

OCTOBER 2025



1903
THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK

OUTPOST

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Happy Halloween 2025



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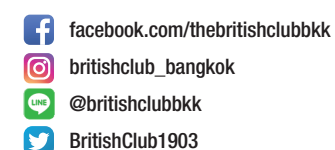
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The British Club Bangkok is a registered Association in accordance with the Thai Civil & Commercial Code

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Front Cover

British Club Bangkok transforms this Halloween with spooky decorations, themed menus, and fun-filled activities. Bring the family and enjoy a ghoulishly delightful evening at all club outlets!

This Month

Get the party started with Desi Night, bigger and better than ever! Dive into a Halloween-themed October with spooky thrills at the Kid Halloween Party, while parents and members enjoy a fun-filled Witch & Wine Night.

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PUNJAB GRILL
GOURMET FINE DINING

INDIA-THAI
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



इका
EKA
GRILL & BAR

Bollywood Theme

DESI NIGHT

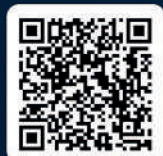
Saturday 11.10.2025 | 2:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Back Lawn



Live Music | DJ Bash | Dance Performances | Raffle Draw
Indian Cuisine & Product Showcase Vendors

Best Dressed Attire

Club & Chamber Members: 400฿
Guests & Non-Members: 600฿
Includes entrance and 1 complimentary drink



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



Chairman's Message



Simon P. Davies

I want to remind all members that Thailand has very strict laws on what can legally be distributed on social media. Recently, there was an unfortunate situation where a member lodged a serious complaint against one of our Club staff. Before any formal investigation commenced, the member subsequently posted details of the alleged, and yet unfounded, incident and mentioned the British Club by name on a chat group that has over 6,000 members. The member has subsequently resigned from the Club!!

With just three months left until the current financial year end, it is extremely pleasing to see the good progress being achieved in terms of positive cash generation which provides the opportunity for continued capital expenditure improvements. Right now, we are seeing monthly subscriptions reduced to a 62% subsidy of the direct operating expenses which is down from 95% under the previous General Management structure which was simply not sustainable over the longer term.

For members who visit the club on a regular basis, you will be familiar with the courteous and friendly welcome given to you by the security guards at both the Silom and Suriwongse entrances but that is just part of their job scope, as they also are responsible for the broader security and safety of the Club.

At 03:30 hrs on the 23rd August, fire alarms in the clubhouse were triggered following an electrical short circuit within one of the kitchen fridge compressors,

which caused a fire to start. An alert nighttime guard quickly identified the source of the problem and, accompanied by a colleague, promptly proceeded to the kitchen.

Following previous fire response training, the guard effectively and safely utilized a fire extinguisher to bring the fire under control, thereby saving the clubhouse from more serious damage.

In appreciation of their rapid and effective response, two security guards, Khun Jakkit Songsangworn and Khun Phumiphat Praking, were presented with certificates of appreciation and a cash reward recognizing their bravery and professionalism in preventing a potentially disastrous outcome.

Redecoration of the Suriwongse room took place in September and there will be further consideration for implementing an improved sound system, stage, and lighting equipment.



Exciting concept designs and drawings have been prepared by Peter Harper for two badminton courts and two padel courts to be constructed above the car parking area adjacent to the cricket nets. There will be a town hall presentation at which ALL members will be invited to attend and give their opinions and comments on this exciting new proposal.

If you have not booked your tickets for the Desi event on the 11th October 2025 then please do so asap as it promises to be a super fun filled day with plenty of afternoon and evening activities showcasing Indian cuisine and live entertainment.

**Cheers
Simon**

Operations Unknown

The British Club Continues Strong Ties with HTCH Foundation School



Metawee (Natt)

The British Club is proud to continue its long-standing relationship with the HTCH Foundation School, a partnership that reflects our shared commitment to community support and development. Over the years, the Club has provided opportunities for students and graduates of the school to grow their skills, gain valuable work experience, and become part of our team.

Recently, we welcomed new staff members from HTCH Foundation School to our team:



John, strengthening our kitchen staff with dedication and hard work.



Dear, joining our poolside team with great energy and a warm smile.

We are glad to see how well they have adjusted and how naturally they've become part of the Club's everyday rhythm



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Returning to the UK?

Helping you to plan ahead and understand the key considerations which may affect you

progeny



Increasing healthcare costs, circumstance change and redundancy are all some of the reasons that people consider moving back to the UK.

The years of UK political turbulence since the 2016 UK referendum vote, and the last few years of changing leaders and political parties, seem insufficient to keep the homebirds away.

For whatever reason you are thinking about a move back it is crucial to plan-ahead and understand the key considerations which may affect you. This will help lessen the chance of exposing yourself to a significant and perhaps unnecessary tax burden.

Planning your return to the UK

Because of the complex UK tax system relocating is highly important and careful planning is essential. In general, the more notice the better and if possible 6-12 months is normally an ideal timescale to begin the process.

The luxury of time may not be an option for all. Either way you need to understand the consequences of a return when planning as it needs to be right for your personal circumstances both now and into the future.

If you come back to the UK after living abroad, you will usually be classed as UK resident again. This means you pay UK tax on: your UK income and gains, as well as any foreign income and gains. This may not be the case if your permanent home (domicile) remains outside the UK.

You would have remained UK resident anyway if you were abroad less than a full tax year (6 April to 5 April the following year). This means you will usually pay UK tax on foreign income for the entire time you were away.

When to return

There is no ideal time but understanding the UK statutory residency laws is a good start. This will make sure you know when you are likely to become UK tax resident as it is sometimes not as straightforward as it may seem.

