

JANUARY 2026



1903
THE BRITISH CLUB
BANGKOK

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK

OUTPOST

www.britishclubbangkok.org



Happy New Year

Message from the British Ambassador

Dear Members of the British Club Bangkok,

As we welcome 2026, I would like to extend my warmest wishes to you and your families for a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year.

This past year has been a remarkable one for UK–Thailand relations. We celebrated 170 years of diplomatic ties, a milestone that reflects the depth and resilience of our partnership. Throughout 2025, the Embassy worked to strengthen these bonds through cultural, educational, and business initiatives, from nationwide roadshows and British Fairs to a Royal Marine Concert and Football Tournament. These events showcased the enduring friendship between our two nations and the many opportunities that lie ahead.

Looking forward, our priorities remain clear: expanding trade and investment, promoting education and people-to-people links, and collaborating on global challenges such as climate change, science and technology, and security. Thailand's vibrant economy and dynamic society make it an essential partner for the UK, and we are committed to building on this foundation in the year ahead.

For the British community here, the Embassy will continue to provide strong consular support and foster connections that make living in Thailand rewarding and secure. The British Club plays a vital role in this effort by offering a home away from home and a hub for friendship and culture. I am grateful for your contributions to the community and look forward to working together in 2026.

May the coming year bring you joy, success, and new opportunities. Happy New Year!

**Mark Gooding OBE |
HM Ambassador to Thailand |
British Embassy Bangkok**





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Contents

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BritishClub1903



Front Cover

2026 marks another exciting chapter for our Club. From family activities to social gatherings and sporting events, the year ahead promises great moments and connections, a continued focus on bringing our members together

This Month

This month begins with our Polar Swim, pushing the ice log into the pool, followed by a Madagascar Pool Party for Thai Children's Day. We also host our first intimate Wine Night of 2026 and a relaxed Wine on the Lawn

REPORTINGS

- 05 Chairman's Message
- 09 Operations Unknown
- 13 BC Bee Kid's Club!
- 34 Active Living

HAPPENINGS

- 14 Upcoming Events
- 30 Calendar
- 32 Reciprocal Clubs Review

SPORTS

- 36 Tennis
- 39 Golf
- 42 Hard Balls

progeny

OUTPOST is the monthly magazine of THE BRITISH CLUB BANGKOK, the social sports and cultural centre for the English-speaking community in Bangkok. A full version of the magazine is also available online at www.britishclubbangkok.org. Designed & Published by the British Club Bangkok. Opinions expressed do not necessarily represent those of the Club. All events, dates and times are correct at the time of press. Outpost welcomes contributions from Members, email outpost@britishclubbangkok.org. No part of this publication may be reproduced without the permission of the Publisher.

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

"Come and swim and really be Cool"

POLAR SWIM 2026

1st January 2026 | 2:00pm onwards



Huge blocks of ice will be floating in the pool like Arctic icebergs, turning the water icy and refreshing for all thrill-seekers brave enough to dive in and swim among them.

Warm up afterwards with mince pies, desserts with mulled wine, and all your favorite food & drinks.

FREE !!! shaved ice just for our brave swimmers!



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Chairman's Message



Simon P. Davies



To all Members and families, I hope you had an enjoyable time over the Christmas period and, having welcomed in the New Year, are now looking forward to a happy and peaceful 2026.

December was a vibrant month, with our management and staff teams working tirelessly to cater for numerous events, including International school celebrations and reunions, carol singing, a wedding reception for 200 guests, the tennis section annual Christmas Party, and the fantastic Christmas lunch that filled our back lawn and Clubhouse outlets.

I am delighted to report that, despite the challenges, we have seen a significant upturn in staff services along with improvements in our food offerings. Extremely happy that, for the fourth consecutive year, our main menu prices have been maintained without any increases, which is a testament to the commitment given to ensuring great value and service. However, we cannot stand still, and Khun Tammy, F&B manager, is working on new menus which will be rolled out gradually over the coming months.

We entered the new financial year in December, with a record number of 1625 members and an extremely healthy net cash balance, which positions us well for planned annual maintenance requirements and any

new facilities that may be approved for construction during the year.

Padel and Badminton court update

Please mark your diaries for the next Town Hall Meeting on January 17th, 2026, during which revised plans for facilities will be presented. I encourage ALL members to attend, share your thoughts, and participate in the discussion as the proposed project is being put forward for consideration as a facility not just for current members but also for future generations.

Annual General Meeting

The British Club Annual General Meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. on 17th March 2026, and all ordinary members are encouraged to stand for election to the General Committee. The Club has seen excellent progress with a harmonious backdrop amongst staff and members in recent years, and long may that continue.

Wishing everyone a happy, healthy, and successful New Year

**Cheers
Simon**

MEMBERSHIP PARTNERS

GET MORE INFORMATIONS SCAN HERE:



Exclusive 20% discount for Pro Shop merchandise.
Exclusive 15% discount for the Worry-Free Golf Package (From normal price)



Special privileges:

- 20% discount on inpatient rooms
- 10% discount on medicines, labs & x-ray
- 10% discount on dental care



ASCOTT AND SOMERSET GROUP :
Exclusive rates for accommodations of their properties in Bangkok and Pattaya



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

MADAGASCAR POOL PARTY

Saturday 10th Jan | 1 - 4 pm | Poolside
Celebrating Thai Children's Day



Enjoy a family pool party featuring giant inflatables, gladiator battles, a buffet, children's games, and a special guest from Madagascar!!

