



Samutprakarn International Ladies Club

Monthly Newsletter - SEPTEMBER 2002

The End of the Holidays

Well it doesn't seem nearly so long as I thought it might since I sat down and wrote my piece for the last edition. Contrary to expectations (and I might say some dire warnings) the long break in Bangkok has been fine. In fact it has been better than that. The drive to fill the days, for me and the boys, has led to some new friendships and some happy discoveries about things to do and places to eat in this big mad city. Quite a success for us all, if tiring. That said, I am envious of all those who travelled further a field this holiday, either to their homes (how I missed summer in my home in the Cotswolds in England) or to other shores. I think an atlas marked with all the destinations of SILC members this summer would make for a busy looking map. World tours, European tours, Asia and Australasia tours; we have, between us, covered the globe.

Inevitably, I think for some, the return can mean a mild case of Bangkok blues (I have certainly felt it when I have been away). The cure as we know - even when the very thought of getting up and getting going again is absolute anathema - is to get busy and get social. I would like to think that SILC can help with both of these. There is plenty to be getting on with. The Welfare team as ever are looking for new volunteers to support our work in the slum schools and other places, and the annual Bazaar at Patana School - the key to our welfare funding - will not get up and organise itself. Please let Jo Whatnall or me know if you can help with either of these. On the social front, the diary dates are all set for 'pot luck' suppers, lunches etc. Come along, bring your photos! Inspire the rest of us for next years big trip.

It was also interesting being here over the summer to see how many new expat families came into Samut Prakarn on international postings. I hope some new faces will be joining us at our September socials, if so, we should see a great mix of old and new friends, with stories and tales to tell of distant travels and travails. I look forward to it.

Welcome back to all of you.
Karen

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ALISON TYRRELL
SILC EDITOR

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GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. **Linda Meyer** Tel: 02 312-5591
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2. **Sara Cowley** Tel: 02 336-1171
E-mail: sarang@loxinfo.co.th
3. **Antonia Kaewchansilp** Tel: 01 922-9028

ORGANISATION OF THE CLUB

SILC creates an opportunity for women of all nationalities living in the Samut Prakarn area to meet socially and participate in a variety of activities without travelling into Bangkok. We invite members to join monthly meetings, tours and interest groups. Members pay an annual fee of 500 Baht to cover costs and receive a monthly newsletter and club directory.

NEWSLETTER

The newsletter is published once a month with articles and information on club activities. Contributions are welcome and can be sent directly to the newsletter editor.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

These are held once a month and are open to everyone. Please inform the hostess of the meeting if you wish to attend.

SILC POLICY ON CHILDREN

As the main purpose of SILC is to provide a network and support for its members, it is our policy that children do not attend functions and tours, except in the case of very young babies who are being breastfed and/or cannot be left with a carer. Members with babies, toddlers and children are invited to join regular play-groups advertised in the SILC newsletter and special family activities. Details and contact names and numbers can be found in the newsletter.

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

Quarter page 250 Baht

Half page 500 Baht

Full page 1000 Baht

Flyer insert 500 Baht

Personal advertisements for SILC members are free of charge.

Advertising requests must be received by the editor prior to the monthly newsletter deadline (date printed in each issue).

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

SILC GOLF SECTION

Come and experience the wonderful frustration of golf. We are playing every Thursday morning on alternating courses in Samutprakan. Newcomers are welcome.

For more information please contact Annette Gerlach on gerlach@loxinfo.co.th or on 02 336-0895 or 01 846-0702



Learn Thai

At Home or Office

Speaking or Reading and writing Thai
In Groups or One-to-One
Beginner to Advanced levels

Call

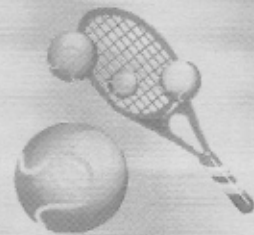
Jentana Ngamkiaw

Tel: 02 260-6138-9

01- 808-5180

Fax: 02 259-8580

Email: jentana@loxinfo.co.th



ANYONE FOR TENNIS?

Lakeside 1, Thursday
07.30-09.30 a.m.

Contact: Linda Cooke on
02 316-6276

A MOTHER & TODDLER **B** GROUPS

Mums with babies or young children
are invited to join these neighbourhood
playgroups

Monday mornings

LADAWAN

Contact Ngock Richt

Tel: 02 758-7484

Wednesday mornings

THANA CITY

Contact Sarah Spensley

Tel: 02 336-1083

Thursday mornings

LAKESIDE 1&2 and GARDEN

TOWERS

Contact Colleen Ritson

Tel: 02 751-9880



BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Members dwindled a little last year, but we still have a determined few who are interested in getting together. We would be delighted to expand our numbers, so if you are interested in reading and would like to meet up with others to discuss books, The Book Club is the place for you! We plan to meet on the third Friday of the month at Whatsit's at 10:00 *if* sufficient people are interested! First meeting is scheduled for 20th September, but please contact Julia Galliker D'Aliberti Tel: 02-385 7655, email: jjgalliker@aol.com to confirm. We will discuss our summer reading and will choose a book to read next month.

THE EXPERT OF ITALIAN FOODS IS HERE!



Garden
Towers 

THE EXPERT OF ITALIAN FOOD IS HERE!

Executive Chef Prasert Sae-Tan who has much long experienced in Italian food is now with us.



Club House Restaurant is very pleased to introduce Executive Chef Prasert Sae-Tan whose expertise in Italian cuisine. He started his career at Siam Inter-Continental Hotel and after that he worked with many 5-star hotels. Recently he was an Executive Chef at Italian restaurant "Libre Roberto" for 8 years.

