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PUBLISHER'S MESSAGE



The BigChilli

It gives me great pleasure to announce that, beginning with this issue of Outpost, responsibility for the publication of the British Club magazine now rests in the hands of The BigChilli Co Ltd, one of Bangkok's best known publishers.

Happily, we have inherited a magazine that is popular and well read, not only by members of the British Club but also by a much wider audience of non-members who, for a variety of reasons, have an association with the Club.

This month's issue of Outpost, as you will no doubt observe, is very similar to recent past issues. The magazine's very capable editor, Jeremy de Sausmarez, remains in charge of all editorial matters, while The BigChilli Co has taken over advertising.

It is our joint intention to introduce changes to the design and editorial focus of Outpost, but this will happen gradually. Among the many ideas we have is a 'letters page' for Members to air their views and editorial profiles of new Members. We also plan to include travel stories and other features about life in Thailand.

At the same time, we urge all British Club Members to submit their own ideas and personal stories to help improve the magazine.

Outpost is the Club's forum for Members, by Members. Your participation in its production is just as important as the team who every month put the magazine together.

We look forward to a long and fruitful cooperation with the British Club.

editorbiqchilli@qmail.com

Follow us at:





OUTPOST is the monthly magazine of THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK, the social sports and cultural centre for the English-speaking community in Bangkok. A full version of the magazine is also available online at www.britishclubbangkok.org/outpost

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



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REPORTINGS

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE Farewell Silom Sala

LETTER FROM THE GM Monthly summary

WELCOME Deputy General Manager

F&B MORSELS German food

BCCT NETWORKING NIGHT Gallery

BACK IN '65 8 BACK III Co Poolside part 2

SPORTS

FITNESS Sports massage therapy

HARD BALLS Koh Chang 2017

SQUASHY BITS Happy Birthday & back to 2010

TENNIS Court news

GOLF August summary



FRONT COVER

This month sees the Royal Funeral of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej, Rama IX, when the Thai nation will pay their final respects to one of the greatest and most revered leaders in Thai history. Never forgotten, his memory will drive the Thai people to even greater heights in the years ahead.

EDITOR'S GREETING

Welcome to the first in the new era of Outpost. This month little has changed, but there are discussions and plans for differences which will become evident in coming months so keep browsing!

Contributions are sought! As Colin has mentioned, a Letters Page is being considered and we are always open to contributions about travel, holidays, unknown Thai destinations and so forth.

Make Outpost your magazine and feature in it too!

Ed



MESSAGE FROM

the Chairman

The Royal Cremation of Thailand's late King, His Majesty Bhumibol Adulyadej, will take place on 26th October. Five days of solemn ceremonies will bring to an end one year of mourning by the nation for a revered monarch who will be sorely missed and whose memory will be cherished forever. Life will slowly return to normal.

Activities will be picking up at the Club as we gear up for our busiest months through November, December and January. After exceptionally heavy rains this year we all have our fingers crossed for a beautiful cool season.

Memories: Although there was no fanfare, Sunday 17th September was an historic day for the Club, the last day that the Silom Sala, Kiddies Pool, Playground and Squash Courts 2 & 3 were open before all being knocked down to make way for the new Silom Wing. I wandered around taking some last pictures. It was all rather shabby, but comfortingly familiar, invoking many a nostalgic memory of days gone by as a father of young children and a keen squash player.

Perhaps suitably it was a dull English sort of day with leaden skies and persistent rain which always looked like it would go away but carried on for hours. There was a good sprinkling of Members around though. The Silom Sala was three-quarters full for lunch and a handful of kids were dipping in and out of the pool and venturing into the playground. But the staff house



Chairman

stood still, the facilities having already been vacated to the former Pavilion Café, and the Squash Courts were eerily deserted, the Squash Section having decided to have their final 'mix-in' the day before.

Being a former squash player, the silent courts brought back the most vivid memories. Squash Court 2 was built in 1970 and Court 3 in 1980 when squash was at the peak of its popularity. In those days all the courts were booked in advance for every hour of the weekend and peak hours every evening. There were strict limits on how many courts players were allowed to book and Court 2 had a side-viewing gallery reportedly enabling 200 Members to pack in and watch the Club championship finals soon after the court was opened.

I played a lot of pretty awful but energetic squash in the 80s and 90s long before air-conditioning was installed for a pampered younger generation. Memories came back of epic, sweaty battles on court and gallons of beer afterwards to recover. There were always lots of Squashies around, 20 divisions of 6 players in the last



league I organised as convenor in 1986. I enjoyed my day with the ghosts!

Silom Wing: After years of debate and months of preparation, it is a huge relief to have finally made a start on the Silom Wing project. By the time you receive this, demolition of the old buildings will be well underway and piling for the new buildings will begin before the end of October. The noisiest and dirtiest work should be finished before the end of November.

The Squash players will have to manage with just one court until work is complete but the Section has also made arrangements with the Dusit Thani Hotel who have generously agreed to allow Club players the use of their court during the construction period. No excuses then for the Squashies not to be fighting fit and raring to go when their long awaited new courts open next year!