If you return mid tax year and you have been receiving overseas income, obtaining UK split-tax year treatment is going to be important.

Split Tax Year

You will be resident in the UK for the whole of a tax year, but that year may be split into a UK and an overseas part. This means that when returning to the UK you may be able to split the tax year into one part when you are UK resident, and one when you are not.

There are 8 sets of circumstances when an individual might meet the criteria for split year treatment for a particular tax year. Three cover situations when an individual might go overseas part way through the tax year, which are cases 1-3. Five cover situations where an individual might come to the UK part way through a tax year, which are cases 4-8.

If, in a year in which you are UK resident, there is an actual or deemed departure from the UK, then you will need to consider whether any of the split year cases 4-8 apply.

You must consider all cases of split year that might apply to you. Each has its own set of conditions, and you need to meet all those conditions for the case to apply. If more than one case applies to you the priority ordering rules show which case of split year will apply and what date the year will be split from.

For more information, please refer to the HMRC RDRM12000 guidance on Residence, available on the official UK government website.

If you return to the UK within 5 years

You may have to pay tax on certain income or gains made while you were non-resident. This doesn't include wages or other employment income. These rules (called temporary non-residence) apply if you return to the UK within 5 years of moving abroad (or 5 full tax years if you left the UK before 6 April 2013) and you were a UK resident in at least 4 of the 7 tax years before you moved.

Chapter 6 of HMRC's guidance note to the Statutory Residence Test is where you can find more information.

Do I need to tell HMRC when I return?

Informing HMRC that you are returning to the UK is very important. And it can be done personally, or by a tax representative/adviser. It is always recommended that pre-return tax advice is sought, which could be part of an overall package of a pre-and post UK tax advice service.

Considerations for a UK return

There are many and the following are some of the main ones:

- **Seek UK tax advice from a professional qualified UK Tax Adviser.** This is arguably the most important to make sure you understand when you may become UK tax resident.
- **Seek tax advice in Thailand** to make sure that you leave without any tax liability remaining.
- **UK Bank account** – do you still have one? If not speak to your previous UK bank first as in the absence of any recent credit history it may be awkward to open a new account with a bank where you have no history.
- **Understand foreign pension provision** – clarify if it be withdrawn prior to a return and prior to becoming UK tax resident, and in particular, can benefits be taken as a lump sum.

- **Review currency exchange rates** – if transferring significant amounts find an economical way as there are many options available these days.
- **Review investment funds** – they could be Reporting or Non-Reporting which are taxed differently in the UK. The former liable to Capital Gains Tax (CGT), the latter Income Tax (IT). At time of writing UK CGT rates are lower than UK IT rates so this can be important.
- **UK property** – give tenants the correct notice and refer to the current landlord responsibility rules that apply in the UK as part of the 2023/2024 Renters' Reform Bill changes.
- **Healthcare in the UK** - NHS Hospital treatment is free for those ordinarily resident in the UK on a lawful and properly settled basis, it applies immediately for someone returning permanently.
- **Schools** – research what schools are available, children must be physically present to enroll.
- **Insurance** - consider all your insurance, general (motor, home), and personal (private medical insurance, life assurance, and critical illness). Personal insurance is normally cheaper in the UK as there is a wide and competitive marketplace.
- **Driving license/eligibility** – check your UK License is still valid if your UK absence has been more than a few years.

This is a complex matter, and mistakes can be costly. Returning to the UK is a big step so plan ahead both personally and financially. Progeny have helped many people relocate to the UK so please contact us if you would like to discuss your position.

Martin Wright
Senior Financial Planner



The information in this article aims to provide information. However, this is not intended to form professional advice nor should it be relied upon as such and before taking any particular action, specific and personal advice should be obtained. All levels and basis of, and relief from taxation illustrated here are subject to change.

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• 10% discount on medicines, labs & x-ray
• 10% discount on dental care



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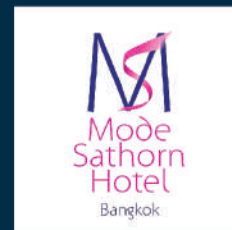
Special Member Offer: Net Rate with Breakfast Included



Special rate THB 500 NET per hours



Special offer



Exclusive offers for members



• Special Rates from THB 3,800 net/night
• Daily breakfast & complimentary afternoon refreshments
• One- and Two-Bedroom Suites with city views



Exclusive offers for members
• 40 days complimentary storage in Thailand on international move
• Special insurance rate at 3% instead of 3.5% for international move



Exclusive offers for members



Exclusive offers for members



Special offer



• 20% Exclusive Discount



Exclusive offers for members at
• Suvarnabhumi Airport (Bangkok)
• Other Airports
Fast Track Service must be booked at least 24 hours prior to the travel date



Exclusive 30% discount for British Club's members



Exclusive for the British Club Members
One Car Class Upgrade



Exclusive 20% off on all FBT's Products (Sportswear and Sport Equipment).



Exclusive offers for members



Exclusive offers for members

EXCLUSIVE OFFERS FROM OUR PARTNERS

BC Bee Kid's Club!

October is here, and that means spooky fun, creative crafts, and plenty of laughter for our little BC Bees! This month, our activities are all about Halloween where kids get to explore, imagine, and create with a seasonal twist. From art and science to hands-on crafting, here's a look at what's in store:



Metawee (Natt)



Secret Spiderweb Experiment

Kids will discover the magic of hidden art! Using a white crayon, they'll draw a secret spiderweb on paper, then reveal it by painting over with black watercolor. A fun STEAM activity that combines science and creativity.



