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on the auspicious occasion of his 85th birthday, 5th December 2012, from the Management, Members and Staff of the British Club Bangkok

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OUTPOST

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LETTER FROM THE GM



Dear Members.

It is a great honour that the General Committee has appointed me, as both the first Thai and the first female, to be the new General Manager of the Club, and I am both grateful and delighted for the confidence shown.

By way of introduction, I have worked for 10 years at our Club and in the last 6 years have been the Deputy General Manager and Head of Finance and Accounting. I have very deep feelings for the Club, our Members and of course our staff, and am determined to make the British Club more successful in the years to come.

As the Chairman recently mentioned, to drive the British Club forward, improving facilities for and services to our Members, he is looking for a period of stability and continuity in the top management position of the Club. I will make every effort to fulfil the duties involved and meet the expectations placed in me going forward.

I share the belief that the Club can grow profitably and offer its Members more improvements, which I trust will result in making it a better, more rewarding and enjoyable place for our Members.

We have now completed the bulk of renovations of the pool, the Sala, and the Fitness Centre, and already it seems that people are very pleased with the outcome. There is still much to do, so please be patient while new systems and routines settle into place. Also, there are still areas of the works that need to be improved, fine-tuned and finalised over the coming weeks.

Looking forward, December is our busiest month with many events and this year a huge number of functions both on and off the Club premises. The staff are marvellous at coping with the extra workload but there will still be moments when things don't always go as planned, and I ask for your understanding in these very busy days.

Before I wrap up my first article as General Manager of the Club, some housekeeping matters:

- The order forms for Christmas food have gone out with this issue of Outpost. Please send them back as soon as possible to give Khun Laak and her team time to get everything ready for your collection date.
- Many of you have returned the sheet with updated information for next year's Directory and Yearbook. If there are any more still to come in, please return them soon as we do not want delays or inaccuracies in the final printing.

Finally, may I take this opportunity of wishing all our Members and staff all the very best for the festive season and a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

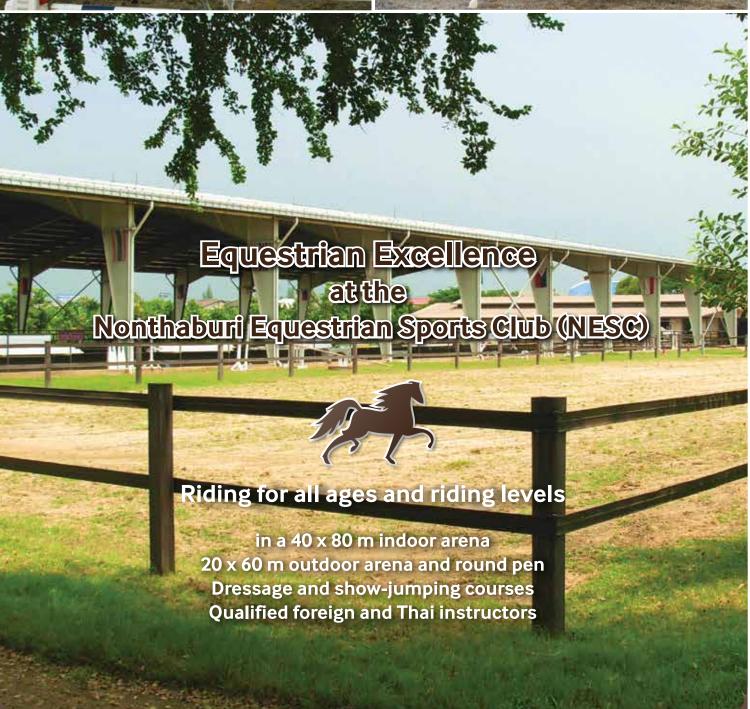
Warm regards,

Premrudee Tanyaluck General Manager

OFFICIAL OPENING TIMES The Verandah 11am - 2pm, 5pm - 10pm (Mon-Thurs) 11am - 10pm (Fri-Sun and Public Holidays) **Accounts Office** 9am - 6pm (Mon-Fri), Closed (Sat-Sun) **Neilson Hays Coffee Shop Fitness Centre** 6am - 10pm (Mon-Fri) 9am - 6pm **Churchill Bar** 10am - 11pm **Fitness Centre** 6am - 9pm (Sat-Sun) **Poolside Bar** 6:15am - 11pm Thai Massage 9am - 5pm (Tues-Sun) Last food orders 9:30pm







For more information or a map to NESC, please contact Carol or Leenawan

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HAPPENINGS



Dear Members,

Phew! It's been hectic. The opening of the new James Bond movie, Skyfall, seems a distant memory now. Great movie, good newcomers, tragic old-timers, and not the Moneypenny that I imagine, but the name is still Bond, James Bond and that's what counts. Barely 24 hours later, we got twice as many people coming to Guy Fawkes as we had hoped for, and in statistical style the fireworks display was twice as good as we had imagined - there's a good video on the website for those of you who want to enjoy a view of the show in a controlled environment, so go to http://www.britishclubbangkok.org/index.php/News/news.html and see what an amazing explosion of colour highlighted our visitors' evening!

Then there was Hitman David Foster who was as good as was expected, and then the Royal Barge outing with 100 lucky people witnessing a truly impressive procession from the history books. Everyone seemed suitably awe-struck by their afternoon which was rewarding in itself. The November Quiz Night was an exciting evening too, with last minute tables arriving and a throng of highly intelligent competitors scratching their heads and pondering pondering. The monthly jackpot is still not won and has increased to Bt2,500 so please come to the December Quiz on Tuesday 11th at 7:15pm and round the year off in style.

The Club was overrun with press, cameras, notebooks, notepads and TV stars at the press conference for the Elton John concert, which also resulted in a fortuitous meeting with the concert organisers who were keen to work with the Club in promoting upcoming events. We have already benefited from this by getting a great block of seats right in front of the stage for the Sting concert (the night before Elton). Next year we should get advance notice of good concerts and/or shows, which means premium seats and great fun too! There are rumours of Black Sabbath and Phantom of the Opera (London production) and more, so that's to look forward..

On a slightly more sombre note, we are going to introduce a revised and stricter system for booking events. Whilst we want everyone to be happy and get exactly what they need, this month there have been a few occasions where there have been so many additions, removals and other changes to reservations already made, it has resulted in double bookings, overbookings, and disappointment with underbookings. This is nobody's fault, but it needs to be reined in so that nobody loses out for future events. We will also have to institute a cancellation policy as the organisers aren't, understandably, keen to entertain changes or returns. Anyhow, it shouldn't make for any less enjoyment, just smoother running!

Now we're looking forward to Loy Krathong, my favourite Thai festival, on the 28th of this month, and then December which starts out with a fabulous sumptuous buffet in honour of His Majesty the King's birthday on 5th December, in lieu of Britstock which has disappointingly been postponed as it seemed unlikely we could get enough people to attend to cover the hosting costs. But it will be rescheduled for next year!

The Carols are followed a day later by the wonderful essence of Christmas brought to us by the beautiful voices of the St Andrews International School Choir. They gave a mesmerising performance last year, the Back Lawn was transfixed, mince pies were gobbled and mulled wine savoured, so we heartily welcome them back again this year.

