



1903
THE BRITISH CLUB

Outpost

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK



December 2019

5 REASONS TO JOIN US

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CONTENTS

REPORTINGS

- 4 CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE
This month's news
- 8 TEE TALK
Words from the DGM
- 10 F&B MORSELS
From Our Kitchen Team
- 12 HEALTH
Online Training Programs
- 14 RECIPROCAL CLUBS
Paris and Istanbul
- 15 REMEMBRANCE
101
- 16 HALLOWEEN
at the Club
- 17 TRAFALGAR
Goes International

HAPPENINGS

- 22 CALENDAR
What's on this month
- 24 IT'S ON FIRE
Comedy Dinner
- 26 WINE TASTING
Tahuna Pinot Gris
- 28 LOY KRATHONG
At the Club
- 30 GUY FAWKES
Returns!

SPORTS

- 32 SQUASHY BITS
Beer!
- 36 TENNIS
Tree Bauble Bashers
- 38 HARD BALLS
Victory in Phuket
- 40 BCGS GOLFING NEWS
Dunlop Cup & more
- 44 CLASSIFIEDS
Services, For Sale etc.



Front Cover

This month we feature the Festive Season, first up the Christmas Ball which is always an event you don't want to miss on Saturday 14 Dec.

From the Editor

It's hard to believe it is the "Silly Season" again! Where has the year gone? This month there is lots going on at the Club starting with the Christmas Ball followed by the Kids Christmas Party then Christmas Day sees a fabulous feast at lunch and at dinner. So be sure not to miss out.

Cheers

Chris

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OUTPOST is the monthly magazine 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. **Design & Layout** - CJW Design Studio **Editor** - Chris Watt cjwatt@loxinfo.co.th. Opinions expressed do not necessarily represent those of the Club. All events, dates and times are correct at the time of press. Outpost welcomes contributions from Members, email outpost@britishclubbangkok.org. No part of this publication may be reproduced without the permission of the Publisher. "The British Club Bangkok is a registered Association in accordance with the Thai Civil & Commercial Code"

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Jack Dunford

Remembrance Day: A year ago the solemn Remembrance Day Service marking 100 years since the end of World War I was conducted around the War Memorial at the British Embassy on Wireless Road. On 10th November this year, the 101st anniversary service was held around the same War Memorial but at the British Club. In between times, an architectural competition was held to create a discrete and fitting setting and contracts were let to rebuild the Front Lawn and accommodate a new Memorial Terrace. The Memorial was moved in July and all works completed in time for a formal unveiling on 29th August.

Hosting such a significant event at the Club with 20 ambassadors in attendance and many traditions to be embraced was a quite a challenge, but it was accomplished with aplomb all went well without a hitch. It was a glorious sunny cool-season morning, the setting was serene, and around 300 guests were

comfortably accommodated for the service and enjoyed the best of British Club catering and hospitality on the Back Lawn afterwards. The feedback was great and we owe a big vote of thanks to the British Embassy for organizing the event, our Honorary Secretary Paul Cheesman for seamlessly coordinating the arrangements and of course our staff as always for their quiet and attentive service.



Back Lawn Hospitality



Remembrance Day

Members EGM: A Member's Motion to stop work on Phase 2 of the Poolside Redevelopment and consider new design options was defeated by 155 votes to 60 at an EGM on 7th November. A healthy 75 Members attended and total votes cast, including proxies, represented 37% of the total voting Membership.

The meeting was lively and valid concerns were raised by the Motion Signatories, the main ones being whether the Silom Wing should be finished to everyone's satisfaction before taking on Phase 2, reasons why cost estimates for Phase 2 are so much higher than the projections made back in 2017, and whether the Swimming Pool is at risk during the construction of Phase 2.

Subsequently the GC met with the project sub committee to review these issues and we will share our conclusions when deliberations are complete. In brief we believe that the main concerns regarding the Silom

Wing, namely shade and air circulation, room finishes and some issues with the hanging gardens, can all be addressed with affordable solutions and will be a priority in the coming weeks/months. Preliminary investigations suggest that the Swimming Pool does not represent a risk within the timeframe of completing Phase 2 but further professional inputs are being sought. And of course we will present full cost details of Phase 2 once they are finalised.

Phase 2: The GC intention is to complete the Phase 2 planning process and bring a fully costed proposal and funding plan for Member consideration at an EGM, now likely to be early in 2020. Tenders for the main works have been received and evaluated and negotiations are underway.

Following up on two Meetings held with Members interested in loaning the Club money for this project, draft loan agreements setting out the proposed terms and conditions will be circulated around the end November. We will then be able to confirm just how much money can be raised this way. The terms will then have to be agreed at the same EGM that approves the project before Members can apply. Early indications are that the offer will be oversubscribed.

Nielson Hays Literature Festival: The Nielson Hays Library is now celebrating its 150th anniversary and is going from strength to strength after their major renovations last year. This weekend, they are hosting the first of what will be an annual major international literature festival. It is being co-sponsored by the Thai Ministry of Culture and the British Club was pleased to agree to support the event by making the Surawongse Room available for presentations and discussions conducted in parallel with those being held at the Library.



Authors debate



Literary Festival Opening

This very ambitious programme is bringing together a number of outstanding award-winning writers from around the world. Very lively and thought-provoking presentations have been well attended both by Thais and expatriates, and our two adjacent historic buildings provide a beautiful backdrop, making an ideal venue for the event.

Around the Club: November got off to a cracking good start with permission given to hold our Guy Fawkes Night for the first time in four-years, a hilarious Faulty Towers Dinner and then good turnouts for the Members EGM and the Remembrance Day service. Predominantly large crowds of English supporters who were pulled in for the Rugby World Cup Final were served a bit of a damp squib ... but fair dues, the South Africans thoroughly deserved their day of glory and let's face it, we are more used to losing than winning and will soon get over it.

The cricketers were not at the Club for Guy Fawkes or Faulty Towers because we were on our annual season opening tour to Phuket. I am sure Ben will cover this in gory detail later in these pages, but it was nice to bring back not one but two new trophies for our shelves having watched the Rugby final at the cricket ground and discovering that Phuket is apparently a haven for expat South Africans.

Other progress: A lot of work is going on behind the scenes to install the Club's new Comanche management software. Rollout will be early next year. We can look forward to new swipe Membership cards for use at the entrance and points of sale, staff using tablets for all purchases and all the efficiencies and information flow that will follow.

At the end of the Financial Year on 30th November we expect a surplus significantly higher than budget ... one of, if not the best financial results ever ... and Membership is set to sail past 1,200 for the first time.

Thank you everyone for your support throughout the Year. I wish you all a happy and safe Festive Season, or as we used to say in the old days, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

UK Property Tax Matters

By Martin Wright

Many British expats maintain property in the UK as an investment or to occupy when they eventually return. If you decide to sell, the tax obligations can be complicated, and getting it right can result in significant efficiencies.

Capital Gains Tax (CGT) Main Residence Relief

The UK CGT rate for residential property is 28% where your total taxable income is above the income tax basic rate band of £11,850. Below that limit, the rate is 18%, although a property disposal that qualifies for Principal Private Residence relief (PPR) is exempt from UK CGT.

Be aware of any tax consequences in countries other than the UK. Although exempt from CGT, a disposal of a PPR by a non-resident still needs to be reported to HMRC under the CGT regime.

PPR will apply if you own one property as your main home for the whole period and also if you have not let the property apart from when working away and it was a 'qualifying period of absence' (see below), or when Rent a Room relief applies. No part of the property can be used for business, the grounds/buildings must be below 5,000 sq. m, and finally you must show that it was not bought just to make a gain.

Exclusive Business Use

PPR relief will not apply to any part of the dwelling which is used exclusively for a trade, business or profession. If that was the case PPR relief is adjusted in a manner which is just and reasonable.

Qualifying Period of Absence

For the purposes of PPR, a qualifying period of absence includes:

- Any periods of absence not exceeding three years.
- Any periods of absence throughout which you worked in an employment or office and all of the duties were performed outside the UK; this also applies to the spouse of the employee/office holder.
- Any periods of absence up to a maximum of four years during which you could not live in the house:
 - Because of the situation of your place of work, or
 - Because of any condition reasonably imposed by your employer requiring you to live elsewhere.
- Any periods of absence up to a maximum of four years during which the individual lived with their spouse/civil partner who is affected by the conditions above.

In addition:

- You can have more than one qualifying period of absence and these can be added together.

- You must live in the property as your main residence both before and after a qualifying period of absence.
- From 6 April 2015, you must occupy the property for at least 90 days in a tax year or be tax resident in the country where your property is located for PPR to apply.

How long do I need to live in a house for PPR to apply?

The nature, quality, and length of occupation all need to be considered in determining whether the property was the individual's 'residence', and evidence of intention to occupy the property as a residence. In *Dutton-Forshaw v HMRC* the appellant lived in the residence for 52 days and qualified for PPR.

