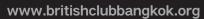
THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK







THE BRITISH CLUB



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# **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Each month we like to introduce some of the New Members who have recently joined the Culb. These are some of the Members who joined during the last few months





Welsh

Paul, Sen and Lily Atkinson





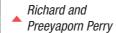


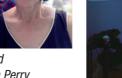








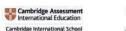




Mark Schatten, Pathamalin

Sam. Jude Lubell

















Remi Galland, Nahoko, Naomi and Teo litzuka





John, Annie and Ayah, Kayla Holme



David, Supaphorn and Darin, Chloe



🔺 Yoel Lubell, Sheila Varandan and



▲ Leandro Martins



Boonop and Gabriella Schatten



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THE BRITISH CLUB



information / contact Tel: 0 2234 0247 or membership@britishclubbangkok.org



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**Front Cover** 

Phase 2 becomes operational and with it the clubs best ever fitness centre. Functional, free weights, and cardio areas.

# This Month

Phase 2 completed, welcome the new members, Chinese New Year in pictures, the timeline reaches 1946, 2022 AGM set to take place, a look at the Seville club London, meet the new head of senior schools Shrewsbury, the sports sections have their say.

GROUP ESTP 1898

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REPORTINGS

# James Crossley-Smith

After a non-committal article last month, this month it is nice to say AT LAST ! The Poolside Redevelopment project, as first suggested through the design competition in 2015, is more or less complete. It takes some weeks to move in and become fully operational, but we are there.

The Phase 2 development opens officially on the 5th March and we are very grateful to the British Ambassador, HE Mark Gooding OBE, for agreeing to lead the opening ceremony. We also welcome the local authorities and our neighbours to the ceremony.

As you explore the new facilities, and feel what the different spaces have to offer, there are now so many reasons to be excited by what the Club can provide for its Members. They make the most of them.

Not only are we opening Phase 2, we are also "re-opening", soon, the Silom Wing rooms that have been used as temporary facilities during Phase 2 construction. Further into the magazine there is an overview of the culmination of the poolside redevelopment and all its facilities.

For the many new Members that joined during the development, this is a new world. For the older Members this is a rejuvenation and a

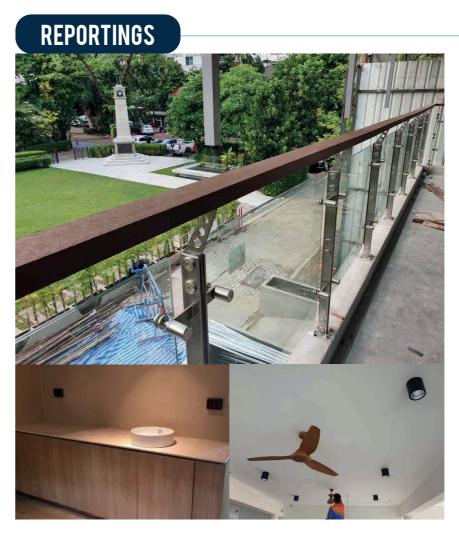
# Chairman's Message



great time to reconnect more fully with the Club. The opening could not come sooner as we are reaching capacity at times around the restricted poolside, with too many squeezed into the "Sails" outlet and around the kids pool.

As with any rejuvenation there are great contrast and opportunities. The old poolside kitchen was definitely a case in point and the less said about the old kitchen, the better. You are welcome to have a look at the new kitchen on the opening day, before it is put out of bounds for operations. We have taken the opportunity to upgrade everything we can. We have bought a beer system with 6 lines that gives the Club better control and options over its beer selection. We have also upgraded our cable subscription and will now be able to record and replay matches more easily. The Massage rooms are bespoke and the massage beds newly purchased. Previous to the redevelopment we partitioned off a windowless, cramped area in squash court 3, under the viewing balcony..... and then the temporary facility only amounted to a partitioned part of the drivers room! You do are for you, the Members, so please not need to think too hard about the many upgrades the poolside redevel-





opment brings to the Club. What we had, now seems rather embarrassing.

In preparation for the opening, and for the reports around the AGM, and hopefully the end of the Covid-19 policies, we have issued an updated list of Outlet & Facility Rules. The Outlet & Facility Rules are produced by the Management, working with the General Committee, and set out certain operational aspects of the facilities. These operational rules sit alongside the By-Laws and Constitution of the Club. However the By-Laws and Constitutional clauses are agreed solely by the Members in General Meetings. As the Annual General Meeting is approaching we are also proposing to the Members a tidying up of certain clauses in the Constitution and By-Laws. On that subject, and I know I have said it before ......

# AGM

The AGM will be held on Tuesday 22nd March. I am stepping down as Chairman, along with Committee Member Nathan Thomas, with both of us reaching the time limit for continuous service on the General Committee.

The AGM is the Members opportunity to vote in the General Committee for 2022 and those voted in will elect the new Club Chairman from within their ranks.

The AGM is also a great time to catch up with the Club, the decisions that have been made and the financial position. There is plenty of time in the meeting or in the social time afterwards to discuss ideas and better un-

derstand the workings of and pressures on the Club.

If you are a voting Member please do make the effort to attend the AGM and use your right to vote. If nothing else, it is a good social and an informative occasion for the Members. There are options for voting by proxy, but we would rather see you there.

# Finally

As my year as Chairman ends, I thank the Officers, General Committee, Management team and staff for their support and help. I was hoping to spend more time socialising with Members, attending events and in general just more time at the Club, enjoying the variety of things I have been used to doing in my 20+ years as a Member. Covid restricted that..... as did, in the last few weeks, my acute hamstring injury, strained whilst playing yard cricket in the buildup to the February Chiang Mai tour!!

With all the obstacles presented to us, we have progressed well in the stop start year. We have completed Phase 2 and made some good progress in the Clubhouse. We have a great restaurant space, even if the menu has not yet arrived! It will. The Website was relaunched. The sports sections are busy and strong. Membership numbers are very healthy and pushing towards 1250. With the Members Loan Scheme in place, we have cash available to operate the Club.

There is a great management team and I now feel we can let them get on with it. We need to build up our cash balances, but that will happen by keeping to the budgets, and more importantly, when we see full use of the Club and all its facilities.

I am really looking forward watching the new Committee from afar, good luck to them and for the year ahead.



On top of highly valuable guaranteed income (pensions), or semi-guaranteed income (by example property rental) many retirees may also need to generate income from their personal cash and investments.

Here we look at some of the available options and considerations.

