





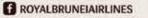
#### FIND YOUR #NEXTSUNRISE IN LONDON VIA BRUNEI

For bookings and enquiries, contact our sales team at 02-6383050 or email us at bkkres@rba.com.bn

FROM	DESTINATION	FREQUENCY	DEPART	ARRIVE
BANGKOK	BRUNEI	MON, TUE, FRI, SAT	13:30	17:15
DAINGNON	DRUNEI	WED, THU, SAT, SUN	20:40	00:25
BRUNEI	LONDON	DAILY	20:55	06:40
LONDON	BRUNEI	DAILY	17:05	17:30
BRUNEI	BANGKOK	MON, TUE, FRI SAT	11:00	12:45
DRUNEI	BANGKOK	WED, THU, SAT, SUN	18:15	20:00







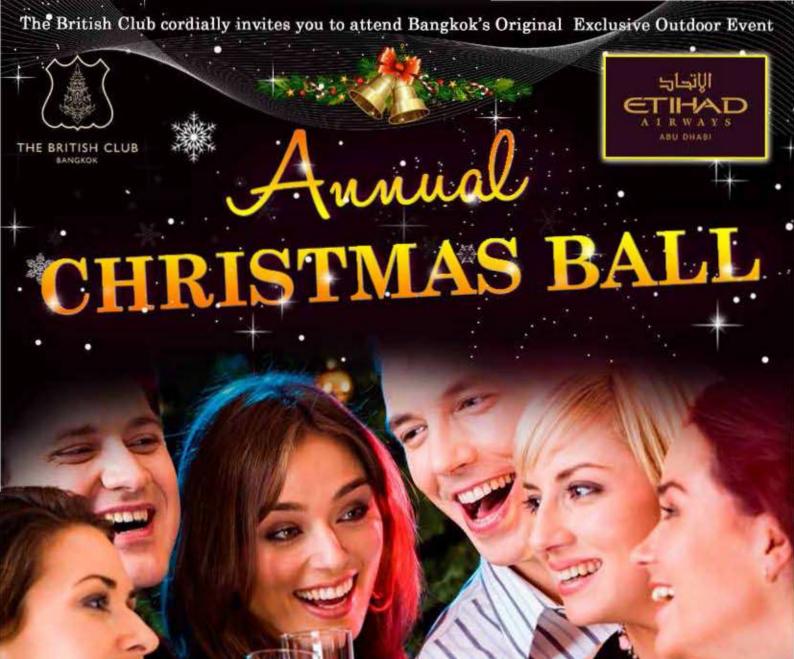


# LONG LIVE THE KING



With best wishes and many happy returns to His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej

on the auspicious occasion of his 87th birthday, 5th December 2014, from the Management, Members and Staff of the British Club Bangkok



# 13th December 2014 from 7pm until early hours

- 1.5 hour cocktail reception on the Front Lawn with drinks and deluxe canapés
- Half bottle of wine FREE per person Traditional seasonal dinner Raffle prize draw

- Special bar and wine menu
- Live music, dance-floor
- Breakfast at 2 am

Tickets Bt 2,500 per person. Tables of 10 at Bt 22,500. Non-member supplement Bt 250.

Please R.S.V.P. to Reception, or book online: events@britishclubbangkok.org



#### **GENERAL COMMITTEE**

**Chairman** - Phil Alexander chairman@britishclubbangkok.org

**Honorary Secretary** - Paul Cheesman honorary.secretary@britishclubbangkok.org

**Honorary Treasurer** - Bill Wilcox

#### **General Committee Members**

Bob Merrigan (Vice Chair, Silom Sala Areas Development), John Stevens (Vice Chair, Sports Affairs), Sullindy Collacott, Hugh Davies, Craig Hoy, Warwick Newton, Chris Watt gc@britishclubbangkok.org

#### **SENIOR MANAGERS**

#### General Manager

Premrudee Tanyaluck gm@britishclubbangkok.org

#### Services & Functions Manager

Somboon Chaiyaprom somboon@britishclubbangkok.org

#### **Duty Manager**

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#### Membership Sales Manager

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#### **Executive Chef**

Kornnisara Nongku

#### Sports Manager

Amnat Saklebpradu amnat@britishclubbangkok.org

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#### **REPORTINGS**

05 CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE Development update

O7 LETTER FROM THE GM Khun Prem's message

09 HAPPENINGS Events Roundup

**1 1 F & B MORSELS** Christmas is Coming!

13 NEW MEMBERS NIGHT Welcome to the Club

14 GUY FAWKES NIGHT Remember, Remember

18 HALLOWEEN NIGHT The Witching Hour

#### **CLUB BENEFITS**

20 RULES BRITANNIAE
Rules you might not know

#### **CLUB FEATURES**

PAST PARTICIPLE
Looking back at the year 2005

#### **SPORTS**

22 FANTASY FOOTBALL Where we're at

23 TENNIS
Seniors Tournament

24 HARD BALLS
AGM and Phuket Tour

26 GOLF Monthly news

27 SQUASHY BITS S.I.C.C.



#### FRONT COVER

It is the season of goodwill and a month of spending time with family and friends which all culminates on Christmas Day and then again for the New Year. Everybody at the Club wishes all Members a fantastic month full of health, happiness and a joyful and prosperous New Year.

#### **EDITOR'S GREETING**

#### Dear Members,

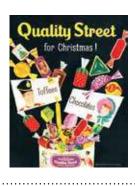
We're approaching the end of 2014 which has been a really good year at the Club and I hope that 2015 carries on in a similar vein.

This month's issue is full of what has happened and what is about to happen which is appropriate for the time of year when one looks back as well as forward and remembers absent friends.

A peaceful but exciting month to all Outpost readers!

Pip pip!

Ed.



**OUTPOST** is the monthly publication of **THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK**, the social sports and cultural centre for the English-speaking community in Bangkok.

A full version of the magazine is also available online at www.britishclubbangkok.org/outpost **Editor** - Jeremy de Sausmarez jeremy@britishclubbangkok.org

Opinions expressed need not necessarily represent those of the Club. All events, dates and times are correct at time of press. Outpost welcomes contributions from Members, email outpost@britishclubbangkok.org - No part of this publication may be reproduced without the written permission of the Publisher.



# **MESSAGE** FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Chairman, **General Committee** 

The financial year end of the Club is set to finish on the 30th November 2014 and when the figures are published in early 2015 we will again see excellent financial results as the Club moves from strength to strength. Financially our cash position is at an all time high, we have seen turnover records being broken in many Club outlets this year and we are still investing in and upgrading many areas of the Club.

The General Committee anticipates calling an EGM towards the end of January 2015 to provide Members with updates on the proposed redevelopment of the Silom Sala areas following recent consultations with Members, and hopefully the membership will be in a position to give their comments and approval to the revised plans.

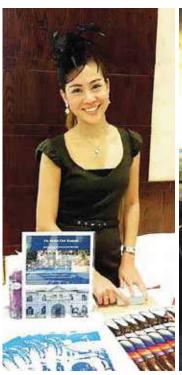
Currently, as mentioned by Khun Prem in the last Outpost, works have started on installing an exterior lift for the disabled which will connect to the 1910 Balcony. The access to the lift will be covered and I am sure that this will be a welcome addition to the Club for those Members who have difficulty reaching the function areas upstairs. Works have also started on a pavilion coffee shop at the back of the tennis courts. This new outlet will have outside terraces with new landscaping and an improved entrance with a waterfall, and will provide an excellent viewing area across the tennis courts.

