



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE

OF THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK

September 2017

Outpost

www.britishclubbangkok.org

Sports Camps

British Club Members

receive a 15% discount
when dining
and preferential
room prices

Kamala
Beach
Estate



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

MEMBERSHIP PLUS

Special discounts from our partners!

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THB 200 per person
off the regular rate
for every bicycle tour, and
children under 12 get a full
25% off our regular price.



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chairman@britishclubbangkok.org

Vice Chairman - Ali Adam
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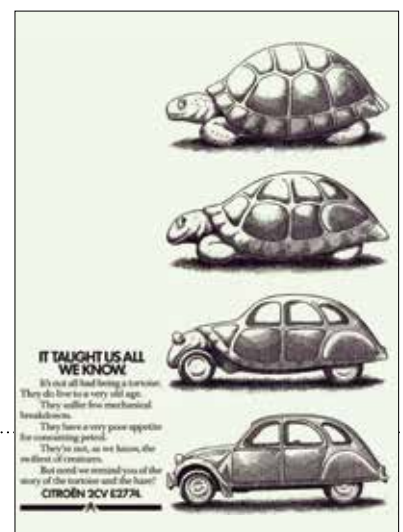
**FRONT COVER**

The Club has seen growing enrolment for its Sports Camps and Mini Sports Camps, held during holiday months throughout the school year. Held mainly on Club premises exposing children to a range of sports, the camps also take in ice-skating and bowling. Details in the Fitness Centre.

EDITOR'S GREETING

As promised last month, the selection of photos from 1965 (featuring last month's cover) was handed to Jack Dunford to categorise into three monthly features with a text history provided by Paddy Dixon. The first appears herein.

This issue is also the last one to be prepared in-house, and from the October issue we anticipate new content and designs creeping on to the pages. As always, contributions are welcome - letters, articles, images can be sent to jeremy@suthep.com

Ed

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

A full version of the magazine is also available online at www.britishclubbangkok.org/outpost **Editor** - Jeremy de Sausmarez jeremy@suthep.com

Opinions expressed need not necessarily represent those of the Club. All events, dates and times are correct at time of press. Outpost welcomes contributions from Members, email outpost@britishclubbangkok.org - No part of this publication may be reproduced without the written permission of the Publisher.

'The British Club Bangkok is a registered Association in accordance with the Thai Civil & Commercial Code'

MESSAGE FROM the Chairman

52 Years Ago: Instead of my usual photo feature, I am delighted that in Outpost this month we present the first of three, two-page spreads of pictures kindly donated by Dr. Paddy Dixon (D06). These were taken in 1965 and 1966 when four of the original eight tennis courts were closed to accommodate a new Swimming Pool, Changing Rooms, Surawongse Sala, Kitchen and Squash Court #1.

Paddy tells me that most Members wanted the Swimming Pool to be built but according to the Club Centenary handbook, a minority of 'old fogies' doggedly opposed it, fearing that hordes of children and women would destroy the hitherto peaceful ambience of a gentlemen's retreat. For years afterwards apparently, some referred to it as 'that hole in the ground'!

The Club had no money at the time, and so had to raise a bank loan. To pay that off, Members' entrance fees and subscriptions had to be increased. Of course it was a great success, finally embracing families in the rapidly changing world of the Swinging 60s. The Club historian concluded that without broadening its membership base in this way it is unlikely that the Club would ever have survived into the modern era.

We are thus deeply indebted to the foresight of our predecessors and have inherited a fabulous property in the middle of town; set in wonderful gardens with a classic Clubhouse, car parking and a host of family and sports facilities. But now the place is shabby and out-of-date, our membership is ageing and our image is stuffy. Without bringing standards up to the 21st Century we will surely wither away.

52 Years Later: It is now our turn to secure the Club for future generations and it was reassuring that at the EGM on 10th August the GC was given a resounding vote of confidence, 161 votes to 41, to finally start work on the Silom Wing, the first phase of refurbishing the entire poolside. Once the contractors have been chosen and contracts signed, demolition of the old buildings will begin. The staff house has already been vacated and their facilities moved to the old Pavilion Café, and temporary family facilities on the Front Lawn will soon be ready with a shaded seating area, kiddies pool and playground equipment.

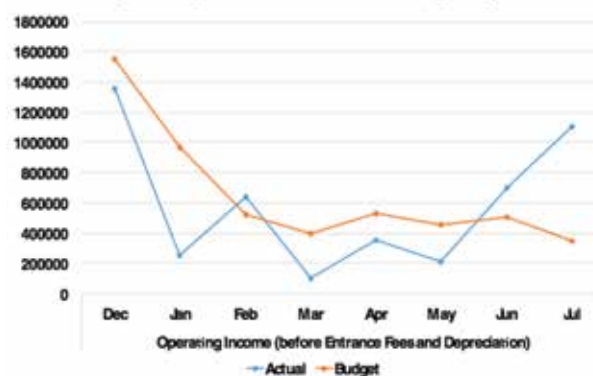
Bouncing Back: Immediately following the official 100-day mourning period, activity at the Club began to pick up and in July revenue was higher than budget for the second month running. The festive season is already looking jam-packed with bookings and events and the next 6-months look like being a very busy time for the Club.



Jack Dunford

Chairman

Operating Income Dec 2016 through July 2017



New Faces: Two new staff additions make prospects even more exhilarating and I am pleased to introduce Kate Bailey, our Marketing Manager who started with us at the beginning of August, and Matthew Carley our new Deputy General Manager who will join us on 1st September.

- Kate is a New Zealander who has lived in Thailand for nearly seven years and has 15 years experience working in advertising, marketing and communications. She will be working three days a week and is developing a comprehensive marketing plan both to attract new Members and to improve activities and communications within the Club. We will shortly be sharing a completely fresh-look website and other marketing material, and the campaign will begin.



- Matt is British with a strong F&B background and has a touch of music in his veins. He worked five years with the Hard Rock Café in Thailand and has a host of qualifications. He will bring much energy and expertise to upgrade our services both back and front of house and will be able to shoulder much of Khun Prem's heavy day-to-day workload.



With Kate and Matt on board, expect a burst of new ideas and activity as we head into the bustling festive season.

Outpost: Since Jeremy's departure, we have decided to outsource Outpost to Big Chilli magazine run by Colin Hastings, starting with the October issue. Jeremy has agreed to help Colin and initially it will be much as before. But as the new team takes over and our own marketing plan takes off, expect Outpost to become even more thrilling and colourful. Surely not possible!

Just a start: Optimism abounds and there is a newfound confidence in the future. Since the EGM, so many Members have said to me "now get on with it" ... "finish the job" ... "don't stop at Phase 1" ... "the guest rooms sound great, build those as well" ... "Why not just borrow the money and get it all done?"

Well, we have to deliver the Silom Wing first and we have to monitor activities carefully. I am optimistic however that we will be in a position before long to come back with plans to move beyond the Silom Wing. Besides completing the poolside redevelopment we are having concepts drawn up for refurbishing the Clubhouse to reflect our classic heritage, and indeed adding 8 or 10 guest rooms. We will bring all of this back for Member feedback in the coming months.

Neilson Hays: Yesterday I popped in to see how the Neilson Hays Library renovations were going. It is a wonderful old building and will be stunning when it re-opens in October.

