



# OUTPOST

MAGAZINE

DECEMBER • 2001



New Members



Squash



Loy Kratong



Halloween







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This month's Cover was designed by Alex Davies, a Year 10 Student at Bangkok Patana School. Alex spent one week gaining work experience in the design studio with the graphic designers at The Creative Partnership.



### OUTPOST MAGAZINE

THE CONTENTS OF THIS MAGAZINE ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE OPINION OF THE EDITOR, THE GENERAL COMMITTEE OR THE MANAGEMENT.

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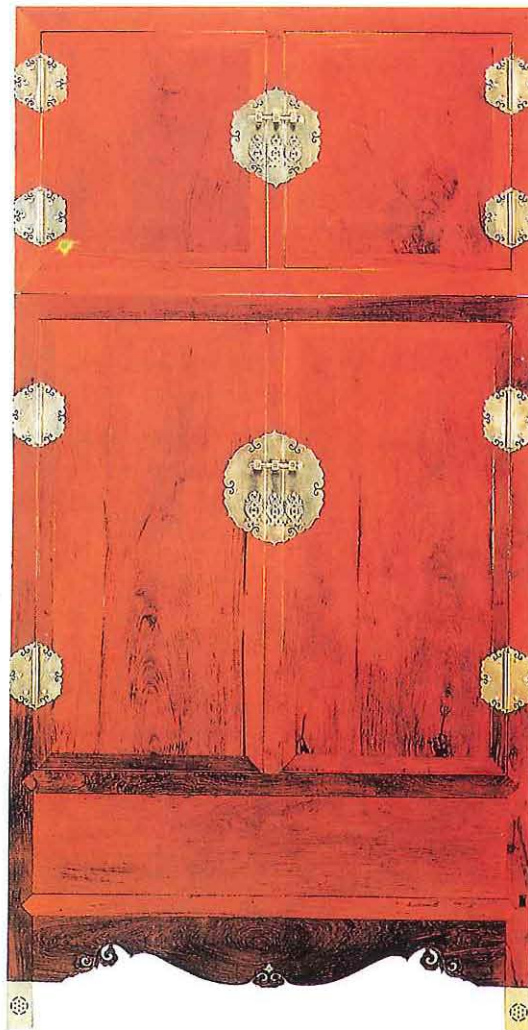
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This cabinet is simple and classic, the flower-head motif and cloudhead openwork carvings of the aprons are done elaborately. A raised beading outlines the cusped edge in the centre of each apron and extends to the sides, where it is transformed into the stalk of the curling flower-and-leaf and vanishes at its end. It is indeed a very ingenious design. The doors and side panels are flush with the framework, and there are two removable framed panels at the back which are joined to the frame with loose tenons. The bottom panel has a storage space underneath, and two shelves above it. There is a single shelf in the upper cabinet. The paktong hardware is exquisite. The metal hinges and face plates are in the form of six-cloud motifs, and the metal pulls exhibit the double-fish motif. There are also paktong shoes with openwork patterns on the bottoms of the legs.

*(Formerly in the collection of Renaissance Museum of California and is open for viewing now in Tomlinson Singapore only)*

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## GM'S BRIEF



Willem T.P. Pentermann

**Dear Members,**

December, a month packed full of traditional celebrations, festivities and fun! Here at the Club, we have carefully planned lots of seasonal activities for you to enjoy.

**ENTERTAINMENT**

We start with the children's Christmas party on December 18. Then it's Christmas Carols on 19 December. In keeping with the European tradition, Christmas celebrations start in Lords Restaurant on Christmas eve with a festive dinner. Traditional Christmas Lunch will also be served in Lords on Christmas Day.

New Year's Eve has a brand new programme this year; a dinner on the Chao Phraya River aboard the Chao Praya Princess. For those of you with children, don't worry, we are also having a family New Year event at the Club, complete with a spectacular fireworks display.

The annual Christmas ball will take place on Saturday, 15 December on the back lawn. The table plan and sign up sheets are now available at reception, so make sure you reserve your spot for this truly festive occasion!

**F & B**

New menus have now been implemented in Lords restaurant and the poolside sala. Lords' menu has been given a Mediterranean theme, including some traditional dishes from the grill. A 2-course set menu, offering a choice of 4 appetisers and 4 main courses will be available every lunchtime for members who would like to take advantage of a quick lunch option.

The Churchill bar menu is also going to be changed. This will be implemented in January next year, so look out for it!

During the festive period, we will be offering a delicious traditional Christmas lunch menu in Lords restaurant - an ideal venue for small end-of-year office parties.

**MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT**

We are going to implement maintenance schedules for the Club's entire operations. This will help to improve the standard of the Club facilities and enable us to maintain those levels.

**SEASONAL SPORTS**

This festive season will see many sports and recreational activities at the Club. A kids sports camp will be held on 17, 19, 20 and 21 December. Tennis, swimming, ball games, lunch, movies and much more are all on the Agenda.

Finally, on behalf of all the British Club management and staff, I would like to wish all Members and their families a wonderful Christmas and a prosperous 2002.

Yours sincerely,

**Willem T.P. Pentermann**  
General Manager

**COMMITTEE CONTACTS****The British Club General Committee 2001/2002**

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## MEMBERS MAILBOX

If you would like to put pen to paper in response to anything that is happening around the Club, be it positive or negative, then this is the page for you! This month, we have two letters.

### The first is from David Turner (T42), addressed to James Young

**James,**

We discussed the meeting held at the BC on Tuesday evening 6 November '01. You subsequently asked me to put my concerns in writing so you could circulate to the members of the GC (General Committee) for decision. You agreed that it was very important that this matter be answered and a written note sent to all voting members as soon as possible, as many members who attended and also those who did not attend have contacted me, indicating their concern, knowing that I was formerly responsible for the Club's Constitution, Rules and Procedures (CRAP).

#### **You are aware that the Club exists and is operated through the CRAP**

- persons can only become members if they satisfy the conditions laid down in the Constitution
- the Club is owned by the ordinary members and country members
- the GC is appointed through the Constitution to manage the property and affairs of the Club on behalf of the members, ipso facto the GC is responsible to uphold the Constitution.

For me this latter responsibility is the single most important responsibility of the GC. Failure to do so, in my view, should make the members of the GC responsible, ineligible to be members of the GC. Hence my concern and subsequent action.

The GM (General Manager) phoned me on the morning of the meeting and asked me if I had received notification and papers re the meeting. I had not and he advised that it appears a quite considerable number were in a similar position.

That evening around the time of the meeting I phoned the Club, spoke to Barry Osborne who told me the meeting was already underway. I asked him to pass a message from me to the GM to advise the Chairman that in my view, in the light of the failure to complete the requirements of Rule 24, an EGM meeting that night was unconstitutional. He told me that a number of members had already raised this issue but that you rejected the advice and called for a vote for the meeting to continue, which was adopted.

I understand you did not clarify whether you intended the meeting to continue as an EGM or an informal meeting.

If the meeting is indeed deemed unconstitutional, then the vote was not a vote by an EGM and therefore Rule 20 makes it ineligible to be used to amend the Constitution even as a temporary measure. Therefore the meeting can only have been an informal meeting and no decision, suggestions, recommendations made at it are in any way binding on the GC, the BC or management. However useful they may be for further discussion, consideration.

Under rule 24 the responsibility to ensure that ordinary and country members received notice of an AGM or EGM rests with management. It would not be an excuse that notice was posted

but not received. However I was advised by the GM the day after the meeting that in fact notices were not sent out to most Senior or Country members, thus making it certain an EGM on 6 November '01 would be considered unconstitutional.

I can appreciate that the failure to make the position clear under the Constitution was an error, due perhaps to the heat of the moment. But those members who have subsequently contacted me - mostly permanent residents of Thailand, and therefore those most interested in the future of the Club, indicated both anger and distress at the way matters were handled.

Hence the urgency to sort the matter out in an appropriate way. You may wish to consider that an apology would be appropriate in the circumstances. I assume this would advise that the meeting was in informal one because of the failure to ensure full compliance with rule 24, and that the results would be useful to guide the GC's future consideration.

You also mentioned to me that the GC was not obliged under the Constitution to seek the members views and decision on such matters, and that the GC could if it wished decide on behalf of the members. Apparently you also said this to others who have contacted you and I on this matter. I'm afraid I totally disagree with you on this. Committee members only serve at the wishes of the members with the task of managing the property and affairs on their behalf. There is thus an obligation on the Committee to be transparent and seek the approval of the members on any matter which can effect the property or affairs of the Clubs operations. The decision as to what is of sufficient importance to seek the advice of members is, of course, decided by the GC, however members have the right to throw members off the GC if they consider it is not doing its job properly.

Finally, I'm sure you will quickly put this matter right. However if by any chance the GC determines that they can decide if the meeting was an EGM or not, even if rule 24 was not properly complied with, then I must advise you that the many members who have contacted me have indicated they will sign a petition under rule 24 to hold an EGM within 60 days with a view to give the GC the opportunity to take full responsibility and resign from the GC or they will face a motion for their dismissal. The numbers who have indicated their support are already in excess of the minimum required. I certainly hope it will not come to that as this matter has caused enough division, consternation and concern as it is.

I have been asked to request Willem to publish this letter in the next issue of Outpost, hopefully with a copy of your answer, and though I do not consider that this matter should be allowed to rest for another month, we do consider that this is a matter that should be given wider circulation.

**With kind regards, David  
(David L Turner T42)**

## REPLY FROM JAMES YOUNG

**"All members have been informed of the position with regard to the meeting on 6 November and the EGM will be held on 11 December. The Management and General Committee regret any inconvenience that may have been caused but feel the best interests of the Club are served by calling another meeting."**



## MEMBERS MAILBOX - CONTINUED

**ATTENTION: WILLEM PENTERMANN  
C.C. BARRY & KHUN ARANEE**

Last Saturday November 3rd I held a birthday party for my 7 year old son in the Suriwongse Room. I initially contacted Barry and then worked on further details with Khun Aranee.

The day was a huge success so I would like to pass on my thanks to all concerned.