During 2014 our Membership department, which consists of Khun Prang and Khun Kannikar, has produced excellent results. In the first ten months of 2014 they recruited 150 new Members to replace the 112 who had left, mainly from relocation overseas. In addition to these, 29 past Members who were Absent re joined us so as we go to print we have 1,119 Members, the highest figure on record! This figure is not static, however, as the number of Members changes, sometimes daily, so as you read this we will probably have 1,120 or 21 or 22 Members!

Paul Cheesman, who oversees our new Members and Reciprocal Clubs, reminded me the other day that these 1,119 Members comprise 311 single Members, 808 family Members with spouses of whom 270 have

between them 638 children ... thus there are 2,565 people "at the Club" but again this is not static.

Another variable figure is the number of clubs in our Reciprocal Club Network. Responding to Members' and other requests, we have added 11 new clubs this year bringing our network up to 335 clubs in 53 countries across the world. Additions this year include the Craigengower Cricket Club in Hong Kong, the Royal Overseas League in London and Edinburgh, the Janak Puri Club in New Delhi and the Royal South Yarra Lawn Tennis Club in Australia.





Further updates are coming next month, but in the meantime on behalf of myself and the rest of the General Committee I would like to wish all of our Club Members and their families joy and happiness for the festive season.



# **LETTER FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER**

As previously mentioned to you about the Club's development, in November we started work on our new café by Surawongse Road, and we plan to finish it about the beginning of March. It will include indoor and outdoor seating with a small patio area, and will be landscaped. This café will provide service for our Members especially the tennis groups after they finish their games and for spectators during games and tournaments. It will be named and advertised in Outpost once it's open for use. The other current development is the lift at the end of the Clubhouse which is being manufactured at the moment with preparatory works already underway, and we plan to finish this and have it operational before Christmas Day. There's been very good feedback from Members who it will help going upstairs to enjoy the 1910 Balcony and for accessing functions in the rooms there also.

The festive season is very close, and it's the busiest time of the year for our Club. Recent events have been well attended and future events have better bookings than last year such as the Annual Christmas Ball, the Children's Christmas party, and the Christmas Day Lunch and Dinner, but there are still places available so please check your schedules and book soon with Reception to avoid any disappointment. Don't miss out on the New Year's Eve dinner cruise, and remember we will have the Polar Swim on New Year's Day 2015 with blocks of ice floating in the big swimming pool - it's good fun for kids and a nice way to start the new year.

This year the Club has broken a few records such as the number of Club Members, so thank you to Khun



Premrudee Tanyaluck

General Manager

Prang and the membership team. We also had a record number for Trafalgar Dinner, the Kids' Halloween Party and most of all Guy Fawkes Party, so thank you to our events, catering and kitchen teams, and the highest record for our Sports Camps, so thank you to Khun Amnat and his sports team. We have a new Sports Camp again in mid December, so please sign up at the Fitness Centre or by email.

Our financial year ends this month, and I'm proud to say we have seen a very good year for revenue and the highest cash flow position. I would like to thank all the Members and the GC who are supporting me and our Club. I'd also like to thank all the staff for their marvellous hard work and dedication which has made such a good year possible.

Finally, may I take this opportunity of wishing all our Members and staff a wonderful festive season with friends and families. For those Members who will travel, don't forget to ask the membership department for introduction letters to any of the 330 reciprocal clubs around the world which you may visit.

I will see you around the Club soon, and hope you have a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

## **OFFICIAL OPENING TIMES**

The Verandah	11am - 2pm, 5pm - 10pm (Mon-Thurs) 11am - 10pm (Fri-Sun and Public Holidays)					
1910 Balcony	3pm - 11pm (Afternoon To	3pm - 11pm (Afternoon Tea 3pm - 5pm)				
Accounts Office	9am - 6pm (Mon-Fri), Closed (Sat-Sun)					
Neilson Hays Coffee Shop	9am - 6pm	Fitness Centre	6am - 10pm (Mon-Fri)			
Churchill Bar	10am - 12midnight	Fitness Centre	6am - 9pm (Sat-Sun)			

# NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER CRUISE

31ST DECEMBER 2014



WELCOME THE NEW YEAR IN COMFORT, AWAY FROM THE CROWDS, CRUISING ALONG THE CHAOPRAYA UNDER THE STARS!



Eat, drink, and be merry while taking in the sights including the beautiful Wat Arun, the Grand Palace, and more with fireworks at midnight - enjoy!



UPSTAIRS BT 2,500 OR INSIDE BT 2,000 GUESTS/NON-MEMBERS SUPPLEMENT BT 250 LIMITED SEATS AVAILABLE, SO BOOK NOW!

EVENTS@BRITISHCLUBBANGKOK.ORG

15% discount
on sparkling wine
or
Wine of the Month
if booked in
advance

- ●Leave Saphan Taksin pier at 8pm ●Enjoy canapés before dinner
- Buffet dinner on deck (upstairs) or in aircon lounge (downstairs)

# **HAPPENINGS**

It's nearly the end of 2014 which has turned out a better year than expected. Many new Members have swelled the ranks of attendance and the recent Guy Fawkes Party and Halloween Party have been the best the Club has had, despite the latter being sabotaged by a deluge of rain (actually adding to the kids enjoyment). Guy Fawkes saw over 50 tables on the Back Lawn, all bearing names so reservations could be 'delivered' by staff working from maps. This was a huge success and helped boost the great mood amongst all attending. The photo reviews later in this issue are a good indication of what fun everyone had. We had a good turnout for Loy Krathong too, and the krathongs floating in the pool were as spectacular as the festival itself.



December is going to be a busier month still. We've got the St Andrews Intl School choir coming on 3rd to give a recital of Xmas carols backed by a four-piece wind ensemble, with mince pies and mulled wine available for those listening. Then on 13th is the Annual Ball, for which we're expecting more people than the last few years - it was a great idea bringing the catering in-house last year and as some wine is included free per person and we've got the Boss Band again to play into the night, it promises to be a good evening, with only 4 tables left for booking. Christmas Day is also nearly full with only some tables left for dinner and very few places for lunch. Like last year, the evening buffet on the Back Lawn should be cool and starry. For the first time, Christmas Day is being sponsored by British Airways so there will be raffle tickets which could win you 2 business class tickets to London return, and with part of the proceeds going to the Pisamai Fund for staff children's education, it's a worthy cause and a good reason to make a booking for some of the last remaining tables.

A few months ago, Outpost included a call for donations to the Pisamai Fund as it's running low. I'm pleased to say we have received some donations, all



**Events & Marketing** Manager

very generous. Our thanks to those who have donated, and I hope there will be some more coming through soon at this most charitable time of the year.

Kids get their chance to play on 21st when we hold the Children's Xmas Party with all the usual fun and games, as well as a visit from Santa with a bag of goodies to hand out to kids. They will also be looking forward to New Year's Day when we have the Polar Swim at midday, with blocks of ice chilling the main swimming pool. And for parents who were seeing in the New Year the night before, the Polar Swim is a refreshing way to slip into 2015, with a great Thai Buffet on hand at Poolside - no need to book, just come along.

The New Year's Eve dinner cruise last December was a trial run which proved very popular and was much enjoyed by most. There were some teething problems, so this year we will be doing the same on a better boat with better attention to the food provided and the seating arrangements. It will still be a Club buffet as we chug down the Chaopraya, passing the beautiful Wat Arun and the Grand Palace, culminating in the overhead fireworks show at the turn of the year. The getting on and off the boat is awkward, and all riverboats have awkward stairs to negotiate, so be sure you're feeling spritely when you make your booking!