MEMBERS : Adults 500฿, Kids 350฿
GUESTS : Adults 600฿, Kids 450฿
Advance bookings required.



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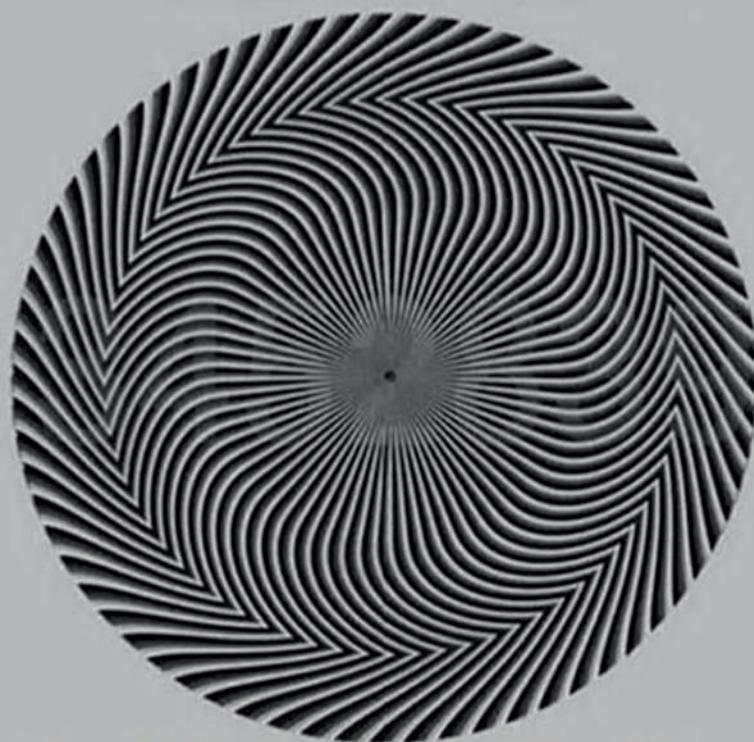
Quiz Night

13th January 2026 | 7:15pm @Churchill Bar

TEAMS OF 6 OR LESS

Members 150 Baht | Guests 200 Baht

What Number Do You See?



Viral Optical Illusion Test



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Operations Unknown

Welcome Our New Operations Team Members

We are pleased to share some updates within our Operations team and to welcome new and returning colleagues to the Club.



Metawee (Natt)



Khun Panupat (Khun Nu), pictured on the right, has joined us as Senior Function Executive and will support the planning, coordination, and delivery of our functions and events.

We also welcome Thanchaya (Khun Tammy), pictured on the left, as our new Food & Beverage Manager. She will support the team in maintaining and improving our food and beverage standards for our members.

We would also like to recognise Khun Note, our Events Coordinator, who has been assisting the team for the past year. Khun Note has played an important role in our Summer Camp and children's activities, acting as the main coordinator and supporting Club events.

In addition, Khun Aof has been with us since the Summer Camp period and has provided strong operational support. He assisted with event operations and covered duty roles during the Summer Camp and is now supporting the Operations team, focusing on House and Grounds to help ensure smooth daily operations.

You may already have seen Khun Nu, Khun Tammy, Khun Note, and Khun Aof around the Club as they work closely with our members and teams. Together, they continue to support improvements across our operations, events, and member experiences.

Please join us in welcoming and supporting our Operations team.

Returning to the UK?

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



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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An Intimate Wine Night

Exploring French

Friday 23rd Jan | 7 - 9 pm
Veranda Wine Corner
Meet the Sommelier
Taste, learn, and experience
6 wines paired with 5 Dishes

LIMITED TO 13 SEATS ONLY



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BC Bee Kid's Club!



Metawee (Natt)

The start of 2026 has been full of colour, creativity, and excitement for our BC Bees! Our young members have been busy buzzing from one fun activity to another, exploring art, nature, and simple science through hands-on play.



The Bees loved getting their hands dirty with mini planting projects, growing their own little green friends in adorable recycled containers. This activity was a great way to learn about nature, care, and watching something grow day by day.



Art time was full of bright colours and big imagination! From coral-inspired creations and colourful mosaics to playful balloon dog artworks inspired by Jeff Koons, the Bees enjoyed experimenting with shapes, textures, and creativity.



To add a little science magic, the Bees also tried optical illusion activities like making Benham Disks. Watching colours appear from black and white designs was both surprising and exciting, sparking lots of curiosity and laughter.

Coming Events

January 2026

(more details on the website)

- Polar Swim
- Madagascar Pool Party Thai Kids Day
- Quiz Night
- Table Tennis Tournament & Winston Cup
- An Intimate Wine Night
- Wine On the Lawn

February 2026

(more details on the website)

- The Great Fun Sunday
- Quiz Night
- Valentine's Day
- Rugby 10s
- Chinese New Year Brunch
- Networking Night
- Table Tennis Tournament & Winston Cup
- Pancake Day Races
- Wine on The Lawn

March 2026

(more details on the website)

- Quiz Night
- Table Tennis Tournament & Winston Cup

Event & Activities 2026 January Highlights



Polar Swim

Our annual Polar Swim was a fun and refreshing way to welcome the New Year. Members came together to enjoy this well-loved Club tradition, sharing laughter, encouragement, and great Club spirit as they took the plunge.



