board installed. Snooker balls and darts are available from the Churchill. We are making good progress on the renovation of the Surawongse Room and the rear balcony. We will let you all know as soon as works are completed.

We have returfed the entire back lawn and we intend to landscape the whole area to provide more colour for Members, with new trees, shrubs and flowers. We will also install some equipment for children to play on in the resting area under the big tree. On the front lawn, we've placed more lights round the Pétanque court, as well as new grass. We hope to see many of you enjoying this relaxing game in the coming months.

Our new Thai Menu started on 1st August and we've had good feedback from Members so far. The new Western Menu in the Churchill and The Verandah will start on 1st September. Khun Laak has created some new dishes to suit each outlet.

Sports Camps over the summer break were a great success, with camping overnight on the Back Lawn being one of the highlights. Mike Wagstaff continues to build a good rapport with Members and their children, and is keen to try new sports and activities at the Club. Coming up in September, there are plans for football, volleyball and table football tournaments, as well as a tennis/squash section match-up. We will also start netball for kids, and hold a family swimming gala.

In September, we will launch our future big events, such as the Annual Ball and New Year's Eve Party. This will be the first year that the Club caters the Annual Ball itself and Khun Laak and her team are looking forward to it. By saving the cost of outside catering, we hope to be able to lower ticket prices. Seating will be limited, so please book your tickets asap! For New Year's Eve, we'll be cruising along the river on a special boat, with catering done ourselves and our staff will take care of you. Only 75 places are available, so get your bookings in early.

I hope to see you all around the Club very soon.

Best regards,

**Premrudee Tanyaluck**  
General Manager

## OFFICIAL OPENING TIMES

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



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# HAPPENINGS



## Dear Members

Fantastic! Yesterday I went with Khun Somboon to have a look at a boat on the Chaopraya which we will, in all likelihood, be renting for New Year's Eve. It's a fairly large boat, the size of the night boats which run between the mainland and the islands down round Samui, which has been converted into two floors. Downstairs there is a bar and a bar area, as well as a huge sitting room type area, aircon with a large flatscreen TV and a sound system. Upstairs is the flat roof, open to the stars, with a rail around it of course, and sitting area for 50+ people. What better way to welcome in the New Year, starting off with drinks and cruising down the river, then dinner under the stars whilst we cruise up to Banglamphoo area, and then back passing under the fireworks at midnight as the clock strikes in the New Year! We cater the evening ourselves, which means ticket prices can be kept down. Fantastic! More details in due course.

The Wine Dinner for this month is imminent, and promises to be quite delicious. All the courses were selected to be as well paired with the wines as possible, and whilst we originally hoped to have pigeon as one course, it would have had to be flown (being pigeon) from Europe, which was something of a budgetary challenge. So we decided on rabbit instead, another meat not so often on offer here in Bangkok. Likewise the venison platter, which has only been served at the Club once or twice in the recent past and will be slow cooked for over 6 hours before its rich sauce is added. We have not had as many wine dinners as we hoped this year, but we like to make them as original and unusual as possible, whilst keeping them accessible to as many Members as we can.

The next seriously delicious dinner on the calendar is the Trafalgar Dinner in mid-October. This annual celebration of one of Britain's finest hours has been going on for many years, and was most recently revived after it had faded into inactivity to be hosted by the British Club. The evening presents an excellent formal dinner with fine wines, after-dinner passing of the port, and a distinguished speaker who provides interest and entertainment in one delivery. We hope HE the British Ambassador will attend again this year.

This issue also includes advertisements for The Mousetrap, Justin Bieber, the Bangkok Community Theatre's singalong screening of the Wizard of Oz, and the St Andrew's Society's Family Day. We still have tickets available for the first two of the aforementioned, and the latter two will be well-worth putting your names down for as of the beginning of the month.

Our monthly Quiz Night gets better and better, the last two having been well attended and well answered - the monthly jackpot had eluded a winner for so many months, and this last month it was wrestled from the question-master's hands. Both the last months have seen unexpected last minute visitors who are welcome, but there may not be tables ready if we don't get advised of your intention to attend, so please just drop me an email if you're coming - you won't get charged if you don't show up, don't worry!

For those of you who wisely keep detailed diaries in order to make sure you have time to attend everything and more, you no doubt are sharpening your pencils in anticipation of the busy season which is only a couple of months around the corner. To make it easier for you, please write the following down in your diaries as major events coming up at the Club: Trafalgar Dinner 19th October; Halloween Kids Party 25th October; Guy Fawkes Night 2nd November; Loy Krathong 17th November; Evening of Christmas Carols 4th December; Annual Ball 14th December; Kids Christmas Party 22nd December; Christmas Day Lunch & Dinner 25th December; New Year's Eve cruise 31st December. Next month I will be arranging posters for these events for easy reference on the website and App.

An enormous amount of time and thought has gone into the Club App which is planned for launch at the end of August, initially on Android due to the lead time required for approval for the Apple App Store. It is not a fully interactive App with real-time connectivity - this costs an excessive amount and is not warranted until the smart phone penetration of our membership is considerably higher. However, the App should make communication with the Club far easier, provide easy access to information about the Club and its activities, and be a stepping stone in the right direction for the future social connectivity which is slowly eroding our traditional behaviour.

Best wishes

**Jeremy de Sausmarez**  
Events & Marketing Manager





THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

# BUSINESS LUNCHEONS

**2nd - 6th September 2013**

**Starters - 55 baht**

Salad of Pasta and Roast Vegetables in Tomato Sauce  
or  
Chef's Soup of the Day

**Main Courses - 140 baht**

Pan-Fried Dory Fish with Caper Butter Sauce  
Served with broccoli, carrots and garlic mashed potato  
or  
Turkey Chili Con Carne  
Served with rice  
or  
Tom Kha Gai  
(A refreshing coconut milk soup with chicken and herbs)  
Phad Pak Ruam Nam Man Hoy  
(Stir-fried mixed vegetables with oyster sauce)  
Tord Man Pla  
(Deep-fried fish cake)

**9th - 13th September 2013**

**Starters - 55 baht**

Grilled Chicken, Beetroot Salad with Balsamic and  
Honey Dressing  
or  
Chef's Soup of the Day

**Main Courses - 140 baht**

Grilled Seabass  
Served with spinach risotto and shaved parmesan  
or  
Fillet of Pork with Grain Mustard and Honey Sauce  
Served with broccoli, carrots and mashed potatoes  
or  
Tom Yam Gai  
(Spicy lemon grass flavoured soup with chicken)  
Phad Kana Nam Man Hoy  
(Stir-fried kale with oyster sauce)  
Moo Tod Kratium Prik Thai  
(Stir-fried pork fillet with garlic and pepper)

**16th -20th September 2013**

**Starters - 55 baht**

Mozzarella, Mango, Tomato and Rocket Salad  
or  
Chef's Soup of the Day

**Main Courses - 140 baht**

Salmon Fishcakes  
Served with peas, chips and tartare sauce  
or  
Chicken Breast  
Served with roast vegetables and roast potatoes  
or  
Tom Yam Goong  
(Spicy lemon grass flavoured soup with prawns)  
Phad Pak Bung Fai Daeng  
(Stir-fried chinese water morning glory)  
Gai Phad Sauce Makham  
(Stir-fried chicken with sauce makham)

**23rd - 27th September 2013**

**Starters - 55 baht**

Chicken Pasta and Pesto Salad  
or  
Chef's Soup of the Day

**Main Courses - 140 baht**

Fish and Chips  
with garden peas and tartare sauce  
or  
Mini Steak  
Served with mixed vegetables and home-fried potatoes  
or  
Gaeng Jeud Pak Gard Kaow  
(Chinese cabbage soup with minced pork and tofu)  
Phad Kaprao Gai  
(Stir-fried minced chicken with hot basil and chili)  
Kai Jiew  
(Thai style omelette)





# F&B MORSELS



**Dear Members,**

I'm pleased to say that the kitchen works are finished, and everything has been moved back into the kitchen, as well as some new equipment like a pastry machine which will help us enormously. The kitchen looks wonderful, so clean and new. All my staff worked so hard, and there's still a lot to do as there are so many things which need putting away before it is all back to normal. However, I feel we can get back to the quality and service levels before the works, and work on improving from there.

The Saturday buffets will start again in September and I hope to have a couple of new themes for you in October. Also in September, the dishes on the "Khun Laak recommends" blackboard will be changed so you can choose a new special dish.

At the beginning of this month, we issued a new Thai menu, and the new dishes have been very popular so far. I am always so pleased when we get good comments on new dishes! In September we will be issuing a new Western menu which has some new dishes as well - I hope you enjoy them! Please give me your feedback so we know for the future, and if there are other dishes you would like us to try, tell me those too.

We will be changing our selection of cakes we make, some will still be the same, and you will know from posters on the Sala tables and in a mailing.

Happy eating!