A couple of days after that, the Back Lawn is again transformed for the Annual Christmas Ball - opening with cocktails on the front lawn, a scrumptious traditional dinner follows with 3 bottle of complimentary wine per table, accompanied by orchestral harmonies, and followed by the raffle prizes (well worth winning) and then dancing through the night with breakfast served at 2am. Roll up roll up and book your tickets by email if you cannot get to Reception, as it's going to be a fantastic evening under the stars.

The week after, there are the Sting and Elton John concerts, two of the UK's greatest singer/songwriters, and then a week for the kids with a Kids Christmas Party and a Kids Christmas Ball with no parents allowed! On Christmas Day, the Club's bursts at its seams to cram in all the people sampling traditional fare in grand buffet style, and then we await the excesses of New Year's Eve, and 2013. I should also let you know that I've heard Santa is in town, and he's in a good mood......

Season's Greetings to all of you, your families and friends.

Jeremy de Sausmarez Events & Marketing Manager



3th - 7th December 2012

Starters - 55 baht

Warm Bread Salad of Crispy Bacon Parmesan and Poached Egg

or

Chef's Soup of the Day

Main Courses - 140 baht

Turkey and Leek Pie

served with mixed vegetables and home-fried potatoes

O

Lamb, Beef and Eggplant Moussaka

served with mixed salad and garlic bread

or

Fillet of Pork Mushroom Sauce

served with green beans, carrots and garlic roast potatoes

or

Gaeng Kiew Wan Look Chin Pla

(fish balls in green curry sauce)

Kai Jiew Moo Sub

(Thai style minced pork omelette)

 Phad Kana Nam Man Hoy (stir-fried kale with oyster sauce)

Dessert of the Day - 55 baht

or choose from our à la Carte dessert 10% off



17th - 21st December 2012

Starters - 55 baht

Mozzarella, Mango, Tomato and Rocket Salad

or

Chef's Soup of the Day

Main Courses - 140 baht

Chicken Maryland

with pineapple, banana, sweet corn, $\tilde{\textit{b}}\textit{acon}$ and home fried potato

or

Pan-fried Dory Fish with Mornay Sauce

served with broccoli and mashed potato

or

Fillet of Pork in a Light Curry Sauce

served with grilled zucchini and coriander rice

• Tom Kha Gai

(a refreshing Soup with chicken, coconut milk and herbs)

• Pla Dory Rad Sauce Makham

(deep fried dory fish topped with tamarind sauce)

 Phad Kana Nam Man Hoy (stir fried kale with oyster sauce)

Dessert of the Day- 55 baht

or choose from our à la Carte dessert 10% off

Susines

10th - 14th December 2012

Starters - 55 baht

Nicoise Salad with French Beans, Egg, Black Olives, Potatoes and Anchovy

or

Chef's Soup of the Day

Main Courses - 140 baht

Pan-Fried Dory Fish with Spicy Herbs

served with mixed salad and boiled potatoes

10

Turkey Lasagne

served with garlic bread

or

Mini Steak Served with Mixed Vegetables and Roast Potaoes

or

• Gaeng Som Goong Phak Ruam

(sour soup with mixed vegetables and prawns)

• Moo Tod Kratium Prik Thai

(stir fried pork fillet with garlic and pepper)

• Tod Mun Pla (deep fried fish cake)

Dessert of the Day - 55 baht

or choose from our à la Carte dessert 10% off



24h - 28th December 2012

Starters - 55 baht

Carrots, Rassins and Apple Coleslaw

or

Chef's Soup of the Day

Main Courses - 140 baht

Fish and Chips

(choice of breadcrumbed or battered) with garden peas and tartare sauce

or

Chicken Tikka Masala

served with yellow Rice

or

Pork Schnitzel with Apple Sauce

served with mixed salad and baked potato

or

Panaeng Gai

(chicken stir fried with red curry sauce topped with sliced lime leaf)

Kai Jiew Moo Sab

(Thai style omelette with minced pork)

 Phad Phak Ruam Nam Man Hoy (stir fried mixed vegetables with oyster sauce)

Dessert of the Day- 55 baht

or choose from our à la Carte dessert 10% off

Luncheons

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F&B MORSELS



Dear Members.

November has been a month of big occasions, from a very busy Guy Fawkes Night to a huge dinner for 250 people on the Back Lawn and a fantastic wedding, so the kitchen has been quite frantic. This will continue on into December with lots more events as well as internal and external functions. And then Christmas Day, which has almost sold out already! I hope to see you enjoying the Christmas food on the day itself!

Since the poolside reopened, the kitchen has been run off its feet! Of course, this is good news and makes us pleased to have upgraded the kitchen area. I hope the service has been ok and that food is served not too long after it has been ordered. If there are any problems with the kitchen, please let me know as we always want to do our best.

It's Christmas month, so we have included a Christmas Food and Wine order form with this copy of Outpost. The prices have been revised downwards from the list emailed out in mid-November, so please use this list! Orders will need to come in quickly as the deadline is only a couple of weeks away. Good food makes Christmas even better, so stock up on your favourites and enjoy the year as it draws to a close.

I would like to wish you all, and your families, a very delicious Christmas time!

Sawasdee ka!

Khun Laak Executive Chef



REMEMBRANCE DAY 2012

by George Morgan



At 11 minutes to 11 on 11th November, sweltering on a sultry Bangkok morning, the pipe band had formed up at the British Embassy and waited for the word of command. At a bark from the pipe major, we were off to commence this year's Remembrance Day service, following the tradition started exactly 94 years earlier by the Armistice that came into effect at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, silencing for good the guns of the Great War. Once in position near the War Memorial, we struck up Bonnie Dundee to accompany the march on of the Embassy's detachment of Gurkha guards, not as easy as it sounds, as the Gurkhas are used to marching at a brisk speed of 120 paces per minute, while most pipe bands march at only 90. Four years ago we thought we could get the Gurkhas to march at our pace, but that was not to be.

The Royal Thai Army's two buglers couldn't make it so, in place of the Last Post, Pipe Major Keith Walker extemporized by playing a flawless rendition of the beautiful slow air, Going Home. Once the last of the wreaths had been laid, it was time to play Flowers of the Forest. Fortunately Keith had decided to eschew all superstitious taboos prohibiting the practicing of this tune which many believe should only be played on the pipes when someone has died. Thus we had been able to practice it to perfection beforehand. Finally we marched off ahead of the Gurkhas playing Green Hills of Tyrol at such breakneck speed that I had to cut all embellishments from my snare drum part to avoid being left behind.

After the service we were invited to play again at a reception hosted by the Royal British Legion on the back lawn of the Club. Being a much less sombre affair, we relaxed and spiced our set with a number of jigs and reels as well as traditional marches and slow airs.

Our two new Thai pipers, Mac and Liam, and our new bass drummer, Joe Gare, acquitted themselves with distinction at their first major parade. We are also deeply indebted to former band mate, Piper lain Mowatt and two of his friends from the Hong Kong Yacht Club Pipe Band, Stewart Fung and his son Frances, who all came down from Hong Kong for the weekend to play with us. Ten year old Frances was an inspiration to us all. Not only does he hold his own playing with the men but he learned several new tunes for the occasion off pat within a week.