Witch's Brew Fluffy Slime

What's Halloween without a bubbling cauldron? Children will get messy (in the best way) making stretchy, fluffy purple slime. A sensory experience that's always a hit!



Smoking Cauldron Art

Using cotton balls for smoke, kids will craft their own bubbling cauldrons on colorful paper backgrounds. This activity lets them mix textures, painting, and imagination to bring spooky potions to life.



Monster Rock Painting

Smooth stones transform into colorful Halloween monsters with paint, googly eyes, and silly faces. Kids can make one-eyed, toothy, or even mustached monsters

Coming Events

October 2025

(more details on the website)

- Desi Night
- Quiz Night
- Trafalgar Dinner
- Table Tennis Tournament
- Winston Cup Pool Competition
- Kids Halloween Party
- Halloween Wine on the Lawn

November 2025

(more details on the website)

- Guy Fawkes Night
- Loy Krathong Day
- Remembrance Day
- Quiz Night
- Ploenchit Fair
- Thanksgiving Brunch
- Table Tennis Tournament
- Winston Cup Pool Competition
- Christmas Party

December 2025

(more details on the website)

- Carol Night
- Kid Christmas Party
- Quiz Night
- Christmas Day Lunch & Dinner
- New Year Cruise

Event & Activities 2025 October Highlights



Desi Night

Desi Night on 11 October brought an evening full of vibrant energy and culture. Guests enjoyed high-energy Bhangra beats, captivating Bollywood dance performances, and mouthwatering Indian cuisine. The night was filled with non-stop fun and festive vibes, creating a truly memorable celebration for all.



Witches & Wine on the Lawn

On 31st October, join us for Witches & Wine on the Lawn! Parents can sip and savour wine on the lawn while the kids enjoy spooky games and fun at the Halloween Party in the Suriwongse Room. Don't miss the Best Costume spotlight dress to impress for a fun Halloween evening for the whole family.



Halloween Party

The Halloween Party on 31 October is a spooktacular event for all ages! Children enjoy a fun-filled evening of games, costumes, and treats, while parents relax and savor fine wines at Wine on the Lawn. It's the perfect night of fun for both kids and parents to enjoy.

In collaboration with Bangkok St. Andrew's Society

COCKTAIL & SPARKLING *Night*

Friday, 17th October 2025 | 6 - 9pm
Suriwongse Room

Members & Guests | 950฿ per person
Enjoy cocktails, nine sparkling wines,
and a tapas menu

Dress Code: Sparkle & Shine



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





Table Tennis Tournament 23/08/25

This month's Table Tennis Tournament was a wonderful success, drawing enthusiastic participation from players of all ages. The event highlighted the skills and energy of our younger members, alongside some impressive rallies from the seasoned competitors. After a series of exciting matches, congratulations go to Joker for securing first place.

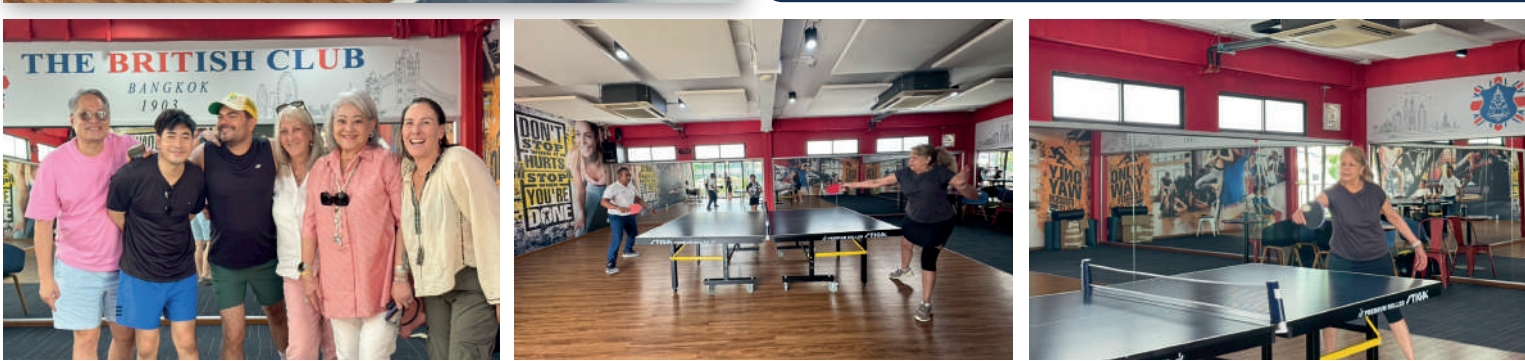


TABLE TENNIS Tournament

Handicap System

Saturday, 25th October | starts 1:00pm | register 12:30pm

16 players to enter a straight knockout tournament top 2 winners receive prizes

Handicap rating system introduced to make all level compete with a chance to win

FREE TO ENTER
HANDICAP LUCKY DRAW IS BACK

Bookings & Info Via: The British Club Line Official
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The Winston Cup BCB Monthly Pool Competition

Saturday 25th October - Starts 6:00pm

Straight Knock out 16 players
Every Player gets 1 free drink
and Free to Enter

All levels welcome

REGISTER NOW



Bookings & Info Via: The British Club Line Official
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Winston Cup

23/08/25

The Winston Cup Pool Competition in August kicked off with a fun and lively kids' match, setting the tone for a great day of play. The main competition followed with plenty of exciting games and strong performances from all participants. After some close and competitive rounds, JP emerged as the winner of the tournament.





Wine on the Lawn 30/08/2025

Our Wine on the Lawn evening was a wonderful success, with members enjoying fine selections from four renowned wine suppliers. The relaxed garden setting and excellent wines made it a truly memorable night together.