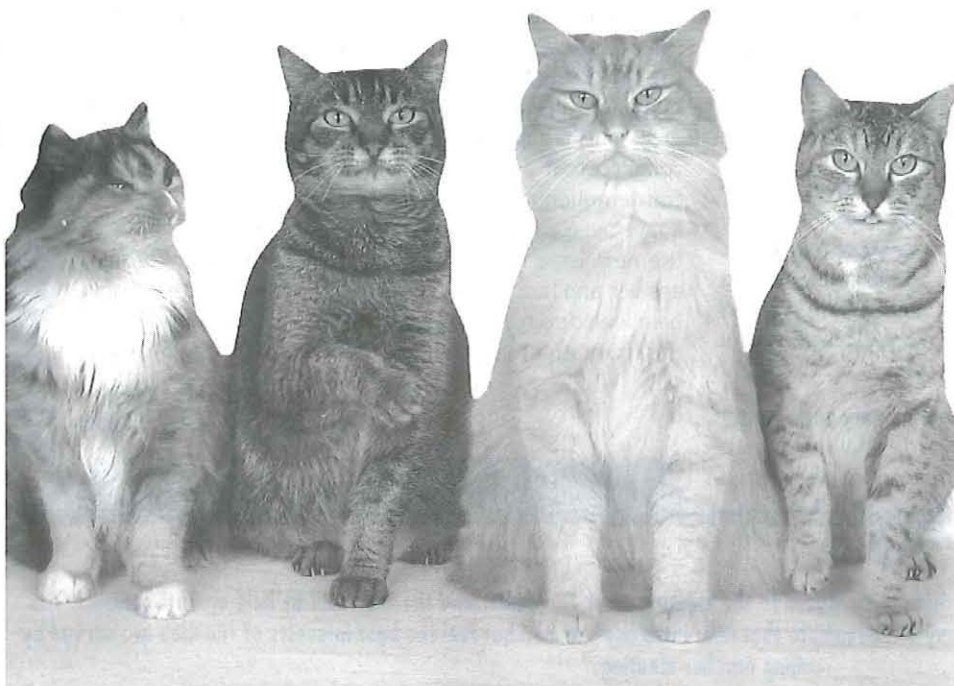
Both the children and the parents had a great time. Special thanks goes also to Khun Kriengsak the Magician and his team. Khun K has a wonderful manner with children and he kept them all fully occupied and entertained for the entire three hours.

Once again, thanks for a great job.  
Regards,

**Barry Smit  
S-113**

## SANTA CLAWS APPEAL

# Please adopt a BC Kitty!



All shapes, colours and sizes are still in need of loving new homes. Please contact me at the Club if you are able to help re-home a cat this Christmas.

Grateful thanks to those members who have already responded to our appeal and to Bernie Barker for arranging medical check-ups and neutering of some of the BC cats.

**Barry Osborne  
Operations Manager**





Wishing His Majesty the King of Thailand  
a very Happy Birthday on Wednesday 5 December 2001

## SQUASH

# Don't Miss The Xmas Party

### 153RD LEAGUE

Results of league 153 to follow next month as we seem to have had a communications breakdown this month. In the meantime, winners are posted on the board by Court 1 and Trophies can be collected from the Fitness Centre.

### XMAS MIX-IN AND PARTY

The mix-in on Sunday 2 December will be the annual xmas party, so expect a good turnout of players both for the games and the get-together afterwards.

### HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB

With a long weekend in Hong Kong, a social team from HKFC visited us this month. Peter had a bit of trouble getting a team together for a Friday night match, but in the end there were some good games and some new BC team members in Khun Rit from the fitness centre and David and Tim Weeks. Dick had his work cut out against HKFC coach and premier league player Phil Head, even though Phil was trying to help him - Singha beer as his choice of refreshment between games! In the end the BC rolled out winners 8-2.

### RESULTS

Dick	0-3	Phil Head
Tom	1-3	Glen
Steve Harvey	3-2	Ray
Simon Davies	3-1	Bruce
David Mason	3-0	Jackie
Phil Hall	3-1	Sue
Barry Daniel	3-0	Albert
Ric	3-1	Christine
David Weeks	3-0	Joyce
Tim Weeks	3-0	Luby

### SQUASH COACHING

There will be group squash coaching every Monday night with Neil commencing 6.45pm. Neil is a registered Squash Coach. The cost is 200 Baht per person.

There is also junior coaching available from Khun Rit - see notice board for details.

### YES LET! - PLAY BY THE RULES

I keep coming across the idea that just because a ball is allowed to come off the back wall it must be a Let! There are times it is and times it isn't, so lets look at a few.

\* If a player makes an attempt at a shot, misses or stops, lets the ball come off the back wall and trys again it will normally be a Let! Classed as a second attempt, the other player cannot be held at fault for being out of position - definitely interference, but accidental, so play a Let!

\* If a player allows the ball to go round him and takes it off the back wall (so-called "turning") it will normally be a Let!, though the rules have changed a bit on this. See last month's article.

\* If a player makes a poor shot, back down the middle of the court and the opponent lets it come off the back wall to give them time to get out of the way, but they stay on or near the T, thus obstructing play, it will be a stroke - squash should never reward a bad shot - this is the one many people believe should be a let, but there is no turning, no missed shot just a poor return and clear interference - Stroke!

Remember, most times you play there will be no referee - you must be true to yourself and your partner as far as what is achievable and what is not. You are not Peter Nicoll or Jonathon Power, you cannot reach everything. Look at your position - could you really get that ball? Were you really out of the way? We all believe we are better than we really are, but when was the last time you called a shot against yourself, let alone at a critical point in the game? We play for fun, not money - I would like to see a few more people saying "I'm not sure about that one, can we play a Let?"

Enjoy the game - keep the fun!

**Phil Hall**





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## HALLOWEEN

# No Frights This Year

**T**his year's Halloween party took place on Sunday 28 October, with 96 eager kids chomping at the bit.

The fun began with a hunt for purple and orange eggs. Then, excitement was riding high as Mr Derek Rutt performed a special Halloween magic show. Blind man's buff, candy making and doughnuts on a string organised by Family Care Co. Gazing around, it was obvious that kids, mums and dads were all enjoying this equally!

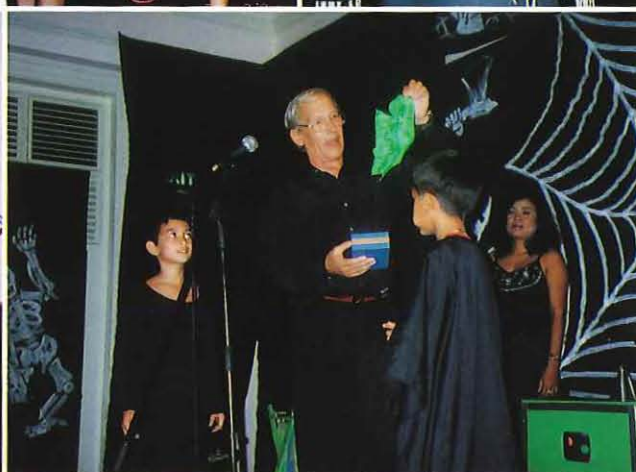
Damon Nemish kindly performed the MC function for the day, helped by some of the BC staff.

We would like to extend our grateful appreciation to our Sponsors for the party; **Khun Anont , Khun Somnuck - Coca Cola Thailand.**

Thanks also go out to Damon, Derek Rutt, the Family Care Co., Ltd. and to all the BC staff who were involved, without whom this wonderful party would not have been the success it was.

Cheers

**Barry Oooooosborne**





## SPORTS UPDATE

# A Sporting Start to the Year

## SWIMMING LESSONS

### TUESDAY CLASSES

START DATE 15 JANUARY

Category	Age	Time
Toddlers	18 - 24 months	2.00pm - 2.30pm
Non-swimmers	24 months +	2.30pm - 3.00pm
Introducing Strokes	4 - 5 years	3.00pm - 3.30pm
Stroke Improvement	5 - 6 years	3.30pm - 4.00pm
Stroke Improvement	6 - 8 years	4.00pm - 4.30pm
Stroke Correction	6 - 8 years	4.30pm - 5.00pm
Mini Squads	8 years +	5.00pm - 5.30pm

Ability is the main factor in deciding which course the child should enter.

### SATURDAY CLASSES

START DATE 19 JANUARY

Category	Age	Time
Parent & Baby	6 - 18 months	9.00am - 9.30am
	18 - 24 months	9.30am - 10.00 am
	24 - 36 months	10.00am - 10.30am
Toddler	24 months +	10.30am - 11.00am
Beginners	4 - 5 years	11.00am - 11.30am
Introducing Strokes 1	4 - 5 years	11.30am - 12.00pm
Introducing Strokes 2	4 - 5 years	12.00pm - 12.30pm
Stroke Improvement	5 - 6 years	12.30pm - 1.00pm
Stroke Correction	6 - 8 years	1.00pm - 1.30pm

Fee B3000 per programme. Each programme is for 10 weeks.

NB The B3000 fee covers 10 weeks. Refunds cannot be given for non-attendance. However, in case of bad weather the lesson shall either be rescheduled or refunded.

## DARTS

We are building up a group of regulars playing every Wednesday evening in the Churchill Bar. Everyone is most welcome to come along and join in.

## BRIDGE

Our Bridge section meets every Tuesday evening in the non-smoking area of the Churchill Bar. Please come along to enjoy a friendly, social game - refer to page 7 for contact details for the Bridge section.

## YOGA

Classes take place twice a week at squash court 3 - Tuesdays 11.30 am and Sundays at 4.30 pm. Yoga is believed by many to provide numerous health benefits using control techniques over the mind and senses. Try it and see for yourself!

## GENTLEMAN'S SPOOF

Every Tuesday evening in the Churchill Bar, the gentlemen spoofers congregate to partake of their favourite sport.....join them and enjoy!

## AEROBICS

Aerobics classes recommence on Wednesday January 16, 9.30am. Fee B3000 per 10 sessions. Please sign up at the Fitness Centre.

## JUNIOR CRICKET TRAINING

### WITH AUSTRALIAN COACH MR. BRIAN WIGGINGS

Sunday January 13 - Initial training session - free of charge.

Training will commence at 9.00am. All children aged between 7 - 15 years are most welcome to join. Children will be categorised by age and capability.

From Sunday, 20 January, training sessions will then commence, with a maximum of 4 children per class.

Fee 10 x 2 hour sessions B3000.

Please register at the Fitness Centre.

## TENNIS LESSONS

### "TENNIS WITH THE PRO"

#### TENNIS COACHING WITH PAUL HO

Category	Age	Time	Fee/4 lessons	Fee/5 lessons
Mini Tennis	4-6 yr	3.30-4.00pm	750 Baht	937 Baht
Beginner I	6-9 yr	4.00-5.00pm	1500 Baht	1875 Baht
Beginner II	8-11 yr	4.00-5.00pm	1500 Baht	1875 Baht
Intermediate	12 yr. & up	5.00-6.00pm	1500 Baht	1875 Baht
Advanced	12 yr. & up	5.00-6.00pm	1500 Baht	1875 Baht
Adult	15 yr. & up	6.00-7.00pm	1700 Baht	2125 Baht

Ability is the main factor in deciding what course the child should enter - not age.

