



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

DECEMBER 2010

OUTPOST

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK

Season's Greetings !!

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LOOKING BACK
Halloween
Guy Fawkes

SPOTLIGHT
It's all about
the children



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LONG LIVE THE KING



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

With Best Wishes and Many Happy Returns to
His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej
on the auspicious occasion of his 83rd birthday, 5th December 2010,
from
The Management, Members and Staff of The British Club Bangkok



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

OUTPOST Magazine

GENERAL COMMITTEE

Chairman

Jonathan Truslow
chairman@britishclubbangkok.org

General Committee Members

Sarah Allen, Philip Alexander,
David Blowers, John Bleho,
Iain Brewster, Paul Cheesman,
Ian Harry, Dale Lamb, Jeremy Watson
gc@britishclubbangkok.org

SENIOR MANAGERS

General Manager

Jesper Doepping
gm@britishclubbangkok.org

Deputy General Manager – Finance

Premrudee Tanyaluck
premrudee@britishclubbangkok.org

THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK

189 Surawongse Road,
Bangkok 10500

Entrance via Silom Soi 18

Tel: +66 (0) 2 234 0247

Fax: +66 (0) 2 235 1560

info@britishclubbangkok.org

www.britishclubbangkok.org

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12th Floor, Vanissa Building,
29 Soi Chidlom, Bangkok 10330.

Tel: +66 (0) 2 650 3450-4

Fax: +66 (0) 2 650 3455

Publisher

Jim Fowler - jim@veritasgraphics.com

Managing Editor

Dean Outerson
dean@veritasgraphics.com

Designer

Pongpichet Piyaman (Dew)
dew@veritasgraphics.com

OUTPOST

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Opinions expressed need not necessarily represent
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time to be with one's
family and/or friends,
and for many, the time to
remember the Nativity.

But the true magic of
Christmas is the sight
of wonder, awe and
happiness which we see
in the eyes of our children
and those we love at
this festive time. Merry
Christmas to you all! Ed.



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CELEBRATE YOUR

Festive Season



2010 - 2011 @ THE LANDMARK BANGKOK

CHRISTMAS EVE

DECEMBER 24, 2010

RR&B

FESTIVE INSPIRATION

- "Christmas Inspirations" menu from December 10 – 30, 2010 and a la carte dining!

ATRIUM

A JOLLY CHRISTMAS FEAST

- International Christmas Buffet Dinner @ Baht 2,800 net per person with special offer Come 4 pay 2.

HUNTSMAN PUB

WINTER WONDERLAND

- Christmas Eve Dinner Set @ Baht 1,300 net per person with 3-course dinner and 1 drink
- Cover charge of Baht 1,000 net including 3 drinks.

CHRISTMAS DAY

DECEMBER 25, 2010

ATRIUM

FAMILY FUN WITH A TOUCH OF MAGIC

- Christmas Day Buffet Brunch @ Baht 2,800 net per person with special offer Come 4 pay 2.

HUNTSMAN PUB

A ROAST TO REMEMBER

- Christmas Roast Brunch @ Baht 1,400 net per person

NEW YEAR'S EVE

DECEMBER 31, 2010

RR&B

COUNTDOWN SPECTACULAR

- A la carte 3-course menu for only @ Baht 4,200++ per person.
- Exclusive 5-course set dinner @ Baht 6,500++ per person, including a glass of Louis Roederer
 - Cover charge from 11.00 pm – 01.00 am @ Baht 1,500++ per person, including 2 drinks

ATRIUM

GOURMET EXTRAVAGANZA

- New Year's Eve Buffet Dinner @ Baht 3,000 net per person with a glass of Bubbly and special offer Come 4 pay 2.

HUNTSMAN

UNVEIL YOUR ELVIS DANCE MOVES!

- "Rock 'n' Roll" New Year's Eve Party
 - A special 3-course set menu with one drink for just @ Baht 1,400 net per person
- Cover charge of Baht 1,600 net including 4 drinks

NEW YEAR'S DAY

JANUARY 1, 2011

ATRIUM

START THE YEAR IN STYLE

- International Buffet Brunch @ Baht 2,800 net per person with special offer Come 4 pay 2.

SUI SIAM

- All - you - can - eat Dim Sum lunch @ Baht 750 ++

For more information and reservations,
please contact Tel. 0-2254-0404 ext. 7777
Email: festive@landmarkbangkok.com




THE LANDMARK
BANGKOK



Thailand's Leading Business Hotel



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

Join us at the British Club's special New Year Festival



*31st New Year's Eve Brunch with Champagne
(11am - 3pm, Verandah)*

*31st New Year activities day for the children 12-Midnight
(sleeping possibility)*

31st Music at Dusk (6pm - 2am, Poolside)

*31st New Year's Eve Party at the British Club
(8pm - 2am, Front Lawn)*

1st Polar Swim (10am - 1pm, Poolside)

*1st Special Hangover New Year's Brunch (11am-3pm,
Verandah, Poolside and Front Lawn)*

*2nd Sunday Brunch and Kid's Activities (11am - 3pm,
Verandah and Front Lawn)*

*3rd Brunch and Kid's Activities (11am - 3pm,
Verandah and Front Lawn)*



MESSAGE FROM THE GM



Jesper Doepping

Since the introduction of the new annual membership scheme, we have seen a steady growth and we are now back to 987 Members. Some of the new Members have come because existing Members have actively promoted the Club, and as we still want to grow the membership further we are continuing with the "Members get Members" programme which rewards Members who introduce people with 5% of the paid entrance fee credited to their Club account.

In October we also started to see a turn in the Club's revenue. We are not meeting the original budget yet, but despite having 5% less Members than last year, our F&B revenue was 6% higher than last year. Since we have not increased any prices, this indicates that our current Members are starting to use the Club more. However, we acknowledge that our service is not up to scratch at the poolside. Consequently we have changed the organisational structure at the poolside which means that Khun Somboon is Manager of Service and outside Catering and has 2 managers to support him in developing the service and training the staff to provide the right level of service. Furthermore we are actively recruiting additional service staff to ensure that our vision for service can be achieved. Both Khun Somboon and I are very interested in how the service develops at the poolside and await feedback from the Members.

For a while the position of Events and Sales Manager has been vacant, and it has changed in scope from what we originally conceived. It is now a full-time position responsible for developing and selling events, and also selling functions and memberships. We believe we have found the ideal candidate for this position in Simon Causton who is a well-known figure in the St. George's Society and has been involved with organising and selling events on both a private and a professional basis. Simon and his ideas and future plans are presented elsewhere in the magazine.

With the objective of better communication with Members, David Quine has helped us in setting up both a Twitter and a Facebook account. With these we want to improve communication and information flow with Members about what is going on at the Club, and when special events are taking place.

The coming month is one of the most active for the Club as we have the Christmas Ball, Christmas Lunch & Dinner and of course the outside catering for Christmas as well. You really need to be quick to get a seat for any of these events so please sign up soon – when this is written mid-November there are already more participants for the Christmas Ball than there were last year, so to get a good seat you need to hurry.

This year we will not be having the New Year's Cruise, but instead we will have a New Year Party on the front lawn. We hope that many Members will like this change of venue and hope to see you all at the Club on New Year's Eve and at the special Hangover Brunch on New Year's Day.

Finally, I have to apologise to the Club's Rugby fans, because we announced that we would show Rugby over the weekend 4/5 November on television. In fact, we did have Rugby but only Rugby League not Rugby Union. Both on the night and the night after, Reed and a few other Members educated me in the difference in tactics and how they are played. Admittedly like most non-British I think it looks almost the same, a group of gentlemen having a fight around a ball. But now I can promise you that the sin of mistaking Rugby League for Rugby Union will not be committed again.

OFFICIAL OPENING TIMES

The Verandah	11am - 10pm		
Neilson Hays Coffee Shop	9am - 6pm (Tues.-Sun.)	Fitness Centre	6am - 10pm (Mon.-Fri.)
Churchill Bar	10am - 11pm	Fitness Centre	6am - 9pm (Sat.-Sun.)
Poolside Bar	6:15am - 11pm Last food orders 10pm	Thai Massage	9am - 5pm (Tues.-Sun.)



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

cordially invites you to the

Annual Christmas Ball 2010

*on
11th December*

7PM UNTIL THE EARLY HOURS

FRONT LAWN - 1 HOUR COCKTAIL RECEPTION

BACK LAWN - 4 COURSE DINNER

(Catered by Sofitel)

PLEASE R.S.V.P. OR SIGN UP AT RECEPTION

TICKETS 2,200 BAHT PER PERSON

10% DISCOUNT FOR A TABLE OF 10

WINE MENU STARTING FROM 200 BAHT (HALF A BOTTLE)
(see special advertisement)

189 suriwongse road, bangkok 10500

Tel: 0 2234 0247

email: info@britishclubbangkok.org

HOUSE & GROUNDS

The monthly report on maintenance and development



We have just had the lull before the storm as the season for many of our major events and festivities arrives. In anticipation, a new P.A. system has been purchased and a new carpet for the Clubhouse stairs should be installed by the end of November. The fence between the pool and the front lawn has been replaced and the fire pump house rebuilt. The tennis courts are now all in use. The back lawn is looking tired and needs a large area of the grass replacing. This cannot be done until January as the new turf should be watered and nurtured for 15 days without people walking on it. We are doing our best to present a good image bearing in mind the necessity to reduce disruption to a minimum and the obvious financial constraints.

Unfortunately, the poor state of the Suriwongse Sala roof finally resulted in the inevitable decision to carry out a detailed inspection. This is being done with Boulter Stewart in order to assess the extent of repair that will be necessary. To expose the damaged areas we have been forced to remove a large number of the ceiling boards and this is looking unsightly. Our fears that the termite damage was serious were immediately confirmed when many of the damaged roof timbers fell to the ground as the ceiling boards were removed. A decision will be made regarding the repair work when the consultant's report has been discussed with the General Committee.

