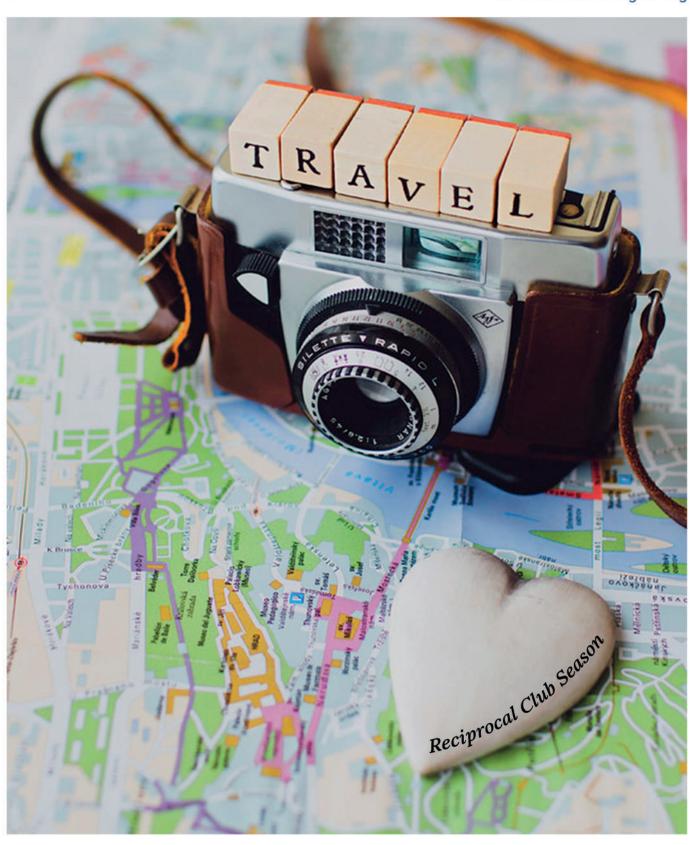


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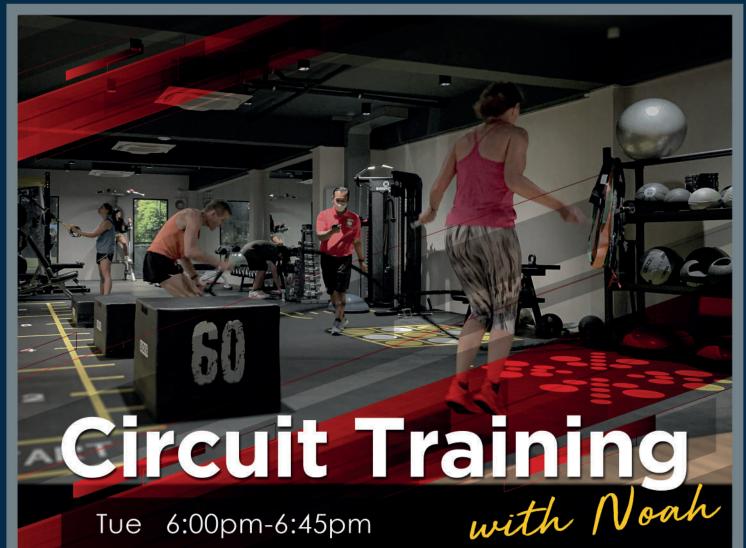


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#### TPOST

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#### Vice Chairman

David Williamson vicechairman@britishclubbangkok.org

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honorary.secretary@britishclubbangkok.org

#### **Honorary Treasurer**

Ceri Weaver-Berthet

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#### **Front Cover**

Try one of our 472 reciprocal clubs in 63 countries this summer

#### **This Month**

The Chairman's inside view, the Fry Group talk Investment Holding Methods, our GM looks ahead, Tee uncovers the operations, we revisit the year 1962, Paul & Jack review Club Financiero Génova, Madrid, Spoofing explained, June events in pictures, our sections have their say, Ukkie welcomes our new members





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**With** this edition of The Outpost, half of 2023 will be behind as the inevitable march of time passes by all too quickly and the traditional summer holiday season is once again upon us. To those who are traveling, I wish you safe and happy journeys whilst for those staying in, or visiting Bangkok, there will be plenty of activities within the Club for you and your families to enjoy.

It has been very pleasing to see the new steps that were recently installed in the swimming pool and to receive positive feedback from those members who are now able to get into, and out of, the water with relative ease. To further enhance the poolside area new trees will soon be planted that will add additional shading with further improvements to the garden areas of the Club House in the pipeline.

On the 4th June, following a request from The Royal Selangor Club (RSC) to have a darts match, we welcomed thirty players and their supporters from Kuala Lumpur. During a most enjoyable afternoon it was wonderful to see the Churchill Bar buzzing as the arrows flew through the air with The RSC beating The British Club by 5 games to 2. Well done to all players and the RSC visiting President, Mr. Jayakumar Muniandy, kindly extended an invitation for a return match in Kualar Lumpur next year. Perhaps an interport weekend of competition could be organized, taking cricket, squash, tennis, golf and darts teams to KL, food for thought.







Plans are underway to install a competition sized pool table, darts and televisions in the Snooker room leaving the Churchill bar free from such distractions and returning same to being a quiet and relaxing area.

Not forgetting the children of our members, the management is currently searching for suitable non electronic games to keep them occupied that can be placed in "Games Room" and "Kids Stop" and any particular suggestions then please do contact Tee Bale, Dy.GM Operations.

Well done to the cricket section in bringing Mike Gatting, the ex-England cricket captain to the Club and to the squash section for putting on a very well organized Rod Carter open squash tournament.

Thank you to everyone who took time to complete the recent Members Survey for which the results are being analysed and a detailed summary will be published in the August Outpost magazine.

Just a few words before I sign off to sincerely thank the management and staff who have been working tirelessly over recent months. It makes me very happy to see plenty of smiling faces walking around the club and I wonder if anywhere in the world there is a more courteous and welcoming group of security staff than at the entrance gates? Yes, pride in their performance for sure!!

Cheers Simon





## An Evening with The Fry Group

#### Speakers:

Martin Wright (Host)
Senior Financial Planner, The Fry Group Singapore
Max White
Director, Schroders Wealth Management Asia

#### Date:

Thursday, 3 August 2023 6.30pm - 8.30pm

#### Location:

The British Club Bangkok Suriwongse Room 189 Surawong Road Bangrak, Bangkok 1050

RSVP:

events@thefrygroup.sg

Join us for a presentation, hosted by Martin Wright, Senior Financial Planner at The Fry Group Singapore with guest speaker Max White, Director at Schroders Wealth Management Asia.

#### This event will focus on key topics including:

- Seeking (Investment) income
- Investment holdings methods
- Investment market update

#### What you can expect to learn from this presentation?

- What certain asset classes can provide in terms of "income" along with other ideas and guidance
- Coverage on the different investment holding methods including benefits, features, options and pitfalls of each
- What is happening in the investment markets currently, how 2023 may look, and positioning portfolios

This presentation will include a Q&A session and an opportunity to chat informally with our guest speakers over a complimentary British Club dinner and drinks.



