

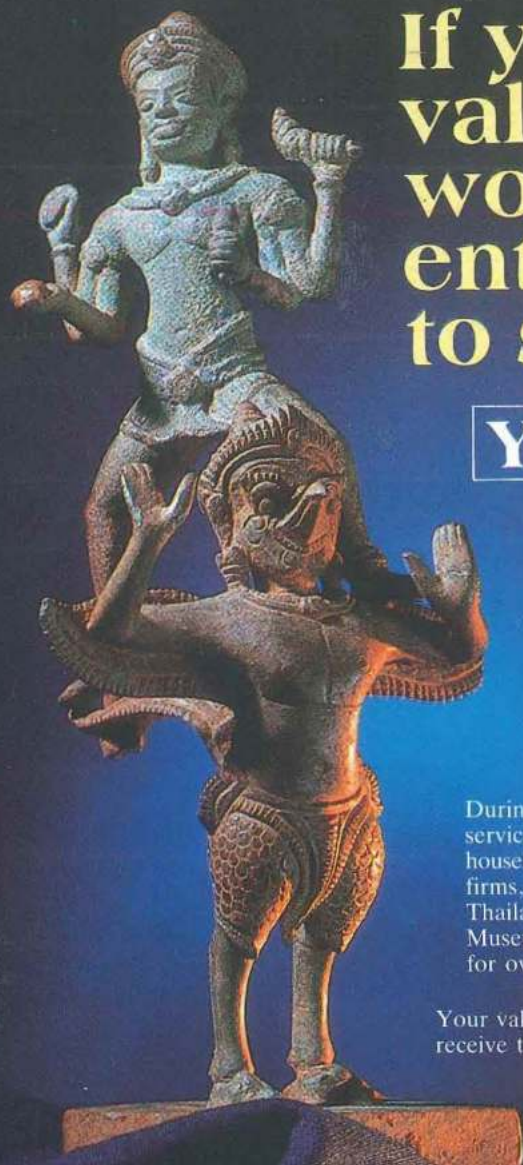
OUTPOST

MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB

DECEMBER 1988

Merry Christmas





If you owned this valuable antique, would you entrust its care to strangers?

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DIARY

DECEMBER

Thu 1	Ladies' Tennis Ladies' Squash <i>BCT Hosted Xmas Party (Suriwongse Room)</i>	8.00-10.00 a.m. 9.00-12.00 noon 7.30 p.m.
Sat 3	Golf : Rose Garden Cricket : BC vs Centaurs (40 Overs), Chiangmai Family Video	12.30 p.m. 6.00-8.00 p.m.
Sun 4	Golf : Rose Garden Cricket : BC vs CMGC — Dick Wood Trophy (50 Overs) Buffet Supper	12.00 noon from 5.00 p.m.
Mon 5	The King's Birthday (holiday) Beginners' Tennis <i>BWG Mahjong : Wordsworth Room</i> Golf : Rose Garden Ladies' Tennis New Members' Night/Happy Hour Chess Club : Wordsworth Room	8.00-10.00 a.m. 9.00 a.m. 10.30 a.m. 4.00-6.00 p.m. 5.30-9.30 p.m. 7.00 p.m.
Tue 6	Ladies' Golf : Captain's Day and Lunch, Army Course Bridge	7.00 a.m. 7.30 p.m.
Wed 7	<i>BWG Bridge : Wordsworth Room</i> Tennis and Squash Club Night	9.30 a.m. from 6.00 p.m.
Thu 8	Ladies' Tennis Ladies' Squash <i>BAMBI Meeting at the BC</i>	8.00-10.00 a.m. 9.00-12.00 noon 9.00 a.m.
Sat 10	Constitution Day Family Video	6.00-8.00 p.m.
Sun 11	Golf : Rose Garden Buffet Supper	11.30 a.m. from 5.00 p.m.
Mon 12	Holiday (in lieu of Constitution Day) Beginners' Tennis <i>BWG Mahjong : Wordsworth Room</i> Ladies' Tennis Happy Hour Chess Club : Wordsworth Room	8.00-10.00 a.m. 9.00 a.m. 4.00-6.00 p.m. 5.30-9.30 p.m. 7.00 p.m.
Tue 13	Ladies' Golf : Round-Up, Army Course Bridge	7.00 a.m. 7.30 p.m.
Wed 14	<i>BWG Bridge : Wordsworth Room</i> Tennis and Squash Club Night	9.30 a.m. from 6.00 p.m.

Thu 15	Ladies' Tennis Ladies' Squash <i>BWG Xmas Lunch</i>	8.00-10.00 a.m. 9.00-12.00 noon 11.30 a.m.
Sat 17	Cricket : BC vs RBSC (Marshall Trophy) Family Video	6.00-8.00 p.m.
Sun 18	Golf : Bang Phra Cricket : BC vs Indian Cricket Club (35 Overs) at RBSC Buffet Supper	8.45 a.m. 12.00 noon from 5.00 p.m.
Mon 19	Beginners' Tennis <i>BWG Mahjong : Wordsworth Room</i> Under 5's Xmas Party (Back Lawn) Ladies' Tennis Happy Hour Chess Club	8.00-10.00 a.m. 9.30 a.m. 3.00 p.m. 4.00-6.00 p.m. 5.30-9.30 p.m. 7.00 p.m.
Tue 20	6-9's Xmas Party (Back Lawn) Bridge	3.00 p.m. 7.30 p.m.
Wed 21	<i>BWG Bridge : Wordsworth Room</i> 10-14's Xmas Disco (Silom Sala) Tennis and Squash Club Night	9.30 a.m. 5.00 p.m. from 6.00 p.m.
Thu 22	Ladies' Tennis Ladies' Squash Carols by Candlelight : Xmas food and carols on front lawn	8.00-10.00 a.m. 9.00-12.00 noon 6.30 p.m.
Fri 23	BC Xmas Ball : Back Lawn	7.00 p.m.
Sat 24	Christmas Eve	
Sun 25	Christmas Day	
Mon 26	Boxing Day Happy Hour	5.30-9.30 p.m.
Sat 31	New Year's Eve New Year's Eve Party : Silom Sala	8.00 p.m.

Note: Non Club events in italics

For further information, see Activities Page for contact names and phone numbers.

Are there any BC related events which you would like to see publicised in the OUTPOST diary?
Contact Kate Seal (work: 284-5013, home: 286-9945).

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Happy Festive Season

- 12 Pies - a - Piping
- 11 Breads - a - Baking
- 10 Quiche - a - Quiching
- 9 Rolls - a - Rolling
- 8 Sausages - a - Stuffing
- 7 Fruits - a - Fruiting
- 6 Hams - a - Hamming
- 5 Trout - a - Swimming
- 4 Cakes - a - Mixing
- 3 Salmon - Smoking
- 2 Puddings Steaming and
A Turkey Stuffed and Cooking

"Fresh Orange Juice as presently served at the British Club
is now available only at Choice Foods".

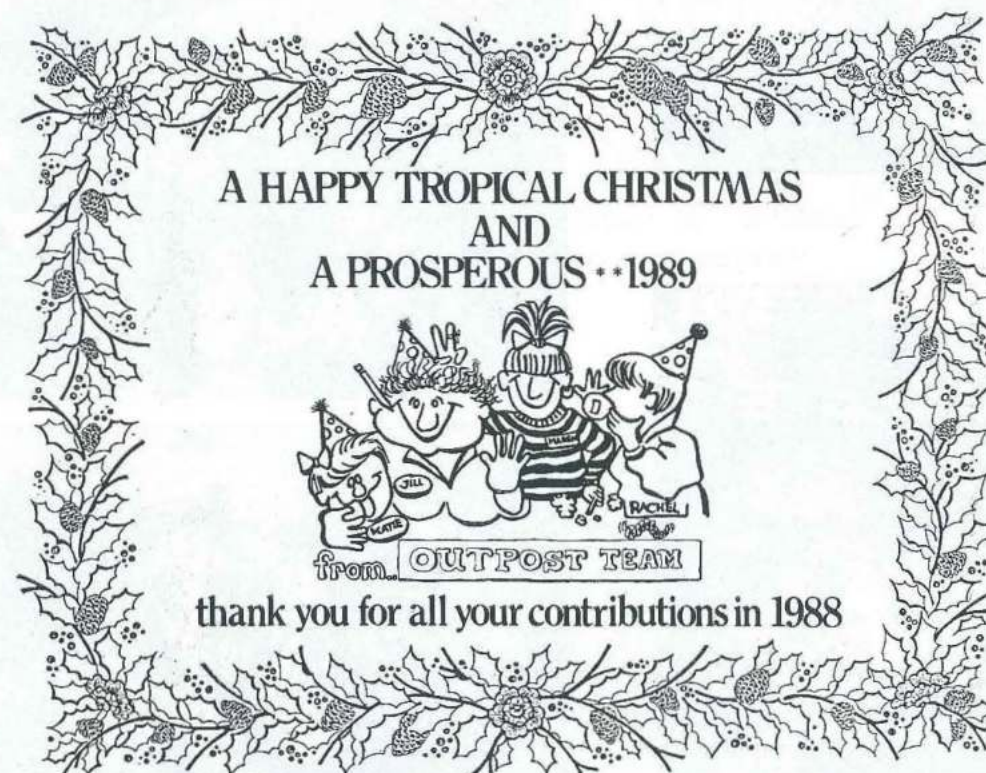
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*The General Committee
of the British Club
wishes all Members
a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year.*



CLUB ROUNDUP

"Guy Fawkes Day Celebrations"



Exhaustion!



"Come on, pull!"



"les organisers".



Julia Freeman with ? on her face.



David Lamb and Neil McLeod showing the kids how!



Victoria and Andrew Scott.



Jackie, Michelle and Nigel Howard mixing the gunge!



Linda and Nikki Mair enjoying popping the balloon?



"ere where's grandad gone?"



David "Guy Fawkes" Lamb lighting the bonfire.



The Big Bang.

FAT HENRY AND THE FAMOUS V



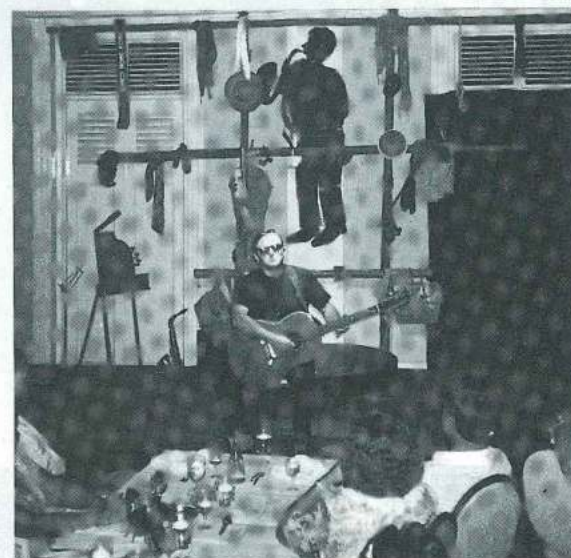
Skidmarks.



The School-girls at the concert.



The Massage Ladies.



Blind Wine Brother.



*The cast, lights and
band at rest.
Mr. Lamb... well...*



The Vice Squad.



Over the fence.



Maurice et les girls.



Giving notes.



The Bear on Sax.



Checkout.