**Khun Laak**  
Executive Chef



## Wine of The Month

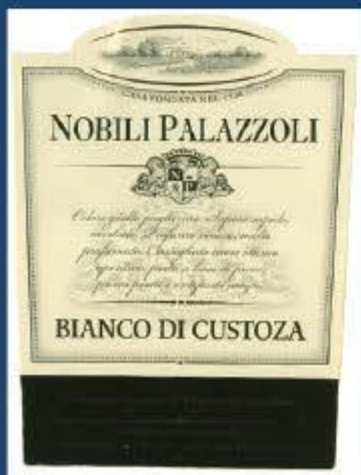
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BANGKOK

## September

### TIERRA DEL FUEGO



CARMENERE  
WINE OF CHILE 2011  
D.O. VALLE CENTRAL



Bt. 675.-  
per bottle



## Drink of The Month

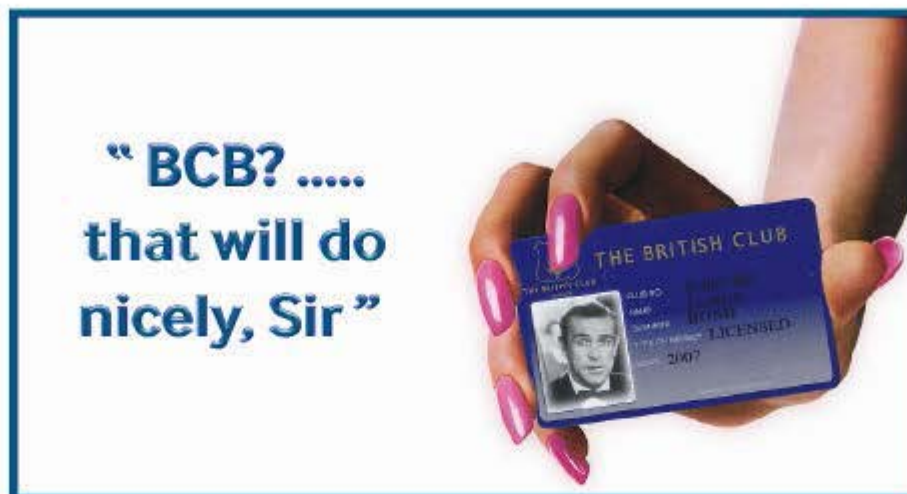


Tropical Cooler  
Smoothie Bt 75.-





# RECIPROCAL CLUB UPDATE



In June this year the General Committee tasked Paul Cheesman and John Stevens to completely review our Reciprocal Club list – that is to verify that all 259 listed clubs still exist and to add new Clubs to fill in the gaps in our network. Whilst this project will complete in October, here is an update of where we are ... remember that an up to date list of our Reciprocal Club Network is on the Club website.

## **HELLOS**

We welcome the following new clubs....

### **Australia**

- Tattersall's Club, Sydney

### **Cambodia**

- The Vault Club, Phnom Penh

### **Canada**

- Halifax Club, Nova Scotia
- London Club, Ontario
- Saskatoon Club, Saskatchewan
- The Union Club, New Brunswick

### **India**

- Palms Country Club, Gurgaon

### **Indonesia**

- Canggu Club, Bali
- Mercantile Athletic Club, Jakarta

### **Jamaica**

- Liguanea Club

### **New Zealand**

- Canterbury Club
- Tauranga Club

### **South Africa**

- Pretoria Country Club

### **Trinidad & Tobago**

- Trinidad Union Club

### **Turkey**

- Moda Yacht Club, Istanbul

### **United Arab Emirates**

- World Trade Club, Dubai

### **United Kingdom**

- Devonshire Club, Hastings
- Leander Club, Henley [R1]
- Northern Counties Club
- Oriental Club, London [R2]
- The Potters Club, Stoke on Trent

### **United States of America**

- Arid Club, Boise ID
- Beacon Club, OK
- Denver Athletic Club, CO
- Missouri Athletic Club, MI
- Saint Paul Athletic Club, MN
- Stout's Island Lodge, MI
- The Club, Birmingham, AL
- The Harbour Club, Bellevue, CA
- University & Whist Club, DE
- University Club of Phoenix, AZ
- University Club of St Paul, MN
- Walden Club, Chattanooga, TN

### **Vietnam**

- Hanoi Press Club



[R] denotes that there are restrictions on usage of these Clubs:

- 1 The Leander Club may not be used during Henley Royal Regatta
- 2 Accommodation at the Oriental Club may not be booked May to July

### **GOODBYES**

There were a number of distinguished Clubs that have ceased to operate including the St. Stephen's Club (London), Club Mount Stephen (Montreal) and the New South Wales Sports Club (Sydney).

### **ON-GOING**

We are in contact with a number of potential reciprocal clubs around the world and hope to increase further the network we offer to our members. Recommendations from members are welcome but please remember that clubs are not obliged to reciprocate with us and 50% of the time potential Clubs express no interest as they reciprocate already with the RBSC.

### **CETERUM NOTATE BENE**

- The American Club in Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Football Club and the Kowloon Cricket Club now require you to bring your passport with you when you use their club to prove that you are not resident in Hong Kong.
- All members must obtain a Letter of Introduction from our Reception AHEAD of visiting a reciprocal club.
- We have 279 Clubs in 48 countries as of 1st August 2013



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# THE AGATHA CHRISTIE'S MOUSETRAP

60

*Diamond Anniversary*

Yes, the world's most famous "who dunit?" is coming to Thailand!  
**'THE MOUSETRAP' By Agatha Christie**

Eleven Live and SECRET SERVICE are proud to announce the Thailand premiere of the legendary stage play, 'THE MOUSETRAP' by Agatha Christie. This world-famous murder-mystery play opened in the West End of London in 1952 and has since enjoyed the longest, continuous run of any play in theatre history, with its 25,000th performance taking place on 18th November, 2012. It is especially famous for its twist in the plot, which audiences are traditionally asked not to reveal! The play - with a cast direct from London - opens at the Aksra Theatre, on Friday 27th September, 2013 - with four performances up to and including Sunday 29th September, 2013.  
Tickets available at [www.thaiticketmajor.com](http://www.thaiticketmajor.com)



Fri 27th September at 8pm  
Sat 28th September at 2pm & 8pm  
Sun 29th September at 2pm

Aksra Theatre, King Power Complex, Rongnam Rd

Tickets 2000, 3000, 4000 baht

Book in Reception or by email  
to [events@britishclubbangkok.org](mailto:events@britishclubbangkok.org)



THE BRITISH CLUB  
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BANGKOK COMMUNITY THEATRE PRESENTS

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Nights  
Only!

A Movie Musical Interactive Event

in the Suriwongse Room at The British Club

Friday & Saturday, September 27 & 28, 2013

Tickets  
on sale  
Sept. 1!

We're off to see the Wizard! BCT has held hugely successful "Sound of Music," "Grease" and "Hairspray" audience participation events in the past, so don't miss this year's film

# The Wizard of Oz

Don't worry if you don't know the film, we'll provide the lyrics and have you singing along and heckling the witch in no time. The event features a picnic supper, charismatic hosts who will explain how the evening works including how to use

the props in your individual goody bag, lots of audience participation, costume prizes, and more. Dress up as characters or trivia from the movie - let your imagination go wild: think Toto, Flying Monkeys, Witches good and bad, and Munchkins just to name a few. Grab your ruby slippers and click your heels three times to transport yourself to Oz this September!

B500 per person includes pre-show buffet supper and goody bag; cash bar also available. Pre-show supper from 6:30pm; movie from approximately 7:30pm. Please purchase tickets from the Club Reception or by email ([events@britishclubbangkok.org](mailto:events@britishclubbangkok.org)) or through BCT at 087-517-2666 or email: [treasurer@bct-th.org](mailto:treasurer@bct-th.org). For more information, please visit [www.bct-th.org](http://www.bct-th.org) or Facebook, email [bct@sala.net](mailto:bct@sala.net) or call 081-892-5052. Places are limited so book now to avoid disappointment.



Bangkok  
**COMMUNITY**  
Theatre





# CLUB ENHANCEMENTS UPDATE

By Phil Alexander

## *The Main Kitchens - Back to Business*

The extensive upgrade works to the Main Kitchen have been completed by our Contractor on time. Khun Laak and her team are thrilled with the results and started moving in their refurbished equipment on the 17th August. On 19th August this work was completed and the kitchen contractors started installing the new equipment.

Following the introduction of the new Thai menu, Khun Laak is now in the process of designing a new Western menu which will be introduced in the coming weeks.

I am sure that you will all join me in saying a "special thank you" to Khun Laak and her team for their splendid efforts in managing to provide us Members, our guests and all the functions with an uninterrupted service of British Club delights throughout the improvement period from their makeshift "under canvas" kitchens. Truly remarkable !!





## The Suriwongse Balcony and the Suriwongse Room - Going Back in Time

After the initial clearing out and basic demolition works, the restoration work to the upstairs 'Suriwongse' balcony started in earnest on 19th August. Hand-in-hand essential maintenance works to the floor, air conditioning and the painting of the Suriwongse Room also commenced on the same date.

The overall schedule should see us completing all these works by the end of September, however the Suriwongse Room should be available again for functions soon after the first week of September 2013.

Since our last updates about these exciting restoration works to the balcony, I have received a large number of positive comments and of course some questions from Members.

As you all know, our current Clubhouse was built in 1910. At that time, a balcony ran along the entire back of the Clubhouse, outside the back of the rooms now known as the Suriwongse Room and the Wordsworth Lounge.

About 50 years ago, unfortunately, someone in their wisdom decided to destroy the Balcony by enclosing it to create cupboards, and since then it has been used as nothing more than a storage area for all those years.

The balcony works are now aimed at restoring the large covered balcony to its former glory, and to connect the two balconies together again. This will enhance the colonial character of the building and provide an area where Members can enjoy a drink or two while relaxing and taking in the views over the Back Lawn. In addition, part of the restored balcony can be made available to users of the Suriwongse Room which will add a new dimension to our marketing of this area for special events etc. Wine tasting evenings will never be the same again !!!