#### **CASH DEPOSITS**

If we look at the patten of UK/Sterling interest rates over the last decade you will see a gradual decline in the level of interest income being available:

Customise Columns	1 month ↑↓	3 month ↑↓	6 month ↑↓		3 year <b>↑↓</b>	5 year ↑↓	10 year <b>↑↓</b>
Index Moneyfacts 90 Days Notice 50K in GB	0.08	0.12	0.22	0.39	2.17	3.69	8.92

Source: FE Analytics Research System

At the time of writing The Bank of England (BoE) is widely expected by economists and financial markets to impose the first back-to-back interest rate rises since 2004 when it meets to decide monetary policy this week (commencing 31 Jan 2022). With the Central Bank grappling with rampant inflation, BoE officials have not sought to quell speculation ahead of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting that a rate rise is almost a certainty following the increase from 0.1% to 0.25% approved by the MPC in December. That was the first rate rise in more than three years. In money markets, the probability of a rate rise this week to 0.5% is priced at almost 90%, and the majority of economists concur. They are convinced the bank will need to act because it has failed to anticipate the extent and breadth of price rises under which consumer price inflation reached a 30-year high of 5.4% in December. Source: ft.com

Five to 10 years ago Sterling (offshore) deposit accounts were providing annual interest in the region of 3%-5%. This meant that it was possible to receive a reasonable income stream with little or no risk (other than deposit-taker insolvency risk, which could be mitigated by holding several accounts with different banks/building societies).

However, political turmoil (such as UK Brexit) and the many global government stimulus packages in place for a variety of reasons have meant that interest rates have been reduced overall. So much so that by example, one of the well-known suppliers of competitive interest rates offshore was Abbey International (now Santander International). With a sum between £25,000 and £999,999 they currently offer a 1-year fixed-rate deposit at only 0.2% AER. How times have changed!

https://www.santanderinternational.co.uk/international/products /savings/fixed-deposit-contract/

#### FIXED INCOME SECURITIES (BONDS)

The capital value of bonds will fluctuate more than cash deposits. Bonds are issued by companies, and governments, and are a method utilised to raise investment. Simply, they are a loan between the issuer and the individual.

Using a long-term corporate bond index as an example, the current variable annual income yield would be 3.39%. investor.vanguard.com/mutual-funds/profile/VLTCX Higher risk global bonds may produce a higher level of interest income, and again, by example a global high yield index would currently produce 4.621% variable annual income.

www.wsj.com/market-data/bonds/benchmarks

Since one of the main risks of fixed income securities (bonds) is the default (the inability of the issuer to repay the loan) holding more than one fixed-income security, preferably through a collective investment, would be sensible.

# www.thefrygroup.sg

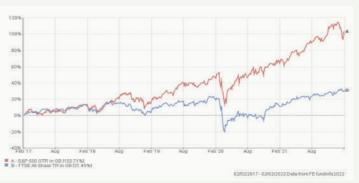
#### EQUITY (STOCKS & SHARES) DIVIDENDS

The capital value of stocks and shares will normally fluctuate more than bonds, but typically, in return for greater total rewards over the medium to long-term. Dividends from stocks and shares are the regular payments that are basically part of the investor's reward for holding the company stocks. In the main, dividends have been reducing over the years particularly with the effect of the Covid-19 outbreak and its effect on businesses. Also, dividend payments are not guaranteed, this has been seen in 2020 when some companies suspended dividends for a period, although most of these at the time of writing have been restored. Historically dividends in European and UK companies have been higher than those in the US, although total growth in the US has far exceeded that in Europe and the UK (over the short and medium-term).

You will see from the following link the difference in UK and US dividends (3.37% versus 1.29% as at the end of 2021). https://siblisresearch.com/data/global-dividend-yields

Whilst this may be the case with dividends, the actual growth of the US and UK stock markets has been significantly different as you can see from the following five-year charts from the respective indices:

US Equity Index (S&P 500) and UK Equity Index (FTSE All Share) Pricing Spread: Bid-Bid • Data Frequency: Daily • Currency: Pounds Sterlin



#### DRAWDOWN

Those seeking income also have other options including taking value from a diversified portfolio of assets, either on a regular or ad hoc basis.

It may be surprising to learn that despite the volatility in 2018, and last year, a balanced portfolio including most asset classes could have provided returns of 8.9% per annum over three years and 7.2% per annum over five years. This information is taken from the FTSE UK Private Investor Balanced Index Series, which was previously known as the Association of Private Client Investment Managers and Stockbrokers - APCIMS.

www.ftserussell.com/products/indices/private-investor

Although this 'drawdown' strategy provides flexibility and can be rewarding, one of the main risks is maintaining high levels of withdrawal in times of prolonged investment market volatility. This could lead to a depletion of the invested value and a worse outcome than other income-generating methods.

For more information, it is sensible to seek professional advice from a company with the relevant experience and knowledge.



Martin Wright The Fry Group (Singapore)



The Fry Group (Singapore)

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REPORTINGS

# **Letter From** Tim Vongswang - The General Manager



What an amazing start to 2022 I know there will be a lot of informa- In the coming few months we will be I've had. I was so excited to join the British Club but of course with some trepidation, not so much with the tasks required of my position that you can spend more time at so stay tuned. but rather if I would fit in with the your club and for me to have the long-standing culture of the club.

Well, I needn't have worried, I can Don't forget that if you would like to honestly say that all of you members, the GC and the amazing birthday parties etc. at our unique hard-working team have made me club, we are ready and willing to feel so welcome and supported, I help you organize a function that couldn't ask for more and for that I you and your guests will not forget thank you all very much.

After receiving lots of genuine feedback, I am aware that there are several areas of the operation which could be improved, however I need to priorities, and for now it's the current operation and Phase 2. After which I will start to work on the other things which needs to be done, please bear with me.

tion regarding Phase 2 so I won't talk about that here, however I am really looking forward to the opening so opportunity to meet more of you.

Tim have an event (big or small) such as (in a good way!!).





having many special events such as

the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty

Queen Elizabeth II, and much more,



Piers Illing, Grad '15, said that some of his fondest memories at Bangkok Patana School happened through experimentation within the school's well-resourced Drama Department. After leaving Bangkok Patana, Piers earned a degree in Theatre Production from the Guildford School of Acting. Nowadays you can find him running the set electrics, lighting or video at some of the UK's top productions such as Back to the Future: The Musical, Matilda and Rod Stewart's UK tour.