#### CLASS DATES:

##### January - 3 classes

11 Jan 18 Jan  
25 Jan

##### February - 4 classes

1 Feb 8 Feb  
15 Feb 22 Feb

##### March - 5 classes

1 Mar 8 Mar  
15 Mar 22 Mar  
29 Mar

##### April - 2 classes

19 Apr 26 Apr

##### May - 5 classes

3 May 10 May  
17 May 24 May  
31 May

##### June - 4 classes

7 June 14 June  
21 June 28 June

All Tennis courses are sold as a course and will be billed after the second class. No drop in option is available.





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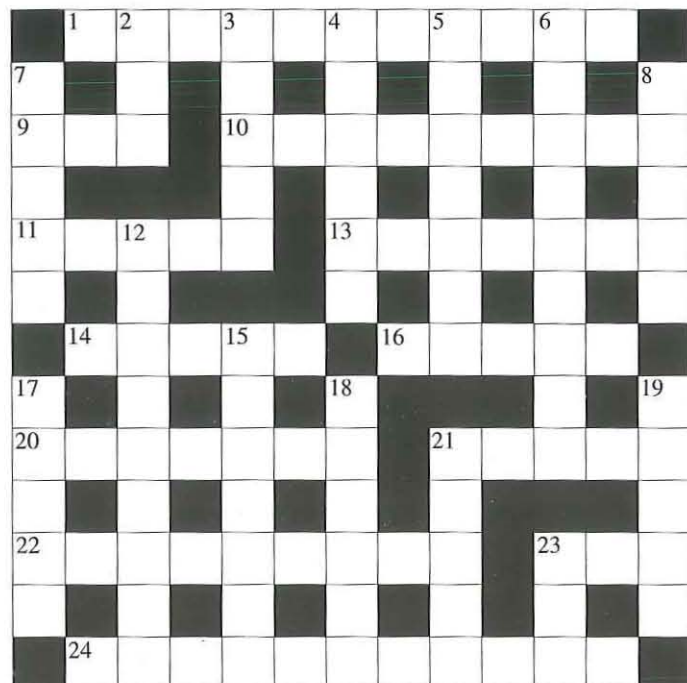
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## CROSSWORD

## Tinsel Teaser

A festive crossword to bring you Christmas Cheer!



Compiled By Margaret Miller

## ACROSS

- 1 We hear it a lot in Supermarkets at Christmas time! (6,5)  
 9 Little Jack Horner enjoyed this seasonal item.  
 10 Lift Senor out- now he can compose this carol! (5,4)  
 11 Dear Old Santa  
 13 Affectionate name for a pantomime heroine.....  
 14 .....and many a panto will have one!  
 16 Use it to get sharp.  
 20 How to do it, I say! (4,3)  
 21 The mince pies baked at one time.  
 22 Very suitable for a Christmas tea-party. (5,4)  
 23 With 23 down, what the Ogre said!  
 24 Where I found the first Christmas present from my love.  
 (2,1,4,4)

## DOWN

- 2 There will be some around if you have a white Christmas.  
 3 We give them and hope to get them.  
 4 Butter, sugar and eggs will do this to your cake recipe.  
 5 Dodos and dinosaurs are.  
 6 What Good King Wenceslas did. (6,3)  
 7 These girls might also do 4 Down!  
 8 "Good Christian Men, rejoice.....now ye hear of  
 endless \_\_\_\_\_"  
 12 "There were shepherds \_\_\_\_\_ the fields,  
 keeping watch over their flocks by night." (Gospel of St. Luke)  
 (7,2)  
 15 Did Ferdinand the Bull kiss this flower?  
 17 The bedding in the Manger.  
 18 She was seen "kissing Santa Claus"! (2,4)  
 19 "We \_\_\_\_\_ Kings of Orient are ....." (Old carol)  
 21 Maybe the lambs in the Stable did.  
 23 With 23 Across ... " \_\_\_\_\_, Foe Fum!"

## BC MEMBERS MOVEMENTS

Please join us in welcoming the following members to the Club:

David Shaw  
 Mark McConnell  
 Alan Bratt  
 Barry Scaife  
 Brian Morris  
 Simon Mackay  
 Adrian Schofield

James Williams  
 Walter Pickering  
 Simon Moran  
 Simon Vickers  
 Angela Stafford  
 Chalisa Maythangkul  
 Teddy Zebitz

Giles Cretallaz  
 Peter Florack  
 Craig Cornelius  
 Vincent Brunet  
 Abigail Homiller  
 Lee Weinstein  
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Sunday-Thursday 11:00 am - 01:00 am Friday-Saturday 11:00 am - 02:00 am





## LOY KRATONG

# It's Official... ...no more rain this year!

**O**n Wednesday, October 31, 100 Members joined us to celebrate the end of the wet season.

Having said that, because it had been raining heavily in the days before the party, we decided it would be safer to move the party into the Silom sala.

Once again the kids from Baan Tungmahamek orphanage entertained us with an excellent routine of traditional (and not so traditional!) Thai dancing.

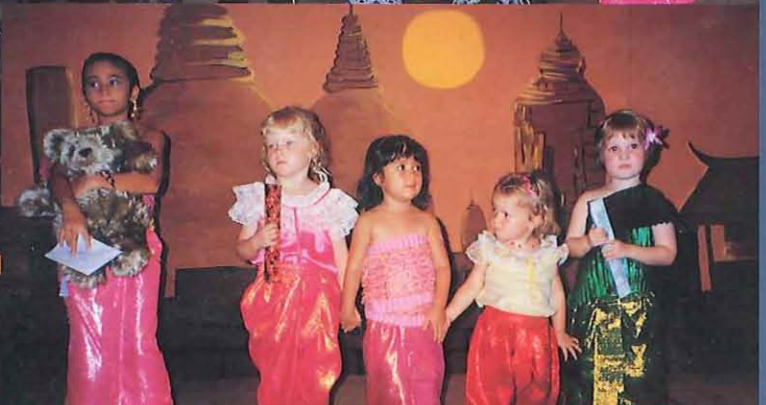
The chefs of the BC laid on a buffet of Thai food from this magnificent country's various regions. The barbecued duck beaks and sticky rice were especially delicious.

To round off the evening there was a fancy dress contest. The theme this year was Suriyothai (I think everyone must have heard of that movie by now?), with the film being played as a moving back-drop.

Sponsors for the event were R.C (Royal Crown) Cola, Carlsberg (Thailand), Thai Nam Thip (Coca-Cola Thailand Ltd.), Khun Anont, Khun Somnuck and Nestle (Thailand) Ltd.

Appreciation goes out to all who attended the celebration and to all the staff who were involved.

**Barry Osborne**







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## WHAT'S ON

# Happy Holly-Daze

## ■ DUTCH SWING COLLEGE BAND ■

**Tuesday, 4 December**

**7.00pm Back Lawn**

This superb 7-piece Jazz band will play timeless Jazz and Dixieland music for your enjoyment. Ticket price just B1700, which includes buffet dinner and the performance.



## ■ ANNUAL BRITISH CLUB CHRISTMAS BALL ■

**Saturday, 15 December**

**7.00pm 'til late**

Pre-dinner drinks, a three-course dinner, half a bottle of wine and a fantastic evening's amusement. At B1750 per person, we are sure you will agree this is great value entertainment!

## ■ CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY ■ ON THE BACK LAWN

**Tuesday, 18 December**

Loads of kids' activities on the back lawn; ponyrides, balloon typhoon, merry-go-round, face painting and much more! Activities are from 2.00pm - 4.30pm followed by a picnic on the front lawn at 4.45pm. Santa Claus will make a special visit from 5.15pm - 5.45pm.

B390 per child, including a gift from Santa.

## ■ CHRISTMAS CAROLS AT THE CLUB ■

**Wednesday, 19 December**

7.00pm onwards. Carols, mince pies, mulled wine and Christmas cheer to get you in the mood ...

A wonderful, traditional event. The choir will perform in the Suriwongse Room, with mulled wine and mince pies served on the front lawn after the performance.

B295 per person.

Children 3 - 12 years of age B200

Children below three years - no charge.

## ■ BRITISH CLUB SPORTS CAMP ■

**17, 19, 20 and 21 December**

Daily from 9.30am - 4.30pm.

Tennis, swimming, ball games, lunch, movies and much more are on the Agenda.

B3000 per child

Please sign up at the Fitness Centre.

## ■ CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER ■

**24 December, Lords Restaurant**

7.00pm onwards. Feast on a 4-course Christmas Dinner with all the trimmings, whilst enjoying the performance of a 10-piece choir during dinner.

B800 per person.

## ■ CHRISTMAS DINNER AT THE CLUB ■

**25 December, Lords Restaurant**

**7.00pm onwards**

4-course traditional Christmas Dinner in Lords Restaurant.

Santa Claus will be there with gifts for all the kids.

Adults B800.

Kids B500 (soft drinks included).

## ■ DINNER CRUISE ON THE ROYAL ■ CHAO PHRAYA PRINCESS

**New Year's Eve - 31 December**

Make your own way to the pier at River City for boarding at 9.45pm. The fun begins as soon as we set sail and you can enjoy the following:-

International Buffet

Live Music

Fireworks at midnight

Open bar from 10.00pm - Midnight (soft drinks, local beer, wine and standard pouring drinks only).

This trip is unsuitable for children below 12 years of age.

The boat will return to River City pier at 2.00am on 1 January 2002.

Price per person B2500.

## ■ FAMILY CELEBRATIONS ■

**31 December, at the Club**

Down at the Club we will be celebrating New Year's Eve family-style.

International Buffet and BBQ

Soft Drinks included

Children Games and movies in the Silom Sala

Fireworks at Midnight

Disco in the Suriwongse sala

Join us for a great evening of fun and frivolity to welcome the New Year.

Adults - B990.

Children - (3 - 12 years of age) B550.

Children below 3 years of age - no charge.

## SNEAK PREVIEW...

### AN EVENING WITH AUDREY VALLANCE

**25 January**

Soprano Audrey Vallance provides a lovely evening of entertainment singing Broadway's favourites from recent years - Phantom of the Opera, Les Miserables and Chess, as well as many from the classical musical theatre repertoire. Audrey is well known in Bangkok as a solo performer, having sung Messiah many times with the Bangkok Combined Choirs, performing a solo concert, "Broadway and More!" in 2000 and recently performing in the opera The Old Maid And The Thief. She is also a musical director for Bangkok Community Theatre and the Concert Master for the Bangkok Opera, directing many performances for both. She will be accompanied by Naoko Kato, the most sought after pianist/accompanist in Bangkok. Naoko has accompanied Audrey in several concerts/performance as well as the Bangkok Combined Choirs, Bangkok Community Theatre and many others.