Pest and termite control is being carried out with monthly inspections and treatment. The last check on termites revealed no activity in any of the 20 bait stations or any of the building structures. Our investigation of the Suriwongse Sala roof has now exposed some small remaining activity in the secondary timbers that support the ceiling. Special treatment will be carried out to eliminate this. Unfortunately, serious damage has already been done. Traces of rodents were found behind the gymnasium and poolside kitchen and the contractor has set rat baits around these locations. There is no major problem with cockroaches. Full spray treatment is being carried out on a regular basis. Ants were found in the Clubhouse kitchen and were treated with spray and ant bait. Mosquito treatment is carried out regularly and there are no major problems at the present time.

We are developing the design of the Fitness Centre with a specialist to assess the scope and layout of the equipment that we will require to be able to compete with the many other gymnasiums in Bangkok. When we have estimated the cost of the scheme we feel we can recommend, it will be submitted to the General Committee before progressing to the detailed design stage.

We continue to spend a substantial amount of money on the materials for daily repair and maintenance. Our team of 4 repair and maintenance staff are being kept extremely busy

and now have the added pressure of setting up tables and awnings for all the upcoming events. We therefore ask for your understanding if some issues are not dealt with immediately they are reported to us.

One of the "interesting" features of my work at the Club has been the receipt of much erratic pricing by contractors. There is very often an element of inflation in many quotes by contractors who seem to think that an establishment called the British Club must have unlimited financial resources. Even allowing for this optimistic view by certain companies, we were somewhat amused to receive a quotation for the new P.A. system that was three times the market value. Fortunately, we have a Member who is a high-tech enthusiast, apart from being our occasional electrical consultant, and he was willing to donate his time and knowledge in the quest for the right equipment. It soon became very clear that no normal person would be able to understand this stuff. It was delivered on 10th November, checked and demonstrated by Robbo who pronounced it as being up to expectations. Some training of our staff will be carried out and we look forward to enhancing our events with this splendid system. See inset for more technical details.

'Robbo can you tell us in simple terms what this new system consists of?'

Well, John, to paraphrase the old IBM cliché, nobody ever got fired for buying JBL! In this case there will be a pair of two-way, pole-mounted tops each containing a 15" bass reflex driver and a 1.5" horn loaded compression driver. Peak output is 130dB and peak power handling is 1600W RMS. The bottom boxes each have a massive 18" driver in a front loaded vented enclosure. Peak output is 133dB and they can handle 2000W RMS peaks. The system is "bi-amped", that is there is a separate amplifier for the top boxes and the bass bins. The amplifiers are made by Crown and can supply up to 1600W per channel in total. The mixer is made by Soundcraft who have been making mixers for musicians since they were formed in London in 1973. The whole thing is managed by a dbx DriveRack PA+. This loudspeaker management system is a digital crossover, graphic equaliser, compressor, feedback eliminator and

No further comment is necessary!

All for now

John Boisclair

Development & Facility Manager



THE BISTRAM CLUB
SINCE 1988

ALL OUTLETS Express Luncheon December 2010

13th - 17th December

Starter - 50 baht

Oriental Chicken and Papaya Salad
with Soya Sauce, Lemon Grass and Ginger Dressing

or
Chef's Soup of the Day

Main Course - 130 baht

Steak and Kidney Pie
served with Mixed Vegetables and Chips

or

Pan-fried Dory with Spicy Herbs
served with Grilled Tomatoes, Zucchini and Asparagus

or

Mixed Sausages
served with Mashed Potatoes

or

Gaeng Jued Sarai Tao Hoo Moo Sub
(Clear Soup with Chinese Lettuce, Seaweed,
Tofu and Minced Pork)

Chu Chee Pla

(Fish Filled in Red Curry Sauce)
Phad Woon Sen Sai Khai
(Stir-fried Vermicelli with Egg)

Dessert of the Day - 50 baht

or
Choose from our A la Carte Dessert for 10% off

20th November - 3rd December

Starter - 50 baht

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

Main Course - 130 baht

Seafood Lasagna
served with Garlic Bread

or

Chicken Tikka Masala
served with Yellow Rice

or

Pan-seared Pacific Dory
served with Grilled Vegetables and Mashed Potatoes,
with Parsley Cream Sauce

or

Tom Seab Look Chin Pla
(Spicy Soup with Fish Balls)
Gal Rod Sauce Makham
(Fried Chicken breast Topped with Tomato Sauce)
Khal Jiew Moo Sub
(Thai Omelette with Minced Pork)

Dessert of the Day - 50 baht

or
Choose from our A la Carte Dessert for 10% off

4th - 10th December

Starter - 50 baht

Pumpkin, Walnut and Cranberry Salad
with Coriander Dressing

or

Chef's Soup of the Day

Main Course - 130 baht

Roast Chicken Breast and Bacon Roll
served with Ratatouille and Roasted Potatoes

or

Fish and Chips
(Breadcrumbed or battered)
with Mixed Salad and Tartare Sauce

or

Braised Beef with Red Wine
served with Peas, Carrots and Mashed Potatoes

or

Tom Kha Gai
(Chicken in Tangy Coconut Milk Soup
with Lemon Grass and Lime Leaves)

Pla Som Rod

(Deep-fried Fish topped with Sweet and Sour Spicy Chili Sauce)
Phad Pak Ruam Namman Hoy
(Stir-fried Mixed Vegetables with Oyster Sauce)

Dessert of the Day - 50 baht

or
Choose from our A la Carte Dessert for 10% off

20th - 24th December

Starter - 50 baht

Chicken, Pasta and Pesto Salad

or

Chef's Soup of the Day

Main Course - 130 baht

Salmon Fishcakes
served with Chips, Garden Pea and Tartare Sauce

or

Grilled Chicken Breast and Spinach Risotto
served with Parmesan Rocket Leaves, dressed with Pesto

or

Lamb and Eggplant Moussaka
served with Greek Salad and Garlic Bread

or

Gaeng Liang Goong Sod
(Clear Spicy Thai Herb Soup with Pumpkin, Baby Corn,
Sweet Basil and Prawns)

Khal Yod Sai

(Thai Omelette stuffed with Minced Pork,
Garden Peas and Carrots)

Tod Mun Pla

(Deep-fried Thai Fishcakes)

Dessert of the Day - 50 baht

or
Choose from our A la Carte Dessert for 10% off

27th - 31st December

Starter - 50 baht

Waldorf Salad with Ham

or

Chef's Soup of the Day

Main Course - 130 baht

Turkey and Ham Pie
served with Mixed Vegetables and Potatoes Savoyarde

or

Beef Stroganoff

served with Yellow Rice

or

Indian Chicken Curry
served with Yellow Rice and Naan Bread

or

Gaeng Som Pak Ruam Goong Sod
(Spicy Sour Soup with Mixed Vegetables and Prawns)

Moo Tod Krailem

(Stir-fried Pork with Garlic and Pepper Sauce)
Pla Phad Preow Wan

(Deep-fried Fish Fillet with Pineapple, Bell Pepper,
Spring Onion, Cucumber and Tomato)

Dessert of the Day - 50 baht

or
Choose from our A la Carte Dessert for 10% off

F&B MORSELS



Khun Laak

Thank you for your positive response to our new Thai Menu, which we will continue to develop and make any necessary changes. One comment we've had from some Members is that under the heading of 'vegetables' we have many dishes that contain meat and fish. We are using the traditional Thai categorisation of items, where under 'vegetables' we put all dishes that mainly consist of vegetables. Some Members have requested that we start having vegetarian dishes; this we will try to fulfil in the future with a small vegetarian menu.

On the 5th November, we had a very well-attended gourmet/wine dinner. The whole kitchen was very pleased with the fantastic feedback we got from the participants. As previously stated, we planned to make the gourmet dinner a bi-monthly event, but due to Christmas and New Year, we will not have our next gourmet dinner before the end of January. By then, we hope even more Members will join us.

Our Saturday and Sunday brunch is starting to pick up and sometimes we may modify them to reflect different seasonal or topical themes. New Year's Day will see a special Hangover Brunch with Bloody Marys for those who championed the Club the night before, so this special Brunch will be worth having!

December is a busy month with the Christmas Luncheon, Ball, Kids' Party, and the other events planned. We are doing our very best to maximise quality and service, and I hope to see you all many times during the month!

Finally, time is limited for placing your own Christmas food order from the Club. As usual we have everything you need for the perfect Christmas dinner, so please see the magazine's insert.

I hope you and your families all have a delicious Christmas!



The British Club is introducing Set Menus Changes every week

Modern European Dining Set A 29th November - 15th December

Starters

Chef's Soup of the Day
75

*Crab Meat and Pomelo Salad
with Thousand Island Dressing*
185

Main Courses

*Red Snapper and Sea-Bass Meunière with Capers
and Olive Butter Sauce, French Beans, Carrots,
Asparagus, Zucchini, Leeks and Potatoes Confit*
320

*Braised New Zealand Lamb Shank with Rosemary and
Thyme Sauce, served with French Beans and New Potatoes*
350

*Crispy Glazed Duck Breast with Green Pepper Sauce,
Red Cabbage Jam and Croquette Potatoes*
285

Dessert

Dessert of the Day
95

Modern European Dining Set B 16th - 31st December

Starters

Chef's Soup of the Day
75

*Tuna and Scallop Carpaccio
with Rocket Salad and Tarragon Aioli*
185

Main Courses

*Baked Whole Rainbow Trout with Capers Almond and
Amaretto Meunière Sauce, served with Broccoli,
Carrots and Garlic Mashed Potatoes*
285

*Seafood Risotto with Parmesan and Rocket Leaves,
dressed with Pesto*
220

*Roasted Herb and Garlic Lamb Chops with Lemon Grass
and Mint Sauce, served with Roast Vegetables
and Garlic Mashed Potatoes*
550

Dessert

Dessert of the Day
95

Watercolour Workshops

With Louise Truslow



Starting in January Louise will be running monthly workshops suitable both for beginners and those wishing to refresh their skills.

January 22nd

February 12th

March 12th

April 23rd

May 21st

Join a single workshop or the whole course!

B2,400 per day - including lunch and refreshments.

Sign up at Reception.

