

DECEMBER 2024



1903
THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK

OUTPOST

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OUTPOST

GENERAL COMMITTEE 2024-25

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BritishClub1903

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Front Cover

Merry Christmas 2024

This Month

Merry Christmas everyone, words from the chairman, gm update, Ploenchit fair 2024, UK consular info, UK autumn budget Progeny, we revisit the year 1979, the Royal Automobile Club reviewed, our events in pictures, our sections have their say, meet our new members.

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progeny

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Outpost welcomes contributions from Members, email outpost@britishclubbangkok.org

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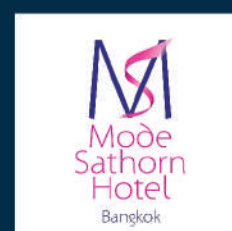
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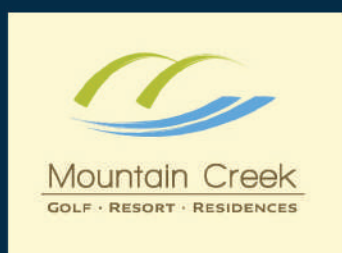


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- Diamond DA40 to Diamond DA42



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Chairman's Message



Simon P. Davies

As we near the year end I would like to extend Seasons Greetings to all our members and to thank you for your past, and future, support of our wonderful club. I would also like to thank the management and staff for their good efforts throughout the year. Please spare a thought for those staff who will be working so very hard to ensure that everybody attending the annual Christmas Day Lunch has a most enjoyable time with excellent food, beverages and good fun. If you have not booked your place then do so quickly as tables are being filled quickly

The traditional Guy Fawkes celebration was held on Sunday the 3rd November which, unlike last year, saw perfect weather conditions and a wonderful event was enjoyed by all attendees. The Club never looks better than it does during the night when fully illuminated and the pyrotechnic display was the icing on the cake as can be seen from the photographs taken on the day.

The remembrance service on Sunday the 10th of November was held on the front lawn with attendees from within the Diplomatic community, club members and

guests. Always a time for quiet reflection to remember those who gave their lives in two world wars and others who have died or been injured during subsequent conflicts.



There is much interest within the current General committee to see the Club further developing sporting activities with consideration, planning and costing, for badminton and padel ball facilities being investigated. There will be current members who can recall the days when The British Club had a thriving rugby section which for various reasons, sadly, saw reduced enthusiasm for supporting same. I recently had a good discussion with The Chairman of The Bangkok Bangers Rugby club to explore possibilities for having a closer relationship between our respective clubs that would have a mutual

benefit. Rome was not built in a day but better to have future ideas rather than none!!



Many exciting events during this month not least of which are the annual Christmas Carols held on the front lawn on the 3rd December, with traditional and modern songs performed by top international school choirs. The word "carol" comes from the Old French word "carole" which refers to a popular circular dance accompanied by singing. The earliest carols were pagan songs sung in medieval Europe during winter solstice celebrations, and during all four of the seasons, although it is only the tradition of singing them at Christmas that has really survived.

**Cheers
Simon**



Christmas Carols

3RD DECEMBER 2024 | 5:30PM - 8:00PM

Come and join the festive fun with a talented line of top international school choirs performing traditional and modern Christmas carols

Live cooking stations, bubble beverages, mince pies, mulled wine
& much more

FREE for members / 50฿ for non-members adults & kids



Bookings & Info Via: The British Club Line Official
Add LINE ID @britishclubbkk
by attending you agree to the Club P.D.P.A



GM's Bulletin



Tim Vongswang

Club life: A Glimpse Behind the Scenes

Have you ever wondered the amount of food & beverages the club orders on a monthly basis? Well, let's take a peek into the bustling world that keeps our amazing club running. On an average month, our club purchases an impressive array of ingredients for the very comprehensive menu offerings.

For instance, we order 300kg of rice (this is also used for the staff canteen), 7,500 eggs, 167kg of fresh salmon, 262kg of BBQ ham, 50kg of cod fillets, 120 kg of smoked bacon, 270 bottles of Prosecco, 142 kg of ground pork and 185 avocados. While the amounts vary due to the number of events or promotions we have, these numbers give us a glimpse of the scale at which our kitchens operate.

When this publication gets produced, we will already be in December which promises some small but exciting developments. The tennis courts are set to be resurfaced, and new small sports equipment are purchased, including basketball nets, new pickleball equipment and a new trampoline for the children's section.

Our staff will also be conducting fire training sessions with the fire & rescue department of Bangrak, these training sessions not only provide valuable information for our team members but also provide an opportunity for the staff from various departments to conduct an activity together.

Meanwhile fitness enthusiasts can look forward to circuit training and yoga classes, perfect for those seeking healthy way to stay active during the festive season and then perhaps finish off with a relaxing massage either traditional Thai with Khun Chaipen and Khun Saifon or the wonderful sports massage by Khun Nang.

As we gear up for a month packed with events, from Christmas lunch / dinner to an evening of carols and movies under the stars, there's no shortage of activities and culinary delights to enjoy. Indulge in the British tradition of afternoon tea in the renovated Wordsworth Lounge or the newly spruced up back garden, treat yourself to

a delectable Tomahawk steak or juicy smoked brisket from our very own smoker in the Veranda restaurant.

Our club thrives on the support of our members, and we are grateful for your participation in all our offerings, so whether you're a fitness enthusiast, a foodie or a social butterfly, there's something for everyone at our club, please ask any of our team members or check out our website for more details on how to make the most of your club experience.

In the hustle and bustle of preparing for all our events, it's easy to overlook the individuals whose hard work often goes unseen. For this month I'd like to shine a spotlight Mrs. Tulien our Head of Housekeeping who (almost) single handedly made over 100 Kratongs for the Loy Kratong festival. Thank you to our unsung hero, making a difference one Kratong at a time.

From the whole team of the British Club and me we wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New year!!!!





Tee Bale

Operations Unknown



PLOENCHIT FAIR

Saturday, 23rd November 2024 the Fair took place in the grounds of the Bangkok Patana School.

The Ploenchit Fair is quite simply Bangkok's Big Day Out. Arguably the biggest Fair in Asia, it has been part of the social scene in Thailand since the first Fair was held in The British Embassy in 1957.

Everybody comes to the Ploenchit Fair – the theme is a traditional British fairground, and it is a day to meet all your friends, pick up some fabulous bargains, sample great international cuisine, exhaust the children with a variety of fun fair games and rides, or just enjoy some champagne, cold beer, while enjoying great bands who perform throughout the afternoon on the main stage.



The Club was proud to be part of the fair again this year by creating a fantastic British Club Café together with an awesome selfie wall. Thank you to everyone that visited our stand and enjoyed our chefs' signatures, our legendary Bacon Butties, Breakfast Baguettes, Bad Boy Burger, and New York Hot dogs were well received. We hope that our contribution helps all the good causes the BCTFN (British Community in Thailand Foundation for the Needy) work for.

The BCTFN disburses funds to a wide range of projects. Since the year 2000 alone, the Fair has raised over 70 million baht which has benefited a diverse range of organisations. In recent years, priority has been given to self-help projects that benefit and enable a community to become self-sustaining. Assistance has also been given in the provision of basic necessities and equipment to improve healthcare, nutrition, education, agricultural projects and the disabled throughout Thailand.

KIDS CHRISTMAS PARTY

7TH DECEMBER 2024
BACK LAWN / 2:00PM-6:00PM



A day of festive revels featuring Bangkok's biggest bouncy castle,
Games, Arts & Crafts and Live Music
of course a visit from **SANTA!**



MEMBER : 3-12 yrs 600฿ | Adults 400฿
GUEST : 3-12 yrs 700฿ | Adults 500฿



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THE BRITISH CLUB

The Winston Cup BCB Monthly Pool Competition



Saturday 7th Dec- Starts 6:00pm

Straight Knock out 16 players
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All levels welcome

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THE BRITISH CLUB
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Christmas

Quiz Night

10th DECEMBER 2024 | 07:15PM

@CHURCHILL BAR

TEAMS OF 6 OR LESS

Members 150 Baht

Guests 200 Baht



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THE CONSULAR SECTION OF THE BRITISH EMBASSY

Greetings once again

In October, Consular Team hosted a meeting, joined by Tourist Police Commissioner Pol.Lt.Gen Saksira Pueak-Am and consuls from other diplomatic missions in Thailand.