In what can be a confusing (sometimes treacherous) landscape, this article outlines some of the options for British expats looking for non-cash investment.

There are several options and the main ones are:

#### STOCKBROKING ACCOUNT

Stockbroking is typically offered by well-established companies advertising their services in print and online. Most countries have options although there are some major global providers who will allow accounts to be opened without some of the frequent country-specific problems.

This option is a cost-efficient approach to investment, usually allowing access to any listed investment instruments on the main exchanges worldwide. The standard service provides accounts on an execution-only basis, so no advice is offered, and you can only have access to an account with which to purchase investments.

#### **GENERAL INVESTMENT ACCOUNT**

A general investment account offers access to investment funds, and some direct securities (this is company-specific). Typically, this is a common method of individual investing in the UK.

Some international providers allow accounts to be established by Thailand residents (on a case-by-case basis). A limited number of UK account providers will allow this. It's a competitive marketplace currently so these accounts are generally cost-efficient with the standard annual product charge typically less than 0.25% per annum.

As they are mostly used by advisory companies, general investment accounts aren't frequently employed for execution-only investments.

#### OFFSHORE LIFE ASSURANCE INVESTMENT BOND

This method is used regularly by 'offshore' advisers normally allowing investment in the main currencies and listed investments through most dealing exchanges.

For non-UK residents the more complicated taxation structure isn't applicable. However, for UK residents they are a tax deferral vehicle, but may have a tax liability after a certain period of time of withdrawing value, or at specific events.

Whilst this approach can offer flexibility, the range of charges can be prohibitive, with significant surrender penalties if you choose to close early.

They can be useful for Estate planning as a few providers have their own trust companies providing off-the-shelf arrangements with little or no cost. As corporate trustees there's also a higher likelihood they'll remain in place for the life of the arrangement.

#### **DISCRETIONARY PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT**

Historically these options are used by institutional investors, high net worth individuals or charities. Whilst most larger global asset management companies still have high minimum investment levels (\$1 million typically) there are some that offer lower levels, from \$500,000.

Discretionary management means the portfolio is controlled without consulting you on investment decisions, with changes based on factors agreed with you at the outset. They're usually cost-efficient and available in most of the main currencies, although some have country-specific criteria.

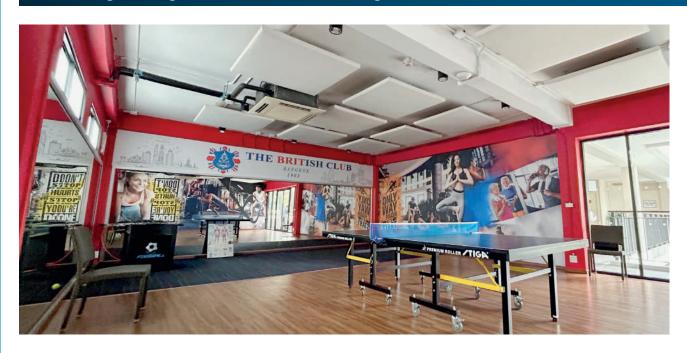
Choosing the right investment approach is important in what can be a confusing landscape. Seeking professional advice is vital to help ensure that you make the right choice for your personal circumstances



Martin Wright Senior Financial Planner

## **Letter From**

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



#### THE GM's SPOT ....

Interesting times are ahead for our little community as the Narai Group begins construction on a new building complex next to our club. At the time of writing this message we currently do not have all the details of Narai's plans however the following information is what we currently know and will keep all our members posted as and when we find out more.

The development which still reauires permission from the government's 'Planning Department', will consist of two buildings, each having their unique features and facilities. The first building is a grand 26 floor structure boasting five floors of basement carparks which can accommodate up to 310 cars, 250 hotel rooms, restaurants, shops, offices, and banquet rooms. The second building in the complex also consists of 26 floors with four floors of basements parking for up to 207 cars, 150 hotel rooms, restaurants, shops and offices. The project is estimated to take 48 months to complete.

Naturally, with such an ambitious building project, there comes concerns about the impact it may have on our club. Fortunately, the Narai Group, is receptive to the local community's concerns and have scheduled a meeting in June to discuss the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). Although the club's management are working with the Meindhart engineering company as consultants we do have other comments we wish to raise with the Narai group at the community meeting. Some of the questions regarding the construction's alternate plans we will be asking are : soil subsidence, noise, vibrations, air pollution, guarantee's that they will follow the EIA rules, plans for workers living areas, contraction schedules, plans on delivering building materials (and workers), flooding, sun reflection from the glass facade and if any dangerous materials such as Asbestos will be used.

In the mean time if the aforementioned information is causing any stress, please note that we have just completed a mini facelift to our performance studio situated on the second floor of the Silom wing where we are offering weekly group exercise classes including, Aero boxing and yoga. If this isn't enough please do visit our fantastic Personal Trainer Noah who you can find in our gym.







# **Operations** Unknown

#### Internship Program



Sky and Nikhil

**Sky and Nikhil** are sophomore's at NIST International School who choose the British Club Bangkok for their internship work experience. The aim was to learn skills in sports management and learn how to become a personal trainer.

Khun Amnat, our sports manager, and Khun Noah, our PT, put them through their paces and fast tracked them to achieve the required results for their internships.

When asked at the end how did it go? Sky commented "amazing I learned a lot" Nikhil said "Tough but has inspired me to do more" both lads thanked the British Club for the opportunity and recommended it for anyone else looking for an internship.

#### **Reciprocal Clubs**

It's possible the British Club Bangkok has the greatest number of reciprocal clubs in any one network across private member clubs worldwide, this is thanks to mainly one-man Paul Cheesman our Honorary Secretary. Paul over the years has spend hours, days, weeks, to make the network what it is today. We currently boast 472 clubs across 63 countries, these are used by nearly all our traveling members, together with between 30-40 visits to our club each month from reciprocal club

members from around the world. To get the inside look on selected clubs we are fortunate to have two of our other members Paul & Jack who kindly spend their time reviewing reciprocal clubs each month for Outpost, this month they are looking at Club Financiero Genova, Madrid. To visit any of our network of reciprocal clubs please contact our membership department who will be happy to assist in giving you an introduction letter.







#### **CPR Training**



We take all our members safety and health very seriously, so with that in mind we have teamed up with our partner Medpark Hospital to supply vital CPR and first aid training to a selection of our team. We conducted 2 sessions on different days for a total of 20 staff, all passed and have been awarded their certificates.















# ~~~PAST PARTICIPLE~~~ Auspicium Melioris Ævi

We continue the story of the British Club Bangkok ... **1962** 

#### On the Rise!

Membership continued to rise, with the reported 1962 year-end figure being 302 and this spurt of growth lead to a weird train of thought ...