There is also the Christmas Quiz Night on 18th December, which will feature an extra 'round' with an extra prize, and Quizmaster leuan is rustling up something special for his questions too, which may even include a spot prize when you least expect it. Teams of 6 or less please email your bookings so we can be prepared.

I have always loved Christmas and the festive season is always a fantastic time for kids. I hope you all have a fabulous festive season with all your friends and families wherever you may be, and my very best wishes for 2015. If you're travelling during this busy month, take care!

# Business Luncheons

#### 1st December - 5th December 2014

Starters - 55 baht

Smoked Fish Salad with Lime and Chilli dressing

or

Chef's Soup of the Day

Main Courses - 140 baht

Mixed Sausage with Mashed Potatoes and Fried Onion

or

Turkey and Mushroom Pie with Mixed Vegetables

and Home-fried Potatoes.

or

**Grilled Sea Bass** 

Served with Spinach Risotto

or

**Tom Yam Goong** 

(Spicy Lemon Grass Soup with Prawns and Mushrooms)

**Gai Phad Khing** 

(Stir-fried Chicken with Ginger, Onion and Fungus Mushrooms)

**Tod Mun Pla** 

(Deep-fried Fishcakes)

#### 15th December - 19th December 2014

Starter - 55 baht

Tuna Salad

Tuna, Tomatoes, Lemon grass, lime and spicy dressing

or

Chef's Soup of the Day

Main Courses - 140 baht

**Turkey Chilli Con Carne** 

Served with Rice

or

Fillet of Pork in Pepper Sauce

Served with Mixed Vegetables and Lyonnaise Potatoes

or

Pan-fried Dory Fish in Spicy Herbs

Served with Mixed Salad and Boiled Potatoes

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 Fishcakes)

#### 8th December - 12th December 2014

Starter - 55 baht

**Chicken Cranberry Salad with Balsamic Dressing** 

or

Chef's Soup of the Day

Main Courses - 140 baht

Pan-fried Dory Fish with Caper Butter Sauce

Served with Broccoli, Carrot and Garlic Mashed Potatoes

or

B.B.Q. Ham

In Parsley Cream Sauce,

Served with Sautéed Cabbage+Bacon and Potatoes Salad

or

**Baked Chicken Breast in Tomatoes and Cheese Sauce** 

Served with Roast Vegetables

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)

#### 22nd December - 26th December 2014

Starters - 55 baht

Warm Bread Salad of Crispy Bacon, Parmesan and Poached Egg

or

Chef's Soup of the Day

Main Courses - 140 baht

Lamb, Beef and Eggplant Moussaka

Served with Mixed Salad and Garlic Bread

or

**Grilled Chicken Breast with Chasseur Sauce** 

Served with Broccoli, Carrot and Roast Potatoes

or

Pan-fried Sea Bass with Pernod and Dill Sauce

or

**Tom Yam Goong** 

(Spicy Lemon grass Soup with Prawns and Mushrooms)

Pad Khana Nam Man Hoy

(Stir-fried Kale Oyster Sauce)

Kraprao Kai

(Stir-fried Minced Chicken with Hot Basil and Chilli)





# **F&B MORSELS**

First of all may I remind you all to send in your Christmas Food and Wine order forms so we can be sure to have enough of everything for collection and delivery on, before or after Christmas Day itself. Spare forms are available all over the Club and even by email if you need.

December is a really busy month for all of us, especially in the kitchens because on top of regular orders, there are many functions, weddings, and Club events too. So for this month there will be no Saturday Buffets in The Verandah, but there will be freshly roasted turkey available every Sunday Brunch and Honey Baked Ham as well.

The Annual Ball's traditional dinner this year is again being prepared in-house as last year we got such good feedback and we will do our best to make it extra good. Likewise for Christmas Day lunch and dinner, the biggest buffets of the year! I'm so pleased to see so many Members booking these events, and we are



**Executive Chef** 

all happy to be providing you with such good food. We are also doing the catering for the New Year's Eve cruise which went so well last year.

Continuing this month is the strawberry promotion in all sorts of dishes, desserts, drinks and so on. We have two special cocktails of the month and a snack of the month too which you can see below.

My staff and I wish all of you a wonderful season and a very happy new year as well.

Happy Eating!









Teams ≤ 6 Members Bt 100 Guests Bt 150

# YIN DEE TON RUB! New Member's Night

The Suriwongse Room on 28th October welcomed about 40 new Club Members who have joined the Club since early Spring to an informal New Members Night offering the chance to get to know each other and 8 members of the GC, the Sports Section Heads, as well as quite a number of staff members too.



Kamon Sributkhote

**Duty Manager** 



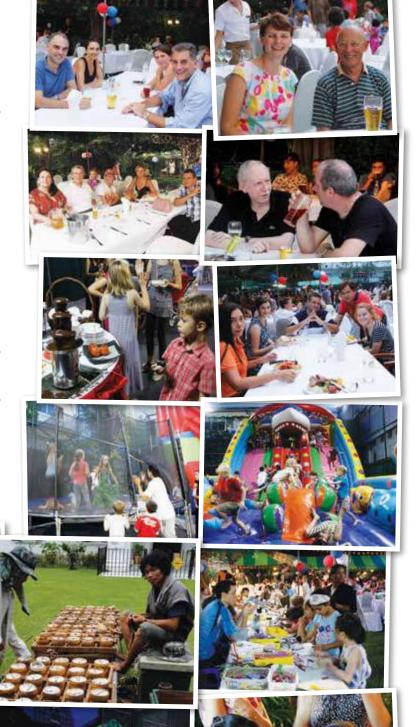
# REMEMBER, REMEMBER...

# Guy Fawkes 2014

We checked every weather forecast we could every day for a week before 8th November. As the day grew closer, the likelihood of rain got smaller and smaller. The Back Lawn was covered with tables, with awnings over the ones around the edge and on the MPC. A black cloud slothed its way across the sky in the afternoon. But we were lucky.

There were over 50 tables, mapped and named. The ambience was incredible. The mood was festive. The drinks and food were there, an extra buffet station in The Verandah. Sam and his Amazing Friends were totally overloaded as were the trampoline and bouncy. The entertainer balancing plates on bamboo sticks was overbalanced. The fire-breathing hoopjumping semi acrobats were terrific, despite being billed as Thai dancing.

Then, after many a countdown warning, came the fireworks display. Totally awesome, filling the sky. Kids screamed with delight. Then the bonfire, and the final Club display. Thank you all for coming and making it the best Guy Fawkes we've ever had. See you next year!