Unknown to some Members, for many years the Club has had two expert masseurs, Khun Chanpen and his wife Saifon, taking care of aching limbs in their hidden parlour, just outside the entrance to Squash Court 3. Another plus for the development is that they have also been displaced and will be housed temporarily in the much more visible former Drivers' Room, adjacent to the Silom Gate entrance. Hopefully many more Members will now avail themselves of their excellent services. Bookings can be made in the Fitness Centre.

The temporary family facilities on the Front Lawn have an English garden fête feel and have been well received. They create a welcoming vista when coming into the Club. No doubt there will be some inconveniences to Members as the Silom Wing construction gets underway, but every attempt will be made to minimise these. Hopefully everyone will understand the need to share spaces.

Churchill Bar: Thank you to those Members who completed the Churchill Bar survey. The response was less than we had hoped (about 120 returns) and, as one might have expected, opinions were divided between those who want change and those who do not. We will





be reviewing the responses during the coming round of sub-committee meetings.

Constitutional Review: For most Members the on-going review of our Constitution is probably less exciting than watching grass grow. And since we have been at it for about three years, the grass is winning! I am pleased to report though that we have an excellent sub-committee this year led by Paul Cheesman which has made huge progress. We can confidently expect to have a revised draft to share with Members before the end of the year and hopefully to adopt before next year's AGM.

As well as proposing some mostly uncontroversial Rule changes, a lot of duplication is being removed and the language improved making for a much more userfriendly document. It is a complicated process however because all the proposed changes have to be translated into Thai and checked by lawyers to ensure they comply with the Thai Commercial Code before we can adopt them as a Club. Expect more on this captivating topic in months to come!

Membership Data: One major area under consideration in the Constitutional Review is our membership structure. By combining data from the membership database and information from the outlet points of sale, we are studying the profile of the current membership and usage of the Club by different categories. This baseline will be invaluable for measuring the impact of the new facilities and new policies going forward.

Important indicators of how well we are doing will be the impact of any changes on the average age of our Members (currently a mature 56!) and the amount of use Members make of the Club. Currently over a third of our Members visit the Club less than 7 days a year, and just 12% of our Members contribute half of our total revenue. We plan to present more of our findings in Outpost next month.

Outpost: This is the first edition of Outpost to be published by Big Chilli and I look forward to a hot and fruitful partnership! Changes will come slowly but I am looking forward to seeing how this month turns out. I am sure we will not be disappointed.



LED Percussion Show . Fireworks at 7PM . Guy-burning at 7.15PM





LETTER FROM

the General Manager

The Silom Wing Development Sub-Committee has finalised the contractors and they will be starting work on 22nd September as per Khun Jack's page. We will co-ordinate with the contractors and inform Members about the works and the Club entrance/exit arrangements during the works and we will minimise disturbance to Members as much as possible. The children's area has already been moved to the front lawn with a kids' pool, an awning, tables, chairs, and children's equipment. Members can use the bell to order food and drink.



General Manager

This month we have a Sherlock Holmes play on 6th October which includes buffet dinner and a full cash bar. Also there is the annual Trafalgar Dinner in the Surawongse Room on 21st October, with an excellent menu, wines and port.

On Friday 27th we will have a children's Halloween Party in the Surawongse Room which parents can join as well with kids activities and a prize for the best costume. At the beginning of November, we celebrate Loy Krathong



by the pool with a Thai Buffet and on 5th November we will celebrate Guy Fawkes Night with a live band, kids activities and a bonfire this year. Please check on our website and book in Reception.

For F&B, there will be German dishes featured on the Khun Laak Recommends board from 2nd to 31st October as well as a German Buffet on Sunday 15th October. Our oyster and fresh strawberry promotions continue in all outlets.

For Sports, we will have a new Tennis Camp conducted by Khun Harold Mollin and Khun Amnat, so please check and book in the Fitness Centre.

In September we had fire training for staff from every department, with a morning lecture and then actual fire training in the afternoon (see photos). Moreover all members of staff had an annual medical check up by Lerdsin Hospital to ensure that they are in good health.

The British Women's Group visit the Club to play mah-jong every Monday at 10am in the Silom Room, and they would like any interested Club Members to join them.

Looking forward to seeing you all around the Club.



NOVEMBER

FRI 3RD

LOY KRATHONG

THU 23RD

THANKGIVING BUFFET



GUY FAWKES NIGHT

FRI 24TH

WINE TASTING



WED 6TH

CHRISTHAS CAROLS

SAT 9TH

ANNUAL
CHRISTMAS BALL

SAT 16TH

CHILDREN'S CHRISTHAS PARTY

Mon 25TH

CHRISTHAS DAY

SUN 31ST

NEW YEAR'S EVE





WELCOME!



Deputy General Manager

Let me introduce myself:

I'm Matthew but please call me Matt., and I'm excited to be joining the British Club Bangkok as the new Deputy General Manager.

My previous role was as a General Manager with Hard Rock Café both here in Thailand and in Laos. So it's probably obvious that I have a passion for music as well as great F & B service.

My plan at the Club is to ensure we are providing great personalised service to all our Members, through a hands-on approach. I'll be making sure that there is always something happening at the Club each month with the introduction of new events and activities to suit all ages. I hope to play to our strengths by preserving our image but also trying new ideas with a modern twist, while also ensuring the safety and security of the Club and all of its Members.

To achieve this, I will motivate the team with a positive attitude, strategic planning and the ability to adapt quickly to new ideas to ensure results and consistency.