The Committee had concluded that further development on our land was not possible due to the size constraints and lack of funds, thus we should sell the Club if at all possible. It was 'thought' that we would be allowed to buy any land that had been in British ownership prior to the 1954 Land Act with permission of H.M. The King. It was noted, however, that our land was still mortgaged to the Hong Kong & Shanghai Bank.

Luckily, the idea was only theoretical!

However, following up the question of the future of the Club the Chairman reported that discreet enquiries had been made at the Land Office and, although nothing was given in writing, there would eppear to be no difficulty regarding the sale of the Club property if it were decided to do so, or in the purchase of another property that is already British owned. Land Tax would have to be paid retrospectively but it was believed this would not be as excessive as at first believed.

▲ Sell the Club!!

#### **Our Naval Year**

For two days in March the Club extended to the crews of HMCS Assiniboine (DDE235), HMCS Ottawa (DDE229) and HMCS Margaree (DDE 230), all St. Laurent-class destroyers, use of the Club facilities during their visit. The plaques of HMCS Margaree and HMCS Ottawa are on display in the Churchill Bar.

Later in the year, the Club extended to the crew of HMS Tiger (C20), a Tiger-class conventional cruiser, use of the Club facilities during their visit. The ship's homegrown Band 'The Federals' appeared on Thai Television. The plaque of HMS Tiger is on display in the Churchill Bar

The Bangkok Naval Association ran its Trafalgar Dinner at the Club on 21st October.



The Federals'

#### Things Done!

It was agreed, from feedback at the Annual General Meeting, that candidates for election to the General Committee should have their names displayed on the notice board two weeks ahead of the meeting but this would not preclude nominations from the floor.

The General Committee decided to allow members of the Voluntary Service Overseas organisation, to have use of the Club's facilities whilst in Bangkok

The General Committee agreed to allow officers and men from the Golden Arrow (SWB 8) Detachment from the 19 Signals Regiment to have use of the Club's facilities whilst in Bangkok during August 1962.

The Honorary Secretary advised that both the Signal Squadron and the Volunteer Services Overseas had replied to his letters and had gratafully-accepted our offer. A list of names has been supplied and have been handed over to Mrs. Nadar.

Visitors





In February, when it was proposed to put to the AGM to have 'associate members' within the Club, that was to have members other than "citizens of the United Kingdom and such other persons who are of British descent, as the committee may decide". The Committee decided that "no resolution be put"!

In the same vein it was requested that British ladies married to non-British men should be able to obtain 'Ladies' privileges' – again the Committee decided that "no resolution be put"!

In the August, the Committee considered a proposal to build a Squash Court at the Club to increase the number of sports played - this was deferred! -

sed to present a resolution in respect of changing the rule for Honorary to the Annual General Meeting. It was further agreed that no resolutio or Associate Membership would be presented to the Annual General Meetin m of laddes privileges for British laddes married to non-British mes discussed and it was decided that no resolution in this respect resented to the Annual General Meeting,

No Resolution

#### Service

John Donofield, of Pronesiam, became chairman in 1962 (see Past Participle, January 2023). Mowbray Mackie, of the Mercantile Bank, became Vice-Chairman (see Past Participle, May 2023). D.R. Davies, of the Tiuss Pradit Company, became Honorary Secretary, for six months during his only service on the committee and was replaced, upon going Absent, by Don Johnson (of the Squash Cup fame), also his only committee service. J.A. Anderson, of the Mercantile Bank, became Honorary Treasurer and did two more terms of service.

David Carpenter, of the Shell Company of Thailand, would serve this and one other term. J.E. Robinson, of the Singer Sewing Machine Company, served part of this term plus two more and was replaced by Brian P. Tomkins, of the Mechanical Equipment Company, who would go onto serve six terms.

An unusual single term was served by Commander Ross Swan, who was the Naval Member of the Military Planning Office in SEATO (South-East Asia Treaty Organization) Headquarters in Bangkok. Commander Swan was promoted to Rear Admiral in 1978, appointed as an Officer in the Order of Australia (AO) in 1982 and retired from the RAN in 1983.

1962 also saw the first of two terms of service by Dr. J. Paddy Dickson, originally of the Bangkok Nursing Home. Paddy had a long and distinguished career in Thailand, became an Honorary Member of the club in 2014 and the Club website picture archive is blessed by a large number of photographs he took in the 1960s (see below). His obituary is in the December 2021 edition of Outpost.

#### 1962-63

VICE-CHAIRMAN:

CHAIRMAN: John H. Donofield A. Mowbray Mackie HONORARY SECRETARY: D.R. Davies (went Absent 23.08.1962) Don S. Johnston (co-opted 23.08.1962)

HONORARY TREASURER: J.A. Anderson MEMBERS:

William Brownsey **G. David Carpenter** 

Jack H. Delacour (Absent 18.04.1962-05.08.1962)

Dr. J. Paddy Dickson

J.E. Robinson (went Absent 18.04.1962)

General Committee 1962-63

#### Club News

In April, the refit of 'The Bar' (now Veranda restaurant) was completed with a new bar, new refrigerator, and a new central ceiling fan and all the Naval plagues re-gilded. This cost 90,000 Ticals. We also introduced a draught beer for the first time, namely 'Singha' although not initially popular it took a few months before we sold enough to warrant receiving credit from Boon Rawd Brewery. Whilst the launch of the new Bar was received very well by members there were complaints that the Club kept the old bar stools which were uncomfortable.

Outgoing Club Chairman, Mr John H.W. Marshall donated a Cricket Trophy for a cricket competition of "the British Club versus the RBSC (Royal Bangkok Sports Club)". Sadly, the Club lost the first match.

Although initially very popular, the Bowling Alley had fallen into disrepair, the Committee decided to spend some 63,100 Ticals on repairing the Alley and especially levelling the floor which had warped. A new ball was purchased, old balls repaired, and three members donated new balls.

Unfortunately, "no good deed ever goes unpunished" because once the Bowling Alley was back in full use, the Club received a complaint from the Royal Thai Police related to the noise it generated!



Bowling Alley {Picture: Dr. Paddy Dickson}

#### In Other News

Colonel P.B. Winstanley MC was appointed British Military Attaché and joined the club on 18th April. He had previously been the commanding officer of the 2nd Battalion, 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles.

In June, the installation of the new sewer in 1961 and subsequent widening of Silom Road led to the Silom Tram Line being closed. In the October, the line along Rama IV Road also closed.

The Reverend Edgar James Pulman left Christ Church in Convent Road which was then served by diocesan clergy until 1963.

Commander E.F. Pritchard was appointed British Naval Attaché and joined the club on 11th October.

The Victory Hotel opened at 322 Silom Road, roughly where the expressway now meets Silom. This was the first hotel of the now Narai Group. The Narai itself was still six years away.

Although Canada commenced ambassadorial relations with Thailand in November 1961 it was not until 17th December 1962 that the Club offered the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, H.E. Charles Eustace McGaughey, an Honorary Membership. Strangely it is not recorded in the minutes whether it was accepted!