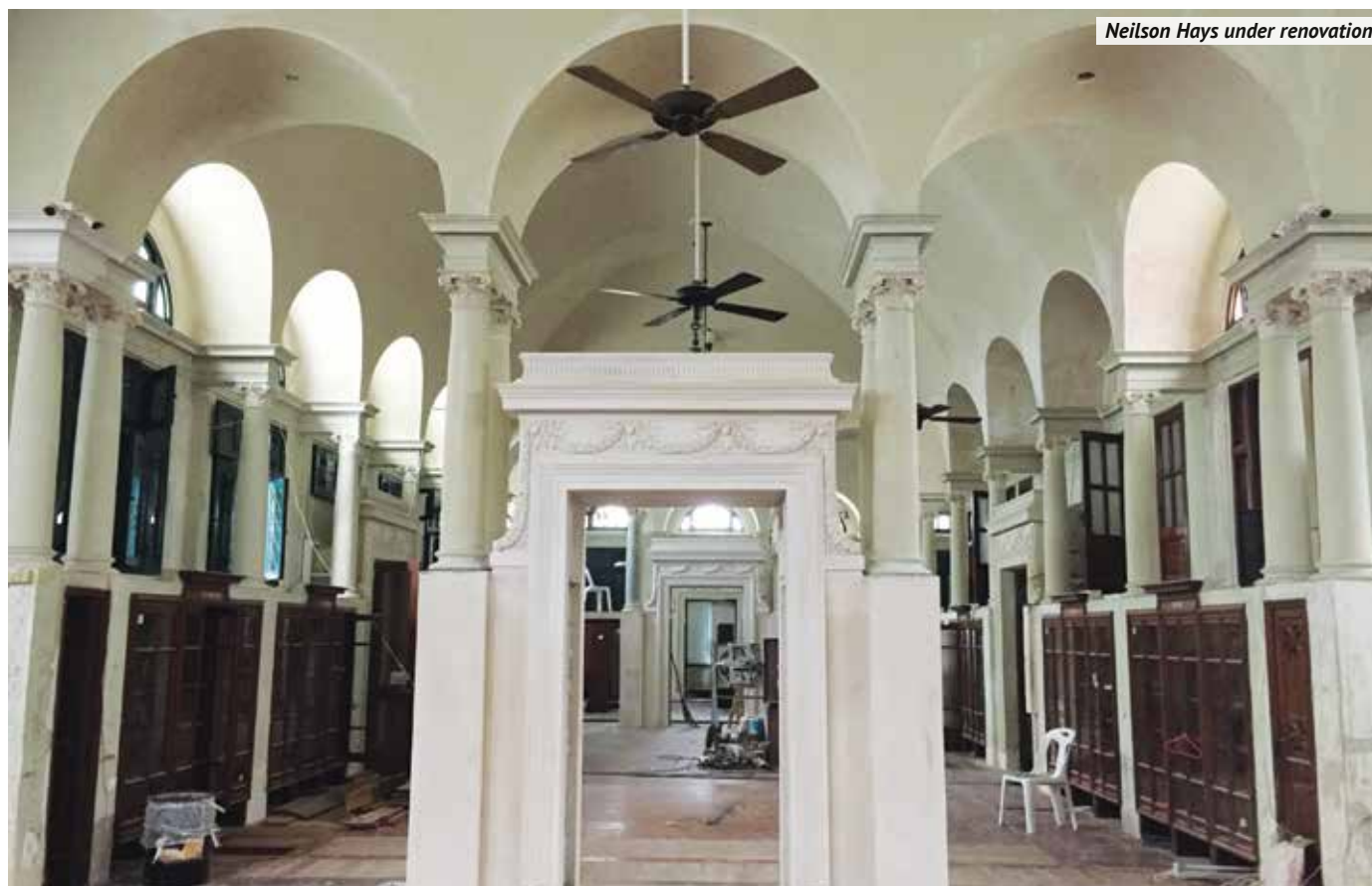
They are also planning to re-landscape their gardens and when we return to run the café Members will have another attractive outlet to choose from, especially book lovers. We will also be looking for more shared activities with the library. The Book Sale we hosted in May was a great success and we hope to have another one with more family fun in November.

Comings and Goings: New GC Member Jason Morris has now taken over as Chair of the H&G Sub-Committee which is preparing a comprehensive 5-year CAPEX programme to include all big ticket items such as repainting the Clubhouse, resurfacing the tennis courts and multi-purpose court etc.

Regrettably James McLeary has resigned from the GC. Another James, James Crossley-Smith, a qualified accountant has been co-opted to take his place and will also take over from Geoff Banks as Honorary Treasurer. Geoff will stay on the Committee providing support to James as well as inputting to a number of other Sub-Committees.

James Crossley-Smith has been a member of the Audit Committee so now there is an urgent need to find two or three new Members for this important Committee. If anyone is interested in joining please contact me or the Chair, Charlotte Nørregaard.

Welcome back to all who have been away. These are exciting times, come along and use the Club and enjoy the changes as they unfold.



Neilson Hays under renovation

CAR BOOT SALE

SUN 10 SEP

2pm - 6pm



Front Lawn

THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK



Books, DVDs, toys, clothes ornaments, pictures, gadgets,
and all sorts of unexpected items to look through
An opportunity to pick up a bargain or two !

NO ENTRY CHARGE FOR VISITORS

EVERYONE WELCOME

The British Club Bangkok . Entry via Silom 18 , adjacent to Narai Hotel
Book at Reception or email to : events@britishclubbangkok.org

LETTER FROM the General Manager

Over 70 Members attended the EGM on 10th August to discuss delaying the Silom Wing project, and the motion was defeated so the Club will proceed with the project soon. The Silom Wing Sub-Committee is working on the tender documents and we will send out further details of the schedule of works as soon as all is confirmed.



Premrudee Tanyaluck

General Manager



Eating area

In mid August, our staff relocated to the new staff house with its new facilities, as in the photos here. This area is away from the Members facilities and very quiet for them to relax, take their breaks and have their meals.

We have organised the front lawn as a replacement kids area with a small swimming pool, awnings, tables and chairs, playground equipment and the trampoline so both children and their parents can still enjoy leisure time at the Club.

On 1st September we have a new DGM joining us. Khun Matthew Carley will take care of all operations including F&B, kitchen, service, sport, maintenance and security as I will be busy with all aspects of the new development project. His details are mentioned on the Chairman's pages also.

Our staff are now working on the Club events from October through to December, and we will start with a Sherlock Holmes play with a set menu on 6th October. Also being scheduled are this year's Trafalgar Night, Kids Halloween Party, Guy Fawkes Night, the Annual Christmas Ball Party and of course the peak of the year Christmas Day.

In sports, Friday Junior Tennis coaching and Ladies Coaching are starting again in September, and we have 5-a-side football tournament on 30th September.

In membership, we still operate the Member-Get-Member programme, and we plan to reactivate the Membership Plus programme soon. We also now have 351 Reciprocal Clubs around the world, so please check our website and you can request an introductory letter from our reception team if you wish to visit them.

Welcome back to all our Members who have been away on holiday over recent months - we look forward to seeing you all around the Club soon!