I'm looking forward to meeting all the Members. If I can be of service or you just want a chat, please feel free to contact me.

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 9:30p	Thai Massage m	10am - 5pm (Tues-Sun)

BUSINESS LUNCH OCTOBER!

THE VALUE THIS MONTH IS SO GOOD IT'S SCARY



Starters: THB 65 (2 Options)

- · Pasta, chicken and pesto salad.
 - · Chef's soup of the day.

ain Courses: THB 160 (4 Options)

- · Chicken breast stuffed with mozzarella& pesto.
 - · BBQ pork spare ribs.
- · Mushroom stroganoff with tagliatelle.
 - Gaeng Pa Gai, Kai Jiew Moo Sub, Phad Khana Nam Man Hoy.



Starters: THB 60 (2 Options)

- · Mixed salad, smoked chicken breast, beetroots and mango.
 - · Chef's soup of the day.

iin Courses: THB 160 (4 Options)

- · Chicken stew in red wine.
- · Dory Fish with mangos salsa.
 - · Roast pork neck.
- · Tom Yum Gai, Phad Tua Ngok Tao Hoo, Pla Som Ros.



Starters: THB 65 (2 Options)

- Chicken and apple salad.
- · Chef's soup of the day.

Main Courses: THB 160 (4 Options)

- · Cajun chicken.
- · Fillet of pork light curry sauce.
- · Macaroni with white wine with creamy sauce, baked with cheese
 - · Panaena Moo, Gai Phad Khing Sod, Phad Phak Ruam Nam Man Hoy.



Starters: THB 60 (2 Options)

- · Chicken and cranberry salad.
 - · Chef's soup of the day..

Main Courses: THB 160 (4 Options)

- · Chicken tikka masala.
- · Pan-Fried Dory fish with mornay sauce
- · Fillet of pork wrapped in Parma ham Grain mustard and honey sauce.
- · Gaeng Kiew Wan Gai, Moo Tod Krathiem, Phad Phak Ruam Nam Man Hoy.



** Dessert of the Day : Choose from our à la carte menu and set a 10% discount

F&B MORSELS

Our Oyster and Strawberry promotions have been very positive over the past months. So we have decided to continue during October. Both are recommended with a glass of bubbles. Perfect for

lunch or dinner.

In October we will be introducing some German food to celebrate Oktoberfest, with mixed German style Bratwürst (sausage), Pork Knuckle,

Braised spicy port Spare Ribs, Sauerkraut and of course Black Forest Gâteau.

We will also have a German buffet on the 15th October. We are still offering our range of Thai fusion sausages, Larb Moo, Tom Kha Gai, Nam Prik Ong and Phad Kar Prao. These can also be a topping on any of our pizzas or with any of our pasta dishes.

Don't forget our business lunch and daily set menu are still running daily at The Verandah and Churchill Bar.

Happy Eating!



Executive Chef



MEMBERSHIP PLUS

Special discounts from our partners!







Excludes doctor fees, dental treatments and food. Discounts are not valid for special medication or in conjunction with other promotions.

Special treatment/package rates

- · Dental scaling cleaning
- 1,290 THB
- · Skin check-up
- 3,200 THB
- · Eye Glaucoma check-up
- 4,000 THB
- · Flu vaccina
- 700 THB
- 10% discount on medication, 15% discount on the ward room





Enjoy the warmth and goodness of Christmas in the comfort of The Verandah, the Churchill, the Surawongse Room, or the Back Lawn, especially good for Christmas dinner!

Full Seasonal Buffet & desserts, Suitable for vegetarians Crackers, tickets, clown and Santa at 1.30pm

BT 1,100 FOR MEMBERS, BT 1,300 FOR GUESTS
BT 600 FOR CHILDREN < 12 YRS, BT 300 FOR TODDLERS ≤ 3 YRS

SEATING IS LIMITED, BOOK NOW!

OPEN FOR BOOKINGS

Reception at the Clubhouse

Call +66 2 234 0247 | Email: events@britishclubbangkok.org



BCCT NETWORKING NIGHT

On Thursday 24 August, the British Club played host to the British Chamber of Commerce Thailand (BCCT) for their monthly BCCT 'T3' Business Networking event.

A wide array of professionals associated with industries ranging from insurance to engineering came and enjoyed a lavish British-themed spread, complete with mini-Scotch eggs, pastries and a carvery – plus plenty of dessert options.

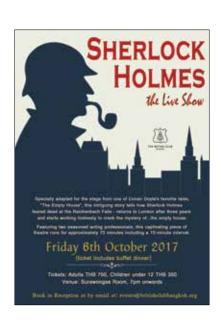
The evening began sedately with guests mingling in the gracious atmosphere of the Surawongse Room, but as the night progressed and refreshments taken, the guests began to spread out into the balmy stretch of the 1910 bar, and the conversations became ever more convivial as the supplies of food and beverages dwindled. The evening was a rousing success, with full attendance at the event until the very end.

Corporate sponsors of the event, to which the Club extends its thanks, were Mazars Thailand, The Beaumont Partnership Foundation, Wisetek Thailand and Bumrungrad International.