Meet the New Members



Guy & Jeannine Brisette : Canadians hot foot from Brussels. Guy is taking over Janssen Pharmaceuticals. They had to be new 'cos they were carrying lots of Baht in coins.



Vincent and Helen Keane : with young Terry. Vincent is chief medical officer with I.C.M.



Tony Shepherd : with Sally. Tony is an ex-Manila Nomad and has a great job making bras for Triumph, whilst Liz (pictured overleaf) plays Mahjong.



Jens Bruhn-Petersen and his wife with a different name — Marie-Louise Lichtenberg : Jens is here with the UNHCR. Marie-Louise is involved in dental projects and digging into roots at Chula University.



Matt & Helen (the good looking) Field : newly weds celebrating six months of marriage. Helen is from Columbia, SA and Matt from Miami. He is here in Bangkok with Price Waterhouse as chief gofer to the oil boys.



Vikki Gregory, Bob, Liz Shepherd and Mike.



Karen & Aram Chitranukroh : Aram is upset that his wife is a member and he isn't. Karen spent most of her life in Bewdley (the flash end of Worcestershire).



Duncan Palmer Esq : ex Dubai, Macau and the Mandarin Oriental in Manila, where he was president of the St. George's Society. Pictured with Kelly from Cornell University whose monthly membership should be extended indefinitely; and Rachel (left).



The Thai Trio : Guess whose wife Khun Sureerat is? Khun Viroj (right) came out for a quiet drink whilst his wife, Khun Malinee, who's six months pregnant, rested at home. Khun Vitit, Khun Malinee's brother, rounds up the group.



Ravi & Asha Sehgal : Old Bangkok hands finally becoming associate members.



Corinna Collins : from Canada, is into communications. Met Simon, Buster and Vince far too early!



Alan "Jellyroll" Morton : wearing an authentic Christian Dior tie clip. (Stringer can't remember why!)



Kelly from Cornell, so upset that she wasn't given a new member's badge, sports the Chairman's, who was only too pleased to offer.



Tony Brazenell with guests, George and Sue passing through Bangkok on their way to Phuket. George is also with Gulf Air in the UK.

"Jacko"

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THE BILL DICKEY COLUMN

LOVELY to be back in Bangkok after a short business trip in the area during which time I unfortunately managed to miss the party of the year – Craig Rennie's 40th birthday. No comments please about you thinking he was 40 already. Anyway, by all accounts the party was some bash, Craig was wooed by scantily clad, candle carrying ladies and several guests took the following day off; some intended to – others did not. Less said about that the better. I do hope that when the lovely Mrs Gleanings Rennie hosts her 40th birthday she won't forget me. What a super compere Jim Howard is – he really did a fantastic job for the kids at the Guy Fawkes family day and still managed to consume vast quantities of the amber liquid – the booze-up afterwards in the bar was the usual merry wife swapping affair, hampered only by various children coming to the bar door complaining that Tom and Jerry were too boring and what about the British Club hiring "Emmanuelle Goes To Toytown with Noddy and Big Ears." I can't go far without hearing the words "St Andrews" – my ear is being bent by the wife wanting yet another dress and I am wondering how I can avoid the dance practices as much as possible. All these

enthusiastic young men like Jock M-S and Steve Chappell (does he really model?) charging about the dancefloor is enough to induce a severe fainting attack for me. Alex 'Scoop' is doing a sterling job announcing dances, perhaps because he isn't telling jokes. I hear the ladies love his football column and read it avidly for the team gossip and student jokes with no interest in who achieved a nifty one-two past a tricky full back, but is Dave Wallace really a heart-throb? Richard Green and his Morris dancing team did the St Andrews mob a few favours at the last Ceilidh, providing some decent, civilised English entertainment despite a moving dance floor. One or two ladies disapproved of the Scottish jokes which seemed rather mild to me. There were lots of hangovers, missed planes and large amounts of money spent after the Calcutta night for the Melbourne Cup. An excellent evening was arranged by the energetic John Verhelst; couldn't understand much of what his fellow Australians were saying though. I think if Narong was ever to publish his memoirs it would make very interesting reading. Don't you think so?

GLEANINGS

SINCE OUTPOST is only circulated amongst members, is not for sale and is rarely read outside of the British Club circle, one does not have to think of stories that would have you all rushing to the book shops. However, one day I would like to write a book and I will have to think differently. It seems that you can't lose if you have something to write about that might possibly be banned. How many people would have bothered to read Spycatcher or Lady Chatterley's Lover if the press had not given them so much coverage? I have not bothered to read the former and my assumingly mature years make me more particular about what I do read. Not so as a teenager, when one of my friends got hold of a copy of D H Lawrence's little sensation. I can't say that I really read that either, but we set off to the local park, away from our parents' scrutiny to read the 'naughty bits' that my friend's older brother had kindly underlined in red pen. Unfortunately, whilst fully engrossed in the activities of Mr Thomas, a gust of wind whipped up my paper nylon petticoat and a hole was burnt in my dress by an illicit cigarette. The book was safely returned to older brother, but the dress necessitated a bit of surgery with the nail scissors to make the hole look like a tear. It wouldn't have been so bad if I had either, a. enjoyed the little adventure or, b. understood what the heck they were up to anyway.

On the subject of 'naughty bits', we had a weekend in Phuket recently (no

that is not the naughty bit). Evidently, the Meridien were doing a special deal for poor Europeans since the unfortunate people could only afford half a swimming costume. It wasn't too bad until a snake appeared in a tree. People were leaping about all over the place and the poor men didn't know whether to look up the tree in case the snake dropped out or at the abundance of glands that had left the sunbeds to see the snake meet its end via a boat oar.

I have always wondered since I found out about Katoys whether they say Kha or Krap. When Craig pointed out an attractive woman at the airport and told me that "she" was a "he" I thought that I would be able to solve the mystery. As luck would have it, "she" was sitting in front of me with her companion and my expertise in eaves-dropping was put into practice. The luck finished there since they were both deaf and dumb!!

The season of goodwill is now upon us and the month of December should be a busy time for all. We must all be thinking of presents for our friends and loved ones. For our Editor, Maren, a nice box of two-way candles since she likes burning them at both ends. To Alex 'Scoop' Forbes, a new joke book. To Jock 'Killer-Starling' a pair of Jockeys. To David W. an alarm clock. And last but not least, to Mr Pong of Villa, a box of marker pens to help him change the prices before the 25th!!

Pamela Rennie

LETTERS

16th October, 1988.

Dear Maren, Lois Lane et al,

Many thanks for the elegant retraction in October's edition of 'OUTPOST'. Indeed, it is true that due to popular demand, Mango The Dog has declared herself available for radio commercials. I enclose a recent shot from her composite and a few pertinent details for anyone who may be interested in making her an offer she can't refuse.

Slim, brown-eyed Mango is photographed here in her favourite outfit, a smart, but casual, russet coloured fun-fur. Mango runs regularly to maintain her youthful figure and never eats a big meal after 6.00 in the evening. Her interests include archeology and vegetable carving. Agencies and interested parties can contact her Personal Agent.



Cheers!
Stefanie Forrest (a.k.a. 'Stefanine')

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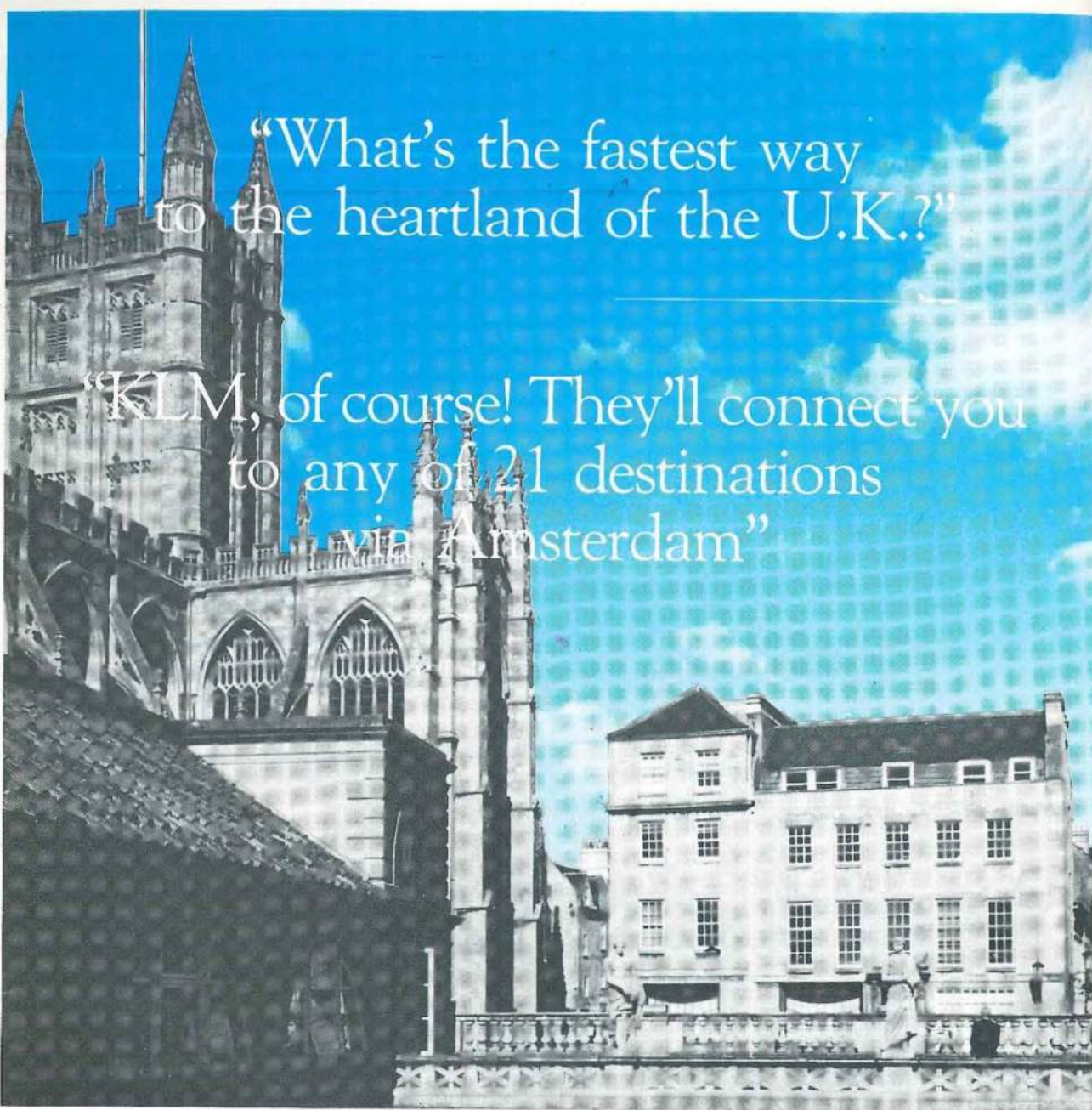
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TRAVEL LOG

"KHLONGING"--THE EXPENSIVE WAY

IN true farang style, be-
fore starting the adven-
ture, we had hamburgers, all-in,
at the Oriental Hotel. Our
final fling before going native.

From the hotel the local
ferry is just around the corner.
After each paying 50 satang
we waited on the jetty for the
boat to take us to Tha Chang
(Elephant Pier). Very soon a
boat arrived and everyone
jumped aboard and were asked
for the 3 baht fare; the 50
satang we had paid earlier was
for standing on the jetty --
what a rip off!

