

SIILC NEWS



A publication of the Samutprakarn International Ladies Club

February 2014

This Month

Tour: Wat Khun Samut Trawat

Thurs 6 February - Pg.6



Coffee/Lunch: Olive Kebab & Café

Fri 21 February - Pg.7



Evening: Ad.Makers

Fri 28 February - Pg.8



Committee Members



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Thana City	Irene Gray	080 251 4440

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website:

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Aims & Policies



Organisation of the Club

SILC creates an opportunity for women of all nationalities living in the Samutprakarn 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 800 Baht to cover costs and receive a newsletter and club directory.

Newsletter

The newsletter is published ten times a year with articles and information on club activities. Contributions are welcome and can be sent to the newsletter editor.

Committee Meetings

These are held once a month and are open to all members. Please inform the meeting hostess 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 breast-fed and/or cannot be left with a carer. Members with babies, toddlers and children are invited to join regular playgroups advertised in the SILC newsletter and special family activities. Details of contact names and numbers can be found in the newsletter.



Advertising



Advertising Information

Advertisements for non-profit community events are welcome and are free of charge.

Personal Advertisements for SILC members are free of charge.

Email reminders for SILC events and non-profit community events will be sent out free of charge other events must be advertised in our magazine.

Rates (per issue)

Full Page	1200 Baht
Half Page	600 Baht
Quarter Page	300 Baht
Flyer Insert	600 Baht

Discounts

Member	25%
Annual Contract	10%
(Only one discount may be applied)	

Advertising requests and payment *must* be received prior to the published deadline.

Further details on advertising contact: silcmagazine@gmail.com

Please send advertisement to: The Editor: Jan Briggs: silcmagazine@gmail.com

To arrange payment contact: The Treasurer: Betty Stewart

081 792 5367 / silctreasurer@gmail.com



Chairman's Message



A warm welcome back from holidays spent with family or friends in Thailand or overseas, I hope everyone had a great start to 2014. I would like to wish each and every one of you a very Happy New Year.

Over the holidays, it was the wedding of my son, Narin, to Dia. We had the most amazing time with lots of our family and friends who flew in from all over the globe to join us in celebrating this great occasion. We started at 9am in the morning with a beautiful tea ceremony, very new to us, followed by brunch and then we went to the church, also new to us. It was a lovely ceremony and the couple seem to be so very much in love that it was like a fairy tale! Dia looked so radiant and beautiful at every ceremony that I had tears of joy in my eyes.

It's a great feeling to welcome your daughter in law into your family and it really was the most beautiful wedding. I wish them both good health and happiness for a life time.

Now hopefully I will have more time to spend with SILC members and joining in with SILC activities and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Once again wishing you all a joyous and happy new year, may it bring love, laughter and togetherness in your families and with loved ones.

Sunita

Hosting? Need more chairs or spoons?

There is crockery and cutlery available for members to borrow when hosting a SILC event.

For details contact Sunita:

silcchair@gmail.com

There are also folding chairs and some tables available to borrow for SILC events:

For these contact: Betty:

silctreasurer@gmail.com

Deadline

Wed 19th February 2014 is the deadline for any articles for the March Newsletter.

If you have any recipes, book reviews, recommendations for holidays or items for our bulletin board please forward them to the Newsletter Editor: silcmagazine@gmail.com

Tutor Available...

Qualified teacher willing to tutor, after school hours.

All subjects up to Year 5.

Please contact Julie at jnynjulie@gmail.com or 0823369200





Regular Events



Mahjong

Takes place on Wednesdays

From approx 9.30am to 2.30pm

In members homes

Donations are appreciated towards our Welfare Charities.

Guests very welcome, 200b/session

Contact: Betty Stewart

081 792 5367

silctreasurer@gmail.com



Golf in Samutprakarn

SILC has a number of keen golfers in its midst. There are a couple of groups who play in the area at a variety of courses along the Bangna Trad. Some of us are beginners and others have more experience so if you want a game at any level then please get in touch. Even if you are new to the game it's totally different playing on a course to the driving range, so give it a try.

Contact: Betty Stewart

081 792 5367

silctreasurer@gmail.com



Diary Dates...