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HAPPY 40th ANNIVERSARY!

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It was a combined celebration - the 40th anniversary of PATA Thailand Chapter, and in honour of Khun Kusa Panyarachun, one of the Thai travel industry's most eminent members.

Meticulously organised by Burt and Gisi van Walbeek, the evening accommodated almost 250 fortunate guests who enjoyed a celebration of epic proportions, with cocktails and canapés on the front lawn, followed by a three course dinner on the back lawn with speeches and sumptuous after-dinner morsels.

The feedback was superb for the Club environs, its functions team and all the staff's excellent service.

















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PAST PARTICIPLE

Auspicium Melioris Ævi

By Paul Cheesman

We look back thirty years at the history of our Club in 1982...

The year started with an unfortunate occurrence — a series of stock irregularities, particularly in meat, poultry and fish had come to light over the end of 1981 which led to the General Committee insisting on daily stock checks. These stock checks were not forthcoming from management and further checks by GC members on one occasion revealed that 82kg of beef had gone astray.

These operational failures and the theft were compounded by a false accounting chit and a seriously erroneous cheque, thus the General Committee had no choice but to dismiss the General Manager, the Assistant Manager, the Stores Accounts Clerk and a storekeeper in one swoop. Not a good start to the year leaving the Club with no-one at the top!

In order to help the Club recover from the loss of so many senior staff, a member by the name of Bob Vlietstra was appointed as a management advisor to the GC whilst the Club and its accounts were cleared up. Bob was finally appointed General Manager in the October and stayed in the role for two years. To aid him, we recruited in May Dr. Adisak Kankhanti as his Assistant Manager.

With the perceived need to 'reboot' the Club, the incoming General Committee under Mr J. Scott Younger set forth nine sub-committees to move the Club forward ... Entertainment (to continue with Bar Movie nights and other profitable events); F&B (to look at outsourcing catering); Finance (to computerise inventory control); Poolside (to upgrade poolside furniture); Membership (to drive up the numbers); Personnel (to recruit replacement staff!); Sports (to upgrade the tennis courts and create a tennis courts payment system); House & Grounds (to continue the Long-Range Plan); and Publicity (to continue to produce 'Outpost').

In addition, the Ladies Advisory Group was upgraded to Ladies Advisory Council and asked to come up with options on giving ladies a fuller role in the Club ... even with the 'unthinkable' option of allowing female membership! To aid them, the Vice-Chairman was given the task of liaising with these ladies on a regular basis.

In 1982 we were a popular Club with aircrews as we had given permission back in 1965 for aircrews from the then British Overseas Airways Corporation (BOAC) to use the Club whilst on stop-over (see July 2011 Past Participle). By now BOAC had been merged with British European Airways, Northeast Airlines and Cambrian Airways as simply British Airways and flights were twice daily. Unfortunately this meant we had become so popular that there were frequent complaints that the crews hogged both Snooker Tables most nights!

By the close of the year the new Management 'team' appeared to have gotten to grips with the Club's affairs – Membership rose to 502, our Bank debt (our combined overdraft and loan) had dropped from 2.50 Million Baht to 1.35 Million Baht, there were record numbers at Club Nights, Bar Movies and even the Annual Ball bookings had to be capped at 350 persons as it had proved too popular to cater properly.

The Long-Range Plan continued and the year ended with a project to raise the level of Centre and No. 1 tennis courts by an amount of 70cm at the cost of 298,000 Baht. This work was completed over four months due to poor weather and was now ready for its grand opening however you will have to wait until next year (literally) to find out who opened our new courts!

On the subject of Ladies Liaison, it has been unclear some time as to with whom and how the liaison is arranged! General Committee have now removed the anomaly by liaison with the Ladies to the list of duties of the Viscoliairman.

"Committee Vice in charge of Ladies!"

The author is Honorary Secretary of the Club

HOLY DAYS & FESTIVALS

By Paul Cheesman



ADVENT SUNDAY

December 2nd

Celebrated on the fourth Sunday before Christmas, this is a Christian festival to celebrate the coming birth of Jesus Christ on Christmas Day. Some families mark the countdown to Christmas by the lighting of a new Advent candle each week, and others by the opening of a new window on an Advent Calendar each day.



"Long Live The King"

H.M. King Bhumibol Adulyadej (Rama IX) was born on 5th December 1927 in Cambridge, Massachusetts, the younger son of HRH Prince Mahidol Adulyadej and Mom Sangwan (later HRH Princess Srinagarindra, the Princess Mother). Educated in Mater Dei school in Bangkok, Ecole Nouvelle de la Suisse Romande in Lausanne and at the University of Lausanne, the young prince became King on 9th June 1946

THE KING'S BIRTHDAY

H.M.

December 5th

upon the passing of his elder brother, King Mahidol (Rama VIII). He was crowned on 5th May 1950, a week after marrying Mom Rajawongse Sirikit Kitiyakara whom he entitled H.M. Queen Sirikit.

His Majesty is not only the longest reigning Thai monarch but is also currently the longest reigning monarch in the world and such is the love of the King by his people that since 1980 his birthday is also celebrated as Father's Day in Thailand.

CONSTITUTION DAY

December 10th

This is a Thai Public Holiday to celebrate the first permanent Constitution of Siam following the bloodless coup of 24th June 1932 (see Past Participle in November 2009). The first constitution written on 26th June 1932 served Siam's transition from an absolute monarchy to a constitutional monarchy. On 10th December the first Permanent Constitution was endorsed by H.M. King Prajadhipok (Rama VII) and the day became a public holiday.

The start of the Christian faith was a baby born in a stable in Bethlehem, a settlement in the Roman occupied Herodian kingdom of Judea, as the fulfilment of Old Testament prophecies of where the Messiah (or saviour of humankind) would be born. Miscalculations made centuries later as to how we compute calendars mean that this birth took place about 4 or 5 BC, not the exact cross-over of BC (Before Christ) to AD (In The Year of Our Lord)!

CHRISTMAS DAY

December 25th

Christmas is traditionally, in the western world, a time for giving gifts which are "from" Santa Claus, Saint Nicholas or simply Father Christmas depending on your place of birth. Yet the child born at Christmas was himself a gift - For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life — and it is was this gift, the Son of God and God the Son, that is the basis of the Christian faith celebrated on Christmas Day.

BOXING DAY

December 26th

This day following Christmas Day is more accurately known as the Festival (or Feast) of Saint Stephen (as in "Good King Wenceslas went out on the Feast of Stephen") but more commonly known as 'Boxing Day'. Tradition has it that Alms or Poor Boxes filled by the rich at their Christmas Day services were distributed to the poor by clergy on this day, and in Victorian England it was traditionally the day the Family gave their presents ('boxes') to their servants. The traditional hymn on this day was written in 1853 based upon the real life Wenceslas I, Duke of

The End of the Year is celebrated in Thailand by both New Year's Eve and New Year's Day being Public Holidays and coupled with the preceding Saturday and Sunday make a four day holiday this year. In Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the UK New Year's Eve is not a holiday.