Rent a Room Relief

The Rent a Room scheme applies to owner-occupiers or tenants who let out furnished accommodation to a lodger in their main home. It enables you to earn up to £7,500 a year tax-free, or £3,750 each if jointly let.

You don't have to be a homeowner to take advantage of this scheme. Those renting can also lease out a room to a lodger, as long as your own lease allows you to do so. This Income would not compromise PPR.

Lettings Relief

A further Lettings Relief applies to reduce any chargeable gain if your main residence has been let out at any time. Lettings Relief can exempt up to £40,000 of gains for each owner, from CGT. This will be withdrawn from 6 April 2020 unless the owner was in shared occupation with the tenant during the letting period and:

- The last 36, 18 or nine months is deemed to be a period of occupation as your main residence no matter what use you make of your former main residence during that period.
- 36 months applies if you move into a care home or are disabled.
- 18 months applies in other cases until 5 April 2020.

- From 6 April 2020, 18 months reduces to nine months.

Delay in taking up residence (ESC D49)

If you acquire a house to live in as your main residence but are then unable to occupy it immediately due to necessary alterations or improvements or a delay in selling current residence, HMRC allows a period of grace of deemed occupation as PPR of up to 12 months. Where there is good reason for exceeding 12 months, it may be extended to two years, but only if the property becomes the owner's only or main home.

Nominating a home for PPR

Within two years of acquiring a second home (not necessarily owned) you may notify HMRC which of the two is to be exempt from CGT. You need to live in, or have lived in, both properties as your home.

Bear in mind that if you are not tax resident in the country your property is in, either a deemed period of absence must apply or you must spend 90 nights in the property in the tax year for it to be your residence.

Reporting property disposals and paying tax within 30 days

From 6 April 2020, any taxable residential property disposal will need to be reported to HMRC within 30 days of completion; if there is no tax to pay (e.g. if it is all covered by PPR) there is no reporting requirement.

An estimated UK tax payment on account must be paid within 30 days of completion, and CGT rates are pegged to UK income tax rates so your actual amount of tax may not be known until the end of the UK tax year.

If you decide to dispose of a property in the UK, you may want to seek professional advice to ensure you get the most advantageous tax treatment – leaving you to use the proceeds worry-free.



Martin Wright
Senior Financial Planner

The Fry Group (Singapore)

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Disclaimer

The information in this article aims to provide information. However, this is not intended to form professional advice nor should it be relied upon as such and before taking any particular action, specific and personal advice should be obtained. All levels and basis of, and relief from taxation illustrated here are subject to change. The Fry Group (Singapore) Pte Ltd is authorised to act as a financial adviser by the Monetary Authority of Singapore - licence number FA100057.

For more information please contact
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TEE TALK WORDS FROM THE DGM



Tee Bale

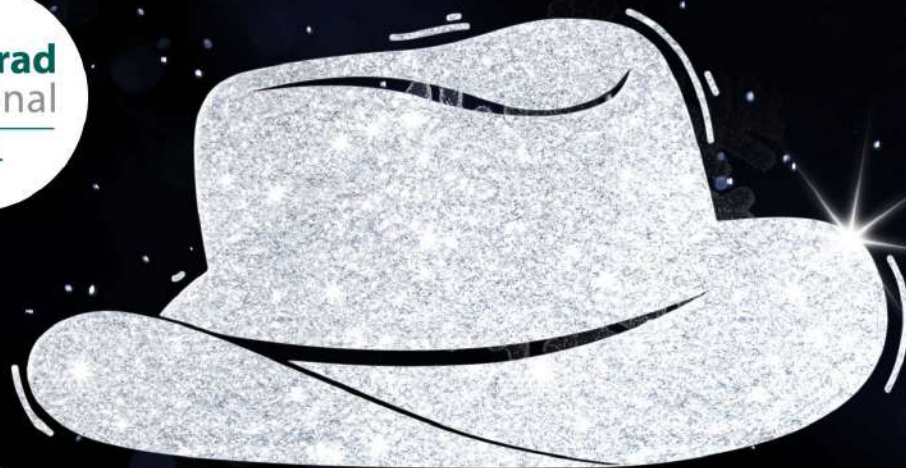
A big thank you to everyone that support all the Club's events last month and throughout the year of 2019, The Faulty Towers show was outstanding and all that attended left with a real smile on their faces, as the cast were amazing, we will be looking to have another performance from there in 2020, so if you missed out this time be ready to book for next year.

Remembrance Day as a very proud day for the Club this year, being that it was the first time The British Club has ever played host to the event, the service was performed perfectly and we would like to thank all of the ambassadors and military service staff that attended along with our very own members who support the day and contributed to remembering the fallen.

The year is still far from over and we have a jammed packed December for you all, starting the festive season is our carol night on December 11th, this year we have four international schools performing carols from their choirs as well as live instrumental performances, mince pies and mulled wine will assist in a very special evening not to be missed. Next up is the Mad-Hatters Christmas Ball December 14th, as you can guess from the name, the theme is to wear your favourite hat, be it mad, crazy or elegant, Christmas whites for the dress code along with the usual fantastic raffle prizes, live band, DJ, gala dinner and more. We haven't forgotten the kids also, on December 22nd the Christmas Kids party will take place with live stage acts that will wow your little ones this year. Christmas Day lunch is selling out as it does every year, our kitchen team is hard at work preparing all the turkeys and trimmings ready to make your 25th December one to remember, not forgetting Santa who will be passing by.

Myself and all the management team we would like to say a big thank you to all the members, the General Committee and all our staff for making 2019 a very special year at the Club, lots of changes, improvements and special nights took place, none of which could have happened without all your support and hard work, we look forward to an even more productive and successful year in 2020.





MAD-HATTERS CHRISTMAS BALL

SATURDAY | DEC 14 | 6 PM

6pm cocktail reception | Signature drinks & Canape
Live Jazz music and dancing with Boss Band | Special bubbles bar
A lavish buffet, and traditional Christmas dinner with all the trimmings
Indian & Vegetarian dishes | Fantastic raffle draws with exciting prizes!!

Venue: Front & Back Lawn | Dress code: smart, fun, festive and fancy hat

MEMBERS: THB 1,600 | GUESTS: THB 1,800

Please R.S.V.P. to Reception or by email: events@britishclubbangkok.org



1908
**THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK**

F&B MORSELS *from* our KITCHEN TEAM



Chef Laak

Merry Christmas everyone, December is the busiest month of the year for us in the kitchens, we are looking forward to you all trying our homemade mince pies, these are a Club secret recipe and a must try over the Christmas season. Last year we cooked over 70 turkeys which as you can imagine takes a lot of preparation, this year we expect to be cooking over 80, we pride ourselves in supplying you the best softest and juicy sliced turkey you will eat in Bangkok, so please book your seats early for Christmas Day lunch is going to be delicious.

Look out for the three different new cheese & cold cut sharing board, all the cheeses and cold cuts are locally produced from the Chiang Mai region by

French producers, we also have some great suggested wine pairing to try with them which will bring out the flavours even more.

All the kitchen team would like to thank you all for the continued support and for ordering all of the food throughout the year that we love to cook for you, it's our pleasure to create new menus, items and to cook your all-time favourites. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The British Club Kitchen Crew

Happy Eating!



British Club Staff 2019



Prem



Tee



Aof



Nueng



Boon



Laak



Ammi



Namcha



Jeab



Amnat



Luk



Uthit



Aey



Chay



Chaichan



Jack



Mas



Jhall



Ead



Aey



Joe



Pae



Jeab



Kan



Pradup



Kaow



Pao



Arthit



Udom



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Gaeng



Praew



Rueng



Chan



Sarn



Ann



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Prathom



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Tong



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Nui



Turian



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Den



Lai



Wat



Ko



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Ton



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When I had my first computer installed I remember being absolutely fascinated by www. World Wide Web.... The fact that you could search for information on seemingly anything in the world by hitting the ENTER button was amazing. And without opening an encyclopedia! We assumed that the information we accessed, rather like an encyclopedia, was true ('true' being valid for the date of the research of the information available of course). Now, however, as we approach 2020, it has become increasingly more difficult to verify information at the end of the ENTER button, and www is no longer seen as an encyclopedia but a worldwide forum of who shouts the loudest.

And the Health and Fitness Industry is probably the worst for reproducing myths and selling snake oil treatments. Why is it so prevalent then? Because human beings are inherently lazy and everyone is looking for shortcuts. Its in our nature. So there are always going to be people who will be ready to sell shortcuts as there is always a ready market.



Just as we need to take responsibility our nutrition by checking (and understanding) food labels of the food we buy, we also need to take responsibility for our physical well being by making smarter choices about who we take instruction and guidance from.