▲ The Victory Hotel

## Next month ... Credit where credit is due!

Paul Cheesman Honorary Secretary

For Members interested in our Club's history, the Club Timeline has been fully revised with 2,073 entries including 434 pictures across 192 pages and can be found on the Website under 'The Club – History'.





# **Merchant Navy Officers Pension Fund (MNOPF)**

Do I have an MNOPF Pension? Are you a Merchant Navy Officer looking for Information for your Pension Fund?

If you think you (or a family member or a friend) may be entitled to a Defined Benefit MNOPF pension then please contact Vern Unsworth MBE who can help investigate whether you have any entitlement.

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Date of Birth
National Insurance Number
Discharge Book Number
Membership Number (if you have one)
Address from when at Sea

All information treated in strictest confidence

Vern can be contacted at Vernon@eig.email



# Club Financiero Génova, Madrid

Visited in June 2022

The Club Financiero Génova is a business oriented private member's club that was founded in 1972, and inaugurated in 1973 once the membership had reached 500. The club is on the top floors of the Centro Colón office block in central Madrid, and has its own lift to take members up to the 14th floor which is where the reception is located.

The club has a bar, a restaurant, a lounge area, a couple of meeting rooms, and a long narrow terrace running along outside the bar and lounge. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are provided from Monday to Friday, but the club is closed at weekends. Additionally, on the roof of the building which is the level above the narrow terrace, there's large deck with 360° views over Madrid. On the deck there's a swimming pool, and although I couldn't see any changing rooms, there is an internal spiral staircase from the deck which leads directly down to the toilets adjacent to the bar. However, there were no other sports facilities and no accommodation. The dress code is specified as business attire for both men and women. For men that means that jackets are compulsory, and even polo shirts are banned. However, jackets may be removed on summer nights.

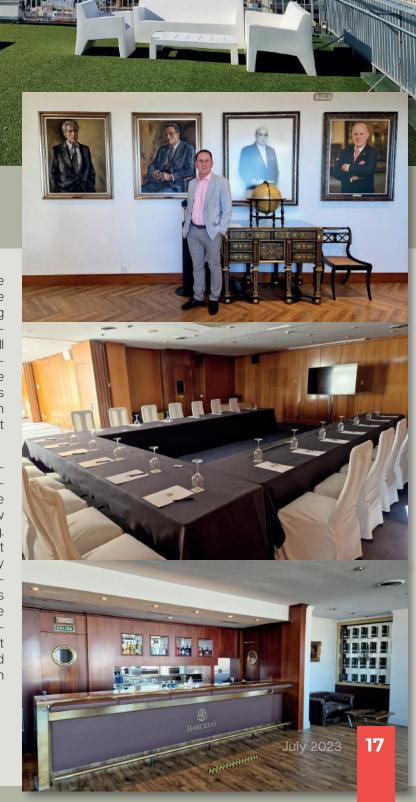
We first visited the club early one evening. Although the concierge who greeted us said he couldn't speak English, he was happy with our letter of introduction





which was written in English. Very few people were in the club, but that was in the middle of the June 2022 Nato summit which was held in Madrid. During the summit, the authorities were discouraging people from coming into central Madrid because of all the security precautions. However, the following evening when we went for dinner at 9pm there were a couple of functions taking place so the club was quite busy. We normally like to eat dinner earlier than 9pm, but in line with Spanish culture, the restaurant doesn't open until 9pm.

For our dinner, we were seated outside on the narrow terrace, from where we had great views looking east over Madrid. We had a good meal but the wine list, which was 100% Spanish apart from a few Champagnes, was both disappointing and amazing. It was disappointing because wine vintages were not specified, the staff didn't seem to understand why vintages are important, and some of the wines listed were not available even though the wine list was electronic and accessed via QR code. However, the amazing thing was how cheap the wines were, because it seemed to me that the wines were almost being sold at cost price. Overall, we were well looked after, so when British Club Bangkok members are in Madrid they should consider visiting this club.







## **Seniors** Section

#### **SECTION UPDATE:**

Seniors Section Membership is open to ALL Club Members and their Spouses/Partners irrespective of age, in fact there is specifically no age limit (either up or down) to joining! The key point being that all our events are held on weekdays, mainly afternoons, when the Club is not busy and when the Bangkok traffic is 'not too bad' as compared to the usual that we all know and hate!

The Section's objectives are to engender continuous learning, mild activity, and most certainly good socializing. With the exception of the very well received Day Trips, all our events are held at the British Club. To date it is believed that we are meeting these objectives, especially the socializing aspect.

Our Committee are working hard to provide two Events each month, currently with events at various stages of progression and finalization up to October 2023.

So, come along to your first Seniors Section event: we are confident that having done so, you will then be attending others.

#### FUTURE SECTION EVENTS THROUGH TO MID- AUGUST:



Interested to become a SECTION MEMBER or COMMITTEE MEMBER, just wanting to discuss or make enquiry, or to suggest a possible Section event please email to: terry.adamsbkk@gmail.com or call him on 081 750 1087.

#### **EVENT REPORT:**

#### "Voting rights for Brits living abroad", Wednesday, 17th May 2023:

Long-term Club Member Bruce Darrington who had obtained a detailed non-political presentation on the topic from a UK Political Party, was introduced by Section Chair Terry Adams in front of a small, but very interested and later vociferous group of section and club members.

Bruce opened his presentation by outlining the key aspects of the UK's "Elections Act 2022" as passed by the UK Parliament. The important change for all British Citizens living overseas is that they now have the right to vote in local and national elections irrespective of how long they have been based outside the UK. He went on to note

that the totality of UK Citizens eligible to vote was 3.4mn as at Dec 2021, a total of some 7% of the total voting population, equivalent to Wales and Northern Ireland combined, so far from an insignificant number! He went on to describe the registration process involved, which would be 'challenging' for many expats.

Bruce then turned to processes used by other countries in allowing their overseas citizens to vote, and he broadened this with an announcement of facts unknown to all the Seniors Section and Club Member

attendees: That France (21 constituencies, 6% of total MPs) and Italy (8 constituencies, 1.3% of total MPs) have MPs solely elected to represent Overseas Constituencies. This was a stunning revelation as UK Citizens living overseas have no such representation in the UK Parliament at all, unless registered to vote in a UK Constituency! Discussion and debate continued somewhat heatedly, until the event was brought to a conclusion in the usual way and all repaired to the Churchill Bar!





#### ABBREVIATED EVENT REPORT:

#### Day Trip to Ayutthaya and the "Golden Treasure Exhibition", Thursday, 25th May 2023:

Following a 'Team Breakfast' at the Sala, a smaller than usual group (owing to 5 regulars being overseas) boarded our luxury 22-seater minibus for the easy ride up to the ancient Thai Capital. Nisa Young, our effervescent and efficient 'Trip Captain' for the day, handed out bottles of cold water together with the Itinerary Notes prepared by Noah Shepherd, notes which set out not just the planned five stop timings but also important historical information on each of them.