The meeting purpose was to discuss & enhance collaboration between the Tourist Police and Embassies, ensuring the safety of tourists when visiting Thailand. The session highlighted the ongoing efforts with the Tourism Community Project (STC) and the emergency hotline 1155 which is now available in eight languages. Representatives from different missions also discussed topics including Notarial and Documentary services, trends in assistance cases and issues affecting their nationals – seeking ways to address and remedy these areas.



Joanne Finnamore-Crorkin

HM Consul, British Embassy, Thailand

Invite you to an

EXCLUSIVE EVENT



Join us for this presentation and social gathering evening event, hosted by **Martin Wright, Senior Financial Planner at the Progeny Group (SG)** who will be joined by special guests, **Jonathan Stuart-Smith, Tax Partner, Mazars Thailand** and **Max White, Director at Schrodgers Wealth Management Asia**.

This event will focus on key topics including:

- ◆ October's UK Budget and what this means for the UK tax landscape.
- ◆ Investment market update and outlook – Schrodgers WM Asia
- ◆ An important update on the January 2024 Thai Tax changes – Mazars

What you can expect to learn from this event:

- ◆ How the UK tax system will alter following October's UK Budget and what this may mean for Brit's overseas
- ◆ What is happening in the investment markets at present and how 2025 may develop given the political landscape and economics
- ◆ An update on the 1st January 2024 Tax legislation change and March reporting, and any news on the future of "Worldwide Income" Taxation

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.

EVENT DETAILS



Thursday 16th January 2025



6.30pm – 8.30pm



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

RSVP

events@theprogenygroup.com

SPEAKERS



MARTIN WRIGHT
(Host)

Senior Financial Planner - Progeny



JONATHAN STUART-SMITH

Tax Partner at Mazars Thailand



MAX WHITE

Director at Schrodgers Wealth Management Asia

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Views expressed by the invited speaker (Mazars Thailand) and (Schrodgers Wealth Management Asia) are the speaker's own and Progeny does not endorse them in any way.

AUTUMN UK BUDGET 2024

Rachel Reeves has now delivered her first Budget as Chancellor of the Exchequer – and the first Labour Budget in 14 years, on 30 October 2024. The event had brought some clarity after weeks of speculation on what fiscal measures would be taken by the Chancellor. In her Budget, Reeves addressed the challenging financial landscape and presented Labour’s long-term plan to invest for the future.

UK Budget Summary Highlights

- ◆ The main rate of class 1 employer National Insurance Contributions (NICs) will be increased from 13.8% to 15.0% with effect from 6 April 2025 and the secondary threshold at which employer NICs are payable will be reduced from £9,100 to £5,000.
- ◆ The main rates of Capital Gains Tax will increase with immediate effect to 18% for the lower main rate and 24% for higher and additional rate taxpayers. The rate for Business Asset Disposal Relief will rise to 14% for 2025/26 and 18% from 2026/27.
- ◆ Inheritance tax (IHT) business and agricultural 100% reliefs will be capped at a combined total of £1 million from April 2026. Above that, the rate of tax relief will be 50%. However, the cap will not apply to AIM shares which will only qualify for 50% relief.
- ◆ Unused pension funds and pension death benefits will form part of a person’s estate for IHT purposes from 6 April 2027.
- ◆ The additional SDLT rate for second homes and buy-to-let properties increases from 3% to 5% from 31 October 2024. The temporary increases in the 0% SDLT band for first time and other property buyers will end on 31 March 2025. VAT at 20% will be applied to private school education and boarding services from 1 January 2025. From 1 April 2025, charitable relief for English business rates will be withdrawn.

- ◆ For UK Residents subscription limits for individual savings accounts (ISAs), Junior ISAs and Lifetime ISAs will be frozen until April 2030.
- ◆ The remittance basis of taxation will be abolished and a replacement scheme and set of measures implemented in its place.
- ◆ ‘Domicile’ will no longer bear relevance to an individual’s IHT position, with the Government legislating a residence based test instead.

The first Budget ever from a female Chancellor, proved to be the defining event that had been widely anticipated. From the moment in late July when Rachel Reeves unveiled her “£22 billion black hole” and announced means-testing for the winter fuel payment, it was clear her Budget premiere would be a challenging one for both the government and the governed.

In the event, the Chancellor delivered tax increases amounting to £41 billion by 2029/30. By far the largest element of this was the expected rise in employer’s National Insurance Contributions (NICs). The 1.2 percentage point rate increase, combined with a £4,100 cut in the secondary threshold will yield nearly £25 billion a year by 2028/29. At that level it more than counters the cost of the cuts to employee and self-employed NICs introduced by Jeremy Hunt.

Other significant tax increases included higher Capital Gains Tax rates and a future reduction in Inheritance Tax business and agricultural reliefs. Despite the additional revenue, the Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) projects that increased spending will mean that borrowing will still be over £70 billion in 2029/30. Not without reason does the OBR say, “...this Budget delivers a large, sustained increase in spending, taxation, and borrowing”.

Our Autumn Budget summary details the changes in legislation and outlines how they may impact those UK citizens exposed to the UK Income Tax system. For more advice on your personal circumstances, please get in touch with our UK Tax team today.