# Monday

## **Tuesday**

# Wednesday

#### **BWG Mahjong**

Tennis Mix-In

**Monday Night** 

Wordsworth Lounge

'INVASION OF THE **BODY SNATCHERS'** 

Movie 7:30pm

10am - 1pm

6pm - 10pm



#### Squash Mix-In

Spoofers 8:30pm

5:15pm - 7:30pm

Bangkok

Gentlemen



#### **Ladies Tennis** Coaching

9am - 10:30am



6pm - 10pm

**Christmas** Carols Back Lawn



#### **BWG Mahjong**

10am - 1pm





#### Tennis Mix-In 6pm - 10pm

**Monday Night** Movie 7:30pm Wordsworth Lounge

THE LEAGUE OF



#### Squash Mix-In

5:15pm - 7:30pm

Bangkok Gentlemen

Churchill Bar CLOSED from 3pm

**Spoofers Party** 



**Ladies Tennis** 

Coaching

9am - 10:30am

Tennis Mix-In

6pm - 10pm



GENTLEMEN'



# Squash Mix-In

5:15pm - 7:30pm

Spoofers 8:30pm



Coaching 9am - 10:30am

**Ladies Tennis** 

Tennis Mix-In

6pm - 10pm

**Balut Shield Night** 



**BWG Mahjong** 10am - 1pm

Tennis Mix-In



Movie 7:30pm Wordsworth Lounge 'MIRACLE ON 34th STREET'



#### Squash Mix-In

Spoofers 8:30pm

5:15pm - 7:30pm



**Ladies Tennis** Coaching

9am - 10:30am

Tennis Mix-In

6pm - 10pm





Vovember

TIME	Bt650	Bt650	Bt650
10:00 - 10:15	Admin	Admin	Admin
10:15 - 11:00	Games	Games	Games
11:00 - 11:15	Snack	Snack	Snack
11:15 - 12:15	Mini Tennis	Mini Tennis	Mini Tennis
12:15 - 1:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:00 -1:45	Cooking /Play time	Coooking /Play time	Cooking / Play time
1:45 - 2:30	Water Fun	Water Fun	Water Fun

## SPORTS CAMPS £



TIME	Bt 950	Bt 1200	Bt 950	Bt 1200	Bt 950	
9:30 - 10:00	ADMIN	ADMIN	ADMIN	ADMIN	ADMIN	
10:00-11:00	TENNIS		TENNIS		TENNIS	
11:00-11:15	SNACK	Ice Skating	SNACK	Ice Skating	SNACK	
11:15-12:15	FOOTBALL		FOOTBALL	111	FOOTBALL	
12:15-1:00	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	
1:00-2:30	SQUASH	Bowling	Cooking		SQUASH	
2:30-3:30	SWIMMING	bowling	SWIMMING	Bowling	SWIMMING	

#### 10am - 1pm Tennis Mix-In

**BWG Mahjong** 

6pm - 10pm



**Monday Night** Movie 7:30pm

Wordsworth Lounge 'A CHRISTMAS CAROL aka SCROOGE'

**BWG Mahjong** 

Tennis Mix-In

**Monday Night** 

Wordsworth Lounge

Movie 7:30pm

10am - 1pm

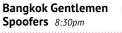
6pm - 10pm

'PICNIC AT HANGING ROCK'











#### **Ladies Tennis** Coaching

9am - 10:30am

Tennis Mix-In 6pm - 10pm

New Year's Eve

**Dinner Cruise** Book Now!





# **Thursday**

# **Friday**

# Saturday

# Sunday

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



Tennis Mix-In 6pm - 10pm



**Junior Tennis** Coaching

4pm - 6pm Kids' Movie 6.30pm, Squash Court 3



**Kids Cricket** 

Book first! 8am - 11am

Poolside BBQ

5pm - 9pm Silom Sala



**Swimming Lessons** 

9:30am - 10:30am

**Kids Cricket** 

Book first! 8am - 11am



**Sunday Brunch** 

11:30 - 3pm

Open Pairs Bridge

2pm Silom Room



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



'CASPER'

Tennis Mix-In

6pm - 10pm



**Junior Tennis** Coaching

4pm - 6pm Kids' Movie

6.30pm, Silom Sala 'FROZEN'



**Kids Cricket** 

Book first! 8am - 11am

Poolside BBQ 5pm - 9pm Silom Sala

**Christmas Ball** 



**Swimming Lessons** 

9:30am - 10:30am



Book first! 8am - 11am



**Sunday Brunch** 

11:30 - 3pm



2pm Silom Room



Squash Mix-In





Tennis Mix-In





**Junior Tennis** Coaching

4pm - 6pm

Kids' Movie 6.30pm, Silom Sala THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS'



**Kids Cricket** 

Book first! 8am - 11am

Poolside BBQ

5pm - 9pm Silom Sala



**Kids Cricket** Book first!

8am - 11am

**Sunday Brunch** 11:30 - 3pm

**Open Pairs Bridge** 

2pm Silom Room Children's

**Christmas Party** 

2pm - 6pm Front & Back Lawn



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



11:30am - 3pm 5pm - 9pm



Tennis Mix-In 6pm - 10pm

**Junior Tennis** 



4pm - 6pm



6pm Surawongse Room

Kids' Movie 6.30pm, Silom Sala

'ICE AGE 2'





Book first! 8am - 11am



5pm - 9pm Silom Sala







**Swimming Lessons** 9:30am - 10:30am

**Kids Cricket** 

Book first! 8am - 11am

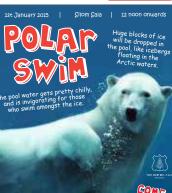


**Sunday Brunch** 

11:30 - 3pm

**Open Pairs Bridge** 2pm Silom Room









**Promotion December 2014** 

Minimum 2 people, your choice of:

- mixed seafood Bt 495

- chicken Bt 470

Bt 450 - vegetarian

**Every Wednesday during December** Available for dinner from every outlet



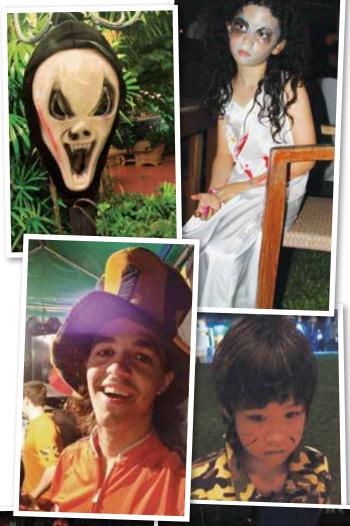
THE WITCHING HOUR

Halloween '14

There were so many kids booked to come to the party on 31st October that we shifted it from the Silom Sala to the Back Lawn. Marvellous decorations, pumpkins, giant hanging spiders, we were all set. Sam and his Amazing Friends were there to do the arts and crafts, and paint gruesome (and pretty) faces, and soon after it was underway, with weird and wonderfully dressed kids in an amazing array of costumes arriving in tens.

Then a magician came on stage and did some of those tricks which made the kids gasp, and some laugh. But his stint was cut short as the heavens opened so everyone dived under the awnings and grabbed great helpings of food.

The rain dampened some spirits, but the spirit of Halloween carried on with the kids, who of course love getting wet. So they had doughnuts on the end of a string which somehow got eaten, they smashed piñatas, and they had other games on stage. They had such a good time and the last I saw was a group of girls in the middle of the sodden lawn pressing down on the mud so it would squelch between their toes. Trick or treat!

















# **'RULES BRITANNIAE'**

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

## **VISITING FAMILY?**

**DID YOU KNOW...** if you have parents or siblings visiting you over Christmas or New Year, they can get complimentary Club membership for the period of their stay.

Please sign them up at Reception.

SOME CONDITIONS APPLY SO SEE RULE 59 (B) FOR DETAILS.