Meet Executive Chef Prasert who'll present you with his special menus from August 20, 2002 onwards.



*We open Monday - Friday, 09.00 - 20.00 hours
Saturday from 09.00 - 15.00 hours*

*Tel. 02 312 0045 ext. 1878
2nd floor Bangna Towers B*

REGULAR ACTIVITIES



Mah-jong?



- Is it a game of cards?
- Do you have to be Chinese to play it?
- Do you have to have a set?
- Will I lose all my money?
- Is it anything like Bridge?
- Do you have to be a member of Mensa to play it?
- Is everyone an expert who plays it?
- Do I have to be a member of a team?
- Do I have to go every week?

The answer to all of the above is a resounding 'NO!'

- Is it fun?
- Will anyone be able to show me what to do?
- Will I have a good laugh and a natter with friends?
- Will I be able to play on the first day?
- Will I get to eat lots of tasty bites and drink coffee all morning?
- Will I get to nose in other people's homes?
- Can I just come occasionally?
- Do I have to have a sense of humour?
- Will I enjoy it?

The answer is 'YES' to all of the above!

Mah-jong takes place every Wednesday, in member's houses. We play from 9.30 to 12 noon and sometimes go for lunch afterwards, if we've eaten all the goodies on offer! It is a game of which the basics are easily learned. We are not a serious group, play for fun and are always looking for new members to join us, even if you don't want to come every week. If you e-mail or contact me, I'd be happy to let you know where the game is being held each week. Remember, Mah-jong is a universal game that you can always take from Bangkok to your next posting, so why not learn while you're in Bangkok and have some fun at the same time? Contact Audrey on 02 316 4091 or wattbkk@loxinfo.co.th

MOVIE CLUB

New Movie Theatre in Bangna!!

To welcome you all back, there's now an alternative to Seacon's Premier Class luxury cinema. Brand new old fashioned cinema is back with us – but it's complete with the 'Emperor Chair' – a luxury Lazy Boy recliner to watch the movie in comfort at Central Bangna branch of Major Cineplex.

Check it out soon (but be careful you don't fall asleep on it!) and if you'd like to watch a movie in true luxury with a small group of SILC members on a semi-regular basis, contact me!

Audrey 02 316 4091/01 829 5415 or

E-mail: wattbkk@loxinfo.co.th

SILC EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER



SEPTEMBER COFFEE MORNING
LOUISE TRUSLOW and her watercolours
Tuesday 3rd September
10.00 am
at Jeanette Dobbs



33/220, Soi 6/6 Mooban Ladawan, Srinakarin Road

Louise is a British artist who has lived in Bangkok for many years. Her beautiful watercolours reflect her views of Thailand and the many different experiences she has had here. She will be showing some of her work and talking about the things that have inspired it.

RSVP to Ros Jones on 02 751 9859 by Friday 30th August. All contributions of cakes, biscuits and savouries for the morning will be very welcome.

BUY A BOOK.....

Have you read all those mystery, love stories and glossy magazines over the holidays? Our very popular used book sale will be in place at the September coffee morning on Tuesday 3rd September. Please donate any books you have already read and re-stock your book case with a new assortment!! Just 20 baht each, or 3 for 50 baht. Proceeds from this sale will be donated to a SILC Welfare project. Bring your donations on the day or contact Ros on 02 751-9859 for collection.

Bring your friends

Guest and non-members are welcome at SILC functions, but we ask for a donation of 100 baht towards costs for coffee mornings and evening meetings.

PLEASE NOTE

It is essential that either the hostess or organiser of any of the Club events know how many people are expected to attend. Please try to get into the habit of letting us know if you plan to attend a SILC function, it really does make the hostess's job easier and if we have a visiting speaker we can, if necessary cancel, rather than have six or so people listening, when we have told the speaker there will be 20 plus! Just call the designated person. If they are out please leave a note in the letter box, fax them or E-mail them. Or simply sign the sign up sheets available at our coffee, lunch or evening meetings. **IT ONLY TAKES A MINUTE!**

SILC FUNCTIONS, REPLY POLICY

If you are planning on attending any of the SILC functions advertised in this newsletter, please make sure that you let someone know you are coming as it makes it so much easier for the hostess to plan. Please call one of the names listed below, any committee member or the hostess direct.

Representatives for replies

Lakeside Villa 1	Gill Sheffield	Tel: 02 316 8157
Lakeside Villa 2	Maria Thompson	Tel: 02 316 4141
Ladawan	Jeanette Dobbs	Tel: 02 385 7882
Garden Towers	Alison Tyrrell	Tel: 02 751 9942
"Others"	Kate Thomas	Tel: 02 336 0780

All e-mail addresses and fax numbers can be found inside the front cover of your newsletter, or in the telephone directory.

SILC EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER

THE SEPTEMBER WELFARE COMMITTEE MEETING

will be held on

Tuesday 3rd September, 9.00 am

at Jeanette Dobbs

33/220, Soi 6/6 Moobaan Ladawan, Srinakarin Road

All SILC members are welcome to attend. Come and find out more about our current projects. You never know there might be something that interests you and you could put your skills to good use. We are always in need of volunteers for all kinds of things. See our Welfare pages for some ideas. RSVP to Jo on 02 751 9958.

THE SEPTEMBER GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING

will be held on

Wednesday 4th September, 9.00 am

at Lesley Moores

S28B Garden Towers, Bangna Trad Road, Km 6.5

All SILC members are welcome to attend. Come and see how your club works. Remember we now need help with the November Bazaar, our biggest Welfare fundraiser. If you think you can spare a few hours each week join us on Wednesday and get involved.