Witches & WINE

on The Lawn Halloween Special

Front Lawn
October 31st 2025
6:00 pm

MEMBERS 400 ฿
GUESTS 500 ฿

Live Music

4 of our Best Wine Supplier
sample & purchase at
wholesale prices.

A pairing tapas buffet

2 red or white full glasses
to sample

Best 2 Halloween costumes
win prizes



Bookings & Info Via: The British Club Line Official
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Est. 2003



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- Holistic Development
- Highly qualified teachers

When

Monday – Friday

Half day (8:00 – 12:00)

Full day (8:00 – 14:00)

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Bangkok Prep's Tiny Tails Pre – Nursery Programme

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PREParing For Life

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Quiz Night

09/09/2025

This month's Quiz Night was packed with energy and friendly competition! *Drowning Not Waving* grabbed the jackpot, while *Scumbag College* dominated the contest to take first prize. Many thanks to everyone who participated and brought such fantastic energy to the evening.



October 2025

21

KIDS HALLOWEEN PARTY

Friday 31st October
6:00-9:00PM | Suriwongse Room



Limited to the First 50 Kids to Register
Age 5 years and up

Special Fancy Dress Party with Games & Activities,
Magic Show, Halloween Snacks, Refreshments, Story telling
from Neilson Hays and prizes for Best Costume!

KIDS MUST BE ABLE TO ATTEND UNSUPERVISED

Kids Only Members 700฿ Guests 800฿



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



Whisky Night 12/09/25

Whisky Night, in collaboration with the St. Andrew Society, offered guests the chance to sample three exceptional whisky labels. A big thank you to everyone who joined us for an enjoyable and memorable evening of fine whisky.



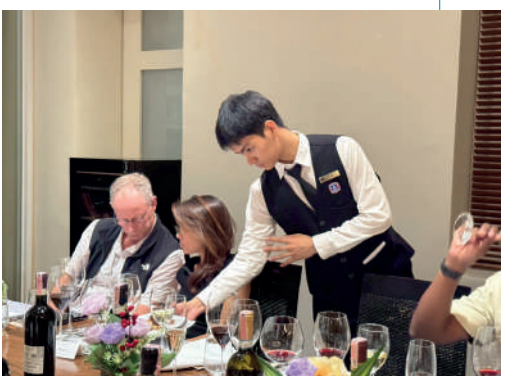


Back 2 Skool Challenge 14/09/2025

The Back 2 Skool Challenge brought a day full of fun and learning for our young members, featuring exciting activities from our lovely partners. Kids enjoyed hands-on experiences as Mini Chefs, Little Bob the Builder, Little Doctors, and Mini Picassos, making it a day of creativity, discovery, and laughter. A big thank you to all the families and partners who made the event so special!

An Intimate Wine Night – Exploring Italy 19/09/2025

Our Intimate Wine Night took members on a delightful journey through Italy's renowned wine regions. Members savored a curated selection of Italian wines, making for an elegant and memorable evening of wine discovery. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us.



	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
			<div>1</div> <div>Squash Mix-in 5.30pm - 7.45pm Balut 6.00pm - 8.00pm Circuit Training 6.00pm - 6.45pm Tennis mixed-In 6.00pm - 10.00pm</div>	<div>2</div> <div>Yoga 6.00pm - 7.00pm Cricket team practice 6.30pm - 8.00pm</div>	<div>3</div> <div>Pilates & Barre 8.00 am - 9.00 am Tennis mixed-in 8.00am - 11.00am Junior tennis coaching 4.00 pm - 5.00 pm Friday Junior cricket 5.30pm - 7.00pm Tennis mixed-in 6.00pm - 10.00pm</div>	<div>4</div> <div>Squash Kids Academy 10.00am - 12.15pm Squash Mixed-in 1.00pm - 4.45pm Cricket Team Practice 2.30pm - 6.00pm</div>	<div>5</div> <div>Tennis Men Doubles Team practice 10.00am - 1.00pm Sunday Brunch 11.00am - 4.00pm Tennis Mix-in 4.00pm - 7.00pm</div>
	<div>6</div> <div>Squash Mix-in 5.30pm - 7.45pm</div>	<div>7</div> <div>Football 6.30pm - 8.30pm</div>	<div>8</div> <div>Squash Mix-in 5.30pm - 7.45pm Balut 6.00pm - 8.00pm Circuit Training 6.00pm - 6.45pm Tennis mixed-In 6.00pm - 10.00pm</div>	<div>9</div> <div>Yoga 6.00pm - 7.00pm Cricket team practice 6.30pm - 8.00pm</div>	<div>10</div> <div>Pilates & Barre 8.00 am - 9.00 am Tennis mixed-in 8.00am - 11.00am Junior tennis coaching 4.00 pm - 5.00 pm Friday Junior cricket 5.30pm - 7.00pm Tennis mixed-in 6.00pm - 10.00pm</div>	<div>11</div> <div>Squash Kids Academy 10.00am - 12.15pm Squash Mixed-in 1.00pm - 4.45pm Desi Night 2.00pm - 10.00pm Cricket Team Practice 2.30pm - 6.00pm</div>	<div>12</div> <div>Tennis Men Doubles Team practice 10.00am - 1.00pm Sunday Brunch 11.00am - 4.00pm Tennis Mix-in 4.00pm - 7.00pm</div>
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	<div>20</div> <div>Squash Mix-in 5.30pm - 7.45pm</div>	<div>21</div> <div>Football 6.30pm - 8.30pm</div>	<div>22</div> <div>Squash Mix-in 5.30pm - 7.45pm Balut 6.00pm - 8.00pm Circuit Training 6.00pm - 6.45pm Tennis mixed-In 6.00pm - 10.00pm</div>	<div>23</div> <div>Yoga 6.00pm - 7.00pm Cricket team practice 6.30pm - 8.00pm</div>	<div>24</div> <div>Pilates & Barre 8.00 am - 9.00 am Tennis mixed-in 8.00am - 11.00am Junior tennis coaching 4.00 pm - 5.00 pm Friday Junior cricket 5.30pm - 7.00pm Tennis mixed-in 6.00pm - 10.00pm</div>	<div>25</div> <div>Squash Kids Academy 10.00am - 12.15pm Squash Mixed-in 1.00pm - 4.45pm Table Tennis Tournament 12.30pm - 5.00pm Cricket Team Practice 2.30pm - 6.00pm Winston Cup 6.00pm - 9.30pm</div>	<div>26</div> <div>Tennis Men Doubles Team practice 10.00am - 1.00pm Sunday Brunch 11.00am - 4.00pm Tennis Mix-in 4.00pm - 7.00pm</div>
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TENNIS