December 31st











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BONFIRE NIGHT

Remember, remember...



We were hoping it would be a good turnout as Guy Fawkes Night is a great occasion at the Club and advance bookings had supported this. Soon after people started arriving mid afternoon, there was a slight false alarm when some fireworks started going off as the timer had been set wrong, but that excitement was short-lived and soon the barbecue buffet got underway.

Soon the Back Lawn was covered with people, the Bouncy Castle was covered with kids, and the plates covered with food. Throughout the afternoon, Sam and his Amazing Friends were besieged with kids wanting to make guys for the bonfire and make up their faces and just play and have fun. At 6pm, there was an unlisted entertainment event, with mono-cycling, plate spinning and other extraordinary feats which left the audience gasping with surprise.

In case of rain or extreme heat, the main garden area had been covered with a massive awning so, shortly before 7pm, everyone started to wander down towards the area open to the skies in time for the main firework show. Gasps and shouts, even shrieks and screams, of amazement and delight filled the air as upturned faces witnessed the most magnificent display of controlled aerial pyromania. A breathtaking umbrella of lights and bangs, exploding stars, really quite awesome. Then there were a few more unexpected bangers and the bonfire with some of the guys the kids had made being burnt, whilst some got saved and taken home.

So it turned into one of the best Guy Fawkes Nights for many years, with the Club welcoming almost 400 people, not many of them giving a though to the failed plot 400 years ago - what a tremendous evening!

** A video of the fireworks display is online at the Club website; go to: http://www.britishclubbangkok.org/index.php/News/news.html









BC CALENDAR - DECEMBER 2012

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THU

Ladies Mix-In

Squash Mix-In

Thursday Night Trio

Christmas Carols Ev 6pm - 9:30pm

Ladies Mix-In

Squash Mix-In

Elton John Concert

Thursday Night Trio

Ladies Mix-In

Squash Mix-In

Thursday Night Trio

Fitball

Cricket

Fitball

Cricket

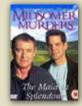
Fitball 10:30am



Monday Night Club Wordsworth Room, 7pm

The Maid in Splendour

Tennis Mix-In



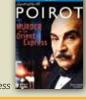


The Remorseful Day





Murder on the Orient Express





Wordsworth Room, 7pm Ghost of Christmas Past















Christmas Day

Noon - 11pm























SATURDAY

SUNDAY

Junior British Club

Sunday Brunch

11:30am - 3pm

Open Pairs Bridge Surawongse Room



RSDAY

FRIDAY







Sunday Brunch The Verandah 11:30am - 3pm

Open Pairs Bridge Surawongse Room 2:30pm

Junior British Club 10:30am - 1:30pm Sunday Brunch 11:30am - 3pm

Open Pairs Bridge Surawongse Room

<mark>Christmas Party</mark> 7pm - 3am

Junior British Club 10:30am - 1:30pm

Sunday Brunch

11:30am - 3pm

Yoga 2:30pm

2:30pm Yoga 2:30pm



9

6





















Thai National Spoofing Championship Churchill Bar, 4 pm

Children's Friday Cinema 6pm, Star Wars IV

Children's Friday Cinema 6pm, A Christmas Carol

Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm

Children's

Christmas Ball 7pm - 10pm

Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm

Tennis Mix-In 7pm - 10pm



Available Every Day From All Outlets

<mark>Annual Christmas Bal</mark> 7pm - 3am (Sunday)

















Sunday Brunch The Verandah

Yoga 2:30pm

Junior British Club 10:30am - 1:30pm

11:30am - 3pm

Children's Friday Cinema 6pm, Tarzan

Wine Tasting Suriwongse Room 6pm - 9pm













Majestic GC Dec Railway, Hua Hin 9 Dec 16 Dec Bangpakong 23 Dec The Royal GC

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SPOOK-TACULAR SCENE!

Kids Halloween Party



A few eyebrows were raised as kids started arriving and making their way up the creaking staircase. Halloween is a time for monstrous masks, marvellous make-up, and chilling costumes. So it was on the evening of 26th October. A really impressive range of costumes.

As Mums and Dads sipped their way around the monthly wine-tasting, the kids played games and sang songs in the Suriwongse Room. There were doughnuts hanging on strings, there were toffee apples, there was a ready supply of freshly popped popcorn, it was great! Then came the buffet supper, followed by the Magic Show and then some raunchy disco music. All too soon it was time to go, and the costume winner was The Mad Hatter.













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AROUND THE WORLD IN 250 CLUBS!



In November 2012 the General Committee approved our 250th Reciprocal Club in the world ... The Hurlingham Club in SW London.

Founded in 1869 and set in 42 acres of land, The Hurlingham Club is one of London's most exclusive private Clubs with around 13,000 members and a waiting list of twenty years (yes twenty years!) - their website says the waiting list for Off Peak Club membership is approximately ten years, and when granted this gives access to the Club for all but the weekends in May to July. It then takes approximately another ten years before full voting membership is offered. There are currently 1,400 people on the waiting list.

The Club offers four restaurants, three bars and complete family facilities. In its grounds it caters for Tennis, Real Tennis, Cricket, Bowls, Croquet, Squash and Golf. British Club members require a letter of introduction confirming paid-up membership of the Club and non-UK residency and some form of photograph ID. Reciprocation is for no more

than 14 days in any one year but tennis may not be played more than 10 times in a calendar year. British Club members may introduce guests to The Hurlingham Club.

Phil Alexander, chairman of our General Committee, welcomed this fine addition to our reciprocal club list ... "The Hurlingham Club is one of the most prestigious Clubs in the world and we are honoured to be reciprocated with them". Readers of Past Participle may recall that our General Manager from 1975 to 1979, Lt. Col. John Davies, took up the position of Controller at The Hurlingham Club after leaving us. The current Chief Executive Officer & Secretary is Rear Admiral Niall Kilgour CB RN.

An updated list of all 250 Reciprocal Clubs will be placed in the yearbook, and of course, is available on-line at $\underline{www.britishclubbangkok.org}$.









CHRISTMAS DAY Juncheon & Dinner





Enjoy the warmth and goodness of Christmas in The Verandah Restaurant and The Churchill Bar
• Full seasonal buffet and desserts • Excellent range of vegetarian dishes

Bt 950 per person, children under 12 years Bt 500

Seating is limited, so please register online or with Reception





SPORT & LEISURE

By Paul Ringer



Dear Members.

Everything is open again! The weather is dryer and somewhat cooler, and it's almost Christmas!

Many thanks for all the positive feedback regarding the gym. I am glad to see that you are happy with the outcome of such a long wait and I hope to see many more of you in the gym, if not this month then next when New Year's resolutions kick in.

Amnat will run free fitness sessions on Saturdays and Sundays from 2-3pm. The focus of these sessions will change from to month. Whilst the gym is definitely larger, numbers will be limited for these sessions so please be sure to sign up.

Towels can now be collected and dropped off at the new sliding windows by the ladies toilets. This means there is no need to enter the cold climes of the gym when you are wet.