**TICKETS B880 INCLUDING  
THREE-COURSE DINNER  
AND PERFORMANCE**



# CALENDAR

## British Club Sports and Entertainment Calendar - December 2001



7 am - 1 pm  
11 am - 1 pm  
2 pm - 4 pm  
3 - 6 pm  
4.30 pm  
5 - 8 pm  
10 - 11 pm

Tennis Team Practice  
Badminton - Soi Nares  
Children's Activities  
Tennis Mix-in  
Yoga  
Happy Hour  
Happy Hour II

Sunday

8.00 am  
5 - 8 pm  
7 - 9 pm  
10 - 11 pm

BWG Mahjong  
Happy Hour  
Tennis Team Practice  
Happy Hour II

Monday

7.00 am  
8 - 10 am  
10.30 am  
11.30 am  
2 - 7 pm  
5 - 8 pm  
7 - 9 pm  
8 - 11 pm  
9 pm  
10 - 11 pm

Ladies Golf  
Ladies Tennis  
Aqua Aerobics  
Yoga  
BC Swimming Instruction  
Happy Hour  
Football Training  
Friendly Bridge  
Gentlemen's Spoof  
Happy Hour II

Tuesday

9.30 am  
5 - 8 pm  
6 - 9 pm  
6.30 pm  
7.00 pm  
8.30 pm  
10 - 11 pm

Aerobics  
Happy Hour  
Tennis Mix-in  
Cricket Nets  
Darts  
Accumulator  
Happy Hour II

Wednesday

8 - 10 am  
10.30 am  
5 - 8 pm  
6 - 9 pm  
7 - 9 pm  
9 - 10 pm  
10 - 11 pm

Ladies Tennis  
Aqua Aerobics  
Happy Hour  
Squash Mix-in  
Rugby Training  
Hockey Training  
Happy Hour II

Thursday

9.00 am  
3.30 - 6 pm

ANZWG Mahjong  
BC Tennis Coaching for Children  
Tennis Mix-in  
Swimming - Junior  
Squad Training  
Happy Hour  
Adult Tennis  
Poolside BBQ  
Happy Hour II

Friday

9 am - 12 noon  
9 am - 1.30 pm  
5 - 8 pm  
10 - 11 pm

Squash Coaching  
BC Swimming Instruction  
Happy Hour  
Happy Hour II

Saturday

### MAKE A NOTE!

<b>Tuesday 4</b>	<b>Dutch College Swing Band</b>
<b>Saturday 15</b>	<b>Annual Christmas Ball</b>
<b>Tuesday 18</b>	<b>Children's Christmas Party</b>
<b>Wednesday 19</b>	<b>Christmas Carols at the Club</b>
<b>17, 19, 20, 21</b>	<b>Sports Camp</b>
<b>Monday 24</b>	<b>Christmas Eve Dinner</b>
<b>Tuesday 25</b>	<b>Christmas Dinner at the Club</b>
<b>Monday 31</b>	<b>New Years Cruise on the Chao Phraya Princess</b>
<b>Monday 31</b>	<b>Family New Year Celebrations at the Club</b>
<b>Every Friday</b>	<b>Kids Movie</b>
<b>Every Sunday</b>	<b>Family Fun Day</b>

See opposite page for full details

### Sports - Contacts

Aquatics	Michele Law	0 2295 4595
Badminton	Anant Leighrahathorn	0 2654 0002-29
Bridge	Winlock Hsu/ Charlene Wang	0 2921 6015
Cricket	Andre Tissera	0 2238 2718-21
Darts	Fitness Centre	0 2234 0247
Football	Martin Conisbee	0 2366 0432
Golf	Karen Carter	0 2285 6169
Spoofers	Steve Eaton	0 2237 9262
Rugby	Jon Prichard	0 2662 6376
Scuba Diving	Don Johnson	038 225 364
Snooker	Khun Kittisak	01 633 9490
Squash	George Dunford	0 2635 2346
Tennis	Anton Bontje	0 2211 9550

### Loyal Societies

St George's	Angela Stafford	0 2632 0560 x 3037
St Andrew's	Jim Napier	0 2617 9620
St Patrick's	Ian Kane	0 2678 1813 x 1738
St David's	Gareth Hughes	01 859 6140

### Venues

Badminton	Soi Nares, behind Bangrak Police Station
Aerobics	Squash Court 3
Casuals Football	Colgate Ground, Rama III
Massage	Near the Silom Sala

### Opening Times

10 am - 11 pm	Churchill Bar
11.30 am - 2 pm	Lords Restaurant (Lunch)
6 pm - 10 pm	Lords Restaurant (Dinner)
7.30 am - 10 pm	Poolside Bar
6 am - 9 pm	Fitness Centre
9 am - 6 pm	Thai Massage (Tues-Sun)



## FOOTBALL

# We are the Champions

**T**he tragic loss of Alex Forbes has over-shadowed all football activities over the past month. A tribute to Alex has kindly been written by Andy Lazenby, his close friend, fellow footballer and work colleague, and it is published on the following page.

After much soul searching the Section decided to go ahead with the November tour to Manila and a write-up on the tour will be included in the next magazine issue. The Social League programme has commenced and at the time of writing the BC has suffered three defeats at the hands of Havana, Warbler and Unocal.

We can only improve! Meanwhile, our first team is tuning up for the start of the Global Silverhawk Farang League season in early 2002.

If any members are interested in joining the Section to play either serious or social football please contact one of our Committee. The contact details are on the Club noticeboard.

**Martin Conisbee**

**I**t has been a long time between drinks for the British Club Soccer Section trophy cabinet, but now someone has to find the key and Hoover out the dust to make way for the snappily named FPD SAVILLS VETERANS 5-A-SIDE LEAGUE 2001 trophy. Furthermore, the dreaded "BC nil" sobriquet should finally have been dispatched following a series of goal-littered performances from our boys, who also coincidentally beat the Germans 5-1, not in Munich but on the BC Astro turf tennis courts in a super display in Round 1. Six ten-man squads, BC 1 and 2, the French, BCCT, the Germans and the Warbler contested the inaugural competition at the British Club, playing two games each in 5 rounds. After some controversial incidents in the second. BC Vets 1 game against the French, the tournament outcome was finely balanced at the start of the sixth and final

round on Tuesday 13 November. Statistically, three teams; the Germans, Warbler and the BC Vets 1 teams could have won, but Warbler beat the Germans in the first game of the evening and the tournament winner was decided in the final game between Warbler and BC Vets 1.

## CAUTIOUS START

After a cautious start by both teams, BC struck first with a clever, back heeled goal by Tico Oms following the first of numerous brilliant saves by Warbler Goalie, Keith Brooks. BC continued to press and a slightly deflected free-kick by Rene Lammars beat Brooks again for a half-time score of 2-0 to BC Vets 1. A comfortable lead and plain sailing in the second half - it was not. Warbler struck back early with a fine solo effort by Junior Bradshaw. The same player contrived to miss a dubiously awarded penalty before a goal

from Mauro Beck - the Swedish Warbler, no relation to those ABBA chicks - leveled the score. BC responded with some excellent attacking play and created many good chances, only to see Brooks defy them time and time again. Finally, Tico Oms squeezed a powerful, left footed volley past Brooks to seal a BC victory, it seemed. Warbler had other ideas and Junior Bradshaw equalised again with a powerful long-range shot that flew past an unsighted Bruce Darrington in the BC goal. However, there were only a few seconds left and the resultant draw gave the championship to BC by a one point margin. It was fitting that the decisive game was arguably the best of the competition.

While BC Vets 1 had a couple of poor games out of their total of ten, the team did play some excellent 5-a-side soccer in the other games and earned the championship in doing so. All ten squad members contributed handsomely and cohesively to the cause - congratulations go to

**Eddie Middleton, Rene Lammars, Tico Oms, Andy Lazenby, Vaughan Elias, Malcolm Reid, Clive Bucknall, Bruce Darrington, Mark Greener and Mel Birkinshaw.**

The tournament owed part of its undoubted success to the excellent facilities and services provided by the British Club and it is hoped that this highly enjoyable veterans competition was the first of a regular and ongoing series.

**Mel Birkinshaw**

## ART EXHIBITION

### THE SPIRIT OF GIVING ... LIVING IN HARMONY

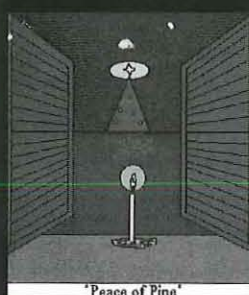
*By Be Vivon*

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0 2271 4862



## FOOTBALL - CONTINUED

# Celebrate the Life

## ALEX FORBES 1950 - 2001

The loss of Alex has not only shocked us, but made so many aware of their own mortality. Our own personal problems that seemed insurmountable only a few days ago are now long forgotten, such is the significance of this sad occasion. Many times the passing of a friend will bring multiple claims of what a great person they were in their life. Often these claims are over reactive, but not so in the case of Alex. He really was a very special person.

He was equally at home with his subordinates in a Songkhla Karaoke bar as he was with the corporate leaders in the U.S. He was truly a "man for all seasons". A proud Scot, fiercely patriotic and a leader in so many ways. Whether it was teaching new members Scottish dancing in preparation for the St Andrew's Ball, or a half time team talk to turn around the British Club's poor first half performance, he was always prepared to make the effort. This all came so easily to Alex, he had rare qualities.

Standing in the Christ Church last week we heard many close friends tell of tales gone by, remembering Alex as the ultimate football



Alex holding the Anglo-Scottish Cup

tourist and supreme organiser. True to his wishes, the ceremony was uplifting, celebrating his life, his achievements and providing comfort to those left behind. Alex was a gregarious character, and even at such sad times he would want us all to keep smiling. He had an uncanny knack of making fun out of the most impossible situation. We have a large collection of photos of Alex and he is smiling in every one! No wonder Alex

was so popular with his local staff.

For the British Club Soccer Section it is the end of an era. He was a motivator in the truest sense, his infectious enthusiasm and boundless energy amazed us all. He encouraged many players to join the Club and Section, and in particular to participate in football tours and other social activities. Even when he had officially bowed out from official duties, he could always be called upon for advice, logistical support and general help with any section event. He was a key member of the Bangkok football community for more than 15 years, well known and respected by all. Alex is truly irreplaceable. It was a typical final gesture that he passed away playing the sport that he loved, with his boots still on and cracking corny jokes to the very end.

May God grant Alex peace, and comfort the family and friends mourning his loss. Farewell you Bonny-Lad.

To Khun Nu and to his son Stephen our thoughts are with you.

For and on behalf of British Club Soccer Section

**Andy Lazenby**

## The National Museum Volunteers Present

### GLORIOUS TRADITIONS

A Gala Evening  
to be held in the grounds of the National Museum Bangkok

On Friday 18 January 2002 at 6:30 PM

On the Auspicious Occasion of Her Royal Highness Princess

**Maha Chakri Sirindhorn**

Graciously presiding over the opening ceremony of an exclusive exhibition  
displaying a Royal Collection of Garments from

Her Majesty the Queen of Thailand

A CULTURAL EVENING under the stars will follow the opening of the Exhibition and a dinner will be prepared by the **ORIENTAL HOTEL**.