Great Month Ahead for Earning your Merit

October is a month when a lot changes ephemerally, and yet, a lot stays the same for centuries in Thailand and South-east Asia. Most of this has to do with the cycles of rice growing in the region and with Buddhism – both ancient traditions, particularly the cultural and religious festivals associated with both. Let's delve into this a bit as I was quite intrigued by the festivals for 'the end of Buddhist Lent' in October. Where did the idea of this 'Lent' originate? What I discovered is that it is not associated with the Lent as we know from Christianity, as many would have speculated. Instead, the concept of this Lent originated around five centuries 'BC' in Jainism (*Acharanga sutra*), a contemporaneous religion with Buddhism in India, and was adopted by Buddhism too. The purpose was noble called ahimsa, or non-violence - to avoid unnecessarily killing young plants or creatures by stepping on them in the rainy season. That was the meaning of being human then! Thus, the Buddhist term, *Vassavasa* (from Sanskrit 'varsha' for rain and 'vasa' for residence); known as *Phansa* in Thai or *Rains Retreat*, which started in July, and comes to an end after three months. So, during that period everyone has plenty of opportunities to earn *merit* (or credit for future life) by giving up meat, alcohol, tobacco or other intoxicants. In case you missed, there are few opportunities in October: first, *Ok (end of) Phansa* festivals that occur across Thailand during the full moon of the 11th month of the lunar calendar on 7th October; a time for rituals to **gain merit** for lay people like us and by giving up meat, alcohol or other intoxicants for a day (the ephemeral adherents) or more. Second, if you need huge persuasion and company of people to give up meat, visit the *Vegetarian Festival* during October. The festival starts on 20 or 21 October and lasts 9 or 10 days depending on your trustworthy source. Considering it has been going on since 1855 'AD' – you would expect agreement among sources! These events are rooted in Chinese culture, where real adherents observe a vegan diet for nine or ten days to purify their body, mind, and soul. Other festivals in October for merit include Tak Bat Devo Festivals. **Now** to the rest of life and its necessities travel, competition, election, fun and enjoyment and the occasional damp squib! All told through words and pictures galore.

Singapore Sling

Some text by Stan our Man, photos by many



Sometimes the journey is just as much fun as the destination. The British Club Tennis section met at the airport, all in good spirits for the upcoming Singapore trip. Thanks to William and Vicky for their enormous efforts organizing this enjoyable trip for everyone.

Tennah Merah Country Club, Singapore

After an afternoon of tennis for some, and relaxing as a referee for others, at the Tenah Merah Country Club, the Group proved their mettle as they worked through the food and the libation on offer at the club's Chinese restaurant with our hospitable hosts.



¹ BC=Before Christ

The British Club Singapore



More tennis and welcome at The British Club Singapore on the hill; although we could not find the renegade from BCB. Some enjoyed the tour of the club, others the new courts or picturesque surroundings or the view from the bar; tennis was enjoyed amongst ourselves – a BCB mix-in-on-the-hill. I believe the club also provided some vouchers for the very thirsty. Thank you, British Club Singapore.

The Singapore Recreation Club

with wonderful photographs by the BCB Team

The next stop was super for many reasons. First, every photograph of the friendly tennis matches (they helped us to win), no matter what the camera angle it always turned out as an urban masterpiece; warm and friendly



speeches were made; gifts were exchanged; next the hospitality – amazing spread of food to replace all the calories lost playing plus more than required fluid replacement; and finally, very thoughtfully they made everyone a winner by presenting each BCB player with a winners cup! Heartful thanks SRC. Unfortunately, I missed all the fun as my was to watch my daughter's the musical. Farewell SRC!

real mission in Singapore show – Lord of the Rings



Farewell Singapore. Now to the rest of the news...