**Martin Wright, Senior Financial Planner
The Progeny Group (Singapore)**



Paul Cheesman

~~~PAST PARTICIPLE~~~ *Auspiciū Melioris Ævi*

*We continue the story of
the British Club Bangkok ... 1979*

“Committee Member without Portfolio!”

The year started with a change of General Manager ...

Lt. Col. (retd.) John Davies, General Manager, went on extended leave to the UK and in the February wrote to say that due to the illness of his mother, he will not be returning to Thailand thus his resignation should have immediate effect. He took up the position of Controller at The Hurlingham Club in Fulham, London.

In the interregnum, Mr. Frank R. Devlin was appointed Honorary Secretary, but after one committee meeting lasted a marathon five hours and fifteen minutes, he was subsequently titled as “Committee Member without Portfolio” to cover all the matters normally undertaken by the General Manger.

In the May, Rupert Russell-Cobb was appointed as our new General Manager – a Club member from 1974 to 1986 and again from 2008, Rupert is one of five past General Managers who are members of the Club today.

The Chairman announced that Mr. Devlin had accepted the post of “Committee Member Without Portfolio” for duties not covered by the usual sub-committees.

▲ without portfolio

Our Naval Year

For the last time in four years, the British Club Bangkok extended to the crews of two naval vessels use of the Club facilities during their visit. These were HMS Monkton (P1055) and HMS Beachampton (P1007), both Ton Class Minesweepers converted Hong Kong Patrol craft.



▲ HMS Beachampton and HMS Monkton

Membership

In the February, H.E. Sunthorn Hongladarom accepted the General Committee's invitation to become an Honorary Member of the Club. Khun Sunthorn had had a distinguished career both in Government (as a Minister of Economics then Minister of Finance then Deputy Prime Minister) and as an ambassador to Malaya, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America, and had been the General Secretary of SEATO (Southeast Asia Treaty Organization) until 1977. He went on to chair Thai Petroleum Industries until his passing in 2005 aged 94.

In the June, the General Committee bestowed an Honorary Membership upon Alistair Greenlees on the occasion of his leaving Thailand: he had been a member for 25 years. He returned to Thailand sometime later, and died in Bangkok in 2004

The 1979 year-end Membership of the Club broke the ‘500 barrier’ for the first time in its history (see insert).

For clarity:

- Honorary: Australian, British, Canadian and New Zealand Ambassadors, Vicar of Christ Church plus selected Members.
- Ordinary: Males from Australia, Britain, Canada, and New Zealand.
- Up-Country: ‘Ordinary’ Members living at least 20 miles from the Club
- Non-Voting: a 12-month instalment Membership for males from Australia, Britain, Canada, and New Zealand.
- Associate: Males from other countries by invitation only.
- Ladies Privilege: was a facility whereby Australia, Britain, Canada, and New Zealand single women, and those married to persons not eligible for membership, could use the Club.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the Club as at the end of 1979 reveals a healthy increase over the situation at the end of 1978. The current composition of our membership is as follows (1978 figures in brackets)

Honorary	11	(10)
Ordinary	407	(377)
Up Country	19	(8)
Non-Voting	12	(17)
Associate	26	(15)
Ladies Privilege	37	(30)
TOTAL	512	(457)

▲ **Breaking the 500 barrier!**

The Long-Range Plan

The Long-Range Plan continued – in the September, new ground-floor Ladies' toilets, with showers, were opened in the dog leg of the Bar (currently the Gents toilets). A set of the Gentlemen's toilets and Gentlemen's bath/shower room were opened by reducing the size of the Reading Room (now the Pool Room). The Ladies was on the left from the reception and the Gents on the right – this was the case until 2003 when the positioning was swapped, and a disabled toilet installed.

In the November, an EGM was called by members to approve borrowing funds for a third Squash Court on the condition that court income became Club income and not section income. This was carried by 43 votes to 14.

In the December, a 300,000 Baht refurbishment of the Cinema Room (now the Suriwongse Room) was completed, now air-conditioned for the first time. The Club acquired a Video Player and started a Sunday evening VDO Night in this room ... first night ... JAWS! The room's subsequent popularity for function bookings caused a surge in electricity costs, so a charge was introduced for air-conditioning of 300 Baht for up to three hours and 100 Baht an hour after that.

The rear balcony storeroom of the Cinema Room was used to contain the air-conditioners and electrics, and leaving a small, cramped storeroom. This remained as such until the opening of the 1910 Balcony Bar in 2013.

- e) **House & Grounds** Mr. Boskett reported that the contract for the new Clubhouse toilets had been awarded to Sawaeng & Sons. Work is due to start on 25th June. It was agreed to provide duck-boards at the Poolside, and Clubhouse gents toilets.

▲ **The indoor toilets**

Service

Mr. Tom L. Barratt was elected as Chairman [see *Past Particle*, September 2023] with Commander G.D. Croft RN, the British Air & Naval Attaché as Vice-Chairman in his only term of service. Mr. Roy Barrett served as Honorary Treasurer, in second of seven terms of service [see *Past Particle*, October 2024]. Mr. Frank Devlin, in his only term of service, was appointed Honorary Secretary during the management interregnum then "Committee Member without Portfolio" (see above).

Continuing their service were Mr. Arthur W. Hawtin [see *Past Particle*, October 2024]; and Mr. Charles S. Stewart [see *Past Particle*, August 2024].

Mr. David C. Boskett served this and the next term only. The remaining committee members served this term only, being Mr. Nigel J. Downer, Mr. David T. Humphreys, Mr. William P.J. Brandon, who resigned in the July, and Mr. Brian L. Kane, who was co-opted in the August to replace him.

1979-80

CHAIRMAN: Tom L. Barratt
VICE-CHAIRMAN: Comdr. G.D. Croft RN
HONORARY SECRETARY: (not appointed)
HONORARY TREASURER: Roy Barrett
MEMBERS:
 David C. Boskett
 William P.J. Brandon (resigned 23.07.1979)
 Frank R. Devlin
 Nigel J. Downer
 Arthur G. Hawtin
 David T. Humphreys
 Brian L. Kane (co-opted 07.08.1979)
 Charles S. Stewart

▲ **General Committee 1979-80**

Club News

With publication of the January edition of 'British Club News' (the precursor to 'Outpost'), a new Club logo was revealed.

In the February, Khun Noi Lersinpakdi was appointed Assistant to the Manager. In the July, Khun Pongsak Saichavee, sous-chef at the Hyatt Rama Hotel in Silom Road was appointed the Club's first Executive Chef. The Hyatt Rama was the precursor of the Holiday Inn Bangkok Silom, and opened as the 'Rama Hotel' in 1963.

In the November, The British Club Bangkok Ladies Golf championship, played in a Silver Division and a Bronze Division, is former referred to as being awarded the 'Le Petit' silver bowls to be held for one year.



▲ A new logo

In Other News

In the May, Margaret Hilda Thatcher became the UK's first female Prime Minister. In September 1993, ennobled as Baroness Thatcher, she visited the Club and a photograph taken at the time, together with a letter of appreciation from her, are on the wall of the Churchill Bar.

From the August, H.E. Fred Bild became the Canadian Ambassador to Thailand, Vietnam, Myanmar, and Laos.

In the November, the Australian Embassy moved from the 64 Silom building to a purpose made building in South Sathorn Road. Construction had started in 1975 on 1.2 hectares of low lying and relatively flat land on South Sathorn Road, close to Soi Suan Phlu. The embassy was designed by one of Australia's leading architects, Mr. Ken Woolley of the firm Ancher, Mortlock and Woolley. It was used until 2017, and is now reconstructed as the Supalai Icon Sathorn.

At the same time, the New Zealand Embassy moved from the shared building at 64 Silom to an address in Wireless Road.

Paul Cheesman
Honorary Secretary



▲ The Australian Embassy

Next month ...
"Outpost!"

For Members interested in our Club's history, the timeline **"120 Years in the Making"** can be found on the Website under 'The Club – History'.

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The Royal Automobile Club, Pall Mall, London

Visited many times since March 2019 by Paul Doust and Prasit Jangkamol (a.k.a. Jack)

At the end of the 19th century, the UK lagged far behind continental Europe in terms of adopting "horseless carriages". One of the main reasons was the Red Flag Act, which required someone to walk in front of cars carrying a red flag. The act was finally repealed in 1896 and the [Royal Automobile Club](#) ("RAC") was founded the following year, originally being called the Automobile Club of Great Britain. That was 2 years after the founding of the Automobile Club de France (see [Outpost June 2019](#)). The name was changed to the [Royal Automobile Club](#) in 1907 upon obtaining royal patronage.