Madagascar Pool Party

Our Madagascar Pool Party for Thai Children's Day was full of fun, laughter, and splashes all around. With themed games, pool activities, and plenty of water fun, the children had a fantastic time.



An Intimate Wine Night

Members gathered for a relaxed and intimate evening exploring French wines at our first Intimate Wine Night of 2026, enjoying a curated selection of wines, good company, and perfectly paired dishes.

TABLE TENNIS

Tournament

Handicap System

Saturday, 24th January | 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



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Table Tennis Tournament

22/11/25

Our Table Tennis Tournament brought together members of all ages, from children to adults, for an enjoyable day of play. The matches were fun and friendly, played in great Club spirit. Congratulations to Khun Pornsit and our runners-up.





Winston Cup 22/11/25

The Winston Cup Pool Tournament saw a great turnout, with many players joined by members of the Cricket Team. After a series of enjoyable and competitive games, JP Sauce defeated Peter Pan to take the title. Congratulations to both finalists and all who took part.



The Winston Cup BCB Monthly Pool Competition

Saturday 24th January - Starts 6:00pm

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

All levels welcome

[REGISTER NOW](#)



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Thanksgiving Lunch & Dinner Buffet

27/11/25

Our Thanksgiving Lunch & Dinner Buffet brought members together in a warm Club atmosphere to enjoy a delicious spread, with traditional roast turkey as the highlight. It was a wonderful occasion for members to gather with family and friends and celebrate the spirit of Thanksgiving

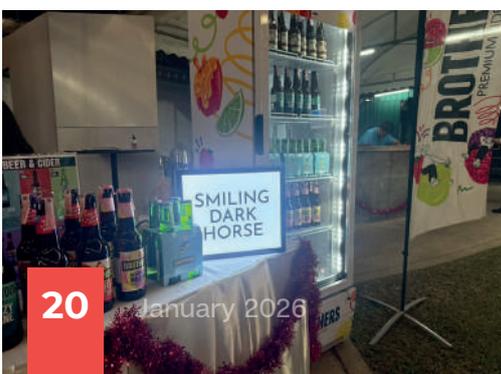




Annual Wine on The Lawn

29/11/2025

Our Annual Wine Tasting brought members together for a relaxed evening on the lawn, enjoying a great selection of wines from six suppliers. It was a special night of tasting and socialising. Special thanks to Mercure for the raffle prize.



WINE on The Lawn

Saturday, January 31st
6:00 pm | Front Lawn

MEMBERS 400฿ | GUESTS 500฿

4 wine suppliers
includes two featured glasses
of wine, Tapas Buffet

Live Music from
Little Moon - Napak



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BANGKOK PREP

Bangkok International Preparatory & Secondary School

Est. 2003



PREPARing For Life

Open Day

Pre-Nursery to Sixth Form

Saturday 28 February 2026 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM



Embark on
your journey with us





Christmas Carols

03/12/2025

Our Christmas Carols evening brought the Club to life with lovely performances by students from KIS, Shrewsbury, and Bromsgrove. A special visit from Santa added extra joy and festive cheer for members and families.





Kids Christmas Party

07/12/2025

Our Kids' Christmas Party was a fun-filled celebration with games, activities, and plenty of Christmas cheer. The highlight for many was a special visit from Santa, bringing smiles to all the children.



HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR 2026



Tuesday 17th February | Veranda 11:00-4:00pm
Chinese Dim Sum Buffet | 750฿ adults 350฿ kids

Dragon & Lion Show
3:00 PM on the Front Lawn

**FREE TO WATCH
MEMBERS & GUESTS**



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LEARN FROM OUR EARTH

Our Outdoor Classroom became a living laboratory for Year 5 students as they observed, questioned and dug deeper into understanding life cycles. Students discovered that the best lessons come from nature.



Read more about
our Outdoor Classroom

Dig deeper into a
**A WORLD OF
OPPORTUNITY**

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The British International School in Thailand
Established 1957

Bangkok Patana is a not-for-profit IB World School, accredited by CIS



Quiz Night 09/12/2025

Members gathered for a relaxed Quiz Night filled with fun and friendly competition. Congratulations to Scumbag College on their win, and well done to all teams.





Long Service Awards Celebration

We are proud to recognise and celebrate the dedication of our long-serving staff through this year's Long Service Awards. This year, seven valued team members were honoured for their continued commitment and service, each having worked at the Club for over five years.

Their loyalty, professionalism, and contribution have played an important role in shaping the Club's warm and welcoming environment. We sincerely thank them for their hard work and the pride they take in being part of our community.

A special highlight of this year's awards is Khun Somchai, our Sous Chef, who achieved an exceptional milestone by marking 30 years of service at the Club. This remarkable record reflects his passion, consistency, and invaluable contribution to our culinary team over three decades.

Congratulations to all our award recipients, and thank you for being an essential part of the Club's journey.