For more information email: louise@louisetruslow.com

INTRODUCING: *Simon Causton*



I am very proud to take up the role of Events and Sales Manager at the Club, and I plan to offer a plethora of activities and events that will meet every Member's need. It will be an exciting challenge that I am sure will be enjoyable for all involved. The Club is a Bangkok institution that should be the heart of the expat community in Thailand. I have many ideas but foremost I would like to stress that '*Evolution not Revolution*' is the ethos I see most fit for the Club. There a tradition of quality and excellence at the Club that must be maintained with events that reflect Britishness within Bangkok's expat community, though personally I believe there is also some room for Zeitgeist! In the coming days I shall talk to as many Members as possible to gauge their varying wants and desires and will follow up with a full census allowing me to design a programme of events to embrace the needs of all our Members.

I was born and raised in Hong Kong, Indonesia and Thailand. Many of my formative years were spent at various clubs so I have grown up knowing their immense value to expat communities. I graduated with a degree in Hotel and Restaurant Management in Oxford and joined Harrods straight after university. After 2 years in restaurant and event roles, I left to join the high profile Chelsea Lifestyle Management Company, organizing my clients' day-to-day lives from the mundane to the extraordinary. In 2007 I returned to Asia, and for 3 years have been working in the textiles industry with a heavy emphasis on sales, so I am overjoyed to be able to get back into the events and hospitality industry.

Please feel free to come to me with any suggestions and comments you may have on what you think the Club should be providing in terms of events and activities. Knowing what the Members want is the all-important first stage.

LAWN TESTING WITH WINE



There is something intrinsically therapeutic about being outside at dusk, under a clear sky, Silom grumbling in the background, and sampling the bright and sharp tones of a cold Sauvignon Blanc as it gnaws at the taste-buds. When the impressions are disturbed by mushroom vol-au-vents, baby quiche or even a skewer of chicken saté, the effect is fundamentally invigorating.



More companies than usual were offering their wares at the Halloween wine-tasting, held on the front lawn to accommodate the handsome turnout. Kids in brilliant costumes kept whizzing out from the shadows to check on their parents, only to disappear back to their festive event.

The wines and canapés were splendid, and the lawn passed with flying colours..



TRICK OR TREAT INDEED!

The trick was magic, the treat was the party

It was a dark and stormy night....., but no, actually, it wasn't. It was, in fact, a warm balmy evening and the front lawn of the Club was decked out with tables and tarpaulins (in case of dark and stormy weather) for the wine-tasting. A great diversion for parents whilst their kids, in a formidable range of costumes, gathered in the Sala behind for the annual Halloween party.

Of course, Halloween is a dialectal spelling for and from All Hallows Even, being the night before All Saints (Hallows) Day. A festival of ancient Roman/Celtic/Catholic origin, it celebrated the end of the light part of the year and the arrival of the dark part, as well as commemoration of (and possible communion with) departed souls still to reach heaven. The practice of trick or treating came from those wearing grotesque clothing going round houses warning of tricks (mischief) if treats (rewards) were not provided in return for prayers to those departed.

Oblivious to the origins of Halloween, over 60 kids were in high spirits and ghoulish kits, some sporting delicate pictorials, others unrecognisable under heavy make-up and startling outfits. There was much floating around issuing aural and visual shocks in abundance and enjoying humourous exchanges. There was a fine selection of food, a magic show, tantalising toffee apples, jolly awkward jelly, costume contest, games and more.

A thoroughly enjoyable evening for all.







THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

BANGKOK'S 4TH POLAR SWIM *at the British Club*

1ST JANUARY 2011

10 AM - 1 PM

SWIMMING POOL, THE BRITISH CLUB
FREE OF CHARGE!

**There is no cost for this event, however,
all food & beverages will be charged to your account.**

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE CHILDREN....

By Susie

What a fantastic opportunity and privilege it is to share here what I do when I'm not colouring and pasting crafts with the children here on Sundays! Truth be revealed - I am colouring and pasting crafts with other children! Ha!

When Jesper asked me to write this short bit about my profession, I tried hard to figure out how to compile 22 years of full-time volunteer work and all my experiences! I concluded that if I could leave my readers with just one thought, reflection or contemplation, that it would be this: **It's All About The Children!**



Our small team has been very involved with children at the **Child Protection Foundation of Thailand** for the last 17 years! Weekly, we procure fresh fruits and vegetables from local markets and deliver them to the centre in Lad Prao. We visit their other centre in Samut Songkram bi-weekly where we give exciting and uplifting motivational classes, help them with their homework, offer a listening ear (or a counselling tongue!), play with the little ones, and end our day with a rousing session of field games and of course, COLOURING AND PASTING CRAFTS! Part of our team spends time with the staff and administrators who so graciously and sincerely commit their time and hearts to these children!



The **Children's Hospital**, also known as the **Queen Sirikit National Institute of Child Health**, holds a more special place in my heart! Weekly, we spend time there with the cancer and other terminally ill children in the ward, and work towards getting toys and Arts & Crafts supplies, while spreading a little happiness amongst these very precious and brave children! We try to not miss festive or special days and also visit similar children's wards to extend our "Happiness" programmes at **Siriraj Hospital** monthly and **Chulalongkorn Hospital** on festive or special holidays!

CONNECTING THE DOTS

We work with various schools both in Bangkok and upcountry since our introduction by the Ministry of Education, and each year we conduct at least 4 to 6 Motivational Camps for poorer schools upcountry.



These include rousing game stations for object lessons on motivation, conversational English classes, music drama and various social skills; all are part of our Value Educational Curriculum. Some of us also meet with teachers, principals and school administrators to offer resources, teaching tips and support to these dedicated people.

For the past 2 years, I have been invited to a few international schools to share lessons on Community Service as part of "experiential training" in today's context of High School community hours. As a team, we have made presentations on Drug Awareness, Community Service and Bullying In Schools as well! I then decided to try to "connect the kids", through networking with schools by teaching students how to reach out to others in their community - the needy, the sick and the underprivileged children! So far, the reactions have been heart-warming!

In closing, I want to extend a very special "Thank You" to the British Club Bangkok, for having always been a friend in, and supporting, our community endeavours! When we met William Penttermann ten years ago at a birthday party at the Club, we also met various Members, Barry Osborne and the staff of the British Club Bangkok, all of whom have supported and helped our work, and become friends as well. Truly, our work would not be possible without such like-minded individuals, and I take every pleasure in knowing you all, especially your children!

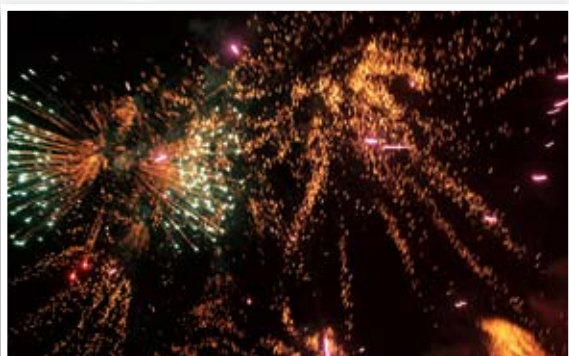


"While we try to teach our children all about life, Our children teach us what life is all about."

~Angela Schwindt

BURN AND DESTROY!

Remembering Guy Fawkes



A huge number of Members, families and friends converged on the Club for the annual Guy Fawkes celebration. Not that it is he who is being celebrated, for he wished to rid England of its Protestant King James 1 and restore Catholicism through a change in the monarchy. His quest is largely forgotten in deference to the annual opportunity to gather in the evening, as the year is turning toward winter, and have an excellent party with fireworks and a roaring fire!

The back lawn filled up fast and everyone got down to some serious appreciation of the magnificent spread laid on by Khun Laak and her team. The bar was flat out, there was carvery, barbecue, roast spuds, broccoli cheese, some particularly yummy gammon, salmon, salads, desserts, and much more. The kids were having a great time with games and the bouncy castle, even a bit of football, and making guys for the bonfire.

After dusk, a Thai group in fluorescent pink took the stage and went through a variety of acts from slicing cucumber on a stomach to breaking neon tubes over the head and diving through a ring of fire, all accompanied by loud rural techno beat. And then the fireworks, phew! They started with a bang, went with a whoooooosh, and ended with a skyful of exploding colours, at times like a scattering of nuclear pixels. The kids, and much of the adult entourage, then moved to the car park area where a symbolic Guy was burnt with the kids offerings whilst The British Club Bangkok was spelt out in lights and sparklers.

It was a fabulous fantastic party, thanks to the Club, staff, all those present, and to Guy Fawkes and the failure of his quest.





THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

Christmas Day Luncheon



Saturday December 25th 2010
The Verandah Restaurant & Churchill Bar
Buffet 950 baht/person 450 baht/children under 12 years



189 Suriwongse Road, Bangkok 10500

Tel: 0 2234 0247

info@britishclubbangkok.org

Please sign up at Reception



NUGGETS

Carving terminology

The festive season triumphs in awarding top priority to stomach repletion, with choice occasions for meals like banquets which provide an excuse to sample exotic foods, where many like to impress friends with their provision of less mainstream animals. Whilst modern hedonism often precludes the need for any ritualised art in food delivery, it was not always so.



Fifty years ago, there was a skill perceived in the carving of animals, to minimise waste and maximise the pleasure in, and facility of, eating their meat. There was a defined order of dissection, and even a correct manner for sharpening the knife with a steel. This afforded the ability to award the most suitable parts of the creature to those most adept at consuming them, peaking their culinary pleasures.

Five hundred years ago, in the days when we imagine snarling ogres tearing cooked meats apart with their incisors, there was a delicacy to carving which was reflected in the English language which demanded different terminology for carving different animals. So whereas nowadays we carve a turkey, back then The Book of Kervinge (pub 1508) noted that one would: 'spoil a hen', 'rear a goose', 'break a deer', 'wing a partridge', 'thigh a pigeon', 'tranch a sturgeon', 'side a haddock', 'chine a salmon', or even 'unlace a coney'. And those with more gusto would, no doubt, eagerly 'splat a pike', 'dismember a heron', or even 'disfigure a peacock'.

Of course in 1508 there was no special term for turkey, as there was still a couple of hundred years before the discovery of North America and the turkeys its forests concealed. Season's Greetings to all!!

With many thanks to Ben Schott and Dickie Whitworth

RULES BRITANNIAE!

A monthly peek into our rulebook for things you probably did not know!