~ February 2014 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Craft Club Meeting Betty's	4	5 Mahjong Jane C's	6 SILC Tour	7 Inter Club Meeting	8 Bangkok Prep Spring Fair
9	Bangkok Patana School Half Term Holiday					15
16	17	18	19 Mahjong Shirley's	20	21 SILC Coffee / Lunch	22
23	24	25	26 Mahjong Astrid's	27	28 SILC Eve Event	Notes:



February Tour



WAT KHUN SAMUT TRAWAT, OR TEMPLE IN THE SEA

Join us this month on a true adventure trip by bus, boat, bicycle and foot to a remote community in Samut Prakarn Province.

Due to land erosion this community lives isolated and surrounded by the Gulf of Thailand. Centre of their community is the Samut Trawat temple. It is completely surrounded by water and can be reached by walking over concrete walkways.

The journey to this community is quite challenging: first we drive by bus just over 1 hour to Samut Chedi and catch a longtail boat at Paly Port.

This boat trip takes about 10 minutes to a pier with bicycles stalled. Just pick a bicycle and follow the signs to the community.

The head of the community is Khun Samron Kengsamut and she and her family set up a little museum about the community and how erosion flooded their community and made it to how it is today. The community has set up a reforestation plan.

Jimmy and I had the pleasure meeting her and her son showed us pictures and told a lot about their community.

We have time to walk around and cycle further along the outskirts of several shrimp fields.

Before we return to school, we will have lunch in a local restaurant.

A very special day out and we hope you want to join us!

When: Thursday February 6th

Where: Leave outside Patana school at 08:00 am, return approx. 02:30 pm

Info: Bring sun protection, water and some snacks. There is a little shop where they sell little snacks and drinks.

Costs: t.b.a. and depending on numbers

Let us know by Monday February 3rd if you want to join: silctour@gmail.com



Mariska & Jimmy



All SILC events are subject to change. Please confirm your attendance with the relevant contact.



February Coffee/Lunch



Come and join us for a relaxing coffee morning cum lunch at Olive Restaurant where we can sample a number of the restaurant's specialties .

We shall start with coffee/tea with some savoury snacks and then move to lunch comprising of a mezze spread of pita bread, dolma, chicken souvlaki , Greek salad, falafel patties ... Various dips included too.

Dessert shall be the famous Baklava

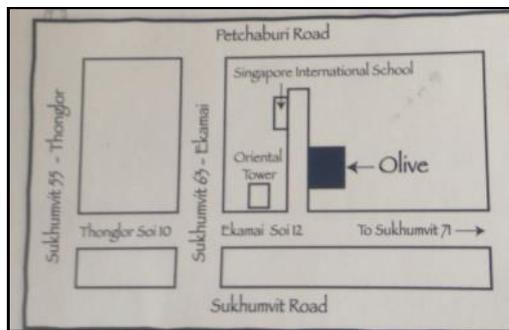
RSVP : Eunice/Sadie at silccoffees@gmail.com

Ekamai Branch, 37/1 Soi Charoenjai (Ekamai 12)
First soi on the left after Oriental Towers.

Date: 21st February, 2014 (Friday)

Time: 10:30am - 2pm

Cost: 500 Bht pp



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Haloumi Salad



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Saganaki



Dips

Olive locations

NEW! Ekamai Branch, 37/1 Soi Charoenjai (Ekamai 12)
Fifth Food Avenue, 5th Fl., MBK
The East Club, Nichada Thani

Olive Take Home

Gourmet Market, Emporium (5/F), Sukhumvit 24
Food Hall, Central Chidlom (G/F), Ploenchit Road
Tops Market Place, Thonglor Town, Sukhumvit 55
Select Foodland Outlets

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February Evening



Join us with your partner for dinner, drinks and live music at the new



Where: Ad.Makers, 555/19 Lasalle-Bearing Rd. (opposite the Regent)

When: Friday 28 February from 7.30 PM onwards

Menu choices will follow closer to the date.

Please RSVP to Marit: silvice@gmail.com by Friday 21st February.

Look forward to see many of you!