The first stop was to the ruins of Wat Rachaburana, built in 1424 and sacked by the invading Burmese in 1767. We were first of all struck by just the sheer size and scale of the ruins and the huge land area they covered. Then on to the adjacent 14th century Wat Maha That, famous for the highly revered Buddha image entwined in the roots of an ancient banyan tree.

After walking for so long in such high temperatures and sunlight, the aircon of the minibus along with Nisa's cold water, brought welcome relief as we travelled the short distance to the Chao Sam Phraya National Museum. We were directed to a brand new 2-storey building that was fully airconditioned where we paid our entrance fees of Baht 30 for Thai Citizens and Baht 150 for foreigners.











(Unlike for the two temple ruins, the writer's pink Thai ID card worked here)

Located on the 2nd floor, the "Golden Treasure Exhibition" covered all 8 rooms in superbly displaying 2,244 pieces of 15th century gold ornaments and artefacts. Over many years Fine Arts Department teams dug under some temple ruins, including under Wat Maha That,

#### OUTPOST

and found what is now this magnificent collection and display of gold and silver ornaments and artifacts.

Without exception, all of our group thought the exhibition to be 'stunning and an absolute must visit when in Ayutthaya'!

A leisurely, very tasty and filling lunch was taken at the Ruan Rub Rong Restaurant located on the Pasak River, not far from its confluence with the Chao Phraya River.

We then boarded the minibus to travel to the nearby St. Joseph's Catholic Church located on the banks of the Chao Phrava River. First con-













structed by the French soldiers stationed in Ayutthaya in 1666, it too was destroyed by the invading Burmese in 1767, was rebuilt in 1831 by French Missionaries, and has been often renovated since into the beautiful exterior and interior which we were very pleased to be able to see.





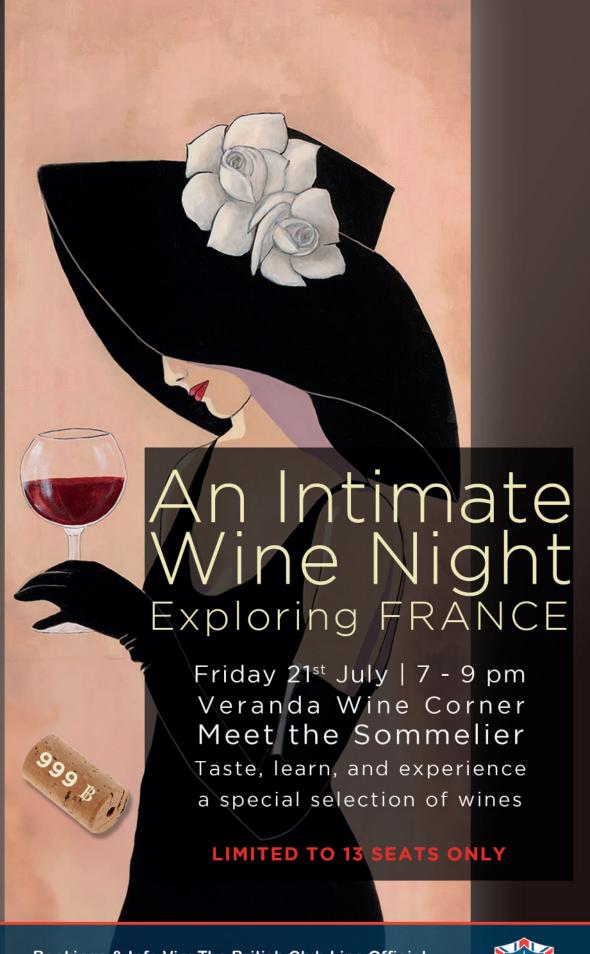
The final stop was to the tranquil and very shady 'Japanese Village' tourist attraction, a memorial to the historic Japanese enclave established there in the 16th century alongside those from Portugal, France, Holland. An interesting but perhaps one-sided 10-minute video was shown in a small auditorium showcasing Thai-Japanese trade relationships in the 16th century.

The journey home against the traffic was short, swift, and comfortable! A few of us repaired to the Jubilee Bar to 'wind-down' after what transpired to be a really fabulous and memorable trip!

(An interesting side note: Representing 'England' in Ayutthaya at that time was The Honourable East India Company together with their staff, employees, and families. The Company had been given license to trade with Siam by King James II. According to Wikipedia, following arguments and much worse over trade routes



to India, in August 1687 Siam declared war against the Company, whose employees and families, aware of recent atrocities by both sides near to India, promptly fled Ayutthaya never to return. No peace treaty was ever signed to end the war, but the Siamese revolution of 1688 rendered the issue moot as King Narai was overthrown).





Bookings & Info Via: The British Club Line Official

Add LINE ID @britishclubbkk

by attending you agree to the Club P.D.P.A





Can you tell the members / founding fathers from the inaugural photo above? A drink on us at the 35th year celebration if you can guess it!

**Have** you have walked into the Churchill Bar and heard folks around a table making calls like The Dead African Parrot, German Virgin or Skins? That's the Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers (BGS), each trying to outdo the other.

Now, If you ask Chat GPT (google is soo last decade), what is spoofing, it will most likely take you down the boring world of cyber security and maybe even give you tips on how to protect your mom from spoofing and phishing attacks!

That definitely is not the spoofing we are talking of here. Spoofing at the British Club promises to be loads of fun!

Whilst spoofing (as we know it) has been traced back to its origin in China, the famous Dutch distiller "Bols" have carried 3 spoofing coins on some of their products dating back to 1800!

The BGS is not too recent either. Founded in 1988, the BGS celebrates their 35th year anniversary this September. The bangkok school is just one of the many chapters of spoofing worldwide!

How is it played? Why is it so much fun? Can I Join?

Spoofing is a strategic coin game played by any number of players in a series of rounds, each in possession of 3 coins. At the beginning of every round, each player may hold any quantity of coins, from zero to a maximum of three in their closed fist, extended into the circle of play. The objective is to guess the aggregate number of coins held in concealment by the players.

The players who guess it right, are excused from table one at a time. The last one standing buys a round of drinks for all the players present. And so it continues...

Now if having (possibly free) drinks all night over lovely conversations with some great minds is not your idea of fun then spoofing is not your cup of time. For the rest, you can only experience how much fun it is by joining in.

The spoofers on a tuesday night at the Club. Hint: A few folks are present in both the founders pic and the one from May 2023. Now there's your free drink!

Joining in is easy! We normally spoof the first Tuesday of every month at the British Club, and few other tuesdays across town. All gentlemen are welcome. The spoofing community also hosts various championships globally which you are welcome to attend as a BGS



▲ The spoofers on a Tuesday night at the Club. Hint: A few folks are present in both the founders pic and the one from May 2023. Now there's your free drink!

member. The BGS hosts the Asian Spoofing Championships (ASCs) and the Thai National Championships (TNCs) every year!