Changing area

OFFICIAL OPENING TIMES

The Verandah	11am - 2pm, 5pm - 10pm (Mon-Thurs) 11am - 10pm (Fri-Sun and Public Holidays)		
1910 Balcony	3pm - midnight (Afternoon Tea 3pm - 5pm)		
Accounts Office	9am - 6pm (Mon-Fri), Closed (Sat-Sun)		
1910 Sports Bar	5pm - midnight	Fitness Centre	6am - 10pm (Mon-Fri)
Churchill Bar	10am - 12midnight	Fitness Centre	6am - 9pm (Sat-Sun)
Poolside Bar	6:15am - 11pm Last food orders 9:30pm	Thai Massage	10am - 5pm (Tues-Sun)

SEPTEMBER

BUSINESS LUNCH



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK



4th Sep - 8th Sep



Starters: 65 Baht (2 Options)

Tuna Salad or Chef's Soup of The Day.

Main Courses: 160 Baht (4 Options)

Creamy Chicken Breast with Penne, Peas and Creamy White Wine Sauce
Fish and Chips.

Marinated Pork Fillet Roast on Rhubarb.

Tom Kha Gai, Tod Man Pla, Phad Tua Ngok Moo Krob.



11th Sep - 15th Sep



Starters: 65 Baht (2 Options)

Smoked Duck Salad.

Chef's Soup of The Day.

Main Courses: 160 Baht (4 Options)

Chicken and Wild Mushroom Lasagna.

Pan Fried Dory Fish with Caper Meunière

Shepherd's Pie

Gaeng Jued Tao Hoo Moo Sab, Phad Kraprao Moo Sab, Kai Dao.



18th Sep - 22nd Sep



Starters: 65 Baht (2 Options)

Mozzarella, Mango, Tomatoes and Rocket Salad

Chef's Soup of The Day.

Main Courses: 160 Baht (4 Options)

Grilled Chicken Breast with Tomato and Bean Sauce.

Grilled Mixed Sausage.

Grilled Seabass with Coriander Salsa.

Gaeng Kiew Wan Look Chin Pla, Moo Tod Kratium Prik Thai, Phad Phak Ruam Nam Man Hoy.



25th Sep - 29th Sep



Starters: 65 Baht (2 Options)

Carrots, Raisin and Apple Coleslaw

Chef's Soup of The Day.

Main Courses: 160 Baht (4 Options)

Chicken Chasseur.

Grilled Seabass with Spinach Risotto

Mini Steak with Gravy Sauce..

Pla Sam Rod, Phad Prik Khing Moo Krob, Kai Jiew



Dessert of the Day : Choose from our à la carte Dessert with 10% off

Available at The Verandah and Poolside

F&B MORSELS

Looking back at August's popular dishes we have decided to continue with our promotion for raw and cooked fresh oysters. The strawberry promotion will also be extended into next month for you all to enjoy.

This issue of Outpost includes the menu for October's Trafalgar Dinner. The last four years' dinners for this great occasion have been special menus with

new and different tasty dishes to complement the specially selected wines, and this year's menu (which was going to run last year until cancellation) is no exception. Sign up and come along to enjoy a great evening of food, beverage, and banter!

We have obtained a range of 'fusion' sausages, traditional



Khun Laak

Executive Chef

style but with Thai flavourings such as larb moo, tom kha gai, pad grapao and nam prik ong. I think you will be interested to try these, so please don't hesitate to order them. They can also be requested as toppings for your pizza orders, and with spaghetti dishes as well.

The Salmon Fishcakes offer is still running, and we are continuing with chicken, seafood and vegetarian paella on Wednesdays. Let me also remind you that Sunday Brunch includes roast beef, lamb and pork with crackling, as well as baked salmon.

Happy Eating!



*September's
drink of the Month*

Irish Boilermaker

135
THB

Don't forget afternoon tea is available at 3pm





THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

OYSTER Fest



Fresh

French Fine De Claire
or Sydney Rock
Half dozen for 450 THB



Half dozen

French Fine De Claire
or Sydney Rock + Tiara Brut
one Bottle 1,150 THB

Cooked

Oyster Rockefeller
or Oyster Mornay
5 pieces for 400 THB

One dozen

French Fine De Claire
or Sydney Rock + Tiara Brut
one Bottle 1,550 THB

Served with

Red Vinegar Shallots, Paprika, Tabasco
Lime and Brown bread

Reciprocal Clubs in Singapore

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please be aware that our Reciprocal Clubs in Singapore now require that users of the Reciprocal Club facility must prove that they are not resident in Singapore.

For most members you merely show your passport with the entry stamp in it. However, Club members who hold Singaporean nationality, those who hold Singaporean Permanent Residency and any Club member who is working in Singapore is now required to show proof of residency in Thailand either with the appropriate passport Thai visa stamps or Thai work permit.

This mirrors the approach now being taken by Reciprocal Clubs in Hong Kong and Club members are urged to abide by these rules.

The Australian Embassy Bangkok is Moving

From Monday 31 July 2017 the Australian Embassy Bangkok will be located at:

**181 Wireless Road
Lumphini, Pathumwan 10330**

**Switchboard: +66 2 344 6300
Website: www.thailand.embassy.gov.au**



BIG AND BLACK

S.C.C. Balut Challenge

The Balut Section has certainly been quiet over the last couple of years. That all changed on Saturday 22nd July when the British Club Bangkok hosted The Tenth Anniversary BALUT Challenge and we were pleased to welcome the Singapore Cricket Club who sent more than 30 of their top players to try their best against us. The event started with welcoming drinks in the Churchill Bar on the



Orange family



Strong Club team



Bimal - the Club's only winner!

Friday evening and it was great to see the bar packed, a great start to a great weekend.

On Saturday, The Balut aficionados, those dice-rolling fanatics who apparently know their 'straights' from their 'houses', packed the Surawongse Room to play a tough 6 rounds. The SCC fielded a total of 7 teams of 4, the BCB 6 teams of 4, a total of 52 players no less.

Master of Ceremonies was none other than our Club's own Honorary Secretary, Paul Cheesman, who had the unenviable task of trying to keep order as well as managing to award 'spot' prizes during every round for players who were first to score, for example, any 'house' made up of threes and sixes.

The scorer was none other than programming maestro David Quine who managed to keep track of all the scores, with a little help from



4 trophies to be won

one of the Club's accounting staff, the legendary Khun Amornmas. All scores are entered into the amazing online TeamBalut.com scoring system which beams real time scores to the screens set up specially for the event.

Before the first dice were rolled, everyone tucked into a great Thai buffet lunch, all washed down with umpteen beers and glasses of wine. No game of Balut is complete without a drink or two and there were many fine wines and spirits donated to the cause from our generous sponsors.

After 6 exhausting and fun-filled rounds, it was finally time for the prize-giving ceremony. Probably at this point we realised that we British Club players were certainly a little bit rusty as the top three prizes, Best Team Score, Best Individual Score and Best Pair Score, went to our Singapore friends. However there was one important prize won by Club Member Bimal (see photo), a tiny prize for sure as it was for the Second Lowest Individual Score! Well done Bimal!

The evening was far from finished as we then sat down to a scrumptious dinner, specially prepared by our executive chef Khun Laak. After a few more glasses of wine and much talk about when the next Balut challenge will take place, we retired to the Churchill Bar to conclude a most successful Balut weekend.

Yes, it was ten years ago that the British Club first started playing Balut, so this was a particularly special event for us, as it was the SCC who introduced us to the game of Balut a decade ago via the memorable Jam Meister, Roger Willbourn.

For those of you who are still wondering "what on earth is Balut?", just come along to the Churchill Bar on any Friday evening and learn how to roll those dice. It's a great fun game, involves a few drinks and you'll enjoy trying to achieve the ultimate roll - a Balut.