BC Calendar October 2017





Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday



BWG Mahjong

10am - 1pm

Tennis Mix-In 6pm - 10pm



3

Squash Mix-In

5:15pm - 7:30pm



Spoofers 8:30pm

Football

7pm - 9pm



4

Tennis Mix-In

6pm - 10pm

Ladies Tennis Coaching

9.30 - 10.30pm

Paella

Dinner only!



9

BWG Mahjong

10am - 1pm

Tennis Mix-In
6pm - 10pm



10

Squash Mix-In

5:15pm - 7:30pm

Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers 8:30pm

Football

7pm - 9pm



11

Tennis Mix-In

6pm - 10pm

Ladies Tennis Coaching

9.30 - 10.30pm

Paella

Dinner only!



16

BWG Mahjong

10am - 1pm

6pm - 10pm

Tennis Mix-In



Squash Mix-In

5:15pm - 7:30pm

Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers 8:30pm

Quiz Night

7:15pm The Verandah

Football

7pm - 9pm



18

Tennis Mix-In

6pm - 10pm



23

BWG Mahjong

10am - 1pm

Tennis Mix-In

6pm - 10pm

Tennis Camp 10am - 3pm

Squash Mix-In

5:15pm - 7:30pm

Tennis Camp

10am - 3pm

Bangkok Gentlemen

Spoofers 8:30pm

Football

7pm - 9pm



25 Tennis Mix-In 6pm - 10pm

Tennis Camp

10am - 3pm

Ladies Tennis Coaching

9.30 - 10.30pm **Paella**

Dinner only!



30

BWG Mahjong

Tennis Mix-In

10am - 1pm

6pm - 10pm



31

Squash Mix-In

5:15pm - 7:30pm

Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers 8:30pm

Football

7pm - 9pm





Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

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



Junior Tennis

4pm - 6pm Sunset on the Sala

4.30 - 8pm Silom Sala

Sherlock Holmes

7pm Surawongse room



Swimming Lessons

9am - 10:30am Saturday Storytime

10:30am Silom Sala

Family Fair

11am - 4pm



9am - 10:30am

Sunday Brunch

Open Pairs Bridge



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



Junior Tennis

4pm - 6pm

Sunset on the Sala

4.30 - 8pm Silom Sala



Swimming Lessons

> 9am - 10:30am Saturday

Storytime 10:30am Silom Sala



Swimming Lessons

9am - 10:30am

German Buffet

11:30 - 3pm Verandah

Open Pairs Bridge 2pm Silom Room

Car Boot Sale

2 - 6pm Front Lawn



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



Junior Tennis

4pm - 6pm

Sunset on the Sala 4.30 - 8pm Silom Sala



Swimming Lessons

9am - 10:30am

Saturday Storytime

10:30am Silom Sala

Trafalgar Dinner



Swimming Lessons 9am - 10:30am

Sunday Brunch

11:30 - 3pm Verandah

Open Pairs Bridge 2pm Silom Room

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



Tennis Camp

10am - 3pm



Tennis Camp

10am - 3pm

Junior Tennis 4pm - 6pm

Sunset on the Sala 4.30 - 8pm Silom Sala

Halloween Night

6 - 9pm Surawongse Room



Swimming Lessons

9am - 10:30am Saturday

Storytime 10:30am Silom Sala



Swimming Lessons

9am - 10:30am

Sunday Brunch 11:30 - 3pm Verandah

Open Pairs Bridge 2pm Silom Room







BACK IN '65 Poolside Part 2

Over three months I am sharing pictures taken at the British Club in 1965 and 1966 by Dr. Paddy Dixon when the Swimming Pool was built. Last month featured construction of the swimming pool on Tennis Courts 5&6. Part 2 this month features other views around the Clubhouse before the poolside construction began in 1965, including the bowling alley.



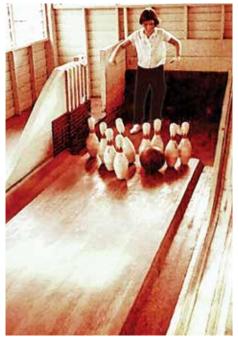


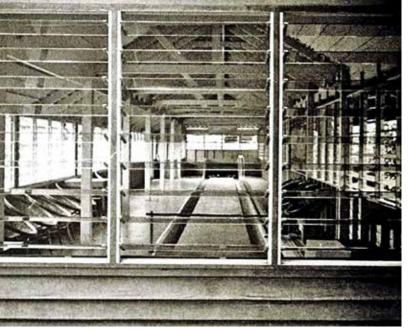
Paddy tells me that two American enthusiasts introduced 10-pin bowling to the Club. Bowling balls were not available in Thailand so they had beautiful ones made here out of wood, larger than modern ones but with finger holes etc.. The Bowling Alley was along the side of the Back Lawn where the car park is now. Apparently great dexterity was required by the boy who stood at the end and had to leap out of the way as balls arrived before resetting the pins!

Back Lawn 1965 Club House Entrance 1965









Ten pin bowling. Dangerous work!