RSVP to Karen on 02 316-5065 or Email: karen_helio@hotmail.com

SEPTEMBER LUNCH

Monday 16th September, 11.30 am

at a French Restaurant called **Les Nymphaes**

For the benefit of new members, many people believe that SILC really stands for "shopping in-between lunch and complaining" and has nothing to do with Samut Prakarn International Ladies Club. So here is a chance to come along and see how well we do it!

This restaurant comes highly recommended with a Set lunch for 399 baht, which includes a choice of 6 starters, 6 main courses and 5 desserts. (Just what you have been dying for after your trips home!!!)

Les Nymphaes is situated on the 4th floor of The Imperial Queens Park Hotel, Sukhumvit Soi 22.

Take the opportunity to meet up again with old and new SILC members and catch up on all the gossip. Please RSVP to Lesley before Friday 13th September. Tel: 02 751 9909 or Email: moores@loxinfo.co.uk



Don't forget to let others know about SILC. Over the next few months we will all see new faces at school, in our neighbourhoods and at work. Often all that newcomers need are a few introductions to make them feel like part of the community. We encourage you to bring along your new acquaintances to any SILC meeting or activity to be introduced to the group. Membership in SILC provides the opportunity to create a wide circle of friends which will make life in Thailand more enjoyable. Keep in mind that SILC accepts new members throughout the year and prospective members are always welcome at our events. Our new wallet-sized cards have contact information and a brief description of SILC aims and activities. Pick up a few at any SILC function, and pass them on!

SILC EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER



Evening Meeting-Pot Luck Dinner
Tuesday 10th September
7:30 p.m.
at Laurie Burns
130 Lakeside Villa 2

Welcome back! Get into the swing of the Fall season with a casual "Ladies Only" dinner. No speaker this time, just a great chance to catch up with old friends, or make new ones over what is surely to be a delicious dinner (even if we all bring desserts!).

Bring your favourite dish (savoury or sweet) and a bottle of whatever tickles your fancy!

RSVP to Laurie Burns by September 6th at 02-316-4074 or 01-702-3928.



Transport Difficulties?

Hi everyone,
If you ever have problems arranging transport to attend a SILC event (especially newcomers), please do not hesitate to contact either myself, the host of the event or your local reply representative (listed in newsletter) and we will try and put you in contact with someone close to you who is attending the event and may be able to offer you a lift.
Colleen Ritson (Newcomers/Membership)

National Museum Tour Friday 27th September

Cost: 300 Baht
Depart: 8:30 am from Patana School
Return: 12:30 (approx)



Curious about the dazzling art and architecture we see around us everyday in Bangkok? Join us for a tour of the National Museum compound guided by two SILC members and National Museum Volunteer Guides, Monique Mommers and Julia Galliker d'Aliberti. Although the Museum has one of the best collections of South East Asian art in the world, it is far from user friendly. Along with a look at the Treasures of Thailand, our guides will give us a sense of Thailand's rich cultural heritage.

For members interested in learning more, the tour can serve as a preview for the National Museum Volunteers Guiding Workshop 2002 which will get underway in early October 2002. This six week course meets twice weekly at the National Museum. Lecture topics include temple mural paintings, the evolution of Hindu and Buddhist art in Thailand, and study of the museum collection.

Contact Linda at 02 336-0965 or Email: lindaful@loxinfo.co.th to sign up for the tour.
Deadline for payment: 20th September

SILC EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER



SILC GOLF SECTION

I hope everybody had a nice and "relaxing" holiday. The new SILC Golf season is starting and we will begin with a weekend at

Mission Hills Golf and Country Club, Kanchanaburi

14/15 September 2002

One-night stay incl. ABF, Green Fee 18 holes, Caddy Fee for THB 2.100 per person. Green Fee for Sunday THB 1.520. + Caddy THB 200.

Please let me know by Wednesday, 28th August 2002 if you want to participate and how many rooms you need.

Information about the Golf course: <http://www.golfmissionhills.com/miskan.html> If you are interested and would like further information please contact: Annette Gerlach. Tel: 02 336-0895 or Email at gerlach@loxinfo.co.th

SOMETHING TO MAKE YOU LAUGH

THE GOLFING NUN

A nun is sitting with her Mother Superior, chatting. "I used some horrible language this week and feel absolutely terrible about it." "When did you use this awful language?" asks the elder. "Well, I was golfing and hit an incredible drive that looked like it was going to go over 280 yards, but it struck a phone line that's hanging over the fairway and fell straight down to the ground after going only about 100 yards." "Is that when you swore?" "No, Mother," says the nun. "After that a squirrel ran out of the bushes and grabbed my ball in it's mouth and began to run away." "Is THAT when you swore?" asks the Mother Superior again. "Well, no," says the nun. "You see, as the squirrel was running, an eagle came down out of the sky, grabbed the squirrel in his talons and began to fly away!" "Is THAT when you swore?" asks the amazed elder nun. "No, not yet. As the eagle carried the squirrel away in it's claws, it flew near the green and the squirrel dropped my ball." "Did you swear THEN?" asked Mother Superior, becoming impatient. "No, because the ball fell on a big rock, bounced over the sand trap, rolled onto the green, and stopped about a foot from the pin." The two nuns were silent for a moment. Then Mother Superior sighed and asked, "You missed the putt, didn't you?"