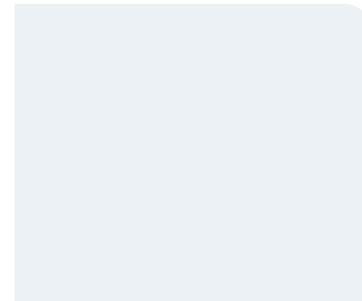
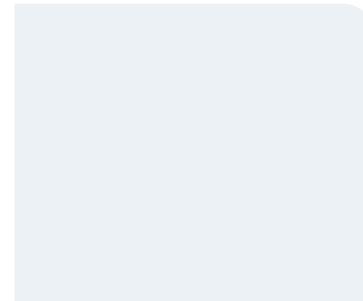
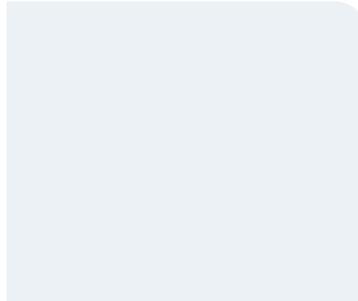
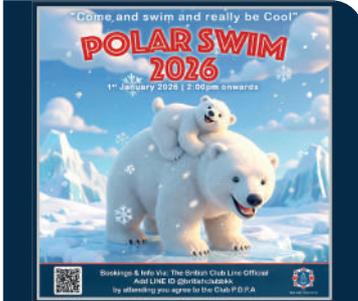




MON

TUE

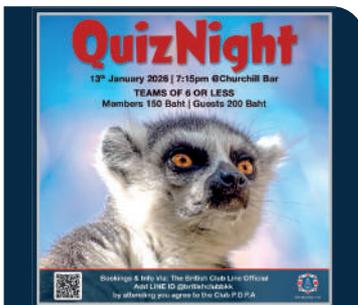
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5 Squash Mix-in
5.30pm - 7.45pm

6 Football
6.30pm - 8.30pm

7 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



12 Squash Mix-in
5.30pm - 7.45pm

13 Football
6.30pm - 8.30pm
Quiz Night
7.15pm - 9.30pm

14 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



19 Squash Mix-in
5.30pm - 7.45pm

20 Football
6.30pm - 8.30pm

21 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



26 Squash Mix-in
5.30pm - 7.45pm

27 Football
6.30pm - 8.30pm

28 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

JANUARY 2026

THU

FRI

SAT

SUN

1 **Polar Swim**
2.00pm onwards
Yoga
6.00pm - 7.00pm
Cricket team practice
6.30pm - 8.00pm

2 **Tennis mixed-in**
8.00am - 11.00am
Pilates & Barre
8.30 am - 9.30 am
Tennis mixed-in
6.00pm - 10.00pm

3 **Squash Kids Academy**
10.00am - 12.15pm
Squash Mixed-in
1.00pm - 4.45pm
Cricket Team Practice
2.30pm - 6.00pm

4 **Tennis Men Doubles Team practice**
10.00am - 1.00pm
Sunday Brunch
11.00am - 4.00pm
Tennis Mix-in
4.00pm - 7.00pm

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

9 **Tennis mixed-in**
8.00am - 11.00am
Pilates & Barre
8.30 am - 9.30 am
Junior tennis coaching
4.00 pm - 5.00 pm
Friday Junior cricket
5.30pm - 7.00pm
Tennis mixed-in
6.00pm - 10.00pm

10 **Squash Kids Academy**
10.00am - 12.15pm
Madagascar Pool Party
1.00pm - 4.00pm
Squash Mixed-in
1.00pm - 4.45pm
Cricket Team Practice
2.30pm - 6.00pm

11 **Tennis Men Doubles Team practice**
10.00am - 1.00pm
Sunday Brunch
11.00am - 4.00pm
Tennis Mix-in
4.00pm - 7.00pm

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

16 **Tennis mixed-in**
8.00am - 11.00am
Pilates & Barre
8.30 am - 9.30 am
Junior tennis coaching
4.00 pm - 5.00 pm
Friday Junior cricket
5.30pm - 7.00pm
Tennis mixed-in
6.00pm - 10.00pm

17 **Squash Kids Academy**
10.00am - 12.15pm
Squash Mixed-in
1.00pm - 4.45pm
Cricket Team Practice
2.30pm - 6.00pm

18 **Tennis Men Doubles Team practice**
10.00am - 1.00pm
Sunday Brunch
11.00am - 4.00pm
Tennis Mix-in
4.00pm - 7.00pm

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

23 **Tennis mixed-in**
8.00am - 11.00am
Pilates & Barre
8.30 am - 9.30 am
Junior tennis coaching
4.00 pm - 5.00 pm
Friday Junior cricket
5.30pm - 7.00pm
Tennis mixed-in
6.00pm - 10.00pm
An Intimate Wine Night
7.00pm - 9.00pm

24 **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

25 **Tennis Men Doubles Team practice**
10.00am - 1.00pm
Sunday Brunch
11.00am - 4.00pm
Tennis Mix-in
4.00pm - 7.00pm

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

30 **Tennis mixed-in**
8.00am - 11.00am
Pilates & Barre
8.30 am - 9.30 am
Junior tennis coaching
4.00 pm - 5.00 pm
Friday Junior cricket
5.30pm - 7.00pm
Tennis mixed-in
6.00pm - 10.00pm

31 **Squash Kids Academy**
10.00am - 12.15pm
Squash Mixed-in
1.00pm - 4.45pm
Cricket Team Practice
2.30pm - 6.00pm
Wine on the Lawn
6.00pm - 9.00pm



Royal Automobile Club, Woodcote Park, Surrey, England

Reviewed by Paul Doust after a visit in September 2025 by Prasit Jangkamol (a.k.a. Jack)

The [Royal Automobile Club](#) in the UK was founded in 1896, and these days has 2 branches. The [RAC's London branch](#) is in Pall Mall and was reviewed in [Outpost December 2024](#). This article is a review of the [country branch](#) which is located in Woodcote Park, near Epsom in Surrey. Woodcote Park itself has a long history, and was first documented in the 1086 Domesday Book. Since then it has had many owners, but eventually in 1912 the whole estate was sold to the Royal Automobile Club, and was opened to members in 1913. Unfortunately the clubhouse was gutted by fire in 1934, so little remains of the mansion's original interior. The same company that designed the Pall Mall clubhouse were commissioned for the rebuild, which opened in 1936. Externally the clubhouse still resembles an old mansion.