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**Bangkok Patana School** The British International School in Thailand Established 1957

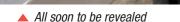


Read Piers' 'Life After Patana' story:



admissions@patana.ac.th www.patana.ac.th Tel: +66 (0) 2785 2200







The Lookout entrance



The Sala Sidewalk

This month my pictures of Phase2 were taken on 10th February, just 22 days before opening! Whilst they show a lot of progress since last month it's also pretty obvious that there's still an awful lot more to do. Everyone is getting a bit jumpy.

The contractor though remains confident and, having lived in Thailand more than 40 years, I have no doubt that after the sun rises and the Ambassador drives through the gates to cut the ribbon on 5th March, the new buildings will look magnificent.

How much of it will be completely finished and open for use though is another matter. There are still some important furniture, fittings and equipment to be delivered and it will take time for the staff to become familiar and get all the new facilities operational.

Hopefully though we will all be pleasantly surprised and, in any case, over the next month or two everything will be up and running. With a new gym and changing rooms included as part of Phase 2, the

# REPORTINGS



▲ Fitness Centre looking north



▲ The Lookout taking shape

space used for these as temporary facilities in the Silom complex as envisaged by our architects Chapman Tay-Wing will be also be freed up for other activities. lor in 2016 will soon be a reality. The banging and inconvenience will be over and it will be time to enjoy all the Although a bit of patience might still be required, the hard work that has been done. Well done everyone!

comprehensive modern, resort-style family and sports

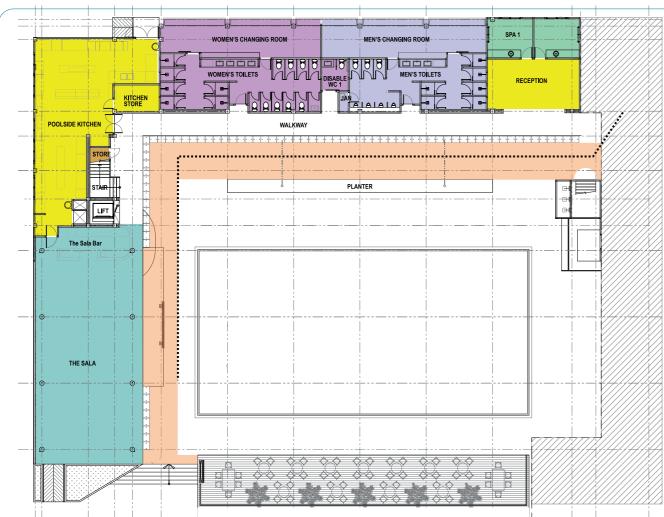


▲ The Sala

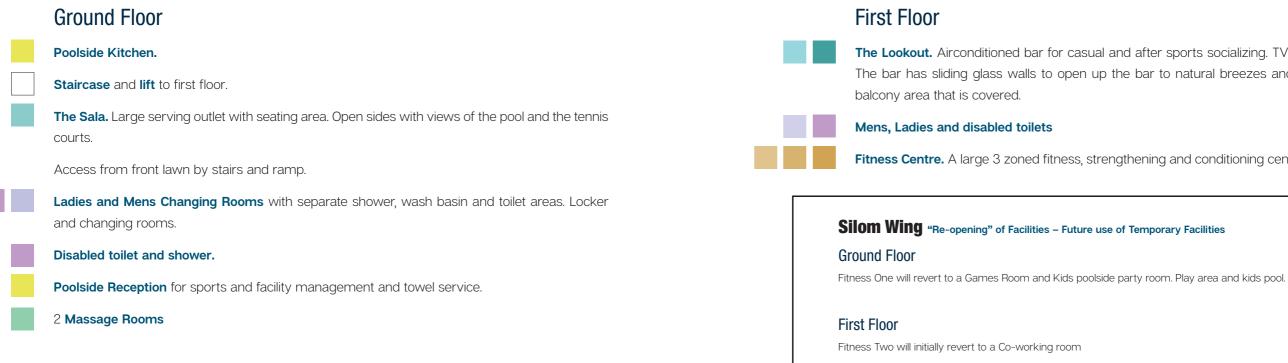
# OUTPOST

▲ Massage Rooms

▲ The Lookout View



# **British Club Bangkok Poolside Redevelopment - Phase 2**







unctiona Training

WALKWAY

DISABLE

THE LOOKOU

THE LOOKOUT

The Lookout. Airconditioned bar for casual and after sports socializing. TV's for watching sport. The bar has sliding glass walls to open up the bar to natural breezes and a large open sided

Fitness Centre. A large 3 zoned fitness, strengthening and conditioning centre. Card access only.

Temporary Changing Rooms will become a Performance Studio for activity, performance and other classes.



Paul Cheesman

# ~~~PAST PARTICIPLE~~~ Auspicium Melioris Évi

We continue the story of the British Club Bangkok ... the year 1946

#### Peace

Although the Asian theatre of World War II had ended with the Japanese surrender, the Formal Agreement for the Termination of the State of War between Siam

was not signed until 1st January 1946. Ten days later, Diplomatic links were restored when Hugh Rudolph Bird was appointed British Chargé D'Affaires a.i. in Bangkok, returning to the Legation in Wireless Road. Mr. Bird had been Honorary Secretary of the Club from 1924 to 1925 and served on the committee three times in all *(see Past Participle, December 2021).* As well as his previous service in Bangkok, he had been H.M. Consul in Batavia and in Egypt. In the March

he was replaced by a full Minister, Geoffrey Harrington

and Great Britain and India ("The Anglo Thai Treaty")



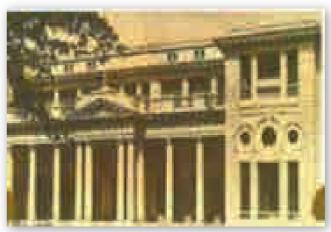
# A New Beginning

On May 2nd, a group of 35 members of the British community in Siam met at Tanam Si Phraya, a building in Captain Bush Lane, and the local office of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. This meeting voted unanimously for the re-establishment of the "old" British Club Bangkok, as a member club, and elected a small Working Party of Brigadier Victor H. Jacques OBE MC & Bar (chairman), Robert W. Fothergill, E. Raymond Davy, C. Letts, and John H. Donofield to undertake this.

A Working Party meeting was held the next day to outline the then position, that both the Club's Land Chanotes were mortgaged to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, still owing 47,000 Ticals with interest accrued only to 07.12.1941. The land was temporarily occupied by the YMCA of Bangkok and HQALTS (the Headquarters of Allied Land Forces in Thailand) (see Past Participle, February 2022). In addition, it was reported that a further 24,000 Ticals would be required just to get one or possibly two rooms of the old Clubhouse up and running.