Recovering from this shock,
we reached Tha Chang 15
minutes later which is just
near to the Grand Palace. We
boarded the Khlonging ferry, a
longtail boat, very narrow and
not really made for farangs,
and headed across the Chao
Phrya river, spraying everyone
in the process, and down
Khlong Bangkok Noi.

The boat was really full as
it set off and every now and
then the passengers, when they
wished to disembark, would
pass 6 baht down the boat to
Rebecca and Harriet sitting
next to the driver. The girls
thought that they should do
this more often (an easy way
of supplementing their pocket
money) until the driver step-
ped in and threatened them
with keel hauling, khlong style.

The journey takes you along
the main khlong, past the



"A longtail boat, very narrow and not really made for farangs."

locals washing their hair and
pots and pans, people swim-
ming, shopping boats, tourists,
and as you go by there's
always a nice smile and a wave
for you.

The houses are quite pic-
turesque, some more than
others and the skilful driver
manoeuvres the boat to stop
exactly where the passengers
request.

You are nearly inside their
living rooms with the family
when the driver turns the
throttle up. And so, it's on to
the next stop, the local store,
and eventually we arrive at the
terminus in Changwat Non-
thaburi and pay our 6 baht to
the driver (not Rebecca or
Harriet).

Time to stretch your legs
after 1½ hours cramped up,
have a quick look around the
little village and it's on we go.
The local bus then takes us to
the ferry at Nonthaburi on the
Chao Phrya river.

The ½ hour bus ride passes

through interesting countryside
and, considering we were in
durian country, the air was
most refreshing.

At most of the ferry land-
ings there are markets selling
everything you could imagine.
Nonthaburi was no exception.
As we passed through the
market to the ferry there were
food stalls selling barbequed
rats, 3 on a skewer -- a far cry
from the Oriental. The sight of
this hastened our journey on
the Chao Phrya Express boat
which took us back to the
Oriental Hotel.

All-in-all an interesting 3½-
4 hours was spent khlonging.

The total cost worked out
at around £1,000 for 7 people,
but if you deduct the cost of
the Oriental hamburgers and
catch the No 25 bus to Tha
Chang, the actual total cost
would be £100 baht for 7
people -- not bad for an after-
noon's khlonging.

Frank Hough

NEW HORIZONS

The Similian Islands : Thailand's Ultimate Adventure With the Andaman Pearl

I WOULD like the chance to welcome you aboard the Andaman Pearl, and introduce you to the delightful pleasures of live-aboard diving. Sailing out of Phuket, it takes you to the off-shore islands and reefs of the Andaman Sea, and it takes you there in style.

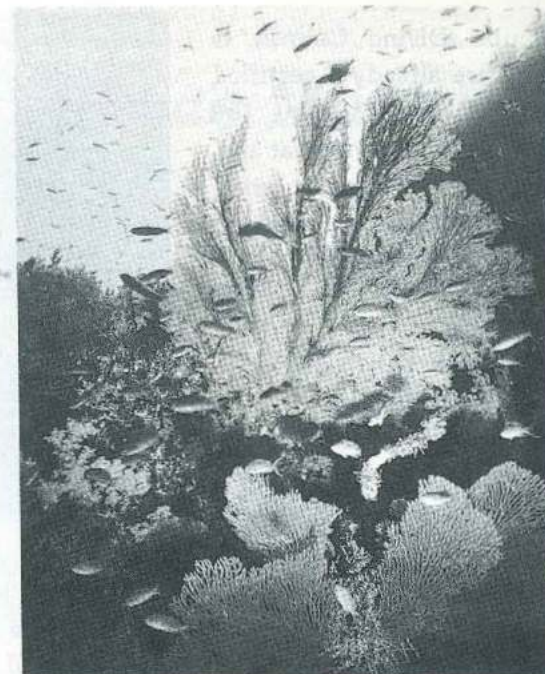
The Indian Ocean is generally recognized as the richest in the world for sea life, and the islands of the Andaman Sea off Thailand's west coast are no exception. Dozens of islands and rock outcrops, surrounded by clear tropical water, continue to evolve as one of the

world's premier dive vacation destinations. Below the surface, lush coral reefs and fabulous walls covered with delicate, branching black coral greet the divers. Fascinating fish of countless varieties swim between the rock pinnacles and giant tube sponges. Large sea fans, pastel gorgonians, vase sponges in hues of pink, orange and red tempt the underwater photographer to duplicate their lavish colours.

The advantages of live-aboard diving are varied. The seas are yours to roam. The out of the way reefs are accessible and

easy to explore. White sparkling sandy beaches and lush green jungles are but a few minutes away. And, above all, it's done for an economical and reasonable tour price.

The Andaman Pearl was carefully planned and designed to provide its passengers with comfort and convenience, and serve as a functional diving platform. Within its three decks you will find air conditioned sleeping accommodation, fresh water showers, an enclosed recreational lounge, wide and spacious open-air decks, both covered and uncovered. The stern portion of the main deck has been designed to provide the divers with a spacious area to store, assemble and put on their diving gear. For your ease and enjoyment of diving, the support boats are radio equipped and will pick you up



and deliver you to the stern dive platform where you will find fresh water showers.

Safety equipment, includes two twenty-five man auto-inflate life rafts, medical oxygen manifold, regulator and complete First Aid kit. On board E-6 processing will make it possible for photographers to view their film at the day's end.

Electrical outlets (either 110 or 220 volts) are available for recharging batteries. The enclosed recreational lounge is equipped for video viewing or projecting the slides shot during the day.

The friendly and helpful staff include conscientious internationally certified diving instructors who will

supervise all diving activities. Two compressors (electric-silent), an air storage bank, and more than sufficient diving cylinders assures unlimited diving day or night.

To further the experience and thrill of live-aboard diving, the galley staff will provide a delicious and satisfying variety of meals and snacks. Coffee, tea and soft drinks will always be available. All this while you are a guest on board the Andaman Pearl, crewed by experienced professionals who really know the Similian Islands well and how to look after you. Windsurfing, snorkeling and fishing gear, comfortable air-conditioned sleeping cabins, video and superb

food ensure that your non-diving companions can also enjoy an unforgettable trip.

If you are not a certified diver but would like to join a great world class diving trip in crystal clear water, it is time to enrol in a NAUI Open Water Scuba Diving training course.

Regular courses are organised every month by a qualified NAUI Instructor-Dive Master at the British Club. The NAUI certification is your ticket to the underwater world. It is an open water diving license. So, if you are ready to discover a new world of wonderful scenery, colourful fish and beautiful coral, COME and JOIN the next NAUI Open Water I

Scuba Diving Course. If you are already a certified diver, don't miss the opportunity of a great and exciting adventure with the Andaman Pearl in the Similan Islands.

SCUBA DIVING FOR THE YOUNGER GENERATION!!

During the next school holidays, a NAUI Junior Open Water Scuba Diving training course could be organised at the British Club.

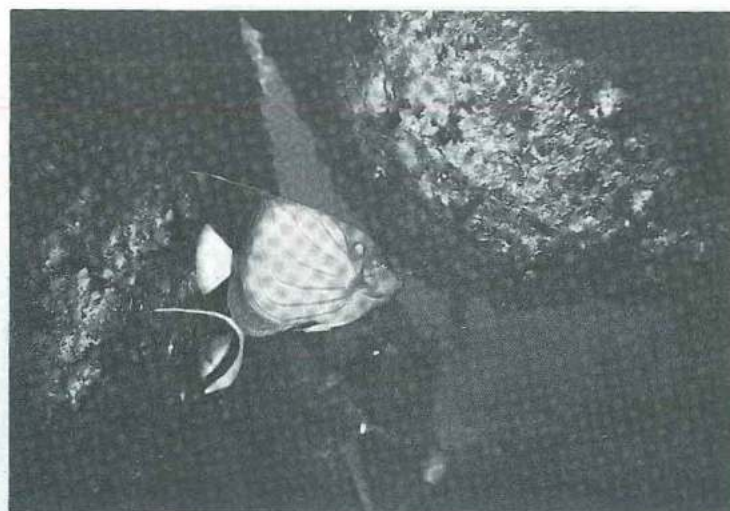
This is an entry level course, identical to the NAUI Open Water I Scuba Diving course in every way, with the exception of the prerequisite age limit and the type of certification materials issued.

It is strongly recommended that Junior Open Water Scuba Divers are included in a training programme with their older family members or friends also taking the course.

The course objectives are to afford entry level scuba training for youths of 12, 13 or 14 years of age, and to provide conditional certification for course graduates.

Qualification of Graduates:

At the time of successful completion of the



course, the Junior Open Water Scuba Diver is qualified to dive as a NAUI Open Water I Scuba Diver, but only with a certified adult of the parents' or guardian's selection. The parent or guardian is to sign the back of the Junior Open Water Scuba Diver certification card indicating that he/she accepts responsibility for selection of the certified adult buddy.

Upon reaching the age of 15, the junior diver may request any teaching NAUI instructor to convert the conditional certificate to an Open Water I Scuba Diver certificate. The NAUI instructor who handles the conversion may require, if felt necessary, any reasonable amount of review, practice or evaluation of the skills and knowledge of the junior diver.

Prerequisites of Entering the Course:

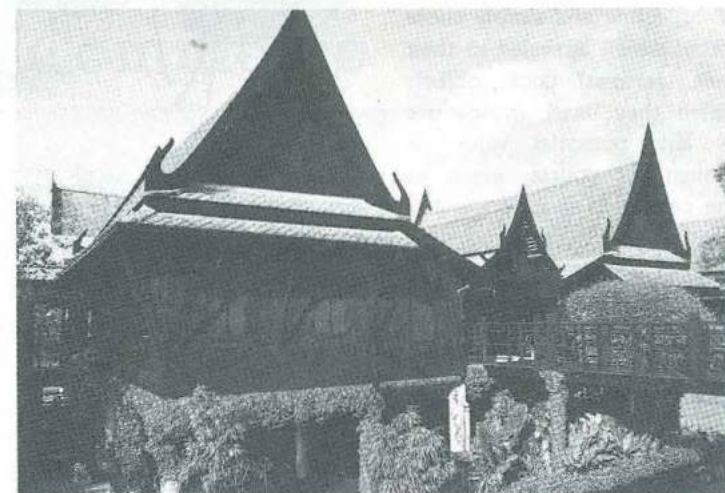
No prior certification is required. The student is to be 12, 13, or 14 years of age, and will be required to exhibit the mental and physical maturity requirement of a fully certified NAUI Open Water I Scuba Diver.

All details and information concerning the NAUI Open Water I Training Course are displayed on the events board. For full details of both the Andaman Pearl trip and Junior Diving Courses, phone Christian Bouteillier on 279-5373, or leave your name and phone number (office and home) in the envelope marked "Scuba Diving" on the events board.

The Suan Pakkad Palace Museum

SUAN Pakkad literally means "cabbage patch". Not a particularly interesting or attractive place to visit one might think, but the name belies its beauty. Hidden behind a large wall on Sri Ayuthaya Road (sandwiched between it and the railway line, the noise from both of which does sadly intrude sometimes) lies a complex of traditional Thai houses and pavilions enveloped by a large landscaped garden. The gardens are renowned as being amongst the most beautiful in Thailand and have large expanses of grass, shady bowers formed by many different species of often-flowering shrubs and trees, and cooling pools complete with two large pelicans which roost majestically on large stones at the edge of the water.