The Woodcote Park estate consists of 350 acres of Surrey countryside. Occupying a lot of that space are two 18-hole courses. The main clubhouse area has a restaurant called Stirling's, which the club's website describes as a "destination restaurant", and which is open from Thursday to Sunday although closed after lunch on Sundays. However, the fountain brasserie is open 7 days a week, and on Sundays the Cedar Room provides another dining option in the form of a buffet lunch. The bar in the clubhouse is called the Hurricane Bar, but there are also two other bars. The golf clubhouse has a bar called the 19th Hole which operates as a sports bar, and there's also an outside bar called the Spike bar which is open until dusk.



There are other facilities away from the main clubhouse area too. There are squash and tennis courts, a gym, and an indoor swimming pool. There's a separate area called the Walled Garden which provides various facilities for families with young children, including an indoor children's swimming pool and a junior lounge. Additionally, the club has 22 bedrooms for overnight stays. The club's dress code is generally quite relaxed, especially compared to some of the London clubs, but there are a few rules which are best read on the [club's website](#).

One of Jack's Thai friends lives in London with her British husband and young children. The RAC Pall Mall has long been their favourite London club, so with both of them being interested to check out the other branch, one Sunday Jack went round to the family house in West London and all of them drove down to Woodcote Park together. It took about an hour and a quarter to

get there. Unfortunately it was raining on that day, so it wasn't convenient to have a look at the facilities outside the main clubhouse. They had booked a table in the fountain brasserie, but once they'd had a look around the clubhouse, they decided to have lunch in Stirling's instead. Luckily there was a table available, the children were well catered for, and they had a good meal. There was a private engagement party taking place that afternoon and with all the guests in attendance, the clubhouse was quite crowded that afternoon. In spite of the relaxed dress code, most people in the club were very smartly and fashionably dressed.

Since the Royal Automobile Club is one club with two branches, letters of introduction for one branch are also valid in the other branch. The club's London branch in Pall Mall maintains a high standard, so with an good countryside branch too, the Royal Automobile Club a great club to have on our reciprocal club list.

If any members want to write a reciprocal club review, please send an email to paul@pauldoust.com



AVAILABLE NOW!
 Some reciprocal clubs around the world require men to wear ties. At the Brit Shop & Reception, we have ties for £400 and cufflinks for £1,100 available for purchase.





BRITISH CLUB
ACTIVE LIVING SECTION

Active Living Section



Terry Adams

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 events each month, with events already at various stages of progression and finalisation into April 2026.



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:

Active Living Section

Move It or Lose It

This class will cover balance, fall prevention, and keeping up with daily life. All levels of movement background are welcome. Come prepared to move, wear comfortable clothing, bring water. Bring yoga mat if able. Shoes not required. Let's have fun moving together!

EVERY MONDAY

When: Mondays 11.00hrs – 12.00hrs
Where: Poolside Games Room
Charge: BC Members B150, Guests B300, cash only

More information: email ishyas@gmail.com

ACTIVE LIVING SECTION

DAY TRIP TO SARABURI

- Manaskarn Museum of Buddhist Wisdom
- Lunch
- Wat Phra Phutthabat Ratchaworamahawihan

Date: Thursday, 15th January 2026
Depart: 8.00 am (Breakfast/Coffee in Sale from 7.00 am)
Charge: Section Members Bht 1,450 Club Members Bht 1,550, Guests Bht 1,650, includes lunch, excludes Retreat entry charge
Bht 120 for under 60, Bht 60 for over 60 years, any nationality

To register please email Terry Adams at: terry.adamsbkk@gmail.com

ACTIVE LIVING SECTION

FROM MIDAS TO MODERN MONEY

The Glittering Journey of Gold

Speaker: Barbara Meynert

Date: Thursday, 29th January 2026
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 Terry Adams at: terry.adamsbkk@gmail.com

A NEW INITIATIVE:

Every Monday: "MOVE IT OR LOSE IT": Over 60's Exercise Class

The Section has joined with the Golden Years Group and the British Women's Group to arrange and support a **weekly Over 60's Exercise Class**, held every Monday from **11.00 to 12.00hrs** in the Club's **Games Room (poolside)**. Classes will begin on **Monday, 12th January**. All Club Members are welcome to attend.

The sessions will be led by **Ishya Silpakul**, the new Leader of the Golden Years Group, who has been running these popular and highly effective classes for some time at a Sukhumvit base. Two of our section committee members attend these classes regularly and advise that they are very effective as well as great fun! To learn more and advise that you will be attending contact Ishya to progress at ishyas@gmail.com.