The rolling foe



Over 50 players



Convenor Extraordinaire



Spot prizes



Welcome!



Impeccable Data Centre



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

Any Friend of Yours, is a Friend of Ours

With our member-get-members scheme, introducing your friends to the club has never been better.

Introduce a friend to club and if they join, you'll receive 3% of their entrance fee as an F&B credit on your account.

Contact our membership team
to get more information on 02234 0247
or email us at membership@britishclubbangkok.org

An International Club for Friends and Families



SUNSET ON THE SALA

EVERY FRIDAY

SILOM SALA, 4.30 - 8PM

Salute the end of the season pool-side in Silom Sala with an evening of child-friendly fun.

FREE ENTRY!

LUCKY EGG



KIDS MOVIE



Come and relax in front of our free Friday movie, complete with free popcorn while kids can take part in a gaggle of games including balloon darts, the 'Lucky Egg' prize draw and much more!!

Drinks and meals available, including a full children's menu.

BALL TOSS



FREE POPCORN



BACK IN '65

Poolside Part 1

Dr. Paddy Dixon (D6) donated a collection of pictures taken at the British Club in 1965 and 1966 when the Swimming Pool was being built. They provide glimpses into a bygone era and a wonderful record of this momentous time in the Club's history. Most of the images are not of great quality but I am going to share the best over three months because they need to be shown at a reasonable size to be appreciated.



Dr Patrick Dixon



Jack Dunford



1965. Tennis courts 1 to 6



1965. Cars parked by courts 5&6

What is now known as the Poolside was originally a tennis club with 8 grass courts, purchased from the Danish-owned Siam Electricity Company in 1919. The swimming pool, Surawongse Sala, changing rooms, kitchen and Squash Court 1 were built on the grass tennis courts 5 and 6, and the pictures here this month show construction underway. There was a soft opening on 12th August 1966.

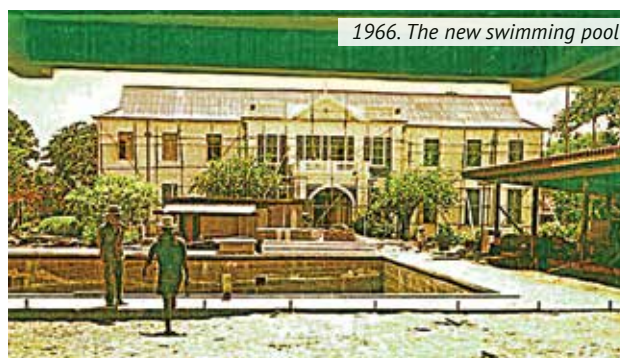
The first picture shows a view of Courts 1 to 6 down the driveway to Surawongse Road before construction began, and you will note cars parked along the near side of the front lawn as also shown in the second picture. According to Paddy, this would have been where tennis players parked, played their game, then jumped back in and drove off. According to our official Club history, Saturday afternoons were the busiest time on the courts with curry tiffin served on the front lawn and calls of 'Boy, another gin and tonic over here' punctuating play.

Squash was a rapidly growing sport at the time and soon a second court had to be added in 1970 and yet a third in 1981.

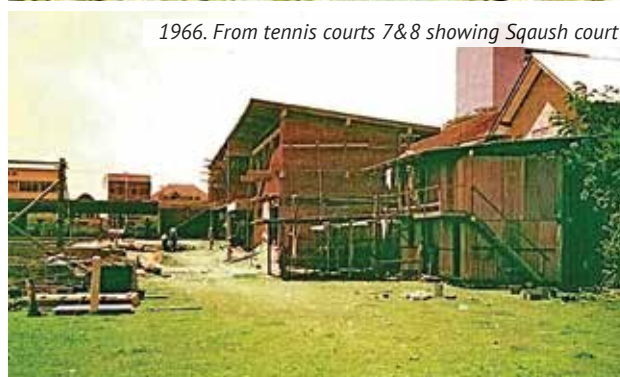
The AIA building piercing the skyline on Surawongse Road in picture 6 was one of the first two tall buildings in Bangkok and is still there (not to be confused with the new one next to Club built in the 1980s). The other was the Chokchai building on Sukhumvit Road which featured in one of my pictures in Outpost April 2016.



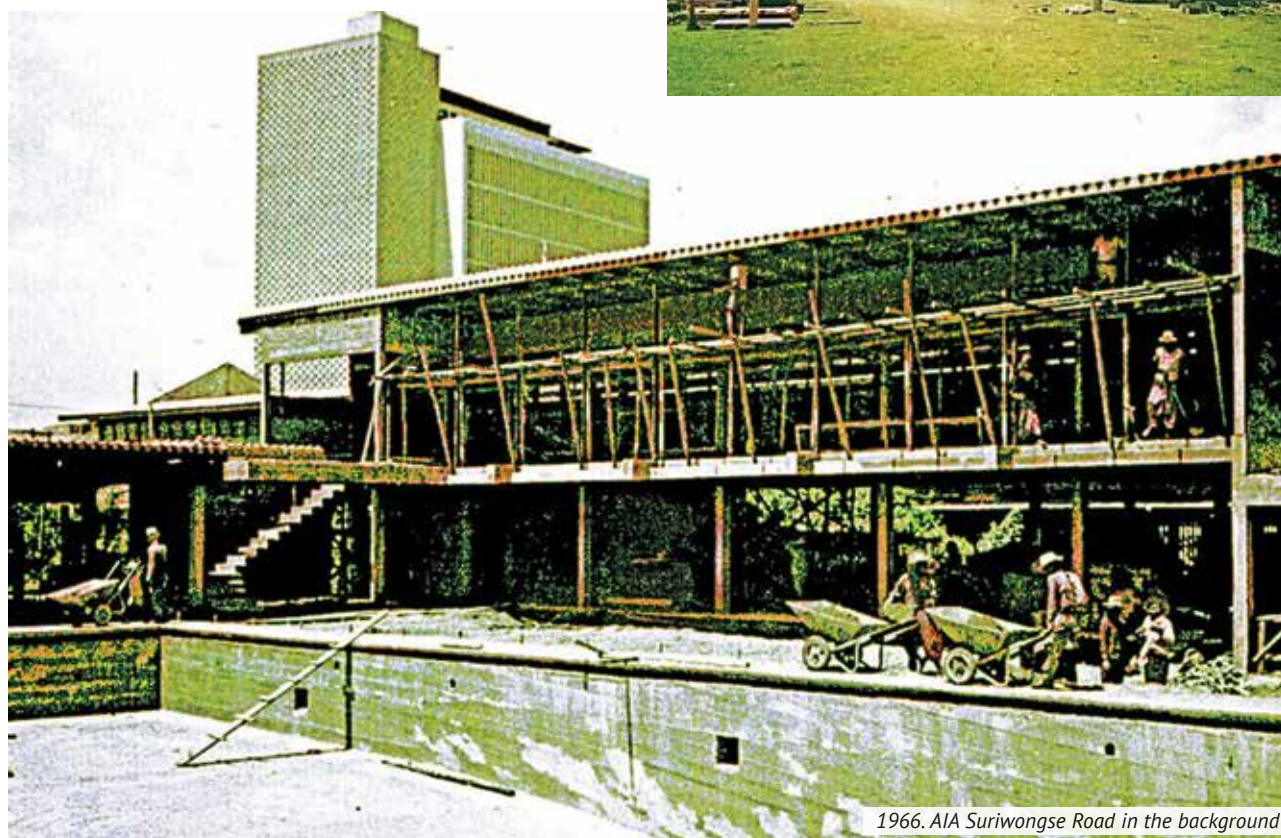
1966. The Swimming Pool was built on Tennis courts 5&6



1966. The new swimming pool



1966. From tennis courts 7&8 showing Squash court



1966. AIA Suriwongse Road in the background

BC Calendar September 2017

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday



4

BWG Mahjong

10am - 1pm



Tennis Mix-In

6pm - 10pm



5

Squash Mix-In

5:15pm - 7:30pm



Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers

8:30pm

Football

7pm - 9pm



6

Tennis Mix-In

6pm - 10pm

Ladies Tennis Coaching

9.30 - 10.30pm

Paella

Dinner only!