The complex was built in 1952 by HRH Prince Chumbhot of Nagor Svarga (grandson of Rama V) and his wife Mom Rajawongse Pantip, Princess Chumbhot (great granddaughter of Rama IV), a great beauty of her day. The traditional Thai houses were gathered mostly from Ampawa, with some from Ayuthaya, and were joined together by a series of connecting walkways. Princess Chumbhot sought the help of well known American, William Warren who has since written several books on Bangkok and whose expertise has been utilised in the landscaping of a



The complex of Thai Houses.



The Lacquer Pavilion

number of the city's large hotels, to lay out the gardens.

As well as being their home, the Suan Pakkad Palace housed the Prince and Princess's private collection of antiques and memorabilia, imaginatively displayed for their pleasure and that of invited guests. At some point the collection was opened to members of the

public and was consistently enlarged thereafter, firstly by the royal couple and then by the Princess alone after her husband's death in 1959, until her own demise in 1987. The complex is now open to the public from Monday to Saturday, between 9.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m.

The collection covers a

broad spectrum of Thai artifacts, together with those from neighbouring countries; ceramics, paintings, sculptures, carvings, furniture and curios. The Prince and Princess were obviously not devoted to any one particular style or period of collecting and simply chose pieces which appealed to their wide personal taste; objects which they liked, irrespective of any potential value although, of course, much of the collection is now worth a great deal. Because of this style of acquiring objects the museum retains the relaxed atmosphere of a home with the pieces displayed in a relatively informal and unpretentious way.

Of particular note are some examples of the beads, rollers, pottery, bronze and ironwork discovered at Baan Chiang, some of which could date from as far back as the 600's AD. In one corner of the garden there also lies an impressive pavilion (originally a Sanskrit library, set on stilts in water to prevent termites from eating the ancient Buddhist manuscripts and scrolls), the interior wall panels of which are adorned with exquisite paintings of gold on black lacquer depicting stories from the Buddha's previous lives. Unfortunately, when the pavilion was reconstructed on the site, some of the panels were replaced in the wrong order, but this in no way detracts from the overall beauty of the interior.

Perhaps my only criticism (and one which can be levelled against Thai museums and monuments in general) is that not all of the pieces are labelled. I was lucky enough to be

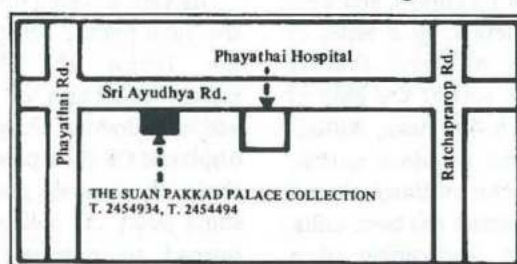


Examples of the Baan Chiang pottery.

part of a group of National Museum Volunteers who were guided by two of their own immensely knowledgeable members, who were able to point out all sorts of interesting and noteworthy aspects of the collection. I had previously been rather overwhelmed by the somewhat "weighty" reputation of this group, but have recently joined (at the incredibly reasonable rate of Bht300 for a year: the monthly newsletter is like a small book and must cost that alone to produce and send out) to find that this is not at all the case. I have recently attended a number of their Introductory Lectures on Thai Art and Culture (the series is to be repeated again next January), as well as going on various trips related to the lectures, and feel that I've learnt as much about Thailand in the past few weeks as I have in the past two years of living here.

Many of the people involved with the NMV's have lived here for many years and impart their knowledge, whether it be historical, religious or just some interesting little tit-bit picked up somewhere along the way, in a very unpretentious and easily understood way. You will be surprised at the length and breadth of the topics covered and will be delighted when another small piece of "the Thai jigsaw" slips into place. I would thoroughly recommend anyone to join, whether they have been here 3 weeks or 3 years. If you have the remotest interest in what is happening around you, you will find it fascinating, and helpful. Oh, and having gone off at a complete tangent, take a couple of hours one afternoon to browse around the Suan Pakkad.

Rachel Dance



SPECIALS

The British Chamber of Commerce

I WOULD like to thank your editor, Maren White, for allowing me the opportunity to outline some of the objectives, history and misconceptions of The British Chamber of Commerce's activities here in Bangkok.

The instigator behind the formation of the British Chamber of Commerce, way back in 1946, was Charles Mabbatt CBE, a partner of D. Cooper-Johnston & Co. There were 17 British founder members and 3 associate members at that time.

It is interesting to note that the British Club provided an important service to the Chamber in its early days by allowing its premises to be used for the Chamber's monthly committee meetings until 1964, when the venue became the Borneo Co. office. Throughout the first two decades membership was fairly static and even as late as 1962 membership of the Chamber was still only 25. Former Chairmen include Sir James Holt, Mr. Dacre Raikes OBE, Mr. Alastair Greenlees and Mr. Nigel Overy CBE who, to this day, continue to take an active interest in the Chamber's development.

The year 1977 marked a turning point for the Chamber. In the past, much of its activity had focused on the specific



Des Tarrant.

interests of its members with very little emphasis placed on the broader issues of commercial relations between Britain and Thailand. It had become increasingly apparent, however, that the Chamber must play a far more active role in bilateral trade matters by forging more clearly defined links with appropriate bodies in the U.K. and by acting as a source of information and means of communication for businessmen in both directions.

Consequently, a full time Executive Director, Mrs. Bobbie Lawson, was appointed in 1977 to provide a focal point for the Chamber's activities. Today this role is filled by Phyl Xumsai who, with a staff of four, continues to develop and expand the Chamber.

In 1988 the Chamber comprises over 164 members who enjoy a full range of chamber services. The Executive Committee, currently chaired by myself as Chief Executive of Inchcape, is advised by a number of standing sub-committees: Taxation, Legislation and Alien Business Law chaired by Diethelm & Co. Ltd.; International Patent & Copy Right and Customs Activities chaired by Glaxo (Thailand) Ltd.; Banking, Finance & Insurance chaired by The Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation; Personnel & Labour Relations chaired by Lever Brothers (Thailand) Ltd.; Export Promotion chaired by British Airways; Energy and Public Relations chaired by The Shell Co. of Thailand Ltd.; Transportation chaired by Ben Line Containers Ltd.; EEC/European Chambers Liaison and BOI chaired by The East Asiatic Co. (T) Ltd.; Telecommunications chaired by Philips Electrical Co. of Thailand Ltd.; Chamber Publications chaired by Standard Chartered Bank.

A major concern of the standing sub-committees is to maintain links with various ministries and relevant official and trade bodies and, above all, with member firms to ascertain their views. In addition



Phyl Xumsai,
Executive Director,
British Chamber
of Commerce

tion, the Chamber has a representative in the Working Group of Foreign Chambers. As Thailand continues to attract an increasing inflow of direct foreign investment, these joint efforts by the foreign Chambers have already resulted in eliminating some of the impediments to trade which previously posed a considerable drawback to Thailand's competitiveness in the international marketplace.

The Chamber's own activities and services have continued to expand over the years. One of the most valued services which the Chamber provides to members is a monthly information package comprising three parts: a newsletter detailing events and visitors of the current month; a digest of economic, financial trends and a section on Openings for Trade. This bulletin is circulated to all members, local government and trade bodies, and many chambers of com-

merce in Britain.

Other publications of the Chamber include an annual expatriate Cost of Living Survey, Job Classification Survey and a bi-annual Handbook providing company profiles for individual members. The Chamber also organises monthly luncheons which provide a useful forum for members to meet each other, as well as to listen to prominent speakers address members on a variety of topical issues. The Chamber maintains very close ties with the British Embassy in Bangkok and the senior commercial officer sits in an honorary capacity on the Executive Committee. The Chamber has also established direct formal links with Chambers of Commerce in the UK and represents the CBI, in addition to being an overseas member of the Association of British Chambers. These links have helped enormously in the Chamber's efforts this year to

establish a "mini-ambassador programme" for the first time. The purpose of this programme is to increase awareness abroad of business opportunities in Thailand by encouraging members to volunteer to speak to groups of UK businessmen during one of their visits to the UK. Each mini-ambassador is presented with a speakers' kit to support his address, including a video presentation, information on doing business in Thailand and other fact sheets and hand outs. The success of this kind of project obviously depends very much on the willingness of members to participate in the programme, and the Chamber is therefore very pleased that, as a result of its initial recruitment drive, there are now more than 15 mini-ambassador volunteers waiting to take the UK by storm!

Many people are unaware that the British Chamber of Commerce Bangkok is fully financed by its members and receives no financial support from any British Government institute or Thai authority. Despite financial constraints, however, the Chamber strives hard to improve its services to members and continually reviews its activities to enable the committee to respond to individual members' needs in the most cost effective way.

For further information, members of the club are invited to call Phyl Xumsai, or better still, why not call into the Chamber offices in the Bangkok Insurance Building, and see the operation for yourself.

Des Tarrant



Three former British Chamber chairmen at the British Club. From left, Mr. Daike Raikes, Sir James Holt and Mr. Alastair Greenlees.

A Scandinavian Christmas

MY daddy's called Elof and my mummy's called Gunnel and my sister's called Bella and I've got two brothers called Staffan and Kalle.

We all live in a great big apartment in a little town called Linköping and when Christmas comes I really like it because I get lots of lovely presents and everyone is very nice - even Staffan - and we are all very happy.

I don't like winter. It's horrid. It's dark when I go to school and it's dark when I come back from school and it's very cold and everyone walks around with their hands in their pockets and with big coats on and with smoke coming out of their mouths when they breathe.

But I know Christmas is coming because last Sunday was the first Sunday in December and last Sunday night all the houses had light bulbs in little paper stars in all their windows and when you look out of the window, there are stars in the sky and stars all down the street and all over the town as far as you can see and everything is very shiny and it's like heaven.

Actually, Christmas must be getting very close because next week, my bestest friend Inge (The Winger) is going to be "Lucia" with a crown on her head and candles all around it. Last year it was Maria's turn and we all sang songs about Lucia and we all wore white robes with rope tied around the waist and we all had glitter in our hair and we all sang songs about Lucia.

And that means that Christmas is only ten days away and we will be on our last candle because for four Sundays before Christmas we light a candle in the front windows.

Tomorrow we are going to light our second candle and Mummy said I could light it but I can't blow the old one out because we want to keep it going until Christmas Eve which is a bigger day in Sweden than Christmas Day.



We wake up very early because we know that we are going to have lots of presents and lots of nice food and even Staffan is going to be nice to me. We have to wait until the afternoon to get our presents so Daddy will give us a little present in the morning to keep us happy till lunchtime.

It is a long wait until lunch because it is not ready until two o'clock. We have a Smorgasbord with lots of ham and fish and sausages and porridge with a nut in it. And whoever gets the nut is going to be married soon. And we dip bread in stock from the ham which is from when the poor people used to do this because they didn't have enough money for lots of nice food.

Daddy usually starts to behave very strangely and Mummy is telling him to stop drinking so much schnapps, so he goes into the kitchen and comes out with the hot glogg which makes him behave even more strangely but we are only allowed one glass and I think it tastes horrid anyway, and why is everybody sitting around and drinking so much and being so silly when Father Christmas is about to come round?