REVIEWS

MINI MARKET EXTRAVAGANZA-Monday 1st July

Having to dredge the old memory banks to remember what happened in July before 6 weeks of home leave is pretty tricky, there is something to be said for contemporaneous reports!!!! However here goes.....

Our July coffee morning was a mini market at Garden Towers. Thai and Indian handicrafts, pearl jewellery, decoupage and pottery were all on display.

It was great to browse the stalls and buy some last minute gifts for family and friends back home whilst catching up with friends before the long summer break.

A huge thank you to the vendors, including our own SILC members Roseli Dudman and Sunita Kulisra who had worked so hard in preparing their beautiful handicrafts in time for the morning and to all those members who managed to make it at such a busy time of the year with so many homeward bound preparations to make.

ROS JONES

JULY LUNCH-NOVOTEL, Wednesday 17th July

July's SILC lunch was a little different to most SILC lunches, because it was so quiet!! Four families met at the Novotel. The buffet lunch offered a lot of choice but the venue was very busy and the atmosphere not the best, but the company made up for all that.

After a few Gin and Tonics life in Thailand seemed once again idyllic. We survived a lunch with kids and live to tell the tale.

Jo & Jo

LOOKING AHEAD



GET READY, GET SET, GO!
TO THE ANNUAL SILC CHARITY
BAZAAR
WEDNESDAY 16TH NOVEMBER
10.00 AM TO 2.00PM
AT
BANGKOK PATANA SCHOOL

This is our major welfare fund-raising project. It used to be held in member's homes, across driveways, all over the kitchen benches and halfway up the stairs. As it became bigger in 1999 it was held at the Novotel, Bangna. Then in 2000 we moved to even larger premises, the New High School Auditorium at Bangkok Patana School. It is now one of the main Bazaar's of the year. Last year we raised a huge 69,000 baht. So please invite all your friends and friends' friends.....

Face it ladies, summer is over and the December holiday bookings are already filling up. So start making your lists of all those birthday, special occasion and holiday gifts that you intend to buy. Start saving your money and mark this date in your diaries, as it is an event not to be missed. You will find all those gifts plus plenty of things for yourself and your home. Best of all, you'll be helping SILC's welfare projects as you shop. Vendors selling a selection of jewellery, silver, stationary, ceramics, toys, seasonal items, home decor, baskets, carpets, clothing, handicrafts, Thai artefacts and more will all be there.....Buy lots of raffle tickets and who knows maybe you will be one of our lucky prize winners!!!

Hats off to Isabelle Henderson and Laurie Burns who have kindly agreed to put in some early work and act as vendor contacts but we still need lots of volunteers. We need someone in charge of recruiting volunteers for the door and raffle table, someone to collect raffle prizes from the vendors on the day, a team of people to get tables and vendors organised, someone who can decorate the entrance and display the raffle prizes, someone in charge of publicity and many many more. So please call Jo on 02 751 9958 or Karen on 02 316 5065 and be part of the best SILC Bazaar yet.

LOOKING AHEAD - EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

PLOENCHIT FAIR AT ROYAL PLAZA SATURDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2002

The British Community in Thailand Foundation for the Needy (BCTFN) is happy to announce that Royal permission has been obtained to hold its annual fund raising event,

The Ploenchit Fair on Saturday 23 November from 10.00 a.m.-10.00 p.m.

Moving home from its traditional site in the British Embassy gardens last year, after over four decades and due to security considerations, the Fair enjoyed tremendous success in its new home and this year's preparations are well underway to expand the Fair - this now being possible in our new venue. Major sponsors are joining us this year; UBC will be with us and offering television coverage, as well as the usual press and radio advertising.

Ploenchit Fair is a family fun day out for all and has become a highlight in the Bangkok calendar. The British community and friends create a typical British Fairground with fun and games for all ages - there will be a Ferris Wheel, Rocket ship, Climbing Wall and Shooting Gallery amongst the attractions for older kids, Father Christmas, Typhoon Balloon, Jumping Castle and Children's Corner for the little ones - traditional Coconut Shy, Darts and Hoopla for all the family - along with fabulous Bingo and many games of chance with fantastic prizes to be won. There are oodles of shopping bargains, over 40 outlets from handicrafts to British High Street stores, second-hand books and a White Elephant stall and our International foods, traditional fish and chips, popcorn, candy floss and hot dogs will keep you going all day. Live entertainment begins at noon and takes us through until 10.00 p.m. - relax and enjoy yourselves at our British beer bars and Wine and Champagne stall whilst all the family visit the Fair - or just spend the day being entertained, getting your Christmas goodies and hopefully winning one of the hundreds of prizes on offer - or you can get yourself a free medical check - you'll need your health to survive the day!!

The British Chamber of Commerce will, as usual, kick-off the warm-up to the Fair with the distribution of our Grand Raffle tickets in October, which will include airline tickets to UK and elsewhere in Asia along with many major prizes.

Over 150 companies will be joining us; more than 2,000 volunteers will donate their time, in this combined effort to say thank-you to Thailand and support charities throughout the country. All revenues raised are distributed and carefully monitored by the BCTFN to over 40 projects annually, so be assured that every penny spent at *Ploenchit Fair* will go to the needy.

This year will see more detailed maps and parking arrangements and we will be offering a free bus service to Royal Plaza from the Phya Thai skytrain station. More information can be obtained from the BCTFN offices - telephone 02 204 1587 or email bctfn@loxinfo.co.th.

Any company wishing to join or assist in the donation of goods, services or promotional materials, please contact the President - Carolyn Tarrant, MBE - at the above.