Dr. John Rusin, a sports performance specialist and injury prevention expert wrote an article recently about Online Training Programs that summed this up extremely well. With his permission - here is his introductory paragraph:

"THE RISE AND FALL OF ONLINE FITNESS COACHING"

"I'm well aware this article will piss a lot of people off, but it needs to be said. Because over the last few years there's been an epic rise in online fitness coaching. But there's also been a massive drop in the quality and integrity of coaches. As the demand for online coaching continues to rise it only gets worse..."

Uneducated trainers, sneaky marketers, and greedy corporate companies swoop in and make their kills. Lying, cheating, and leeching off hard-working people like you. Selling snake-oil supplements. Using photoshopped before and after pictures in their marketing. Pushing bullshit exercise gadgets.

Worst of all, they're handing out cookie-cutter programs stolen and recycled countless times and calling them PERSONALIZED. Simply put, it's a joke.

Forget about shattering physique and performance goals. Work with these coaches and the only thing you should expect is a laundry list of injuries, burnout, and frustration.

It's only getting worse. My goal for this short article is to shed some light (and humor) on the entire situation. In hopes, it'll save people lots of time, money, energy, headaches, and injuries."

You can read his full article here:

<https://drjohnrusin.com/the-4-worst-types-of-online-trainers/?fbclid=IwAR1V3nGDv84Apkexk0ja5Ng1BgHrFSZgoBLtJRBhT9rxtmPoma74Gbps20>

SO WHAT CAN YOU DO?



Your health is your wealth and if you value your health enough to spend money and time to improve it, do the research to find out if the person you are entrusting your health to has the experience to back it up. I have had numerous

clients show me things they have learnt from the 'internet' – they have come to me because they were injured. I have watched people in the gym follow an online program of exercises on their mobile phone and had to work very hard at not wincing at the huge potential for injury with the execution of some of these programs. I have had a client who took a year of convincing (and severe limping on a very bad knee) to come and see me who discovered, after that year, he had been doing all his rehab exercises incorrectly. He was absolutely mortified as he had been doing these exercises religiously – causing more injury.



Personal Training is personal – everybody's body is different and unique and everybody's reaction to stress, pain and injury and illness is unique. There are no shortcuts to any place worth going – but the good

news is that if you do the work that your body needs and responds best to – you will get results. So do your research. Ask questions. Life is short – Go live it the best you can.

DARE TO BE BETTER THAN YESTERDAY

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RECIPROCAL CLUBS

Michael and Vichien
European Trip, 2019

Cercle de l'Union Interallee and Moda Deniz Kulubu

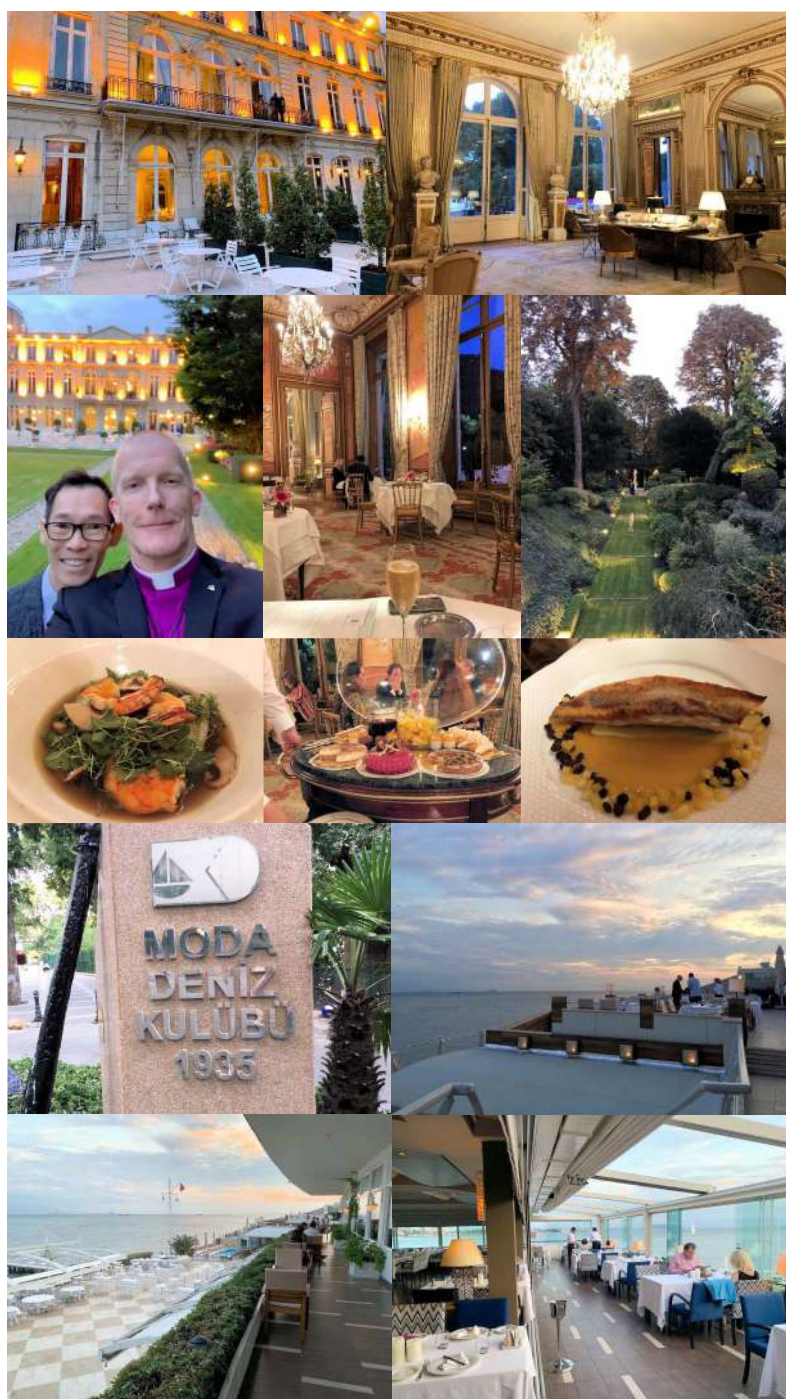
They say that travel broadens the mind but I think good travel also broadens the waistline, and that was certainly true as a result of availing ourselves of the hospitality of 2 reciprocal clubs on a recent European jaunt..

First stop Paris and a fine dining experience at the palatial Cercle de l'Union Interallee, the former Hotel de Rothschild in Paris. The members dinner at 44 Euro is a magnificent, no understatement. Of course we had to start off with the “family” champagne, a glass each of Chateau Rothschild and a couple of glasses of a very palatable French Red, so the finally tally was bit more. Nonetheless, given the surroundings, the marvelous food and the excellent hospitality it was worth every penny... or Euro.

Next stop, Istanbul. Whilst wandering the cute (cat friendly) shops and streets on the Anatolian side we realised that we were close to “Moda Deniz Kulubu”, a beautifully located yacht club on the Sea of Marmara. Given the time of day a “sundowner” was in order so along with our travel companions we stopped by (thankfully we had made prior contact just incase we were able to visit). The location was spectacular and, once again, the hospitality was very welcoming .. despite a few language barriers the Gin and Tonics and the local Turkish Rose arrived as anticipated.

One of the major benefits of BCB membership is the wealth of reciprocal clubs to be enjoyed,,,,, so when you plan your next trip be sure to avail yourselves of this fantastic benefit. We certainly will ... thats for sure.

The British Club Bangkok is delighted to have a network of 423 the world's most prestigious Members' Club, spread across 58 countries worldwide. Please ask Reception for a Letter of Introduction ahead of any visit with the dates of your intended visit.



REMEMBRANCE

101 Lest We Forget



NOVEMBER 10th saw the Club being used for the first time for the Remembrance Service, traditionally held at the old British Embassy. Ambassadors or Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of nineteen other nations joined H.E. Brian Davidson, the British Ambassador, as he laid a wreath during the Service of Remembrance 2019.

In addition to these members of the Royal British Legion, the War Veterans Organisation and the Operation Crown Association were joined by members of the Thai Ministry of Defence, the Royal Thai Navy, the Royal Thai Airforce and the Royal Thai Army. Last to lay wreaths were the various community organisations and representatives of 15 International Schools and the 1st Bangkok British Scouts.

The service was led by the Reverend Norman Jones, Vicar of Christ Church, the choir was from Shrewsbury School and music was provided by them and the British Club Pipe & Drum Band, led by Pipe Major Keith Walker. The service concluded when the RBL standard was marched off accompanied by two pipers from the 2nd Battalion, Royal Gurkha Rifles. The 340 people assembled then undertook refreshments on the back lawn, and a Curry Buffet in the Suriwongse Room.