As the photos show, the balcony work has revealed the balcony area from within and without. The Suriwongse Room is also being worked on, the floor has been sanded already, is now being repaired and filled where necessary, and will then be resanded and sealed. A new audio-visual system will then be installed and the room redecorated.





# QUIZ NIGHT

with the  
**MONTHLY  
JACKPOT**

Tuesday 10th September 2013

The Verandah

7:15pm



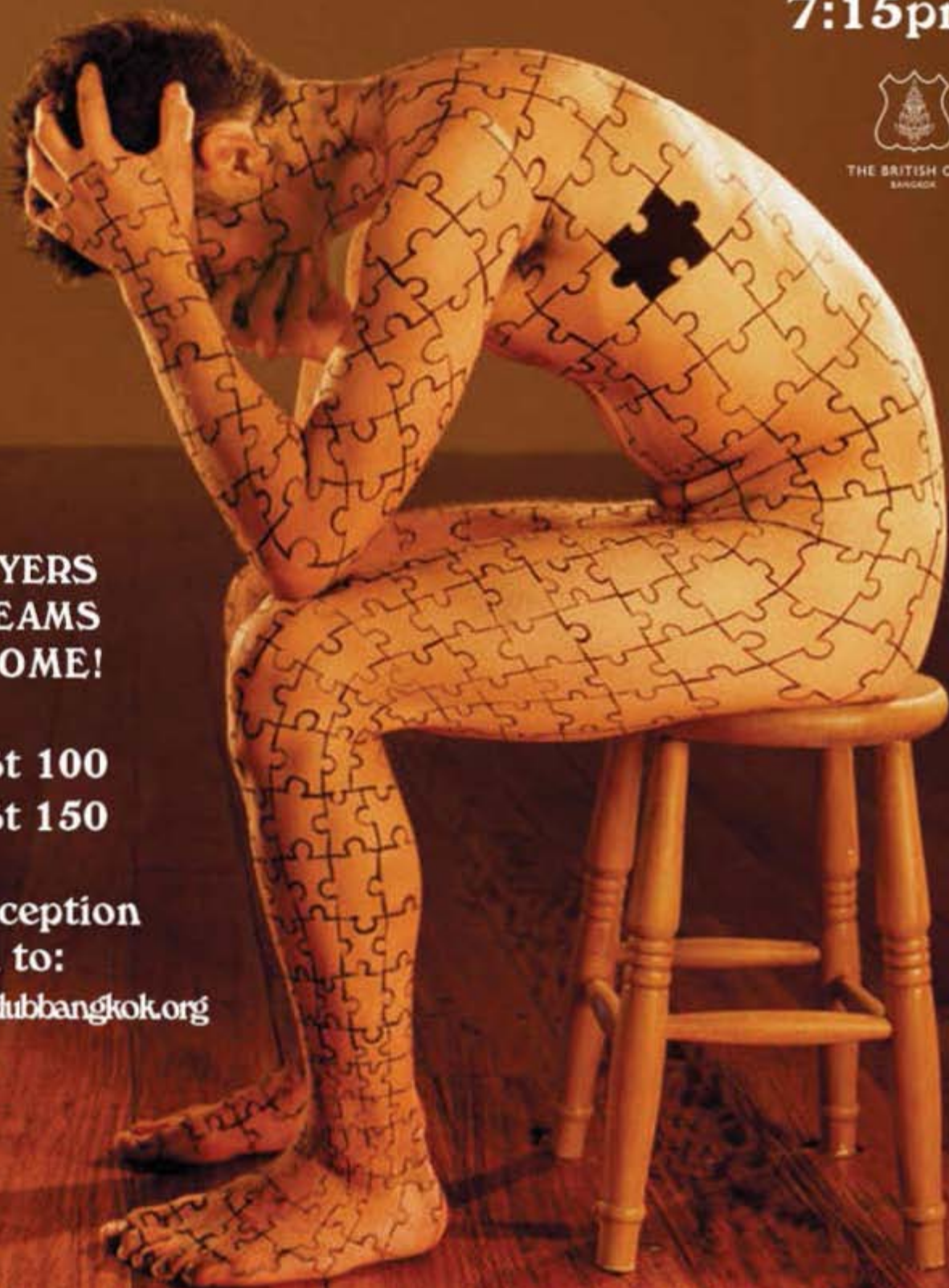
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# PAST PARTICIPLE

## *Auspicious Melioris Ævi*

By Paul Cheesman



We look at the history of our Club in 1990 ...

**1** The first major development during the year, and 1990 was a year of major developments, was to the concept of "going absent". This was originally introduced in 1947 to allow members going on 'extended leave' to retain their membership whilst abroad by paying a reduced monthly fee upon their return – this was because a typical period of leave in the UK, including steaming both ways, was often four to six months. In 1970 this was made into an advance fee. By 1990, air travel had made 'extended leave' an out of date practice but it was noted that with changing employment practices members were posted out of Thailand for varying periods. It was thus agreed at the AGM that members could pay a fixed absent fee in advance when they left Thailand and hence re-activate their membership upon eventual return.

**2** Major Developments in our facilities had been planned and enacted over the past few years using monies from a Thai Bank loan (see June 2013 Outpost) and from surplus of income over expenditure that the Club was now enjoying. In all nine major projects completed in 1990 and a total cost (including add-ons) of 6,203,167 Baht including new pumps for the main swimming pool, construction of a new Poolside Block (with upstairs Gentlemen's and Ladies' Changing Rooms and a multipurpose room below) and a new Children's swimming pool opened adjacent to the Silom Sala.

On the Clubhouse side refurbishment of the Main Kitchen was the first order of the day and this was opened in time to serve the re-launched Lords Dining Room and a few months later an extension was opened to the Churchill Bar which took it onto the old outside patio. [For newer members, 'Lords' is now the present Churchill Bar and the Bar extension is now the windowed section of The Verandah].

The Lords Dining Room was so named in 1989 after the famous headquarters of the MCC and was now redecorated with a dark green colour scheme with a suspended ceiling and with a range of cricket memorabilia decorating the walls and the MCC Old Father Times engraved on the doors. Its pride was a

mirror of William Gilbert "W. G." Grace MRCS LRCP (a first class right-handed all-rounder for 44 seasons) – unfortunately upon its first delivery, the artist has reversed the picture such that he was left-handed – the artist was most confused that anyone could tell the difference!

**3** As all the planned change there was one incident where, as Outpost headlined it, we were DEAD LUCKY! On 11th May an unsupervised child fell into the main pool, allegedly whilst his parents were out of Club shopping! Luckily he was quickly retrieved from the water and was no worse for wear. This led to a major crack down on 'maid only supervision of children.

**4** As well as a year of change, there was some kind of permanence being created in 1990 for it was in that year that two new members of staff joined us, Khun Chanupan in the April and Khun Thamrongluck in the September – both of whom are still working for us today along with five other colleagues who joined over the following two years.

**5** The developments over the year made the Club capable of attracting a large number of new members of all nationalities and so at the year-end there was a record 799 members which included a full quota of 180 Associate members. The General Committee thus decided to take prudent action in this matter ... but you will have to wait until next month to find out what was done!



"Grace before Dinner, anyone?"

The author is Honorary Secretary of the Club



# IN LESS TROUBLED TIMES

By Jenny Harries

## On Holiday in Egypt

We picked an interesting time to visit Egypt a couple of years ago, just two weeks before the first round of voting in the general election and the first night of the Eid ul Adha festival, one of the main events in the Muslim calendar. The Cairo streets were heaving with large groups of mainly young men, yelling and dancing and having a good time. The atmosphere was somewhat different when we left on 20th November as the regular Friday demonstration in Tahrir Square had become much more confrontational and the mood of the crowds was much more sombre. We awoke to gunfire on our last morning and felt the effects of teargas smarting in our eyes when we left the hotel but apart from that we felt very safe and very welcomed by everyone we met as Egypt is definitely feeling the effects of fewer tourists.



from Aswan to Luxor on a Dahabiya, a sail boat with 5 cabins. The roads are dreadful and the traffic is appalling. Many vehicles were so dented they looked as though they had been beaten with a large hammer. Driving seems to be a very macho affair with everyone jockeying for position whilst yelling on their mobile phones.



We managed to do and see everything we had planned in our 15 day stay although the schedule was exhausting at times. We had great help arranging guides, transport and hotels from the owner of the Bella Luna Hotel in Cairo and we proved that it is not necessary to pay for an expensive package tour.

We were amazed by the size and quality of the historical sites and the skill and artistry involved in producing huge temples up to 4000 years ago. We marveled at the engineering skills needed to build such enormous and complicated structures and were fascinated by the paintings (still remarkably vibrant in some of the tombs) and the hieroglyphs which told the stories. We travelled by car, 4x4 and taxi, by public bus and by horse and carriage and we had a great four day cruise down the Nile

We visited the pyramids at Giza, the temples at Abu Simbel (three hours by road from Aswan), various temples in Aswan and Luxor and we also stopped to visit temples, tombs and a quarry during our cruise down the Nile. We then went to the Valley of the Kings in Luxor and also had a day exploring the tombs of the nobles and the artisans. These two burial grounds see far fewer visitors than the Valley of the Kings but they were just as interesting. The wall paintings depicted more natural and everyday scenes as opposed to the ritualistic funeral processions in the tombs of the kings. In Cairo we spent about three hours in the Egyptian Museum which is incredibly dusty and disorganised, badly lit and badly labeled. By contrast the Luxor Museum was beautifully laid out with a few carefully chosen exhibits and the

new library in Alexandria was similar. In Cairo we also visited the citadel, two of the oldest mosques and the old Coptic area with its ancient Coptic Christian churches, excellent museum and a synagogue.