While BGS is lot of fun, it doesn't end there. The BGS supports various charities around Thailand. Our key mandate is to extend support charities that work with underprivileged children of Thailand. We raise funds at our various events via auctions, fines etc and do our best to purposefully disseminate the same.

Still reading? Great, seems like you are close to getting hooked.

To join, send us a mail at **chairman@bangkokspoof-ers.com** or just swing by the Churchill Bar first Tuesday of the month at 7 PM. And don't worry, your first time is on us. Win or loose, you are not expected to buy drinks. Now isn't that the best initiation?

When The Hands Are Out

Sohil 'Lindaloo' Gilani

Carl 'Tenpole' Sellick

Co-Chairmen, Bangkok Gentlemen Spoofers.



▲ The BGS at the handover ceremony of the Kids' Corner @ Phra Nakon Si Ayutthaya Hospital



One of the many charities drives by the BGS Co-chairman, Carl Sellick, and his lovely family.







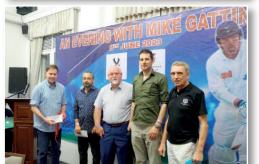












# An Evening with Mike Gatting 08/06/23

The legendary ex-England cricketer Mike Gatting arrived at the club last month to host a gentleman's dinner and share his experiences and stories to a sold-out crowd. Smile, laughs, and some tough questions made for a fun filled evening.









# Grow Together, Go Further.

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To grow children further, we need to understand them from every perspective. At King's Bangkok, we involve staff, parents, and students to work together to help prepare them for the later life.

Accepting applications for boys and girls aged 2-17

kingsbangkok.ac.th

#### **OUTPOST**







# Quiz Night 13/06/23

The Tuesday Quiz Night had 8 teams who went head-to-head trying to beat the current champs The Spoofers. The Spin Doctors came out on top with spoofers a close second, well done!

























# **UK Fathers Day** 18/06/23

A fully booked Veranda Restaurant played host to this year's UK Father's Day, every Dad was pleased to receive their Framed Picture of the special day.





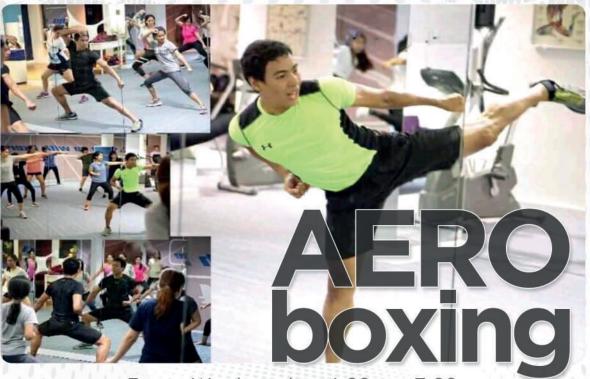








Every Thursday 6.00pm-7.00pm with Coach Aom Member 150 \$



Every Wednesday 6.00pm-7.00pm with Coach Thanet Member 150 \$



Bookings & Info Via: The British Club Line Official

Add LINE ID @britishclubbkk by attending you agree to the Club P.D.P.A



### **Coming Events**

#### July 2023

11th Tue Quiz Night

21st Sun An Intimate Wine Night

22nd Sat Wine Tasting

28nd Fri Thai Kings Birthday

#### August 2023

8th Tue Quiz Night

12th Sat Thailand Mother's Day

26th Sat Wine Tasting

#### September 2023

12th Tue Quiz Night

22nd Fri An Intimate Wine Night

30th Sat Wine Tasting

# Event & Activities 2023 JULY Highlights



#### Quiz Night - Tuesday 11th July

Enter your team to take on the monthly quiz master questions and come out on top to claim the 1st prize



#### An Intimate Wine Night - Friday 21st July

Make sure you book your place for an extra special trip through the vineyards of France hosted by TA wines



Wine Tasting – Saturday 22nd July

Join the wine tasting inside the Clubhouse with live music and great suppliers

		SUN		MON		TUE	
THE BRITISH CLUB	2	Tennis Men Doubles Team practice 9.00am - 1.00pm Sunday Brunch 11.30am - 3.00pm Circuit Training 11.30pm - 12.00pm Kids Activities 11.00am - 3.00pm Tennis Mix-in 4.00pm - 7.00pm	3	Tennis Mixed Doubles Team practice 7.00pm - 10.00pm Squash Mixed-in 5.15pm - 7.30pm	4	Circuit Training 6.00pm - 6.45pm Football 7.00pm - 9.00pm	
THE BRITISH CLUB	9	Tennis Men Doubles Team practice 9.00am - 1.00pm Sunday Brunch 11.30am - 3.00pm Circuit Training 11.30pm - 12.00pm Kids Activities 11.00am - 3.00pm Tennis Mix-in 4.00pm - 7.00pm	10	Tennis Mixed Doubles Team practice 7.00pm - 10.00pm Squash Mixed-in 5.15pm - 7.30pm	11	Circuit Training 6.00pm - 6.45pm Football 7.00pm - 9.00pm Quiz Night 7.15pm - 9.30pm	
1903 THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK CRICKET SECTION	16	Tennis Men Doubles Team practice 9.00am - 1.00pm Sunday Brunch 11.30am - 3.00pm Circuit Training 11.30pm - 12.00pm Kids Activities 11.00am - 3.00pm Tennis Mix-in 4.00pm - 7.00pm	17	Tennis Mixed Doubles Team practice 7.00pm - 10.00pm Squash Mixed-in 5.15pm - 7.30pm	18	Circuit Training 6.00pm - 6.45pm Football 7.00pm - 9.00pm	
BRITISH CLUB RUNNING TEAM	23	Tennis Men Doubles Team practice 9.00am - 1.00pm Sunday Brunch 11.30am - 3.00pm Circuit Training 11.30pm - 12.00pm Kids Activities 11.00am - 3.00pm Tennis Mix-in 4.00pm - 7.00pm	24	Tennis Mixed Doubles Team practice 7.00pm - 10.00pm Squash Mixed-in 5.15pm - 7.30pm	25	Circuit Training 6.00pm - 6.45pm Football 7.00pm - 9.00pm	
	30	Tennis Men Doubles Team practice 9.00am - 1.00pm Sunday Brunch 11.30am - 3.00pm Circuit Training 11.30pm - 12.00pm Kids Activities 11.00am - 3.00pm Tennis Mix-in 4.00pm - 7.00pm	31	Tennis Mixed Doubles Team practice 7.00pm - 10.00pm Squash Mixed-in 5.15pm - 7.30pm			