He comes on a sleigh with reindeer and he knocks on the door and asks if there are any nice little boys or girls in the house and gives out some presents. Daddy says in the old days, before Father Christmas, it used to be a goat but I don't like goats. I like Father Christmas.

And then Daddy and Mummy give us the rest of our presents and this year I want a new pair of skates because my old ones are green and I want some blue ones like Maria.

By now it is dark again but we are all very happy, especially Daddy who is so happy that now he is sleeping in his favourite chair with his big fat tummy sticking out and snoring very loudly.

And this year I am going to be far away and am I going to miss all my family? And am I going to miss the little stars with light bulbs in them? And am I going to miss Lucia? And am I even going to miss the smorgasbord? And am I going to miss Daddy and all his schnapps? And am I going to miss Staffan?

Not bloody likely. I'm off to Koh Samui.

God Jul!

P.S. I got the nut last year....

SCOFFERIES

LEO LIANG SIANG



IN rapidly changing Bangkok, progress demands that many buildings, establishments must disappear in favour of some new development or other. It is all the more pleasing, therefore, when one finds a relic of the past. Leo Liang Siang is one such place and although located in two shophouses which cannot be more than 25 years old, it has essentially retained its true Chinese character as it apparently had in Rajawongse Road years ago.

It is air-conditioned in one half downstairs and completely on the first floor. The remaining half downstairs has three tables, a couple of fish tanks and obviously the owner's booth, where he holds court (and forth) seated cross-legged in his silk trousers. Very important stuff. Around the walls are cupboards with canned abalone and va-

rious other bottles which are apparently essential to such an establishment.

As there were only two of us, we were unable to sample extensively, settling on Hoi Tot, an egg batter fried with oysters and bean sprouts with an accompanying hot sauce; delicious. This was followed by Keng Pad. A dish of venison fried with Chinese celery and ginger. Personally I do not like ginger, but in this instance it was not too heavy and its compliment to the taste was excellent. We then had Hoi Jor, a sort of dim sum consisting of a mixture of pork, prawn and chestnut served with fresh pineapple. Lastly, we had a steamed Plakapong Gow, tasty and very fresh as we had witnessed its removal from the fish tank a few minutes earlier. I am reliably informed that all their noodle dishes are excellent, as is their home-made ice cream.

Leo Liang Siang (555) is not cheap. It does not need to be as apparently it's standing room only at weekday lunchtimes. The food is very good and authentic. A true relic of the past which is well worth a visit. The normal ration of booze outcosting food two to one was completely blown this time as with a good foundation of Stein lager earlier, we settled for Chinese tea.

It is simple to find. In the complex behind the Montien one will find the Galaxy, Bangkok's infamous no hands restaurant. Facing the entrance of the Galaxy, Leo Liang Siang (555) is behind you to your left, 270 degrees.

If you don't know where the Galaxy is ask any bachelor member.

Bon Appetit
Bob Coombes

CHILDREN'S CORNER

WATER WIZARDRY

YOU NEED:

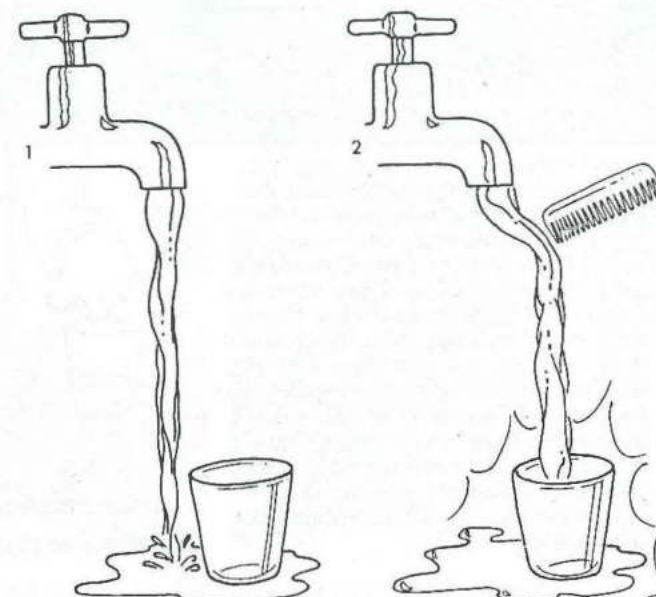
- A tumbler
- A comb

Place the empty tumbler in the sink and then turn a tap on slowly. The water from the tap should just miss the glass.

How can you now make the water go into the glass without anything touching either the water or the glass?

Quite amazingly, the only thing you need is a comb! Run the comb through your hair a few times. This charges the comb with static electricity. Now hold the comb near to the running water and, believe it or not, the water will bend towards the comb so that you can direct it into the glass.

Do not touch the water with the comb or this trick will not work.



TOPSY TURVY WATER

YOU NEED:

- A glass of water

Just imagine everyone's gasp of horror when you take a glass of water and then start waving your arm over your head!

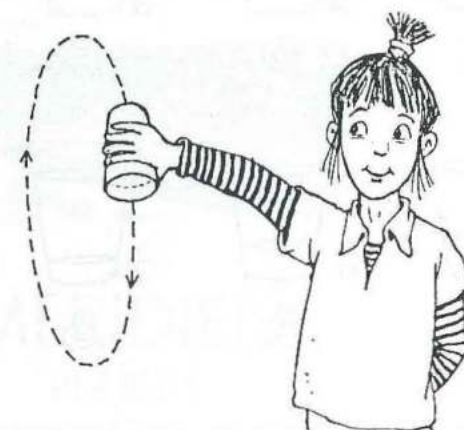
Hold the glass of water in your hand. Your arm is outstretched and the elbow is underneath the arm. Now swing your arm over your head in an anticlockwise

direction, as shown by the dotted lines in the picture.

You should finish up with your arm stretched out to the side once again but this time the elbow will be pointing upwards. And you never

spilled a drop!

For obvious reasons you should practise this stunt out in the garden until you are sure you can do it without drenching everything and everybody in sight!



Musical Magic

Here's a way of producing a musical instrument from just eight glasses.

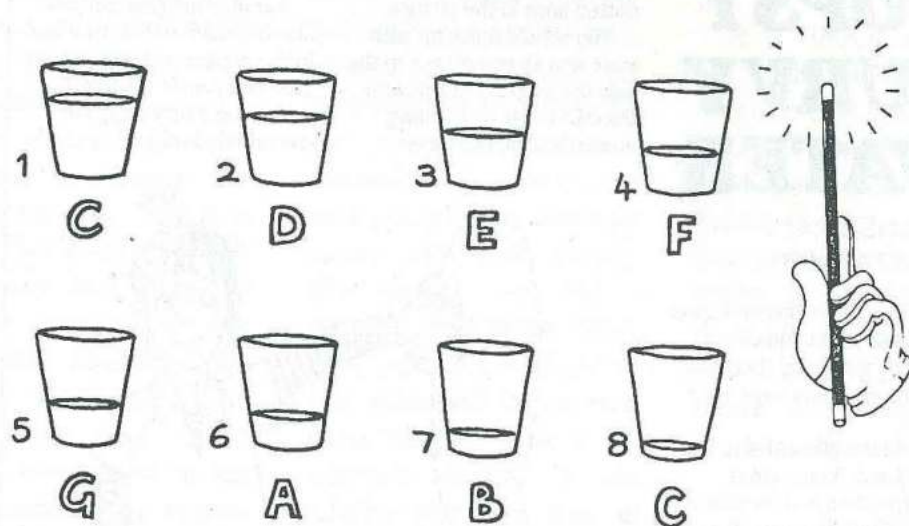
You will need
eight drinking glasses or small glass bowls
some water

The trick

Take the eight glasses or bowls and pour different amounts of water in them as shown in the diagram. A small amount of water gives a low note, a larger amount gives a higher note. In order to 'play' the glasses, moisten both your finger and the glass's rim and pass the finger round the rim firmly. You should hear a clear ringing sound. If you don't, try passing your finger round the rim in the opposite direction, and you should find that this will work. Getting the notes accurate requires a lot of trial and error, but if you have a good ear, a certain amount of musical knowledge, and a tuning fork, you will manage it. Even if you don't, you can have a lot of fun trying to play a tune. If you take the trick seriously, arrange the glasses in front of you as shown in the diagram which will put them in their order in the scale.



Which musicians play rubber trumpets?
Those in an elastic band.



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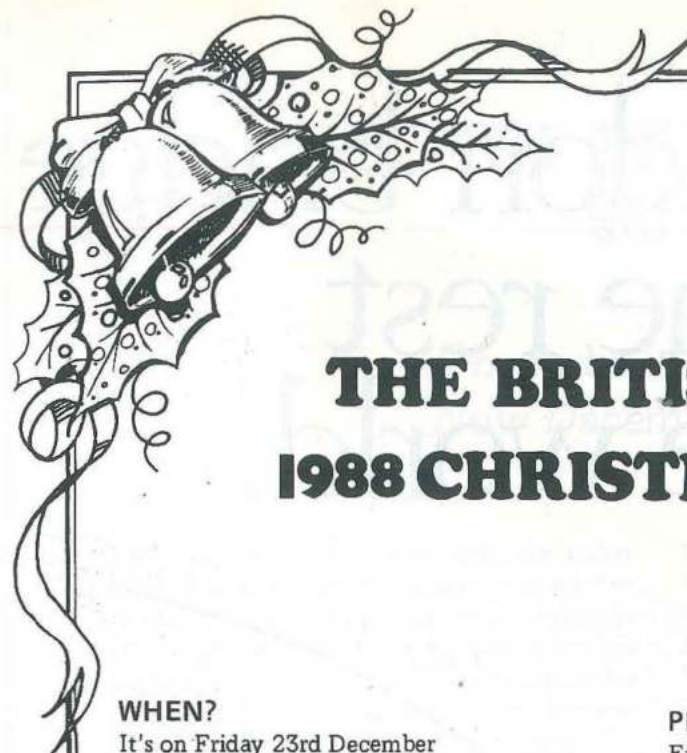
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THE BRITISH CLUB 1988 CHRISTMAS BALL

WHEN?

It's on Friday 23rd December

WHERE?

We'll start the fun on the front lawn of the Club with free cocktails from 7.30-8.30 p.m. Traditional Christmas entertainment will welcome you to your table on the back lawn between 8.15-8.45 p.m. followed by dinner at 9.00 p.m. approx. After dinner you can dance the night away till 2.00 p.m. when soup sandwiches and maybe, some impromptu Christmas Carols will be served in the Churchill Bar.

HOW MUCH?

Price of tickets is £650 per head. There will be no corkage charge and special wines will be on sale at supermarket prices.

MUSIC?

This will be provided by the superb Chulalongkorn University Band. This is the real big band sound with 30 musicians and 8 vocalists. Traditional or disco, the C.U. Band plays it all.

PLUS

Fabulous door prizes, including 2 return tickets to the U.K. courtesy of British Airways, as well as some special spot prizes.

BOOKING

The booking sheets are available now in reception, together with a table plan. Numbers are restricted to 350, so make your reservations now to avoid disappointment.

DRESS

Red Sea Rig.

For those of you who have not spent time at sea, that means dinner suit minus the jacket.