**Sunday December 14th**6 pm Carols by Candlelight

Sunday December 21st
7.30 am Holy Communion
10.00 am All Age Communion

Wednesday December 24<sup>th</sup>

6 pm Children's Christingle Nativity
11 pm Midnight Communion

**Thursday December 25<sup>th</sup> 10 am All Age Christmas Communion** 

# **Christ Church**

11 Convent Road (corner of Sathorn near BNH Hospital)
BTS Sala Daeng, MRT Silom
Tel: 02 234 3634 www.christchurchbangkok.org

# PAST PARTICIPLE Auspicium Melioris Ævi

We look back to the history of our Club in 2005 ...

As mentioned last month a terrible tragedy occurred on Boxing Day 2004 whereby a tsunami hit the Indian ocean creating widespread damage in 16 countries and killing 227,898 people of 56 nationalities. With the support of the wider British community, the Club soon became a collection centre for much needed donations of bottled water, dry food and clothing. All in all 10 pick-up trucks transported these materials to Phuket in the first few weeks of 2005.

In addition a British Club Bangkok Tsunami Relief Fund was established after initial donations of 84,976 Baht were received from members. The fund upon its closing and utilisation in 2006, stood at 312,516 Baht ... but you will have to wait until next year (literally) to find out what it was spent on.

One hundred and two years of male dominated Club history came to an abrupt end upon the election of Mrs Angela Daniel as the first female chairman of the General Committee following the 2005 AGM. Angela had been the Honorary Secretary since 2003, and remained as Chairman until her five year term as a General Committee member ended in 2007 (see last month for introduction of this time limit rule). However the most severe blow to male domination in the Club was yet to come and would be over a year in the planning and execution.

A review was held by the General Committee of the of anomaly created in 1998 whereby the senior office-bearer of each of the four Loyal Societies received an officio Honorary Membership on a par with the core nationality ambassadors. The original idea, fuelled by the Asian Financial Crisis of 1997, was to entice the four societies (St. Andrew's, St. David's, St. George's and St. Patrick's) into using the Club more frequently. The GC noted that the overall patronage over the years continued to remain low and the practice should cease after the 2005 Chieftain, Bard and Presidents left office thus restoring equality to the way the Club treated all non-member groups.

The General Committee noted in July that, after years of tinkering with the Club's Constitution, rules and bylaws, that a large number of inconsistencies had been

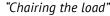


introduced. It was also felt that the Constitution was out of kilter with modern practice. It thus set up a small Work Group of the Chairman plus the author who had been Honorary Secretary 2000 to 2003. Paul undertook a full review of the Constitution, rules and bylaws and presented to the GC a 41 page report recommending 50 constitutional changes grouped into 20 tranches. These were adopted by the General Committee and an Extraordinary General Meeting called on 6th December passed them all.

New Rules including giving visiting family of Members complimentary membership and allowing reciprocal club members to bring in guests. The revised Constitution also established 'Associated Groups' as a legal means of allowing non-member groups to use the Club on a regular basis. At present the Club has some 21 groups who use the Club regularly from Bangkok Mothers and Babies International (BAMBI) to Society of Professional Engineers in Thailand (SPET).

A number of other things that happened in a busy 2005 ... the Clubhouse was repainted (after the removal of all previous coats) at a cost of 600,000 Baht - this revealed a red brick finish either side of the portico - and won a prestigious award (see next year); the current club website (www.britishclubbangkok.org) went live; the Club purchased its first bouncy castle (the small cubic castle one); plasma TVs replaced the box sets around the Club; and finally membership recruitment remained high so the year ended with 1,102 Members.







"10 trucks full of aid"

The author is Honorary Secretary of the Club

# **BCB 1910 FANTASY FOOTBALL**

#### **ECONOMICS AND SILLY RUMOURS**

#### But first this:-

#### Top

<b>•</b>	Bangkok Flyers	Paul Cantwell	62	623
<b>A</b>	Artois5.2	Haroon Rashid	80	604
<b>•</b>	Thai Thai Again	Bob and James Darke	68	601

#### Middle

•	All Star F.C	Omar Adam	54	520
▼	Scunny	Neil Robertson	49	511
<b>A</b>	Attack Attack Attack	Jem Chalk	56	509
•	Sucking Flow Suckers	David Brennan	52	506
<b>A</b>	Koh Samui Clarets	Richard Sutton	58	506
<b>A</b>	Pimmelkoff FC	Debra Thompson	77	505
▼	The Pride	Graham Murrell	55	497
<b>A</b>	Pattaya Panthers	James Howard	58	486
▼	All Izz Well	Neil & Ryan Evans	59	485
<b>A</b>	FMGAN	Monkey Madge	67	484

#### Bottom

•	FU FC	Mike Duly	31	436
<b>•</b>	Khlong Toey FC	Ali Adam	52	428
<b>•</b>	C.C. United	Rumi Sutton	52	415





The BCB 1910 Fantasy Football League looks like this around a third of the way into the season. Make of it what you will. We ain't gonna analyze it here as it's boring and we can't be bothered.

Let's talk about things more interesting. The cost of living keeps rising - you can't get three meals a day for 100 baht

anymore complain the girls in the Churchill Bar, and small bottles of Tiger are 38 baht in 7-11. Yet, in Villa they're 34 and Tops sells 'em for only 32 - price disparity. BTS fares have gone up and taxi fares are set to increases. Very soon none of us will be able to afford to live in Bangkok and will have to return to England where pints of beer are over a fiver and a ticket to a two-hour EPL game, which could be an awful experience if your team



gets thrashed, are nearly 60 guid! Take the Mrs along and / or the kids, buy a programme, a scarf or two, a couple of meat pies and a few pints before, during and after the game and you'll have little change out of 500 of the Queen's pounds!





59 Ouid Average!



That's value for money, innit? It's no wonder most EPL players earn about a grand an hour and spend most of it on ridiculous haircuts, oversized headphones,

overpriced cars - see the pics.

Moving on, in the real EPL, which we said we'd never discuss, so we must have lied, Liverpool have been on a slump and it's all Mario Balotteli's fault, Newcastle have improved which is down to Pardew realizing he was gonna be fired if they hadn't, and Chelsea look set to win the title by Christmas



& Haircut!

thanks to Abramovich's billions. However, Man City also has billions, but are way behind and may not even come second as the Saints are in that spot and don't look like giving it up, while West Ham are FOURTH!



Cost just a week's wages!

At the other end, the three newly promoted teams are definitely down along going Palace, Villa, with Hull and Sunderland, and even Spurs, and maybe Liverpool if

they don't get out of that slump. That would result in nine teams coming up from the Championship meaning one of next season's key EPL fixtures could be Brentford versus Watford. Now that would be a FANTASY! That's assuming the EPL is still in existence by then as a silly rumour has been circulated that it is due to be



Fares soon to start at 40B

closed down by FIFA due to endemic and widespread corruption among the clubs, players and managers. Surely not. Must be just a silly rumour, a silly joke, a bit of silly banter by some silly fans.

We can't believe anyone would be fooled by that silly nonsense, can we? I mean, you'd have to be pretty silly yourself if you did, not to mention very gullible and perhaps a bit dumb!

Have a Very Happy Fantasy Football Christmas . . . .

## **TENNIS**

British Club Members Win International Seniors Tournament

The Thailand International Tennis Federation Senior **Tournament** was held at Rama Gardens Hotel from November 10th to November 16th. The event attracts players ranging from 35 to 65+ years of age from around the globe. The ITF Seniors Circuit consists of over 280 tournaments staged in more than 60 countries on all continents, with 20,000 players taking part each year.