A further Working Party meeting was held on 27th May. Brigadier Jacques had contacted the British Minister, Geoffrey Thompson, with a view of asking the Royal Siamese Government to make necessary repairs to the Club. It was agreed that a minimum of 60 members would be required to financially restart the British Club Bangkok. Two days later, a second open meeting was held to outline to 29 members of the British community in attendance, the work conducted by the Working Party and to outline the proposed re-opening plan.

Finally, on 14th June, a third open meeting was held to officially reconstitute British Club Bangkok - 60 "*Gentlemen of British Descent*" signed up as members paying a 400 Ticals joining fee and a subscription of 40 Ticals per month was set. First Post-War Chairman elected was the aforementioned Victor Jacques and the General Committee were Mr. G.B. Adams, Mr. J.J. French, Mr. Ian L. McEwen, Mr. L.B. Short and Mr. C. Letts.



A Tanam Si Phraya

# Service

Brigadier **Victor Henry Jacques** CBE, DSO, MC & Bar (sometimes spelt Jaques) was born on the last day of 1896 and educated at Thame School, Oxfordshire. In 1914 he became a Second Lieutenant in the Royal Sussex Regiment, leaving in 1920 with the rank of Captain and with an MC. In 1924 he was called to the bar of the Inner Temple in London. He came to Siam in 1925 working for Siamese law firm Tilleke & Gibbon, where he stayed until 1940. He returned to the UK for a short time in 1930, however, where he married Dora Watson.

In 1940 he re-joined his old regiment and fought in Italy and then in India and Burma. He was made an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire on 19th April 1945 for his service in Italy, by which time under code name 'Hector' he was a pivotal part of 'Operation Panicle' (under the direction of the Special Operations Executive's Force 136) infiltrating Thailand. He worked with the 'Free Thai' movement and immediately after the War ended, for a short while, he was Commander of HQBT.

He had joined the staff of the Supreme Allied Commander, Southeast Asia, Lord Louis Mountbatten until he relinquished his commission on 20th May 1946. In the June, he was elevated to Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire and in the November was awarded the Distinguished Service Order. In the meantime, he reformed his pre-war company of Tilleke & Gibbon which he sold on in 1951. Brigadier Jacques, and his wife Dora, returned to the UK in 1955, where he sadly passed in the November. He was survived by his wife who died in 2003, aged 95.

Robert W. Fothergill, as mentioned in February's Past participle, served terms on both sides of the war and was Honorary Secretary when the War came to Siam.
Mr. C. Letts resigned from the Committee in August 1946 and was replaced by a Mr. Froese. Mr. Ian L.
McEwen, who served one term, was General Manager

# OUTPOST

of the Borneo Company and was the first post-war Chairman of the British Chamber (see below). The longest serving person from 1946 was **John H. Donofield**, who served as Honorary Secretary to the Working Party, then served eight more terms ending as Chairman from 1962 to 1964. All other members of the first post-war Committee never served again.



"Brigadier Victor Henry Jacques CBE, DSO, MC & Bar"

## Re-opening

In August as the Committee worked on getting the Club re-instated, and to assist the Committee with administration, Mrs. Tisseman was appointed as Paid Secretary to the Club. By late August, the Headquarters of British Troops in Siam returned the clubhouse and grounds to the Club. In early September, the Servants' Quarters re-opened as new staff were recruited and Mr. Cheng Kim Lee returned as Butler – Mr. Lee had first been employed at the Club in 1915 and served as Butler until his retirement in 1960.

At 5.30pm on 10th September 1946, the Clubhouse re-opened for service on Tuesdays and Fridays with seven staff ... the Butler, one Bar Boy, one Coolie, a Gardener and three Watchmen, two of whom were on night duty. It was reported that all members needed to pre-buy coupons for bar purchases – this was administered by Mrs Tisseman.



▲ The Clubhouse re-opened

#### Post War update

On 25th September. The 1st Battalion Queen's Royal Regiment left Siam for Penang in the Malayan Union. A further 1,500 British troops departed on 22nd October, fixed advance fee until 1981 (see Past Participle, Januwhich left only one detachment in Siam; the following ary 2025); Rules for Visiting Membership were agreed day, Major General Gerald Brunskill CB DSO, General Officer Commanding British Troops in Siam, left Bangkok. The last Japanese troops left Siam on 31st October.

On 1st November, the Club gave all British Military officers, remaining in Bangkok, Honorary Membership of Club. Amongst those who took up this invitation were Captain Dennis Stratford Hercules DSC RN, Naval Officer-in-Charge, Bangkok from 1945 then British Naval Attaché to Bangkok in 1946; Colonel E.T. Heslop, who would later serve as British Military Attaché to Bangkok from 1947 to 1949; and Group Captain Colin Campbell McMullen CBE AFC, who would serve briefly as British Air Attaché to Bangkok in 1947.

#### In Other News

The British Chamber of Commerce Thailand was founded in 1946 with its first meeting held at the British Club Bangkok. At its inception there were 17 founding British members and three associate members. Its first chairman was lan L. McEwen, at the time a member of the Club Committee. Committee meetings were held monthly at the Club until 1964.

As a number of members were due to take leave in the new year, the Committee, at its meeting on Boxing Day, set the Absent fee at 5 Ticals per absent month

for new members, and 1 Tical per absent month for pre-War members – the Absent fee did not become a for British men on short-term contracts

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Mortgage of the Club, on the two Land Chanotes (see Past Participle, December 2021) stood at 45,360.21 Ticals as at 31st December 1946.

The Club's New Year's Eve New Year's Eve Ball, catered by the nearby Swee Hong restaurant, attracted 200 Members and their families, and reportedly drank the Club dry of Whisky.

«The Bar Committee reported that, as a result of the dance, all stocks of whisky had been exhausted and that the chances of obtaining any more in the mean future seemed negligible.

Party

#### Next month ...

#### Consolidation

Paul Cheesman Honorary Secretary

For Members interested in our Club's history, the Club Timeline has been updated with 1,872 entries over 168 pages and can be found on the Website under 'The Club – History'.

# **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022**

# **ATTENDANCE**

The Annual General Meeting is open to Ordinary and Country members only. It is important that all eligible members try to attend in person to ensure the views of as many members as possible are taken into account in the key decisions to be made.

# PROXY

If you are unavoidable out of country, or otherwise legitimately unable to attend, you are entitled to complete a proxy form: you may either pass a Discretionary Proxy signed to another Ordinary and Country member enabling them to vote on your behalf (remembering that they may only hold one proxy, so ask their permission first) or vote as you wish on the Directed Proxy side of the form and your votes will be counted as directed.