BRITISH CLUB BY-LAWS:

Many thanks to all of you who have been making guest bookings. Guests are of course welcome at the BC, frequent guests should however consider the appropriate membership option open to them.

TENNIS

In partnership with



St. Andrews International School

TENNIS MATCHES:

Well done to the BCTS ladies who beat the Bangkok Patana Ladies 13-10 on Thursday 1st Nov. There will be a rematch at Patana School on Wednesday 5th at 8:30am. Hong Kong Cricket Club is bringing 6 men to play a friendly match on the afternoon of Saturday, December 1st. Singapore Cricket Club is scheduled to visit on the morning of Saturday, December 8th, and may well join the Christmas Ball.

TENNIS IN DECEMBER:

Mix-Ins are now Wednesday and Sunday only, Fridays are Club Nights and I also hope that by the time this month's Outpost hits the press we will have started Monday Night Training Sessions.

I hope you all have a great December.

Regards,

Paul

December 2012 •• **OUTPOST •• 27**

SPORTS CAMPS

SPORTS CAMPS, DEC 17TH - 21ST & 31ST - 4TH JAN:

| TIME | MON β950 | TUES β1200 | WED β950 | THUR β1200 | FRI β950 |
|-------------|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 9:30 | ADMIN | ADMIN | ADMIN | ADMIN | ADMIN |
| 10:00-11:30 | TENNIS | | TENNISL | BOULDERING ROCK CLIMBING | TENNIS |
| 11:30-11:45 | SNACK | CANOEING & | SNACK | | SNACK |
| 11:45-12:45 | STORY BASED YOGA | SAILING | STORY BASED YOGA | | STORY BASED YOGA |
| 12:45-1:30 | LUNCH | LUNCH | LUNCH | LUNCH | LUNCH |
| 1:30-2:30 | B BOY/GIRL Dance Classes | FLOWRIDING | B BOY/GIRL Dance Classes | FLOWRIDING | B BOY/GIRL Dance Classes |
| 2:30-3:30 | iplay Soccer School | PLOWRIDING | iplay Soccer School | | iplay Soccer School |

- Children should be 7+.
- This is not an elitist camp; the emphasis is on joining in, trying out new sports, having fun and making friends.
- A five child minimum is required to run each day so please sign up.
- As travel arrangements need to be made for Tuesday & Thursday activities please sign up 48hrs in advance.
- A no show booking will still be charged the full amount. Cancellations up to 24hrs before will be charged 50%.
- Whilst the British Club and its staff will provide the highest level of care possible for your children, sports/activity camp participants take part at their own risk and the Club accepts no liability for injuries caused during activities on or offsite or travel to or from the Club.

MINI SPORTS CAMPS, DEC 17TH, 19th & 21st and 31st, 2nd & 4th JAN:

| TIME | MON β950 | WED β950 | FRI β950 | |
|-------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--|
| 10 | ADMIN | ADMIN | ADMIN | |
| 10:15-11:15 | STORY BASED YOGA | STORY BASED YOGA | STORY BASED YOGA | |
| 11:15-11:30 | SNACK | SNACK | SNACK | |
| 11:30-12:15 | MINI TENNIS | MINI TENNIS | MINI TENNIS | |
| 12:15-12:45 | LUNCH | LUNCH | LUNCH | |
| 12:45-1:30 | DANCING | DANCING | DANCING | |
| 1:30-2:30 | WATER FUN | WATER FUN | WATER FUN | |

- Children must be between the ages of 4 and 6yrs.
- · The children must be capable of feeding themselves, changing their clothes and using the bathroom unsupervised.
- In the interests of safety and quality for your children there is a maximum number of 8 children per day so please sign up to avoid disappointment. A three child minimum is required to run each day.
- A no show booking will still be charged the full amount. Cancellations up to 24hrs before will be charged 50%.
- Whilst the British Club and its staff will provide the highest level of care possible for your children, sports/activity camp participants take part at their own risk and the Club accepts no liability for injuries caused during activities on or offsite or travel to or from the Club.

By Bruce Madge



Ain't Day Lovely?

What are? Evan's new motor or H's new boyfriend? You decide!

But I'm talking 'bout the new pool (with new showers for the kids to pee in), the new gym (with new punch bag to practice bashing the kids that pee in the new showers), the new bogs (with no new bog roll so you have to just spray your bits, but there's no sprayer so you have to just jump in the new pool to clean off; simple really; bogs thus redundant so should just turn 'em into a sleeping chamber for the cleaners), the new kitchen (with new dish washer-Khun Nuch from the Churchill Bar; she got demoted for borrowing money from members and not paying it back), the new cat salon (with new cat stylistthe mincer from reception), new staff gambling den (with new croupier -Chairman Alexander who has wonderfully taught all the workers how to play balut and fantasy football for money excellent job there from the Chair), and whatever else has been replaced, given a lick of paint, cleaned up, recycled, thrown out or introduced including the new Suriwongse Sala which is just superb according to most. It's wider, higher, cooler, brighter, fresher, cleaner, more attractive and just plain better which is all bloody brilliant so let's hope the service improves accordingly and that the beer is served cool and fresh unlike the stale, cloudy stuff we used to get.



Of course, as always, there have been a few dissenters-some tennis players, reportedly, have moaned that the glare off the new white roof gets in their eyes when they serve. Tricky that. Bit like the glare from the sun, I suppose. Well, how about putting a strapping on it.





Seems there's plenty to go around. A typical tennis doubles match at the BCB produces an average of 28 knee, elbow, wrist, head straps and bands between the four (What can they all be for? I mean, if you're that infirm that you need to strap every joint before you play, then surely you shouldn't be playing, eh?) so why not wrap another one over the eyes when serving to eliminate the glare from the new, sparkling white sala roof? There you go. Problem solved. Put another strap on it!











Whatever! So what's next in the great BCB refurbishment plan? New squash courts, we hope. A neat, fully enclosed, air conditioned arena with two or three glass-backed courts along with a balcony and plenty of seating for spectators, plush carpeting, a new water or beer dispenser, our wooden bagrack-cat-bed that Evans designed, a new titanium notice board to pin up lots of go-go girl/boy calendars, and HUGE signs on the doors warning: 'No Fit Ball and No Yoga Allowed!' 'Do 'em Elsewhere!' 'Squash and Racket Ball Only!'

Until then.....



**open bar includes House wine/gin/vodka/whisky/rum,
Tiger draft, soft drinks. Buffet dinner included.

BCGS GOLFING NEWS







A full field of golfers anticipating victory at the tricky Forest Hills layout



The 2012 Men's Club Champion Mike Staples makes it two in row winning by 2 strokes



The 2012 Men's Club Champion Mike Staples makes it two in row winning by 2 strokes



Net Men's Club Champion Randall Coleman with a 154

The Golf Section held its annual marquee event - the British Club Championships - at the bucolic setting of the Forest Hills Golf Course, set among the western hills of Saraburi. The two day Stroke Play event hosted 21 competitors of all skill levels who played for an abundance of prizes. Separate competitions were held for the ladies and men, with 3 gross score prizes and 3 net score prizes awarded in each event. No player could win more than 1 prize. Additionally, the usual range of technical prizes was on offer, and 11 different players shared the 14 golf balls awarded. Both defending men and women's Club Champions Mike Staples and Tracy Carter successfully held their trophies by posting gross scores of 164 and 169, respectively. In the more wide-open net competition, Randall Coleman and Karen Carter took the honours. A full list of the results can be found on the web page. Earlier in the month, the Flight A Medal went to Marcus Prior and Art Carlson won Flight B, while Randall took the November Stableford.