WELFARE ACTIVITIES

WELFARE REVIEW - September 2002



Well here we are all back safe and sound, and raring to go. Well that is some of us are, I can't be back because I didn't go anywhere. I have been here keeping the SILC flag flying. Just a quick recap on what the Welfare Group is currently up to: -

1. CONCORDIA -pre school

Concordia is a well used pre-school bustling with activity. The last time I went to visit there was a power cut, it was really hot and no power meant we couldn't play our music tape so the children had to listen to my wonderful singing. Ouch that's not good. I am sure the children love the mad fa-rang women with no hair, singing random words to no tune.

2. SKIP - Slum school

This pre-school has a special atmosphere and the volunteers are always made very welcome. The teacher is very approachable and runs the school very efficiently. SILC has two very creative volunteers going to SKIP to work with the children.

3. SOI WAT DAN SAMPRONG.

Unfortunately I still haven't visited this school, but watch this space I will be reporting back soon. There is also an old peoples 'Hut' near to this school, which is desperate for any help at all. I will check this out too.

4. MERCY CENTER- Klong Toey

The Mercy Center is a big building in the middle of a slum area. The Center is mainly funded by the Human Development foundation. The best way to describe the center is as an oasis in the middle of a bustling slum community.

Part of the center provides a home for 26 children with HIV. The children's families cannot or will not support them. The children are age 8 months to 9 years old.

The center is *home* for the children and the other children are their family, with a little input we can make it more comfortable for their short lives.

SILC involvement has increased over the past five months. Volunteers have visited the center on a weekly basis spending time playing with the children.

We see the children laughing and playing but we also see them sick and unhappy.

I had previously requested that SILC assist with the making of a new garden but this is already under construction, and no extra help is required.

The 26 children currently have the use of two rooms. One is where the children play and eat and the second is where all 26 sleep. Some children sleep on the floor because there aren't enough beds.

Continued on next page

WELFARE ACTIVITIES

Continued from previous page

• *New request*

As a welfare committee we would like to propose that SILC provide funding for a second sleeping area for children age 8 months - 6 years with HIV allowing all the children to have a bed of their own.

The room needs to be painted to brighten it up; it then needs basic furniture like beds, drawers, and fans. This will benefit the children who have nothing else in their lives.

This proposal will be presented to the main SILC committee for discussion at the next meeting and I will keep you posted with any further developments.

WAIT A MINUTE - that's not all, what about you helping individually!!

SILC functions raise the money we spend on different projects but I know that many of you would like to contribute in some other more personal way. Well now you can, I have made a Mercy Center wish list.

This list covers all the little extras that would make the kids lives that little bit better.

Next time you are out and about shopping you could pick up something off the list and it really will make a difference.

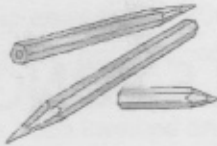
OUR MERCY WISH LIST

Art Materials

Coloured paper / card
Crayons
Coloured pencils & sharpener
Glue
Sellotape
String
Stapler
Glitter
Paints (non Toxic washable)
Paint brushes
Art easel / black boards
Chalk

General

Small shoes - flip flops
Plastic coloured beakers & bowls



Decoration

Cushions all shapes and sizes
Bean bags
Mobiles
Laminated posters
Music tapes
Toiletries
Toothbrushes
Toothpaste
Liquid soap
Shower gel
30 small draw string wash bags (Cheap and easy to make)



Once you have anything drop it off at S12B Garden Towers or your local representative or any committee member (listed in this newsletter) and you will know that you are making a difference. 😊

Garden
Towers



"COOKING CLASS"

Italian Food



Club House Restaurant is very pleased to introduce Executive Chef Prasert Sae-Tan whose expertise in Italian cuisine. He started his career at Siam Inter-Continental Hotel and after that he worked with many 5-star hotels. Recently he was an Executive Chef at Italian restaurant "Libre Roberto" for 8 years.

MENU



FRESH SALMON IN SPICY LEMON SAUCE



SPAGHETTI "ALLE VONGOLE"

BANANA FRITTER

Date: Thursday, September 26, 2002
Time 10.00 - 12.30 hours
Venue: Garden Towers, South Tower, Unit S-23A

Cost: Garden Towers Tenants Free Of Charge
Outside Guests: 500 Baht/person all inclusive
(Coffee Morning and Lunch)

Coffee morning 10.00 hours, class begins at 10.30 hours



Register now at Marketing Department, Garden Towers

Tel. 02 751 9990-3 Fax. 02 751 9990

e-mail: garden@teohong.com

WELFARE ACTIVITIES

Continued from previous page

5. PRISON VISIT

Earlier in the summer I visited a Bangkok prison to see two ex-pats serving long sentences. My visit was very moving but not as disturbing as I had thought it would be. The men are both in good health, clean and comfortably dressed.

Visiting the prisoners was interesting, and if you would like further information please contact me.

6. TEENAGE PLAYGROUND

As a welfare group we are always on the look out for new local causes needing help and support. A few months ago there was an article in the Bangkok Post about a new venture to build a basketball court/area for young people to meet and socialise. After a lot of investigating I discovered that this project had been discontinued.

There was however a similar project being set up in the Klong Toey area. I have visited the site and have tried to make contact with the organiser but with little success. The basketball court is now finished and used by a group of young people throughout the day.