FAMILY FROM ABROAD

CHRISTMAS IS A GREAT TIME TO REMIND YOU.....

that if you have parents or siblings coming to Bangkok on holiday, they can get free use of the Club for up to 30 days. Rule 58 (b) allows this.

Simply take them to Reception and they can be granted a temporary membership card for their period of stay. No photographs or membership forms required. F&B will then be charged to your account or their credit card.

EMAILS

The Club sends out emails to Members at least twice a week. If you are not receiving them, please send an email to membership@britishclubbangkok.org today to get your email address(es) updated.

Paul Cheesman

Honorary Secretary

BCB Committee 2010-2011

BC CALENDAR - DECEMBER 2010

MONDAY



TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THU

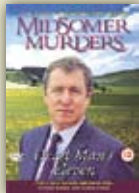
Tennis Graded Championships

All day

Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm

Beer Garden
5.30pm

Monday Night Club
Dead Man's Eleven
Wordsworth Lounge 7pm



Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm

Beer Garden
5.30pm

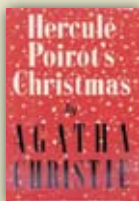
Monday Night Club
The Last Enemy
Wordsworth Lounge 7pm



Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm

Beer Garden
5.30pm

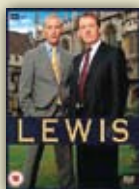
Monday Night Club
Hercule Poirot's Christmas
Wordsworth Lounge 7pm



Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm

Beer Garden
5.30pm

Monday Night Club
Reputation
Wordsworth Lounge 7pm



Ladies Mix-In
Margaritas
9am

Fitball
10:30am

Squash Mix-In
5pm-7pm

Beer Garden
5.30pm

Senior Football
7pm

Ladies Mix-In
8 am

Fitball
10:30am

Squash Mix-In
5pm-7pm

Beer Garden
5.30pm

Christmas Bar Quiz
7.30pm

Ladies Mix-In
8 am

Fitball
10:30am

Squash Mix-In
5pm-7pm

Beer Garden
5.30pm

Senior Football
7pm

Ladies Mix-In
8 am

Fitball
10:30am

Squash Mix-In
5pm-7pm

Beer Garden
5.30pm

Senior Football
7pm

Paella & Sangria Special

All day



BCB Balut Shield
Wordsworth Lounge
7.05pm

Beer Garden
5.30pm

Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm

Paella & Sangria Special

All day



Christmas Carols
6pm-9.30pm

Beer Garden
5.30pm

Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm

Paella & Sangria Special

All day



Beer Garden
5.30pm

BCB Balut Shield
Wordsworth Lounge
7.05pm

Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm

Paella & Sangria Special

All day



Beer Garden
5.30pm

Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm

Paella & Sangria Special

All day



Beer Garden
5.30pm

Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm

Ladies Mix-In
8 am

Fitball
10:30am

Beer Garden
5.30pm

Squash Mix-In
5pm-7pm

Ladies Mix-In
8 am

Fitball
10:30am

Beer Garden
5.30pm

Squash Mix-In
5pm-7pm

Ladies Mix-In
8 am

Fitball
10:30am

Beer Garden
5.30pm

Squash Mix-In
5pm-7pm

Ladies Mix-In
8 am

Fitball
10:30am

Squash Mix-In
5pm-7pm

Beer Garden
5.30pm

Ladies Mix-In
8 am

Fitball
10:30am

Squash Mix-In
5pm-7pm

Beer Garden
5.30pm

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
 2	 3 Junior Swimming 3pm-5pm  Beer Garden 5.30pm Kids Christmas Ball 7pm  Fashion Show & Perfume Testing 7pm  Tennis Mix-In 7pm-10pm	 4 Junior Tennis  Junior Swimming Weekend Brunch 11am-3pm Singapore Cricket Club Tennis Match 3pm   Junior Cricket 4pm-6pm	5 Weekend Brunch 11am-3pm Tennis Graded Championships All day  Bridge Surawongse Room 2:30pm  Yoga 3 pm
 9	 10 Junior Swimming 3pm-5pm  Beer Garden 5.30pm  Tennis Mix-In 7pm-10pm	 11 Junior Tennis  Junior Swimming Weekend Brunch 11am-3pm Christmas Ball 2010 7pm 	12 Weekend Brunch 11am-3pm  Bridge Surawongse Room 2:30pm  Swimming Gala 2 pm-3.30pm  Yoga 3 pm
 16	 17 Junior Swimming 3pm-5pm Christmas Wine Tasting 2010 Front Lawn 6pm-9pm   Beer Garden 5.30pm  Tennis Mix-In 7pm-10pm	 18 Junior Tennis  Junior Swimming Weekend Brunch 11am-3pm  Junior Cricket 4pm-6pm 	19 Weekend Brunch 11am-3pm  Bridge Surawongse Room 2:30pm  Yoga 3 pm
 23	 24 Junior Swimming 3pm-5pm  Beer Garden 5.30pm  Tennis Mix-In 7pm-10pm 	25 Christmas Day  Junior Tennis  Junior Swimming Christmas Day Luncheon 11am  Junior Cricket 4pm-6pm 	26 Boxing Day Weekend Brunch 11am-3pm  Yoga 3 pm 
 30	 31 Junior Swimming 3pm-5pm New Year's Eve Brunch with Champagne 11am-3pm  Beer Garden 5.30pm  Music At Dusk Poolside 6.30pm New Year's Eve Party 8pm-2am	1 New Year's Day  Junior Tennis  Polar Swim 10am-1pm  Junior Swimming Special Hangover Brunch 11am-3pm  Junior Cricket 4pm-6pm 	2 Weekend Brunch 11am-3pm Kids Activities 11am-3pm  Bridge Surawongse Room 2:30pm  Yoga 3 pm

PAST PARTICIPLE

Auspicious Melioris Ævi

By Paul Cheesman



We continue our peek into the Club's past with a look at events of 1958 ...

1 1958 was another big year for Naval visits jointly organised with the Bangkok Naval Association. As well as three ships we also entertained the band of the Royal Marines, or rather they entertained us (see below).

In January HMS Alert visited again accompanied by HMS Cheviot, a CH Class destroyer and in May we had the honour of HMS Cardigan Bay. HMS Cheviot under the command of Captain W.D. O'Brien gave us a plaque which is still in the Churchill Bar. Whilst the ship was not famous its Leading Radio Operator, Preston E. Willson (known as 'Tugg'), was to become the face of the Royal Navy's recruitment posters for the next decade!

2 In April, the Committee decided that candidates for membership should not only complete an application form and be interviewed by said Committee but also be posted on the Club notice board for four weeks between committees ahead of election, to ensure all Members were aware of who was applying. After election the new Member was then registered in the Official Members Record book (which we still have) by our Permanent Assistant Secretary.

3 On the evening of Sunday 20th April, the British Club Bangkok played host to the Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines (Far East Station) conducted by Band Sergeant R.J. West. Their programme of some sixteen tunes started with the Overture to the 'Caliph of Baghdad' by François-Adrien Boieldieu, included 'Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring' with a trumpet solo by Jack Lee, the song 'Oklahoma' by Rodgers and Hammerstein, and concluded with Elgar's 'Pomp and Circumstance No.4'. Sounds like it was a great evening.

4 In May the Club agreed to invite the Chaplain of Christ Church, the Reverend E. James Pulman, to become an Honorary Member. Although this ceased upon his leaving in 1962, it was re-enacted in 1963 when the post was upgraded to Vicar, and the Vicar of Christ Church has been an Honorary Member ever since.

5 1958 was a good year for inter-club sports matches playing darts, tennis and billiards against a number of local institutions including The Old England Students Association under Royal Patronage (OESA), and the late lamented Silom Club. Sadly the minutes do not record who won any these matches other than that our Tennis Section was thrashed by the OESA whilst playing for the Evans Cup!



A lot of pomp and circumstance!

The author is currently Honorary Secretary of the Club.

How to cope with your beloved, menopausal wife?



One day I was surprised by a young lady visiting my menopause clinic. She looked healthy and lively and it seemed to me that she had not come to the right place. So I asked her “Are you sure you need my help?” She said “No, it’s not me, it’s my mom”. Then she started her story that her mother was approaching the menopause. She was already experiencing flushes and suffered from interrupted sleep. And she was becoming more irritable, cranky and fussy which she wasn’t aware of and refused to seek medical attention. Eventually, all the family members got together to plan a conspiracy to get mom to hospital. The daughter tricked her mom in to seeing me by requesting her as an escort for herself. And it took me a long time and a lot of effort to get her to realise what she had been going through during her transition, to accept the truth and to accept that she needed therapy.

In fact, most women who live beyond their menopausal age experience some disturbing menopausal symptoms. Biologically, the symptoms are believed to be associated with fluctuations in estrogen levels during menopausal transition. The extreme change in the sex hormone brings with it many symptoms, such as hot flushes, sleeplessness and mood swings. This affects their quality of life by worsening family relationships, reducing their working efficiency and

lowering self-esteem. Symptom severity and frequency vary from woman to woman. The symptoms can also be exacerbated by various aggravating factors such as, an increase in ambient temperature, stressful situations, eating hot or spicy food and drinking too much caffeine or alcoholic. Individual perspectives on life and the world around are another crucial underlying condition determining a person’s vulnerability. Those who are more optimistic and let things go easily are less prone to external stimuli than women who are the pessimistic, type A personality, perfectionist, deadline style, only-the-paranoid-survive ideology and never-give-up mindset.

Three approaches to help women cope during this phase of their lives

- 1) hormonal stabilisation
- 2) stress management
- 3) changes in outlook for the short-term, medium-term and long-term.

To achieve a desirable outcome good cooperation with an experienced doctor and an understanding family are essential. Family members should try to provide help by understanding, empathizing and being patient. A troubled mom needs family psychological support, encouragement and forgiveness.

It is a special time when women greatly need physical and psychological attention, in a similar way that they do during puberty, pregnancy and postpartum. The menopause seems to be another challenge in life to test the true meaning of ‘family’ in other words “everyone is in the same boat”. For many families it is a chaotic period when all the members need to pull together to strengthen their bond and reach a new level of unbreakable and everlasting understanding and love.