<u>Website:</u> http://www.bcgsthailand.org/ Email: bcgs2002@yahoo.co.uk

Phone: Golf Society Captain, Frank Fawkes - 0870513548





Ad Ashman displays a fluid swing on the first tee box



Yurachatr, Karen, Tracy and Gaew all finished in the top 3 of both competitions



A friendly dinner at the vineyard restaurant gave plenty of opportunity to embellish one's golfing prowess

NON-MEMBER USE OF SQUASH & TENNIS COURTS

Members may introduce a duly signed-in non-Member to play squash or tennis upon payment of a non-Member fee of 100 baht for one hour in any one day, payable by the Member in addition to the court booking fee. This constitutes 'management permission' as laid down in rule 65 (a) (ii) and replaces same.

The same non-Member may not play squash or tennis more than once in any calendar month irrespective of being signed-in by different Members.

This will be on a trial basis from 1st December 2012 and there will be a motion to add this to the constitution at the AGM in 2013. Members are reminded that a breach of these rules may lead to a Member (and their family) being suspended in accordance with rule 72 and the non-Member concerned not permitted further access to the Club under rule 65 (c).

HARD BALLS

By Squire Legge



A New Season... time to forget past performances, start a clean sheet and dream of all the runs and wickets to come! Leading the way will be the new BC Cricket Committee for 2012/13, Chairman Jack Dunford, Captain Dale Lamb, Vicecaptain Rahul Gupte, Treasurer James Crossley-Smith, Fines Master Nick White, Statistics and Face Book Yogi Pithya.

Off with a bang: The Phuket tour: And indeed, the season kicked off spectacularly with an inaugural tour to Phuket at the end of October and two matches against the Phuket Cricket Group (PCG) at the magnificent new Alan Cooke Ground (ACG). Casting aside devastating news that most WAGS had pulled out when neither squash nor tennis could get their acts together, 11 cricketers rose to the occasion, bravely overcoming loneliness to earn glory overseas for their Club and team. Tour dress was fashion spectacles, designer singlets and knotted handkerchiefs which proved particularly popular in the noodle shops along Bangla Road.

The tour organisers planned the first match as 2 innings of 15 overs each. This is a fairly simple concept but apparently beyond the grasp of the two captains who decided to play a straight 30 overs match. It was only when BC were reduced to 29 for 5 and the game looked like being over in an hour that the original concept was revived. Nick White carried on from where he left off last season scoring an elegant 39* and, with Jem (13*), managed to salvage an almost respectable score of 78 for 5 after BC's first innings of 15 overs.

PCG got off to a rollicking start in their first innings with the first wicket falling at 67 off 10 overs but steady bowling from Marc, Nick (1-7) and Jack (1-10) held them to a modest 91 for 3, a lead of just 13.











Those who hadn't batted in the first innings were given a chance in the second and, much to the mirth of their team mates, both Haroon and Marc failed to take theirs, each lasting exactly one ball. Fortunately others fared better with Jem (21), George (16), Andy (15), Dale (11) and Rahul (17*) all getting into double figures. George and Andy's innings were rather turgid affairs though and a final total of 94 for 6 after 15 overs left PCG requiring just 82 to win.

Tight bowling was the only way to win but from Anthony's first over, which went for 13 with 3 wides and 2 no-balls, the game was up. Rahul (1-11), George (1-13), Dale (1-16) and Jem (1-9) all picked up wickets but PCG ran out comfortable winners by 6 wickets with 3 overs to spare.

Played one, lost one had a familiar feel but, hey, we were on tour and we weren't going to let that spoil our fun. Besides which, there were some promising performances ... both Nick and Rahul, last season's stars, had looked in great form and both Jem and Andy looked good with bat and ball having not contributed much last season. The fielding had been pretty good and if we hadn't bowled 35 wides (!) the game would have been much tighter. After a spirited fines session and a









quick tour of the Bangla noodle shops, all would be fine in the morning.

And so it was. This time a T20 match with PCG inserted to bat first. And, in spite of bowling another 27 wides (62 in the weekend!), BC never let PCG get going, restricting them to 136 for 6 off 20 overs. Anthony (1-34), Rahul (2-21), and Jem (2-20) took the wickets but Nick and Andy bowled important tight spells.

BC got off to a slow start losing Nick early and scored just 8 off the first 4 overs. But then Rahul attacked the bowling, scoring 30* off his last 18 balls. Jem (25) also upped the tempo and 69 for 1 after 10 overs was handy position to push for victory. After the drinks break Andy (23* off 15) and Anthony (23*) stylishly finished it off with hardly a scare, BC winning by 7 wickets and almost 2 overs to spare.

And great were the celebrations. The ACG ground has a wonderful pavilion with an upstairs open-air bar and PCG were soon Oooooh Aaaaaaarging along with us during a marathon slammers session. Shirts and hats were exchanged, new friends had been made and surely Phuket will now become an annual fixture.





Marshall Trophy 35 overs Vs RBSC: The Marshall Trophy was first played in 1963 and BC's last victory was in 1995 before vanishing from the cricket scene. Since returning 3 seasons ago RBSC have thrashed us 6 times including 3 Marshall Trophy matches. The odds then, were not too good when we arrived for this fixture at the Polo Club on 4th November ... but in Phuket several members of the team had a found a bit of early season form.

Inserted in humid conditions with a boggy outfield we might have been expected to struggle but Rahul (51*) was in blistering form and Speddo (24*) played the perfect foil, taking BC to 54-0 at the 12 overs drinks break, a good score that would have been 20 more had boundary shots not stuck in the mud. After both batsmen retired, Jem (46) and Sailesh (19) were becalmed for a while and with only 30 runs coming off 10 overs, at 100 for 1 off 26 overs it was looking like a good start might have been wasted. But then Jem moved up a gear, smashing 33 off his next 22 balls including three 6s, and Dale (19 off 11, two 6s), Vaughan (8 off 4, one 6) and Andy (11 off 5, one 6) all played hard hit cameos with 87 coming off the last 9 overs to set a challenging 187 for 3. Seven sixes were the bonus earned from the confidence boosting weekend in Phuket.

But RBSC have the batsmen for such a challenge and in past seasons might have been expected to knock these off. And in fact they were up to the required rate for 23 overs ... the







problem being that they kept losing wickets and were all out. Andy (3 for 22) and Rahul (2 for 23) reduced them to 12 for 3 in the 3rd over and they never really recovered. Jem (1 for 13) again bowled well and Richard (3 for 6) mesmerised Corin, playing for the wrong side, and got into the tail-enders. Tejas finished it off with a great caught and bowled at the second attempt off his first and only ball, RBSC finishing 61 runs short. RBSC were generous hosts once again and we were privileged indeed to be invited play the opening match of their season at the wonderful Polo Club. For once though, we had caught them cold and batted much better in conditions that required a mixture of care to deal with a slow pitch and aggression to overcome a soggy outfield.