ABOUT OUR NEXT EVENTS:

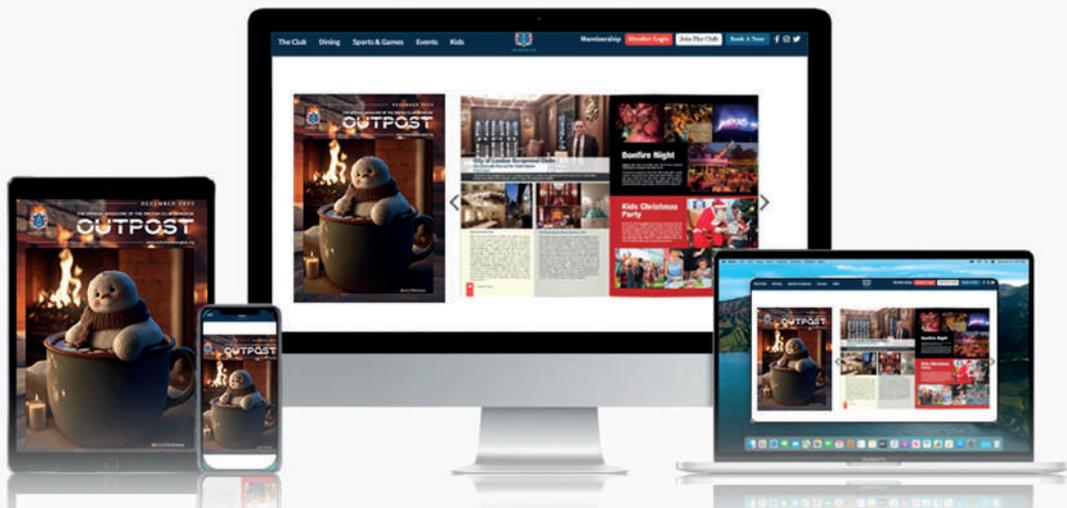
Thursday, 15th January – “Day Trip to Saraburi”

- Breakfast or tea/coffee in the Sala from 07.00hrs
- Depart the Club at 08.00hrs in our 24 seat minibus
- Visit award winning Manasikarn Hall, including the highly recommended ‘Museum of the Path and Teachings of Buddha’, the Spiritual Life Exhibition, and enjoy a short introduction to ‘meditation’ by the resident meditation guru, then a walk around the (hopefully by then) in bloom flower fields <https://manasikarn.com/en/home/>
- Enjoy our usual signature tasty Lunch
- Visit the beautiful Wat Phra Phutthabat Ratchaworamahawihan, constructed in 1624, one of only 6 first-class royal temples in Thailand <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064755429490#>

Thursday, 29th January – “From Midas to Modern Money: The Glittering Journey of Gold”

Join Barbara Meynert, an engaging story teller and former investment banker, now university professor and global strategist, for “From Midas to Modern Money: The Glittering Journey of Gold”. With her signature blend of insight and charm, Barbara traces gold’s extraordinary story – from ancient legend to modern financial system – revealing why this timeless metal still shapes the fortunes of nations and investors alike.

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Sunil Mehra

TENNIS

Wishing ALL a Glorious New Year – less trumpeting, more Happiness and Joy

2025 is behind us and many in the world will be celebrating – with thanks it's over. Especially all who had been waiting for peace to reign in our world. Thus, I hope everyone will join me in wishing all who have suffered much; and each other, peace and the best of health and happiness for the New Year. A New Year brings changes, although 2026 is expected to bring unprecedented upheaval. Therefore, we hope

collectively that years will come and go, and the British Club Tennis Section will continue to be the citadel of caring humanity, and its flows through time and space retaining the spirit of Saint Miguel foreverlasting youth and banter. If only the nations of the world worked as fluidly in the UN as in the British Club, we would have less war and strife and more love and friendship, and for sure more happiness and better health. Have a look for yourself below.

The Year that was – 2025



Closing on a High Note



Tennis Section Xmas Party It's the season to be jolly..falala

2025 came towards a close on a Party attended by over 60 members, everyone for making it a fun fun fun of all ages inspired by the wonderful music thanks to William, our inhouse beat master and Sathon party king. Also, for once I can truly say that the food was excellent so big thanks to the chef and the tennis section catering director.

Great times together to keep forever in our memories

high note with a Tennis Section Xmas friends and supporters. Thank you evening with plenty of superb dancers

Yes, there was war and strife and despite it all here on earth there were somethings to cheer about such as a new space mission that has been sent to Mars to solve the problems there – that could be the greatest leap forward in human evolution and export. Closer to home, recently Thailand hosted Miss Universe contest and due to some close encounters, our Sook’s knees have not recovered after hugging five of the Miss Universe contestants. Also, the year ended with SEA Games hosted by Thailand. As of now we should be proud to report that Thailand made it to semifinals for both Men’s and Women’s Team event. Despite a good fight, Thailand lost to Indonesia in both finals; but happy to report Thailand earned two Silver medals.

Finally, another Final. This is my final contribution to Outpost and time to say goodbye to all of you and to something I have dearly loved – writing for all of you – to occasionally add a smile, a bit of belief, an ounce of knowledge and a pound of fun. Thank you for your listening eyes.