# **JULY 2023**

					JULI		UZJ
	WED		THU		FRI		SAT
						1	Circuit Training 11.30pm - 12.00pm Kids Activities 12.00pm - 4.00pm Squash Mixed-in 1.30pm - 6.45pm Cricket Team Pratice 2.30pm - 6.00pm
5	<b>Squash Mix-in</b> 4.30pm - 8.15pm <b>Balut</b> 6.00pm - 8.00pm <b>Aero Boxing</b> 6.00pm - 7.00pm <b>Tennis mixed-In</b> 6.00pm - 10.00pm	6	Yoga 6.00pm - 7.00pm Cricket team practice 6.30pm - 8.00pm	7	Tennis mixed-in 8.00am - 11.00am Tennis mixed-in 6.00pm - 10.00pm	8	Circuit Training 11.30pm - 12.00pm Kids Activities 12.00pm - 4.00pm Squash Mixed-in 1.30pm - 6.45pm Cricket Team Pratice 2.30pm - 6.00pm
12	Squash Mix-in 4.30pm - 8.15pm Balut 6.00pm - 8.00pm Aero Boxing 6.00pm - 7.00pm Tennis mixed-In 6.00pm - 10.00pm	13	Yoga 6.00pm - 7.00pm Cricket team practice 6.30pm - 8.00pm	14	Tennis mixed-in 8.00am - 11.00am Tennis mixed-in 6.00pm - 10.00pm	15	Circuit Training 11.30pm - 12.00pm Kids Activities 12.00pm - 4.00pm Squash Mixed-in 1.30pm - 6.45pm Cricket Team Pratice 2.30pm - 6.00pm
19	Squash Mix-in 4.30pm - 8.15pm Balut 6.00pm - 8.00pm Aero Boxing 6.00pm - 7.00pm Tennis mixed-In 6.00pm - 10.00pm	20	Yoga 6.00pm - 7.00pm Cricket team practice 6.30pm - 8.00pm	21	Tennis mixed-in 8.00am - 11.00am Tennis mixed-in 6.00pm - 10.00pm An Intimate Wine Nigh 7.00pm - 9.00pm	<b>22</b>	Circuit Training 11.30pm - 12.00pm Kids Activities 12.00pm - 4.00pm Squash Mixed-in 1.30pm - 6.45pm Cricket Team Pratice 2.30pm - 6.00pm Wine Tasting 6.00pm - 10.00pm
26	Squash Mix-in 4.30pm - 8.15pm Balut 6.00pm - 8.00pm Aero Boxing 6.00pm - 7.00pm Tennis mixed-In 6.00pm - 10.00pm	27	Yoga 6.00pm - 7.00pm Cricket team practice 6.30pm - 8.00pm	28	Tennis mixed-in 8.00am - 11.00am Tennis mixed-in 6.00pm - 10.00pm	29	Circuit Training 11.30pm - 12.00pm Kids Activities 12.00pm - 4.00pm Squash Mixed-in 1.30pm - 6.45pm Cricket Team Pratice 2.30pm - 6.00pm



### **TENNIS**

Few months ago I was extolling the evidence that connects longevity and tennis that was based on long-term research; only to discover that there is real, living evidence in front of our eyes – here at our club, every morning; and has been here for the last 25 years. There was also evidence about the social side of tennis that makes the biggest difference; i.e. Centre Court + Sala = good health and long happy life! This is also the raison d'etre for the long-lasting existence of the Morning Group at the British Club in Bangkok. It is not just all about tennis. We are going to delve further into the story and the cast of characters behind this British Club institution within an institution.



British Club Morning (Tea & Tennis) Group Once upon a time, many years ago some wise, but not so old folks started enjoying tea and nibbles in the back lawn of the British Club. Little did they realise then that they were going to prove all that is good about tennis in our lives? Interestingly, it was *sharing* tea and munches together that was a higher priority and this gave birth to the British Club *Morning* (T&T) Group that added the

'social' to sport that has contributed not only to the well-being of all those involved but also to the longevity of the Morning Group. Sitting over a cup of tea with this group to find out why people join and stay joined – one word that was the most constant refrain was "happy"; it came up 15 times in conversations with members sitting around the table.



▲ The three longest serving & happy founder members



There is something magical that keeps a diverse, actually a very diverse group is all senses of the word together – age, beliefs, politics, language, ethnicity, taste (apart from tea). The only thing that is common among all is that they can all hold a tennis racquet (or did once upon a time), can serve and return the ball to the other side at a better pace, position or spin. Tennis or sport yes, but there are some other things that holds them together – happiness, sharing and caring. The sense of belonging is furthered by the Morning Group T-shirts; one colour for every day of the week; now that is amazing branding!

The Morning Group members do have their own reasons and rationale for why this group has survived so long. The best I can do is share some quotes rather than

pursue my own hunches:

"We have special characteristics of the group; the main thing is that everyone is sincere and makes the effort to make others happy and comfortable" *Jesada*;

"I joined the Group and I felt very happy – with everyone sharing the new ideas and techniques" *Jinendra* 

"...the main connection between all the people - food; eating and being happy together. This group is successful because may be we share the same habit of waking up early; and concerns about our health, so we



All for One, One for All

all come here, and then play tennis, do exercise, drink and, one very important thing, is the laughter"; Henry

"We come to the BC and we want to make people happy; happy and healthy no other things are of concern." Kosol

"...ever since I was invited to play with the group....I've have been a happy man, a healthy man." Hemant

Out of 32 members currently on the list, the oldest half are 70+ years; the rest are between 69 to 55 years with an average age 68 years. The youngest current member is Rajeev (55); and newest member is John Clark, who joined one week before..."I joined this group last week.... so this Morning Tennis Group... daily routine that involves taking care of the body and mind through sports and healthy eating and comradery; and this group combines all of this... I am very grateful to see this and to meet everyone and to get into this routine which is so healthy and will lengthen my lifespan"



John Clark Newest member



The one dressed up is the Friendly Boss! Morning Group members present on our first encounter

We mean Social + Tennis All Together for Long Life!

#### **Nichadames Friendly Tournament**



Well, it did sound like Nostradamus, when I first heard about this women's friendly gathering with some tennis thrown in to ensure everyone will leave happy – and this prophecy did turn out to be true, so read on...

This morning of tennis has been called the, "Exhilarating Tie Match between British Club and the Nichadames Ladies; a thrilling tennis tournament" organized by Karoline the Great. It all happened on Friday 2nd of June when tennis enthusiasts gathered for a fun-filled tennis tournament. The event provided a great opportunity for the ladies to showcase their skills and enjoy the love for the sport during Friday Morning Mix In session at 8am.

#### OUTPOST





Each player was playing their best despite the heat. In the end, it all came down to a nail-biting finish - the result, an incredible 8-8 tie! 'Minna Ureshi' as they say in Japanese, or 'everyone is happy'. That means the prophecy did turn out to be true!

The scorecard to prove this - Nostradamus is a genius.





Again, enormous thanks to Karoline Kreyberg for organizing such a great friendly tennis tournament! And to Raquel for the 'on-the-spot' report. 'All's well that ends well' with happiness all around the table.