7. STUDENT SPONSORSHIP

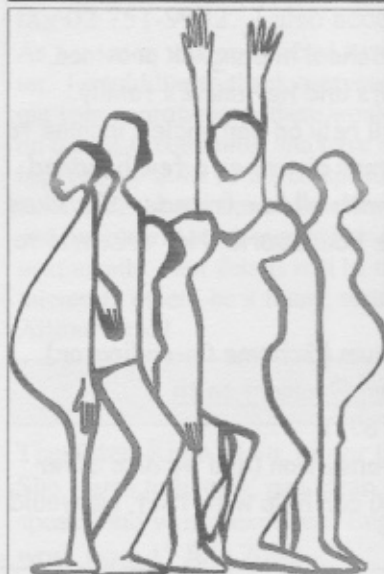
I would just like to say thank you to the ISG for their understanding and acknowledgement of our wish to withdraw from the student sponsorship scheme.

Over the past month we have had correspondence from two students letting us know how they are getting on. SILC's sponsorship ends March 2003.

Please see the ISG article for further information.

As Welfare Officer I try to keep involved and up to date with all of the projects, if you have any questions about the Welfare Programme or would like to visit any of the projects we are involved with please give me a call.

Joanne Whatnall 02 751-9958 or by email whatnallwright@yahoo.co.uk



We desperately need some more helpers for the Samut Prakarn pre-school (Channukroh), located on Sukhumvit Soi 113 (Soi Wat Dan Samrong). We currently attend on a Thursday morning, usually for an hour and a half, depending on the activity. No English is spoken but anyone can join in the fun, singing/dancing and craft type activities. These children greatly appreciate our visits as they don't have much to stimulate them the rest of the week. There are usually 50 or more children and many require help and most importantly some individual attention. If it sounds like too much hard work, how about volunteering to supervise some Year 12 CAS students who will be visiting the preschool, probably on a Wednesday morning. Transport will be provided from Patana and the CAS students will be there for about 40-50 minutes. They will be responsible for providing an activity or teaching some basic skills. Most of the children cannot even count to ten in Thai, and some of them will never get any formal education by going to school.

Anyone who wants to help and hopefully make a difference in a child's life please contact Julie Heather, 02 385 8133; they don't have to be SILC members or female.

"FROM THE SILC MAILBOX"



WELFARE NEWS

The ISG (International Support Group) student sponsorship scheme.

Would you like to sponsor a student?

As you know (see July/August edition of the newsletter) SILC has had a long relationship with the International Support Group (ISG), which is now coming to an end. Here Felicity Dent explains what the scheme is and why some (I know that three offers have already been made!) of you may want to consider personal sponsorship of a student. The students' profiles will be available for you to see at the next SILC meetings.

In Thailand primary education age 6-12 is provided free and is compulsory (although some poor rural families do manage to evade the law). A 12 year old wishing to continue schooling faces many difficulties. School fees, although modest, must be paid, shoes, uniform and books bought. In rural areas especially, the child's contribution to the family income- either by working in the fields, or by staying at home to care for younger children, thus freeing the mother/grandmother to work is a big factor. Sponsorship of 3500 baht pa is enough to pay these expenses and provide the family with an incentive to allow the child to continue into high school and beyond.

The students selected by the ISG are recommended by local employees of the Department of Public Welfare (DPW). ISG makes 2 or 3 visits per year to present their 6-monthly cheques to them, and often makes a gift of a schoolbag, hat or stationery. The presentation is quite an occasion, often in the local town hall - with thank you speeches, song or dance entertainment for us and the proud families.

Each student has their progress monitored annually by the DWG and ISG and a report, along with a letter from the child, is sent to their sponsor. Sponsors are encouraged to write to the child and gifts can be sent via the ISG too. Sponsors would also be very welcome to travel (at their own expense) with the group, or separately to meet their child. I close with a profile of one of our students.

SAOWANI NARINNOK

Born 9th September 1989. Saowani attends Chaopraya Wittayakom School in Bangkok province. Saowani's parents are separated. She now lives with her grandparents and her uncle's family. However her grandfather is paralysed and cannot walk and so they all rely on her uncle's income to support the family of 6. Saowani's mother, who visits rarely, sometimes gives her a few hundred baht. Saowani is polite, lively and talkative. She has good relations with all her friends. She likes drawing and dancing. At home, she helps her family with some of the housework. Her dream is to be a doctor.

To offer to help, or for more information, please contact:

Felicity Dent
dent_felicity@hotmail.com
02 758 6492

Ruby Shum (Scheme Co-ordinator)
rbyshum@samart.co.th
02 256 6717

PS: Twice a year we receive a big influx of letters in Thai needing translation (and we also offer the service of translating sponsors' letters to the students) so if you can help with that, we would love to hear from you!

SILC MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to the following new members:

Kelly Phelps

S19B Garden Towers
2/4-5 Moo 14, Bangna Trad Road Km 6.5
Bangkaew, Bangplee
Samut Prakarn 10540
Tel: 02 751-9891
Mobile: 01 172-8537
Email: kelly@loxinfo.co.th
Nationality: Australian
Partner: Max
Children: Josh, July 06, 1991
Jack, Dec 23, 1992
Daniel, Apr 04, 1997

Please note the following changes:

Ngoc Richt:

Mobile: 01 632-9443



Best Wishes to our members with birthdays in September

Lyn Bradley
Margit Chen
Alison Owen
Debbie Smith
Maria Thompson
Mariola Driehhuizen
Nandini Weerasinghe
Franziska Sherlock
Tiziana Smyth
FelicityDent
Renee Ritterling



ARE YOU CHANGING ADDRESS OR LEAVING THAILAND?

Don't forget to let us know! It makes Colleen's job much easier and saves SILC money on the printing of the Newsletter. Please ring Colleen on 02 751 9880

Don't miss the NEWSLETTER DEADLINE!!