We had a day in Alexandria looking at the roman ruins and exploring the 11th century citadel which looks like a perfect sand-castle.

We also took a five hour trip to an oasis in the desert and immediately transferred to a 4x4 with a guide for a night in the desert. Ray had said that we would be staying in a Bedouin tent as he had done this before, and that it would be quite warm. In fact we slept under the stars by the side of the vehicle with just an ancient sleeping bag and a blanket to keep us warm. It was freezing!!! However we had an excellent meal cooked by the driver/guide, watched the fennec foxes come to eat our leftovers then lay back and gazed at the stars and satellites tracking across the sky.



There were many highlights and we have many good memories. The temples of Karnak and Luxor, the tombs in Luxor and the mosques and Coptic area of Cairo were the most interesting tourist spots and relatively uncrowded.





The dahabiya cruise on a lovely wooden boat moving slowly down the Nile was made even better by our excellent guide Ismail. He had a masters degree in Egyptology and had lectured in hieroglyphics. Consequently he was absolutely full of information and facts and was able to interpret and read the writings on the walls of the tombs and temples. Some of these anecdotes were charming and timeless.



One painting of the mourners at a funeral shows one woman refusing wine that is offered her and the hieroglyphs explain that the woman in front has turned round and told her she might as well take it as it is free..



Another great memory is of the guesthouse where we stayed in Luxor. We had severe doubts when we arrived there after leaving the dahabiya, as the driver could not get the taxi down the narrow lane in this very ancient part of the city. The front door looked very similar to all the others down this dusty street and we nearly chickened out and asked to be taken to a normal hotel. However when the door opened we were welcomed into a beautiful, peaceful and colourful house with five bedrooms (soon to be seven), a comfortable living room downstairs, a roof terrace where breakfast was served and a courtyard to sit in the evenings and share meals with the other guests. This guesthouse, called La Maison de Pythagore is owned by Belgian Thomas, whom we met, and his mother, who was not there at the time. Thomas has created a really comfortable alternative way to stay in Luxor. He works closely with his neighbours in the village, using the taxi driver on the corner as his main driver for his guests. Another neighbour and his wife do the cooking and the cleaning and laundry, and the lady on the corner will do any ironing needed. Thomas also makes sure that if he hires horse-drawn carriages for his guests, then the horse has to be certified as healthy by the local veterinary service run by a large animal charity. After our first lunch at the guesthouse, we did not eat



anywhere else in Luxor as the food was so good.

The little hotel in Cairo was excellent, very central and somewhat noisy, but the rooms were huge and very clean and the staff were very helpful. Food in general was good although we got rather bored with the breakfasts, wholemeal pitta bread, hardboiled eggs and jam. We enjoyed stopping for tea in the cafes in Cairo and watching the locals smoking their water pipes.

Egypt was everything we expected it to be, fascinating, interesting, noisy, dirty, colourful and we did everything we wanted to do. The contrast between the skills of the temple builders 3000 years ago and the dreadful roads and plumbing was striking. We



do hope the Egyptians achieve the democracy they are hoping for but we are not sure they realized the work and responsibility involved. Would we go back? We don't know – there are so many other places to see.



# BC CALENDAR - SEPTEMBER 2013

## MONDAY

**BWG Mahjong**  
10am - 1pm



2

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



**Monday Night Media**  
7pm, Wordsworth Lounge  
Yes Minister & Spitting Image



**Mother's Day Buffet**  
The Verandah, 11:30am - 3pm

9

**BWG Mahjong**  
10am - 1pm



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



**Monday Night Media**  
7pm, Wordsworth Lounge  
Life on Mars



**BWG Mahjong**  
10am - 1pm



16

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



**Monday Night Media**  
7pm, Wordsworth Lounge  
New Tricks



**BWG Mahjong**  
10am - 1pm



23

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



**Monday Night Media**  
7pm, Wordsworth Lounge  
Hyperdrive and Spooks



**BWG Mahjong**  
10am - 1pm



30

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



**Monday Night Media**  
Monthly Movie - to be announced



## TUESDAY

**Morning Mix-In**  
8am - 11am



3

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



**Scottish Dancing**  
7pm, Silorn Sala



**Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers**  
8:30 pm



**Morning Mix-In**  
8am - 11am



10

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



**Quiz Night**  
The Verandah, 7:15pm



**Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers**  
8:30 pm



**Morning Mix-In**  
8am - 11am



17

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



**Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers**  
8:30 pm



**Morning Mix-In**  
8am - 11am



24

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



**Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers**  
8:30 pm



## WEDNESDAY

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



4

**Ladies Tennis Coaching**  
9am - 10:30am



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



**Balut Shield Night & AGM**  
6pm, Sunwongse Room



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



11

**Ladies Tennis Coaching**  
9am - 10:30am



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



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



18

**Ladies Tennis Coaching**  
9am - 10:30am



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



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



25

**Ladies Tennis Coaching**  
9am - 10:30am



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



## THU

**Ladies Mix-In**  
8 am



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



**Ladies Mix-In**  
8 am



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



**Ladies Mix-In**  
8 am



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



**Ladies Mix-In**  
8 am



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



**Justin Bieber**  
Impact Challenger  
Meet at Club 5pm  
Concert 7pm



# WEDNESDAY

5

12

19

26

# FRIDAY

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

**Children's Cinema**  
6pm, Silom Sala  
*Alice in Wonderland*

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

**Children's Cinema**  
6pm, Silom Sala  
*101 Dalmatians*

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

**Children's Cinema**  
6pm, Silom Sala  
*Mary Poppins*

**Wine Tasting**  
Surawongse Room  
6pm - 9pm

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

**Children's Cinema**  
6pm, Silom Sala  
*Megamind*

**The Wizard of Oz**  
7:30pm

**The Mousetrap**  
8pm

6



# SATURDAY

**Kids Cricket**  
8am - 11am

**Tex-Mex Buffet Lunch & Dinner**  
The Verandah  
11:30am - 3pm  
5pm - 9pm

**F1 Italy Grand Prix Qualifying**  
7pm

**Kids Cricket**  
8am - 11am

**French Buffet Lunch & Dinner**  
The Verandah  
11:30am - 3pm  
5pm - 9pm

**Kids Cricket**  
8am - 11am

**St. Andrews Family Day**  
Sot Silom 18, 11 am-4 pm

**Spanish Buffet Lunch & Dinner**  
The Verandah  
11:30am - 3pm  
5pm - 9pm

**F1 Singapore Grand Prix Qualifying**  
8pm

**Kids Cricket**  
8am - 11am

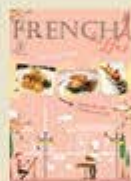
**Curry Buffet Lunch & Dinner**  
The Verandah  
11:30am - 3pm  
5pm - 9pm

**The Wizard of Oz**  
7:30pm

**The Mousetrap**  
2pm and 8pm



7



# SUNDAY

1

**Swimming Lessons**  
9:30am - 10:30am

**Kids Cricket**  
8am - 11am

**Sunday Brunch**  
11:30am - 3pm

**Open Pairs Bridge**  
Surawongse Room  
2pm

**Yoga**  
2:30pm - 3:30pm

**Tennis Mix-In**  
4pm - 7pm



8

**Swimming Lessons**  
9:30am - 10:30am

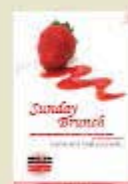
**Kids Cricket**  
8am - 11am

**Sunday Brunch**  
11:30am - 3pm

**Open Pairs Bridge**  
Surawongse Room  
2pm

**Tennis Mix-In**  
4pm - 7pm

**F1 Italy, Monza Grand Prix**  
7pm



15

**Swimming Lessons**  
9:30am - 10:30am

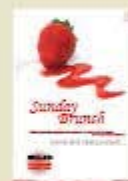
**Kids Cricket**  
8am - 11am

**Sunday Brunch**  
11:30am - 3pm

**Open Pairs Bridge**  
Surawongse Room  
2pm

**Yoga**  
2:30pm - 3:30pm

**Tennis Mix-In**  
4pm - 7pm



22

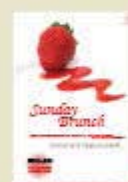
**Swimming Lessons**  
9:30am - 10:30am

**Kids Cricket**  
8am - 11am

**Sunday Brunch**  
11:30am - 3pm

**Tennis Mix-In**  
4pm - 7pm

**F1 Singapore Grand Prix**  
8pm



29

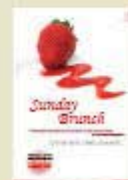
**Swimming Lessons**  
9:30am - 10:30am

**Kids Cricket**  
8am - 11am

**Sunday Brunch**  
11:30am - 3pm

**The Mousetrap**  
2pm

**Tennis Mix-In**  
4pm - 7pm







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# HEALTH & WELLBEING

By Mike Wagstaff



This is a new article for Outpost which may become a regular feature and one which I hope many of you can benefit and learn from. Whether you're looking to learn to better your health or looking to win at next month's pub quiz, I think most of you will find this article interesting and informative.