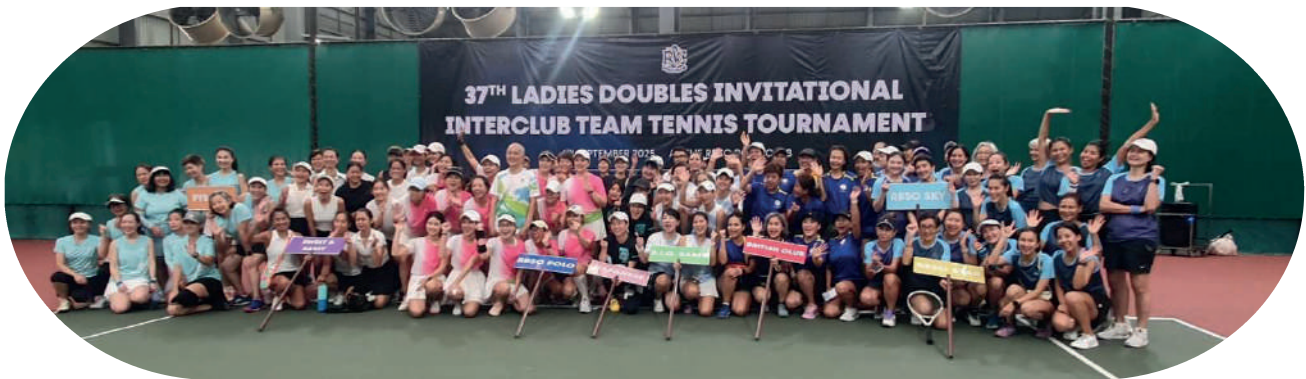


Ladies Doubles Invitational Interclub at the Polo Club

by Raquel Evans



The 37th Ladies Doubles Invitational Inter-club on 6th September, was hosted by the Polo Club! With rain forecast, we were lucky to play our matches on indoor courts. A perfect day of friendly competition among eight participating clubs. We started against Penang team and lost; followed by a win against RBSC Sky as we found our rhythm and secured a solid victory. Then a tough match against Polo Club and we lost again. In the end, we were 5th out of 8 Teams. Congratulations to Team Pyramid champions for the second year running! Next year, we aim to come back stronger with more ladies joining the team. Thanks to everyone who came out to support us, and to the organizers for good work.



Men Interclub Tournament at Impact Tennis Academy

The Men Interclub Team Tennis Tournament 2025, on 13th-14th September 2025 was held at the Impact Tennis Academy. BCB Men faired a little better and were 3rd Runner Up which means came 4th! (you learn something new every year). And here is the action-packed story of the day by Chris.



The Great Wide Open Tournament

TGWOT was almost held on a very rainy day, with three years of waiting and four games played; I'd call it a damp squib. John and Tod with 3 games out of 4 played were the 2025 Winners, Congratulations. It was such a quiet affair that I have not been able to find evidence or record by a photo of this great tournament. Let's wish for sunny days ahead.

Tennis Section AGM and the new Energetic Tennis Committee 2025-26

The Tennis Section AGM was held on 17th September with a gently raucous group of changemakers. The agenda was covered with good participation and suggestions to improve the brand, positioning and support of the Tennis Section, as one of the largest contributors to the well-being at the British Club. Fortunately, a fair number of members have volunteered to 'walk the talk' with the committee in the coming year in some capacity. On behalf of the Chair, Chris Watt, I would like to thank each member of the 2024 Committee; especially those taking a short retirement. As a note of thanks from the members for the dedication for many years and hard work by Chris a special gift was presented to him by William; and to Nattaya for making sure Chris remained dedicated to tennis and her, and specially for her tremendous efforts.



Many Thanks to the 2024 Committee



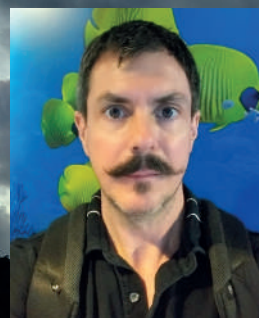
Welcome to Committee & Changemakers 2025



2025 Tennis Calendar

Nov 1-8	WTA Finals	Nov 16-22	Next Gen ATP Finals
Nov 9-16	Nitto ATP Finals	Nov 23-27	Davis Cup Final

Finally, I had clearly not collected enough merit this year, as this is the first time I am writing the Tennis Section article from a hospital bed, and I hope it is the last time I do so. **Get your merit** before it is too late!



Damon Wake

HARD BALLS



▲ Glorious setting

VICTORY. The British Club Master Batters won the Ko Chang Beach Tournament Cup, going one better than last year's Spoon win. On the way we proved two important principles: first that you don't need good weather to have a good time, and second that children are their parents' toughest critics.

Anyone who knows social cricket in Thailand will tell you that Ko Chang is the tour to go on – six-a-side beach cricket played in a stunning setting, next to an excellent pool bar setup, with levels of skill and commitment to suit all tastes.

Once again we had a great turnout of players and supporters, getting just enough to field two teams – the Master Batters led by Jon and the Swingers – keeping it in the family – captained by his younger brother Josh.

The BC cricket convoy left Bangkok early on the Friday for the haul down to our island in the sun (not guaranteed, other weather patterns are possible, temperatures can go down as well as up, please consult your meteorologist before investing). In a departure from previous caravans of debauched excess, thanks to our travelling French chef, fun on the Team Van this year was fuelled by croissants and Isaan sausage rolls, thoughtfully paired with an insouciant, full-bodied Chateau Chang.

Arriving hydrated, we were soon soaked as the heavens opened for the opening BC game, where the Master Batters had the better of a soggy encounter with our old friends the Pangolins. Big hitting is always a big part of beach cricket but it was so wet that several times the bat slipped from the batsman's grasp and ended up travelling further than the ball.

Friday evening saw the traditional buffet at 15 Palms, a chance to catch up with the whole spectrum of the kingdom's friendly cricket scene, young and old, Thai and farang, serious and social, while getting outside a few drinks.

Saturday morning saw the Swingers take the field with back to back matches, winning one and losing one. Josh, Lenny, Manish and George all took good catches before George snatched defeat from the jaws of victory against the Black Parrots by running himself out attempting an ill-judged third. This moment of madness incurred the towering wrath of his skipper and son Josh, who had the double teapot and face like thunder on for hours afterwards, even threatening to drop his old man despite having no reserve to replace him.