Organisation of this event was jointly undertaken by the British Club and the British Embassy Defence Section: too many to thank in full but special mention must go to Flight Sergeant Clare Mckune, RAF (Assistant Defence Attaché), Major Dean Wilson, REME (on secondment), Khun Suthathip Sararith (Executive & Research Assistant to the DA) and to all the staff of the Club from engineering, kitchens, gardening, cleaning, security and service.

Paul Cheesman
Honorary Secretary



HALLOWEEN *at the Club*

Wow what an amazing evening, the place was packed and with everyone into the spirit of Halloween. The kids outfit were fabulous as were some of the parents. As always, the magician was a great success along with fun games for the kids and of course great food to top off a fun filled evening.



Christmas Carols

Wednesday 11th December 2019 | 6pm - 9pm

Join us on the Front Lawn for this seasonal highlight,
Enhanced by mince pies and mulled wine.

Free for all members

RSVP at Reception or by email: events@britishclubbangkok.org



St. Andrews
International School
Dusit Green Valley Sathorn Sukhumvit 107



HARROW
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
BANGKOK

kis
International School
Knowledge Inspiration Spirit



SHREWSBURY
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL
BANGKOK





SCOTT BERRY & ASSOCIATES



Professional Coaching & Psychotherapy (Bangkok)



Dr Scott Berry
Professional Coach &
Psychotherapist
PhD, MBA, DipCouns UK



Miss Intara Berry
Office Manager / Trainee Coach
Bachelor of International
Business, Bangkok University



Mr Nikorn Chimkong
Program Manager
MBA
Ramkamhaeng University



Mr Wichai Lahoi
Office Manager
Certificate of Hospitality

Scott Berry & Associates

281/19-23, 5th Floor, Room 509
Silom Rd, Silom, Bangrak Bangkok 10500
T: 02-0385098 or 064-939-0222
W: www.scottberryconsulting.com

We are a family run business in Bangkok - a short walk from the British Club. We serve expats in Thailand, individuals and companies across the Asia Pacific. Here are some of the services we provide:

Life Coaching and Counselling

Deepen your sense of happiness and self-confidence. Get practical help for depression and anxiety, anger, culture shock, addictions, life change and more.

Employee Assistance Programs

Online and face-to-face services to create and sustain health, wellness and effectiveness in your staff and teams.

Couples Coaching and Counselling

Rebuild and repair the love between you. Get tools to grow trust in each other, anticipate each other and talk through the hard stuff. We are LGBT friendly.

Leadership Coaching

Identify your gifts and deploy them more often. Identify the areas you need to strengthen in yourself and others, build the skills to anticipate yourself and others.

TRAFALGAR GOES INTERNATIONAL

We are Gathered

In celebration of the 214th anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar, we brought an international flavour to the evening with not only Captain Matthew Barker USN, Naval Attaché to the US Embassy in Bangkok, but no less than six other military attaches from Bangkok – more later. As well as the speaker being American, we agreed that the Mess President should be the same and were delighted to have Lt. Col. Johnny Baseel of the US Marine Corp with us. We were also delighted to have attend the evening, Michael G. Heath, the Charge d'Affaires ad interim at the US Embassy.

73 Members and guests crowded into the 1910 Balcony and Sports Bar for cocktails and pre-dinner chat. Peoples then assembled into the Suriwongse Room, sat and then grace was said. Over the next hour our staff served a wonderful meal devised and cooked by the Club's Executive Chef, Khun Kornnisara Nongkoo (usually known as Khun Laak). Then came a short break which allowed many of those present to seek comfort in the toilets.

The Showrunners...

Mess President: Captain Matthew Barker USN
Guest Speaker: Lt. Col. Johnny Baseel
Corporal of Stewards: Tee Bale (Deputy GM)

Tradition New

At this point in the proceedings, the Mess President read out a very moving letter written the day before the battle by a Midshipman Robert Smith, on HMS Victory, to his parents – "As I expect to be in Action tomorrow morning ... in case I shall fall in the noble cause I have wrote these few last lines to assure you that I shall die with a clear conscience". Midshipman Smith was one of 57 to die on HMS Victory the next day, along with his Admiral.

Traditions Old

All were then upstanding as the Mess President then led the Royal Toast to H.M. King Maha Vajiralongkorn

Bodindradebayavarangkun; At the request of the Mess President, Colonel Roger Lewis, British Defence Attaché, led the Loyal Toast to H.M. Queen Elizabeth II. Also, at the behest of the Mess President, the attachés of various other countries gave their national toast – Captain Domingo Gomez-Pamo (Spain), Colonel Heru Purwoko (Indonesia), Colonel Dean Mamaril (The Philippines), Colonel Albert Fitts (USA) and finally we had the Immortal Memory. Also present without needing to toast were Captain Chris Smith RAN (Australia) and Colonel Eugene Lee (Taiwan).

Honour & Glory

Captain Barker then started his speech with the clear goal of showing the gentlemanly nature of our hero Vice-Admiral Horatio Nelson. After a crushing defeat at the Battle of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, the Spanish commander, Lt. Gen. Antonio Gutiérrez de Otero y Santayana permitted Nelson to retreat and even gave him some Spanish ships to help with the journey home. To thank the Spanish General, Nelson sent to him some English Beer and Cheeses ... so Captain Domingo Gomez-Pamo, present, was given a platter of cheeses with Abbot Ale to honour this act. Of course, in response, the General sent Nelson some Spanish wine and Cheeses, so Colonel Roger Lewis was presented with wine and cheese in a similar vein.

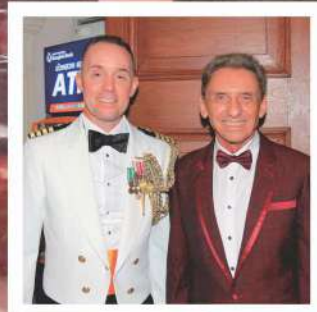
Captain Barker then continued to tell the tale of Trafalgar and of heroism, and of glory, and then rolled this onto the role of the current Navies around the whole securing the right of passage through International Waters. The most striking example coming from the Freedom of Navigation Operations (FONOPs) in the South China Sea conducted by the US Navy, the Royal Australian Navy, the Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force, and the Royal Navy.

Those gathered would not only like to record our thanks to all the 'Showrunners' but also to Khun Laak and her staff, Khun Somboon and his staff who made this a great night.

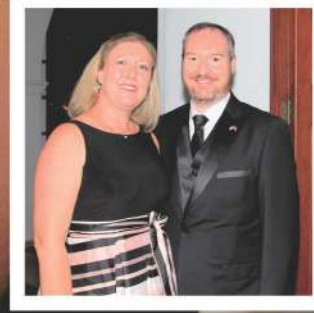
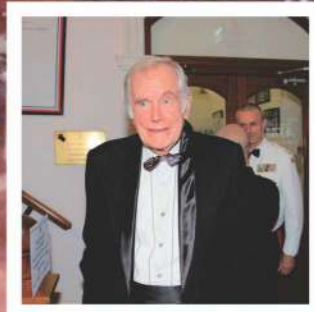
Paul Cheesman
Honorary Secretary



TRAFALGAR



ALGAR



DECEMBER

SUN

MON

TUE



1903
THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

01

Kids Cricket
8am-11am Book first!
Swimming Lessons
9am-12pm
Sunday Brunch
11.30am-3pm
Open Bridge
2pm Silom Room
Tennis Mix-In
4pm-7pm

02

BWG Mahjong
10am-1pm
Tennis Mixed Doubles Team Practice
7pm-9pm

03

Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers
8pm
Football
7pm-9pm



08

Kids Cricket
8am-11am Book first!
Swimming Lessons
9am-12pm
Sunday Brunch
11.30am-3pm
Open Bridge
2pm Silom Room
Tennis Mix-In
4pm-7pm

09

BWG Mahjong
10am-1pm
Tennis Mixed Doubles Team Practice
7pm-9pm

10

Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers
8pm
Football
7pm-9pm



15

Kids Cricket
8am-11am Book first!
Swimming Lessons
9am-12pm
Sunday Brunch
11.30am-3pm
Open Bridge
2pm Silom Room
Tennis Mix-In
4pm-7pm

16

BWG Mahjong
10am-1pm
Tennis Mixed Doubles Team Practice
7pm-9pm

17

Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers
8pm
Football
7pm-9pm
Quiz Night
7.15pm The Verandah



22

Kids Cricket
8am-11am Book first!
Swimming Lessons
9am-12pm
Sunday Brunch
11.30am-3pm
Open Bridge
2pm Silom Room
Tennis Mix-In
4pm-7pm

23

BWG Mahjong
10am-1pm
Tennis Mixed Doubles Team Practice
7pm-9pm

24

Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers
8pm
Football
7pm-9pm



29

Kids Cricket
8am-11am Book first!
Swimming Lessons
9am-12pm
Sunday Brunch
11.30am-3pm
Open Bridge
2pm Silom Room
Tennis Mix-In
4pm-7pm