Sometimes I will be busting health and fitness myths and sometimes I will be giving advice and facts about all of those many components of health and fitness.

This week we will start with some myth busting!

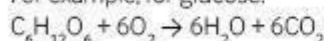
## Why do we breathe more during exercise?

To get more oxygen to the muscles right? Because oxygen is used to create energy and we need more energy and thus more oxygen? Right? ... Wrong ... well it's almost there, but not quite.

Oxygen is one of the components that is used by our bodies in order to create energy. It is a common misconception that we breathe more to supply the muscles with more oxygen and thus create more energy. If this is the case, I ask why we continue to breathe heavily after we have stopped exercise? If the immediate demand for energy has gone, why do we continue to supply the muscles with such large amounts of oxygen? It's true that we do breathe more to supply the body with more oxygen, but only initially. When collecting air samples that individuals breathe out during exercise and then testing them to assess the levels of oxygen, it is clear to see that after a certain point the level of oxygen being expired by the individual does not decrease further and plateaus. Oxygen makes up 21% of the air in the atmosphere, therefore we have to breathe 5 times more air per minute than oxygen which we are using. However this is not the case, we in fact breathe near to 25 times more air than our body is consuming in oxygen. So why do we continue to breathe more and more heavily as exercise goes on?

The energy which we use during exercise is created by our bodies primarily from fats and carbohydrates. Fats and carbohydrates are comprised entirely of carbon, hydrogen and oxygen atoms. As they are broken down, hydrogen atoms are stripped away to link with oxygen and thus yield energy. However the by-product is rather acidic and toxic.

For example, for glucose:



$6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  is used to create energy, however leaves behind  $6\text{CO}_2$  (CARBON DIOXIDE ... a lot of it!)

High levels of carbon dioxide increase the blood and tissue acidity within the body. The body uses enzymes in everything it does, as you may know already enzymes do not work properly under certain conditions, such as high or low temperatures, pressures or ACIDITY LEVELS!

Thus without removing carbon dioxide from the body not only would you suffer excruciating pain, but you would DIE!

Therefore the reason we continue to breathe more during high intensity exercise is to remove this toxin from our body before it kills us. The reason we continue to breathe more having finished exercising is exactly the same. Only will your breathing return to normal once the body's receptors consider it to be stable and at rest!

The body really is a wonderful machine! Learn more about it in next month's Outpost!



# SPORTS UPDATE

By Mike Wagstaff



Dear Members,

Here's what to look forward to during the coming month:

## Jungle Bike Ride

On Sunday 25th August, 10 Club Members will discover Historic Bangkok. The tour shows the true heart of this bustling city. Cycling the back roads and small lane ways to discover that there is much more to this city than big roads full of traffic alongside high rise buildings. Next month on 22nd September we plan to explore the jungle by bike.

**Just across the Chao Phraya River**, a short hop from busy Sukhumvit, is an **extraordinary place** known to the locals as Bang Kra Jao. This **amazing wilderness** in Bangkok can only be reached by boat as no bridges span this part of the river, and incredibly it has been left untouched by developers.

Crossing the river is like taking a journey back in time. You will find a peaceful place with lush vegetation, a **maze** of waterways, small villages, temples and real tropical jungle. If it wasn't for Bangkok's skyline, you would never believe you were so close to the city. And, there is no traffic!

If this sounds appealing to you, you can book in the Fitness Centre. Many people in August were left disappointed with the 10 places filling up fast. Book now to avoid disappointment.

## Squash vs Tennis

The first week in October will bring us a fantastic spectator event. The delinquents from the Squash Section will once again take on the highly competitive Tennis Section in what we are imaginatively calling SQUASH vs TENNIS! Saturday 5th October is the date of which the two teams will go head to head across 4 different sports. THEY ARE ... Squash ... Table Tennis ... and ... Table Football.

The Squash Section have promised "spectacular things to happen" however speculation is rising as to whether they are up to the task. With Bruce 'The Slug' Madge leading the team who knows what will happen on the day. Tensions are already rising after the Tennis Section released their Anthem for the event; adapted from the popular nursery rhyme Georgie Porgie and rumored to be aimed at Bruce Madge (Writer of Squashy Bits), the Anthem focuses on my personal recent encounter ... when Bruce tried to kiss me!

Georgie Porgie, Puddin' and Pie,  
Kissed the BOYS and made them cry.  
When the girls came out to play  
Georgie Porgie ran away.



## Games Room

The Games Room, which formerly became known as the Snooker Room, is in the process (hopefully finished by time you read this) of getting a makeover. The room also now has a darts board and we are sourcing a chess table as well as the already present snooker table. Once again this room can be called "The Games Room". We hope to see you making the most of this facility when it is finished (which will be soon, if not already).

## Junior Sports

**Netball** has started up again on Saturday afternoons from 4pm-5pm. Boys or girls may attend. It would be appreciated if families could register their interest in the Fitness Centre prior to the day, however this is not essential and if you're just around on the day, and fancy playing some netball, then feel free to attend. We meet on the Multi-Purpose Court at 3.50pm ready for a 4pm start. Once the teams gets up to scratch I will organise fixtures against other teams and schools. SO get down and train!!

**Tennis** will start once again in September with the return of Pierre our excellent Tennis Coach. All ages are welcome to join, however times vary depending on age and ability. Once more if interested register at the Fitness Centre for more information.

**Swimming Lessons** are becoming ever more popular however are not yet up to the numbers which we hoped for. If you would like your children to attend swimming lessons please contact me directly (michael.w@britishclubbangkok.org) or via the Fitness Centre. Sunday mornings seems to be the most popular time however other times may also be possible upon request.

**Squash** coaching is available from our in-house coach Khun Ruengrit, and again this can be booked in the Fitness Centre. Once more some notice of booking is preferred.

**Football** coaching will start Sunday 1st September at 4pm. Please meet on the Multi-Purpose Court at 3.50pm for a 4pm start. As with Netball, once a team is established and becomes good enough to compete I will organise fixtures against other teams and schools. Get practicing!

**Trampoline and Bouncy Castle** for children of all ages the Bouncy Castle and trampoline are proving a great success and lots of fun. This will remain a permanent feature at weekends provided we do not have any functions etc.

As you can see, there's lots going on around the Club over the next month so, ENJOY!



# TENNIS

By Mike Wagstaff



## *Tennis Mix-Ins, can we all be friends?*

Tennis mix-ins occur regularly at the Club however certain days and times are obviously a lot more popular than others. The times are currently as follows:

1. Monday – 18.00-22.00
2. Tuesday – 08.00-11.00
3. Wednesday 18.00-22.00
4. Thursday 08.00-11.00
5. Friday – 18.00-22.00
6. Sunday – 16.00-19.00

We highly encourage Members to join the tennis mix-in regardless of their level or ability, often there is a rather large mix of playing abilities present. The courts are becoming booked up well in advance now as families come back to Bangkok after their holidays. The mix-in is a great time to come down to the Club and socialise/play some tennis with the guarantee of getting a court and a few games of tennis. All that we ask is that players respect the rules that are in place for the better of the Members at the Club.

The two rules which are currently causing a few issues are as follows:

1. Write your name on the board and wait until there are 4 names and play doubles as per the 4 names on the board.
2. Mix in with all players, regardless of ability etc.

Weaker players are coming to mix-ins in order to try and improve their game and gather some playing time. They respect the fact that stronger players do not always want to play with weaker players and are very conscious of those wanting to play more competitive matches. So therefore within reason the mix-in community accepts that sometimes a discussion may take place and certain players may be matched depending on ability therefore giving a good game for all involved.

The problem comes when this conversation does not take place and stronger players avoid the weaker players and just play between themselves all night, coming off the court and disappearing whilst the weaker players sort their game out. This must stop before tennis mix-ins die a death.

Tennis mix-in players ... please can we all be friends and get along?

If you would like to play a game of a higher level can we please communicate this to the others attending mix-ins, I'm certain they wouldn't mind, the problem comes when it's done with no communication. It doesn't leave a good vibe in the Sala amongst the other players and people don't come to the Club so that they can feel like nobody wants to play with them ... It is a **MIX-IN** after all.



# FANTASY FOOTBALL

By Mike Wagstaff



The season has started and as expected by all, my team is the best! It is apparent from the off that certain individuals are struggling with the concept of choosing players who are not injured or who have been sold to Real Madrid. If anyone would like any advice on which players to bring in and which players to avoid, Saturday mornings are a great time to catch last year's champion, going by the name of TC, sitting by the Pétanque court, studying the newspapers for the latest information which will inevitably leave him in second place behind myself.

The 2013-14 Premier League season could be one of the most unpredictable to date with so many changes at the top. This will be the first Premier League campaign without Sir Alex Ferguson in charge of Manchester United and there are at least four teams hoping to take advantage of David Moyes's inexperience of winning trophies. Manchester City and Chelsea, both also under new management, and Tottenham have all spent big this summer, while Arsenal have kept hold of their key players and still have money to spend. The spending is not restricted to this season's title contenders - Liverpool, Norwich, Southampton, Swansea and West Ham have all spent over £15m each this summer, as have Cardiff who, along with the other promoted sides Crystal Palace and Hull, will have to adjust to life back in England's top flight.

There were 3 penalty saves during the opening weekend one of which coming from Hull's goalkeeper McGregor (3rd highest scoring although selected by only 1.3% of players) as he dived to the right to prevent Chelsea's powerhouse Frank Lampard (selected by only 8.8% of players this season) from scoring yet another spot kick after just 5 minutes. Jose Mourinho made a winning return to the Chelsea dugout however as his side beat Hull City 2-0 at Stamford Bridge.