Bowling Alley

1965. Bowling Alley Back Lawn



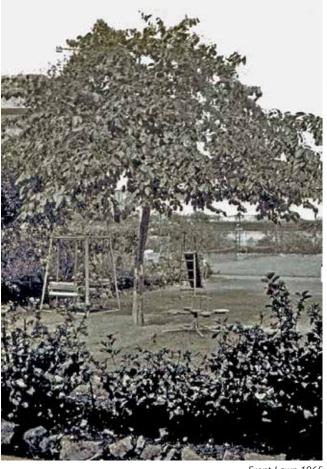
The bowling alley had already fallen into disuse by the time I arrived in 1978 and was being used as the staff changing area. There was a klong down the Neilson Hays side of the building. The building was knocked down and the klong filled in to form the car park in the 1990s

Picture 4 on the Back Lawn shows the upstairs balcony. For years following, this was closed in as cupboards and space for the air-conditioning units serving the Surawongse Room until it was reopened in 2013 as the 1910 Balcony during Phil Alexander's time as Chairman. Paddy says that during his time he remembers it as being mainly used as a storage area for tables etc, and presumably was closed in shortly after this picture was taken.

The same picture shows the open Verandah downstairs. This was closed to become part of the the Churchill Bar in 1990 (See Outpost October 2015)

The picture of the Clubhouse entrance shows the exposed brickwork around the porch ... a feature we are considering restoring.

The final picture shows a small children's play area on the Front Lawn just where the temporary family facilities are now during construction of the Silom Wing.



Front Lawn 1965





QUIZ NICHT

L-The Verandah 7.15pm L Tuesday 17th October



TEAMS OF 6 OR LESS

MEMBERS Bt 100 GUESTS Bt 150

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

TRAFALGAR





DINNER 2017

SATURDAY 21ST OCTOBER 7PM ONWARDS

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

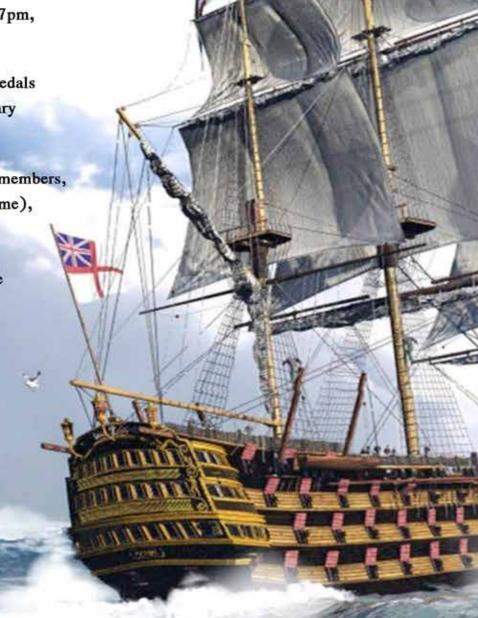
A Black Tie, or dress uniform, with medals gourmet dinner on the 212th anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar.

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 Bangkok St Andrew's Society in association with The British Club Bangkok presents

FAMILY FAIR WITH ASCOTTISH FLAIR

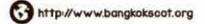
Join us for a fun-filled day with a bouncy castle, face painting,
Scottish Country dancing and exciting games, including the tug-of-war, caber
tossing and haggis races. Enjoy scrumptious food and drinks against
the backdrop of Scottish music performed by the British Club Pipe Bandl

Saturday, 7th October 2017 At The British Club Bangkok From II:00 am to 4:00 pm



















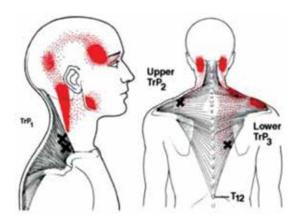




FITNESS

What is Sports massage therapy?

Sports massage is the specific application of massage techniques and other modalities such as mobility and advanced stretching techniques to soft tissues of the body in order to achieve a specific or desired effect.



Trigger point in the neck causing headache like symptoms

Originally sports massage was developed to target athletes to help them recovery from activity and remain injury free or support and promote faster recovery from injury. The reality is the average sports massage therapist will probably deal with more non athletes, looking to reduce their back pain, neck pain and a large variety of overuse injuries which have occurred in the workplace or at home.

Why sports massage therapy?

Sports massage therapists use a variety of techniques adopted from other health care practitioners such as mobilisation techniques or use massage techniques which include mobilisation of joints and evidence strongly suggests recovery from nearly any injury or



surgery is greatly facilitated by early mobilisation of joints such as with neck or back pain. Massage is clinically proven to reduce anxiety and depression. Trigger point therapy is often a way of reducing muscular pain that is found in a strange location or has unusual symptoms, such as carpel tunnel like symptoms that may originate from a trigger point in the subscapularis muscle which if found under the shoulder blade.

What does an average massage session entail?

Prior to any treatment clients will be asked to provide a full medical history of the complaint. An assessment will then take place which will further inform the therapist as to which area will be worked on. Throughout the session the therapist will constantly require feedback from the client to ensure the specific techniques are achieving the desired effects. After the massage the therapist will then provide more information to the client which will help them manage their complaint at home, which may include basic advice, ergonomic changes, postural advice, mobility exercise, strength exercises and stretching advice.

Your therapist

After gaining a degree in sport and exercise technology David became qualified in neuromuscular therapy and clinical massage therapy in the USA. David then spent 15 years in London where he worked as a lecturer, lecturing Sports massage therapy as well as continuing to work as a both a Therapist and Personal trainer.





To book your massage please contact David Fiala at 098 580 8857 or ask any of the fitness team in gym.