Saturday afternoon saw the intra-BC derby as the Master Batters and Swingers did battle. Swingers put up a solid 37 but some big hits from Jon off his brother,



▲ Turning one round the corner



▲ There are worse places to spend a weekend



▲ The happy couple celebrate the win



▲ Noon salutes the pavilion



▲ Bats were flying in the first day rain

and from Flowers saw the MBs home. The day ended with defeat for the MBs in a close-fought game with the Black Parrots – but revenge was to come.

After a frankly unsporting 15-hour sleep, Pramodh came out all guns blazing for the Swingers, earning his team 12 runs by landing a huge hit in the swimming pool as his team went down to the Pangolins.

More disappointment was to follow as the Master Batters lost a close, low-scoring game against Palmy Army, despite two late wickets from George almost stealing victory. There was more family discord as Sagar narrowly failed to hold what would have been an incredible running catch on the boundary, prompting his son to bellow "DADDA! What are you DOING?!" in disgust.

But two wins were enough for the Master Batters to scrape through to a semi final against youthful Thai side Big Chang, and as ever BC stepped things up at the business end of the tournament. Your correspondent opened the batting and somehow engineered 19 runs

off the first over despite not actually hitting the ball at any point, before Tyrone, Ben, and Flowers – now renamed Dilip – followed up with some big hitting as the MBs posted a meaty 62. Tight bowling, two run outs and two brilliant catches behind the stumps by Sagar stopped Big Chang bubbling over, and MBs sealed the win.

The final offered a chance of revenge against the Black Parrots, and a good boundary catch by Ben in the first over set the tone. More followed as the MBs limited the BPs to a total of 12. Sent in to open again, your correspondent decided to break the close ring of fielders set by the Parrots and succeeded only in chipping a catch straight up in the air. Sagar, having ditched his flashy sunglasses for his actual specs, was a man transformed and merrily slapped a four and a six to get the MBs back on track before Tyrone weighed in with some meaty blows and skipper Jon secured the trophy with some quick running between the wickets.

We returned to Bangkok with silverware, smiles and only a few sandfly bites. We'll be back.

AND FINALLY

This is my last dispatch for Hard Balls as I am moving to the UK with my family Gillian, Sophie and Thomas, after four and a half wonderful years in Bangkok. Thank you so much to everyone at the British Club, and the cricket section in particular, for all the friendship and happy memories. **We will miss you all.**



▲ BC cricketers on tour



▲ The victorious captain!



▲ Jon keeps close watch on play



▲ Flowers cuts loose



▲ Pramodh hits out



▲ Four wise men, maybe



▲ Fun times had by all

EVERY FRIDAY

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BRITISH CLUB GOLF

As Thailand moves into the wettest part of the year we often struggle to attract a large number of golfers, people are often put off by the thought of soggy courses and the threat of rain. And so it has proved this year, with only the brave or very committed signing up to play regularly. But despite the challenging weather it is actually quite rare for events to be cancelled or even be interrupted mid round. In the last month we have been able to successfully hold our two regular Stableford and Medal competitions.



▲ Walker Cup Winner James Byrne at the Sept Medal

September Stableford

The first event in September was our Stableford game which was played at one of our more distant regular courses, Royal Lakeside, at km 62 on the Bang Na Highway. The course used to be one of the easier ones that we play, but a number of years ago it was redesigned with many of the greens being elevated and the bunkers made extremely challenging. Well I found them very challenging even if others didn't...

We had a field of 11 golfers who faced this challenge. While many of us struggled, two golfers raised their game and were able to play under their handicap with both of them scoring 38 stableford points. Terry Davies won flight A while Yurachatr Brook took the honours in flight B.

We were very happy to have our event Sponsor – David George – of FENIX , who recently produced our excellent new golf club shirts, join us to present the prizes.



▲ Peter Clark Sept Medal Winner

September Medal

The September Medal was played at Subraphruek Golf Course on September 14th . A very select group of golfers enjoyed a nice sunny day as our British Club luck with the weather continued and they were happy to find the course in really good condition.

Peter Clark had a good day on the course and submitted a winning score of net 74 – followed by Varghese Rose as runner up.

It was a memorable day, as Peter's guest James Byrne, was a team member of winning 2011 GB&I Walker Cup team who played against a US team which included Patrick Cantlay, Harris English, Russell Henley and Jordan Spieth. His golfing pedigree was on show as he shot a very comfortable 66!!!



▲ Yurachatr Sept Stableford winner



▲ Terry Davies Sept Stableford winner

Annual Order of Merit

As we head into the last 3 months of the year Peter's win at the weekend has put him in a strong position to win this years Order of Merit, this is based on the cumulative points gained during all of our events across the year. Peter is leading the way with 111 points followed by Frank Fawkes on 91 and Gareth Knight on 81.

There are still a lot of points up for grab as we still have 6 regular monthly games as well as our Club Championship at the end of November, being played at Palm Hills Golf Resort in Hua Hin. There is also one of my favourite events on the weekend of 25th & 26th October – The Dunlop Cup. This event is a pairs competition and is being played at the stunning Royal Hills course in Nahkon Nayok. Not only is the golf great fun but with everyone staying at the course hotel it is also an excellent social event. Come along and join us!