Experience the true joys of the festive season with the orchestra and junior choir of Shrewsbury International School Bangkok

A Celebration of
Christmas

Wednesday 9th December

The British Club, Silom Soi 18

Mince pies and mulled wine from 5.45pm

Music programme from 6.00pm

Shrewsbury International School, Bangkok

Tel: 02 675 1888 email: heather.p@shrewsbury.ac.th

www.shrewsbury.ac.th

Parking at the British Club is available only to members. Alternative parking is available at the Narai Hotel (THB50/hr)

SPORT & LEISURE

By Reed Passmore



Bangkok Patana School

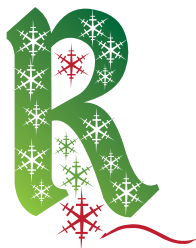
*The British International School in Thailand
Established 1957*



Merry Christmas everyone, I hope you all have a great holiday and plenty of time to relax, party, eat, drink and **still** stay healthy.



Everyone is enjoying the cooler weather poolside which had a direct impact on the Salas being busy again although swimming lessons have dropped slightly with many of us shivering in the water! (just wait for the Polar Swim on 1st January)



Races: Swimming Gala 12th November – This is set up so many of you can relax poolside after the BC Ball – starts at 2pm.



Remember the pool will be closed from 2-4pm for the Swimming Gala.



Young Members are enjoying more junior activities than ever such as netball, cricket, swimming, tennis, squash and Brazilian soccer in January.

C

Children's Christmas party 18th December – 2pm on the back lawn, see you there!

H

Howzat! – Junior Cricket Saturday 4-5pm
(No cricket on 11th December)

R

Run-Jump-Shoot-Catch – Junior Netball: Saturday 4th December – Back lawn 3-4pm. Ages 6 to 12yrs.

I

In February we will again run a full month of different activities for children on Sundays. Squash, rugby, tennis and swimming.

S

Soccer: Brazilian Soccer Schools start junior coaching in January. Must sign up in advance.

T

'T'is the season to be merry!! 'Tis the season to also put on a few pounds so look after yourself over the Christmas season. Set up New Year's goals now and start the New Year on a high!

M

Morning Activities: Ladies tennis Tuesdays and Thursdays, Fitball Tuesday and Fridays.

A

All Members and their guests are invited to the Australia Day BBQ – January 29th at the British Club. There will be a party on the back lawn with back yard cricket, zinc cream, beer and burnt snags.

S

Seasons Greetings – This is the final Outpost for 2010, so Seasons Greetings and a very Happy & Prosperous New Year to everyone!





THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

The Verandah *Brunch*

Saturday & Sunday

11.00am - 3.00pm

All you can eat @ Baht 450

Plus free flow wine & beer @ Baht 765

Children's Brunch @ Baht 250

Weeekend Brunch Menu Highlights

Appetisers

Canapes Corner

Breakfast Selection

Live Station with Carvery

Pasta Station

Main Entrees

Dessert and Fruits



HAPPY HOUR

Everyday 5.30pm - 7.30pm



1 pint Tiger

1/2 pint Tiger

1 pint Heineken

1/2 pint Heineken

1 pint Tetley's

1/2 pint Tetley's

Beer Lao Regular Bottle

Beer Lao Dark Bottle

Gin, Whisky and Vodka Glass

House Wine Glass

55 THB

30 THB

70 THB

45 THB

115 THB

60 THB

65 THB

90 THB

45 THB

65 THB



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

Christmas *Wine Tasting*

December 17th, 2010 from 6:00 -9:00 pm

British Club Bangkok, Suriwongse Room

50Baht for Member

150 Baht for Guest/Non-Member



TENNIS

By Reed Passmore

Dear Members,

Tennis, Tennis, Tennis. You wanted more tennis? – You got it! Tennis activities have increased and numbers are up and growing which is great.

Last month we had Ladies Mix-In Margaritas, Patana teachers invite, Interclub invite and our regular weekly activities. On 10 November we invited Patana teachers to join our Wednesday mix-in, so with 12 of them and 20 of us we had a huge turnout with many Members and teachers staying late into the night. Thank you to all for making this a great social mix-in with some new faces.

December starts with a huge long week of tennis:

Wednesday 1st – December/January league starts,

Saturday 4th – Friendly match against Singapore Cricket Club,

Sunday 5th – First day of graded Championship,

Monday 6th – Finals of Graded Championship.

The Singapore Cricket Club is touring and playing both the BC and RBSC. This is a social match with buffet dinner poolside. It starts at 3pm; players MUST confirm as only 16 can play. Bt300 per person.



Shrewsbury International School and the British Club—an ace tennis partnership



Graded Championships: This is a great event for ALL players as players are grouped into similar pools. Sunday evening we will have a Mexican buffet, Tiger beer and Margaritas for all players. Bt400 per person includes matches, buffet and Margaritas.

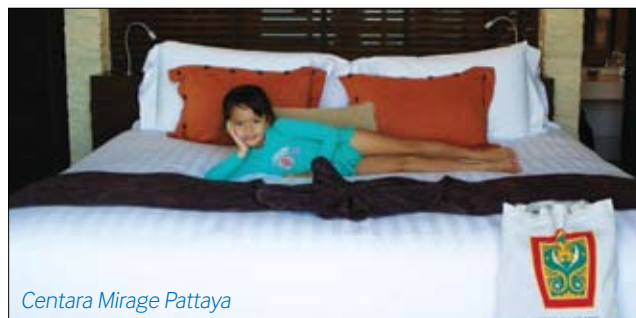
Sunday 5th – Matches all day
– Buffet dinner, drinks and live music.

Monday 6th – Graded Championship Finals
– Awards and drinks

January: Tour north to Chiang Mai with Squash, Cricket, Golf and Tennis. Family weekend away.



James, Nisa and Gabbie enjoying a weekend away compliments of the great prizes won during the BC Tennis Championships.



TENNIS ETIQUETTE

When in doubt, call it "in"

If there is any doubt, give the call to your opponent. If you honestly can't see a call, you may ask your opponent if they saw the ball. If they saw the ball, they should make the call. If they didn't, then you must give them the call.

Goodbye 2010 and hello 2011!

SQUASHY BITS

by Bruce Madge <b_madge@hotmail.com>

This Month, Squashy Bits Involves Rod Carter and Shopping

The identity of Rod Carter is a mystery. Some say he was the first player ever to win this competition, which sounds



logical to me. Others claim he was the very first person ever to play squash at the British Club along with some other chap, who sadly met his demise in a freak yachting accident. Another theory is that he was the first man in the entire world ever to play the game of squash. Peter Corney made this assertion and it sounds like utter tripe to me! He often makes ridiculous claims like this in order to sound clever; he's from Tasmania. Anyway, I tried to research the origins and history of Rod Carter, but to no avail, so you'll have to make up your own mind. Assuming you are interested, that is. If not, just forget it!



Details of the Rod Carter are: it's an open affair so we send out invitations to squash clubs all over Bangkok. It attracts all the top players because it's just so wonderful and exciting, **and** there's prize money, vouchers and trophies on offer. We usually get 40-60 entrants, it takes place over a few weeks, and has a Cup and Plate side to it.



But this year the numbers were down to just over 30. Why? The teachers from Pattana didn't come as they were all in the bathroom, and very few of the Vajiravudh College squash boys came this year as it was exam time, apparently. They usually enter in a group of about a dozen, and Bob Van Es 'played'



with one of them last year and gave him a cuddle during the pre-match photo shoot. Many of the lads from Vajiravudh College are pretty good players and last year's Plate Final was contested by two of them. They certainly are very noticeable in their tight, blue shorts and white t-shirts, but not so much of that on display this year. Peter was disappointed. In addition, only a few BCB Members entered. Again, very disappointing. Lots of excuses: can't remember where the BCB is located; my wife ate my racket; both my arms have fallen off; my head's about to explode; I'm in the middle of adopting a giraffe; and even this one, the most outrageous of all, the most pathetic, spurious, and crass: "I'm going shopping with the Mrs!" Disgusting.

So fewer came, but the fun was its usual fun, as fun always is. Peter did a great job with the organisation. Amnart, from



the gym, was very helpful on the opening night welcoming the players and taking their money. Loft Door helped out with the marking as did Bob and Nan. Lots of good matches. Great competition. Even Den So did quite well getting to the



quarter-finals of the Plate by defeating Eric from the RSBC, who must surely be the most irritating individual in the entire world; those who have come into contact with him will understand what I mean; those who haven't are very lucky. The BCB players all did a pretty good job with David knocking me out in the quarters of the Plate and then only narrowly losing in the semi. Bob also got to the quarters of the Plate, as did Kitty, but ex-Capt Neil met Poowis, the Thai number 2, in the semi of the Cup so got thrashed. No real major incidents save for a cat defecating in Den's bag, and Nan saying she prefers Haroon to him as she likes his hair! H, by the way, was nowhere to be seen during the entire comp.

Finals took place on a Saturday lunchtime with Phakapon in his oh-so-very-tight, blue shorts, and white t-shirt (Peter was pleased about this) meeting his teacher Krit in the Plate Final, and Win and Poowis from the RSBC competing in the Cup Final. This is what Peter reported via email:

Dear All,

In the Plate event Phakaphon defeated Krit 3-2 in a hard fought and very close match. This is the second year in a row that Phakaphon has won the Plate. (I think I love him!) Chatchawin defeated Poowis 3-0 in an entertaining match, in which, after the first, close game, the fitness of Chatchawin helped him to continue to play at a high standard in which he did not make one unforced error (Poowis isn't bothered, he's got a hot chick).

A big Thank You to all those who participated in the Rod Carter, and to all those who helped in marking the matches, and to those who turned up on final day to watch.

*Thank you to Food-by-phone and Supersports for sponsorship of the event. **Bruce Madge** won the lucky draw of 4,000 baht and five Foodbyphone vouchers were given out to other lucky winners.*

*Hope to see you all next year.
Warmest regards, Peter Corney*

So that's that: Phakaphon is two times Plate Champion, and Win regains his Cup Title. Plenty turned up to watch the finals, and we had beers, sarnies and chips afterwards. Prize monies, vouchers, and trophies were handed out by Peter. A few fortunate souls also got a voucher, and I won 4000 baht cash, 2K of which I gave to my Doris so she could take me out for dinner.