Just like the American Club in Hong Kong (see [Outpost August 2023](#) and [October 2024](#)), the RAC has both a town and a country clubhouse. The town clubhouse is in Pall Mall, London, and it finally opened its doors

to members in 1911. The Pall Mall clubhouse is the subject of this review. The RAC's country clubhouse is at Woodcote Park in Surrey and was bought in 1913, opening to members shortly afterwards. For a lot of British people, the RAC is an organization that helps its customers when their cars breakdown. Originally this roadside assistance company was owned by the club, but in 1999 it was sold, with each of the club's members receiving some of the proceeds.

In 1977 the RAC became the first UK reciprocal club of the British Club Bangkok, and it's a picture of the RAC's Pall Mall clubhouse that's shown on the website page of our reciprocal clubs in the UK. With around 17,000 members, the RAC is one of our largest reciprocal clubs. On every occasion that we've visited it's been in immaculate condition, with a stunning car always



parked in the middle of its lobby. The car in the lobby is usually changed on a weekly basis.

The clubhouse has 2 restaurants. The flagship restaurant is the Great Gallery, open for lunch and dinner Tuesday to Friday, and for dinner on Saturday. The nearby Brooklands Room is a brasserie-style restaurant and is open seven days a week for breakfast, lunch and dinner. There's a Cocktail Bar near the entrance, with a much larger bar in the basement called the Long Bar. The Long Bar serves food, but unfortunately it has no windows. In between the lobby and the stairs down to the Long Bar is the Club Room, a large room with comfortable sofas and an outside terrace, and there's a business centre too. The library is upstairs, along with lots of accommodation and meeting rooms of various sizes and degrees of formality. However it's the beautiful swimming pool in the basement that the club is famous for (although the pool in the Lansdowne club is somewhat similar, see [Outpost July 2022](#)). There are also some squash courts, a gym, and a studio for classes. One has to dress smartly in this club, but the dress code is quite

complicated so it's best read on the [club's website](#).

On arriving at the club, there's a desk in the lobby where one registers for a temporary membership card using our club membership card together with the letter of introduction that gets sent. The number of days that one can use the club is limited and is counted as the number of days for which the temporary membership card is issued, even if one does not use the club on some of those days.

This is the favourite London club for Jack and some of his Thai friends who live in London, so it's somewhat remiss of me that it's taken so long to write a review, given that I've been reviewing clubs in Outpost for over 5 years. The food and service in the club have always been outstanding, the extensive wine list in the Great Gallery is impressive too, the only downside being that it all comes at a price because it's not a cheap club. Nonetheless, it's a fantastic club to have on our reciprocal club list, so it's definitely worth a visit for British Club Bangkok members visiting London.

Coming Events

December 2024

(more details on the website)

Carol Night

Kids Christmas Party

Christmas Quiz

Christmas Classical Concert

Christmas Day Lunch & Dinner

New Years Eve Cruise

January 2025

(more details on the website)

Polar Swim

Quiz Night

Madagascar Pool Party

Intimate Wine Night

February 2025

(more details on the website)

Valentines Day

Great British Festival

Great fun Sunday

Event & Activities 2024 December Highlights



Carol Night

Join us for a Christmas evening of carols mulled wine, mince pies and festive fun. Choirs from Shrewsbury, Harrow, Bromsgrove, and KIS



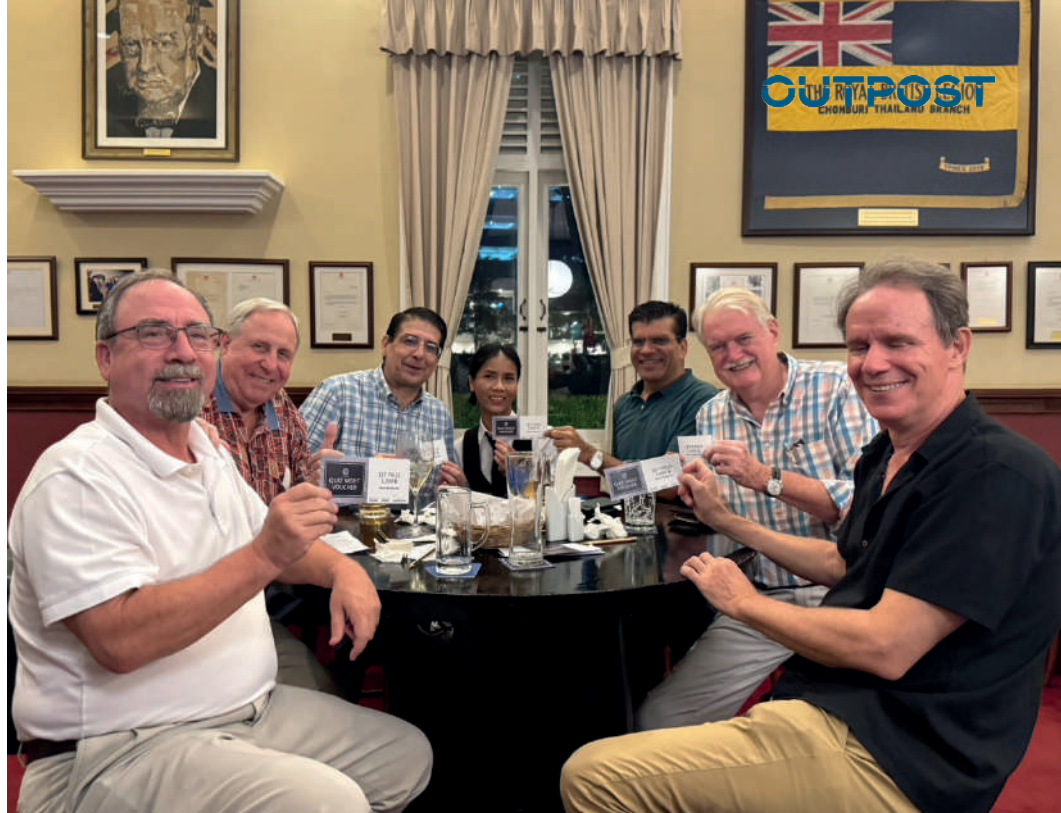
Kids Christmas Party

Always a sell-out event, live music, bouncy castles, arts & crafts, and a special visit from Santa



Christmas Day

Our signature event of the year never fails to impress! Possibly the best place to celebrate Christmas in Bangkok.



Quiz Night

22/10/24

Congratulations to the Spoofers for an amazing performance in the month October Quiz Night. Good to see them return to the top spot after a long time coming in 2nd and 3rd.





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Desi Night

25/10/24

Our first ever Desi Night! DJ Bash and Desal dancers putting on a wonderful show and perfect food from Punjab grill & Ekka Bar & Grill. Thank you to everyone that came and our sponsors Bangkok Hospital Thailand SILQ Hotel & Residence EKKKA Grill and Bar Punjab Grill Bangkok.





Kids Halloween Party

26/10/24

The Club Kids Halloween Party, an amazing time had by all the little ones with such good costumes. Fun games prizes all in the Halloween theme.





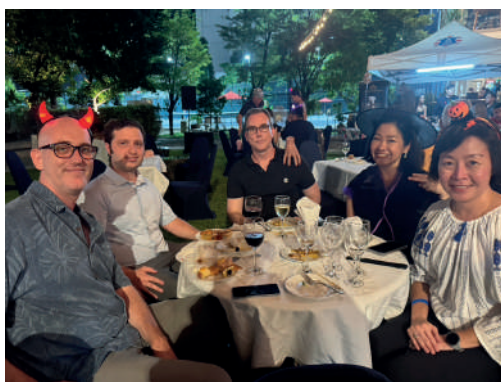
Witches & Wine on The Lawn

26/10/24

Saturday Night at The British Club Bangkok with Witches & Wine Halloween Special.

Outstanding effort on the costumes by everyone that attended. And congratulations to Gonzalo Salazar for winning first prize.

Thank you to the supplier's T/A Wine, Serenity Wines, Friendly Fine Wine & Spirits, Vinca Organic Canned Wine, and our sponsors SILQ Hotel & Residence Molto ice cream.





Guy Fawkes Night

03/11/24

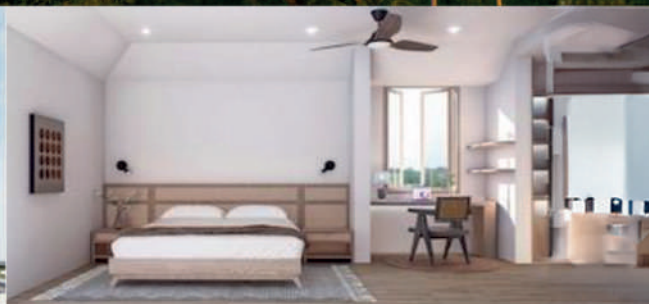
An extra special Guy Fawkes evening this year with a new firework supplier and change of venue to the front lawn, making the display backdrop the Clubhouse, simply whoa!





30° In February

Khao Tao, Hua Hin



Our Story°

Thai/Scottish owners have recently taken over and completely renovated this gorgeous 12 villa boutique resorts adding a second pool and further improving the 7,000 sqm of lush gardens.

30° in February nestles into the mountains and sits on the banks of the first Royal reservoir in Thailand.



www.thirtydegreesinfebruary.com



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bookings@thirtydegreesinfebruary.com



30 Degrees in February

thirtydegreesinfebruary@gmail.com



thirtydegreesinfebruary

British Club Member get a 20% discount
by booking directly quoting their membership number.



The annual Remembrance Day Service

10/11/24

Remembrance Service at The British Club Bangkok with The British Embassy and Royal British Legion

Thank you to everyone that made it a meaningful day. H.E. Mark Gooding MBE British Ambassador to Thailand, Colonel Tony Stern UK Defence Attaché, Matthew Fitter the vicar of Christ Church.





Quiz Night

12/11/24

Congratulations to Drowning Not Waving for another amazing performance in the month November Quiz Night. Make sure you enter a team for the special end of year Christmas Quiz for festive fun and prizes



Team Name	Round One	Round Two	Round Three	Round Four	Wipeout	Pandorous Puzzle	Total
Drowning not Waving	9	4	7	8	6	3	37
Scumbag College	8	4	6	8	5	3	30
Norfolk 'n' Chance	9	7	3	7	3	0	29

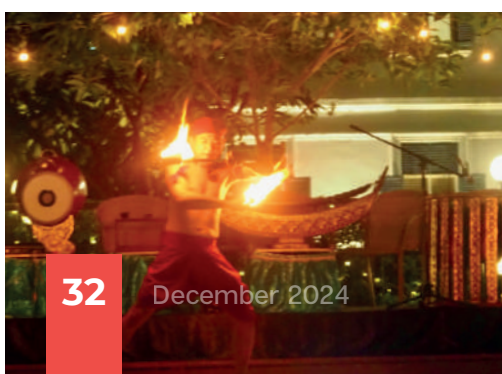




Loy Krathong

15/11/24

Loy Krathong 2024, such a beautiful evening poolside at the club. Thank you to everyone that attended and to our special dancers Aor and Mint, also our sponsor Expat Health & Wellness by Phyathai.





New Member Night 19/10/24

New members night at Churchill Bar, great to see all the new faces, we look forward to seeing them all in the coming events and around the club.





CHAO PHRAYA PRINCESS

Celebrate New Year's Eve countdown and welcome the year 2025 on Chao Phraya Princess with International Seafood Buffet, free flow open bar drinks throughout the night, and unobstructed views of the largest firework display in Bangkok!

Book now as there are limited seats available!

Program A

ADULT 4,400 THB

Child 3,700 THB
(4-10 yrs)

- Special Show
- Free flow whiskey, wine, beer and soft drinks
- International & Seafood Buffet
- Countdown fireworks display!
- Lucky Draw
- New Year Gift
- Live Music

Available Piers

TERMINAL21
RAMA 3

19:30 - 00:45



Bookings & Info Via: The British Club Line Official
Add LINE ID @britishclubbkk
by attending you agree to the Club P.D.P.A



1903
THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK



Brian Jacks Book Signing

"The Mindset of a Champion"

20/10/24

A very special exclusive event with Brian Jacks at the Churchill Bar. Members met the man himself, and heard his stories on his career followed by a Q&A.



"Come and swim and really be Cool!"

POLAR SWIM 2025

1st January 2025 | 2:00pm onwards



Huge blocks of ice will be dropped in the pool like **icebergs** floating in The Arctic Waters.

The **pool water** gets pretty chilly and is invigorating for those who swim amongst the icebergs, mince pies are also available, desserts with **mulled wine** plus all your favourite food & drinks as usual