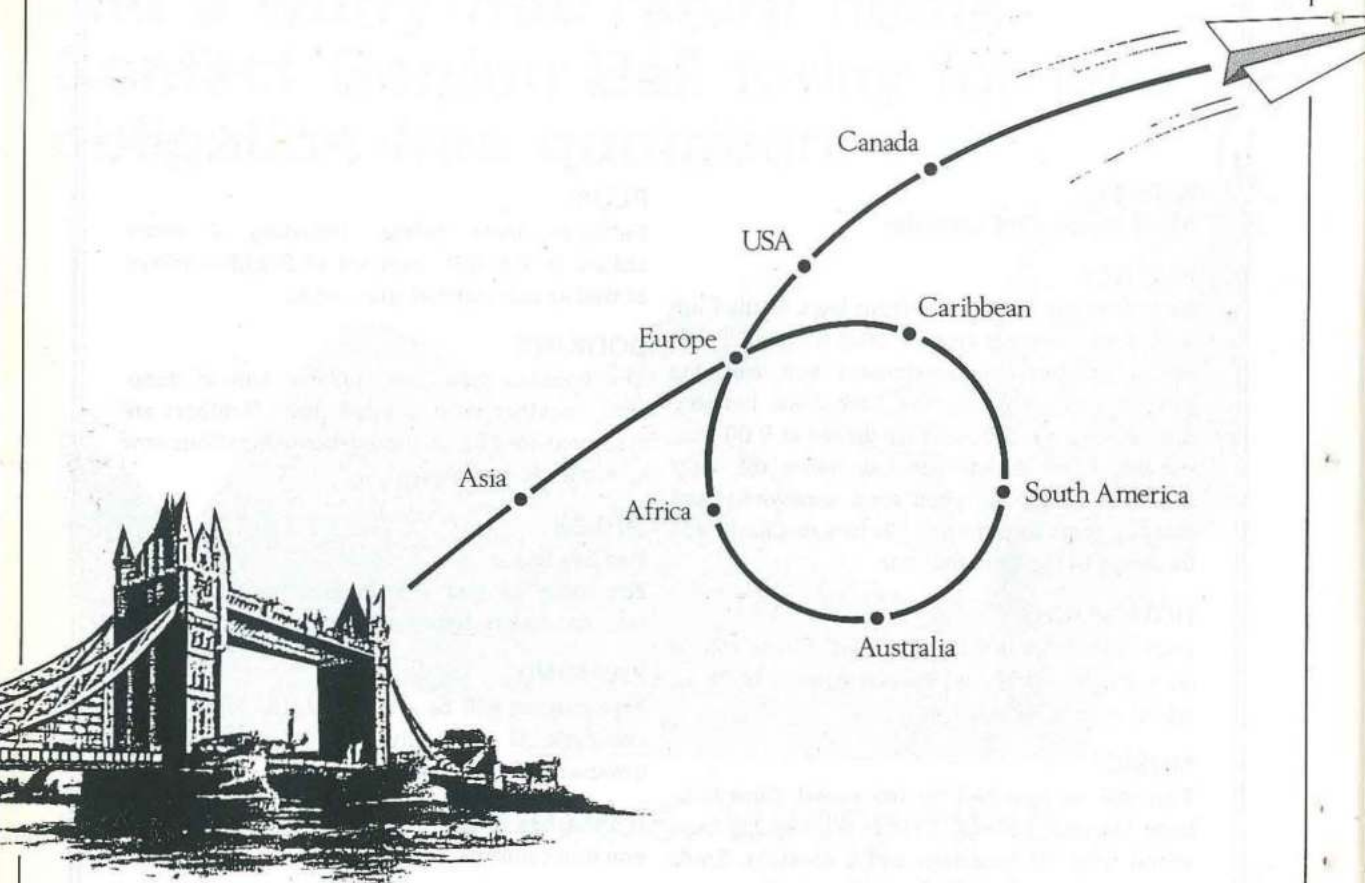
PARKING

Free parking will be available at the Narai Hotel Car Park. If you really want to enjoy yourself however, why not come in a taxi?

It's the best Christmas Ball in town so be sure you don't miss it!



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CRICKET



CRICKET

*Oh, to be in Thailand
Now December's here*

YES, it's that time of year again, the Walter Mitty time of year full of the promise of achievements to be accomplished, and accomplishments to be achieved. The time of year when the cricketer's thoughts turn once again to the noble game, perhaps savouring one or two moments from the previous season, but more likely turning eyes to the rosy prospects of the season round the corner, as yet untainted by the reality of dropped catches and wrecked wickets. As always, the first step of the new season is the loving preparation of kit; you dig out your old cricket-bag from the back of the dog's basket, and there, nestling in the boots which still have the mud of last season's last match caked around them, you find one sock, a curry puff which you now vaguely remember taking one bite out of during the end-of-season celebration, and the keys and credit-cards which you reported stolen and accused your wife of losing, leading to an acrimonious argument which finally landed you in the divorce court and devastated your personal affairs. No matter! It's a new season and the possibilities are unalloyed with mundane considerations.

For some, of course, disillusion sets in early. The first batsman in the first nets of the season was bowled first ball; I shall not be so cruel as to name him, as he's bigger than me. I shall say only that following this early setback, he then played for the rest of the session the sound and idiosyncratic forward prod for which he is renowned. Well-attended, these first nets, by over a dozen players and about four hundred supporters. The fireworks and celebrations later in the day were a fortuitous bonus for these supporters, many of whom brought young

children with them for their first glimpse of the hallowed and revered national game. Few will soon forget, even if they are now too young to appreciate the subtleties of, Nicky Dunne's first ball which missed the nets completely and landed on the roof. Or the time-honoured tradition of the entire team massed behind the captain with their arms extended as he ran up for his first ball. The Thai supporters, leaning far out of every window of the school which is so happily positioned alongside the nets, were eager in their encouragement: "Hello Mister", they shouted, and "Where you come from?". It's comments like these, from wags in the crowd, that have always made cricket the great spectator sport it is. One further example, as Nick White ran in to bowl, one of the persifleurs, with exquisite timing, yelled out "What your name?" Magic.

By the time you read this, we should be on our way to Chiang Mai for our first real matches of the season. Last year the Hong Kong Centaurs humiliated us here in our first ever Interport match when we were dismissed for 45; this turned out to be our only two-figure dismissal of the season, and we are determined to avenge the defeat this year. Our determination on Chiang Mai trips usually manifests itself by an incredible exercise of will as regards abstinence from all things evil before the match. This exercise can occasionally last until Don Muang flashes past the train windows in the early hours of darkness, when it has been known for Trivial Pursuit and Monopoly boards to be surreptitiously withdrawn from bags and set up in quiet corners of the carriage.

Skipper Frank Hough, mindful of Mike Gatting's untimely captaincy demise last season,

will need to keep a close watch on these and other activities. Especially since British Club domination of the Thai cricket scene this season will be challenged from our own backyard by a consortium lead by David "Kerry" Lamb and Alistair "Packer" Rider who are putting together a collection of players called the Pavilionaires. Questions still remain over this team: who will play for them? who will keep wicket? will it mean two OUTPOST articles each month?

Let me leave you with this little thought from an old and rather disillusioned cricket fanatic, the great Russian poet Pushkin:

*Ya vas lyubil'
Lyubov' eshscho, byt' mozhet'
V dushe moyei ugasla nye covsyem'.*

It says it all, doesn't it?

David Hall
November 10, 1988

GOLF GOLF

THE bi-annual event against The Japanese Association was held at The Rose Garden on Sunday October 30th. As always the Japanese proved worthy opponents and their team, mainly single handicappers, averaged 32 points against 30 points averaged by The British Club. The competition is based on the scores of ten players, selected prior to the match, and so good selection is a key ingredient for success. It was agreed that for the next event either the teams be enlarged or the result be based on the average points of all the players.

Although the Brits lost they figured high in the individual prizes. Ian McClean shot the lowest gross and Derek Pott the highest stableford followed by Les Vize. Third to sixth place were taken by Watanabe, Tomihara, Miyano and Nakamura.

The prizes were presented at The BC poolside on Sunday evening which was well attended by both the Japanese and British golfers. Our thanks to Dave Williamson and the BC staff for laying on an excellent barbeque.

The big event of December is The Rose Garden weekend being held on December 3 to 5, which is The King's Birthday weekend. This three day event will have individual daily competitions and a three day eclectic so there are four events in total. Social functions, including a river trip and riverside barbeque, are being organised so book your rooms at the Rose Garden Hotel. Please contact Dougal Forrest of the BC golf committee who has booked 15 rooms for BC members.

We also have another Rose Garden event on Sunday December 11th at 11.30 and at Bang Phra on Sunday December 18th at 08.45. The weather and conditions are great for golf in December and January so don't miss any of our events.

If you are not a member of the Golf section but would like to start, just put your name on the sign up sheet and come along to the next event. Golfers of all standards are welcome.

SQUASH SQUASH

WHAT a month! One of the best and busiest we've had for some time.

The Rod Carter British Club Open was played early in the month and no major upsets were seen. The final was between Peerapon P. and Howard Bills. Quite a crowd turned up to see the final and we all saw a good match. The championship went to Peerapon for the 4th year running but the score line of 3-0 suggests that the winner had an easy victory – that was far from the truth. In the first 2 games both players were neck and neck and Howard, at one stage, looked as though he might take the first game, but it was not to be. Our thanks to all the contestants who took part and we look forward to next year's competition.



Peerapon being presented with his winner's trophy.



Peerapon and Howard Bills with trophies.

TSRA

As mentioned in our stop press last month, a great win by two BCB teams in the TSRA leagues. I believe this is the first time this has happened.

An excellent win for the British Club. Congratulations to all the contestants and our thanks for your time and effort over the long period in which TSRA competition is played.



DIVISION TWO WINNERS:

John Cockroft, Richard Green, Tony Brazenell, Dave Bennington and Mike Poustie.



LADIES DIVISION WINNERS:

Barbara Overington, Fiona Casbon, Carolyn Tarrant and Sriwan Forrest (not in picture).

TEAM HANDICAP

Sunday the 16 October saw a new version of our bi-monthly handicap competition consisting of Yellow, Blue, White, Red, Pink and Green teams. Each team having 4 players the aim, as usual, was to gain the maximum number of points.

The day was finally won by the Red team comprising Dick Souter, Mel Leddy and Chrissie Bennington. A special mention also for Mel Leddy who was the only player of the day to gain maximum points of 75. We look forward to the December event when we will again change the formula.

SINGAPORE CRICKET CLUB

Last, but not least, we had a 19 player visit from the SCC and what a great crowd they were. The event took place on the afternoon of Bonfire night and all the games were hard fought. The BC was desperate for a win after losing to the last two visiting teams and by golly, the final result could not have been closer. We won 10 games to 9. Results went as follows:

BCB	SCC	RESULTS	
P Fangman	I McMahon	3-0	BCB
R Dominy	M Taye	1-3	SCC
T Austin	P Rowles	1-3	SCC
M Poustie	K Mathews	1-3	SCC
D Bennington	P Rodgers	3-1	BCB
N White	Z Motiwalla	0-3	SCC
R Green	M Currie	2-3	SCC
J Cockroft	Cindy Chew	0-3	SCC
J Nichols	D Lee	0-3	SCC
D Chessman	L Tunnaclyffe	3-2	BCB
J Sill	P Teo	3-0	BCB
J Dunford	V Srihari	3-1	BCB
T Brazenell	Helen Wright	3-0	BCB
P Austin	Tan Poo Eng	3-2	BCB
M Leddy	D De Boer	3-0	BCB
B Overington	Ong Menghui	2-3	SCC
C Tarrant	Nancy Crisp	0-3	SCC
A Sill	Joanne Rowles	3-0	BCB
E Fangman	Norris Currie	3-1	BCB

After the fireworks everyone adjourned to the bar where the beer flowed freely. Everything went well until someone suggested a Boat Race (drinking competition). It was at this stage that our "wally of the month" stood up, or was it fall down! David Bailey, disguised as Mike O' Connor, took charge of the camera and started snapping everything. Pictures of the ceiling as he was falling over, pictures of the floor as he was laid on it and pictures of other places which I dare not mention as he lay on the floor looking up. It was my camera and I knew something was wrong when the girl at the processing shop looked at me in a strange way!