HARD BALLS

Koh Chang 2017

A weekend beach cricket tournament, a bucket load of beers, and Patrick's bitcoin argument, all came and went in a flash the last weekend of August this year. The 3rd edition of the Koh Chang tour had a somewhat different dynamic to the years before. We were not so lucky with the weather, Alan Mulally didn't grace the island with his presence and BC went down with probably their smallest party to date. Needless to say, those who were lucky enough to get involved were not disappointed; a likely result of the fact that Seasick Steve had failed to organise another boat trip from hell, and that the Koh Chang lads pulled off another cracker of an event which has well and truly anchored itself to the Thailand cricket calendar.



Ben Eastwell

By Friday afternoon, most had arrived as the clouds parted to a blazing sun - unfortunately a rare sighting as the weekend unfolded. As usual, the BC party was divided between those who insisted on staying in the finest accommodation the island could offer, and those who favoured the practical walking distance to the pub. After settling in with a few (dozen) pool beers and laying on a base tan for the

Warming up

weekend, all parties adjourned to the evening venue for the customary introductory dinner and session, warmly joined by fellow compatriots from Pattaya, Siam, Chiang Mai, Hongsai and Pangolin who had flown in from KL for their first appearance. The evening of course finished much later than it should have done, sleep certainly not establishing itself as a necessity over the weekend.

Hopeful competitors all awoke to downpour on Saturday morning, but after fueling up over breakfast the clouds began to clear and proceedings could commence in the dry. As tradition seems to state, BC A (not in any way related to the hierarchy of 'tourees') were summoned first, or they should have been had all the members been present. Patrick, freed from the shackles of his travel companion as had been for previous years, failed to wake up on time, probably only alarmed after the music started at the venue just 10 metres away from his hotel room. Unbelievable. Fortunately Jack was on hand to step in and save the day, helping BC A towards a comprehensive loss to kick off the tournament against Chiang Mai A, who eventually went on to win the event. BC B were dealt a slightly easier hand to familiarise themselves with the conditions, smashing Chiang Mai's B side by 72 runs, partly due to Raz belting out 30 in one over. BC A, kept it consistent throughout the day and even with Todd trying to impress the Russian chick he'd spotted on the sideline, managed to lose all their Saturday games, hindered by an over indulgence of ale, or perhaps the overload of South African blood in the side? By contrast, BC B came away with 2 wins out of 3 going into

Sunday despite Mossy spectacularly disintegrating again in bowling - even managing to hit himself in the head with one delivery that bounced by his feet.









Todd having a good perv





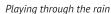


As the day turned into night there was a click of the fingers and a quick wardrobe change before round 2 commenced, both in the beverage department and the rib-shattering tradition that had quickly turned into an injury-provoking danger. Somewhat due to Denzyl's nephews featuring this year around, the backslaps took a nasty turn which resulted in Mossy and Denzyl running away and cowering from 2 lads who didn't even collectively make up 40 years of age between them. The fines book was filling up at an alarming rate throughout the weekend, and although sometimes a mishap or two can slip the eye of the jury, some things are just too outrageous to go unnoticed. Shamelessly and blatantly jumping the gun and consequently disqualifying your team during a serious boat race is a disgrace to the highest regard, Patrick can be sure that won't be forgotten in a hurry!

Sunday morning came around all too soon, and following more downpour during the night, players waded their way to the beach to conclude the tournament. The first game of the day was battled through moist conditions, maintained throughout the day as rain showers scattered across the island.

Lovely weather for the beach







BC A drew Pangolin in their last group game which Max featured spectacularly; the opposition were in need of 26 off the last 2 overs, and after Max handed them 6 wides (30 runs) from his over, the side looking for their first win were forced into a tricky position. Left to clean up the mess, Allwright senior held his composure and helped propel BC A into the chopstick final after Max recovered his woes with a solid catch in the deep to finish off a nail biter. BC B followed suit with a win to set up a plate final against Hongsai after comfortably beating the host's B side. Following a short break and a ladies game, the finals got underway and the beers started to flow again after a relatively subdued morning – both BCB and BCA converted a thunderous win through the storms and the celebrations set in.

After the excitement of the cricket and a quick cool down/ wee in the pool, Steve mumbled on about the awards whilst everyone pretended to understand what he was saying. Both BC sides proudly collected their utensils, including the 'batsman of the tournament' title which was rightfully picked up by Raz, after which, the weekend sponsor generously threw on a BBQ at the venue which had turned into a mud bath at this point. A monster fines session ensued, orchestrated rather imperiously by Mossy who also treated the bar stragglers to a NZ anthem/Haka combo to round off the competition. 'One for the road' at the Blue Lagoon capped off what was a class weekend, roll on next year.







SQUASHY BITS

Happy Birthday and back to 2010







Was Peter Corney and Marvyn's 70th birthdays the other day and we celebrated with a mix-in, some beers in the sala, EPL in the Sports Bar and a local curry. All lovely stuff but we barely took any pictures so you'll have to use your imagination. However, if you lack any, rest assured it was a wonderful event filled with the utmost joy and delightful delight. Lovely. But why celebrate only their birthdays? Most people have a birthday each year, don't they? Including Squashies? Yes. So let's celebrate more Squashies' birthdays please. If you're a Squashy and it's your birthday, please tell us and we'll celebrate it with a mix-in, some beers in the sala, EPL in the Sports Bar and a local curry. Even if you don't turn up, the BCB Squash Section will still throw a Squashy birthday party for you as we are such darlings!