No surprise to most, Benteke (selected by 23.9% of players) came out on form for Aston Villa's 3-1 victory over Arsenal which brought the Arsenal boss under fire from supporters as his side were booed off the pitch for their opening game of the season. Spending very little over the summer and leaving his squad relatively unchanged from last season, is it now time to start looking to bring in fresh faces? Suarez maybe? Will Arsenal ever replace the fire power that is RVP (selected by 49.9% of players)?

Roberto Soldado (selected by 15.6% of players) scored the winning goal on his debut to secure an opening day 1-0 victory for Tottenham Hotspur against Crystal Palace. The Spanish striker made no mistake from the penalty spot early in the second half after Dean Moxey had handled a cross from Aaron Lennon inside the area. Soldado sent Julian Speroni the wrong way to claim his first competitive goal in a Spurs shirt and give Andre Villas-Boas' side the perfect start to the season. With Crystal Palace bringing in so many new signings and looking strong against a Tottenham side looking to claim the title this season, their next game away to Stoke is one to watch and one I am personally a little concerned about.

That's about all we have room for. The league however will be posted on the Fitness Centre's noticeboard after each game week!



# SQUASHY BITS

By Bruce Madge

## Nothing, but a Kiss!



So handsome! Such a waste!



Chavstaff's Heroes!

Nothing at all to report – no team matches, no visitors, no tours, no comps, no deaths of any league players, nobody falling off the ladders. No cats pooing or fornicating on the courts, no members' children being interrogated and tortured by Comrade Michael Taylor (CMT) for having too much fun, enjoying themselves, or even smiling, simply due to the fact that he was in the UK on holiday. No floods, no lightening strikes, no punch-ups and no illicit romances have come to the attention of Bits in the recent past. Sod all! Not even any staff scandals, save for the new gym bloke, Michael Chavstaff, attempting to kiss the author on a recent evening out. So what to write about? Gotta come up with something or we'll have two blank pages or two extra pages of Bridge stats to confuse most. So let's talk about that kiss incident, shall we? This is what happened as was reported CMT.

"By the way, Michael, I thought you might be interested to know that, against my better judgment, last Friday, I went out for a drink in the Nana area with that new bloke who works in the gym. What's his name. . . .? Can't really remember. . .

Winkle'sstuck? Willystaff? Sumink ridiculous like dat. Anyway, he'd had a few and was a bit wobbly and getting more and more so until. . . well. . . he. . . well. . . he. . . look, I'll just come out and say it, ok? He tried to kiss me! Totally out of the blue it was. I was just about to take a swig of my beer when, from the corner of my eye, I saw him start to lean over and attempt a snog. Incredible, and ordinarily it would have come as rather a shock had I not previously experienced this sad, clumsy, inebriated, homosexual, predatory approach from the likes of Come on Bobby, Cornflakes, Evans, Ghandi, Pong, and yourself. Thus, I knew just how to react: I recoiled ever so slightly, just as he was in mid-pout and his eyes were closing, and swiftly halted his drunken advance with two hands placed firmly on his shoulders gently pushing him back to an upright position with the very wise words: "Now, Mike, I don't think that's what you want, is it?" Slowly his head dropped in desperate resignation as he mumbled rather bashfully, "I don't know. . . I'm sorry. . . I'm just not sure what I want. . . I'm so lonely. . . I think I prefer older men." Well, I held him steady until his tears had dried and until



Another Hero!



Steady on Chavers!



Not Bruce's type, anyway!





Chav's Spect



Stop! Or CMT will get you!

he was able to sit upright without the need of any support. And he seemed to rally fairly well despite having just made a complete fool of himself. Yes, a very embarrassing moment there for young Mike which I have vowed to keep a secret to save him from any further shame as he seems like a decent enough fellow, though perhaps just a little naïve or confused at the moment. Of course, some rather uncomfortable moments followed Willybottom's homosexual faux pas as he proceeded to drink more and more until he was reduced to drooling and dribbling drunkenly down his front, periodically nodding off and blurting out the names of his heroes: Elton John, George Michael, Jimmy Somerville, Ricky Martin, Rit, Amnart, and even you Michael. Indeed, an extremely bizarre scene to behold, but not necessarily a unique one for a BCB member of staff. Naturally, as the time passed, Mike's words became more and more incoherent until presently he fell fast asleep, snoring contentedly. At this point, I quietly settled our bill and left him alone looking a little sad, but rather peaceful, in the Hilary Boys' Bar, Nana Plaza, Bangkok, Thailand, where I expect he was subsequently pillaged and plundered by a local tranny or three. Not sure about that, and frankly I don't care.

When are you coming back to Bangkok, Michael? Miss you loads.

Lots of love,

Brucey."

And that's the news. It was nothing to do with squash, but it rarely is, is it? Hope you loved it, anyway.

Until Chavstaff finds true love. ....

*DISCLAIMER: Squashy Bits is a spoof column intended mostly for entertainment. Very little of what you read here should be taken literally since 90% of the contents are either completely made up or at the very best only a fraction of the truth. Certainly Bits does report some squash events as the truth; that is to say that they took place, yet the actual happenings of those events are usually embellished hugely in order to make them more interesting or entertaining, otherwise, in Bits' opinion, they would be too dull to be worth writing or reading about. Certain other events reported here are complete fiction. Embellishing events, or just making them up, often involves ridiculing the individuals that 'attended' said events as a means to create the humour. Ridicule, criticism, abuse, slagging off, call it what you will, is done solely for the benefit of said humour and entertainment and should not be taken literally. In fact, in Bits' eyes, if you find yourself 'seemingly' slagged off in this column, it should be taken as a sign that Bits finds you an interesting character and thus extremely worthy of a mention. Therefore, if you've found yourself ridiculed in Bits over the past few months/years, please don't get upset. Rather, regard it as a sign of great affection.*

Bits' Author.



Don't let Chavers take you here!



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Saturday 19th October, Suriwongse Room, 7:30 pm

The dinner is open to ladies as well, and comprises four courses with a glass of fine wine per course plus after-dinner "Passing the Port". Welcoming guest speaker Lt Commander Robert H Hawkins MBE RN, who is currently Lead Maritime Planner, Headquarters Integrated Area Defence System, RMAF Butterworth, Malaysia.



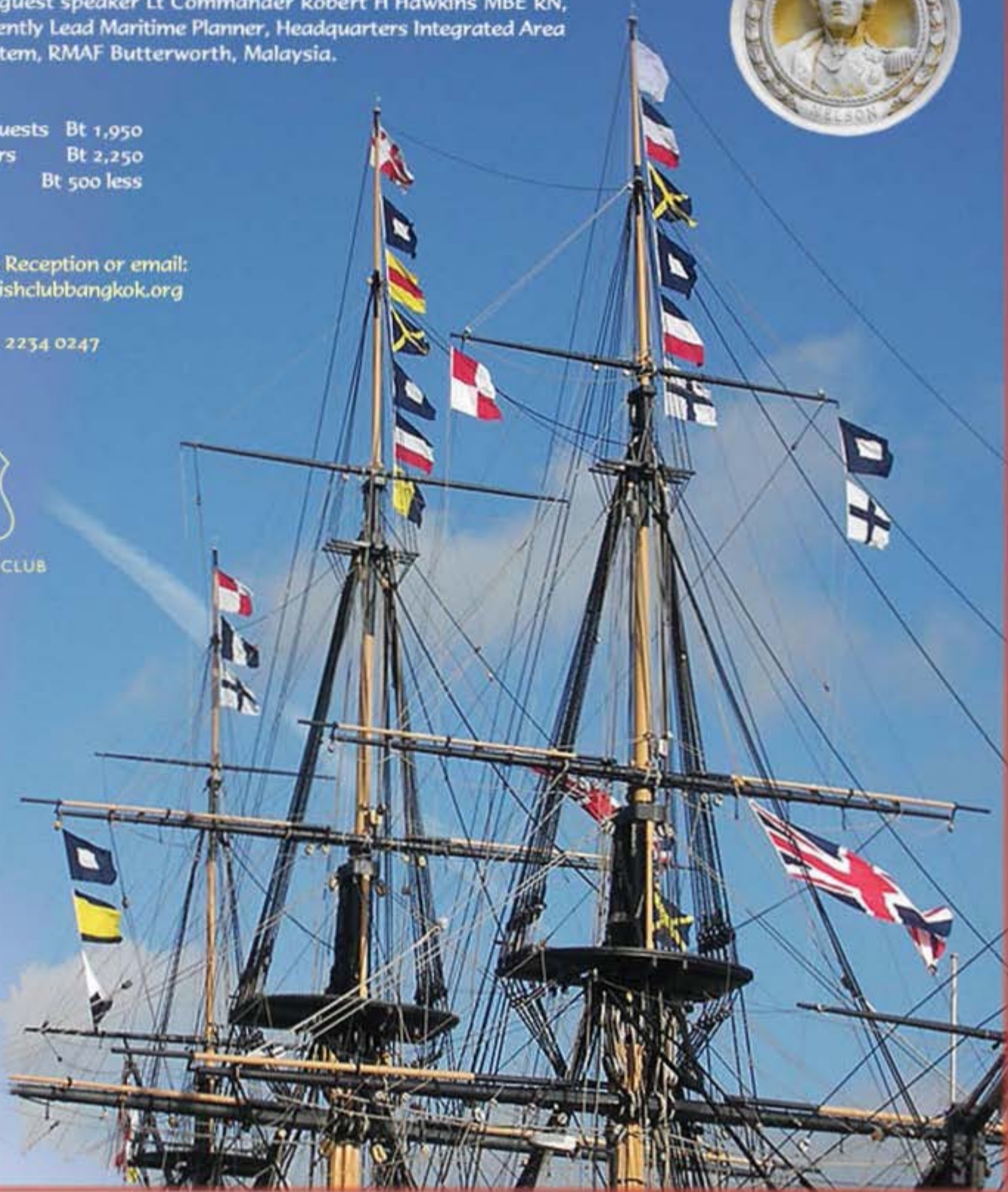
Members, Guests Bt 1,950  
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Book in Club Reception or email:  
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THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK





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# BCGS GOLFING NEWS

By Peter Gale

**Bunters  
Foods**  
023287840

**CROWN**  
RELOCATION



The finalists



Only David could separate the teams

With lots of people heading off on holiday there were only two events this month, the monthly medal and the 3-Day Dunlop Cup.