The next competition is the Tony Austin Over-45s taking place in December. Get your entry in - it really is fun!

And finally, there have been some complaints sent in to the Club/Outpost. Two moans actually. One was concerning the Female Rugby Section referring to one of its players as a Hooker when she was, in fact, a Prop Forward! Grave. Very grave. How dare they? Well, they had to write a retraction, they did. And say they were very sorry. And quite right. Calling her a Hooker? Shocking! Don't they know the word has more than one meaning? And the other complaint came in from Big C about the use of its logo in October's Bits. And yes, it was inappropriate; we should have used a photo of any old generic shop or market. Thus, on behalf of Squashy Bits, Outpost and The BCB, I apologise for that.

However, as for apologising for the implication/suggestion/idea/opinion that going shopping at Big C with the Mrs is boring, that's not going to happen. Because it is; it's utterly dull; terribly so. As is shopping with the Mrs at any supermarket, shopping mall, department store or market. They're all tedious. Any bloke in the world can attest to that! I mean, have you ever heard any fellow say: "Had a great trip to the supermarket with the Mrs the other day. Fantastic it was"? No! And you're never going to hear a chap state: "Going shopping for groceries on Sunday. Going with the wife and kids. Can't wait." Come On! Get Real! Any bloke that considers this kind of activity exciting must lead a very dull life indeed. (Apparently our ex-Captain Neil really enjoys a family trip to the local SaveHerCenter. I rest my case!) Look, the only time a shopping trip with the Mrs could ever be considered exciting is if she said one day: "Hey Honey, Daddy has just given me 20 million baht. How about we go to Paragon and I blow the lot on you, on designer clothes, new watches, IT stuff, you know that new 100,000 baht laptop you want, a iPhone4, a new BMW? And what's left you can keep. What do you say, darling?" Now that would be interesting. And even then, I reckon most men would reply: "You have a day at the Spa, love. I'll go alone."

Until supermarkets become exciting.....





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British Club Beer Garden
Happy Hour from 5.30PM - 7.30 PM

Front Lawn



Monday - Friday

HARD BALLS

By Squire Legge



It's proving more difficult to get the BC 2010/11 cricket season going than imagined, mainly because of the unpredictable availability of the grounds. However, by the time you read this, nets will have started on 14th November and hopefully at least one match will have been lined up before the holiday season. Please see Club Notice Board for details.

The annual tour to Chiang Mai is confirmed for the weekend of 29th/30th January, a tour that has become increasingly popular in recent years, which is joined by the squash and tennis sections. Last year almost 50 Club Members and families joined in the fun.

We play two games of cricket, one a warm-up match which gives everyone a chance of a workout, and then the keenly-contested Dick Wood Cup first played on 4th April 1982. Dick was a delightful 'old fart' on his own admission, a relic from a now almost extinct generation of expats who found romance and adventure in a remote and exotic Far East. Dick was the sort of character you would expect to find in any novel featuring sports clubs during colonial times. He could be found sitting on the veranda or at the bar with his drink, wearing his blazer and cap to watch the cricket ... happily telling raunchy tales of bygone days to anyone with the time of day to listen. He was instantly an essential attraction of our wonderful twice-yearly cricket tours to Chiang Mai over the next decade.

Dick loved his cricket and the camaraderie of cricketers, and took a liking to the slightly-mad BC team who seemed to enjoy their cricket all the more the worse we got beaten. In 1983 he presented the DICK WOOD CUP to be played annually between the CMGC and the BC. In his usual lovable, stuffy, old-fashioned way, he insisted that it must be a "proper" cricket match ("none of this 25 overs nonsense"), played seriously "in whites". For many years this game was a highlight of our season and Dick was always on hand to present his trophy to the winners until December 2002 when he passed away peacefully at the age

of 86. He rests in the Foreign Cemetery immediately adjoining the cricket ground and no doubt enjoys our return each year.

Included here are pictures of our last outing with Dick, the very first tour to Chiang Mai and last year's victorious team. We have won the DWC for the last two seasons ... a rare run of success!

Anyone interested in joining the tour should contact Jack Dunford (jack@tbbc.org)



BCGS GOLFING NEWS

By Jack O'Flynn

Monthly Stableford, Subhapruek GC: Sunday 10 October 2010

This month's Stableford competition provided us with a course slowly returning to something like its usual first-rate condition. Together with minimum delays on the course, the round proved mostly enjoyable for the four groups who set off.

Those in the winning frame were Peter B, Steve W, Marcus P and Ray Bloom for achieving near pins, James Fielder for the longest drive, and Jack O for the longest putt.



Peter Bond who came in with a whopping 41 points to take first prize (1). The handicap secretary will no doubt be taking careful note!

October Medal, The Royal GC: Sunday 17 October 2010

Looking somewhat perplexed on a very damp and unappealing morning, these hardy souls set out to compete for the October monthly Medal (2). Taking it all in good spirits but seemingly not fancying his chances very much, Andrew's gesture says it all, or perhaps he was referring to his forthcoming singles knock-out match with Mike S! (3).



Included on the field today were guests Alex, as well as Peter and Mary Brown and son Adam, returning to the golfing scene after a lengthy absence.

In spite of the weather and state of the course, scoring was surprisingly good. Firstly, the 'technical' prizes went to Andrew, Tracy, Ray B and Bryan Dodd for near pins; Peter Clark and Mary Brown for the longest drives and Mike S for the longest putt.

The final result in Flight 'B' couldn't have been any closer with both Karen C and Jack O returning identical scores

of gross 86 (net 67). However, by virtue of a better back nine holes, Jack O triumphed to win his first Medal!



Flight 'A' was similarly closely-contested, but in this instance there was an outright winner. Returning to form with an excellent net 67, John Bell did just enough to edge out Mike S, also playing well but unfortunately one shot adrift. Looking well pleased with their efforts, both John and Jack proudly show off their trophies (4).

A timely return to form for some with the Club Championships just around the corner!!

Club Championships, Springfield Golf and Country Club, Hua Hin Saturday & Sunday 23 and 24 October

The Club Championships are the flagship events in our golfing calendar. As in recent years, the competition was played over two days at Springfield GC in Hua Hin. This year, twenty-seven golfers, including new members Tim and Kirsty Mitchell as well as the Society's ex-captain Maureen Gibson, turned up to compete for the numerous prizes on offer.



And so the 2010 championships got underway. Captain Frank and Peter Clark, both serious contenders, awaited their turn to tee off on the picturesque first hole (5), while some of the ladies took it all in their stride prior to the start (6). Although the course was in great shape, scoring proved difficult on Day 1. Perhaps the heat and a number of very lengthy holes took their toll. Nonetheless, Bryan Dodd, Frank, JC and Tracy were able to maintain their focus and concentration to finish as the early leaders.



To prove that it was not all about golf, a large number of the group met up later in the evening to enjoy some excellent Italian food accompanied by a fair supply of fine red wine (7 & 8). All in moderation, I should add, as the thought of Day 2 was on the minds of most!

It was now a question of focus and stamina. Similar conditions applied on day 2 and again scoring was generally on the high side. But not entirely – John



Carter played well throughout to finish up with the Men's best overall net score while Karen C took the Ladies best net prize. Completing her hat-trick of wins in this competition, Tracy C was crowned Ladies Club Champion for 2010. In the Men's section Bryan Dodd proved too steady on both days finishing with rounds of 79 and 78 to become 2010 Club Champion (9 – 12). **Both were terrific achievements - well done!**



Results in full:	Man	Ladies
Champion	Bryan Dodd	Tracy Carter
Best Net	John Carter	Karen Carter
Runner-up (gross)	Frank Fawkes	Gaew Gale
3rd place (gross)	Peter Clark	Maureen Gibson
1st day best net	Barry Ashman	Belinda Skinner
2nd day best net	David Lamb	Val Ashman

Technicals	Day 1	Day 2
Near pins	Bryan Dodd	Roy Barrett x 2
	John Carter	Ricky Thompson
	Tim Mitchell	Peter Gale
Long Drives	Karen Carter	Kirsty Mitchell
	John Carter	John Carter
Long Putts	Brian Brook	Ricky Thompson

All-in-all, the competition proved most successful and was hugely enjoyable, thanks in most part to Frank and his team for their excellent organisation. Thanks also to David Lamb for organising a splendid meal on Saturday evening, as well as for acting as resident entertainer throughout. And finally a big thanks to all the participants for their efforts in making this another very successful Club Championship.

Useful contacts:

Website: <http://www.bcgolfsociety.com/>

Email: bcgs2002@yahoo.co.uk

Phone: Golf Society Captain, Frank Fawkes - 08 9165 1953

For those interested in a mid-week game of golf

Contact: George Okrasa by email: georgeokrasa@msn.com
or Phone: 08 7081 4975

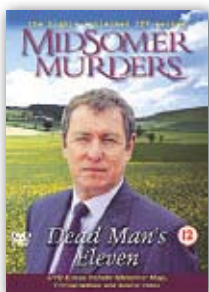
THE MONDAY NIGHT CLUB

**Your weekly chance to sit back and relax
The murder's on us.**

December

7pm in the Wordsworth Lounge.
Full F&B Menu available.

In December we introduce, a little early, our 2011 line-up Midsomer Murders, Inspector Morse, Hercule Poirot and Lewis!

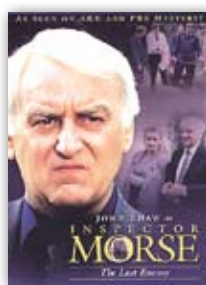


6th Dead Man's Eleven

I say, murdering the captain's wife is just not cricket, it really isn't!

John Nettles is DCI Barnaby with guest stars Robert Hardy, Terence Rigby and Zoe Hart.

"Howzat? Stumped?"



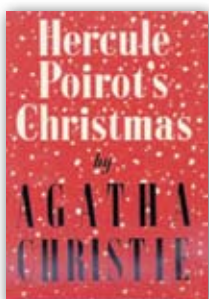
"Is it the right suit?"

13th The Last Enemy

A headless corpse is the key clue in the riddle of the third mile. Yet if you didn't want the body identified, why keep the suit?

John Thaw is DCI Morse with guest stars Barry Foster, Tenniel Evans and Sian Thomas.