30

BWG Mahjong
10am-1pm
Tennis Mixed Doubles Team Practice
7pm-9pm

31

Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers
8pm
Football
7pm-9pm
New Year's Cruise
7.30pm-1am

HAPPENINGS

WED

04

Ladies Tennis Coaching
9.30am-10.30am
Squash Mix-In
4.30pm-7.30pm
Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm
Balut
6-8pm
Paella
Dinner Only

11

Ladies Tennis Coaching
9.30am-10.30am
Squash Mix-In
4.30pm-7.30pm
Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm
Balut
6-8pm
Christmas Caroles
6-9pm

18

Ladies Tennis Coaching
9.30am-10.30am
Squash Mix-In
4.30pm-7.30pm
Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm
Balut
6-8pm
Paella
Dinner Only

25

Ladies Tennis Coaching
9.30am-10.30am
Squash Mix-In
4.30pm-7.30pm
Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm
Christmas
Lunch & Dinner

THU

05

BAMBI
9.30-11.30am

12

BAMBI
9.30-11.30am

19

BAMBI
9.30-11.30am

26

BAMBI
9.30-11.30am

FRI

06

Junior Tennis
4pm-6pm
Kid's Movie Night
6pm
Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm

13

Junior Tennis
4pm-6pm
Kid's Movie Night
6pm
Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm

20

Junior Tennis
4pm-6pm
Kid's Movie Night
6pm
Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm

27

Junior Tennis
4pm-6pm
Kid's Movie Night
6pm
Tennis Mix-In
6pm-10pm

SAT

07

Swimming Lessons
9am-12pm
Squash Mix-In
2.15pm-6pm
Squash Coaching
with K Ruegrit

14

Swimming Lessons
9am-12pm
Squash Mix-In
2.15pm-6pm
Squash Coaching
with K Ruegrit
Mad Hatters Christmas Ball
6pm to late

21

Swimming Lessons
9am-12pm
Squash Mix-In
2.15pm-6pm
Squash Coaching
with K Ruegrit

28

Swimming Lessons
9am-12pm
Squash Mix-In
2.15pm-6pm
Squash Coaching
with K Ruegrit



IT'S A FIRE!

There may have only been the twelve episodes of Fawlty Towers, but The Faulty Towers Comedy Dinner had enough material to make a dozen more ... and no review can do it justice, but I will try to give you some of the antics ...

The Start

Manuel with the aid of jumping up and down and gesticulating, moved us all into the 1910 Sports Bar where Basil gave us a talking to on how to behave (no Riff-Raff here!) and announced, school registration-like, us all into dinner.

Seating

We had all been allocated seats, so we mingled in and started to sit and give our various wine orders to the real staff. After chatting that the actors look so similar to the real characters, the fun begins ... almost non-stop as our real staff, with a bit of help from Manuel, try to serve the food.

The Bread Rolls

The aforementioned came out with a basket of bread rolls and was told to serve them ...so he did - over-arm - with most being caught by the surprised but quickly agile diners. Basil quickly reprimanded Manuel and told him to put the roll on the plate. After a few "I no understand", Basil shouted "on the plate, roll on the plate" ... so he put a plate on the floor and rolled over it.

My Wine

As I unscrewed my own wine, Manuel rushed over, took a glass of water from another table, tipped it into the ice bucket and served me my wine (in a water glass!). Remembering a certain script, I said "it was corked" and our table was treated to a whole spiel of "you wanna cork" ... and to our surprise he found one.

Butter

If the bread rolls were not enough. Basil gave Manuel a plate of butter portions. "Butter" he said so he did ... 'Butt her' and one poor guest was headbutted in the back. I felt sorry for her, but everyone was in stitches.

Waiter

The soup was served, the bread and butter almost out ... lots of memorable gags continued but then Manuel was asked to "wait on the tables ... wait on table" so he did ... stand on top of a table and waited.

The Horse

As the main course was being consumed, and I have fast forwarded through many jokes, we got to the betting slip ... no tell Sybil ... but he runs off without knowing the name of the horse ... of course we do, but then in a nice rewrite ... Basil tells him that "The name of the horse is Sapphire" "Horse Sapphire" "Yes its Sapphire" to which Manuel goes berserk, grabs and uses a fire extinguisher as he shouts "It's a Fire, It's a fire!"

No Room to list the Rest

And the show went on, and on ... but space is limited.

In my twenty years of Membership, and countless comedy shows, dinners and theatre at the Club ... I have never laughed so much in my life! Our thanks to the FT Trio and of course our staff for their part in making the best comedy night ever. Please bring them back soon.

Paul Cheesman
Honorary Secretary



Outpost Happenings



WINE TASTING

Tahuna Pinot Gris Hawke's Bay

Hand-crafted by a team of experienced Winemakers to produce rich, soft and approachable wines of exceptional quality.



A few Sundays ago, not being at the club I though it would be nice to have some wine with our lunch. Opening the fridge I was surprise to see a bottle of Tahuna Pinot Gris 2018, tucked away at the back. What a find! I knew this would go very well with our Thai spicy lunch.

Pour it into the glass and taking my first sip I remembered why I liked this wine as it has a classic aromatic peach flavours not to mention a beautifully acidity balance and a great long finish. Being a just off-dry white wine it goes extremely well with Thai food, seafood and white meats.

Pinot Gris is not so well know but once tried is never forgotten, I am thinking it would be great to have for Christmas Day lunch. It's also perfect as an aperitif.

Tahuna is the native Maori word for riverbank. The name is uniquely New Zealand and is also appropriate as our grapes are grown on alluvial plains alongside the major rivers of the Hawke's Bay and Marlborough regions

Winemakers Notes

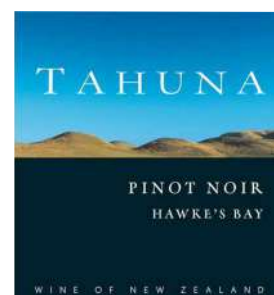
Harvested at optimum ripeness and cool fermented in stainless steel tanks to retain the aromatic fruit. A period of post-ferment lees contact has added texture to the palate and a small proportion was also barrel fermented for added complexity.

Now for the technical Info.

Region Hawke's:	Bay, New Zealand
Varieties:	Pinot Gris
Alcohol:	12%
pH:	3.56
TA:	5.9 g/L
Residual Sugar:	5.1 g/L

Anyway, why not give it a try and I am sure you will go back for more.

Cheers



Christmas Luncheon & Dinner

WED 25TH DEC

Enjoy the warmth & goodness of Christmas in the comfort of the Verandah, Churchill, Suriwongse room, or Back Lawn. Especially good for Christmas dinner!

Full seasonal buffet & dessert, Suitable for vegetarians Crackers, tickets, clown and with Santa at 1.30pm

SEATING IS LIMITED, BOOK NOW!

LUNCHEON: 11.30AM - 3PM | DINNER: 5PM - 9PM

1,100 THB FOR MEMBERS, 600 THB FOR CHILDREN < 12 YRS, 300 THB FOR TODDLERS ≤ 3 YRS
1,300 THB FOR GUESTS, 800 THB FOR CHILDREN < 12 YRS, 300 THB FOR TODDLERS ≤ 3 YRS

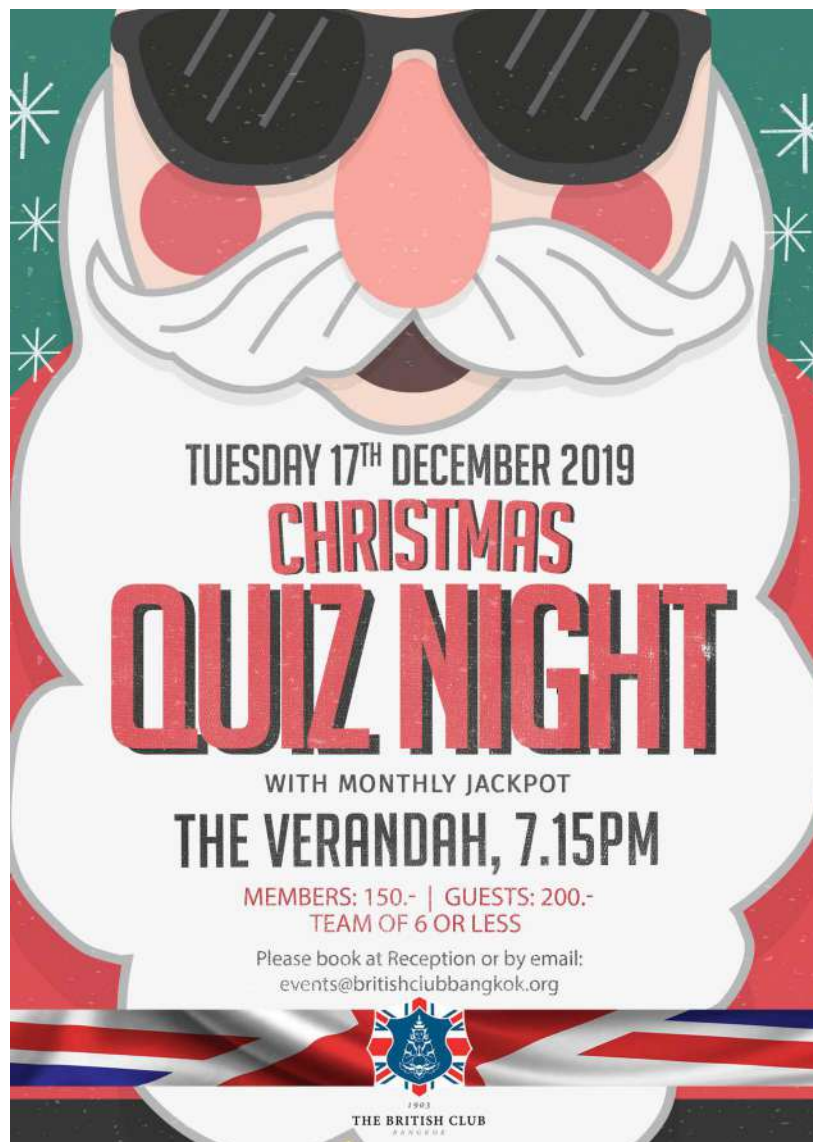
Booking at the Reception at The British Club Bangkok
Call +66 2 234 0247 or Email: events@britishclubbangkok.org