Tickets: B.3000/ticket  
(incl. wine, beer and soft drinks) table of 10

Call for reservations:

Janet Stride	Tel./Fax 02 236-8223
Elke Franke	Tel./Fax: 02 712-8476
Shimiko Suzuki	Tel./Fax 02 262-9305

THIS IS THE SECOND FUND RAISING EVENT ORGANISED BY THE  
**NATIONAL MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS**



## GOLF

# Chang Rai Golf Tour 2001

## But first:

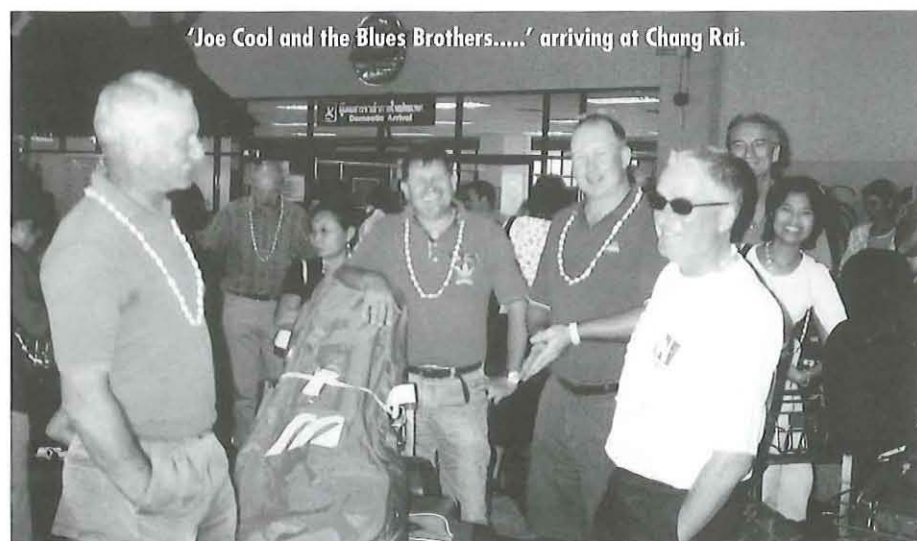
### ■ CAPTAIN VS. EX-CAPTAIN ■

The start of the month saw the annual 'Captain vs. Ex-Captain' fixture; a team selected by the current Captain (Karen Carter) takes on a team appointed by the previous year's Captain (Bernie Adams) in a sporting, good-natured fight to the death. As Karen is in the chair this year (and has control over the format) it was suggested that a 'Boys vs. Girls' competition would be appropriate – bringing to mind the verse:

*"It was the women not the warrior's that made  
their faces pale,  
For the female of the species .. etc. etc."*

The match was held on 16 October at Muang Kaew – those of you who took part in the Ryesome Bowl debacle in September when 5¼ hour rounds were recorded will appreciate that we were bracing ourselves for a long day (it's not that we're masochists, the course was booked last year when the fixture list was compiled). However the message that we weren't best pleased at being 'double-booked' on our last outing must have gotten through to the management and they were exceptionally helpful and well-organised this time around.

Our tee time was 11.30 am (off both the 1st and 10th tees) and we were actually away early; no queues, traffic-jams or six-balls ahead of us, if any slow rounds were recorded it was entirely our own fault. Forty players turned out to support the Captains, however only nine of them were ladies so it was always going to be a tough battle for them to win. But they gave it their best shot on what was



'Joe Cool and the Blues Brothers.....' arriving at Chang Rai.

possibly the hottest, most humid day of the year. In the afternoon, as the temperature dropped (slightly), it actually became quite foggy!

The format of the day was Individual Stapleford and despite the ladies' best efforts the final scores came in at:

Karen's Team (girls) 209 - Bernie's Team (boys) 230

I'm not saying it was a crushing victory but the 'boys' were looking pretty damn smug as they supped their beer. Some very good results were returned by both sides, Betty Fujiwara leading the ladies with a score of 40 points followed by Bridget Snow and Carol-Ann Eastgate both with 37 points.

The boys did slightly better, Paul Jensen getting 41 points, Chris Crowley 39 and Edwin Ferrers 38.

### ■ GOLF TOUR TO CHANG RAI ■

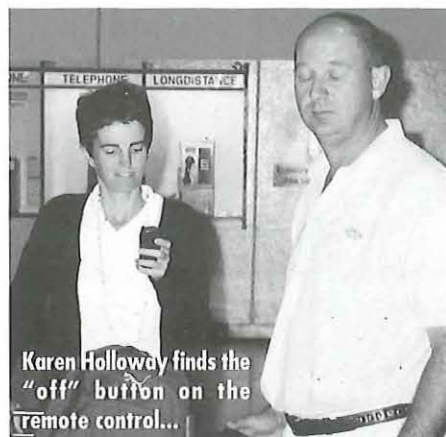
Following the Golf Society's hugely successful foray to Sri Lanka in 2000, a similar 'outing' was proposed for 2001, although this year the venue chosen was slightly closer to home - Chang Rai. A three-day trip was arranged, leaving Bangkok on 22 October (Sunday morning) and returning on the 24 October (late Tuesday night). Initially 24 people put their names down for the tour but by the time we came to leave three more golfers had signed up and 27 of us assembled at Terminal 1. The trip north was uneventful – in fact the most remarkable feature of the weekend was the total lack of hassle; everyone turned up at the airport on time, the flights were on

schedule and there were no problems with the ticketing. The buses were waiting for us at Chang Rai and the golf courses and hotel were actually expecting us. We began to wonder if we were still in Thailand at all.

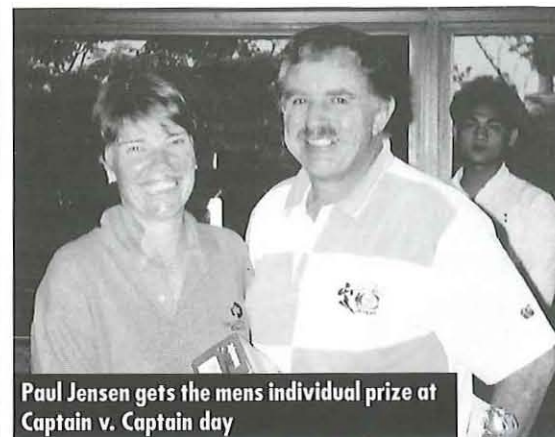
The format chosen for the tour was a three-day 'skins' competition with individual daily prizes for the lowest gross and lowest net scores.

The first round was played on Sunday afternoon as soon as we arrived in Chang Rai; this was at Santiburi, a very pretty course about twenty minutes from the airport.

Actually when I say there were 'no problems' that's not strictly true. It seems the Fashion Police are very active in Santiburi and Chris Crowley and Mick Murphy were turned away for wearing elasticated shorts without a belt... this tricky situation was resolved when they pulled their shirttails out of their waistbands and played 'deshabille' .... The ladies didn't escape either, Charmaine Adams was asked



Karen Holloway finds the "off" button on the remote control...



Paul Jensen gets the mens individual prize at Captain v. Captain day



## GOLF - CONTINUED

to go and change when the Course Marshal noticed that her blouse had buttons all the way up the front and Joom White because her shirt had no collar... Yurachatr let the side down badly by attempting to play in trousers... Ah! but it's good to see the Old Standards are still being adhered to in some parts of the world.

Anyway, after all the kerfuffle it wasn't until 2.00 pm that the first four-ball tee'd off so it was always going to be a challenge for the last group to finish. They did make it, but I suspect they were using radar to putt the 18th green since it was a moonless night.

At the end of the day the leader in the Skins competition was Dick Taylor (10) followed by Karen Holloway and Mick Murphy, both on 9. The Lowest Gross of the day was Brian Brooks' 82 and the Net Prize went to Larry Goodliffe (67).

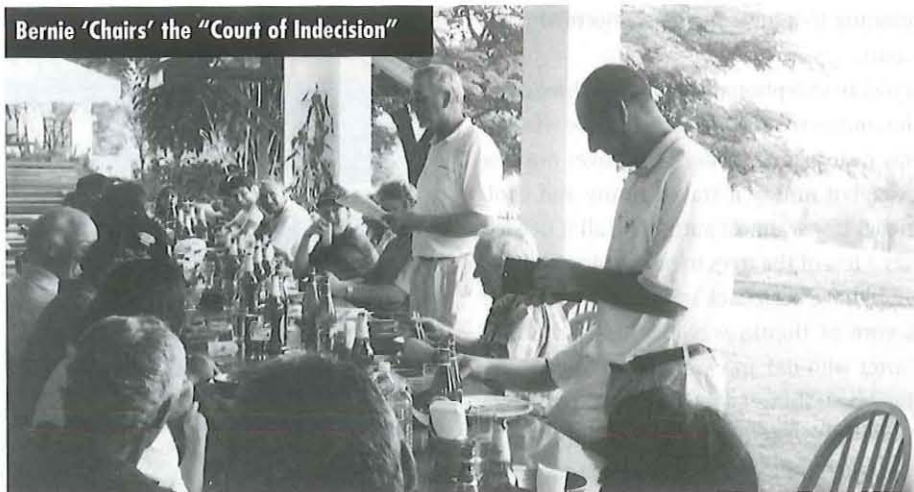
A mention has to be made of Nick Helms' superb 'Eagle' on the eighteenth hole, a 490 yard Par 5 (Handicap Index 4), in failing light and not knowing the course he took the 'Tiger Line' and hit a shot that no sober golfer would have ever attempted - and it came off. His second was equally impressive (he put it on the green) and sank the putt for 3. The 'Court of Indecision' later fined him 100 Baht for gloating but he says it was worth every Satang...!!

After we'd been fed and suitably refreshed, we boarded the bus and were taken to Waterford, a 'golf resort' another half-an-hour down the road. This boasted a rather splendid hotel that had only one drawback - there wasn't a bar. Mutiny was narrowly averted when the manager produced two cases of beer and pointed out that the mini-bars in the rooms were amply stocked with thirst-quenching beverages. [In hindsight I think several of us rather wished this had not been mentioned...]



...and Betty wins the Ladies prize

Bernie 'Chairs' the "Court of Indecision"



A convivial party then assembled in the lounge and the bottle-opener did the rounds, a very pleasant - if extended - evening being had by all... especially Larry Goodliffe who was later fined for 'savaging David Lamb's clothing with the ice tongs'... David himself did not escape censure and was penalized for 'wearing Cheryl's shorts'.