The deadline for the October Newsletter is

Thursday 12th September.

Please forward all contributions to Alison BEFORE this date. Email: tyrrell@cscsoms.com or fax 02 751-9942. I also accept handwritten articles.

As I am soon to have a baby I have decided to stand down from the committee and as editor of the SILC Newsletter. I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the newsletter over the last year and in the past. Without your contributions, there would be no newsletter. I can honestly say that I have thoroughly enjoyed working on the SILC committee and have met some great people. The newsletter has given me a focus and considerably bettered my skills on the computer. I can't believe I have been doing it for a year already!!!! I am going to be leaving the November Newsletter in the capable hands of Ingrid Leese who also lives at Garden Towers. Ingrid and myself will work together on the October issue so still send all your articles to the above Email address for next month. New details will be in the October issue. So please continue to send in anything you think may be of interest to others, be it funny, serious or somewhere in between.

Alison Tyrrell

BITS & PIECES

The sister, Khun Mein, of our trustful and hard working maid Khun May is looking for a new job! She wants to live-in, can clean, iron and cook perfectly. She has experience in working as a maid, speaks and writes excellent English and was responsible for the care of children. She is able to start for work from 1st July 2002.

Please contact Khun May or Ulrike in Garden Towers, Apartment S3A, Tel: 02 751-9860

BITS & PIECES

I am leaving Bangkok on August 24th, my contact e-mail address will be kmgbullock@hotmail.com I have a maid available. She has worked for us for fifteen months. Her English is good and has greatly improved since she started. She is our only maid and has therefore done all our cleaning, laundry, some food shopping and is an excellent cook of Thai and Western food. She speaks good English, is pleasant, well organized, very punctual and completely honest. I trust her completely with my young son and I know we have been very lucky to have had her living with us. She is looking for a family who need a No.1 live in maid and she likes to work on her own.

When I have left, her contact hand phone is: 09 502-5992 and her name is Tik.

Regards

Maggie Bullock



Central Bangna now has Major Cineplex with ten cinemas. They are located on the sixth floor up the other end from Leoland. They have several cinemas with Emperor Chairs and Opera Chairs - extra large with leg room, but expect to pay more for these. When they were written up in the Bangkok Post it was advertised that they had internet tickets but so far these don't work. Queue up like everyone else or try their movie line. Why not join SILC's new movie club. See regular activities for details.

Julie Heather

Deli France has opened at Seacon Square, next to KFC, near the central court. They have tables where you can sit, nice place if you want a sandwich and drink.



WHAT'S ON IN BANGKOK?



Knowledge
Gives Rise To
Friendship

A SIAM SOCIETY STUDY TRIP

to

Wat Phu (Southern Laos)

with Archarn Smitthi Siribhadra of Silpakorn University

Friday 30 August to Sunday 1 September 2002

For more information please contact:

The Siam Society, 131 Soi Asoke, Sukhumvit 21 Road, Bangkok 10110.

Tel: 02 661-6470-7, Fax: 02 258-3491 or e-mail: info@siam-society.org, www.siam-society.org



Knowledge
Gives Rise To
Friendship

The Embassy of the United States of America
in collaboration with

The Siam Society under Royal Patronage

requests the pleasure of your company at the presentation of

"American Historic Textiles"

by textile artist Sigrid Piroch

Tuesday 17 September 2002, 1.30 p.m.

at the Siam Society, 131 Sukhumvit 21 (Asoke), Bangkok

"American Historic Textiles" is a comprehensive program focusing on early American hand weaving, including coverlets. The lecture and visual presentation includes the history and heritage of this timeless art plus a little mystery and adventure, including the challenges faced when tracing the accomplishments of two brothers who were weavers in American and whose life-spans lasted most of the 19th century.

"FROM THE SILC MAILBOX"



Our days in Bangkok are over so to all those who would like to be in contact with The Wilsons, these are our contact details in New Zealand.

Marie, Laurie, Matthew and Jessica can be contacted at R.D. 1 Greytown, Wairarapa, New Zealand. Our telephone number is 06-304-8226 and 027-4919335. Our e-mail address is marieandlaurie@xtra.co.nz and we would love to hear from you.

Bye for now.

Marie, Laurie, Matthew and Jessica.

Although we the editors of the SILC Newsletter take care to provide informative information to our readers, we take no responsibility for any services offered.

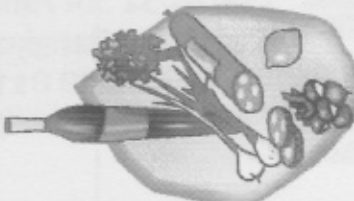
DIARY DATES

SEPTEMBER 2002

Louise Truslow and her watercolours
 Tuesday 3rd September
 10.00 am
 at Jeanette Dobbs
 33/220, Soi 6/6 Moobaan Ladawan,
 Srinakarin Road
 RSVP Ros on 02 751 9859 by
 Friday 30th August



September Lunch
 Monday 16th September
 11.30 am
 at
 Les Nymphaes
 4th Floor of The
 Imperial Queens Park Hotel
 RSVP Lesley 02 751 9909
 by
 Friday 13th September



National Museum Tour
 Friday 27th September
 Cost: 300 baht
 Depart: 8.30 am Patana School
 Return: 12.30 (approx)
 Contact Linda at 02 336 0965 or Email
 Lindaful@loxinfo.co.th



DON'T FORGET A USED BOOK
 SALE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE
 SEPTEMBER COFFEE MORNING
 ON TUESDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER



Evening Meeting
 Pot Luck Dinner
 Tuesday 10th September
 7.30 pm
 at Laurie Burns
 130 Lakeside Villa 2
 Bring your favourite dish and a bottle
 RSVP Laurie on 02 316 4074 by
 September 6th.