LOY KRATHONG *at the Club*

As has tradition been for many years Loi Krathong was celebrated at the club on the evening Monday 11 November. Many families took the opportunity to celebrate this Siamese festival also known as the Festival of Lights. It is also a special time for the kids to float their Krathongs on the swimming pool and for everyone to enjoy the Thai food.





Happenings

GUY FAWKES returns!!!





SPORTS CAMP



WEEK 1: 16-20 DEC 2019

(4,999.-/WEEK)

WEEK 2: 23,24,26,27 DEC 2019

(4,049.-WEEK)

	950 THB MONDAY	1,300 THB TUESDAY	950 THB WEDNESDAY	1,300 THB THURSDAY	950 THB FRIDAY
9:30-10:00	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				
1:00-2:30	BASKETBALL		SQUASH/ COOKING		BASKETBALL
2:30-3:30	SWIMMING	BOWLING	SWIMMING	BOWLING	SWIMMING



▪ FITNESS CENTRE ▪

sport@britishclubbangkok.org

02-234-0247 EXT. 26

- 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/activities camp participants take part at their own risk and the Club accepts no liability for injuries caused during activities on or off site or travel to or from the Club.



1903

THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

SQUASHY BITS

BEER!

Common and refreshing, beer is one of the world's favourite drinks. Regularly employed as a useful aid to any social gathering, few sane men can say they have never tried it and enjoyed it. Many take pleasure in it weekly, even more so daily. For some, their beer drinking goes beyond the social element of getting smashed with friends and talking crap to becoming a necessity at the end of a hard day dealing with demanding, pedantic customers or a sod of a boss. Beer also serves as a soothing relaxant after a tough game of sport or a heavy gym session; or a difficult day out with your spoilt brats; or a row with the Mrs over said brats; or even a session in the sack with her sister or the Burmese maid. Beer is a wonderful invention, even magical in its medicinal properties.

Beer has so many other functions besides. In "I'm just popping out for a quick pint" beer becomes a useful excuse to escape the family which by now has become such an emotional and financial burden that thoughts of fleeing or suicide invade one's mind daily. This is where beer truly serves its purpose in drowning out the dreadful realities and regrets of life - mainly marriage. The relief is only temporary, however, as the subsequent nagging that you've been in the bloody pub again with your bloody boozy mates, followed by the crushing hangover, bring all the dreariness flooding back tenfold leading to thoughts of murdering someone close. And many do. In fact, statistics indicate beer is behind many domestic violence cases. Shame.

In that case, beer has developed a bad reputation. However, this is unfair because beer is essentially a nice guy who just wants to be liked. It's harmless really and brings so much pleasure. The damage comes when it's abused. And it was never meant to be. It was created to give blokes some

enjoyment at the end of a tough day's work or to spice up a sporting event like rugby or football. It tastes nice, is readily available in hundreds of delicious varieties and doesn't cost too much so it should be our friend.



But some people take the piss out of beer and that's where the issues arise.

Football supporters, some, settle in the pubs hours before a match to wolf down gallons, then full of beer and bravado go looking for trouble. Sober, they wouldn't harm a kitten, but tanked up with lager and surrounded by drunk mates they act like wankers.

Then there is the domestic violence we saw earlier. You see, many fellas like to bash their Mrs, or Mr - depending on your taste, after a few pints. Now, that isn't to say she doesn't deserve it, and in many situations she probably does. Perhaps she even enjoys a good right-hander. Who knows. However, the tragedy is, if it wasn't for the overconsumption of beer, she might not get bashed, or at least not as hard, and that's the point here.

Other stupid behaviour beer invites includes making outrageous future plans that will be forgotten within minutes and never fulfilled. Copping off with birds, or guys, one would never normally fancy and waking up in bed together covered in vomit. Dear oh dear. Falling asleep in inopportune places such as bus stops, KFC,



Burger King, the road. Falling off your motorcycle five metres from your house and ending up in hospital.

Spending all one's cash and



Bruce Mudge



struggling to get the keys out! Sad. Sad. Sad.



or six pints a night, every night, as this author used to - all the above examples of foolish behaviour save for the violence are mine - the finances add up and up over time to equal the cost of a small flat. Shocking!

And what the hell has this to do with squash? Plenty actually.



Mid-October we hosted a British Army team of some sort. Nice people who even brought a female. They were here for a week, joined a few mix-ins, and we played a match on the Friday evening. Who won is unimportant as the evening is remembered for the 140 odd beers consumed among roughly 15 Squashies. ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY BEERS! That's almost ten each constituting direct and malicious abuse of beer. Beer was never meant to be drunk like this, was it? It comes in fairly large

2 Soda Water	70.00
1 Coke	25.00
17 Single Btl. (B)	1,170.00
1 Magar Juicy Apple	99.00
2 Fanta - Orange	70.00
10 Pilsner Beer	1,070.00
10 Beer - 400	1,000.00
10 Heineken 500ml	1,000.00
10 San Mig Light Btl.	1,000.00
9 Fried Chicken Wings	630.00
2 sausage roll	425.00
1 Perfect Peppercorn F	325.00
1 Hawaiian-P-Pizza	240.00
2 Barby Salami Pizza	360.00
1 Meatlovers Pizza	280.00
3 Chops Large	300.00
3 DTY Sex Blanc gis	850.00
10 Tropicana	1,200.00
1 Tiger Braught 1/2	125.00
VAT Inc Tax	18,284.00
VAT	1,170.76
TOTAL	15,779.76

volume so is filling and takes a while to drink, while the bladder has limited capacity. How that many beers were drunk by so few seems improbable, yet the evidence is there in the bar bill. A clear case of high-level beer abuse. Squashy Bits contacted Neil Evans as BC Squash Captain that evening for comments. He claimed he had just a few Budweisers and was home early, yet there are 15 on the bill and he can't remember anyone else drinking it; can't remember anything really which indicates he probably drank all 15. This after he said he wanted to cut down as the Mrs needed more spending money for European hols. Better not let her read this then.



So, what can we learn from all this shocking beer consumption? Firstly, the evening cost a bomb so the BC benefitted financially, but we didn't even get a discount or any happy hour prices - MEAN - and couldn't claim F&B for a visiting team as we'd already spent our annual budget on.....on.....yes.....beer! Obviously Evans is still a piss-head who can't be trusted as captain to host an event without bankrupting the Squash Section aided by other BC Squashy lager louts of Mark Rayfield, Robert Lockhart, Nick Ghosh, Simon Davies and Chris Childs. To be fair, they did agree to chip in some loose change to help with the PHENOMENONAL COST! Finally, those army lads, and lass, won't be invited again or if they are, they can foot the bill!