11

BWG Mahjong

10am - 1pm



Tennis Mix-In

6pm - 10pm



12

Squash Mix-In

5:15pm - 7:30pm



Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers

8:30pm

Football

7pm - 9pm



13

Tennis Mix-In

6pm - 10pm

Ladies Tennis Coaching

9.30 - 10.30pm

Paella

Dinner only!



18

BWG Mahjong

10am - 1pm



Tennis Mix-In

6pm - 10pm



19

Squash Mix-In

5:15pm - 7:30pm



Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers

8:30pm

Quiz Night

7:15pm The Verandah

Football

7pm - 9pm



20

Tennis Mix-In

6pm - 10pm

Ladies Tennis Coaching

9.30 - 10.30pm

Paella

Dinner only!



25

BWG Mahjong

10am - 1pm



Tennis Mix-In

6pm - 10pm



26

Squash Mix-In

5:15pm - 7:30pm



Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers

8:30pm

Football

7pm - 9pm



27

Tennis Mix-In

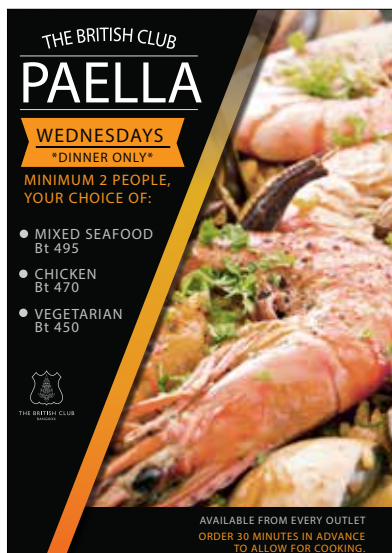
6pm - 10pm

Ladies Tennis Coaching

9.30 - 10.30pm

Paella

Dinner only!



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

Thursday



7

Squash Mix-In
5:15pm - 9:45pm



Friday

1

Junior Tennis
4pm - 6pm

Sunset on the Sala
4.30 - 8pm Silom Sala



8

Junior Tennis
4pm - 6pm

Sunset on the Sala
4.30 - 8pm Silom Sala

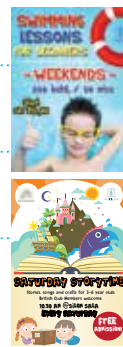


Saturday

2

Swimming Lessons
9am - 10:30am

Saturday Storytime
10:30am Silom Sala



9

Swimming Lessons
9am - 10:30am

Saturday Storytime
10:30am Silom Sala



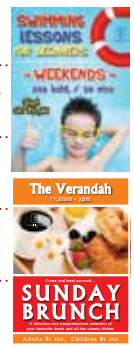
Sunday

3

Swimming Lessons
9am - 10:30am

Sunday Brunch
11:30 - 3pm Verandah

Open Pairs Bridge
2pm Silom Room



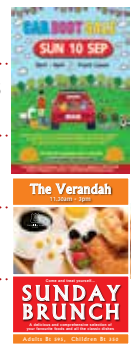
10

Swimming Lessons
9am - 10:30am

Sunday Brunch
11:30 - 3pm Verandah

Open Pairs Bridge
2pm Silom Room

Car Boot Sale
2 - 6pm Front Lawn



14

Squash Mix-In
5:15pm - 9:45pm



15

Junior Tennis
4pm - 6pm

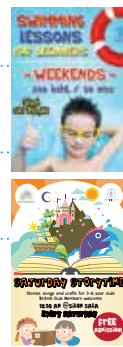
Sunset on the Sala
4.30 - 8pm Silom Sala



16

Swimming Lessons
9am - 10:30am

Saturday Storytime
10:30am Silom Sala

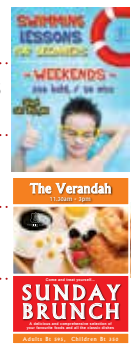


17

Swimming Lessons
9am - 10:30am

Sunday Brunch
11:30 - 3pm Verandah

Open Pairs Bridge
2pm Silom Room



21

Squash Mix-In
5:15pm - 9:45pm



22

Junior Tennis
4pm - 6pm

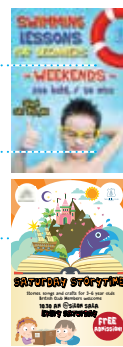
Sunset on the Sala
4.30 - 8pm Silom Sala



23

Swimming Lessons
9am - 10:30am

Saturday Storytime
10:30am Silom Sala

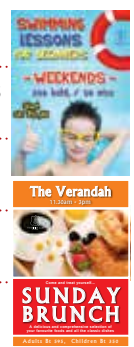


24

Swimming Lessons
9am - 10:30am

Sunday Brunch
11:30 - 3pm Verandah

Open Pairs Bridge
2pm Silom Room



28

Squash Mix-In
5:15pm - 9:45pm



29

Junior Tennis
4pm - 6pm

Wine Tasting
6pm - 9pm
Surawongse Room

Sunset on the Sala
4.30 - 8pm Silom Sala



30

Swimming Lessons
9am - 10:30am

Saturday Storytime
10:30am Silom Sala





Trafalgar Dinner 2017

Saturday 21st October, 7pm, Surawongse Room



Portobello Bellos

(Mushrooms stuffed with vegetables and feta cheese)

~~~

## Cauliflower & Ginger Soup

(An exotic blend with a faint hint of spice)

~~~

Lime Sorbet

~~~

## Tournedos in Brandy Cream Sauce

(served with Dauphinoise potatoes and sliced roasted courgettes)

or

## Snow Fish Amaretto Meunière

(served with croquette potatoes and asparagus)