Finally, as we had all the beer lined up on the table for the competition, David - sorry Mike, decided it was time to go for a swim so he threw himself into the beer and kept his finger on the button of the automatic camera. Can you imagine the photos!! Anyway we decided that after that he was good committee material so he was promptly co-opted.

A great night. We were invited to a return match and we have accepted for sometime in the new year.



SCC Captain Peter Rowles presenting Tony Austin with a memento of his visit.



BCB Squash Chairman, Tony Brazenell, in full song.



Tony Brazenell presenting Peter Rowles with a tie (shirt and collar type!).

SOCCER



SOCCER

SAWASDEE!

What a hectic month November was, what with Guy Fawkes, all those devilishly complicated dance practices, the Ball itself, Curry Lunches, Ploenchit Fair et al! What's that? This is the football page you say. Oh, all right, I'll get on with it. The football scene was packed with almost as much action as the social one and sometimes they were inevitably inter-twined. The prime example of this being the opening tour of the season.

CHIANG MAI REVISITED

12 players, 4 wives, 1 supporter and 8 kids boarded the train at Bangkok at the start of the annual expedition to Chiang Mai. Our advance scout, Billy Duncan, had gone ahead to sort out the hotel accommodation in the capital of the North, a task which was to prove a little onerous. We had no sooner settled down to a normal "evening before the match" ritual of rigorous arm-bending, and in some cases twisting for those who were tardy in buying rounds, when we were served the best that the culinary artistes of the State Railroad of Thailand had to offer. This was followed by the team making frantic efforts to raid Linda Forbes' cool-box where bountiful supplies of her famous corned beef sandwiches were to be found. A card school was set up by the more sensible amongst us, whilst 'Wooden-top' Massey lead the more impressionable to the buffet car to challenge the Thai nation to a Singing contest (no, it's not a typo). Having proceeded to separate the poor unsuspecting buffet car attendants from their hard-earned and meagre pittance in the aforementioned downing of the beer bottles, he then managed to terrorise a demure Thai damsel by attempting to get into the wrong bunk – or at least the correct bunk, but in the wrong carriage. Meanwhile, back with the main party, newly-weds Peter and Carole Downs had decided separate bunks were an unnecessary extravagance and had foresaken one in favour of young Robert Rennie

who was to have shared with his Dad. I guess they wanted to be cosy in the face of the chill North air. We now know SRT bunks do not creak.

Dawn broke over the mystical Chiang Mai hills and, whilst the scenery outside was attractive, there were some pretty awful sights on the train. However, a hearty repast set us on our feet and, on alighting, it was straight to base camp and a second breakfast.

Our opening game was that afternoon against the Chiang Mai University Staff (CUS) and the dastardly (yes Ed – it is a 'd') Dons had brought in four 'ringers' from the student body to bolster their chances after drawing the opening game of the Tournament 2-2 the day before. Four fit and athletic young lads whose combined age only just exceeded that of 'Father' Jim Howard. Skipper, Mike Pomfret, started with his strongest line-up and indeed with what was probably one of the strongest touring sides we have put out and the first half, whilst never quite deserving the title of scintillating soccer, seemed to entertain the quite large crowd.

British Club deservedly took the lead towards the end with an excellent solo goal from 'Avon Calling' Dave Benninton who latched on to a through ball from the half-way line to beat two defenders before rounding the keeper and slotting home. He'll not score a better all year. CUS, seeing their tournament hopes fading fast, upped the pace and pressure at the start of the second half and only good work by the BC back four kept the score sheet blank as the overnight journey began to take its toll on the legs of our mid-field who had run tirelessly in the first half. Both substitutes, Downs and Upton were pitched into the fray and still we held on and looked dangerous on the counter-attack. With only minutes to go we scored what appeared to be the 'clincher' only to have it ruled out for a hard-ball offence. CUS then mounted a series of raids, but we held firm whilst the game went on and on and on and on. Seven minutes into injury time (and it had to be said that there

were no injuries) CUS won a corner and slack marking on the cross as a result of our still disputing the award, allowed them to power an equaliser past the despairing Rennie. The ball was re-centred and immediately the whistle was blown for full time. A one-all draw left the position clear. We had to win the second game to win the tournament. Any other result would mean either CUS or Gymkhana Club would come out on top. We mulled this over in the post-match dinner and Mike Warrow was even observed to have turned down a drink – dedication in the extreme.

After a night on the town which turned into a drinking marathon between the Gymkhana Club stalwarts and our own bachanallion team, it was a trip up the hills for many of us on the Sunday morning and a trip to the land of nod for the balance. Match time came round soon enough and we left for the ground in positive spirits for our assault on the two trophies up for grabs, namely the Chiang Mai Elephant (for the triangular tourney) and the Shield (played for between ourselves and Gymkhana Club only). Mike Pomfret had no mixed thoughts despite the fact that he would have to do a lap of honour with the 30kg lacquered Elephant if we won. En route to the ground, however, the pre-match nerves must have got to Billy Duncan. Either that or he was missing two friends for he kept sticking his head out the side of the baht bus shouting for 'Hughie' or 'Ralph' much to the distress of passing motorcyclists. What is it in the Kloster that brings out the diced carrots in men. The team baht bus was also gaily bedecked in British Club colours in the shape of 13 pairs of shorts hanging out to dry. The day, you see, was to have marked the debut of the new strip sponsored by British Airways, but due to a slight technical hitch, the shorts were delivered in what can only be described as children's sizes and could not be 'hitched' up over the buttocks. Fortunately, this was discovered before we left the hotel and hence the banner waving en route. Anyway to the action.

We certainly looked the part as we took the field in our unfamiliar red and white jerseys sporting the British Airways logo and this may have spurred us to the sparkling opening half where we were certainly 'flying high' and playing some fast flaring football. The honour of scoring the premier goal in the new strip fell to Frank

Hough who, with a fine display of 'keepie uppie' (ball juggling to those uninitiated in the Scots vernacular) turned in the box to ram home from close range. A fine solo effort. This set us on a high and the partisan local crowd were won over with a dazzling display of passing, dribbling, speed and off the ball running. Frank scored a second with his head off a corner in a well-executed set-piece move to put us two-up at the break and leave our hosts wondering what they could do to prevent a rout in the second half. To their credit they always tried to play football and put up some gritty resistance. Unfortunately, we did not perform to the same standard in the second half, probably as a result of the demanding schedule of two games and many social sessions in two days, combined with the fact that our hosts had a pool of eighteen players which they used to the full under the liberal substitution rules of the tournament. We did, however, manage to extend our lead when Frank Hough completed his hat-trick to make the final score 3-0. The result meant a successful defence of both trophies won last year and a tonic for tired limbs. It was then on to the post-match banquet and a superb buffet it was, and the prize-giving. Again, Chiang Mai Gymkhana Club proved superb hosts and our thanks must go to Bob Malloy and his organising committee for another great time. During the celebration the 'kitty' was boosted by the announcement and collection of the tour fines under the direction of Fines Master, Jim Howard. Main donor was, as usual, Billy Duncan who, in addition to sundry amounts for throwing-up etc., was fined one satang for every expletive uttered in the course of the previous two days. This alone amounted to Baht 2,328.52. 'Nuff said. Oh! Despite Frank's hat-trick, the strength of opinion was that newcomer, Mike Worrow, deserved our 'Man of the Tournament' accolade although all played well.

The Monday holiday was left as a free day and apart from our baht bus breaking down in the Northern wilderness and us having to hitch various lifts back, with Carole Downs making effective use of the Hashing Knee technique, there is nothing else to report. The elephant made it safely back, courtesy of the Rennie Volvo and the soiled kits almost jumped out of the back of his car when the tailgate was opened. Once again, Chiang Mai, if you're reading this, thanks a lot and see you next year.

MATCH REPORT

Since the Ed has unenviable space problems these days I will try to make this brief. The week before our departure to Chiang Mai we continued our pre-season build-up with a match against the Scandinavians who are lead by one of our Associate members, Per Jensen. Our encounters are usually enjoyable and sporting ones and this was no exception. Played at, for most of us, the unlikely hour of 10 a.m. on a Sunday morning, the opposition started with the dirty trick of scoring from a corner in the first minute before any of us were awake. I was sure it was a dream although goalkeeper Rennie felt a nightmare was more accurate. Woken up by this strike, we then proceeded to match the score in an end to end tussle and just when it appeared our efforts would be in vain, we scored in the dying minutes when a bullet header from 'Razor-head' Maynard off a corner found the net. An honourable one-all draw and a fair result to both teams.

Ten days after the tour came the big one. The opening game of the 1988/89 Farang League season against last year's champions and our keen rivals, Daimler Benz, the only Thai team in the league. Our preparation had been methodical as regular readers will appreciate after reading about all the build-up games and we took the field in our new Arsenola kits (top half Arsenal, bottom half Barcelona) complete with BA Logo and correct shorts this time. The match, like many of its predecessors, did not live up to the standard expected of arguably the two best teams in the league. Whilst we both played well, it tended to be a stuffy mid-field battle. Well into the second half and looking like a nil-all draw, disaster struck, or rather Benz did. A partial clearance rebounded back off one of our players and a snap-shot from the Benz centre was only half stopped by Rennie and squirmed tantalisingly along the six-yard line, for their winger to just win the race to prod it over the line. A combination of errors and a goal that should have been prevented. After that we pressed hard and plunged well but just couldn't get the equaliser, although Bennington came close when a shot from close range hit the post. An inaus-

picious start to a season that promises much, and one that leaves us chasing the favourites, Benz and the German All Stars who, the previous week, drew with each other. Two bright spots were the display of Craig Rennie, who took the Man of the Match Award although feeling he should have stopped the winner, and the team debut of Jean Jacques Gramond, a long-time club member who has been enticed, at last, from the French side by the prospect of skipper, Mike Pomfret, actually buying him a drink.

The final first team game at time of going to press was our second league fixture against the Swiss Mountaineers where a quick return to winning form was required to stay 'in touch'. Magnificent Mike demanded commitment and got it in a 4-0 victory. Whilst we turned in a very competent display it will not be a match we will cherish in our memory as the Swiss were a temperamental lot (50 percent temper, 50 percent mental) and there were a lot of hystronics from them. The luckless Jim Howard was, I thought, unfortunate to be the first BC player of the season to be booked after a fairly innocuous tackle, but by this time the Italian referee, Augusto Romero, probably felt an example needed to be made and Big Jim suffered. Our goals came two a half from Mike Pomfret, Frank Hough, Dave Wallace, (cunningly placed) and finally, Andy Massey. Whilst none were in the vintage category (the goals, not the players, that is) they were all well worked for and taken rather than defensive slips.