MINI SPORTSCAMP



Week 1: 16, 18, 20 December (1,699.-/week)
Week 2: 23, 27 December (1,049.-/week)

TIME	ACTIVITIES
10:00-10:15	Admin
10:15-11:00	Games
11:00-11:15	Snacks
11:15-12:15	Mini tennis
12:15-1:00	Lunch
1:00-1:45	Cooking / Play time
1:45-2:30	Water fun

650 Baht/day

BOOK AT FITNESS CENTRE
sport@britishclubbangkok.org

- Children must be between the ages of 4 and 6 yrs.
- 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 24 hrs 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 offside or travel



1903
THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

JUNIOR SQUASH

COACHING WITH KHAN

Sunday 1, 8 15, 22, 29 December 2019

10.00 am - 11.00 am Age 5 yrs - 8 yrs

12.00 pm - 1.00 pm Age 8 yrs - 12 yrs

550 BAHT/SESSION

MIN 5 KIDS / CLASS

PRIVATE SQUASH COACHING

1,100 BAHT/SESSION

Time Available:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday - 8am to 2pm

Wednesday and Sunday - All day

Saturday - 2 pm to 8 pm



JUNIOR CRICKET

WITH DANIEL JACOBS

Senior group: 13-18 years old, 6pm - 7.30pm

Friday 6, 13, 20, 27 December

Junior group: 6-12 years old, 8.30am - 10am

Saturday 7, 14, 21, 28 December

450 BAHT PER SESSION

Information/booking at Fitness Centre or email:
sport@britishclubbangkok.org



Daniel Jacobs
-Ex Thailand cricket captain
-current vice captain
-Left hand opening batsman
-Leg spin bowler
-Level 1 cricket coaching qualification
-BED in Physical Education



FRIDAY

junior tennis coaching

Friday 7, 14, 21 December 2019

5-8 YEARS OLD | FRIDAY 4.15PM-5PM

5,500 BAHT

8-12 YEARS OLD | FRIDAY 5PM-6PM

6,050 BAHT

Information/Reservation:
02-234-0247 ext.26
sport@britishclubbangkok.org



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 ALSO AVAILABLE, AND DESSERTS WITH MULLED WINE AND YOUR FAVORITE DRINKS AS USUAL!



POLAR SWIM

Come and swim really be cool

WEDNESDAY 1ST JANUARY 2020

2PM ONWARDS

FREE !!! SHAVED ICE FOR SWIMMERS ONLY

Booking at Reception or by email events@britishclubbangkok.org



TENNIS

Tree Bauble Bashers

Heart & Soul

In this month's edition we reflect on the things more important than super tie-breaks in the league, more important than Club Championship wins, and more important even than TGWO Egg Cup triumphs! Instead we appreciate what really makes a tennis club, as we celebrate another trip around the sun for two of our members who truly represent the heart and soul of our club.



First up was Chris who celebrated a very special birthday (see Nat for confirmation on the exact number) at the club in mid October. Chris has been a member of the tennis section since before tennis was invented... a time when

the tennis section was merely a beer section... and a time he occasionally still yearns after... On the night, we had a bumper mix-in, plus two league matches on show on the back courts with past club champions in action on both courts. Great fun! After tennis, beers, food, bad jokes and worse speeches, Raquel broke out 'le pièce de résistance' in the form of one of her traditional x-rated birthday cakes.



A few weeks later and in the same location but featuring slightly less candles and inappropriate body parts on her cake, it was Anjelica's time to celebrate her special day. Sneaky Anje kept the date a secret and so avoided a 'personalized' birthday cake from Raquel

but nevertheless seems quite happy with her ice-

cream version. Although still a relative newbie in comparison to Mr. Watt, Anje is one of the vital cogs in our BCTS committee and together with Chris they make up the heart and soul of our section. Many happy 'returns' Chris and Anje!

Match V Nice Tennis group

On the 10th of November, we welcome the aptly named "Nice Tennis Group" for a friendly Sunday afternoon match. The visiting team featured a number of faces familiar to our longer-standing members and a few impressive performers from the top echelons of Thai senior tennis. With Anjelica off globetrotting, Raquel stepped in to skipper the team to a friendly but hard-fought 6-6 draw. The Sala was then nicely full of happy tennis bodies eating, drinking, reminiscing, and generally being merry. Great Stuff!



Pink Ribbon Charity Challenge

On the 13th November we hosted the now annual Pink Ribbon Charity Challenge. All funds are donated toward QSCBCF's Slum Project and Pink Park Village, which provide breast cancer screening, rehabilitation and hospice care for underprivileged patients in Thailand. Over 40 ladies representing 5 teams from



Graham Johnson



Iconic

Bangkok and abroad competed in a friendly team competition to raise awareness and raise money on behalf of the Queen Sirikit Centre for Breast Cancer Foundation. It was another overwhelming success and much kudos to Anjelica, Raquel and Raymonde for putting this together in fine style and helping a great cause. Bravo!



British Club Pink Ladies



Newbies Dazzling Dave and Mariya



Time for some learning!

Visiting Teams enjoying BC

American Tournament

No month is truly complete without an American Tournament and with Nick AWOL, Raquel & Nat took over the whip & whistle duties to officiate the October Edition. What a thriller it was with Gary, having led from start to near finish, striking back in the last couple of minutes to earn a share of a 3-way-tie in pole position. Well played Raja (again!), Wandee, and Gary.



Pride of three

Newbies

Finally, this month also saw us welcome back our now annual visitor Dazzling Dave and welcome into the club our new member Mariya.



Newbies Dazzling Dave and Mariya

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HARDBALLS

Victory in Phuket



Ben Eastwell

Following an unusually civilised AGM, the 2019/20 season kicked off in splendour as 15 tourists made their way down to Phuket for the 8th iteration of the recurring tour. It marked my first test as club captain, following a few opportunities to get my feet wet as interim/deputy in previous years. A great start to this season and I look forward to writing many more positive reports going forward.

Weather forecasts predicted storms throughout the weekend and as it turned out were not wrong; apart from a cool and dry approach for the arriving party's afternoon in Bang Tao - the sun struggled to break through as dark clouds and rolling thunder lingered throughout most of the weekend. The rabble had commandeered the island by Friday afternoon, most in time to catch the 3rd place final in the rugby world cup which left the kiwi contingent in a somewhat better mood than the week prior. The evening entertainment then continued to a crazy golf showdown at the nearby adventure course before nature took its course and the local 7-11 was soon out of Jack Daniels, fueling some questionable scorecards handed in at the 18th... The night concluded at the hotel poolside as tactics and bets were laid ahead of the 2 upcoming matches.

As the buses eventually both turned up the next morning and as is usually the case, all but one were present. Dash the culprit this year who made matters even worse when the van had to make an emergency stop for fear of coating everyone in breakfast beans. The rain seemed to get progressively heavier on approach to the cricketers' paradise at the Alan Cook ground, but luckily the opposition were just as hungover and all too keen to push for a later start.

The genius theory for everyone to open a beer to encourage the sun out soon turned to drinking games with some morning trivia proving a little difficult for

some - city's beginning with 'B' anyone? By midday the decision was passed to go ahead with a T20 with the mutually agreed priority being to finish in time for the rugby world cup final at 4pm. Dash made the selection process somewhat simpler after having retired to the sofa to sleep off an explosive Friday night/Saturday morning.

Patong Penguins won the toss and put BC into bowl on a soggy outfield which proved to be very forgiving for bowlers. Restricted to shorter run ups in a slippery outfield, recently appointed VC, Talal shut out the runs (4 overs, 0-11) whilst Onions took all the glory (4 overs, 2-26) in removing the opening pair quickly, with the help from one sharp take from Sid at short 3rd man. Denz leapt into the attack first change and started his season strong despite a few wayward deliveries (4 overs, 3-15), no match even for Sunil behind the stumps. Pramodh (4 overs, 3-18) followed either side of a technical spell of spin from Ben and BC's Vietnam overseas player, bouncing back in the final overs, just 1 wicket away from cleaning up the Penguins for 99 after their allotted 20.

Conditions couldn't have been better for the chase. Blue skies were emerging, the sun was shining, and the relaxing sound of Denzyl's middle stump cartwheeling down to fine leg as he was comprehensively bowled in the first ball of the season instilled calm amongst the camp. Sunil was dealt a similar treatment soon after, before Mossy put BC back on track with an aggressive cameo which chipped 21 off the low target in only 13 balls. Dale (34) and Ben (31) then got stuck in and almost managed to finish it off, leaving Dilip to hit the winning runs with 4 overs to spare, but not before BC's Pramodh had caught Glenn for a duck, on as substitute fielder for the opposition.

After BC were presented with their trophy, Saturday night at the ACG pavilion slowly filled up with Green and Gold shirts, with all but 4 England supporters far from the comforts of the Churchill bar - particularly considering the result. Needless to say, a great day of sport was topped off in high spirits. Against the whispers of Patong earlier that afternoon, a tired team eventually retired back to the hotel pool where Dash had regained enough sense to order in a fantastic spread of Indian food from his restaurant.

Pre match golf



Attempted team photo



Oops

Waiting for the rain to subside



Drinks break



Dashy ready to go..