The British Club was well represented by the following players:

- Harold Mollin
- · Phairoj Chansevikul
- James Young
- Nisa Young
- Philip Mock
- David Padgam



(James Young, Harold Mollin, Chalathip Dunnvatanachit)

Two tournament wins in two weeks! We are very proud to announce that Harold Mollin and James Young paired to win the 55 and over ITF doubles title. They won their final match 6-3, 6-3 against a doubles team hailing from India. Their ITF championship title came one week after they won the 55 and over Senior Tennis Classic doubles title at Pyramid Tennis Academy. The Senior Tennis Classic at Pyramid Tennis Academy was organized by the British Club's very own Chalathip Dunnvatanachit.



John Cork **BC Tennis Committee Chair** 

Harold Mollin didn't limit himself to only one title, he cleaned up bringing home an unprecedented 3 trophies as ITF champion of the following events: 35+ and over doubles, 55 and over doubles and 60 and over singles. With that many trophies he must be reading his own tennis tips!



Other members also had a good tournament showing ... Philip Mock had a first round win in the 55 and over age division with a win against an opponent from India. David Padgan had his first win in an international tournament in the 60 and over category! During the 2nd round he went up against his coach and eventual Champion.....Harold Mollin!

In closing, the British Club Tennis Section would like to thank all BC participants for representing our Club and demonstrating the excellent quality of tennis at our Club! The ITF (International Tennis Federation) has an excellent website where you can find information on upcoming tournaments and look up the World Rankings of BC Players!

Visit http://www.itftennis.com/seniors/

# **HARD BALLS**

Last Month: Seemingly few people noticed, but November's Hard Balls was a repeat of October's. Does anyone read these (2) ?! What should have appeared was a brief summary of the Section AGM held in October, listing the new Committee for 2014/15: Chairman Jack Dunford; Captain, Dale Lamb; Vice Captain, Media & Statistics, Adrian Salter; Treasurer, James Crossley-Smith and also playing highlights of last season:

- Dale was the outstanding batsman with 294 runs in 19 appearances in all formats at the remarkable strike rate of 137 runs/ ball faced.
- Speddo was the outstanding bowler with 10 wickets in 12 matches at a miserly economy of 0.82 runs/ball.
- In 24 games, 44 players managed to hold 27 catches. Adrian played more than anyone else and held 5 but probably also dropped a lot more than anyone else as well.
- Adrian played most games (20) missing only the ones when he was in hospital with his inners all over the operating table. Others playing at least 10 were Dale 19, Haroon 17, James 13 and Speddo 12. Jack was present at all 24 games, playing, umpiring or scoring.

Phuket Tour: So having got that out of the way, the 2014/15 season is now up and running. With late dropouts we briefly considered cancelling the tour



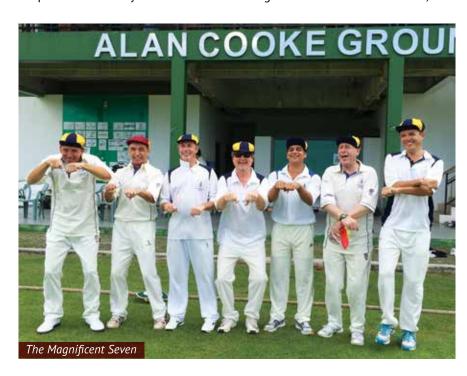
Jack Dunford

to Phuket with perhaps the most creative excuse given being "saving the world from Ebola". But, with characteristic bravado, a Magnificent Seven decided to ride into town anyway, to uphold the Club's honour and fulfil our commitments.

And so we did. After a quiet night on Bangla Road (what goes on tour stays on tour) we were loaned 4 players on Saturday morning to take on the might of The Village in a 25 over game. Coach Adrian laid down a few ground rules for fielding and all the early season signs were promising. The Village team had a few ringers of their own and all looked like handy bats. The score clicked along at an alarming rate, aided by our usual generous contribution of wides, but the fielding was good, catches were held and wickets fell at regular intervals to keep hopes alive. After 9 overs they were 90 for 5, Haroon (2 for 45), Anthony (1 for 6) and Steve (2 for 33) in his debut match having made the breakthroughs. When Dale introduced one of the borrowed players, this soon became 108 for 7 and, had he continued, a very gettable score was on offer. However, although only 2 of The Village batsmen

> scored over 14, 40 not out off 26 balls and 28 off 20 balls from their #s 6 and 10 saw them to a rather flattering final score of 169 for 9 ... and only then did we realise that we had actually only been given 3 players and had fielded with 10 men! Dale did pick up his first wicket of the season (1 for 19), but 21 wides really was a bit too generous!

> Any realistic hopes of victory were put paid to by heavy rain which delayed the game and turned the outfield into a paddy field. Scoring was difficult. Normal 2s and 3s became singles as the ball stopped in puddles, and 4s along the were impossible. Anthony (41\*) batted well and



Dale (13), Steve (10) and Haroon (10\*) all reached double figures but the match was effectively lost by half way at 50 for 2. A final score of 104 for 3 meant defeat by 65 runs. A bit harsh really!

Well tours are for fun and Bangla Road was treated to the spectacle of the Magnificent Seven in tour dress code Saturday night ... school boys plus one school girl ... long socks, shorts, school shirts, ties and caps. Ah well, what goes on tour, stays on tour, but a riotous time was had by all which did nothing for the prospects of actually playing cricket better the next day.

The idea had been that lots of Phuket cricketers would turn up on Sunday and give us some good players to have an evenly balanced friendly match. But it didn't really work out that way. They also only had seven players but were in decidedly better shape than our now slightly less than Magnificent Seven. It was agreed to help each other have 11 fielders, but it was seven of us, worse for wear against seven of them, younger and fitter, over 20 overs.

My recollection of their innings is a bit fuzzy (what goes on tour ...). The score sheet says they scored 159 for 4 and a few of our bowlers got smacked around a bit. Quite a few catches were understandably spilled, mostly by Dale, but he redeemed himself by taking all 4 wickets to fall (4 for 34). Only 14 wides were bowled which was at least one area of improvement!

More rain again dampened the outfield. Wanting 8 an over to win, this time the game was more or less up after 4 overs with the score on 11 for 3 ... the cream of BC's batting falling to donkey droppers from wily captain Platts, all oiking across the line seconds before the ball actually arrived. Steve (35) was the only batsman to reach double figures, but even he blotted his copybook getting out just when I was getting going on one of my rare visits to the crease! The final score of 103 included no less than 33 wides, the first time for a long time that the opposition has bowled more than us!

With 50 names on my emailing list and over 30 'regular' cricketers it was sad that this tour was so poorly supported. But, be sure, the Seven who went enjoyed the weekend immensely. We'll be back! Well done guys. And a big thank you to Marc Sayer and all at iCheckInn for a great hotel.

Lots to come: Next month there will be reports on this season's RBSC T10s and at our matches against the Pangolin Club from KL and our first outing to Pattaya. By then we should also have finalised our full fixtures list including participation in the new RBSC T20 League. Unless of course the editor choses to reprint this one again instead!











## **BCGS GOLFING NEWS** October 2014

We were all waiting for the end of the rainy season but it was not to be. Oblivious to the bolts of lighting coming from all directions, Jack O'Flynn swung his metal club boldly heavenwards and Thor responded by giving Jack a par on the last hole to win Flight A in the October Medal with a net 71.

It was David Humphrey's last day in Thailand and he too kept his focus and won Flight B. We wish you well David for your move to Madrid.