TV Movies on the BIG SCREEN

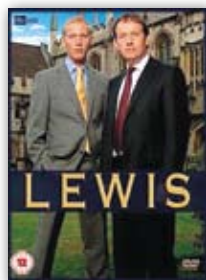


20th Hercule Poirot's Christmas

When the ghost of Christmas Past haunts the present, who knows the yet to be? A good old Christmas Whodunnit!

David Suchet is Hercule Poirot with guest stars Simon Roberts, Brian Gvaspari and Catherine Rabett.

"An early present for the little grey cells"



*"To die, to sleep.
To sleep, perchance
to dream"*

27th Reputation

Six years after Morse died his bagman Robbie Lewis, now an Inspector, returns to Oxford – can he beat Morse's reputation for the number of corpses each episode – you'll have to watch to find out!

Kevin Whateley is Inspector Lewis with guest stars Charlie Cox, Colin Starkey and Jemma Redgrave with Laurence Fox as Sergeant Hathaway.


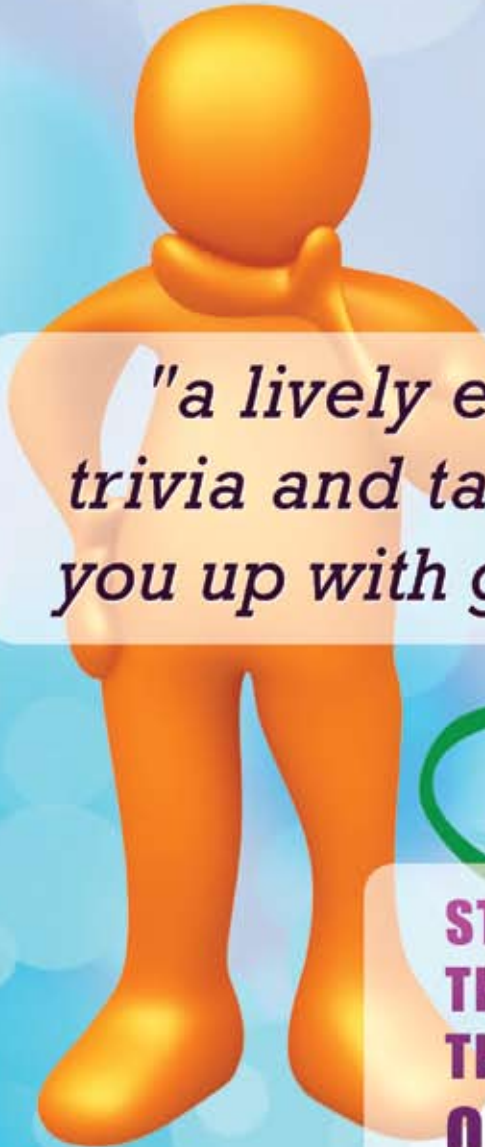
**Mel Blanc, who provided the voice for Bugs Bunny,
is allergic to carrots.**

**YOUR OWN
CINEMA WITH
FOOD & DRINK!**

Special Christmas Bar Quiz

Tuesday 14th December 2010

hosted by one of Bangkok's
legendary quizmasters
Steve Booth



*"a lively evening with humour,
trivia and tantalising teasers to fire
you up with good will for the season"*

START 7:30PM, THE VERANDAH
THB 100.- / PERSON FOR MEMBER
THB 200.- / PERSON FOR NON-MEMBER
ONE TEAM UP TO 6 PERSONS



THE BRIDGE BUNCH AT YULETIDE

By Martin Carter

During the Festive Season, the Bridge Bunch continues to play on Sundays from 2.30 pm. Despite the intrusion by the Pipe Bands Militia onto our Notice Board, we have enough room to display the January 2011 programme and some photographs. Watch our space!

Christmas Stocking Stuffing

A set of Bridge Playing Cards and instructions is an inexpensive Christmas gift. How about a pack of cards for the Mother-in-Law? She may decide to learn to play the game and disappear on Sunday afternoons. Most Bridge players love Bridge books; try buying your addict "Bid Better Play Better" by Dorothy Truscott. This work is published by Devyn Press Inc and costs \$12.95. After each chapter there is revision, and a quiz to cement comprehension. Finally, a fold-up card-table with a green baize playing surface adds a professional aspect to a Bridge Party at home; no need to clear the cards away before dishing up the plum pudding. A folding card table doubles as a homework desk for children and is easy to store.

Check out the ideas at www.richmond-bridge.co.uk, a specialist Bridge supplier in the UK, stocking beautiful Bridge equipment, by mail order only. There are a number of suppliers of Bridge equipment in Bangkok including Siam Paragon and other department stores.

Ho Ho Ho (Bridge Results)

Three tournaments were played at the British Club recently. The results were:

10TH OCTOBER (18 PAIRS, MITCHELL MOVEMENT)

Winner N/S: Mr. Ho & Prarop
Winner E/W: Usha & Lalit

17TH OCTOBER (19 PAIRS, MITCHELL MOVEMENT)

Tied Winners N/S: Julaporn & Supote
Dr. Prasart & Prasert
Winner E/W: Kiatchai & Paisal

24TH OCTOBER (15 PAIRS, HOWELL MOVEMENT)

Winner N/S: Mr. Ho & Prarop
Winner E/W: Usha & Lalit
3rd: Mike & Leo

Hooray for Winlock

Our Tournament Director, Mike Sim, has taken over some of the computer operations to give a rest to the hardworking Winlock Hsu. The Bridge Section could not exist in its current form without Winlock's Yeoman service; those of us who are regular players owe him many thanks.

Bridge Etiquette: No Belching

Lest the Siamese should eschew a smile when joining a Bridge table, there is no need to chatter as there is a serious work to do.

As the bidding sets the game objectives, well-intentioned outbursts at this stage such as "You can't possibly pass a One Club, cretin, I may have a void!", or "You must bid, I just jump-shifted, idiot!" are both impolite and illegal.

Assuming you win the auction, and your partner lays down the cards face up as the Dummy, then it is usual to give thanks, however great the variance may be between the hand as presented and that promised. You may mutter under your breath "Moron, how could you have bid Game with only two high card points?" To openly diagnose your partner as deranged at this stage is bad manners; best to wait until the post-mortem. "Thank you partner" is the appropriate response after a measured pause of up to one minute.

Terse and Worse

End-play in Bridge, like foreplay, is best from a planned position. Arriving at crunch-time, having dodged and ducked the best the defenders can devise, the declarer in effect says: "Defenders! Will you now crawl off and die?" The question is, of course, rhetorical. The hemlock should be handed out at the early stage of the game. As the declarer's poison pumps into the defenders' veins, muttering may increase into audible accusations. "Why on earth did you make that lead, cretin!", "Didn't you see my discard of a low diamond?", "You need a new guide dog" ... or best of all: "I shall never play with you again!" The ultimate that winners crave to hear. Be proud that a public squabble has resulted. At this point, the winners may well lean back, breathe lightly onto their manicured fingernails, and give them a gentle buff...

Drink and Deal

A few rubbers of Bridge after Christmas lunch can be a family game and fun to teach the children.

Winnie the Pooh and all that

If you feel you should be more British this Christmas and abhor the encroachment by Disney upon "Pooh", then try "When We Were Very Young" by A A Milne, which is an English classic written to be read by parents to their children. Silently reciting the soothing verses to yourself during the inevitable drunken Christmas squabble.



Winlock (the guy wearing the hat) with Bridge Partner



This month's special hand signals

BRITISH CLUB BALUT

By Mr C



BALUT SHIELD 2010-11

The Balut Shield has gotten off to a slow start this year what with Members gearing up to play at the Interport in mid-November. We have held three tournaments so far and hope that attendance will increase during the cool season!

The Balut Shield league (after one tournament):

POSITION	NAME	PLAYER	POINTS	AVERAGE
Leader	The Chieftain	Mr. Ranald Macdonald	521	104.20
2	Dark Horse	Mr. Clive Butcher	1,017	101.70
3	Swampy	Mr. Steve Eaton	1,510	100.67
4	Jammy	Mr. Roger Willbourn	982	98.20
5	The Jackal	Sr. Carlos Romero	489	97.80
6	Kelly	Ms. Kelly Alexander	485	97.00
7	TC	Mr. Phil Alexander	967	96.70
8	Momo	Ms. Daw Kiki Maw	483	96.60
9	Tom	Mr. Tomjakraphan Merrigan	1,440	96.00
10	Mac	Mr. Andrew McLean	480	96.00
11	M	Mr. Burin Adulwattana	476	95.20
12	Mrs Orange	Mrs. Muntana Merrigan	1,419	94.60
13	Mr C	Mr. Paul Cheesman	1,386	92.40
14	Oddsman	Mr. Jeremy Watson	460	92.00
15	Katie	Ms. Katie Alexander	459	91.80
16	DQ	Mr. David Quine	887	88.70

The Balut Shield Cup leader is The Chieftain (Ranald Macdonald) on 143.

Our thanks to OUTRIGGER HOTELS & RESORTS for supply of the prizes and to YES TECHNOLOGIES for the Balut Internet Scoring System.

The THIRD BCB DET 5 CHALLENGE

The Third BCB Det 5 Challenge held at the Club on 17th October was sadly a defeat for the Club, so Det 5 Bar & Restaurant hold on to the Cup for another six months. The final scores were:

British Club Bangkok: 7,482 (49.1%)
Det 5 Bar & Restaurant: 7,756 (50.9%)

30th STC INTERPORT COMPETITION

By the time you read this it will be all over - we will post the results on www.teambalut.com/interport.

ANNUAL BALL

The Balut Section is pleased to be taking two tables at this year's Annual Ball on 11th December – we hope other sections will do likewise!



The Players and organisers of the Third BCB Det 5 Challenge Trophy.