Moving on, and by the time you read this squash courts two and three will be out of action pending demolition and the construction of the Club's new squash facility. Naturally, we are salivating at the prospect of having new courts, but we'll have to make do with just one during the construction which seems the perfect time to entertain a visiting team being the Gymkhana Club of Chiang Mai which has informed us of a rematch in Bangkok this month! What? We haven't any courts - well, only one. What are we going to do? Play tennis? Cricket? Have a swimming race? I guess we could do anything really as long as we entertain them. Anything's possible and that, in order to fill two pages of this best-selling publication, neatly take us back to 2010 when all this probably didn't happen:

End of Jan we went to the Gymkhana club in Chiang Mai. Way up there in the north it is. Get there by car, train or plane. Or boat. Our team was, amongst others, Colin, Da, Neil, Nick White, Marc, and Tony Austin. Bottom line is we won, but not before some extraordinary events took place on court:

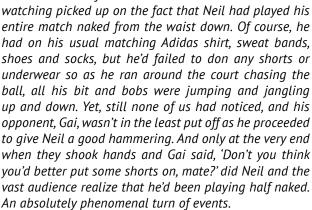
Da beat some bloke called Mark 3-1. Pretty routine as this Mark fella ain't really that useful and Da can be. However, halfway through the last game an incredible situation unfolded when the court door suddenly swung open and in strolled a local black moggy, which walked to the T, sat down, and started to take a nap. Well, we couldn't move it, could we? It seemed like it was glued to the floor and as the other court was busy, we had to leave it there and Da and Mark had to play around it; very awkward, indeed. At one point the ball actually hit the cat's tail and it woke up and shouted, 'Watch it, will ya? I'm trying to get some kip here!' Incredible. Then at the end of their match it stood up, shook Da's hand, told her she'd played well and then went outside for a cigarette. Amazing!



Colin beat some guy, whose name has been forgotten, 3-0, or 3-1, or even 3-2. No one can remember as we were all still reeling from the cat incident. Now Colin had a slight problem, as he forgotten to bring his racket and no one had a spare. Not a soul. So off he went on a tour of all the local sports shops to purchase a new one. But, alas, all shops in Chiang Mai were clean out of squash rackets. What to do? Forfeit the match or improvise? Colin chose the latter, as he'd very cleverly brought along his WAG and she has, or should we say, had, one of those tiny, pathetic, annoying, Yorkshire Terrier, designer dog things. So while she was off scoffing a bowl of noodles, he grabbed the dog by the tail and proceeded to

use it as a squash racket and, after some initial dissent, it proved to be very effective as he won. Naturally, the dog failed to survive being used to hit a small rubber ball a few hundred times, but the main thing is that we got a result. And at the end of the day, that's all the matters, isn't it?

Neil lost 3-1 because his opponent was better than him, and fitter, and better, and quicker, and better, and had more shots, and played better, and, well, was just better. But the manner in which Neil played was significant; outstanding; astounding; astonishing. And no one noticed it until the match was over. Not one of the thousands



Nick White played next and he beat a man called Paul, 3-1. And during his match another implausible situation unfolded: during the warm up, Nick broke his racket right down at the handle so all he had was the head, which is useless without any way to hold it, and the stump of a handle, complete with grip. Now, as you've read, no one in attendance had a spare and all shops in the city were sold out. So what did the desperate man do? He boldly went on court with just the handle and played the game of his life. His opponent was totally flummoxed and Nick gave him a damn good thrashing with just the grip. Truly staggering; so much so, that it has to be true, as no one, even with the wildest of imaginations, could ever make up something as miraculous as this.

Marc Sayer to follow, and he played very well to beat Chiang Mai's Michael 3-0, but not before another inexplicable episode was witnessed. During this match, the ball burst and no replacement could be found at the



club. So while a runner was sent to procure one from a local dealer, both players continued the match without one. Yes, they completed their match ball-less! Peter, using all his improvisational marking skills, refereed to perfection and declared, after a brief struggle, Marc to be the winner as he'd played the most inventive, imaginary shots and had anticipated his opponents 'moves' more effectively. Incredible, and, no doubt, a first in squash history, but most certainly, not the last match to be played ball-less.

Finally, Tony Austin came on court to lose 3-0 to Willie. No shame in that as Tony hadn't played for years and years. Yet, this match produced probably the most unexpected, inconceivable, improbable and fantastic shot the world of squash has ever seen: Tony hit the ball high and hard against the front wall and it rebounded up through the gallery, past Neil's head and out towards the tennis courts where Mike (Digger), playing for the BC tennis section, was just about to serve from the far end. And as he lifted his racket to hit his tennis ball, Tony's squash ball caught him right in the crotch causing him to squeal out loud intense pain and surprise. The squash ball? It rebounded off Digger's crotch, over the tennis net, through the fence, past the cat, back up through the gallery, between marker, Peter's, legs, back down towards the court where it landed right in the front, lefthand corner nick winning the point for Tony and causing the gallery to erupt drowning out Digger's cries of agony. Staggering!

Until we play the CM team again





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.



TENNIS

It has been a month of preparations for the tennis section with the Bruce Gordon Cup, the Men's Interclub Doubles Championships, and matches with two visiting clubs all on the horizon.