## Monthly Medal – 28th July

There was a good turnout for the Medal with 20 golfers heading off to Royal Golf and Country club to test their golfing skills on a slightly soggy golf course.

Both flights were tightly contested with Mike Staples, the only golfer to beat the course on the day, winning flight A with a net 71 from Randall Coleman (net 72) and Robert Gray (net 74). In Flight B it was a similar story with Rosemarie Milne 1 shot ahead of Brian Brook with her net 72 and John Underwood was third with a respectable net 75.

## Dunlop Cup – 10th August

The Queen's Birthday weekend saw 22 golfers make the trip down to Hua Hin to contest this year's Dunlop Cup. This is one of the clubs major events and a highlight of our golfing calendar.

Day 1 of the event is a two-man better ball Stableford event with the top 4 teams going forward into the main Dunlop Cup Matchplay event. The rest of the field continues with the better ball format for Day 2 and Day 3 with the highest scorers winning the Dunlop Plate.

There was a strong wind and slick greens to contend with on Day 1 and scoring proved challenging for everyone. At the end of the day the scores were tallied and the four teams progressing into the Cup were announced to an anxious group of golfers. Leading the way with 41 points were John Carter and Pete Gale, followed by Tracy Carter and Tim Mitchell, ex-Captain Frank and Captain Karen with Roy Barrett and Brian Brook making up the semi-finalists.

Day 2 saw two very fiercely contested matches with Tim & Tracy losing out 4 and 2 to the Captain's team in the first semi-final. In the second match John and Pete just managed to squeeze past Roy and Brian, 2 up, with the match going all the way to the



The finalists



2nd place but still smiling





Mike winning Flight A July Medal



Relaxing at the Lambs

final hole. This was largely due to two 20 foot putts from John on holes 16 and 17 that managed to maintain the 1 hole difference between the teams. Sometimes the golfing gods definitely seem to be smiling on one team but as every golfer knows when this happens there is always likely to be a payback waiting just around the corner...

In the Plate there was some strong scoring from Belinda/Kirsty, as well as the husband and wife team of Phil and Carol Humphries with just one point separating them as they headed into the final round.

As always the Dunlop Cup was a really enjoyable event which was made even better by the generous hospitality of David and Cheryl Lamb. On the Sunday evening they hosted a fantastic soiree at their home, entertaining 25 of us with some delicious food washed down by copious bottles of the red stuff...all very civilized despite everyone wearing tailored shorts and open sandals.

On finals day the first thing to be decided was the 3rd and 4th play-off match between the losing semi-finalists but it wasn't. After 18 holes there was still nothing to separate the teams so honours were shared leaving Brian/Roy and Tracy/Tim in joint 3rd place. It was not quite so close in the Plate where Belinda and Kirsty came in with the best round of the weekend and scored 46 points to win the Dunlop Plate by 9 shots from the rest of the field with a total score of 127 points. With a strong last day score Pete Skinner and Mark Evans came through to sneak into runners up spot with a score of 118 points.

To the final and what a game it was!!

Karen and Frank started strongly and were 2up by the 4th hole but they were soon pegged back. By the 10th hole John and Pete had turned things around to be leading by 2 holes and they managed to hold this lead going to the 14th but then it all started to change.

On the 14th both Frank and John hit the edge of the green but a long way from the hole. John lagged his chip to a couple of feet for what seemed like a sure half but it was time for the golfing gods and Franks putter to intervene. Frank struck his putt and from the moment it left the face of the club there was only going to be one result. Sure enough the ball disappeared into the hole for a birdie 2 to move the Captains team back to only 1 down.

On the 15th it didn't look good for the Captains with Frank looking like he would need to two putt from the front edge of the green, a distance of about 60ft ...again he struck the ball well and it rolled and rolled and rolled and again fell straight into the centre of the cup for another birdie. A rattled Pete then proceeded to miss his 4 footer to level the match.

From then on there was only going to be one winner with Karen winning the 16th with a net birdie and the 17th with a fabulous birdie 2 after her approach had nestled a couple of feet from the hole.

So the winners of the 2013 Dunlop Cup were Captain Karen and Frank with a great comeback to win 2 and 1 over runners-up John Carter and Pete Gale.

For anyone interested in joining us for a very friendly and slightly competitive golf please send an email to: bcgs2002@yahoo.co.uk



The Dunlop Champions again



More refreshments provided by Cheryl



Rose the Flight B Medal Winner



# BRIDGE

By Winlock Hsu



## Bridge Results for June & July 2013

EVENT	RANK	NAME (PAIR)	SCORE%
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June (10 pairs)	1 <sup>st</sup>	Michael Winckless & Leo	58.33%
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Chintana & Steve	56.48%
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> June (11 pairs)	1 <sup>st</sup>	Narin & Lalit	59.38%
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Michael Winckless & Leo	55.63%
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June (10 pairs)	Tied 1 <sup>st</sup>	Nakako & Yoko	56.48%
	Tied 1 <sup>st</sup>	Charlene & Supote	56.48%
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> July (11 pairs)	1 <sup>st</sup>	Dr. Prasart & Prasert	61.98%
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Manthanee & Sujinda	60.94%
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> July (13 pairs)	Tied 1 <sup>st</sup>	Christian & Daniel	55.13%
	Tied 1 <sup>st</sup>	Manthanee & Supote	55.13%

## And now, some previously unpublished photos from yester years:



Jeremy's Bridge Class (March 2007)



London Bridge (July 2010)

## Bad Bridge Hand 1: A Car Crash (by Jeff Tang)

When I play online bridge, I keep an eye out for really interesting deals that I can write about on this website. Sadly, the human race perpetrates many more acts of sorrow than transcendence at the bridge table. Many, many, more.

So this is Hand 1 in a series of articles that I will write about all the bad bridge out there in the world. I will keep adding to this series until I exhaust myself of the bitterness in my heart born from suffering years of poor bidding, play and defense. I promise to document my own errors if they are bad enough to write about. It will be therapeutic.

This particular hand, though, focuses on an 'Advanced' pick-up partner in Bridge Base Online. Have you ever seen that survey in which 74% of the population considers itself smarter than average? I think that pretty much sums up the mentality of bridge players.



IMP Pairs	Me	Pick-up Partner
Both Vul	♠A843	♠KQJ52
	♥AKQ7	♥T52
	♦J965	♦AQ43
	♣A	♣9
	Me	Partner
	1♦	1♠
	4♠	6♠
	Pass	

Because we were playing on BBO, I automatically saw the full deal when I became dummy:

	Me	
	♠A843	
	♥AKQ7	
	♦J965	
	♣A	
West	Partner	East
♠7	♠KQJ52	♠T96
♥J9863	♥T52	♥4
♦K	♦AQ43	♦T872
♣QJ6542	♣9	♣KT873

West led the ♠Q, which pick-up partner won in dummy. He then started drawing trumps.

Now, if you have ever been in an auto accident, you may have experienced a few surreal seconds before the actual crash. You suddenly realize you're about to Eat It. Time slows down. Your brain puts its head between its legs.

That's how I felt when I recognized the diamond situation. As partner finished drawing trumps, I began praying for him to take the safety play in diamonds at IMPs. At vulnerable IMPs. Cash the diamond ace. Cash it. Cash it!

The moment of impact came with a deafening, horrible thud. A diamond finesse through the ♦Q. West winning his singleton ♦K. East later scoring a diamond trick with the ♦T. Hearts, of course, do not split 3-3, nor is there a heart-diamond squeeze. Minus 12.80 IMPs.

To be entirely fair, I might have lazily taken that finesse myself. But I can only hope that 'kibitzer mode', where you automatically see all four hands as dummy, is made optional in the next version of BBO (as it is in OK-bridge). The next time I am involved in a crash, I want to shut my eyes.





THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK



# 33rd CHIVAS REGAL INTERPORT BALUT CHAMPIONSHIP



29 November - 1 December 2013

- *Registration*
- *Tournament*
- *Opening drinks & canapés party*
- *Buffet lunch*
- *Buffet dinner*
- *Live music, dancing*
- *Awards ceremony*  
*and*
- *Free-flow drinks,*  
*throughout!*



All enquiries to: [interport33@teambalut.com](mailto:interport33@teambalut.com)



# BALUT

By Sausage



## SINGAPORE PAIRS

By the time that you read this, the outcome of the Singapore Pairs will be known. We really hope that the Oranges and the TCs were amongst the winners!