The last to get to bed were Mick Murphy and Harland Bulow who (I'm told) re-fought the entire American Civil War using Carlsberg bottle tops.

Saturday saw an 8.30 am tee-off and all the groups got away on time. The course was not easy; although the fairways were wide the rough was spiteful and there were numerous traps and 'OB' to snare any wayward balls, and since the majority were playing with thumping hang-overs there were plenty of those. However, after lunch most of us had recovered from the excesses of the preceding night and went out for a second 18 holes (the package was for 'unlimited golf') so it was a tired and happy group of golfers who finally traipsed back to the hotel that evening.

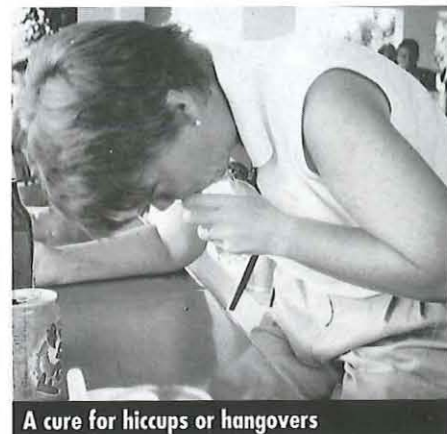
The day's results saw Dick Taylor (9 skins) increasing his lead - the fact he also won the Lowest Net prize (69) and 'men's long drive' shows what dire shape the rest of the field was in. The Lowest Gross prize was won by Bernie Adams (88).

Tuesday saw an early (7.30 am) start. However as we'd prudently restricted ourselves to playing 'funny whist' (after an excellent dinner) the previous night, there weren't too many long faces on the first tee. Again an excellent morning's golf was had by all and the scores reflected the better co-ordination resulting from a virtuous evening.

### A BIG SWINGING RICHARD...

At lunch the final results were announced and it was determined that Dick Taylor had won the Tour Skins Competition (27 skins total) with second place being shared by Larry Goodliffe and Edward Ashman (who scored a competition-best 11 'skins' on the third day) with 21 skins each. Phil Hall and Mike Staples tied on 89 to share the Lowest Gross and Phil was the outright winner of the Lowest Net Prize (69).

There then followed the findings of the 'Court of Indecision'. For those of you not familiar with golf tours, no subscriptions are collected, instead 'fines' are levied for transgressions, misdemeanours and anything else Bernie can dream up (usually Roger Fitzgerald is good for a few hundred baht - alas, he wasn't able to come this year and was fined 'in absentia' for non-attendance!). Needless to say the sartorial errors at Santiburi were worth a few bob - as were Nick Helms (he was still talking about his Eagle) and Larry Goodliffe. Val Ashman was fined for mutilating the Queen's English ('My hair is not like Bjorn Borg's - it's Beyorn Hope') along with Andy Flynn - 'I want to get inside Karen Holloway', his defence that he was



A cure for hiccups or hangovers



## GOLF - CONTINUED

referring to a 'near pin' was rejected by the Court.

It was an exceptionally enjoyable three days; the courses were challenging and the weather was near-perfect (it did cloud over once or twice but mostly it stayed sunny and cool. In fact it was almost autumnal, all it needed was a few of the trees to be 'turning' and we could have been back in Surrey....)

A vote of thanks was extended to Karen Carter who did an excellent job organising the whole thing - ably supported by Bernie Adams and the rest of the committee. A special 'thank you' was also extended to David and Cheryl Lamb who went to a great deal of trouble organizing the 'Tour Dinner' and arranging the 'funny whist' afterwards, the meal was excellent and the card - games highly entertaining. Thank you David and Cheryl.

**Dick Taylor**

## PHIL EVANS

As I'm sure we're all aware Phil Evans was killed a couple of months ago in a car accident. He had only recently taken up golf but such was his enthusiasm and dedication to the game that he had already managed to reduce his handicap to 14 by the time of his death. The Norman Bond Trophy is awarded annually to the 'Best Improved Golfer' and although the golfing year still has another couple of months to run it was decided that Phil was unbeatable and thus the trophy is to be awarded to him posthumously. At the Captains Day Mike Staples presented a Memorial Plate to Karen Carter, this honours Phil's achievement and will be placed in the Churchill Bar as tribute to 'Phil Evans, Our Friend And Fellow Golfer'



Mike Staples presents Karen with the Phil Evans Memorial Plate



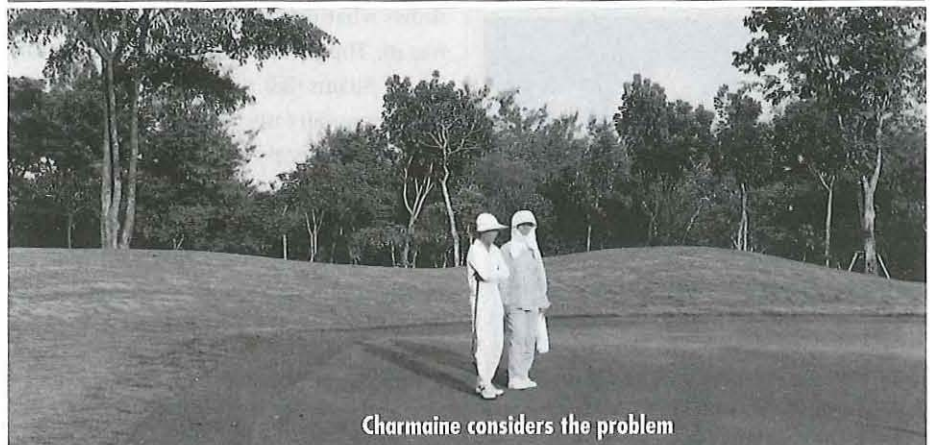
Andy, Barry and Edward at Santiburi



Charmaine, Karen and Bernie at Waterford



Big Game in the Serengeti?



Charmaine considers the problem



## GOLF - CONTINUED

to go and change when the Course Marshal noticed that her blouse had buttons all the way up the front and Joom White because her shirt had no collar... Yurachatr let the side down badly by attempting to play in trousers... Ah! but it's good to see the Old Standards are still being adhered to in some parts of the world.

Anyway, after all the kerfuffle it wasn't until 2.00 pm that the first four-ball tee'd off so it was always going to be a challenge for the last group to finish. They did make it, but I suspect they were using radar to putt the 18th green since it was a moonless night.

At the end of the day the leader in the Skins competition was Dick Taylor (10) followed by Karen Holloway and Mick Murphy, both on 9. The Lowest Gross of the day was Brian Brooks' 82 and the Net Prize went to Larry Goodliffe (67).

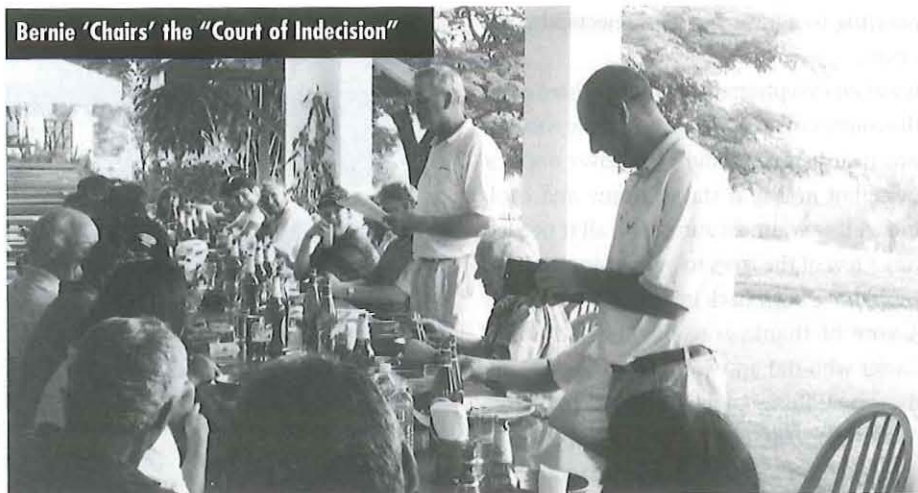
A mention has to be made of Nick Helms' superb 'Eagle' on the eighteenth hole, a 490 yard Par 5 (Handicap Index 4), in failing light and not knowing the course he took the 'Tiger Line' and hit a shot that no sober golfer would have ever attempted - and it came off. His second was equally impressive (he put it on the green) and sank the putt for 3. The 'Court of Indecision' later fined him 100 Baht for gloating but he says it was worth every Satang...!!

After we'd been fed and suitably refreshed, we boarded the bus and were taken to Waterford, a 'golf resort' another half-an-hour down the road. This boasted a rather splendid hotel that had only one drawback - there wasn't a bar. Mutiny was narrowly averted when the manager produced two cases of beer and pointed out that the mini-bars in the rooms were amply stocked with thirst-quenching beverages. [In hindsight I think several of us rather wished this had not been mentioned...]



...and Betty wins the Ladies prize

Bernie 'Chairs' the "Court of Indecision"



A convivial party then assembled in the lounge and the bottle-opener did the rounds, a very pleasant - if extended - evening being had by all... especially Larry Goodliffe who was later fined for 'savaging David Lamb's clothing with the ice tongs'... David himself did not escape censure and was penalized for 'wearing Cheryl's shorts'.

The last to get to bed were Mick Murphy and Harland Bulow who (I'm told) re-fought the entire American Civil War using Carlsberg bottle tops.

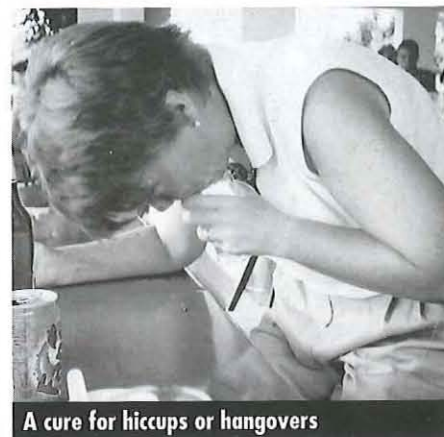
Saturday saw an 8.30 am tee-off and all the groups got away on time. The course was not easy; although the fairways were wide the rough was spiteful and there were numerous traps and 'OB' to snare any wayward balls, and since the majority were playing with thumping hang-overs there were plenty of those. However, after lunch most of us had recovered from the excesses of the preceding night and went out for a second 18 holes (the package was for 'unlimited golf') so it was a tired and happy group of golfers who finally traipsed back to the hotel that evening. The day's results saw Dick Taylor (9 skins) increasing his lead - the fact he also won the Lowest Net prize (69) and 'men's long drive' shows what dire shape the rest of the field was in. The Lowest Gross prize was won by Bernie Adams (88).