# SPOUSE

An alternative to proxy voting is that your spouse, if Australian, British, Canadian or New Zealander, may attend in your place. Please complete the 'Transfer to Spouse form' available at Reception.

# 2022/23 GENERAL COMMITTEE

Candidates for the next General Committee can complete a nomination form, available on the website, and pass this to our General Manager or you may stand from the floor of the AGM.

To be eligible to join the General Committee you must

(a) Be an Ordinary member of the Club and have been a member at least six months. (b) Have a valid work permit and/or visa to reside in Thailand or be a permanent resident here.

(c) Be able to obtain an affirmation letter from your Embassy in order to be registered with the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration. (d) Have sufficient time to attend the monthly GC meetings, sub-committee and Work Group meeting, membership interviews and New Members Nights.



**Bookings & Info Via: The British Club Line Official** Add LINE ID @britishclubbkk





# Savile Club, Mayfair, London Visited in spring 2019 and autumn 2021.

Paul Doust and Prasit Jangkamol

For the style of a traditional gentlemen's club, this is without doubt one of my favourite reciprocal clubs in London. There are lots of elegant rooms, including a member's only morning room for reading the newspapers, as well as a bar and restaurant. The restaurant is amazing value, serving two courses from a Michelin-starred Chef for just £20. The wine list offers similarly excellent value, focussing on good value wines instead of e.g. famous French châteaux where one pays a huge price for the brand. There is an outside courtyard and also a roof terrace, which is part of the restaurant weather permitting. However, in most areas of the club there's a strict ban on using mobile phones. and apart from a snooker table there are no sports facilities. The club is closed at weekends, except that people using the accommodation get breakfast. Evidence of the convivial atmosphere of the club is evident on the website where the dress code is described as follows:

The Club has no formal dress code, other than a rather undefined rule of not offending other members, so although jeans and trainers are not permitted (for either gentlemen or ladies) a collared shirt and jacket are required. A tie is not "de rigueur".

We have visited the club on several occasions now, and a couple of times we ended up chatting to some of the club's members who made us feel welcome. Recommended.





Applications for girls and boys aged 2-16 are now welcome.



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Top boy's or co-ed school in London by The Sunday Times 2017 - 2021







20 March 2022

# Quiz Night 08/02/22





# **MEET THE NEW HEAD OF SENIOR SCHOOL** at Shrewsbury International School, Bangkok Riverside

**Following** an extensive global search, Shrewsbury International School, Bangkok Riverside, is delighted to announce the appointment of Sonya Papps to the role of Vice Principal (Head of Senior) commencing in August 2022. She will succeed Mr Rob Millar, as he assumes the position of Riverside Principal.

Ms Papps is an experienced senior leader and will be joining Shrewsbury from Taipei European School (TES) where she is currently the Head of the British High School and Secondary Campus. She has worked at TES for 14 years in a number of leadership roles including Head of Year, Assistant Head and Deputy Head, before becoming Head of the British High School in 2018.

Ms Papps has extensive experience of leading all aspects of senior school life including areas such as curriculum innovation, staff development and Positive Psychology and Education where she has presented at a number

of conferences worldwide. A lifelong learner herself, she has recently finished her National Professional Qualification for Headship (NPQH) and she is also completing a Doctorate in Elite Performance.

On the appointment, Mr Rob Millar comments:

"The whole process was very competitive and the selection panel were unanimous in their praise of Ms Papps, who shone at every stage with her vision, expertise and charisma. I am personally delighted to have Sonya join the school; she has been central to the success of the British Secondary School at TES and will bring all that experience to bear in shaping the Senior School at Shrewsbury Riverside at an exciting stage in its development."

Ms Papps, meanwhile, writes, "I feel enormously privileged to join the Shrewsbury International School community as Vice Principal, Head of Senior. This is an ex-

and stage, have established its reputation as Thailand's citing opportunity for me to lead within an exceptional leading international school. school, continuing the wonderful work that already goes on. This is a time of change for many schools as we start www.shrewsbury.ac.th/riverside to recover from the effects of the pandemic, and I look forward to being part of Shrewsbury Riverside through Telephone: +66 2 675 1888 the next stage of its ambitious development plans. I will be joined by my husband Chris and our children Otis. Email: enquiries@shrewsbury.ac.th Etta and Euna. All three of them are looking forward to starting at their new school, meeting their teachers and making new friends. Indeed, this is true for all of us; I look forward to having a chance to meet students and parents personally."

Shrewsbury International School Bangkok Riverside is an international day school for boys and girls aged 3-18 years, located in an inspirational riverside setting in the heart of Bangkok. Since 2003, its students' achievements in the examination hall, classroom, sports field, studios