DATES FOR DECEMBER

DAY	DATE	EVENT	TIME	VENUE
Wednesday	1st December	Balut Shield	7pm	Wordsworth Lounge
Saturday	11th December	ANNUAL BALL	7pm	Front & Back Lawn
Wednesday	15th December	Balut Shield	7pm	Wordsworth Lounge

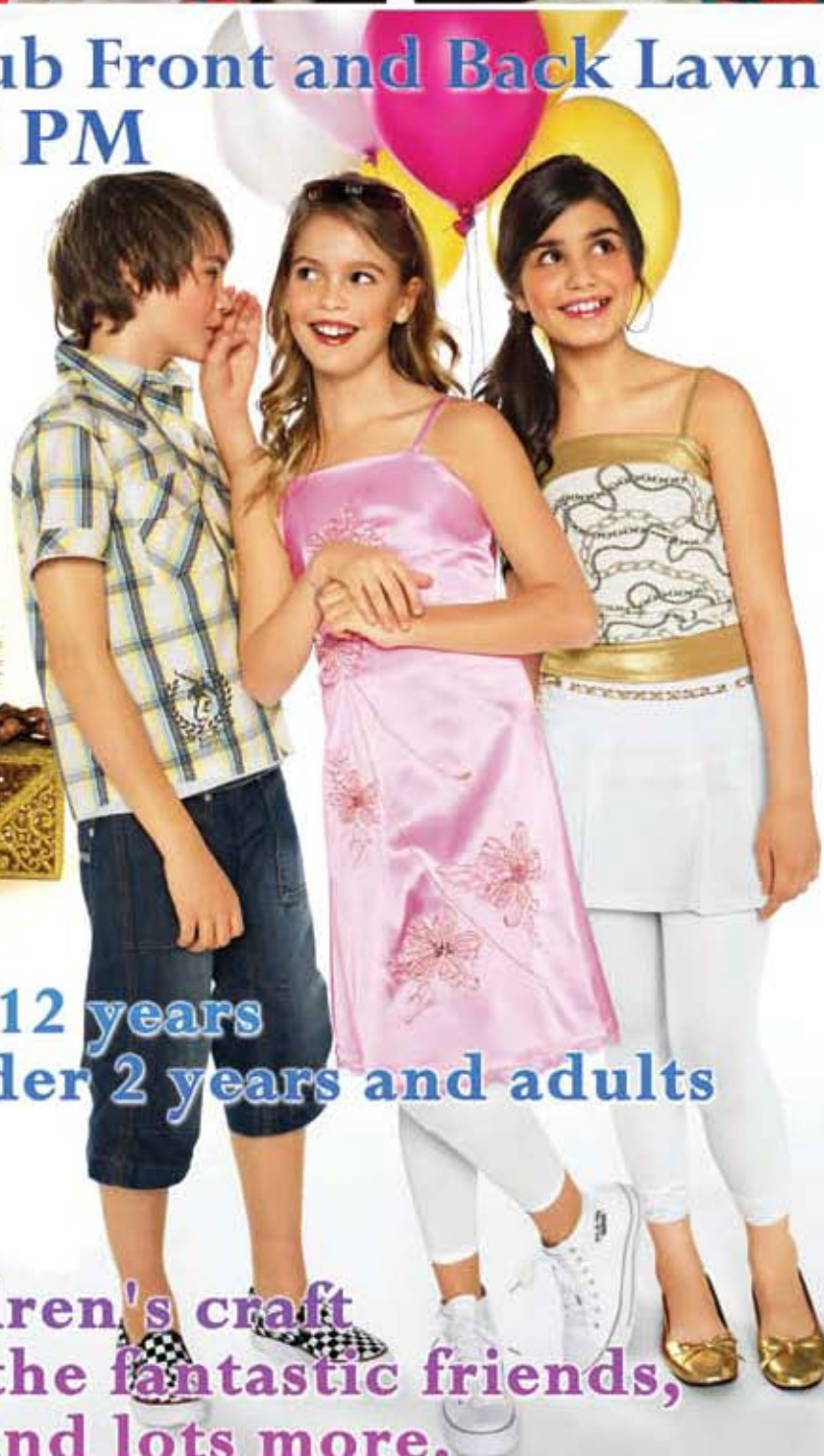
Full details of Balut can be found at <http://www.teambalut.com>

Children's Christmas Party

Saturday 18th December 2010



at the British Club Front and Back Lawn
start from 2 - 6 PM



THB 450 for 2 - 12 years
THB 150 for under 2 years and adults

Including Children's craft
with Susie and the fantastic friends,
Bouncy Castle and lots more.

THE MONTH THAT WAS!

By Dickie Whitworth

1861

Albert, Prince Consort, husband and first cousin of Queen Victoria, died from typhoid on 14 December at Windsor Castle. Victoria withdrew, mourning for her remaining years.



1508

On 24 December, houses in some parts of London began to receive water through pipes, for the first time since the Romans departed over a thousand years before.



1990

More than a century after the idea had first been discussed, teams digging the Channel Tunnel from Britain and France finally met on 1st December, connecting the UK with Europe for the 1st time since the Ice Age.



1955

Engineer Christopher Cockerell patented his half-ship half-aircraft on 12 December and the hovercraft was born. His prototype successfully crossed the Channel in 1959.



1770

Ludwig van Beethoven was born in Bonn on 16 December. Despite becoming totally deaf he continued to work, and is now held to be one of the greatest composers of all time.



1901

Five years after Alfred Nobel's death, the first Nobel prizes of \$30k were awarded on 10 December. They accrue from the fortune he made mainly from inventing dynamite.



1936

On 11 December, King Edward VII spoke to the nation and renounced the throne. He then left for France to meet twice-divorced Wallis Simpson, later to become his wife.



1773

In Boston Harbour on 16 December, the Sons of Liberty and other unruly colonists boarded 3 ships and emptied 342 chests of tea into the sea, in protest at unfair taxes.



1980

On his way home on 8 December, global idol, peace campaigner and ex-Beatle John Lennon was fatally shot four times in the back outside his apartment building.



1846

On 21 December, for the first time in Britain, anaesthesia was used at University College Hospital in London, when Robert Liston amputated the infected leg of a servant.



1791

On 5 December, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart died in Vienna. He began composing aged 5; 30 years later his 600+ works made him one of the world's most treasured composers.



1941

On the dawn of 7 December, the Japanese conducted a surprise military strike against the US naval base at Pearl Harbour, Hawaii. This action led to the dropping of nuclear bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945.



Susie's Kids Korner



The Clay Nativity

Materials

2 mini clay pots (2"), 2 large wooden beads (or a Styrofoam craft ball, or even a ping pong ball), 1 small wooden bead, clay saucer, straw or moss, a small bit of string, strips of fabric/felt, and super-glue. Scrap of white fabric or paper. Craft Paints in flesh colour and pink, dark brown. Permanent markers for details on the face.



Instructions

1. Paint the clay saucer a dark colour for the base of your Nativity.
2. Paint wooden beads (or doll heads) flesh colour. Dab pink for the cheeks. (You can also use blush instead of paint.)
3. Once the glue is dry, turn two pots upside down and glue a bead on top of each one, (representing Mary and Joseph).
4. Add facial details. Simple lines will create a peaceful face. (see photo)
5. Place straw folded over, (represents the manger). Place the third bead (represents Jesus' head) into the straw wrapped with white felt (or paper).

Jolly Elves

All you need are chenille stems, beads, and felt.

Materials

- One whole chenille stem and half a stem
- Small and large beads
- Wooden face bead
- Small jingle bell
- Felt
- Glue gun and hot-melt adhesive
- Scissors
- Ribbon



Instructions

- * Hat:** Cut a 1½ inch diameter semi-circle from the felt. Wrap the semi-circle around from point to point to form a cone, leaving a small opening at the tip; hot-glue to secure.
- * Scarf:** Cut a ½ x 4 inch piece of felt; fringe the ends with scissors. Cut a small length-wise slit about 1¾ inches from one end for the opposite end of the scarf to pass through.
- * Body:** Bend one chenille stem in half and, in the following order, thread the materials over the bent point to about halfway down the stem: large bead for body, face bead, felt hat, small jingle bell. Leave about ¾ inch above the jingle bell and shape the stem into a loop. Then, starting on opposite ends, thread 4 small beads onto each leg and bend the ends to form feet. Use the half chenille stem to make arms by centering and twisting around the elf's neck area. Thread 4 small beads onto each arm and bend the ends to form hands. Wrap the scarf around the elf's neck, then thread the ribbon through the top loop and hang.

CHRISTMAS JOKES FOR KIDS

What is Mum's favourite Christmas carol?
- *Silent Night!*

How does Good King Wenceslas like his pizzas?
- *Deep and Crisp and Even.*

Knock, knock.
- *Who's there?*
Wenceslas
- *Wenceslas who?*
- *Wenceslas train home?*

It was Christmas and the judge was in a merry mood as he asked the prisoner, "What are you charged with?"
"Doing my Christmas shopping early" replied the defendant.
"That's no offence", said the judge.
- *"It is if you do it before the shop has opened" countered the prisoner.*

What do you call an old snowman?
- *Water!*

Did you hear about the stupid turkey?
- *It was looking forward to Christmas!*

Wooden Spoon Angel

This pretty wooden spoon angel is an easy Christmas craft. She makes a great puppet and looks pretty on the top of the Christmas tree, too.

Materials

- Wooden spoon
- Pink paint
- White and pink felt
- Yellow wool
- Wiggle eyes
- Gold card
- Gold pipe cleaner (chenille stem)
- Pink pen
- Glue
- Sticky tape

Instructions

- Paint the spoon pink and leave to dry.
- Make the dress by cutting a quarter circle of white felt. Roll into a cone around the spoon. Glue around the neck and up the back of the cone to secure.
- Cut two arms from the white foam and two hands from pink. Glue one hand to the end of each arm and the other ends of the arms to the body.
- Glue on some wool as hair.
- Make a halo by twisting a pipe cleaner into shape and taping it to the back of the head.
- Cut some wings from the gold card and glue them to the angel's back. Finally, add two eyes and draw a face.



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Since its inception over 19 years ago, NIST has gained a reputation as one of the best International Baccalaureate schools in the world offering all three IB programmes - the Primary Years, the Middle Years and the IB Diploma Programmes.

As an IB World School accredited by CIS and NEASC, NIST provides an international education to a culturally diverse group of students from over 50 nationalities ranging in age from 3 to 18 years. It has a well-resourced campus with state-of-the-art facilities located in the heart of Bangkok's primary business, diplomatic, residential and shopping areas.






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