Tuesday saw an early (7.30 am) start. However as we'd prudently restricted ourselves to playing 'funny whist' (after an excellent dinner) the previous night, there weren't too many long faces on the first tee. Again an excellent morning's golf was had by all and the scores reflected the better co-ordination resulting from a virtuous evening.

### A BIG SWINGING RICHARD...

At lunch the final results were announced and it was determined that Dick Taylor had won the Tour Skins Competition (27 skins total) with second place being shared by Larry Goodliffe and Edward Ashman (who scored a competition-best 11 'skins' on the third day) with 21 skins each. Phil Hall and Mike Staples tied on 89 to share the Lowest Gross and Phil was the outright winner of the Lowest Net Prize (69).

There then followed the findings of the 'Court of Indecision'. For those of you not familiar with golf tours, no subscriptions are collected, instead 'fines' are levied for transgressions, misdemeanours and anything else Bernie can dream up (usually Roger Fitzgerald is good for a few hundred baht - alas, he wasn't able to come this year and was fined 'in absentia' for non-attendance!). Needless to say the sartorial errors at Santiburi were worth a few bob - as were Nick Helms (he was still talking about his Eagle) and Larry Goodliffe. Val Ashman was fined for mutilating the Queen's English ('My hair is not like Bjorn Borg's - it's Beyorn Hope') along with Andy Flynn - 'I want to get inside Karen Holloway', his defence that he was



A cure for hiccups or hangovers



## GOLF - CONTINUED

referring to a 'near pin' was rejected by the Court.

It was an exceptionally enjoyable three days; the courses were challenging and the weather was near-perfect (it did cloud over once or twice but mostly it stayed sunny and cool. In fact it was almost autumnal, all it needed was a few of the trees to be 'turning' and we could have been back in Surrey....)

A vote of thanks was extended to Karen Carter who did an excellent job organising the whole thing - ably supported by Bernie Adams and the rest of the committee. A special 'thank you' was also extended to David and Cheryl Lamb who went to a great deal of trouble organizing the 'Tour Dinner' and arranging the 'funny whist' afterwards, the meal was excellent and the card - games highly entertaining. Thank you David and Cheryl.

**Dick Taylor**

#### PHIL EVANS

As I'm sure we're all aware Phil Evans was killed a couple of months ago in a car accident. He had only recently taken up golf but such was his enthusiasm and dedication to the game that he had already managed to reduce his handicap to 14 by the time of his death. The Norman Bond Trophy is awarded annually to the 'Best Improved Golfer' and although the golfing year still has another couple of months to run it was decided that Phil was unbeatable and thus the trophy is to be awarded to him posthumously. At the Captains Day Mike Staples presented a Memorial Plate to Karen Carter, this honours Phil's achievement and will be placed in the Churchill Bar as tribute to 'Phil Evans, Our Friend And Fellow Golfer'



Mike Staples presents Karen with the Phil Evans Memorial Plate



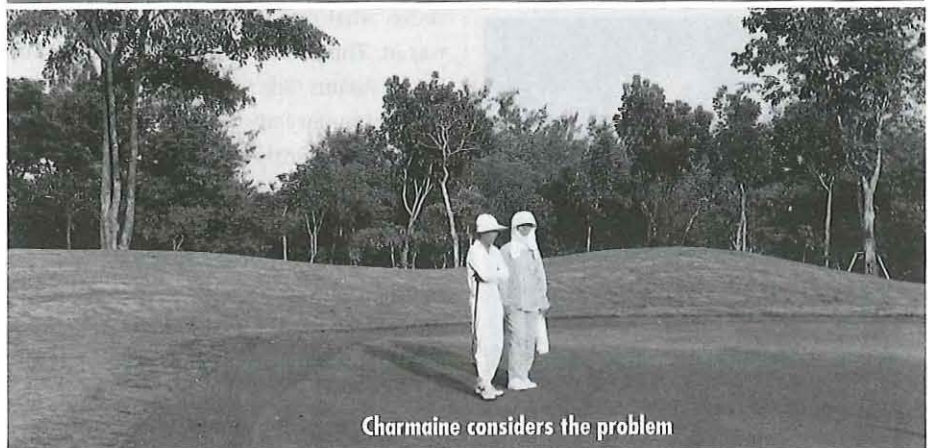
Andy, Barry and Edward at Santiburi



Charmaine, Karen and Bernie at Waterford



Big Game in the Serengeti?



Charmaine considers the problem



## SCUBA

# Three New British Club Divers

First, I would like to express my appreciation to those British Club members who take the time to read this monthly column. Last month's "Scuba Tune-up" article seemed to catch the eye and set a renewed interest for those who have not dived for a period of time. I'm pleased that so many of you are anxious to get back into the water and return to diving. Being in Thailand certainly presents many opportunities for personal and family dive weekends, as well as skill enhancement and continuing education.

## ON THE LOCAL SCENE

I am proud to announce that Derek and his 11 year old son Jordon completed their Open Water Diver and Junior Open Water Diver certifications on October 23. Derek brought the whole family down to Chonburi as a mini-retreat while he and Jordon completed the four days of continuous training. The father and son mutual support group scored brilliantly on the academics and fantastic in the open water. Well done Derek and Jordon, thanks for the fun!

Also on the local scene, 10 year old Andrew Walton completed his Junior Open Water Diver course on October 28, with high academic scores, superb open water skills and a great attitude. In late May of this year Andrew, then nine years old, completed his PADI Skin Diver certification and never let his parents, Ian (already a Rescue Diver) and Joan, forget his desire to become Open Water certified when he turned the minimum certification age of 10. Now it's on to Western Australia for year-end holidays including some diving along the way. Congratulations Andrew!

The PADI Junior Open Water Divers course is conducted exactly the same as the adult Open Water Diver course with the exception of the maximum depths. All in-water skills, academics and examinations are identical. A Junior Open Water Diver can transition to Open Water Diver at age 15 without further testing or additional training. With



Don with Jordon and Derek Cheyne, after certification

the new minimum age standards being lowered to 10 years of age, why not get your family involved in an experience they will never forget and you will never regret?

## TAILORED DIVING

As always, I will be happy to talk to you about a family Medical First Aid and CPR course or scheduling a diving course tailored to your interests and schedule. Please contact me for diving schedules including the Open Water Course for those wanting to begin to enjoy the beautiful underwater world and the Advanced Open Water course for certified Open Water divers. I also offer every Specialty Course suitable for Asian waters.

I can be contacted at 038-225-364 or by e-mail at [don@ddjohnson.com](mailto:don@ddjohnson.com).

Yours in diving,  
**Don Johnson**



Andrew Walton - an accomplished new Open Water diver



Two new divers, Gordon and Derek Cheyne, off Koh Sak





## MEMBER'S TRAVELS

# South Africa in the Spring-time

**W**e visited South Africa because anyone who has ever been there told us it was a wonderful country – and then added a 'but' of one kind or another. So we decided to go see for ourselves, and I have to say they were right, it's definitely worth a visit, but...

We took the South African Airways flight direct to Johannesburg (four times a week from Bangkok) arriving late at night. To be on the safe side we'd arranged to be met by a driver from our hotel in Pretoria (the airport lies between the two cities) but missed him completely in the arrivals area. A friendly native asked if he could help and, on being told of the problem, said: "Oh no man, Victoria Hotel burn down las' year, I got a much better place for you to stay." We were well and truly back on the Tourist Trail... Declining his kind offer we found our man and were on our way without further problem, getting our first impressions of South Africa; namely that there are bars everywhere – and I don't mean the kind that serve adult beverages. Our hotel had a steel grill across the main door and the receptionist sat in a wire mesh cage – OK, so it was a pretty down-market hotel but this was in Pretoria, what's it like in Jo'burg where even the South Africans admit there's a 'problem' with crime?

## THE BLUE TRAIN

The highlight of our holiday was a trip from Pretoria to Cape Town on the 'Blue Train', this has a great reputation which doesn't do it justice. It's a palatial, 5 star hotel on wheels – and it was wonderful. For two days and a night we wallowed in luxury... to begin with all the booze is free and the bar never closes, we boarded at 8.30am, went straight to the lounge car and ordered Bloody Mary's... (just to test the system you understand). 'The system' coped admirably and the resulting cocktails were delicious. We excused ourselves on the grounds it was really 1.30 pm (Bangkok time) but it still felt slightly sinful to be quaffing strong drink at that hour of day – especially as

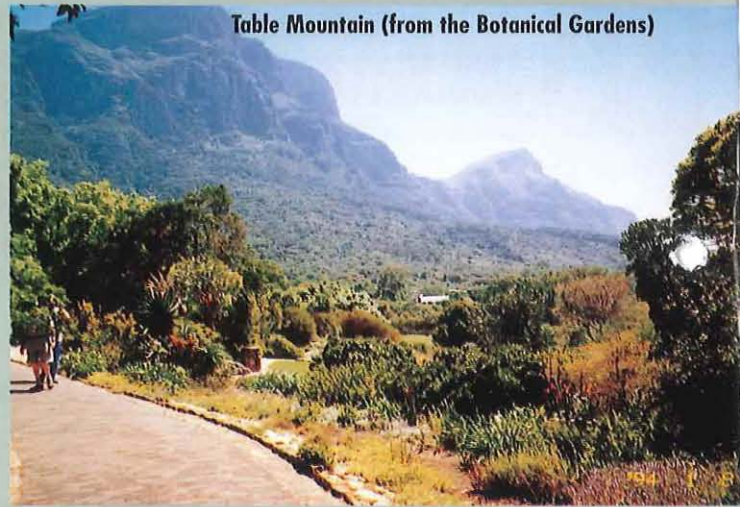
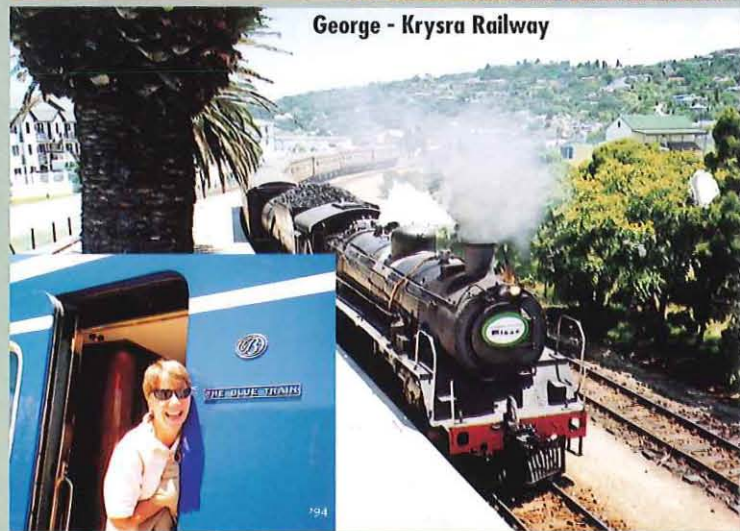


Table Mountain (from the Botanical Gardens)



George - Krysra Railway

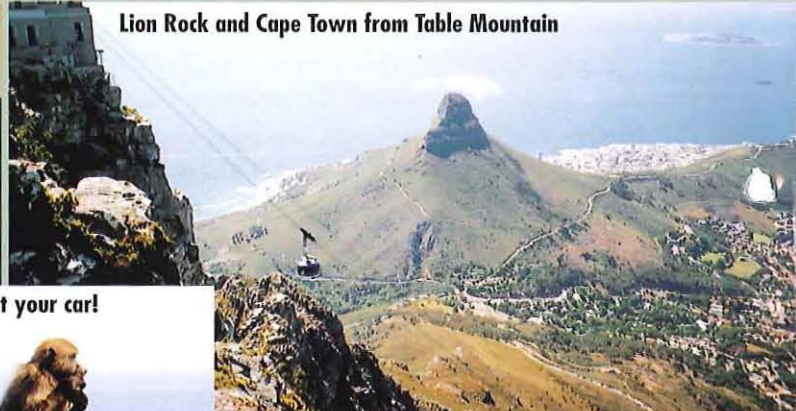
Blue Train Bar



Cape Town Botanical Gardens



Lion Rock and Cape Town from Table Mountain



Very cute - if it's not your car!