Section Chairperson

'Mix In' Tennis

In the meanwhile, our club 'mix ins' continue as usual. These are held on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings from 6pm and on Sundays from 4pm. We play shortened 8 game doubles sets and as the name suggests, we 'mix in' and change partners after each set. All tennis section members are welcome.

League Tennis

Plenty of matches still to be played in Series 5 of our tennis Leagues. This is our 'in-house' competitive singles tennis. We currently have four divisions based on playing ability with four or five competitors in each division. Matches are best of three sets with the third set played as a super tie-break. New series start every six to seven weeks and we are always looking for new players. Anyone wishing to join the league can contact Alex at bcts.league.tennis@gmail.com

New Facebook Group

Earlier in the month we launched our new 'British Club Bangkok Tennis Section' Facebook group. All information regarding British Club Tennis events will be posted there and as it's a closed group, only tennis

section members can join and only members can see posts and pictures. Please search for us and join the group.

British Club Bangkok V Penang Sports Club

On the 1st September we welcomed the Penang Sports Club to the British Club for a friendly match. The Penang Club sent a team of 10 which interestingly enough included the 1992 British Club Ladies Singles Champion Yenni Basso. We fielded a strong team including the 2015 Ladies Champ (Raquel Evans), the two-time Men's singles Champ (Khun Phairoj), and Chris Watt 8. A couple of last minute changes to the Penang team seemed to weaken their line-up and that coupled with some fine play from the British Club led to a 7.5 – 0.5 score line after the first round of matches with only Phairoj and Chalermphon letting the side down with a measly half point! It all went a bit 'ad hoc' after that but I am led to believe that Raquel defeated the returning Miss Basso and her partner again - this time with our super sub Khun Jeab - and that Phairoj and Chalerphon eventually got full points on the board having been carried to victory by their mixed doubles

All smiles before the battle (Wandee and Nat)



Captains exchange gifts









Man of the Match in action



Raquel demonstrates the volley

BCTS team v Penang Sports

partners Wandee and Ann respectively. Alex and Nat also claim they won a mixed doubles match but by that stage everyone else had joined Chris at the Sala bar for well-earned refreshments. Thanks to the Penang Sports Club for their visit and to all our players for representing the club especially those who were battling the traffic to get to the club on time 😂 . Our next match is in November against visitors from Singapore. Details to follow on the Facebook group.

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



Returning Ladies Champ Yenni Basso represented Penang Sports Club

LADIES SINGLES			
CHALATHIP	DUNNVATANACHIT		
CHALATHIP	DUNNVATANACHIT		
YENNI	BASSO		
CHALATHIP	DUNNVATANACHIT		
	CHALATHIP CHALATHIP CHALATHIP CHALATHIP CHALATHIP CHALATHIP CHALATHIP CHALATHIP		



Harold presents Chris with his Man-of-the-Match award









British Club Tennis Section Chair

For information on joining the tennis section please contact bcts.bangkok@gmail.com For information on playing in the tennis leagues please contact bcts.league.tennis@gmail.com

BCGS GOLFING NEWS

August 2017







August Stableford

On a hot and sweaty but sunny day at Subhaprueck Chris Brader came good with 36 stableford points. Runner up was Varghese Rose with 35 points. Graham Johnston was third with 33 points.



August Medal

Hats off to Randall took advantage of his new clubs and new swing to win Flight A with a net 70. John Siena also had a net 70 but Randall managed a few more pars on the back 9 to secure the win.





After a string of podium places Mr Pete Gale finally got his hands on another golden plate with victory in fFight B. Honorable mentions to runner-up Thorsten Leppek and 3rd placed Freya Dunker.



Some Fun Facts About This Year's PGA Championship

Hosting its first major championship, Quail Hollow Club in Charlotte, North Carolina offered its fair share of excitement. As with all majors, it also provided an abundance of fun facts.

376 yards was the longest drive of the tournament, struck by Jason Kokrak on the 16th hole in his second round.

The 18th was the only hole on the course with more than three triple or quadruple bogeys (with six).

52 pars made by Ryan Moore and Sean O'Hair, tied for most in the field. That's pretty average compared with most regular British Club players.

The par 5 5th hole proved the easiest with 12 eagles and 186 birdies compared to 175 pars and just 32 bogeys.

Kevin Kisner made 97.96 percent of his putts from inside 10 feet, best in the field.

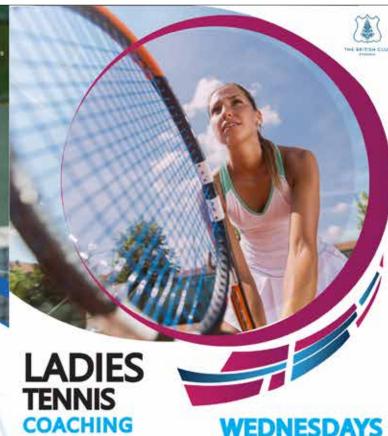
David Lingmerth drained a 77'5" putt the longest of the tournament to secure a birdie on the par-4 11th.

The Wanamaker Trophy weighs 27 pouns but it must have felt as light as a feather to Justin Thomas when he lifted the trophy on the final Sunday.



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 bcgs.bangkok@qmail.com





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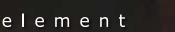
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