SHREWSBURY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

BANGKOK • RIVERSIDE

		MARCH 2					
	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
THE BRITISH CLUB BANGROK			Pilates 10.30am - 11.30am Football 7.00pm - 9.00pm	2 Squash Mix-in 4.30pm - 8.15pm Balut 6.00pm - 8.00pm Tennis mixed-In 6.00pm - 10.00pm	3 Swimming Lesson Tony 7.00am - 8.00am Cricket team practice 6.30pm - 8.00pm	4 Junior tennis 4.15pm - 6.00pm Senior Cricket 6.00pm - 7.00pm Tennis mixed-in 6.00pm - 10.00pm	5 Junior Squash 10.30am - 12.00pm Squash Mixed-in 1.30pm - 6.45pm Cricket Team Pratice 2.30pm - 6.00pm
Figs The British Club BANGKOK GOLF SECTION	6 Junior Cricket 9.00am - 10.00am Tennis Men Doubles Team practice 9.00am - 1.00pm Sunday Brunch 10.30am - 3.00pm Kids Activities 12.00pm - 4.00pm Tennis Mix-in 4.00pm - 7.00pm	7 Tennis Mixed Doubles Team practice 7.00pm - 10.00pm	8 Pilates 10.30am - 11.30am Football 7.00pm - 9.00pm Quiz Night 7.15pm - 9.00pm	9 Squash Mix-in 4.30pm - 8.15pm Balut 6.00pm - 8.00pm Tennis mixed-In 6.00pm - 10.00pm	10 Swimming Lesson Tony 7.00am - 8.00am Cricket team practice 6.30pm - 8.00pm	Junior tennis 4.15pm - 6.00pm Senior Cricket 6.00pm - 7.00pm Tennis mixed-in 6.00pm - 10.00pm	12 Junior Squash 10.30am - 12.00pm Squash Mixed-in 1.30pm - 6.45pm Cricket Team Pratice 2.30pm - 6.00pm
1903 THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK CRICKET SECTION	13 Junior Cricket 9.00am - 10.00am Tennis Men Doubles Team practice 9.00am - 1.00pm Sunday Brunch 10.30am - 3.00pm Kids Activities 12.00pm - 4.00pm Tennis Mix-in 4.00pm - 7.00pm	14 Tennis Mixed Doubles Team practice 7.00pm - 10.00pm	15 Pilates 10.30am - 11.30am Football 7.00pm - 9.00pm	16 Squash Mix-in 4.30pm - 8.15pm Balut 6.00pm - 8.00pm Tennis mixed-In 6.00pm - 10.00pm	17 Swimming Lesson Tony 7.00am - 8.00am Cricket team practice 6.30pm - 8.00pm	18 Junior tennis 4.15pm - 6.00pm Senior Cricket 6.00pm - 7.00pm Tennis mixed-in 6.00pm - 10.00pm	19 Junior Squash 10.30am - 12.00pm Squash Mixed-in 1.30pm - 6.45pm Cricket Team Pratice 2.30pm - 6.00pm
BRITISH CLUB RUNNING TEAM	20 Junior Cricket 9.00am - 10.00am Tennis Men Doubles Team practice 9.00am - 1.00pm Sunday Brunch 10.30am - 3.00pm Kids Activities 12.00pm - 4.00pm Tennis Mix-in 4.00pm - 7.00pm	21 Tennis Mixed Doubles Team practice 7.00pm - 10.00pm	<b>22</b> Football 7.00pm - 9.00pm	23 Squash Mix-in 4.30pm - 8.15pm Balut 6.00pm - 8.00pm Tennis mixed-In 6.00pm - 10.00pm	24 Swimming Lesson Tony 7.00am - 8.00am Cricket team practice 6.30pm - 8.00pm	25 Junior tennis 4.15pm - 6.00pm Senior Cricket 6.00pm - 7.00pm Tennis mixed-in 6.00pm - 10.00pm	26 Junior Squash 10.30am - 12.00pm Squash Mixed-in 1.30pm - 6.45pm Cricket Team Pratice 2.30pm - 6.00pm Wine Tasting 6.00pm - 10.00pm
	27 Junior Cricket 9.00am - 10.00am Tennis Men Doubles Team practice 9.00am - 1.00pm Sunday Brunch 10.30am - 3.00pm Kids Activities 12.00pm - 4.00pm Tennis Mix-in 4.00pm - 7.00pm	28 Tennis Mixed Doubles Team practice 7.00pm - 10.00pm	29 Football 7.00pm - 9.00pm	<b>30</b> Squash Mix-in 4.30pm - 8.15pm Balut 6.00pm - 8.00pm Tennis mixed-In 6.00pm - 10.00pm	31 Swimming Lesson Tony 7.00am - 8.00am Cricket team practice 6.30pm - 8.00pm		

**24** March 2022



# TENNIS



**SPORTS** 

▲ Jeevan



Dear Cup & Plate Chasers

Quarter-Final stages of most events.

**FBT** El Gaucho XII **Premium Tennis** Teddy Tennis RC Cola



# **Men's Singles**

Match of the tournament so far was undoubtedly the 2nd Round clash between Frederic and Jeevan. Fred played a fantastic opening set to take it 6-2 but young Jeevan kept calm in the eye of the 'Tricolour Storm' and fought back to take the 2nd set by the same score. The 3rd set was on serve for the opening 5 games before our new teenage sensation Jeevan broke Fred to take a 4-2 lead. Fred broke back to close to 3-4 but Jeevan again broke his more experienced opponent to go 5-3 up and served it out to take the match. Next up for him is Cheer! Don't miss it!

The 2022 British Club Tennis Section Championships are officially

up and running and, by the time you read this, we will be into the

Many thanks to our Club Championships sponsors old and new alike!

# Ladies Singles

The opening match of the tournament saw debutant Gabi take on and give established star Pin in the 1st Round. Young Gabi performed admirably and gave her opponent a scare, but Pin steadies the ship and book her place in QF where she will meet Nattaya in a 'not to be missed' encounter. Gabi will be a threat in plate where she is drawn to play another teenager, Hanna in the QF. It's great to see the youth coming through at the British Club Tennis Section. As someone once famously said "The Kids are Alright!".



▲ The Kids Are Alright

# **SPORTS**



A British Club Ladies Team

Men's & Mixed Doubles are following familiar paths towards almost inevitable match ups at the SF stages ... unless someone can cause a stir!

# Ladies Doubles

On the other hand, the Ladies Doubles is on a new path with 4 new teams in contention for the top prizes. The Semi-Final line-ups look to be heading towards matchups between:

Mooky & Pin V Raquel & Nat

Rhea & Aom V Pui & Mai

Which means there will be at least one new name and one new pairing on the honours board. Excellent stuff!





Club Ladies were involved. Despite the support of some handsome boys, The British Club Ladies went down 1-5 to Rajpruek on Sunday in the opening round. We will be back to fight another day – Thursday 24th in fact at the British Club V Team Cheers!

# Lawn Tennis Association Of Thailand

Finally, congratulations to the aforementioned Jeevan who finished as Runner-Up in The Under 14 Boy's Singles at the Lawn Tennis Association Of Thailand Master Tournament held from 29th Jan -3nd Feb 2022.

#### Graham Johnston **British Club Tennis Section** Chairman



A Her last game before leaving with Kellic and myself

Squash bits is dedicated to our best female player, current ladies champion, undefeated ladies player and frankly our only ladies player - Khun Da!!!

Da has decided after 18 years as a regular stalwart in the division, regardless of the gender bias (100-1) that the call of nature was too visceral and powerful for her to resist any more!! She has therefore hung up her squash racquets, put away her double dots for the last time and passed on her holed Nike shoes to Dave Mason and gone back to Ubon Ratchathani.

The call was too strong even for her to wait to see the opening of the new Sala in the Phase II renovation. She was going to wait for the grand opening but she once. rather too revealingly blurted out over a beer Chang during mix-in drinks - "blimey riley, this bloody renovation is going on a bit ain't it? I bet Evans is project managing - the plonker, God knows when it will be done – even the crummy sky trains get built fast than this bloody thing! I can't be assed waiting any more I'm off!!".

(Ed Note: As you can see Khun Da's English took on a slight cockney tinge down the years!)