The photo everyone takes - Table Mountain from Robbens Island





## MEMBER'S TRAVELS - CONTINUED

we didn't stop until lunchtime when we left the bar for the restaurant car (real silverware and crystal) and further indulgence in 2 bottles of excellent Sauvignon Blanc accompanying an equally good meal.... We had a post-lunch nap as we were feeling sleepy for some odd reason, but were back for pre-dinner cocktails.

The train stopped in the afternoon so we could visit the old diamond mine at Kimberly. It's pretty much worked out now and the town has the run-down feel of a Welsh mining village although De Beers is about to open a new facility to sift through the tailings of the original mine which might help things a bit (it seems the old-time diggers simply threw away diamonds of less than 3 carats as 'not worth the effort!').

The 'Hole' itself is awesome, a huge, vertical sided shaft, a mile across and thousands of feet deep. Even half-full of cobalt-blue water it's impressive, more so when you remember that it was largely dug with picks and shovels...

The sleeping compartments on the train were as impressive as the rest of it, (eat your heart out British Rail)... they were... I've run out of superlatives.... fabulous. We had twin (very comfortable) fold-down beds but some cabins have double beds - it's a question of booking well in advance (which we didn't). The fact that you get a personal butler gives an idea of the level of service - and conveys a faint air of hedonism?!

The next morning, after an excellent night's sleep, we entered the wine growing region and the countryside which had been semi-desert became more lush and mountainous and the scenery correspondingly spectacular. We lingered idly in the dining car over a sumptuous breakfast (which we didn't really need as we were still stuffed from the previous night's gourmet dinner) and watched the mountains and farms roll by... until the train pulled into Cape Town exactly on time.

#### CAPE TOWN

We spent nearly a week in Cape Town and did all the touristy things; took the cable-car up Table Mountain, the boat out to Robbens Island (where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for 20 years), drove down to Cape Point where the baboons chew the rubber bits off any unattended cars and walked around the famous Botanical Gardens - which were seriously beautiful in the late spring. Most

days the sun shone but even the locals admitted that the weather was weird, one day in the high twenties, the next in the mid-teens with a biting wind (the 'Cape Doctor') but even that seemed clean and refreshing to us after Bangkok - there was zero pollution. It was in Cape Town that we got talking to some of the residents who explained about the need for bars; there's 40% unemployment and that's the real cause of all the crime, if you want to eat and there's no social security... well, the money has to come from somewhere.

It's also a very violent place; an appalling statistic is that a rape occurs on average every 26 seconds and whilst we were in Cape Town there was a horrific report in the papers of a nine-month old baby being gang-raped. But you see little of this as most of it happens out in the 'townships'. We passed a few of these, huge squatter-camps built of cardboard, plastic sheeting, plywood, anything that comes to hand... Klong Toey on a vast scale without sanitation, electricity or any kind of services, perhaps we should be surprised that the crime rate is not higher than it is.

But what is astonishing is the friendliness of the people; to begin with, after seeing the level of security, we felt a little nervous - alright, downright paranoid, and thought twice about leaving the hotel on our own. But the truth is that 99% of the people you meet in the street, blacks and whites, are extraordinarily helpful and charming. Again and again we were left wondering how anyone who lives in those conditions can possibly bring themselves to smile and be so pleasant, but they are.

After the townships the affluent suburbs - which are pretty much white enclaves - almost come as a shock. Tree-lined avenues of lovely, old-style Dutch houses, manicured gardens and big cars in the garage... and all with large notices on the (spike topped) walls proclaiming the premises are guarded by security firms with names like 'Armed Response'... a society under siege.

#### STELLENBOSCH AND THE GARDEN ROUTE

We hired a car (expensive in South Africa) and drove East to Stellenbosch, the heart of the wine growing region, and toured lots of vineyards 'sampling' the wine... making the delightful discovery that Vergelegen



De-luxe (!) compartment on the Blue Train

Sauvignon Blanc is even better than Cloudy Bay but a tenth of the price... and there are several others almost as good but even cheaper. Speaking of cost, the big surprise of the holiday was the price of everything. The Rand has fallen 20% since July and the local prices haven't begun to catch up yet... A bottle of really good wine costs Baht 200 and the (still-drinkable) plonk around Baht 70 - the beer is more expensive! Dinner for two in a good restaurant - including the sherbert - will set you back about Baht 1,200... you won't get that in the Oriental.

We drove on along the Garden Route - which we enjoyed but I suspect that it's at its best in early spring when flowers 'carpet the hillsides' (to quote the tourist blurb), otherwise it was pretty but not that special - the countryside just to the north of Stellenbosch seemed more spectacular, like Scotland on steroids. However there are some wonderful places to stay... We also made a point of visiting Hermanus Bay where the Southern Right Whales come at this time of year to give birth... I have spent money on 'whale-watching' boat trips and never got anything like as close to them as we did here... I counted eight of them before I stopped bothering - the closest was only 100 yards off-shore and we spent a happy morning watching a juvenile doing handstands in the bay and generally showing off. 'Impressive' doesn't begin to describe it... To sum up, we had a wonderful time; the food and wine were exceptional, the scenery breathtaking and the climate superb. However the bars on every window, guards outside the shops and the ever-present notices warning of 'Armed Response' give the place a vague sense of menace that even the friendliness of the people never quite erases. Yes, I would go back... but...

**Dick Taylor**



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## NEW MEMBERS

**JONATHAN NICHOLS AND  
CHARLOTTE SHEPPARD-GERLACH**  
(BRITISH, SORRY SCOTTISH/BRITISH))


Jonathan and Charlotte landed in Bangkok just a few short months ago.

Jonathan is engineering manager with B.Grimm/MBM. In his spare time he likes to play golf and rugby. Charlotte, on the other hand, is the British Club's equivalent to Nigel Dempster - look out for her new column next month! She is also a British Horse Society qualified instructor, previously working in USA, Dubai, Hong Kong and Singapore. Specialising in dressage, show jumping and cross country, she is now positioned at the Garden City Polo Club, Bangna Trad Km 29, where she is available for tuition from beginner to competition level, children and adults.


**KIRSTEN CHALMERS, ADRIAN SCHOFIELD**  
(BRITISH/CANADIAN)

Kirsten is here on a one year placement as a Research Officer with CB Richard Ellis. She enjoys swimming and running and a good game of tennis and says her first impression of the club is that it has a "great tennis section. Really friendly and welcoming". She finds it a bit different playing tennis here at the BC, as she used to live in Guyana, where she played tennis with kids who had no shoes to wear, and played with tennis rackets donated to them. The courts were so cracked the balls could hardly bounce so "I never complain about bad bounces now". Don't get any bad bounces here Kirsten....

Adrian is Marketing & Publications Co-ordinator with the Thai-Canadian Chamber of Commerce. On the night in question he was recovering after a 32 hour journey here. His comment on the British Club is that it is an oasis from work and noisy Bangkok, providing a major contribution to his staple diet - a pretty good place to do your recovering Adrian! Hobbies include rugby and scuba PADI style.


**ASHOK CHOPRA (INDIAN)**

Ashok has lived in Thailand for 22 years and expects to stay forever. He is General Manager of Shilpa Co., Ltd. publishers of travel-related magazines in Thailand, such as 'Destination Thailand' and 'Accommodation Phuket'. As he has now delegated much of his work-related travel to the younger generation, he is now able to concentrate on his personal fitness. A keen squash and tennis player, he also enjoys swimming. He goes jogging in Lumpini Park, where he says the sights and sounds of other fitness enthusiasts fascinate him (he didn't say what these were though!) A teetotaler, Ashok says he avoids the 'friskier' Bangkok nightlife, in favour of a cosy, club-type atmosphere where pleasant conversation and camaraderie are the order of the day.


**NORMAN AND EILEEN DENNING (BRITISH)**


Sausage and pie lovers take note! Norman and Eileen are English beef and pork butchers from Shipley in West Yorkshire. They have been in business in Jomtien for 2.5 years now. Their business is making English pork sausages, home cured gammon and bacon, black pudding and a large variety of pies and pasties. They also run a guesthouse and informal restaurant, serving all the usual English favourites. They said that they retired once, but after 6 months found that doing nothing was not for them. Whenever you are down in Pattaya/Jomtien, they would love for you to call by and see them.

**JUDY BENN (USA)**

Executive Director at the American Chamber of Commerce in Thailand, Judy finds the Club an oasis in the midst of Bangkok, and finds Bangkok like heaven after 6 years of living in Shanghai.

Her daughter Maggie Mei is 2 years old, whose hobbies are swimming and driving her mother up the wall.

Judy's hobbies are navigating her way back down that wall, running, scuba and travel.


**MINEKO KATAOKA AND PHAIROJ CHANSEVIKUL**  
(JAPANESE/THAI)


Mineko has lived here for 6 years and is keeping herself busy by pursuing her favourite hobbies, which are reading, tennis, swimming and aerobics.

Phairoj works at Long Stay Co., Ltd./Paragon (1991) Co., Ltd. His spare time involves playing snooker, bowling, tennis and swimming and his favourite hobby, playing the guitar whenever he can.

**HEATHER AND PAJARA THONGJAI (NEW ZEALANDERS)**

Pajara has been living in New Zealand since his teens, and loves it there. He's happy however to be spending a few years back in Thailand with wife Heather - providing, he says, it's not for too long!





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