Played three, won two! Now that's a great start and bodes well for a happy season.









Thursday 6th December 2012 6pm to 9:30pm



St Andrews International School Choir will perform between 7pm and 8pm.
A time of goodwill and seasonal greetings, this event is free to all Members.

Join us on the Back Lawn. Mince pies and mulled wine will be available.

Sign up online, with Reception, or by email.









St. David's Society Bangkok Traditional Christmas Buffet



Date: 11th December 2012

Time: 6.30 p.m. for drinks: 7.00 p.m. for dinner

Venue: Suriwongse Room at The British Club

at 189 Soi 18, Silom Rd, Bangkok, 10500

Cost: 800 baht for Society Members

1000 baht for non-Members First drink included in price

Take part in our own unique "Secret Santa"

For reservations & menu details contact:

Heather Powell - 0832932169 / email heather.wyn@gmail.com

st david's society of bangkok



THE LAST MONDAY CRIME NIGHT CLUB

"Every murderer is probably somebody's old friend."

- Agatha Christie, 'The Mysterious Affair at Styles'

DECEMBER

The Monday Night Club, as all good things, now comes to an end after four years with five exciting Monday stories this December.

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



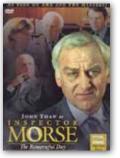


"Not a champion this time.

The Maid in Splendour

The Maid awaited her champion to find he had grown too old, so she threw` herself in Lake Splendour in despair says the Midsomer tale but in this tale it is the past champion who is in despair having chased someone too old to be his splendour. When the staff of a pub start to die, in the end the Pub does as well!

This case stars John Nettles as DCI Barnaby with guest stars William Gaunt, Freddie Jones and Alan Cox and with John Hopkins as Detective Sergeant Dan Scott.



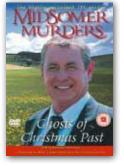
"No further to be found."

The Remorseful Day

"Ensanguining the Skies. How Deadly it Dies. Into the West away; Past touch and sight and sound. No further to be found. How hopeless underground. Falls the Remorseful Day"

On light duties from his hospitalisation last episode, Morse picks up the trail of a missing ex-con, a burglary that somehow doesn't sound right and an accidental death that seemed too convenient. If only Morse had remembered Nicholas Quinn then it might have been a different story altogether and there might have been one less body!

John Thaw is DCI Morse, Kevin Whately is Sergeant Lewis and James Grout is Chief Superintendent Strange supported by a guest cast of T.P. McKenna, Colin Spaull and Paul Freeman and with cameo appearances from the writer Colin Dexter and the Morse theme composer Barrington Pheloung.



"The Present Kills"

Ghost of Christmas Past

Worthy of its Dickensian title, this a seasonal tale of Christmas trees and plum puddings, of ghosts past and a ghost present, of a miser, a cripple, an old house, Jack Frost climbing in through the window, lots of presents that everyone wants and a present that no-one wants, with the touch of magic that Christmas needs and with no humbugs in sight at all.

Our Midsomer Christmas special stars John Nettles as DCI Barnaby with guest stars Haydn Gwynne, Margery Mason and Philip Quast and with John Hopkins as Detective Sergeant Dan Scott and as it is Midsomer, murder is on the Yuletide menu!



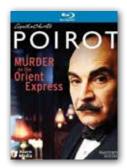
"Not only Time Bombs Tick!"

31st The Clocks

As we exit 2012 on the stroke of twelve so a murder is committed at 3.10 on the dot, or is it on the dot, dot dash? A chance viewing of a theft led to a death by 'Miss Adventure' and whilst her boyfriend is in the clear, he finds that the future of peace in the United Kingdom rests on five clocks. Thus when five clocks

become four, and the house guest is deathly quiet, we have another, nearly final, case for Monsieur Poirot

David Suchet is again Hercule Poirot with guest stars Geoffrey Palmer, Tom Burke, Anna Massey and Jason Watkins.



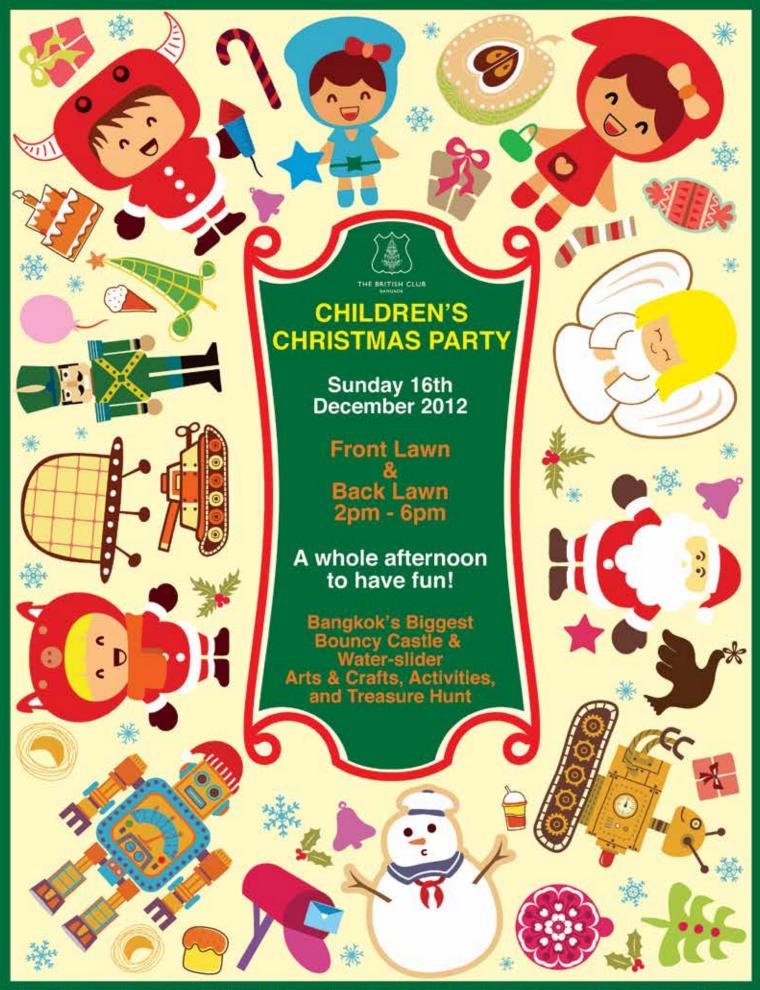
The Ultimate Whodunnit'

Murder on the Orient Express

Forget Peter Ustinov and Albert Finney and forget all the false airs and graces, bluffs and double bluffs because this is Murder on the Orient Express as it was written (well nearly!). Yes, there are still the twelve passengers, yes the train is stuck en route in the snow, and yes there is a man stabbed twelve times in his sleep but there Ustinov, Finney and Suchet part company.