FREE !!! shaved ice for swimmers only



Bookings & Info Via: The British Club Line Official
Add LINE ID @britishclubbkk
by attending you agree to the Club P.D.P.A



THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

BC Bee Kid's Club!

December has arrived, and BC Bee is buzzing with excitement as we kick off a month full of festive fun and holiday cheer! Our Christmas-themed activities are designed to keep your little ones entertained and engaged all month long. From crafting beautiful ornaments to decorating festive cookies, there will be endless opportunities for kids to get creative and embrace the holiday spirit.



Metawee (Natt)



KID'S CHRISTMAS DAY – SATURDAY, 7TH DECEMBER

This is the moment your little ones have been waiting for! Our Kid's Christmas Day on Saturday, 7th December offers an opportunity for children to meet Father Christmas, share their Christmas wishes, take photos, and enjoy a day filled with fun and laughter alongside their friends. Spaces are limited, so be sure to book your spot now to secure a place for your child and ensure they don't miss out on this unforgettable experience!

The countdown to Christmas has begun, and BC Bee is thrilled to make this festive season extra special for your family.



MON

TUE

WED



2 Squash Mix-in
5.15pm - 7.30pm

3 Christmas Carols
5.30pm - 8.00pm

4 Squash Mix-in
5.15pm - 7.30pm
Balut
6.00pm - 8.00pm
Circuit Training
6.00pm - 6.45pm
Tennis mixed-In
6.00pm - 10.00pm

9 Squash Mix-in
5.15pm - 7.30pm

10 Christmas Quiz Night
7.15pm - 9.30pm

11 Squash Mix-in
5.15pm - 7.30pm
Balut
6.00pm - 8.00pm
Circuit Training
6.00pm - 6.45pm
Tennis mixed-In
6.00pm - 10.00pm

16 Squash Mix-in
5.15pm - 7.30pm

17

18 Squash Mix-in
5.15pm - 7.30pm
Balut
6.00pm - 8.00pm
Circuit Training
6.00pm - 6.45pm
Tennis mixed-In
6.00pm - 10.00pm

23 Squash Mix-in
5.15pm - 7.30pm

24

25 Squash Mix-in
5.15pm - 7.30pm
Balut
6.00pm - 8.00pm
Circuit Training
6.00pm - 6.45pm
Tennis mixed-In
6.00pm - 10.00pm
Christmas Lunch & Dinner

30 Squash Mix-in
5.15pm - 7.30pm

31 New Year Eve Cruise
7.30pm - 12.45am

DECEMBER 2024

THU

FRI

SAT

SUN

1

Tennis Men Doubles Team practice
10.00am - 1.00pm
Sunday Brunch
11.30am - 3.00pm
Tennis Mix-in
4.00pm - 7.00pm

5

Yoga
6.00pm - 7.00pm
Cricket team practice
6.30pm - 8.00pm

6

Tennis mixed-in
8.00am - 11.00am
Friday Junior Coaching
4.00pm - 5.00pm
Friday Junior Cricket
5.30pm - 7.00pm
Tennis mixed-in
6.00pm - 10.00pm

7

Squash Mixed-in
12.45pm - 4.30pm
Kids Christmas Party
2.00pm - 6.00pm
Cricket Team Practice
2.30pm - 6.00pm
Table Tennis Tournament
12.30pm - 5.00pm
Winston Cup
6.00pm - 9.00pm

8

Tennis Men Doubles Team practice
10.00am - 1.00pm
Sunday Brunch
11.30am - 3.00pm
Tennis Mix-in
4.00pm - 7.00pm

12

Yoga
6.00pm - 7.00pm
Cricket team practice
6.30pm - 8.00pm

13

Tennis mixed-in
8.00am - 11.00am
Friday Junior Coaching
4.00pm - 5.00pm
Friday Junior Cricket
5.30pm - 7.00pm
Tennis mixed-in
6.00pm - 10.00pm

14

Squash Mixed-in
12.45pm - 4.30pm
Cricket Team Practice
2.30pm - 6.00pm

15

Tennis Men Doubles Team practice
10.00am - 1.00pm
Sunday Brunch
11.30am - 3.00pm
Tennis Mix-in
4.00pm - 7.00pm

19

Yoga
6.00pm - 7.00pm
Cricket team practice
6.30pm - 8.00pm

20

Tennis mixed-in
8.00am - 11.00am
Friday Junior Cricket
5.30pm - 7.00pm
Tennis mixed-in
6.00pm - 10.00pm

21

Squash Mixed-in
12.45pm - 4.30pm
Cricket Team Practice
2.30pm - 6.00pm

22

Tennis Men Doubles Team practice
10.00am - 1.00pm
Sunday Brunch
11.30am - 3.00pm
Tennis Mix-in
4.00pm - 7.00pm

26

Yoga
6.00pm - 7.00pm
Cricket team practice
6.30pm - 8.00pm

27

Tennis mixed-in
8.00am - 11.00am
Friday Junior Cricket
5.30pm - 7.00pm
Tennis mixed-in
6.00pm - 10.00pm

28

Squash Mixed-in
12.45pm - 4.30pm
Cricket Team Practice
2.30pm - 6.00pm

29

Tennis Men Doubles Team practice
10.00am - 1.00pm
Sunday Brunch
11.30am - 3.00pm
Tennis Mix-in
4.00pm - 7.00pm



Terry Adams



Active Living Section

SECTION UPDATE:

With GC approval we have changed our Section name to the **ACTIVE LIVING SECTION!** This is to shift perception from an age-based categorization including the stigma associated with the word "Senior", to a modern, more inclusive, inspirational, and lifestyle focused approach that eliminates stereotypes, and allows us to appeal

to a far broader audience at the Club. The Section's objectives are unchanged: to engender continuous learning, mild and fun activity, and most certainly good socializing amongst our Section Members and the wider Club community.

Active Living Section Membership is open to ALL Club Members and their Spouses/Partners. Come along to your first Active Living Section event: we are confident that having done so, you will then be attending others.

We continue working to provide two events each month, with events already at various stages of progression and finalization to February 2025 and beyond.



Click here:

- For information on the Section and our previous Events
- To join the Section by completing your application.

Or visit the Active Living Section website at:

<https://www.britishclubbangkok.org/active-living-section/>
(Just keep clicking on the posters to delve deeper for information, photographs, and more)

Section Future Events:

Khmer Warfighting

Mysteries surrounding the fall of Angkor

A talk by Dr. Paul T. Carter

Date: Thursday 9th January
Time: 1140 for 1200
Cost: 400฿ (section members), 450฿ (club members), 500฿ (guests). includes lunch.

Interested? Come and join us! All Welcome.
Contact Terry Adams 081 750 1087
terry.adamsbkk@gmail.com

EVENT REPORT:

Party to celebrate the Section's 2nd Anniversary and to welcome the new Section Name: 24th October 2024

Over 30 Section Members and invited Guests, including Guest of Honour GC Chair Simon, attended the Party held in the Suriwongse Room. The celebration commenced with enjoyment of the complimentary and very tasty finger food buffet and beverages ordered by the Section. After everyone had settled in with food and drinks Chairperson Terry commenced proceedings by introducing the guests, then summarising his belief that the Section had, thanks to the work of the Section Committee over the last two years, achieved its commitment to provide a twice monthly range of events and activities that were varied, interesting, and above all held



in the really friendly and great company of fellow section members and guests. The naming of his fellow committee members (Bob Marchant, Barbara Meynert, Agnes Murray, Phanida Naviroj, Wandee Bruton and Noah Shepherd) was accompanied by an enthusiastic round of applause. He then turned to two areas of concern that the Committee had identified: despite such a good and varied programme of events the Section suffered from a static level of membership currently at 58, and that the very name "Seniors Section" had been proven on a number of occasions to have exhibited real stigma being associated with the word 'Senior'. This has prompted the Section Committee to seek GC approval to change the Section's name, with approval being given to the change of name to "The Active Living Section". This announcement was followed by a rousing round of prolonged applause.

GC Chair Simon was then invited to cut the ceremonial ribbon, after which he gave a short speech before the party recommenced.

As the party continued, a highly enjoyable raffle was held with Vicky and Caroline doing the honours of issuing free raffle tickets based upon the length of each person from end of fingers to middle of nose. Many thanks to the following for donating prizes: William, Agnes, Raquel, and Phanida, plus bottles of wine with the Club's compliments. The camaraderie was excellent, fueled by the Club's excellent finger food and also by the large variety of alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks provided. As usual, Khun Somboon's team from the Kitchen to the Service staff facilitated a superb and great fun evening.

EVENT REPORT:

"AI in everyday life: Fiction to Reality": 7th November 2024



Section Chairperson Terry Adams introduced speaker Barbara Meynert, a highly respected macroeconomist and thought leader with a deep, multifaceted background in investment banking, supply chain management, and AI strategy. He noted that what sets Barbara apart is her unique focus on the intersection of technology and self-care: specifically, applying AI to enhance healthcare and daily well-being. He further noted that as an advocate for a balanced and wise life, her long-standing commitment to these principles is reflected in her book, *Sage Vita: The Art of Living Longer and Living Well*, published over a decade ago.

Building on her captivating session on AI given to the Section last January that left us inspired and curious, Barbara dived straight into AI's latest advancements: increased AI capabilities (multimodal, reasoning, and search capabilities), and also the ever improving AI tools. She pointed out some important developments