~~~

Banoffee Rum Pots

(classic and sweet with a Naval tweak)

~~~

Fresh Coffee, Tea & Port.





The British Club Bangkok proudly invites you to

# TRAFALGAR



## DINNER 2017

SATURDAY 21<sup>ST</sup>  
OCTOBER  
7PM ONWARDS

Cocktails on the 1910 Balcony from 7pm,  
Dinner at Surawongse Room, 7.30pm

A Black Tie, or dress uniform, with medals  
gourmet dinner on the 212th anniversary  
of the Battle of Trafalgar.

The dinner is open to all British Club members,  
spouses and guests (females are welcome),  
Embassy staff and guests,  
members of the Royal British Legion  
(Chonburi branch) and members of the  
Military Attaché Group of Bangkok

Welcoming guest speaker  
Colonel Roger Lewis,  
currently UK Defence Attaché  
at the British Embassy in Bangkok.

|                 |             |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Members, Guests | Bt 2,250    |
| Non-Members     | Bt 2,500    |
| No alcohol      | Bt 500 less |



THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK, SILOM SOI 18, BANGKOK 10500 TEL 02 234 0247

EVENTS@BRITISHCLUBBANGKOK.ORG





THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK



**STARTS : 1ST SEP**  
**FINISHES : 15TH DEC**

**NO CLASS**  
**20TH + 27TH OCTOBER**  
**FOR HALF TERM BREAK.**

## JUNIOR TENNIS

**14 LESSONS : 7,700 BAHT**

**5-8 YEARS OLD / FRIDAYS 4-5 PM**  
**8-12 YEARS OLD / FRIDAYS 5-6 PM**

**BOOK AT THE FITNESS CENTRE 02-234-0247 EXT. 26**  
**OR BY EMAIL: [SPORTS@BRITISHCLUBBANGKOK.ORG](mailto:sports@britishclubbangkok.org)**





THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK



# LADIES TENNIS COACHING

▶ **START**  
WED 6 SEPTEMBER

## WEDNESDAYS

9.30AM - 10.30AM  
750 BAHT PER CLASS

Book in Fitness Centre 02-234 0247 Ext.26  
or by email : [sports@britishclubbangkok.org](mailto:sports@britishclubbangkok.org)



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

# Quiz Night

**Tues 19th September**

**The Verandah, 7.15pm**

With  
the Monthly  
Jackpot



**19TH  
SEP!**

**TEAMS OF 6 OR LESS**

**MEMBERS BT 100**

**GUESTS BT 150**

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



# SQUASHY BITS

## Handicap!

Tom Annas Handicap. July. Tons of competitors – must have been reading Bits and felt guilty. Over 100 punters signed up to win a plastic trophy and 4K. Mark and Mark and Marc and Neil and Neil and Ranjan and Sang and Marv and Bruce and Nick and Jason and Shiraz and James and Dan and Ja and Nick and so many more like the old, autistic couple of Cyril and Brenda from an Ethiopian old people's home and their decrepit, deaf friends from Woking, Sheila and Stanley. Stanley's dog, Timothy, also put his name down despite having just three legs, yet that's the spirit of a handicap event - all afflictions are welcome. Stanley's wife's brother's neighbour's friend has a squirrel named Roger and she gladly joined in as well. Roger claimed she'd not be sure if she could hold a squash racket, but said she'd try just to support the event. How's that for enthusiasm and



**Bruce Madge**

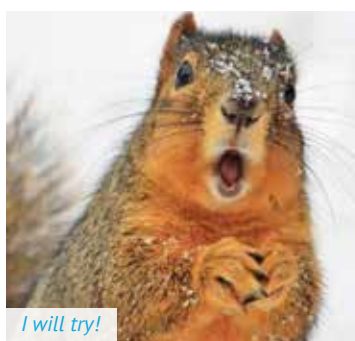


commitment? Still they came in. We received a message in a bottle from a bunch of Somali school boys who said they were bored stiff. Bored with the conflicts and the anarchy, the destruction, the death and the destitution, and bored of their blue bloody uniforms. If they swam over, could they also join in, they asked. Well yes! Hell yes! The more the merrier.

Thus, we started this year's handicap comp with hundreds of hopeful entrants and the event was expected to go on until Thailand achieves true democracy – that is to say, forever, but as is usual with these things the reality was a far cry from the imaginary codswallop presented by this column. Things started to go awry once it was



*Timothy fleeing the cops!*



*I will try!*



*Roger getting rad!*



*Can't walk and skint!*



*Had a row!*



*Tim's favourite!*



clear that Cyril and Brenda weren't going to make it as they couldn't walk and had no money for the air fare from Africa to Thailand. Surely they knew that when they applied to join the comp? Timewasters! Sheila and Stanley were forced to pull out as Sheila had slung hot soup in Stanley's lap during a massive row over his declining bedroom 'abilities'. The soup did colossal damage as it severely burnt his 'thingy' which hasn't really helped the situation, has it Sheila? Stupid cow! Sheila is now sharing a cell in Woking 'nick' with Timothy who got caught shoplifting dog biscuits form the Woking High Street branch of Morrisons and is being held in custody without bail as he has four previous convictions for theft of Winalot from Tescos in Richmond! How does he get around so much on just three legs? Roger the squirrel did try, but sadly her little paws were just too tiny to grasp a squash racket and she chose to go skateboarding instead. And our brave determined boys from Somalia? What happened to them? Bits is devastated to report that, save for one of the group who was ironically kidnapped by Somali pirates, they were all gobbled up by a gang of hungry hammerhead sharks somewhere near Madagascar. Tragic!

You couldn't make this up! So after all that, what did it leave us with? A dozen or so Squashies and a handicap squash competition. And this is what happened: the early rounds saw tons of money changing hands as players attempted to buy a more favourable handicap



*Blue bloody uniforms!*



*Shiraz possessed!*



*Tim and Sheila appearing here soon!*

*Tim done this over!*



from event organizer Cornflakes who was charging a thousand baht a point. Cheating. Cornflakes didn't care as he's now jobless (retired) so needs the cash. James Rix (nice bloke) got stitched up a little as he's a fairly new Squashie and his handicap was too high, but he wasn't prepared to stoop to Cornflakes' despicable level and pay to win. Come semifinals night Mark Rayfield beat Madge 3-0 and Nick Mellor was one point away from beating Rit, but couldn't do it. Shiraz defeated someone - Marv? Sang? Donald Trump?





*Kidnapped one of our boys!*



*Malaria juice*



# LEAVE IT ALONE



*Rit's new home!*

*Burnt Stanley's 'thingy'*



Can't remember, and Sir Nick White killed his semifinal opponent of Ranjan/Dan/Donald Trump quite literally with a syringe full of malaria juice. Clever man. He didn't get that knighthood for nothing, did he? Finals night was a bit of a farce as Rit collapsed 3-0 against Lord Malaria (had he received an injection as well or been paid off?) giving Sir Whitey the additional, and far more prestigious, title of Tom Annas Handicap Plate Champion 2017. Well done, Sir! Rit? He's still recovering in isolation in the tropical diseases unit of Ramathibodi Hospital. Shiraz versus Mark in the main final then and prior to the warm up Cornflakes, having adjudged Mark's handicap to be too low, decided to raise it to make the match more competitive. Shiraz's handicap was -39 or thereabouts and Mark was on -27 or something so Peter raised Mark's by about six points. Who paid for this? Anyway, it didn't make too much difference as Shiraz played like a man possessed by a devil and took the first two games easily. Cornflakes then suggested he drop Mark's handicap mid-match to give him a chance. What? Leave it, it's too late now! Mark then won the next game! Shiraz was livid and howled and spat in frustration. At one point his head spun 360 degrees. However, he managed to keep it on and made barely an error in the following game to take the match 3-1. Tom Annas Handicap Champion 2017. Excellent stuff there from Shiraz, but he'll be needing an exorcism to bring him back to normality, whatever that is.