Moving on... it just so happens that with me going back home to Japan, I met Stanley in the old city of Kyoto to convince him of the joys of writing for all of you. He does have unique qualifications as he is the only person I know at the British Club who completed his tennis pilgrimage by covering three grand slams in 2025! Thus, Stanley, with guidance from Chris and help from Arin, will take you on new journeys in the Outpost. As a way of introduction, *over to you Stanley for the Year Ahead...*

Thank you ALL for kindness and attention. May the joys of tennis continue to enrich your lives... Sunil



The Year Ahead - 2026

by Stanley

Like many of us, I have always enjoyed BCTS updates on Outpost so we would be remiss if we do not thank Sunil for his contributions to Outpost over the past years. Together with Chris and Arin, we hope to continue to be your eyes and ears for all the goings on of tennis at the British Club and beyond.

Happy New Year! 2026 is shaping up to be another great year for the Tennis Section. We are commencing the 2026 British Club Bangkok Tennis Championships in January. The championship finals are scheduled for 21 March and many thanks to the sponsors to making the event a success. To the players: play hard, play fair, and may the 50:50 net balls break in your favour.



Championships Rules

If you are participating, please familiarize yourself with your responsibilities and rules for the Championships. For example, much unlike modern dating, the rules are quite specific about which player must make the first contact!! They are also quite specific about the player responsible for providing the balls... and booking the courts. So please READ the RULES, which can be found by scanning this QR Code.



January will also witness the first Grand Slam of the 2026 ATP and WTA tour. Australian Open commences on 18 January in Melbourne, and the ladies and men's single finals are scheduled for 31st Jan and 1st Feb, respectively.

If you are planning to head to the AO, please consider taking advantage of the reciprocal club facilities that are available to British Club members. The grass courts at Kooyong are particularly nice.

For those of us who are planning to watch the matches from Bangkok, AO is the most time-zone friendly Grand Slam given that final matches typically start at 7.30pm Melbourne time, which is 2:30 pm in Bangkok after considering daylight savings time. BCTS will host a fun doubles tennis tournament on the last day of AO (Sunday 1st Feb) to be followed by spirited spectating of singles finals from the Sala.

Looking further ahead in the calendar, BCTS is planning a visit to Vientiane to play our friendly competition at Anuthai sporting Club

towards the end February. If you are interested in joining, please email bcts.bangkok@gmail.com to register your interest.

Thank you for your attention and wishing you a Happy and Healthy Tennis All Year.



2026 Tennis Calendar

Jan 02	Registration Close BCTS Championships	Jun 29	Wimbledon
Jan 03	Draw BCTS Championships	Jul 12	Womble Cup
Jan 05	Championships Start	Aug 31	US Open
Jan 18	Australian Open	Sep 13	The Great Wide Open
Feb 01	Aussie Tournament, fun doubles event	Sep 23	BCTS Annual General Meeting
Mar 21	Championships Finals Day	Nov 7	WTA Finals
May 24	French Open	Nov 15	ATP Finals
Jun 07	Bruce Gordon Cup	Nov 18	Davis Cup Finals

BRITISH CLUB GOLF



Peter Gale

The last month of our golfing calendar has seen some exciting golf as we played our biggest event of the golfing season, the annual Club Championship, as well as our most competitively fought society match the Magpie Putter against The Bangkok Wanderers.



▲ The Victorious Magpie Putter team

The Magpie Putter

The 15th November saw a hardy team of 14 British Club Golfers head off to Vintage Golf Course tasked with regaining the esteemed Magpie Putter from our archrivals the Bangkok Wanderers. Actually, there were 15 BC members but as the Wanderers could only muster 13, we had agreed to donate John Virtue to play for them – though he had strict instructions from Captain Neil to do his best to avoid winning his match (which he duly accomplished).

The format was two ball scramble matchplay – a team format where two players hit their tee shots, choose the best one, and then both play their next shots from that spot, repeating until the ball is holed. Within the match, the team with the lowest Net Score wins the hole. Each player must play at least 6 of the teams' drives. The format is great fun and always seems to end up with closely fought matches.

One of the reasons the match is so fiercely contested is that a high proportion of our members play in Wanderers competitions as well as BC events. This means everyone knows their opposition very well, making gaining annual bragging rights even more important.



▲ Neil with the Magpie Putter



▲ *Ready to Go on Day 1*

Fortunately for us this year, Captain Neil chose his team pairings well and we were able to triumph by a score of 15.5 pts to 12.5pts (there were 4 pts available in each match – 1 for winning the front 9, 1 for the back and 2 for winning the overall match).

The Annual Club Championships

This year we had 20 golfers contesting our annual Club Championships along with 4 guest players. The competition was held in Hua Hin, this time at the particularly challenging Palm Springs Course. While the layout is not easy, the challenge of this course is once you get to the greens, which tend to be extremely fast and have unforgiving slopes leading to a multitude of 3 or even 4 putts.

The tricky conditions led to some high scoring on Day 1 with Peter Clarks 85 being the best gross score. For the club championships, the main prize is based on a player's gross score rather than the net score (gross – handicap). This is the only competition where we use gross as this accurately reflects who is the best golfer in the club, not who can play better than their handicap. For all others we use the handicap as it means everyone is in with a shout of winning the competition. We also have a net club champion and after Day 1, Paul Wyatt was leading with a net 78, reflecting just how good a test of golf the course was on the first day. The lead golfer was Yurachat also with a net 78 score.

And it did not get much easier on Day 2...in fact most players' scores were significantly worse, while this may have reflected conditions, I believe the amount of alcohol consumed during the dinner on Saturday night might also have contributed to this.