in the futuristic world: Elton Musk's Neuralink implants into the human brain, the world's first all AI Hospital in Japan where doctors are AI rather than human, before moving on to the latest AI 'agents' which are computer programs that can think and act on their own to achieve specific goals. She showed us how these agents can support both physical and mental well-being as she also reviewed practical, AI-powered tools that are these days specifically tailored for seniors - 'agents' for brain training, emotional support, symptom checking, and for remembering 'stuff'.

She showed us how AI isn't just for tech experts but is now accessible, beneficial, and fun for everyone! How this truly remarkable lady does all that she does after a stellar business career, and also finds the time to be a member of our Active Living Section Committee, is nothing less than inspirational!

TENNIS

Here goes another day, another week and another year and I am once again in the land of the rising sun; this time in Nagasaki, which reminds us of only one destructive 'scientific' achievement and its blinding glow has never left the human psyche. So, what have we achieved this time as we complete another circumambulation around the Arun, the lifegiving sun? Probably more fun than sun and more socialising than moralising. In reality, for us tennis folks this has been a fun-filled season with the visits of three wonderful clubs from our region.



Sunil Mehra

Visiting Clubs

Singapore Recreation Club

On Sunday afternoon, 21 October, we were blessed with great weather (no rain) to host the Singapore Recreation Club to a friendly match with the British Club Tennis Section. There were many game matches and fun all around especially the socializing that we all had over dinner and drinks following the matches. A big thanks to all those who attended and made it a successful event. Hope to see you all again.

By Nattaya





Hong Kong Cricket Club

Another great evening was held on Friday 25 October with the Hong Kong Cricket Club along with the socialising after the matches! Thanks to all our members who participated and many thanks for the Hong Kong Cricket Club for an enjoyable evening together. Thank you and you are all welcome again.



Tanglin Club, Singapore



Tennis Interclub friendly match between The British Club Bangkok vs. Tanglin Club (Singapore) was held on the 8th of November, 2024. A great turnout, as over 40 players attended on the date. The tennis started from 6pm to almost 10pm! Some players even asked for a 'friendly' revenge match between each other, great vibes indeed. Fantastic smiles and harmony from the players of both teams at the end of the evening.

A Plaque was presented by The Tanglin Club and well received by Christopher Watt of The British Club along with the small gifts such as sweat bands and dampers were given to The British Club players who participated – many more gifts were exchanged. We're more than happy to welcome The Tanglin Club again in the future and look forward to providing hospitality and building a great atmosphere again.

Contributed by Arin





A British Club Bangkok EVENT NOT TO BE MISSED!

Celebrate Christmas in style!

“THE CLASSICAL CHRISTMAS DINNER & CONCERT”

Saturday, 14th December from 6.00pm to late.
Open to all members of the British Club and guests.
Black-tie/Formal evening wear for ladies.

Ticket Prices:
THB2,500 for British Club Members, THB2,700 for Guests

Specially prepared 3-course dinner (vegetarian option available).
An unforgettable concert of everlasting classical & popular music by:



Phitchaya Klimov – a classical music Soprano, Phitchaya (or Plang as she is fondly known) has performed with the Thailand Philharmonic Orchestra and in many other musical venues across Asia. She is also the previous winner of the Best Soloist Award at Moscow Sound in Russia. Currently teaching at the College of Music, Mahidol University, Phitchaya is an accomplished individual in the world of vocal performances.
Phitchaya's performance will also be accompanied by Baritone



Well Disayanon Kaljaruek - fondly known as Mr. D, is a Thai and international vocalist/performer with two decades of experience in the music industry. His career highlights include record deals with Sony BMG at a very young age; extensive classical tours in the USA; four consecutive summers performing at opera venues in Italy and is annually featured in Dreambox Theatre musicals and plays.

The evening's presentation will also feature:
A 3-piece Strings Ensemble performing favourite classics *Adagio in G Minor*, *Cavatina* and many others. **A Classical Solo guitarist** performing *Concerto de Aranjuez* and others.

Book your tickets now at bcts.bangkok@gmail.com

The British Club Tennis Section and Friends invite you to an evening full of great music, special dinner and everlasting memories. Kick off your holiday season. Don't Miss this Amazing Event.



Becky Adderley



BRITISH CLUB GOLF



On Sunday 13th October, the British Club Golf Section played their medal event at Subhapruek Golf Course. The numbers were really low this time and we only needed 3 tee times booking, however the weather was particularly kind to us. It had obviously rained heavily overnight and in the early morning due to the amount of water on the approach roads to the course. The fairways had drained reasonably well though and although the going was a bit heavy in places, we all still were able to have a reasonable game. Luckily, those teeing off first managed to avoid any rain until about hole 15 and, even then, the rain did not manage to deter anyone from finishing the round.

The 'Moments of Excellence' were awarded to:

Near pins – **John Bell, Frank Fawkes (twice), Peter Clark and Terry Davies**

Men's Long Drive – **Mark Adderley** (that doesn't happen very often!)

Ladies Long Drive – **Paweena Baothong**

Long Putts – **Mark Adderley**

Most Birdies – **Peter Clark with 1**

Third in Division A with a net 82 was Varghese Rose. Second in Division A was Frank Fawkes with a net 80 and winning Division A and a bottle of wine was Mark Adderley with an impressive net 73.

Third in Division B was Gareth Knight with a net 82. Second in Division B was John Virtue with a net 79 and winning Division B and a bottle of wine was Paweena Baothong with a net 79.

Congratulations to both of our winners.

Alongside the medal competition there was also a quarter final of the match play competition between Damian Sutton and Gareth Knight. Gareth was victorious and will progress to the semi-finals.



▲ Pictured left to right: Mark Adderley, Varghese Rose (Captain) and Paweena Baothong

On the weekend of the 26th and 27th October the Golf Section were away in Nakhon Nayok playing the annual Dunlop Cup competition at Royal Hills golf course – one of our favourite venues. This event is a pairs event and is always sponsored by David Lamb (the owner of Dunlop in Thailand). The playing pairs compete to win the Dunlop Cup but if they narrowly missed this, then there is also the Dunlop plate to play for. On the first day of the competition we play a 'better ball' Stableford competition. On the second day, the top two pairs from day 1 compete in a match-play competition for the Dunlop Cup and the rest of the field play another day of 'better ball' Stableford for the Dunlop Plate. 24 players in total took part.

The winners of the 'Moments of Excellence' were:

DAY 1

Near pins – **Doug Angus, Peter Frank, Becky Adderley, Varghese Rose, Angkhana Nilkumnerd, Massimmo Gallizio.**

Men's Long Drive – **Gordon Milne**

Ladies Long Drive – **Becky Adderley**

Long Putts – **Gordon Milne and Peter Clark**

DAY 2

Near pins – **Angkhana Nilkumnerd, Bally Gudail, Massimmo Gallizio, Pete Gale, Steve Waldmeyer, Yurachatr Brook.**

Men's Long Drive – **Doug Angus**

Ladies Long Drive – **Angkhana Nilkumnerd**

Long Putts – **Arunya Somnam and Martin Finn**

The winners of the Day 1 competition were Mark and Becky Adderley and the winners of the Day 2 competition were Peter and Barbara Frank.

David Lamb usually attends the Dunlop Cup event each year and presents the prizes to the winners of the Plate and the Cup but this year was rather special for him because he was celebrating his 80th birthday with family and friends. He asked Brian and Yurachatr Brook whether they would present the prizes on his behalf and they kindly agreed. Before doing this Brian wanted to share a personal anecdote about the Dunlop Cup that took place whilst in England some years ago. Its one of those occasions when you realise how small the world can seem.