This time can Poirot solve the murder before he, himself, becomes the target of the assassin and will he overcome his moral dilemma over the murder and tell the police who really done it!

David Suchet is Hercule Poirot with guest stars Hugh Bonneville, David Morrissey, Eileen Atkins and Samuel West.



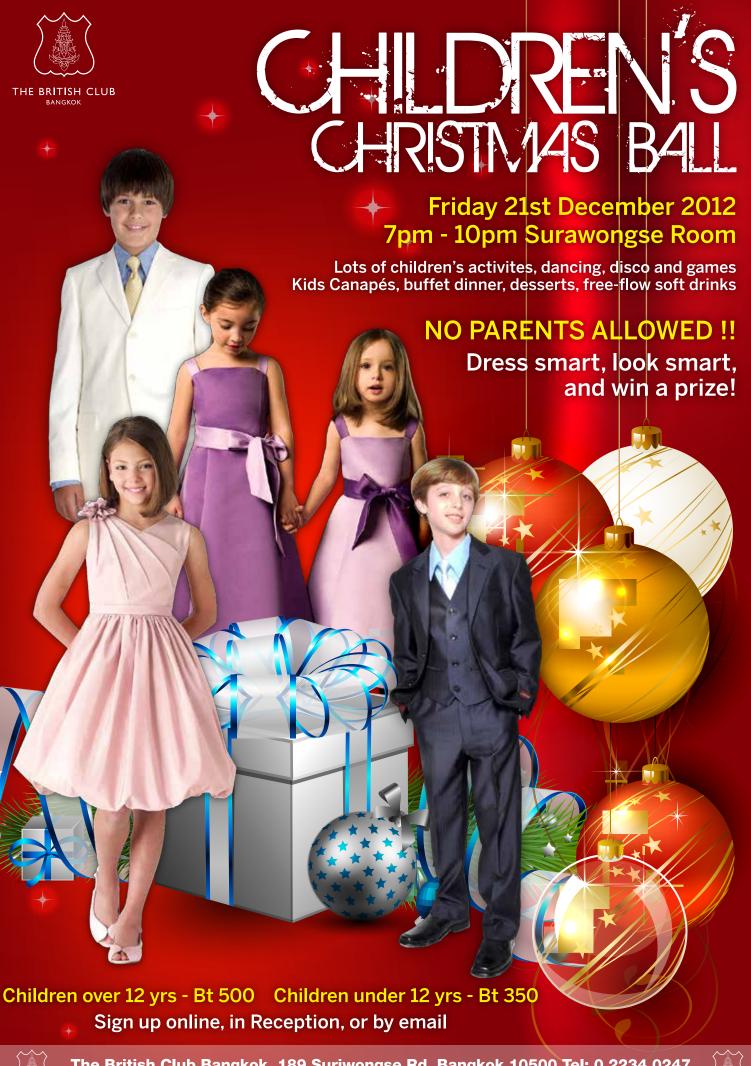
Kids under 2 yrs Bt 100

Kids 2-12 yrs Bt 500

Adults Bt 150













Members Bt 100 Non-Members / Guests Bt 150

TEAMS OF 6 or LESS

BOOK ONLINE, IN RECEPTION **OR BY EMAIL**

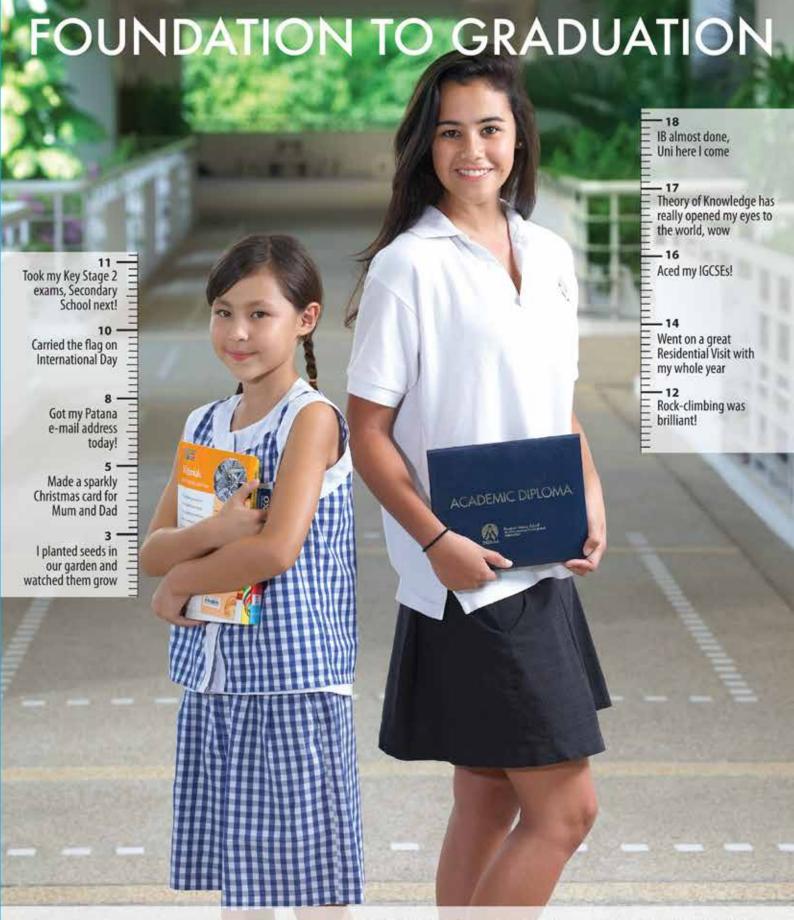


TUESDAY 11th DECEMBER 2012

VENUE: THE VERANDAH

TIME: 7.15 PM







Bangkok Patana School

The British International School in Thailand Established 1957 Bangkok Patana School prides itself on delivering British teaching traditions for an international community, from Foundation to Graduation. Following the English National Curriculum to IGCSE and the International Baccalaureate Diploma in Senior Studies, our strong academic and extra-curricular programme nurtures students of over 55 nationalities to fulfil their individual potential. Only at Patana!

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T: 02 398 0200 x 347 E: admissions@patana.ac.th www.patana.ac.th

Bangkok Patana School, 643 LaSalle Road (Sukhumvit 105), Bangna, Bangkok 10260, Thailand

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Founded in Thailand in 1996, MBMG Group has since established a reputation for providing sound, intelligent and impartial advice to clients from all walks of life. But don't just take our word for it, look at the awards we've won....

- ACQ Finance Magazine Global Award, MBMG Group, Business Advisory Firm of the Year, Thailand 2012
- ICFM Leading Regulated Fund Management Provider, Thailand 2012
- ICFM Continental Awards, Thailand 2012
- Finance Monthly Tax & Estate Planning Firm of the Year, Global Award 2012
- Finance Monthly Tax & Estate Planning Firm of the Year, Thailand 2012
- Lawyers World Annual Jurisdiction Awards 2012
- Lawyers World Global Leading Firm, Top Tier Rankings 2012
- Lawyer Monthly Legal Award 2012
- The DealMakers M&A Awards 2012, Independent Financial Consultancy Firm of the Year (Thailand)

















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