▲ *Mens Champion Peter*



▲ *Ladies Champion Yurachat*



▲ *Net Champion Paul*



▲ *All the Club Championship Winners*

Across all 3 competitions the leading players managed to maintain their positions with Peter Clark just holding off a charging Gordon Milne, who scored an impressive 86 – 12 shorts better than on Day 1. Peter finished with a total score of 178 over the 2 days to be crowned as the 2025 British Club Men’s Golf Champion while Yurachatr Brook was our 2025 Ladies Champion.

Paul also held off the competition from Brian Brook and Bally Gudall with Net 82 on Day 2 to win by 5 shots.

Congratulations to all our well-deserved 2025 Champions!



▲ *Monthly Medal Winner Bally*

December Medal

Our final event of the year, the December monthly medal, saw a select group of golfers playing at Subhapruek Golf Course. Winner on the day was Bally with a steady net 74 with Varghese coming in 2nd with net 79 and Gareth Knight finishing 3rd.

The end of another successful year of golf for the BC Golf Section. If you are interested in playing with us in 2026 please come along as we are always keen to welcome new members.



▲ *Net CLub Champs Runner Up Brian*



Michael Flowers

HARD BALLS

BC Pavilionaires Go Back-to-Back at the RBSC Polo Ground

After squeaking a tense 7-run win in the season opener against the Siam Parrots on November 10th, the rematch had everyone buzzing – revenge plots, heroic dreams, and a few pre-match nerves.

The Parrots won the toss again (the cricket gods clearly have a soft spot for feathers) and Captain Tony Slatter opted to bat under cool, partly cloudy skies at the stunning RBSC Polo Ground in the heart of bustling Bangkok.

Joge George and Dilip Mishra opened the bowling like miserly accountants, keeping things airtight. They snagged the early wickets of Ankur Relia (7 off 7) and Ed Myers (2 off 2), thanks to sharp infield catches from Adrian Sarg and James Moss.

A run-out sent John Segar packing, leaving Mike Strunk and Nauroze Arora to play damage control.

At the 10-over drinks break, the Parrots were wobbling at 39/3 – the Pavilionaires smelled blood, but two stubborn batsmen were digging in.

Following a fruitful post drinks spell for the Parrots, came the retirement twist: Strunk and Arora's (41* off 39) solid stand was cruelly ended by the rules, both trudging off in quick succession like they'd been evicted from a party. Panic mode ensued as the Parrots kept attacking, only to lose a flurry of wickets.

Skipper Rahul Gupte suddenly turned into a wrecking ball, grabbing three wickets in the death overs (including two bowled in consecutive balls – chef's kiss!). Tyrone Bond chipped in with a tidy pair.

One of the Bond wickets produced the comedy moment of the match, a Joge George razor-sharp low catch at point was followed by an impromptu pile-up celebration. James "Moose" Moss, blissfully unaware of

his moose-like proportions, crash-landed on debutant Michael Flowers, performing an unsolicited chiropractic adjustment on the Polo turf.

Retiree Strunk (45* off 45) returned to the crease following the fall of the 8th wicket and with Ronik Soni (11* off 9), dragged the Parrots to a respectable 133/8 after 20 overs, a successful 10 over finish for the Parrots after being tied down before drinks.

BC Pavilionaires Bowling

Rahul Gupte: 4-0-21-3

Tyrone Bond: 3-0-15-2

Joge George: 3-0-10-1

Chasing, James Moss (2 off 3) – fresh up from retiring last match – departed much earlier this time, trapped LBW by Slatter. The BC Pavilionaires 2/1 after just 3 balls.

Flowers joined captain Gupte in the middle and wasted no time, injecting flair with a couple of quick boundaries off Harsim Ranjit. He then slipped into the anchor role with Gupte turning full berserker—smashing the bowlers and running like he was racing for happy hour back at the British Club. Gupte eventually fell for a blistering 38 off 25 (just short of retirement), leaving the Pavilionaires on a comfortable (yet somehow nervy) score of 68/2 after 8.2 overs.



▲ BC set back by the early loss of Moose to the dismay of the Captain



▲ Rahul punished the Parrots when they veered slightly off line

Enter Tyrone Bond, the Pavilionaires' token Saffa and Bangkok Final Boss (BFB). Partnering Flowers for the first time on a grass cricket field, the pair rattled off a 50+ run partnership with Bond picking up right where Gupte left off.

With a six, Flowers was forced to retire in the 15th over (41* off 39), handing it over to Ed Khan (2* off 2) and Bond (38* off 28) to conclude the victory. Bond finished

it in typical BFB style, an imperious six to send BC home to the British Club garden with an 8-wicket (with 23 balls to spare) plucking of the Parrots to celebrate.

Siam Parrots Bowling

Tony Slatter: 4-0-18-1

Peter Hammond: 4-0-28-1 (Groundhog Day figures – same as last match!)

Mike Strunk: 4-0-32-0

Man of the Match

Rahul Gupte (c) – 38 off 25 and 3/21.

A big shoutout to Chairman Jack Dunford for the fantastic snaps and from the Cricket Section, Happy New Year to one and all – may your 2026 be full of excitement but hopefully no unsolicited back adjustments!



▲ *Ty showed no signs of rust in a chanceless knock*



▲ *A well spirited match with the Parrots gracious in defeat*



▲ *The newly sprouted Flower assumed the anchor role in the run chase*



▲ *Wins feel sweet with the BC crew*

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