## 33rd CHIVAS REGAL INTERPORT

Plans are well underway for the Club's hosting of the 33rd Interport, and some of the many South East Asian clubs who normally take part have confirmed already that they will be attending. Registration forms are being sent out with invitations to attend, and we hope that with a significant turnout from the British Club Bangkok, we may reach 100 players for the 8 rounds of Balut which command this tournament.

The Interport is a seriously enjoyable occasion. The SE Asian club members who attend are, like so many of the British Club Members, somewhat eccentric, and the conviviality with which everyone is greeted when sitting down for a game of Balut is extraordinary. One does not get stuck with anyone either at a table of play or in the non-play times. It is simply a time to enjoy the game, the food, and of course, the free-flow drinks which are available at almost any time after the Friday afternoon.

The tournament is open to all who wish to play, and also to those who merely wish to relish the F&B and fancy their luck in addition. We hope to welcome you on the day, so make sure your diaries are empty for that weekend, and that your livers and right arms are in tip-top condition.



## BALUT SHIELD 2012/2013

This year's Shield is so close to its zenith that it could not be closer. In fact, the Shield Night of 4th September is upon us. But the outcome is still not certain, as there's some jostling and shuffling at the head of the Shield Table, and the most recent tournament on Wed 21st August only made things a bit closer still despite the evening being the first in years when nobody managed to break the 500 aggregate barrier in almost as many years.

The tournament on 7th August had an extra prize, bequeathed to the evening by Sailesh who had, rather suddenly, upped and moved to Hong Kong, with barely an evening's notice! Sailesh was a relatively recent addition to the Balut Section, and in his own way, was an essential part of it, with always a Balut coming, and if not, something almost as good. His gifted bottle of wine was won as a spot prize by H, who gushed and oozed when receiving the prize from Bowling Ball, but not quite as much as Monkey gushed and oozed when receiving his prize from The Jackal, although that might have been for a far different big and black reason. Monkey has been putting himself around quite a bit recently, so I have read.....

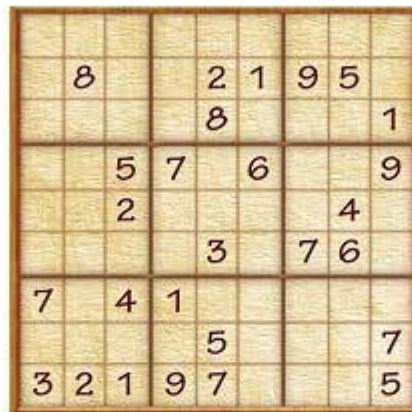
Below is the top of the league as it stands in anticipation of 4th Sept. The Shield Night Buffet starts at 6pm in the Suriwongse Room, the Balut Section AGM starts close to 7pm, and the final tournament immediately thereafter. And then there's the awards. Register your interest with Bowling Ball, Sausage or TC as soon as you can!

Position	NickName	Player	Matches	Total	Average
1	Doctor	Mr Anil Bhandari	10	3,267	<b>108.90</b>
2	TC	Mr. Phil Alexander	19	3,245	<b>108.17</b>
3	Chicken wings	Mr. Tilak Karamala	13	3,201	<b>106.70</b>
4	DQ	Mr. David Quine	13	3,116	<b>103.87</b>
5	Andrea	Ms. Andrea Baker	8	3,108	<b>103.60</b>
6	Penguin	Mr Andy Williams	11	3,072	<b>102.40</b>
7	Sausage	Mr. Jeremy de Sausmarez	13	3,065	<b>102.17</b>
8	KOS	Mr. Ryan Bebbington	12	3,051	<b>101.70</b>
9	Bowling Ball	Mr. Bob Van Es	14	3,049	<b>101.63</b>
10	The Jackal	Sr. Carlos Romero	12	3,038	<b>101.27</b>

Many thanks to our marvellous sponsors **OUTRIGGER HOTELS AND RESORTS**, and to **YES TECHNOLOGIES** for the **BOSS** system and all their ingenious support with the Interport comms.



# ET ALIA...



## LOGICAL REASONING

Look at this series: 70, 71, 76, \_\_\_\_, 81, 86, 70, 91 ... What number should fill the blank?

- |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|
| A. | 70 | B. | 71 |
| C. | 80 | D. | 96 |

### LAST MONTH'S SOLUTION

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

$8 \times 1 - 2 = 6$   
 $6 \times 2 - 3 = 9$   
 $9 \times 3 - 4 = 23$   
 $23 \times 4 - 5 = 87$   
 $87 \times 5 - 6 = 429 \dots$

## LOCAL HISTORY

From the eager respondents, last month Geoff Simmons' answer came in before I had sharpened my pencil. The building was the Siam Intercontinental Hotel, whose foundation stone was laid on 11 December 1964. It was demolished in 2002 to make way for the architecturally barren, featureless and culturally sterile Siam Paragon shopping centre.

This month there's a couple of marvellous photos of Victory Monument, an aerial shot taken by British pilot Peter Hunt in 1946 (north direction is the upper road on the right), the other is an undated photo taken from the ground (I feel it is coming up PhayaThai), which is striking in the lack of development and the monument's imposing stature.



## ENGLISH CAN BE DIFFICULT TO LEARN!

We round off our illustration of strange English with the examples below, and many thanks to Warwick Newton for supplying these ones. I have a couple of poems, comprised almost entirely of awkward spelling and pronunciation, but we'll leave those for another time, although I can't resist giving you a little taste (on the right below):

1. The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.
2. I would not object to owning that object.
3. The insurance was invalid for the invalid.
4. The oarsmen had a row about how to row.
5. That door isn't close enough to close.
6. The patient patient waited hours in the surgery.
7. I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.
8. The artist shed a tear on seeing the canvas tear.

*"Stranger does not rhyme with anger,  
 Neither does devour with clangour.  
 Souls but foul, haunt but aunt,  
 Font, front, wont, want, grand, and grant,  
 Shoes, goes, does. Now first say finger,  
 And then singer, ginger, linger,  
 Real, zeal, mauve, gauze, gouge and gauge,  
 Marriage, foliage, mirage, and age."*



# MONDAY NIGHT MEDIA

*A sampling of detection, crime, and comedy!*

We carry on this month by showing TV comedy on the first Monday, and by very popular demand, the last Friday will feature a movie suggested by the viewers.

**SEPTEMBER: Mondays, 7pm, Wordsworth Lounge. Full F&B service available.**

## 2nd September

### YES MINISTER & SPITTING IMAGE

#### Yes Minister: "The Writing on the Wall"

The threat of the abolition of the DAA forces Hacker and Sir Humphrey to work together.



#### Yes Minister: "The Right to Know"

A threatened badger colony demonstrates that Sir Humphrey must be selective in what he tells his Minister.

#### Spitting Image

The next episode from this highly acclaimed and humorous rubber puppet show parodying well-known global public figures, originally broadcast in 1986.

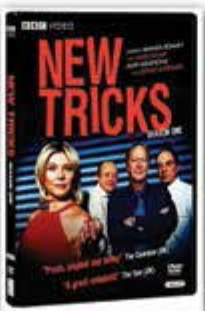


## 16th September

### NEW TRICKS

#### "Episode 2.7"

When the team investigates the case of two boys abducted from a fishing lake in 1979, Brian believes that there could be a link to a set of recent kidnappings around the M25.



#### "Episode 2.8"

The team try to find the identity of the remains of an unidentified woman, who was found back in 1987. Things prove tricky, however, but hard work pays off – it's Faye McCloud, who went missing in London in 1986. The team then uncover something that could have been connected to her death.

## 9th September

### LIFE ON MARS

#### "Episode 2.3"

When a bomb warning is reported, A-Division go on red alert. The IRA have begun their mainland bombing campaign – now the terror has arrived. Or has it?



#### "Episode 2.4"

The body of a young woman is found in wasteland. The investigation takes the team to suburbia, where a local car dealer is throwing private parties, employing the make-up girls to "help out" when the wife-swapping begins...

## 23rd September

### TWO NEW SERIES, ONE EPISODE OF EACH!

#### Hyperdrive

This is a British sitcom science fiction series originally broadcast in 2006, which ran to two series. Set in 2151/2, it follows the crew of HMS Camden Lock as they stumble through their heroic mission to protect British interests in a changing galaxy.



#### Spooks

A British television series originally shown in 2002 which has run to 10 series, and follows the work of a group of MI5 officers in their highly secure suite of offices in London. It is a fast-paced spy intrigue action series with high production values and good use of many popular guest actors.



## 30th September

### MONTHLY MOVIE - TO BE ANNOUNCED

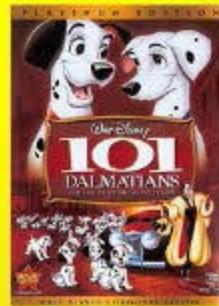
After the success of Monty Python's Meaning of Life, this month's movie is one of three titles yet to be decided. It will be chosen and announced by email in the weekly mailings, and regular Monday Nighters will also be advised by email.





Fri 6th Sept  
Alice in Wonderland

Fri 13th Sept  
101 Dalmatians



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BANGKOK

September  
**KIDS MOVIES**  
Silom Sala, 6pm



Fri 20th Sept  
Mary Poppins

Fri 27th Sept  
Megamind



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Photograph: Dusit Thani Bangkok

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