"Whilst on holiday in England in about 2007, Yurachatr and I rented a cottage in Derbyshire for a week. One day, we played golf at Bakewell golf club and after the game knocked on the Clubhouse door to see if we could get a drink. The door was answered by an Asian lady who explained that the bar was closed because the steward had gone to a funeral. She then noticed that my golf shirt sported a Thai flag (similar to the current BC Golf Section shirts), and said "Are you from Thailand", After I said "Yes", "she continued "I used to live in Thailand, my husband was Managing Director of Dunlop Thailand" What she didn't know is that Yurachatr and I both worked for Dunlop Thailand in the early 1980's, and I knew there had only been five MD's of Dunlop Thailand. I had met four of them and knew the name of the fifth. I was able to respond "then, you must be Mrs. Robinson!" She called her husband, and took us to their house for tea, where, apart from discovering that John and I both went to school in Sheffield (not at the same time), we were questioned about Thailand, Dunlop, the British Club, the Golf Section, and the thing they wanted to know most, what happened to the Dunlop Cup, which he presented to the Club in 1969. I was able to tell him that it was in very capable hands.



In fact, the engraving on the trophy shows that it was contested every year since 1969, apart from 1971 and 2020 (when it rained all weekend at Springfield). The final has always been 'better ball'. Initially it was progressive rounds of match-play throughout the year, similar to the current Singles Matchplay. David Lamb became Dunlop MD in 1987 and donated the 'Dunlop Plate' in 1993. The event was changed to a 'long weekend' tournament, with one round of qualifying, the top four better ball stableford scores playing match-play semi-finals on Day 2 and match-play final and 3rd place on

Day 3, with all those not qualifying for the semi-finals continuing to play stableford for all 3 days for the Plate. About 10 years ago it was changed to a 2 day event, with just the top two scores on the first day playing a match-play final, and everybody else playing better ball stableford over two days for the Plate. John Robinson won the Cup in 1977 just before leaving Thailand, and David Lamb in 2009. Many thanks to both of them for instigating and continuing to support, in my opinion, the Golf Section's favourite event for 55 years."



▲ Pictured left to right: Massimmo Gullizio, Barbara Frank, Pete Gale, Peter Frank, Gordon Milne, Varghese Rose (Captain), Martin Finn, Alan Ainsworth, Angkhana Nilkumnerd and Danny Bean.



▲ Pictured left to right: Yurachatr Brook presenting the Dunlop Cup to Pete Gale, Gordon Milne being presented with the Dunlop Cup by Brian Brook.

The winners of the Dunlop Plate were Martin Finn and Danny Bean. The runners up in the Plate competition were Alan Ainsworth and Angkhana Nilkumnerd.

The winners of the Dunlop Cup were Pete Gale and Gordon Milne. The runners up in the Dunlop Cup competition were Brian and Yurachatr Brook.

It was an amazing weekend which we all really enjoyed - spending time with good friends and excellent company. Huge congratulations to all of our winners who stayed strong and played amazing golf over the two days. Not an easy feat considering the challenges of the course and the hot weather.

MADAGASCAR POOL PARTY

Saturday 11th Jan | 1 - 4 pm | Poolside
Celebrating Thai Children's Day



A family pool party with sliders, giant inflatables, log master gladiator battles, BBQ buffet, kid's crafts, and a special guest from MADAGASCAR.

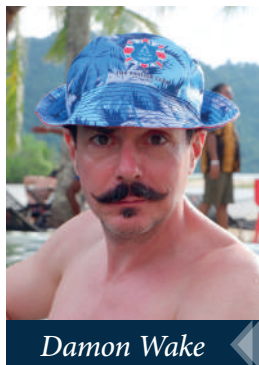
MEMBERS & GUESTS
Adults 500฿, Kids 300฿
Advance bookings required.



Bookings & Info Via: The British Club Line Official
Add LINE ID @britishclubbkk
by attending you agree to the Club P.D.P.A



1903
THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK



Damon Wake

HARD BALLS

FIRST MATCH – SUNK

This edition of Hardballs was going to start with a report of the BC's opening league match of the season, but after getting wind of the world-beating XI Pramodh was preparing to field, Gujarat CC had second thoughts and cancelled at the last minute.



▲ *Avi claims his Premier Div MOTM award*

With the pitch already booked, the BC cricketers decided to make a virtue of necessity and use the opportunity to get some time in the middle with an intra-club warm up. Unfortunately then it hammered down with rain for two days and the pitch was unplayable, so at the time of writing we are still waiting for our first run out.

Hopefully this soggy start will be only a minor blip at the beginning of what promises to be an exciting season for the BC as we compete once again in the BCL A division, after last year's impressive performance, and enter a new tournament hosted by the Royal Bangkok Sports Club.

AGM

The AGM in late October marked the formal start of the new cricketing year and saw serious, thoughtful debate from the 20 who attended.

The meeting was delighted to award honorary membership of the cricket section to Jack Dunford, known to many BC members for his leadership as club president in recent years. On the cricketing front, Jack took nearly 300 wickets in some 300 appearances since 1978 before injuries curtailed his playing career, and he was instrumental in the renaissance of the cricket section some years ago. His experience and advice are still invaluable to us as we navigate numerous leagues, tours and friendlies. We thank Jack for his service and look forward to many more years socialising and hopefully playing alongside him.



▲ *Serious business at the AGM*

The meeting paid its respects to Colin Hastings, our former player and friend sadly killed in a car crash earlier this year, and acknowledged the contributions to the club made by Denzyl, whose work has now led him to the Netherlands.

Once again the section's finances were in good health, thanks to Pramodh's shrewd management and the generosity of our sponsors, Arran whisky, Dunlop Adhesives and 50 Wings. Thanks also to Aakash, aka Cakes, for his generous offer to put up some of his own money to support the section.

The AGM heard an exciting prospect from Vaughny – a new invitational T20 league organised by RBSC, to be played at their polo ground, with some restrictions in place to keep the spirit social rather than super-competitive. The tournament is due to start in December and if it comes off will satisfy a long-held desire for matches played (a) on turf rather than astro pitches and (b) in central Bangkok rather than halfway to Hua Hin / Ayutthaya.

On the field, Pramodh and Ed Khan were re-elected as captains of the A division side and the Pavilionaires respectively, with Dale stepping up to fill the selector role vacated by Denz's departure.

After last season's impressive fourth place finish in a highly competitive BCL Division A, we are all excited about the new season. Our batting lineup once again looks extremely strong, with no significant hitting power leaving the club in the close season, and while the loss of Denz robs us of an experienced opening bowler, others have shown promise in pre-season nets.



▲ *Sarg takes us through some of the stats*

NETS BACK

As the club's rapidly dwindling supply of chicken wings and Heineken attest, Thursday night nets are back with a bang. The new roof on the nets has made an enormous difference, keeping the facility usable in almost all conditions and ensuring the astro surface stays in reasonable shape.

Attendance has been excellent, with up to a dozen regularly turning out on Thursday evenings, and similar numbers on Saturday afternoons. Pramodh has rejigged the structure so that instead of sending down one ball and then waiting ages for another, we now bowl "overs" in pairs. This has led to more focused, intense and effective sessions for both batters and bowlers.

Overall the bowling has been pretty accurate and the batters have been smashing it around. We look forward to carrying this positive start to the new season out into the middle.

In the apres-net sessions, Ben has been wowing us all with his encyclopaedic knowledge of the BC menu and monthly specials, and in this regard we all wish him well on his upcoming appearance on Mastermind.

While we have not yet managed our first game, two BC cricket members have been putting in Man of the Match performances in the Premier Division, so congratulations to Daniel on his 200 from 148 balls for the Southerners against Tamil Nadu, and Avi for his 3-14 for the Mutants against Bangkok Blues.



▲ *Working hard at nets*

DESI NIGHT SOCIAL



▲ *Desi Night dancers*



▲ *Jack claimed top prize in the Desi Night raffle*



▲ *Fun times*



▲ *And now a word from our sponsor...*

The AGM also saw the election of Rahul as the section's new social coordinator, and within 48 hours he scored his first triumph, leading about two dozen of us to the club's inaugural Desi Night.

A fabulous night was had by all – great food, excellent music, superlative dancing and quite a lot of Arran whisky. The cricket section were pretty much the last ones standing at the end, eventually making it out of the club some time in the wee small hours. Chef has his work cut out to make the next social hit the same high standards.