Over to the sala for the usual beers and buns and prizes and photos by the pool. Rit claimed 1,500 baht which will help pay for his post-malaria rehab. Sir Nicky won 3K which he donated to Rit in a gesture of overwhelming guilt. Mark's cash prize amounted to 2,000 baht which after deductions for the handicap adjustments meant he owed Peter 5K! Shazza was handed 4,000 baht towards the cost of the aforementioned exorcism available at all good churches, mosques and temples. Book early to avoid disappointment! The lucky draw of 3,000 baht for any fortunate competitor who had played all his matches and attended the finals went, after several bum draws, to Jason Morris who rapidly stuffed it into his pocket without even shouting one round of beers. Tight git!

Be that as it so tragically may, our dear friend Tom Annas would have been most proud!

Until Jason gets the beers in . . . .



The BCB Squash Section would like to acknowledge Boots Retail Thailand as its sponsor for 2015. Boots Retail Thailand kindly sponsored the 2014 Rod Carter Open, the BCB Squash Section's open squash competition, and has agreed to support the section throughout 2015. Boots Retail Thailand has numerous branches throughout the country supplying high quality cosmetics and pharmaceuticals. Many thanks to Boots Retail Thailand.



# HARD BALLS

## The season winds to a close

The past few months have seen the season and league draw (almost) to an end as the mighty BC currently teeter on the edge of a Semi-Final spot dependent on the result of the last fixture, out of our hands. Despite a record injury list throughout the season, the team has really grabbed the bull by the horns and come away with a 50:50 win/loss ratio from 8 fixtures; a true reflection of the efforts and improvements throughout the

squad. Training has continued through the rainy spells, and the section welcomes new members; George, who returned from India with half a cricket shop after 1 session; and Luke, who was unfortunate enough to stumble across a sports bar de-brief after training. He has not been seen since...



Ben Eastwell



Outside of the serious cricket stuff, one of the section's most accommodating barmen and the club's duty manager, K.Aof, had the bravery to invite the usual suspects along to celebrate his wedding in August which resulted in a great day out and unbelievably everyone managed to behave. A couple of weeks later, the chairman was joined to celebrate his birthday after a well-attended net session and presented with his very own scoring table and chair to mark the occasion. As I write this report there is not long to wait until the prestigious Koh Chang beach cricket tour, returning for its third edition of calamities. Stay tuned for next month's edition for the tournament report.



Mossy wows the crowd with an anthem



Happy Birthday to me



Ben - man of the match V Almas

## Almas 1st July BCLB2

A cracker of a game unfolded over at AIT with BC looking for a win against Almas to maintain their momentum in the league. Sarg captained the side with Rahul still out injured, winning the toss and putting the opposition in to bat first.

Pat (0-17,5 overs) opened proceedings with his partner in crime, Denzyl, who managed to remove the opening pair early without troubling the scorers too much. The South African continued a tight spell eventually picking up a filthy 4-19, from 5 overs - including a freaky in-swinging yorker to which the batsmen had no clue. Australian import, Mak Khan, grabbed 2 in the field to aid Dilip (1-34, 5 overs) in sneaking on to the scoresheet. Even the elusive Brewis chimed in with a wicket before disappearing into the wilderness again. H cleaned up in the 23rd, reducing Almas to 138 all out.

Ben and Mak carved a solid opening partnership until the Australian import eventually fell for 21 when BC were 15 away from 3 figures, helped somewhat





by a hatful of wides from the opposition. Following drinks, Ben fell for 51 after tiredly mistiming a loose ball, leaving the middle order to bring it home. A measured innings from the captain and Goti lead to a nerve-racking finish in the last over with only 3 balls to spare. The celebrations continued long into the night as Denzyl hosted a BBQ, equipped with the people's favourite goat from the Khan farm and plenty of fluid to boot.



*BBQ party winners celebration*



*Grilling goat*

### Siam league 17th July 2017

On returning from his injury break, Rahul got off to a good start by winning the toss and racking up 39 at the top of the order with Ben contributing a steady 24 alongside. The run rate was supplemented by a dignified 25 runs from Denzyl at 3, before an infamous middle order collapse – Nickers, Goti, and the Kahn's only managing 11 between them. Aseem didn't go out without a fight though, blasting a quick 22 from 18 balls when it was needed - leaving Parrots a defendable but low target of 139 to win.

What followed was a colossal Parrots partnership straight off the bat, no real chances were handed up



*All hands on deck*

until the final over when Ed finally broke through. A rightful victory in what was a disappointing result for BC, but hats off to Parrots who were outright winners this time around – BC ironically the only opponents the side managed to overturn in this season (on both occasions).

### Amphawa league 5 August BCLB2

Faced with a rain sodden ground on arrival on the humid Saturday morning, BC and 1 or 2 of the opposition mucked in to try and dry out the pitch for a timely start. Some resistance from league leaders, Amphawa, eventually squashed the over limit to 10 overs amid fears of picking up unwanted injuries ahead of their final in coming weeks.



*A hearty appeal*

After the opposition won the toss and elected to bat - British Club were quick to capitalise on the situation, assisted by some rash shot selection from the unfocused side after being forced to go over the top and divert the slow outfield. Dilip, on the back of a 6-for in the 2 side's previous encounter, grabbed another couple; Ben, Aseem, and Pat picking up 1-a-piece. In only the 8th over, the captain clean bowled a second in just 3 balls to snatch Amphawa's 7th wicket and convince the opposition chief to decide enough was enough, calling his players off after one of his bowlers had slipped and grazed his elbow, but his pride was probably subject to a much more serious injury.



The league organisers eventually decided to award British Club the win by forfeit and 16.86 points for their troubles, temporarily jumping up to 3rd place and potentially a semifinal depending on Kerala's next result. Fingers crossed.



# TENNIS CAMP

October 23rd - 27th 2017, 10am-3pm

// With three hours of tennis and relevant physical instruction daily on court, fields, pools, and backboards, this five-day intensive workshop is perfect for beginner, intermediate and advanced players. //

**Harold Mollin**

an internationally acclaimed author of instructional tennis books on techniques and strategies, and holder of over 250 championship titles through Asia, assisted by **Khun Amnat** (Sports Manager)

**Members: THB 10,500**  
**Non-Members: THB 12,500**



**12-18  
YRS OLD**

## Terms and Conditions:

Lunch and snacks are included daily.

Tryouts for the immediate and advanced sessions required

Contact the Sports Desk for an appointment.

Limited enrollment for ages 12-18

Non-members are eligible to participate.



[www.facebook.com/HaroldMollin/](https://www.facebook.com/HaroldMollin/)



[sports@britishclubbangkok.org](mailto:sports@britishclubbangkok.org)



(02) 234 0247 Ext. 26 / Fitness Centre