SILC GOLF SECTION
 GOLFING WEEKEND AT
 MISSION HILLS GOLF AND COUNTRY
 CLUB, KANCHANABURI
 14th & 15th SEPTEMBER

Contact Annette Gerlach on 02 336 0895 or Email
 Gerlach@loxinfo.co.th by Wednesday 28th August.



Next General Committee meeting will be held on
 Wednesday 4th September
 9.00 am
 Lesley Moores
 S28B Garden Towers, Bangna Trad Road KM 6.5.
 All members are welcome to attend. Contact Karen
 on 02 316 5065

September Welfare Meeting will be held on
 Tuesday 3rd September
 9.00 am
 Jeanette Dobbs
 33/220, Soi 6/6 Moobaan Ladawan, Srinakarin Road

GET READY, GET SET, GO!
 TO THE ANNUAL SILC CHARITY
 BAZAAR
 WEDNESDAY 16th NOVEMBER
 10.00 am to 2.00 pm
 at
 BANGKOK PATANA SCHOOL



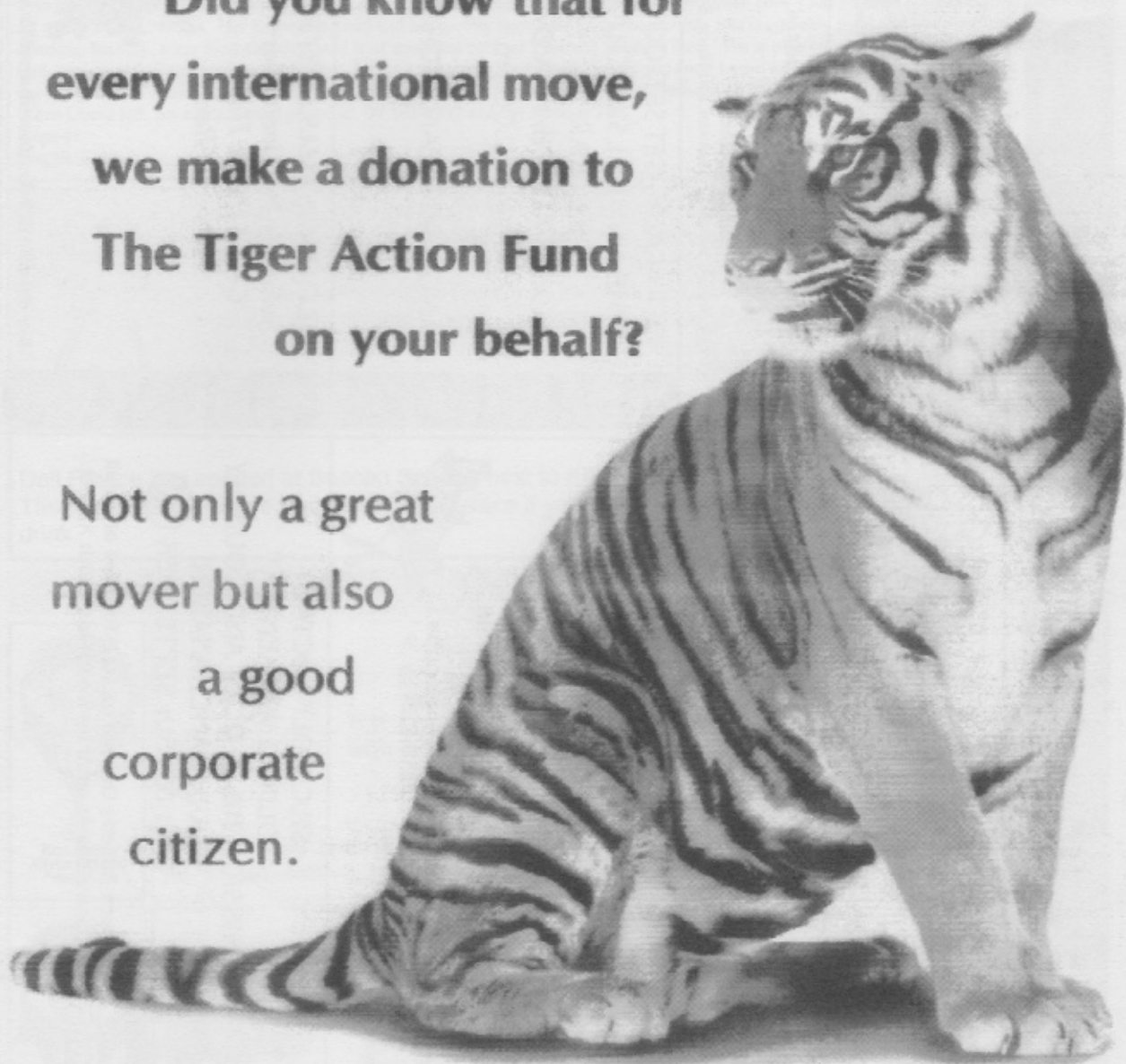
SILC CHRISTMAS PARTY
 Saturday 7th December
 Grand Pacific Hotel
 Suklaumvit Road

More details will follow in next month's newsletter



Did you know that for every international move, we make a donation to The Tiger Action Fund on your behalf?

Not only a great mover but also a good corporate citizen.



ASIAN TIGERS TRANSPO



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