BCGS Fixtures List 2025

	Month	Date	Day	Event	Course	Start time
1	Jan	1/12/25	Sun	Medal	Subhapruek	11:30
2	Jan	1/26/25	Sun	Match v Wanderers (The Magpie Putter)	Subhapruek	11:51
3	Feb	2/9/25	Sun	Medal (and AGM)	Subhapruek	11:30
4	Feb	2/23/25	Sun	3 clubs & putter	Subhapruek	11:30
5	Mar	3/9/25	Sun	Medal	Subhapruek	11:30
6	Mar	3/29/25	Sat	Eclectic weekend	Royal Ratchaburi	11:30
7	Mar	3/30/25	Sun	Medal	Subhapruek	11:30
8	Apr	4/27/25	Sun	Medal	Subhapruek	11:30
9	May	5/3/25	Sat	Match v Londoners	Subhapruek	11:30
10	May	5/11/25	Sun	Medal	Subhapruek	11:30
11	May	5/24/25	Sat	Juniors & Seniors	Rayong Green Valley / St Andrew's 2000	
12	Jun	5/25/25	Sun			
13	Jun	6/15/25	Sun	Medal	Subhapruek	11:30
14	Jun	6/29/25	Sun	Stableford	Lakewood	11:29
15	Jul	7/13/25	Sun	Medal	Subhapruek	11:30
16	Jul	7/27/25	Sun	Stableford	Ayuttaya	7:12
17	Aug	8/10/25	Sun	Medal	Subhapruek	11:30
18	Aug	8/24/25	Sun	Stableford	Royal Lakeside	
19	Sep	9/14/25	Sun	Medal	Subhapruek	11:30
20	Sep	9/28/25	Sun	Stableford	Rachakram	
21	Oct	10/12/25	Sun	Medal	Subhapruek	11:30
22	Oct	10/18/25	Sat	Match v Wanderers (The Magpie Putter)	Vintage	
23	Oct	10/25/25	Sat			
24	Oct	10/26/25	Sun	Dunlop Cup	Royal Hills	10:30
25	Nov	11/9/25	Sun	Medal	Subhapruek	11:30
26	Nov	11/29/25	Sat	Club Championship	Palm Hills, Hua Hin	
27	Nov	11/30/25	Sat			
28	Dec	12/14/25	Sun	Medal	Subhapruek	11:30

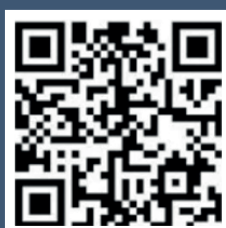


Active Living Section

SECTION UPDATE:

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 finalisation to December 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:

www.britishclubbangkok.org/active-living-section/

(Just keep clicking on the posters to delve deeper for information, photographs, and more)

Section Future Events:

THAM LUANG CAVE RESCUE
Hear from the heroic rescuer himself
Vern Unsworth MBE shares his remarkable personal story of the Thailand Cave Rescue

Date: Thursday, 2nd October 2025
Time: Socialising from 11.40 for lunch at 12.15
Cost: Section Members B400, BC Members B450, Guests B500, two course lunch with coffee/tea

To register please email to terry.adamsbkk@gmail.com

THONBURI THE CAPITAL OF ANCIENT SIAM
King Taksin's Vision – Thailand's Future
Kenneth Barrett, Journalist, Author

Date: Thursday, 16th October 2025
Time: Socialising from 11.40 for lunch at 12.15
Cost: Section Members B400, BC Members B450, Guests B500, two course lunch with coffee/tea

To register please email to terry.adamsbkk@gmail.com

EVENT REPORT:

"Hollywood in Thailand: 20+ years of filmmaking in The land of Smiles": 18th September 2025



Our speaker the renowned filmmaker Tom Waller, started his presentation by displaying a vivid and highly colourful slide from one of his movies – it took quite a few seconds for the writer to be the first to notice that the room was nonother than the Club's Suriwongse Room in which we were all sitting! Gasps of amazement followed.

Tom then proceeded to show and describe details of various clips from several movies that had been shot at the Club, with some of the action also moving right next door to the rear entrance of the now demolished Narai Hotel. From there, Tom's expose of what really happened and what was subsequently dubbed to end up with the full drama set out in the film, further amazed the by now enthralled audience.

Similar slides and photos of the actual versus the end-product for a few of Tom's more recent movies followed, including some of the daring action sequences from the 2016 Hollywood 'blockbuster' *Mechanic: Resurrection* starring Jason Statham, Jessica Alba, Tommy Lee Jones, and Michelle Yeoh. Slides of the 'set' located at a warehouse in Bangkok's Sukhumvit Soi 69, where so much of the action was actually filmed, was then contrasted with the finished movie in all its glory.



Similar action shots from his 2019 movie "The Cave" which dramatised the daring and highly dangerous rescue of the young schoolboy soccer team trapped in the Tham

Luang Caves in Chiang Rai, were made, further underlined his skill in bringing true events to the screen.

Tom went on to set out the massive differences that budgets available for moviemaking in Hollywood as compared to Thailand, were manifested. He showed for example, rows of very large luxury campervan homes on wheels in used in Hollywood to accommodate the stars and key staff, as contrasted with temple chairs used in Thailand, drawing lots of laughs from the audience.

Finishing on a more serious note, Tom set out details of how the film/movie industry in Thailand operates, from distribution of the finished product and merchandising through to the cinemas nationwide, noting the

differences between operations in Bangkok with its more modern infrastructure, as opposed to up-country, where the latter was very much subject to and at the mercy of regional 'persons of influence'.

In closing, Section Chair Terry Adams thanked Tom for a fascinating talk. Speaking as a retired logistician, Terry was in awe of the incredible amounts of detail required to be not only compiled, but planned, actioned, and undertaken, from the movie concept all the way through to distribution of the finished version. In a completely different vein, he commented that knowledge of the film set realities as set out by Tom, had forever altered his perception of these film star heroes such as Jason Statham as being daredevils, as the reality was probably anything but!



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