# TENNIS

We enjoyed another exciting month at the British Club Tennis Section as the League Series 4 was wrapped up, we held an American tournament (?), and 'mix in' tennis continued with gusto on the nights when the weather allowed it.

## League Tennis

Division 1 was won by Mr. Dawa (him again) Sherpa. Apparently he has stopped going to the gym now as he gets enough exercise from lifting golf and tennis trophies. To be fair, the big hitters of Division 1 spend a lot of their time on the physio table or at various the airports around the globe. Come on guys! Someone needs to step up to the plate here 😊

The story of Division 2 reminds me of a conversation I had with an old boss of mine a few years ago. While discussing the relative merits of a colleague in order to complete his performance evaluation, my boss commented that the gentleman in question's main strength was that he 'always turns up' – hardly the most lavish piece of praise. Despite only winning 1 of 4 matches, our Division 2 winner accumulated enough points through attendance and narrow defeats to emerge on top of the pile. This was indeed victory by virtue of 'turning up' more than his fellow competitors. Thank you 😊



Serious mix in business



What are they doing



Graham Johnston

Section Chairperson

Division 3 was closely contested though school holidays, the rainy season, and a whole host of other excuses meant that not all the matches were played. Doug Barnet continued his recent rise to pinch top spot from Stefan. Let's see how they fare in division 2! Division 4 was 'the Nick Lyon show'. A trip back to the UK clearly served to rejuvenate Mr Lyon and suddenly the big serves were in the wee box and the big forehands were hitting the lines. Fellow competitors failed to cope. The head2toe vouchers were his!



What's he doing ...



What's she doing



What are they doing ...

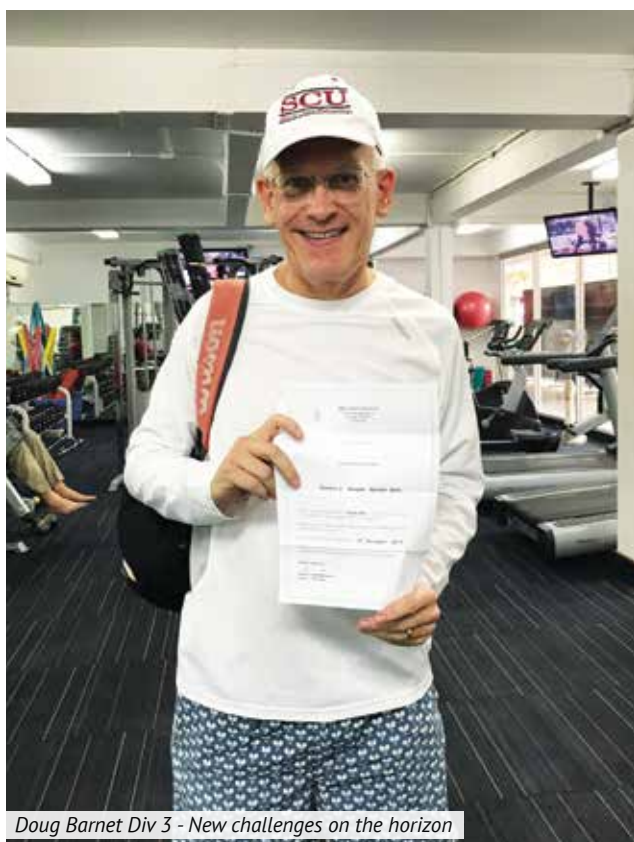




Dawa (again) Div 1



Me! Division 2 Serial Turner Upper



Doug Barnet Div 3 - New challenges on the horizon



Nick Lyon Div 4 Different Class

### 'Mix In' Tennis

'Mix ins' continued on three midweek evenings (Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 6pm) and Sunday (from 4pm) as usual. It is an international affair with local and international members enjoying tennis and refreshments at the nearby Sala bar. New member Alex T Creese has joined us in recent weeks and has taken over the title as 'best chaser of seemingly lost causes'! Great wheels Alex and welcome to the tennis section!

### American Tournament

I'm not sure what 'the traditionalists' at SW19 would think of the British Club holding an American Tournament on Men's Finals Day at Wimbledon! Not a lot I would imagine but that we did and very enjoyable it was too or so I am told by those who chose not boycott this piece of blasphemy! An American tournament is ... well ... I think it might be like tennis only you ... change partners for each match and try to remember your scores .... And then count them up at the end ... or something. Anyway 16 blasphemers took to the courts and marked the occasion of King Federer's 8th Wimbledon victory by battling it out in confused fashion. After a few San Miguels and a couple of **mathematical**

**equations**, kind organizer Nick Lyon announced the ladies winner as Khun Jeab by an emphatic margin. Well done Jeab! After another couple of San Migs and one aborted **equation**, Nick had run out of space on his white board and sent Angelo (who?) and Dmitry out to face off in a sort of spur of the moment 'play off' that can sometimes occur in American 'sports'. Eventually Angelo, who had sneaked into the competition through the back door as the brother/guest of a committee member no less, took the honours and made off in style with a bottle of our wine! Imagine allowing yank visitor to win an American tournament on Wimbledon final's day at the British Club in Bangkok. The shame, the shame!

That's it for this month. Enjoy your tennis 😊



American Tournament Men's winner Angelo



American Tournament Women's winner Jeab

For information on joining the tennis section please contact [bcts.bangkok@gmail.com](mailto:bcts.bangkok@gmail.com)  
For information on playing in the tennis leagues please contact [bcts.league.tennis@gmail.com](mailto:bcts.league.tennis@gmail.com)



# BCGS GOLFING NEWS

## July 2017



### July Stableford

In spite of perfect conditions at Lam Lukka golf course no one managed to get the magic number of points to lower their handicap. In first place was Craig Griffin with 34 points. Runner up was JR Kim who also won 4 technical prizes. Second runner up was Neil Davis.



*Winner Craig*



*Contented Neil Davis*

We welcomed back Martin Weber from a 2 year stint in Dubai. He collected Fiona's Amazon Trophy from 2015 for Ladies Most Long Drives.



*Runner Up JR*



### July Medal

In spite of falling flat on his face our Captain Frank had a stunning round at Royal with a gross 78 and net 64 to win Flight A. Runners up were Fred Narthasilpa and Craig Griffin.



The Flight B scores were not as low as Flight A's but there was some drama. Thorsten Leppek won with a remarkable turn around improving his back 9 by 10 shots to achieve a net 77. Runners up were Bryan McKinnon and Nui Clark.

*Randall Coleman had a good day winning 3 technical prizes*



### The Open and The History of the Claret Jug

The Claret Jug, or to use its proper name, the Golf Champion Trophy, is presented to each year's winner of The Open. Yet it is not the original prize. When the Championship began at Prestwick in 1860, the winner was presented with the Challenge Belt, made of rich Moroccan leather, embellished with a silver buckle and emblems.

According to the first rule of the new golf competition: "The party winning the belt shall always leave the belt with the treasurer of the club until he produces a guarantee to the satisfaction of the above committee that the belt shall be safely kept and laid on the table at the next meeting to compete for it until it becomes the property of the winner by being won three times in succession." Sounds like a British Club Golf Committee meeting minute.


In 1870, just 10 years after The Open Championship began, Tom Morris Junior won for the third consecutive time and became the owner of the belt. It was accordingly agreed that the three clubs that were to host the open in future would each contribute 10 pounds towards the cost of a new trophy now commonly known as the Claret Jug made by Mackay Cunningham & Company of Edinburgh. During the half-century in which the original Claret Jug was used, twenty-eight different players held it aloft, including Harry Vardon on a record six occasions.

However Harry Vardon and Jordon Spieth are not the only men to hold the Jug.



If you would like to join the golf society, we welcome players of all standards. We normally play on a Sunday and also have away weekends. For more information please contact us at [bcbg.bangkok@gmail.com](mailto:bcbg.bangkok@gmail.com)





# SHERLOCK HOLMES

*the Live Show*



THE BRITISH CLUB  
BANGKOK

Specially adapted for the stage from one of Conan Doyle's favorite tales, "The Empty House", this intriguing story tells how Sherlock Holmes feared dead at the Reichenbach Falls - returns to London after three years and starts working tirelessly to crack the mystery of...the empty house.

Featuring two seasoned acting professionals, this captivating piece of theatre runs for approximately 75 minutes including a 15-minute interval.

## Friday 6th October 2017

(ticket includes buffet dinner)



Tickets: Adults THB 750, Children under 12 THB 350

Venue: Surawongse Room, 7pm onwards

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