CASUALS CORNER

There was only one Casuals or social match during the month when Peter Downs' men met the ISB Junior Varsity or 16 year-old team in a re-match. Peter tells me the score was 3-0 for the Casuals with Vic 'Strikes faster than Scargill' Laine scoring two and Louis Chantana-komes (he of the long surname) getting the goals. This goes to show a good old 'un is more than a match for a good young 'un. Apparently, everyone had a great time with their first ever 'Whimp of the Match' going to new member Nigel Oakins for tired legs, tired shoulders, tired elbows and tired lungs - after 10 minutes. You too can be a part of the sports explosion. Football can be fun even if you feel you are not up to competi-

tive standard or do not want the commitment of regular competitions, there will be a place for anyone who wants a social game with the Casuals. Contact Peter Downs, Mike Pomfret or Alex Forbes.

POST SCRIPTS

No sooner has one tour started to fade into the memory track of life's inexorable march to the grave when another appears on the immediate horizon. The BCB are on the road again, this time to compete in a prestigious international six-a-side veterans (over 35) tournament in Manila, hosted by the (in)famous Nomads. Tickets are bought, boots polished and bags almost packed, so look out next month for another gripping saga of Mike's Manila Mania. We also have no fewer than five league matches in the coming month and so the action abounds.

Again, thanks to British Airways for helping sponsor the team and giving us the incentive and ideas for a change in colour scheme on the kits, whilst maintaining the primary red, white and blue club and country colours.

I am off home for a festive season in bonny Scotland. I'll be thinking of you (not a lot) whilst sitting in front of my warm fire downing some home-spun treat like black pudding, haggis, McEwans Export or Marks and Sparks potato crisps. Hopefully, Mike Pomfret will bring a fresh look to football for you all in the January edition during my temporary exile. In a piece of self indulgence, congratulations to young Stephen Forbes whose Cosmos team won their age group division in the Bangkok Soccer League at ISB. They were coached by a section member

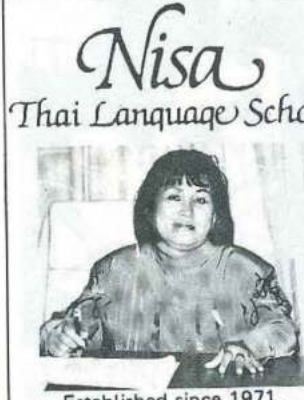
and modesty forbids that I reveal his name. Congrats also to section members Frank Hough and Andy Massey who coached the runners-up in their respective divisions, and to Rugby Section member Gordon Bell who also coached a Division winning team, the Spurs. The BC are certainly spreading the football message in Bangkok and the Bangkok Soccer League was a source of enjoyment for all who took part. In the meantime, from all the Football section, have a very Merry Christmas and an astonishingly good New Year.

By the way: What's oval and wears a kilt? A Scotch egg (topical with the Ball).

Hear the one about the nudist Olympics? The 100 metre high hurdler shattered his personal best.

The local flea pit in Glasgow is showing 'Ben Hur'. The crowd is entranced at the part where they throw the Christians to the lions and all of a sudden the silence is disturbed by someone shouting "Stop the film, stop the film! Rats terrible, rats terrible." The manager stops the 'flick and comes down to see what the trouble is. He finds wee Shewie with his bottle of Irn Bru and Brasso still shouting "Rats terrible, rats..." "Hello Shewie! What's up?" asks the Manager. Then he suddenly hits an idea to shut wee Shewie up. "Listen Shewie, they're throwing Catholics to the Lions". This appeals to Shewie who, being distantly related to Rangers manager, Graeme Souness (tenuous football connection) and a staunch member of the Orange Lodge, now feels free to sit back and the enjoy the film.

So the film rolls again, only to be stopped five minutes later by Shewie shouting "Stop the film, rats terrible, rats terrible". The manager



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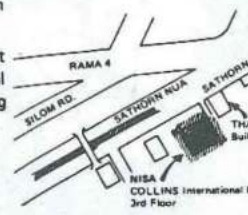
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makes a beeline for wee Shewie and asks pointedly why he is ruining the film again. Says wee Shewie "Rats terrible" pointing to the screen — "there's a lion sitting there doing nothing".

An Irishman went to a plastic surgeon in Harley Street and said "Are you a famous plastic surgeon?" "Yes I am" replied the medic.

"Great" said the Irishman "any chance of a new handle for my polythene bucket".

"That's all folks. Remember a bird in the hand makes it difficult to wipe your nose. Merry Christmas.

SCOOP

TENNIS TENNIS

MATCH AGAINST DARMSTADT — 23 October 1988



Our No 1 Fan, Beryl Ham, who is always there to support our matches — Many thanks Beryl — with Vice-Chairman, Mike Poustie.



Suchi, Julia our Treasurer, with Pitti and Parik.



Dick Chessman (who organised the day) partners Bua with Dieter and Monika.



New member, Jens Petersen, and Fiona being presented with momentos from Dieter and Elsa.



Herman, Benjamine, Hela and Sten.



Brian Roche, another welcome new member, Rosalind, Hartmut and Gisela.



Bua — Drunk again!!



Our Chairman, Derek Tonkin, presenting Uta Scheppe with our Club Shield after the Barbeque.



A return match against Darmstadt Tennis Section resulted in a win for the Tennis Section by 13 matches to 6. To return their wonderful hospitality in Germany last year, we held a Buffet Lunch in the Bar preceding the tennis and this was followed, after a good afternoon's tennis and drinking, by a Barbeque in the Silom Sala. There were a total of 38 visitors and it was a very successful day. We hope to return to Darmstadt next year. Many thanks to the staff for their good food and hard work.

BCTS V DARMSTADT - Match Results

Pramadd/Mal	Krut/Barbara	6-1
Dick/Bua	Dieter/Monika	6-2
Jens/Fiona (M)	Dieter/Elsa	7-5
Sucharit/Rosalind	Heinz/Karin	3-6
Mike/Jackie	Gerd/Christine	6-4
Sucharit/Julia	Patrik/Pitti	6-4
Derek/Phyl	Eric/Helga (W)	6-1
Sten/Benjamine	Herman/Helga (S)	6-3
Brian/Rosalind	Hartmut/Gisela	6-4
David/Gisi	Hartmut/Margot	6-4
David/George	Alex/Pitti	2-6
Anthony/Fiona	Karl/Gisela	2-6
Derek/Fiona	Dieter/Uta	6-3
Pramadd/Jens	Klaus/Ulli	7-5
Dick/Pramadd	Dieter/Dieter	6-2
Brian/Sten	Kurt/Patrik	4-6
David/George	Herman/Heinz	1-6
Mike/Benjamine	Gerd/Elsa	7-5
David/Julia	Helga/Hartmut	4-6

British Club won 13-6



"Are you the one who made a fool of himself at the office party?"

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CRICKET	— FRANK HOUGH	391-7192
DARTS	— MIKE MAJER	513-1970
GOLF	— LLOYD HOUGHTON	252-0435
LADIES' GOLF	— PENNY WHALLEY	258-9415
OUTPOST	— MAREN WHITE	258-1481
RUGBY	— PETER SNELL	236-7879
SCUBA DIVING	— CHRISTIAN BOUTEILLIER (see notice board)	
SOCCER	— ALEX FORBES	260-1950
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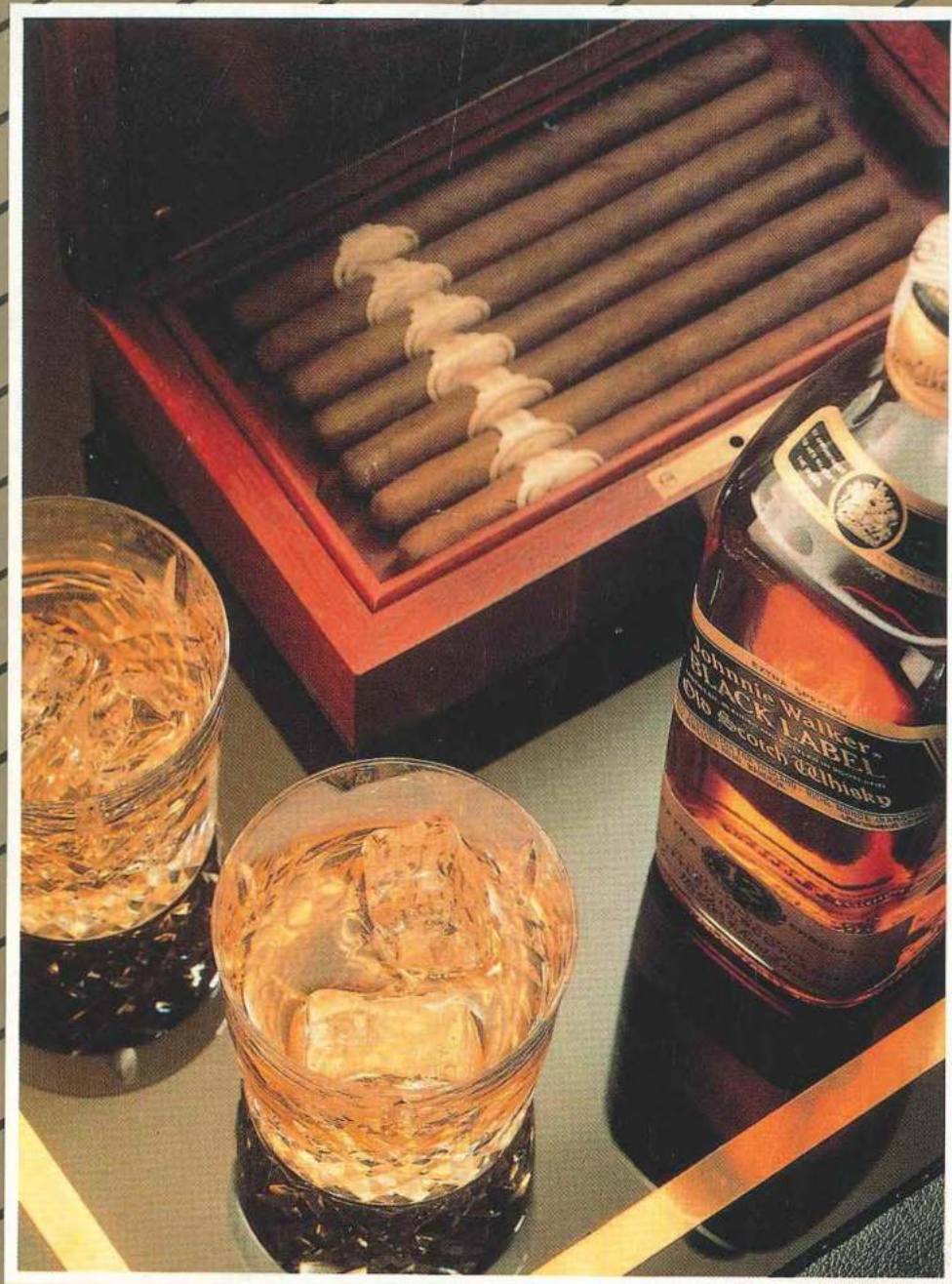
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