Being absent for the great renovation unveiling is all the sadder as Da was one of the last players to play the

final game on the old Court 1 where the renovation is now being slowly built. Ironically she was playing yours truly and the great project manager himself, 'steady but surely, safety first Evans'. The enclosed photos evidence the standard the new renovation is being built to under his guidance.

So what do we know about Da?? Not a lot as it happens despite being at the club for 18 years she kept her cards close to her chest. So we decided to interview her before she ran off up country to try and elicit some juicy gossip!



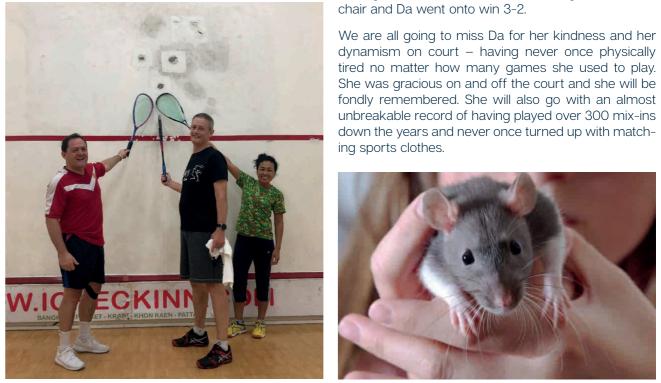
A Da in action on court





▲ We will miss vou Da

What we have been able to glean is that she comes from Ubon Ratchathani - hence she is going home, where she is going to grow rice, harvest cannabis and build a mischief of rats (yes everyone that is the collective name for rats!). For some unfathomable reason Da had a bit of a thing for rats, she regularly brought her pet rat - Kim - to the mix-ins which was often a surprise to many including Marvyn especially when Kim climbed Marv's left leg and starting scurrying around looking for Welsh low hanging fruit.



▲ Last game on old court number 1

OUTPOST



The current ladies number 1 after Da has now left – in true form aetting stuck into the beers first before squash

During the interview we did with Da, she revealed the most inebriated she ever got, and she did get inebriated quite often, was during a Gin tasting evening in the Churchill bar whereby after being plied with various juniper based cocktails she got all metaphysical and philosophical, then the gin got to her brain and she became legless before being carried head high and vertical out of the bar quoting Immanuel Kant and Jack Dunford – two of the greatest philosophers of our time.

Her greatest squash achievement was winning the Don Johnson plate against John Vivian last year – she was actually 2-0 down and John was coasting until she released Kim onto the court in the 3rd game and John got so freaked out he refused to get down off a

dynamism on court - having never once physically tired no matter how many games she used to play. fondly remembered. She will also go with an almost unbreakable record of having played over 300 mix-ins down the years and never once turned up with match-

Kim the rat

**SPORTS** 



▲ The heavy stuff isn't coming for a while

of optimism...two leagues matches...Marshall Trophy game with RBSC...Fireball...and a tour of Chiang Mai (which will get the full journalistic treatment next month) to look forward to.

#### **BCL Game vs Southern Warriors**

Saturday 15th January saw the return to league action in the new year. It was some trepidation that we once again travelled down Pattana Spots club to face off against the rather menacing sounding opposition. Last month I wrote of Denzyl's exploits to record the largest ever individual score by a BC member...this was unfortunately short lived as club stalwart Dale "one shot" Lamb scored a brilliant 92 from only 42 balls. It was even commented that more than one shot was played with some runs (maybe 5) scored on the posh side of the wicket! Being serious, it was a fantastic innings with some of the most destructive swiping you will ever witness. Dale was the headline grabber, but it was a superb batting performance by all those who graced the crease. Denzyl continued his vintage bat-36. Captain Eastwell 55 not out from 34 and Mossy 16 from 12. All of this meant BC made an excellent 267

The Cricket section moved into a busy January full from their 25 overs. The Southern Warriors, replied with an all out total of 132 runs, a convincing 135 run victory for Eastwell's merry men. The wickets were shared around with Dilip grabbing 3, Pramodh, Talal, Ben, Rahul, Mak and Dale (yes he bowled too) grabbing 1 a piece. The man of the match award deservedly went to Dale. The journey home saw Mossy introduce the club to his latest purchase, surprisingly not another pair of boat shoes or pastel khaki shorts but some glasses that he was rather proud of....do we tell him he looked like Austin Powers now or later?

# BCL Game vs Kerala Strikers

Sunday 30th January saw the second of the league games for the month of January at least begin...in brilliant sunshine Ben won the toss and elected to bat which BC did with aplomb. Rahul and Sunil, making his long overdue return, began confidently putting on 72 in the first 9 overs for the first wicket. Unfortunately, apocalyptic scenes then engulfed the Pattana Sports resort with a deluge of rain and high winds...the scorers tent was last seen cartwheeling across the wicket! ting season with 49 from 30 balls, Rahul made 27 from It was at this point that the game was cancelled and the strikers escaped with a share of the points!

# **SPORTS**



▲ RBSC and British Club line up together after their "tie"

## Marshall Trophy vs RBSC

Sandwiched in between the league fixtures was the annual Marshall Trophy match played against RBSC at their city centre ground. This match, marking the 60th anniversary of this fixture, was played as an over 45's "masters" match. Rumours that our section chairman has played in all 60 years are sadly untrue, although he can talk you through ball by ball details of most of them. It was pleased to see Sir Nick White emerge from retirement and showed he had lost none of his elegance. Sadly the author of this piece was unable to attend the game and the full details are best described as sketchy! When details were requested a "diplomatic tie" was described as the outcome for Dale and his team....the mind bogles. The scorecard does show that both teams finished on 132...so it was contrived somehow! In the process it seems the runs were shared around with Vaughan making a classy 48 and wickets for Dilip (2) Sunish (3) Manish and Ian (1 each)

The final act for the cricket section this month saw the playing of the Fireball competition followed by the annual awards night. There were a few things noteworthy from the day. The club chairman James Crosslev Smith was last seen being stretchered towards the local infirmary complaining of a hamstring tear and apparently Pramodh won all rounder of the year...I know this because it was plastered across all his social media platforms...Shameless self promotion from Hobo himself...shameless!!!

# OUTPOST



A Man of the match and record scorer



▲ Sir Nick...."keep breathing in Rahul, the picture is nearly done" Rahul...."Im trying, but they need to hurry up"

# **SPORTS BRITISH CLUB GOLF**

# **January Medal**

Nine flights of golfers contested the January medal at Subhapruek Golf Club. It was lovely to see so many present for the our first medal of the year, with Subhapruek representing a change of course from our previous medal home at Royal Golf and Country Club. Changing venues is never an easy matter, but the management at Subhapruek welcomed us and looked after us well, and the vast majority were pleased with the change of venue. The course itself was presented in excellent condition, the pace of play was swift, and the price was most certainly right too.