Sports

The second match and final day of the trip left only 'the village' between BC and an unbeaten start to the season, and were now playing for an unnecessarily large trophy which the hosts had kindly prepared for the 8th successive fixture. The inclusive double innings format (2 x 15 overs) got underway on time to an unimproved moist outfield with BC bowling first again. Sunil featured in all 3 of Dilip's (3 overs, 3-17) scalps and apart from Frenchy who carried his bat, nobody scored double figures and were almost subject to some hat-trick magic from Manish (3 overs, 2-7). With 74 runs to approach, BC's first innings got off to a slow start but was boosted in the back-end as Pramodh polished off a measured knock with a couple of maximums to retire on 34* and the tourists eventually came out 20 ahead at the halfway stage.

9 bowlers were used in the second innings as BC restricted the hosts to 60, the main highlight being Dilip's attempted catch, slip and subsequent excuses. What followed is likely to go down in Phuket history; BC requiring a measly 41 managed to take it to the last over when all should have been in the bar long before, Ian keeping everyone on the edge of their seats with 10 from 37 balls alongside Dale (17*) who saw it home painfully slowly. Nevertheless, as the chairman's expletives softened - BC collected their deserved trophy to take a 2 game lead of the annual series 5-3. A lively fines session followed as the sun set before the team proudly made their way back to the airport. Roll on Chiang Mai..



Perfect venue



Pramodh sends one down

the ground



Flighter

Sid in full flow



Talal on the pace



The members end



Sunil poised



Ooh Ahh



Victorious weekend

BCGS GOLFING NEWS

Dunlop Cup 12-13 October 2019 - Springfield Royal Country Club - A Fabulous Weekend Away

This is an annual major event on the BCGS calendar played as a pairs competition over 2 days with two prizes being played for - the Dunlop Cup and The Plate.

The format of the competition is a better ball stableford on Day 1 where all the pairs try their best to post a great score. The 2 sets of pairs with the best stableford score from Day 1 then progress to the Dunlop Cup final (played as a match-play format) while everyone else contends for The Plate (as a continuation of the stableford event, combining both day's scores to reveal the winner).



The Venue

This year the tournament was played at the superb Springfield Royal Country Club. Playing conditions were excellent over the 2 days. A nice touch to provide complimentary coffee on the 1st tee for those in need of a caffeine boost.

There were some great scores on Day 1 with 43 points recorded as best. It took multiple count-backs for those on 42 points to reveal the second pairing for the Dunlop Cup finalists. Eventually joining Graham Johnston and Varghese Rose in the final were the countback winners of Gaew Khongyoo and John Bell.

At the end of Day 1 David Lamb, our generous sponsor, and his wife, Cheryl, kindly hosted a



A lovely evening with our sponsors

gathering at their Cha Am apartment where the first day's play was discussed and debated over ample refreshments.

Day 2 was an early start and there were some sore heads visible from the night before.

The Dunlop Cup final was a very tight affair with Graham and Varghese eventually emerging 2 & 1 winners over Gaew and John. Many congratulations to Graham and Varghese.

The Plate was won by Alan and Uwe with a combined 2 day score of 83 stableford points. Congratulations to our Plate winners. The runners up in the Plate were Barry and Brian with a total score of 80 points.

We're grateful to our sponsor, David Lamb and Dunlop Adhesives (Thailand) for his continued and generous support of the event.



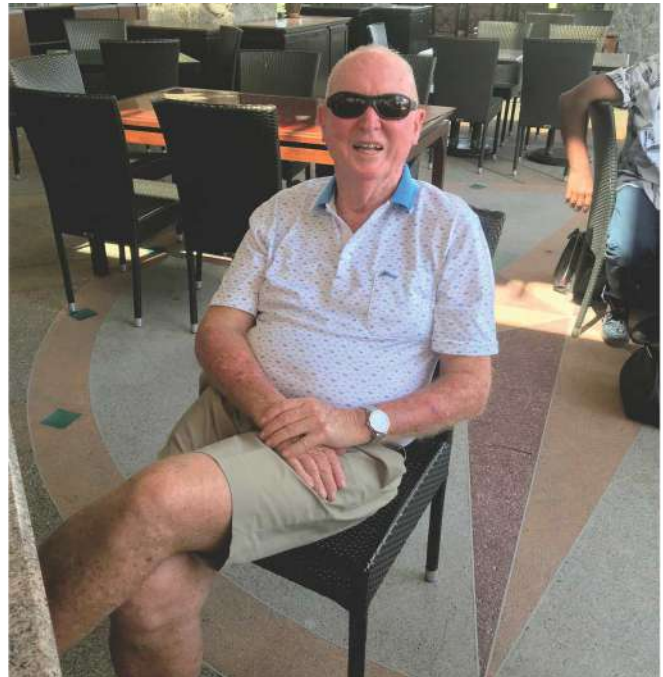
The Plate Winners with our sponsor and Club Captain



The Dunlop Cup Winners receiving their prizes from David Lamb and Club Captain, Neil



The Dunlop Cup runners up receiving their prizes from David



David Lamb, our generous host and sponsor

October Medal, Royal GCC Rugby World Cup Semi Final Sunday

After the resounding England win the day before and the anticipation and excitement surrounding the second Rugby World Cup semi-final, Wales v South Africa, a rather depleted field met for the October medal.

All credit to Terry Davies who as a proud Welshman played the medal dressed head-to-toe in resplendent Welsh dragon red. Post golf he made his excuses and quickly nipped off to watch the rugby – sorry about the result, Terry.

The course was nicely quiet which made for a fast round in great playing conditions.

After a shower and change the prizes were awarded.

Taking the honors in Flight A with a net 71 just pipping your scribe by 1 shot was John Bell. Well played. John.

In Flight B our Captain, Neil Davis, was the winner with a net 79 on the day. Taking second place was Bryan McKinnon, who seemed somewhat surprised

with this result. Congratulations to our Captain. He must have felt confident of winning this month as the quality of the winning wine was notably superior ☺.

We welcomed this month another new member to the Society, Jon Standen, who on his first outing with us won our new technical prize of a nearest the pin in 2, on hole No. 2. Well done Jon and look forward to seeing you at more games in the future.

Why not join us? We welcome players of all abilities, from enthusiastic hackers to semi-pros. If you're interested, do visit our website <http://www.bcgsthailand.org/> For details of upcoming events and the contact details of our Captain.

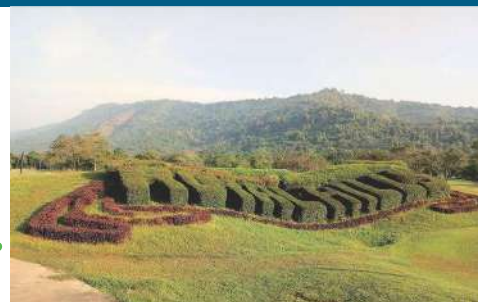


John Bell, winner of Flight A



Neil Davis winner of Flight B

Club Championship, Nov '19 Royal Hills, Kao Yai



This is a testing course at the best of times but with lots of visible maintenance and reconfigured holes this proved to be a challenging 2 day event for our British Club golfers.

Despite a fussy start to Day 1 we were ultimately all able to share our tales of the golfing day over dinner in the clean and cool night air. Kao Yai is such a lovely contrast to Bangkok. This set us up well for Day 2 with an early tee-off.

The Club Champs is primarily a gross event (combined scores over the 2 days to count) and the highlight of the weekend is the award of the Champion Golfer of the year, male and female respectively.

Taking the honors in 2019 men's event was Mark Adderley. Mark adds the BCGS Club Championship win to his many throughout 2019. He's playing great golf this year. Well played.

The women's 2019 gross competition champion was won by a familiar face to the BCGS winning podium. Many congratulation to Gaew Khongyoo who emerged victorious having played very steady golf over the 2 days.

Honorable mentions to those who took the podium

places in the gross competition: Barry Ashman, Varghese Rose in the men's and Val Ashman in the ladies.

In the net competition the winners were Bryan Dodd (men's) and Yurachatr Brook (ladies) who edged out Chris Brader and Carole Ann Eastgate respectively. Well played to all.

In the not too distant future we hope to see our Junior Captain, Matthew Gale (10 years old) on the podium joining his mum (or dad? Longer odds on that....) as a Champion Golfer. Matthew played both days of the event and hit some great shots. His 3 wood off the deck is a thing of beauty. He's got a wonderful swing that he's clearly inherited from his mum.

It was good to see old and new faces at the Club Champs. A special warm welcome to our newest member, Martina New. She took a Grab all the way from Bangkok to arrive just in time for Day 1 tee-off. That's dedication for you!



Our newest member, Martina New



Junior Captain, Matthew Gale



Gaew, Carole Ann, Val & Yurachatr



Ladies Champion 2019, Gaew



Yurachtr winner of the low net, 2019



Podium place for Val



Carole Ann with her prize wine



Peter and Matthew (Mathew disguised as an umbrella) watch on as mum putts out on her way to winning!



Men's Champion 2019 Mark Adderley



Men's Low Nett winner, Brian Dodd



Runners up Barry Ashman



Chris Brader with his prize



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