The 2014 Club Championships were held at Black Mountain in Hua Hin. The course was immaculate and the weather was kind. The 10th hole has been transformed with a rocky waterfall on the left hand side and a brook protecting the green.

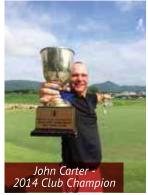
John Carter had a magnificent round on the first day shooting a gross 72 off an 8 handicap. He was 14 shots ahead of his closest rivals Frank Fawkes and Phil Hampshire. John managed to increase his lead on the Sunday to become the 2014 Men's Club Champion. Runner up was Phil Hampshire. Peter Gale was the Net Winner with a combined net score of 151.

The Ladies Competition was a bit closer. Karen Carter was leading by 3 shots on the first day. However she choked on the 17th hole and let Gaew sneak through with a 2 shot lead to win the Ladies Championship. In third place was Yurachatr. Sharon Moore was ready to give up on the second day when she had 12s on two holes. Persuaded to go on she recovered and scored a number of pars and did enough to win the Ladies Net Competition with a combined net score of 146. Special mention also goes to Carol Hampshire who broke 100 for the first time on the first day with a net 66.

The Matchplay competition is progressing with Chris Maclarty and Tony Moore reaching the finals. Chris beat Mark Evans and Tony managed a dog license against Pete Gale.

If you are interested in playing with the Golf Section please let us know by emailing bcqs2002@yahoo.co.uk All that is needed is the ability to swing and drink at the same time.



















# **SQUASHY BITS** S.I.C.C.





**Bruce Madge** 



Singapore Island Country Club is what it means and they popped in for a friendly match the other week. Seven Singaporeans invited in by Wally Evans and he couldn't even be there to welcome them as he was working away in Laem Chabang at his firm's yard where is employed a fine and fetching female 32-year old Cambodian welder named Joy who he's had his eye on for ages. Apparently, ever since he first attempted to chat her up seven years ago by offering her a bag of fried insects, she's been firmly rejecting his naïve and clumsy advances as she was happily married to a Burmese abattoir manager, called Bog. However, love is fickle, and very often blind, not to mention deaf, dumb and stupid, and rumour has it she has divorced Mr. Offal after she discovered him in a rather compromising position with a pig carcass. And on the back of their family motorcycle, no less. Anyway, as a result of Joy being suddenly thrust back onto the market, Captain Calamity, has been pretending, over the last month or so, and on a near daily basis, to find some sort of work to do down Laem Chabang and taking along bags of bugs, chocolates, sweets, fruit, fluffy toys, secondhand clothes, even used notes. Will romance blossom between the highly-educated, smart and sophisticated, British Project Manager and the lowly labourer from Cambod? Probably not; she ain't that stupid. Yet time will tell and with Christmas and the New Year approaching anything could happen. Don't forget to subscribe to Bits for 2015 to see how this tender love story develops. Or doesn't.

Now then, back to the SICC event. With Evans in love in LCB and most other Squash Section Committee members in rehab for drug or sex addiction, Peter Corney, the Squash Section Chairwoman, stepped in to lead by example. First, he arrived at the club at three in the afternoon on the day in question and licked all



Evan's Future Home!

Not too far to go for LOVE!





Joy's Favourite

three courts clean with his tongue. Following this, he purchased half a dozen brand new squash balls with his own money and warmed them up by stuffing them down his pants! Next, he stood at the entrance to the Club for an hour waiting for the visitors to arrive. He did this so he could give them the warmest of British Club welcomes as by the time they did turn up he was boiling hot and sweaty and ever so smelly from standing in the sun for ages! He is from Australia, after all. Then in they came and our players of Shazza, Vivian Westwood, Deano, Godfrey and his Sister Dolly, Ricky from Eastenders, Charley, who now lives with Joy's family in Kampucha, and one other, maybe Rit or one of Evans' kids, got beaten by the SICC's 5-2. Lovely.

Until the wedding .....



# \* A Testive evening with \*



# Christmas Carols \*SHEDNESDay SED December 2014

The British Club

St Andrews International School Choirs will perform at approx 7pm.

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 : events@britishclubbangkok.org

# THE BRITISH CLUB

# Kids Movies December





Casper

12th Dec



Frozen

19th Dec



Nightmare Before Christmas

26th Dec



Jce Age 2

# **MINI SPORTS CAMPS**

Children must be between the ages of 4 and 6 yrs.

**DECEMBER 15,17,19 and DECEMBER 22,24,26** 

TIME	Bt650	Bt650	Bt650
10:00 - 10:15	Admin	Admin	Admin
10:15 - 11:00	Games	Games	Games
11:00 — 11:15	Snack	Snack	Snack
11:15 — 12:15	Mini Tennis	Mini Tennis	Mini Tennis
12:15 — 1:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
	Cooking	Coooking	Cooking
1:00 -1:45	/Play time	/Play time	/ Play time
1:45 — 2:30	Water Fun	Water Fun	Water Fun



# SPORTS CAMPS 🚉



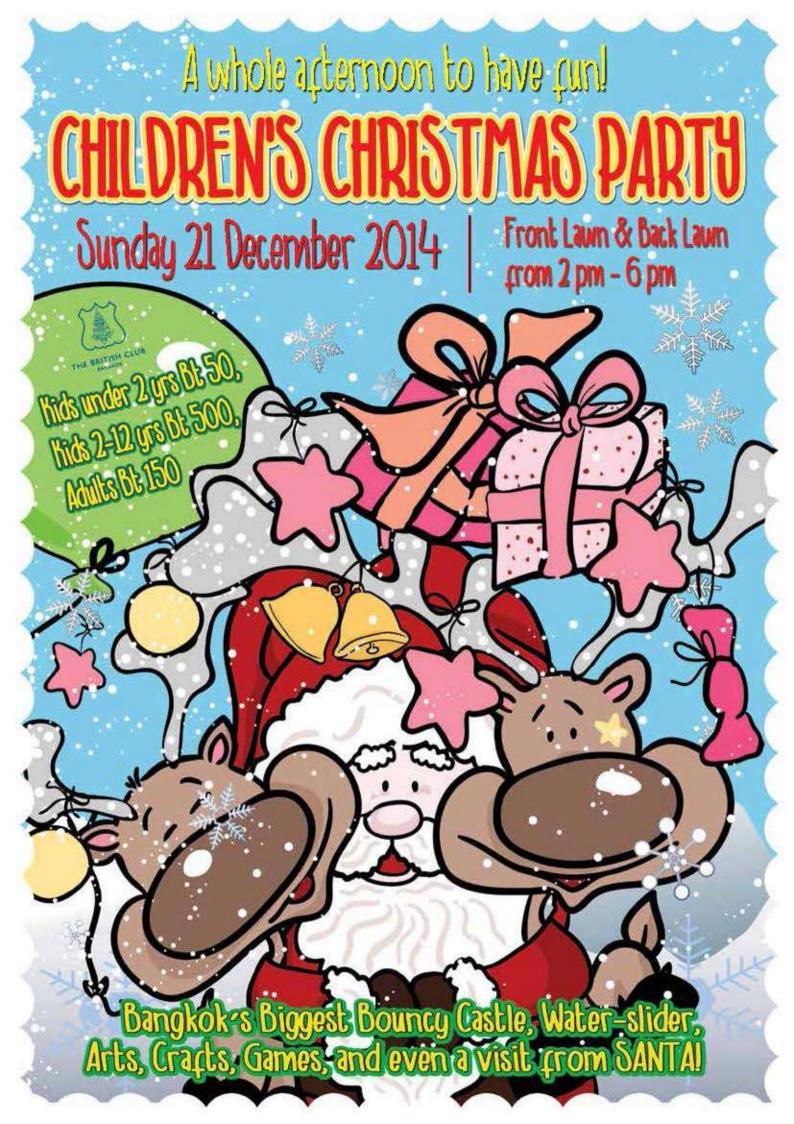




Children should be 7+.