Finally, the Hardballs team and the cricket section as a whole wish all BC members and their families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

MEMBERSHIP DEPARTMENT



Pattie Lalanan W.

D ecember to remember!

We have reached the final month of 2024, and December has always been my favorite time of year. As usual, we have got a wonderful lineup of events to celebrate the season, from **Christmas Carols**, **Kids' Christmas Party**, and of course, our **Christmas Lunch & Dinner**. It's that magical time of year when we come together to create special memories.

Looking back, last month we hosted our New Member Night for those who joined between June and October, with the event taking place on Tuesday 19th November. It was such a joy to meet all the new faces and welcome them into our community. For those who have joined us since November, don't worry, we're planning a similar event next year, likely in the first or second quarter. We'll keep you posted with all the details as soon as we have them!

We are still welcoming new members for both **Full (lifetime)** and **Annual (yearly)** Memberships. If you know anyone, friends or colleagues who might be **interested in joining**, feel free to reach out to me, **Pattie** at lananan@britishclubbangkok.org. I'd be more than happy to share all the information and guide them through the application process.

As we enter this festive season, I want to wish you all a joyful holiday, filled with love, laughter, and quality time with your family! Let's make this December one to remember!



▲ *Yiran Zhu*

Member Review:

Dr Ian Zhu, a founder member of Ten Trinity Square Private Club in the UK, is a shared talent of Grant Thornton global network looking after a large portfolio of over 200 Chinese corporate clients and he aims to share his experience and professional skills to advise more Chinese capital to invest in South-Eastern Asia with Bangkok as the centre after he has demonstrated the success in the UK in the past 6 years. Before Grant Thornton, he used to assist the Thai corporate, Reignwood Group, to invest 1 billion GBP into the UK including Ten Trinity Square Four Seasons Hotel, Wentworth Golf Course, Voss Water, etc and build the synergies among China, the UK and Thailand. At the personal level, he has two daughters with great passion on culture between East and West with the focus in Chinese tea culture, Chinese Mahjong mental games, Chinese Calligraphy, Western Musicals and modern arts, etc. He also loves playing golf, tennis

and beach volleyball and would love to make positive energy to the British Club, which will offer Dr Ian Zhu a very charming platform to meet new and old friends and social with leading minds to enjoy work and life and link the West and the East.



▲ *Scott Ciener*

Member Review:

Whitney and I and our 15-year-old daughter, Lauren, moved to Bangkok in July, 2024. We have two older children who both live in the States. Having spent the last three years in Dhaka, we are delighted to be in Bangkok. Whitney works at the Berkeley International School and Scott runs small business which is located in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Whitney is interested in continuing to play tennis while Scott has joined the squash section. Looking forward to meeting you all.

MEMBERSHIP DEPARTMENT



▲ Scott Elder

Member Review:

Vay Khamma & I are most pleased to be new members. Thank you for opening your doors. Based on multiple visits as the guest of kind members, I have always had a very positive impression of the "club feeling" that leadership, staff and members have achieved. Well done. Why did it take me so long to knock on your door? Thanks for letting us in. Kind regards, Scott Elder



▲ Ted Tucker

Member Review:

Fergie and I are thrilled to be joining you all here at the British Club. My wife made quite a splash here in the early 90s, learning to swim at the British Club pool as a child. She has been telling me about it since I moved to Thailand around 8 years ago... Great to finally be part of the club! Looking forward to getting to know you all either at the bar, in the gym or on the tennis courts.



▲ Lin Yang

Member Review:

"Sylvia and I are delighted to join the British Club, a new family. Very quickly we have got connected with the tennis community and received warm welcome by the members.

We enjoyed the time on the tennis court, food in the restaurant and beautiful musical played on Friday evening. We look forward to meeting more new friends and join activities."

Best,

Lin



▲ Jerome Desquiers

Member Review:

We are an Indo/French family of four, recently relocated to Bangkok from Paris. The British Club is the first place we felt at home and signed up to be members without any hesitation.

Like all big cities, Bangkok has a lot to offer in modernisation and high-rise towers. In the middle of it all, the BC is an Oasis of calm where we can breathe easily, enjoy a bit of green and play sports while the kids are happily entertained in the kid's area. The movie nights with popcorn are a big winner and a great way to end the week. The jars of cold water readily available everywhere are a really nice touch and help you feel homely and comfortable even on hot afternoons.

The warm welcome from other members and the staff makes us even more sure of our choice.

It's been a good beginning, looking forward to meeting more people and participating in some of the upcoming events.

Jerome, Ayesha, Aliya and Tristan.

MEMBERSHIP DEPARTMENT



▲ Patricia Pong

Member Review:

The British Club provides a great base for us when we are in town to see friends, enjoy food, race, kart, and relax. We have two boys, so we are particularly drawn to the sports facilities the Club has, and in downtown Bangkok too. There is something for each of us here – tennis, swimming, gym, bar, massage... My boys played their first game of snooker/pool at the Club. Your staff and members are super friendly and welcoming. We look forward to seeing you again at the Club soon.

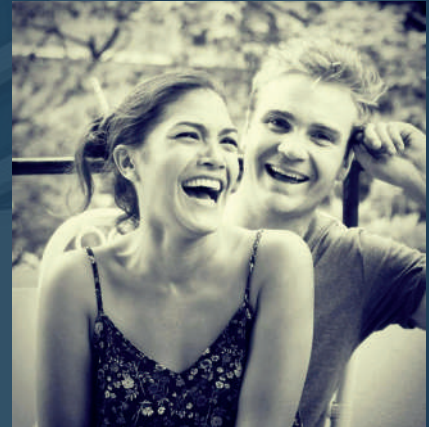


▲ Stella Chern

Member Review:

Hi my name is Stella and I'm from Taiwan. The first time I visited The British Club was when I brought my toddler here for Bambi playgroup, and I was fascinated by the kid friendly environment immediately. Now he is 7 years old, and we decided to join here when we relocated back to Bangkok. There are plenty of activities and events to attend for both adults and kids, not to mention the tasty and various food choices. It offers not only just a place for serenity and relaxation, but also a great opportunity to meet up with new friends.

We are excited to join more events and looking forward to meeting you all"



▲ Charles Clayton-Payne

Member Review:

Hi all, my wife and I are delighted to have joined the British Club. I am English and have lived across Asia for the past 15 years or so, but only 2 years now in Bangkok. My wife is Thai/French, and we have just had our first child, a baby girl called Lily, who is Thai, French and English but has come into the world looking rather Irish! We're keen to make new friends and get involved in club activities while giving Lily a taste of her British heritage. I am a lawyer by training and my wife works with gemstones within her family luxury jewelry company here in Bangkok. Please do come and say hello if you see us about; neither Laura nor I bite, and Lily hasn't developed the teeth to do so yet :)



▲ Richard Jones

Member Review:

"Hello to all fellow British Club Bangkok members. A privilege to actually say that, so thank you for allowing me to join!

I have been in Asia for over 27 years and am committed to staying here long term! A career in personal finance and asset management has led to regular travel around the region, and I have a good number of friends scattered over Thailand and beyond. The British Club has always provided a very friendly welcome whenever we have visited, and I am sure that my wife and I will increase our trips to the new "home from home" in Bangkok, as we get closer to slowing down! The club facilities are excellent, and even as a Country member who visits far less frequently, the chance to socialize with like-minded expats and locals alike is a huge attraction. Having a "base" in Bangkok when over for golf, charity, and social trips alike is spot on. Thank you!"

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Lunch & Dinner

25th December 2024



Lunch - 11:00am - 3:00pm | Dinner - 5:00pm - 9:00pm
Veranda | Suriwongse Room | Churchill Bar | Back Lawn | Jubilee Bar

Members: 1,500 ฿, Kids 800 ฿

Guests: 1,700 ฿, Kids 1,000 ฿



Bookings & Info Via: The British Club Line Official
Add LINE ID @britishclubbkk
by attending you agree to the Club P.D.P.A



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