#### Bruce Gordon Cup Saturday July 22



The Bruce Gordon Cup tournament is usually played annually to honour the enormous contributions of Bruce Gordon to tennis development at the British Club over 17 years, from May 1991 until he sadly died in 2008. Bruce Gordon was a great stalwart of the Tennis Section and from his earliest days as a member he actively promoted and encouraged all aspects of tennis for everyone. Whether it was Junior's, Mix-In, Matches or Inter-Club, Bruce supported them all, often cajoling the players to give up their weekends to travel far and wide to represent the British Club. We all, as tennis or sport players at the British Club owe him a debt of gratitude; so come and join us for an evening of fun and tennis on **Saturday 22 July from 3-7 pm** followed by the usual socializing. This tournament is for players *in their prime - men 55+ years and women 45+ years*. All ages are welcome to join in the fun during and after the tournament.

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### **HARD BALLS**

The league season has concluded and things have quietened down a bit within the British club cricket section leaving time to brush up on skills in the nets and get both teams together for a Fireball doubles competition on the back lawn. Though the tropical rains begin to interrupt outdoor activities, the beautiful game does not skip a beat. As seasonal members return home for village duties in the English summer and the eagerly anticipated Ashes series gets under way, cricket in Thailand continues at the BCA facility in Samut Sakhon. Several of our stars are involved, most notably Shri who smashed a

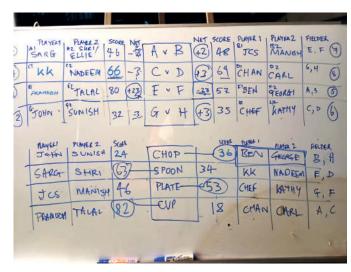


The work never stops

remarkable 102 off 36 balls, unmistakably powered by the BC shirt he was reportedly wearing to carry out the attack.

This last month also saw the section welcome Mike Gatting at a club event, and celebrated an inaugural match featuring coach Daniel's newly formed British Club Junior side against the Wellington Cheetahs.

#### Fireball Doubles - Saturday 20th May



Full fireball results

A popular format amongst the ladies and gentlemen of the section drew a nice crowd together at the home of BC cricket, where eight hopeful pairs battled it out in the afternoon sun for the coveted crockery from the Verandah Restaurant. Mr Dunford, freshly back from one of his regular writing retreats, was on hand to cast his eagle eye over the tournament which demands the highest calibre of concentration in its fast-paced and action-packed format. The lucky draw set the tone to see parents, partners and offspring play alongside and against each other, eventually concluding with Pramodh and Talal taking the cup in a one-sided final against Carl and Chan.

#### An Evening with Mike Gatting - Thursday 8th June

After Reece Topley's visit in February, the club welcomed its second England international of the year on June 8 in the form of Mike Gatting, guest of honour at a charity social evening that raised an impressive 36,000 baht for young cricketers on the beautiful island of Ko Chang.

The former Middlesex and England captain scored 10 centuries in 79 tests and was regarded as one of the best players of spin bowling of his era, but history will forever remember him as the victim of Shane Warne's "Ball of the Century" at Old Trafford in 1993.

Gatting proved an affable and good-humoured guest, sharing tales from his career, including umpire Dickie Bird's bafflement at the Warne dismissal. Other highlights included some frankly terrifying accounts of facing the great West Indian fast bowling lineup of the 1980s on ropey Caribbean pitches, as well as getting caught up



Meeting the legend

in a near-riot at a one-day international in late-70s Pakistan. Gatting's career coincided with some of the great characters of the game and his impersonations of the likes of Geoff Boycott and Graham Gooch had the audience in stitches.

Raffle tickets - sold, unusually, by the arm length - raised a healthy sum to help promote the game we love among the Ko Chang youngsters, and we look forward to play-

ing in the annual beach cricket tournament there on August 18 to 20.

Top prize in the raffle – a generous voucher for dinner at Kai restaurant - was won by Dilip, much to his apparent disgruntlement. Perhaps he had been hoping for the other big prize, a bottle of single malt whisky courtesy of our beloved sponsor Arran, bagged by Dale.



Dale wins the Arran



Hats off to \_Gatts\_



Dilip buzzing to win the top prize





Mike imparting some wisdom



#### British Club Juniors V Wellington Cheetahs - Saturday 10th June

Daniel Jacobs, who has been working hard running 1-on-1 and group coaching for both adults and juniors alike, put together a British Club Junior side who were welcomed to Wellington College for an Under-12s match against the 'Cheetahs' for the first game of the year which was played as a 2 x 10 over match (double innings).

Captain Eoin of the British Club won the toss and decided to bowl. Wellington scored 68 runs off the first 10 overs and BC managed 34 in reply. After drinks, the home side added a further 38 runs to their total to set a target of 106, restricted by an outstanding bowling performance by lke, who took four wickets in an over including a hat-trick!



Coach Dan and the BC juniors

British Club needed 72 runs off 10 overs and only managed to add 18 runs in the second innings to hand the win to the home side. A rematch has already been scheduled for November and plans for a return fixture in the BC's fireball format are on the horizon. Congratulations to all the young stars of the cricketing world! It's with immense joy and pride that we celebrate the spirit of cricket being played far and wide.



British Club Juniors V Wellington Cheetahs

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### MEMBERSHIP DEPARTMENT



#### ello Members

It has been a pleasure meeting and touring all the potential new members this month, so many different nationalities, families, and backgrounds. I am pleased to welcome a section of the members that joined, they have all written their reasons for joining and initial feelings of the club below. If you see me around the club, please do come and say hi as I am still getting to know the current members as I enter my 4th month at the club.



▲ Myoung Soo, Seung Jeen Lee and Taejoon Song



Laurine Defrène and Her family



Dancan Forgan and Nabun Pananon

#### Member Review:

Hello, We are happy to join British club of Bangkok. We are based in Seoul, Korea. But will spend a lot of time in Southeast Asia, including Thailand. Look forward to meeting club members soon.

#### Member Review:

We rejoined the British Club after a long absence because we know what great tennis & events they offer. We were very impressed with the new developments & we're sure we will have many marvellous moments at the club.

#### Member Review:

I've lived in Bangkok since 2003 and have joined many events at the club as a guest over the years. I've always been impressed by the facilities, events and the community at the British Club so now I've decided to join the rest of you and become a member myself. I look forward to participating in events, meeting new people and using the facilities to exercise and socialise. As a teacher in a nearby school, the club couldn't be a handier place for me to escape the commotion of Bangkok.



Dancan Forgan and Nabun Pananon

#### Member Review:

We joined the British Club as we wanted to take advantage of an oasis in the heart of this crazy city. So far, it's been a great decision. Daddy is a freelance writer so he can work from the club after exercising and we've all been enjoying hanging out together here at the weekends.



Ranjan Sachdeva and Sonika Sachdeva

#### Member Review:

We joined the British club in April and have fallen in love with all that it offers...excelling sporting facilities, restaurants, events and above all, always welcoming and smiling staff and management team!!

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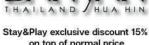


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