**DECEMBER 15,17,19 and DECEMBER 22,24,26** 

TIME	Bt 950	Bt 1200	Bt 950	Bt 1200	Bt 950
9:30 - 10:00	ADMIN	ADMIN	ADMIN	ADMIN	ADMIN
10:00-11:00	TENNIS		TENNIS		TENNIS
11:00-11:15	SNACK	Ice Skating	SNACK	Ice Skating	SNACK
11:15-12:15	FOOTBALL		FOOTBALL		FOOTBALL
12:15-1:00	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
1:00-2:30	SQUASH	Bowling	Cooking	Rouding	SQUASH
2:30-3:30	<b>SWIMMING</b>	Downing	SWIMMING	Bowling	SWIMMING





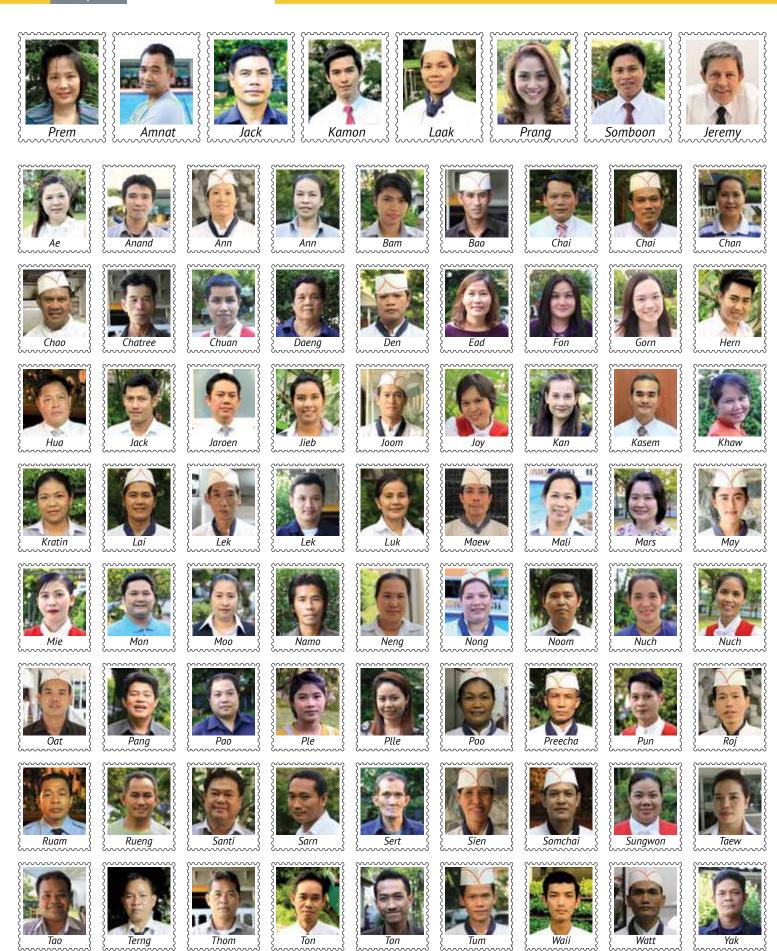
Huge blocks of ice will be dropped in the pool, like icebergs floating in the Arctic waters.

The pool water gets pretty chilly, and is invigorating for those who swim amongst the ice.



-ree ice-cream and shaved ice for swimmers only!

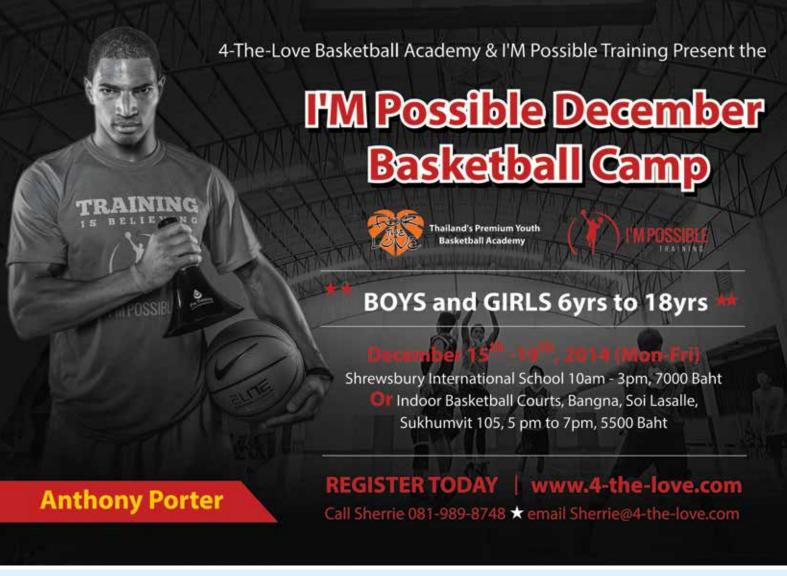
Also available, delicious Thai buffet and desserts, with mulled wine and your favourite drinks as usual!



"Thank you to all the staff for contributing to such an excellent year"







Selected and presented by Mike Smith

**December:** Mondays, 7:30 pm, Wordsworth Lounge



1st | INVASION OF THE BODY **SNATCHERS** (115 mins)

Directed by: Philip Kaufman

Starring: Donald Sutherland, Brooke

Adams, Jeff Goldblum

In San Francisco, a group of people discover the human race is being replaced one by one, with clones devoid of emotion.



8th | THE LEAGUE OF GENTLEMEN (116 mins)

Directed by: Basil Dearden

**Starring:** Jack Hawkins, Nigel Patrick

A disgruntled veteran recruits a group of disgraced collegues to perform a bank robbery with military precision.



15th | MIRACLE ON 34th STREET (96 mins)

**Directed by:** George Seaton

Starring: Edmund Gwenn, Maureen O'Hara

When an old man claiming he's Santa Claus is institutionalized as insane, a young lawyer decides to defend him as being the real thing.





22nd I A CHRISTMAS CAROL aka SCROOGE (86 mins)

Directed by: Brian Desmond Hurst (as Brian Desmond-Hurst)

Starring: Alastair Sim, Jack Warner, Kathleen

Harrison

An old and bitter miser is given a chance for redemption when he is haunted by three ghosts on Christmas Eve.



29nd | PICNIC AT HANGING ROCK (115 mins)

Directed by: Peter Weir Starring: Rachel Roberts, Anne-Louise Lambert, Vivean Gray

During a rural picnic, a few students and a teacher from an Australian girls' school vanish without a trace. Their absence frustrates and haunts the people left behind.

# BOARDING

at Harrow International School Bangkok



A family-run boarding establishment with exceptionally high standards



The outstanding boarding facilities at Harrow Bangkok are growing, due to popularity. The 'home away from home' family atmosphere has been successful in helping students gain confidence and take leading roles in our School, to have more time for study and the pursuit of other interests, and to spend less time travelling to and from school.

'It is no coincidence that all recent boarding graduates have gained places in their first or second choice universities worldwide. Four of our last six Head Boys and Head Girls have been boarders'.