Stefano Kim (far right) won division 1 from Mark Adderley (second from right), Penny Booth won division two from Martin Weber (second from left.). There was plenty of good scoring with all four shooting below their handicaps.

Jon Standen (British Club Golf Captain)

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# **SPORTS PILATES AND WELL-BEING**

# It's a topsy turvy world sometimes!

Inversions, what is the big deal about them? Should we all be doing them or are they only for the benefit of looking fancy on social media posts? More traditionally thought of as the domain of the yoga world, inversions are actually any pose or exercise that takes your hips higher than your heart and your heart higher than your head. So, while typically we may think of inversions as headstands, shoulder stands and handstands there are actually many movements where this happens in both Pilates and yoga such as an inverted V / downward dog pose.

Inversions are believed to have a positive effect on many systems within the body including the cardiovascular, lymphatic, endocrine, digestive and nervous systems. Our body's systems are sensitive to the effects of gravity because we consist of approximately 60% water, held in a complex matrix of vessels, valves, pumps, and porous membranes all dedicated to transporting, nourishing and cleansing our cells by moving fluids around. Thus gravity works on our bodies systems continuously but when we do an inversion many of our body's systems are given a helping hand or a little break from the constant effects of gravity. Until recently there has been little interest in trying to objectively document the effects of specific yoga poses on our health and the scientific statistically powered evidence is still lacking however we do have the spine to elongate with the help of gravity rather than a wealth of practitioner experience, educated reasoning and expert opinions which all lead us to believe in the huge benefits of a regular inversion practise.

So why are inversions so good for us? Here's the top reasons I've found to explain why:

## 1. Improves circulation

Turning ourselves upside down encourages venous blood return, assisting blood to return from our extremities to the heart without relying on the assistance of muscular contractions that it normally does. Inversions Here are a few to start trying which are fairly accessible give the heart a break from having to pump so hard to to all: deliver oxygenated blood to the brain and the vital organs.

# 2. Recharges the lymphatic system

A strong and working lymphatic system is vital for good health as it is responsible for removal of waste products, fluid balances and immune responses. Filtering lymphatic fluid through our lymph nodes, it is like the waste disposal system of the body. Ordinarily the lymphatic system works by muscular movements, but inversions stimulate our lymphatic systems by flipping the effect of gravity, encouraging the flow of lymphatic fluid around the body, thus aiding the cleansing process.

(This is also why elevating your feet is recommended when you suffer from swollen ankles, as it assists the lymphatic system in draining the excess fluid.)

## 3. Creates a sense of focus and calm

Practising inversions can paradoxically have both an invigorating and a calming effect on the mind. They can take strength, concentration and focus, especially for balancing inversions. However, they can also invoke deep breathing and relaxation as your brain gets stimulated in a different position, cue your rest and digest parasympathetic nervous system activation. Additionally inversions can reduce muscle tension especially allowing always fighting against it. After exiting from an inversion you often feel energised and rejuvenated.

## 4. Fun to do

It is fun to try new things and whilst certain inversions may not be suitable for all of us it is still fun to switch things up. Challenging ourselves with how we move our bodies or choose to relax and see things literally from a different perspective can be fun to do.

It is said that just 3-5mins of inversions daily can have a positive impact on your well being.

# **SPORTS**



Focus on finding as much length in your spine as possible by reaching your tailbone to the sky and pushing the floor away with your hands.

#### Wide legged forward fold (Prasarita Padottanasana)



If your head doesn't reach the floor you can always prop it up with a yoga block, or cushion for a more relaxing feel.

#### Shoulder Bridge (Setu Bandha)



For a more relaxing pose this can also be done supported with a yoga block or stack of books under the back of the pelvis. Why not try this position whilst reading or checking your phone for 5-10 mins in the evening.

OUTPOST

Legs up the wall (Viparita Karani)



I saved this one for last because in my opinion it is the best one! It is like a secret weapon to feeling great, when you get a slump in energy levels especially late in the day or post travel try this one to naturally boost you. The legs could also be elevated against a chair with the shins resting on the seat, it is also good to place a bolster or cushion under the hips to elevate them slightly.

If I start to feel a headache or migraine looming I will take 10-15 mins in this pose and most times that will naturally prevent it!

All of these inversions are pretty accessible to most people so why not try one or two of them regularly for a few minutes a day and see how they make you feel. Then with consistent practice and attending some classes you could build up to more adventurous inversion practises however, as much as handstands and headstands are great fun for those who want to do them we don't all need to be doing them at all, you will reap the benefit of inversions from these poses listed here.

Enjoy!

Karen x

# **MEMBERSHIP DEPARTMENT**

# **MEMBERSHIP PARTNERS GET MORE INFORMATIONS SCAN HERE**



Ammy Aphinya

# ello Members!

We are thrilled this month to inform you that after one year of construction, Phase 2 of the Poolside Development Project is now ready to open. The British Ambassador, .H.E. Mark Gooding OBE will open the new facilities which will include a sports bar and a new gym with stunning views out over the swimming pool towards the Clubhouse.

With all the new facilities opening paid for largely by past Members, the GC is planning to increase entrance fees for new Members. So if you have friends thinking about joining, then this is a good time to encourage them! We are pleased to have the Cheechan Golf Club as a new membership partner this month for you to enjoy

With the Omicron Covid variant still spreading in Thailand please continue to be careful. Please wear a mask, use hand sanitizer and avoid crowded places.

I am happy to introduce two new family members to you this month.



Jayanta , Beauty and Ritwika Mitra

#### Member Review:

Hello This is Jayanta Mitra (JM) and its my proud privileged to be Member of The British Club Bangkok. I am using the club very frequently and getting more interest day by day. I should give Full credit to Ms Ammy (Cub membership Manager )for explaining the entire information of the club - activities, games, Events, reciprocals tie ups with other clubs globally and many more. I whole heartedly appreciate the way she handle and manage since my day 1 coming to club. I am sure me & family will enjoy the Club to full extend and get to know new friends. Its going to be our second home.



▲ John, Annie and Ayah, Kayla Holme

#### Member Review:

The British Club is like an oasis of tranquility in the city. It seems well run and well equipped for leisure times.

I have played a few exhausting Tennis mix ins so far, and plan to bring my children to enjoy the playground, swimming and good food very soon.



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