Bingo Night Review



I have never played Bingo before!! So when I heard SILC was planning a Bingo night I was not sure what to expect. Where I come from Bingo is related to older people ;-) and I certainly considered myself far... far too young to be involved in those sorts of activities. It was held in town, however we had a full house and many of the Bangna ladies had braved the political situation and car pooled to make it to the event.

As I got dressed I had mixed feelings, a sense of excitement in having a night out with my friends and a sense of apprehension as I was not sure about this game as it was all new to me. Soon as I got to Angelique's place I could hear the laughter from her apartment as I got off the lift. So I knew it was going to be an entertaining night as I was among friends and whatever we did it always involved laughter and lots of fun.

There was wine and a lovely great spread from the host and all the ladies who brought a plate in. Lady luck was on my side I think as I got the first full row and first full sheet. I was allowed to choose from a selection of gifts. Marit had brought a variety of amazing gifts for the winners. Having played and won I volunteered to call out the numbers as I felt I had won far too many times and maybe it was time to let the others have a chance. I enjoyed calling out the numbers although I did not have a clue but made it up as I went.

I must say we all had an enjoyable time and tons of laughter throughout the evening. Yes! I will definitely sign up for the next SILC night out. Thank you SILC ladies for making this a success. Thank Marit for organising and Angelique for hosting.

Chris





Dolphin Tour Review



It was a beautiful morning on Thursday November 21st when 11 ladies got on the bus at Patana for an exciting dolphin watch-trip. It took us less than 1 hour to Bang Pakong river. Traffic was mild on this morning, a good sign...?

In Bang Pakong the driver and Jimmy guided us without any problem to the jetty where we embarked our boat for the day. Some ladies bought some refreshments for the boat trip.

The first part of the trip was on Bang Pakong river, and later we sailed into the Gulf of Thailand. This means a change from fresh into salt water and this was clearly to be seen in the water by difference in color, fascinating! We all got excited because the boatman told us this was the part where the dolphins were to be seen. So he asked us to be a little quiet and look out for them. Ask 11 ladies to be quiet.....!

To make a long story short: we had a wonderful boat trip and the scenery was lovely. Unfortunately we didn't spot 1 single dolphin. It could be we were still a bit too early in the year or the time of day wasn't the right one. Nevertheless we all enjoyed the boat trip a lot and had a good time catching up and laughing.

After the morning on the boat and fresh air, all of us were ravenous when we disembarked.

Looking for a good restaurant and especially good food was not a problem as we had great recommendation to try the family-run "Oud seafood restaurant".

As soon as all of us were seated, the job of ordering lunch rested upon Gridstina and Jimmy and what an outstanding feast we had! The seafood was so fresh and delicious and we had one plate after the other and didn't know where to start first...

The disappointment of not sighting any dolphins soon disappeared as we savored every spoonful of food.

Consensus was we had a lovely day and the amazing lunch certainly was a great end to the tour.

Eunice





SILC Book Club



When: Thurs. February 27

Time: 12-2pm

Where: Betty's house
191/4 Lakeside Villa 2

Books: The Stormchasers by Jenna Blum and Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese
These books are highly recommended!

More Details: Contact Julie at jnjinjulie@gmail.com or 082 336 9200

Please come even if you haven't read the books. We will discuss books in general and future books.
Please bring some snacks to share. Hope to see you there!



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Welcome



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Friday - Sunday 9:00am - 10:00pm

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Bangkok, 10110

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Mobile: 092 408 8188

Please call for Appointment



Certified by the
Ministry of Public Health



New Members



New Members this month:

Catherine Baker
Katalin Wisselink
Ming Xu

Welcome to SILC



If you know anyone who may be interested in joining SILC please ask them to contact:

**Geraldine McEvoy: 082 204 9470
silcthai@gmail.com**

Put a face to the name.

New members, please send in a short blurb to introduce yourself to other members, along with a photograph if possible (with or without the family).

Send to the editor: silcmagazine@gmail.com

I am Australian, but I was born In Hungary, and my husband in the Netherlands. I speak Dutch, Hungarian and of course English.

We have a 4 month old boy called Casper, and a 4 year old girl called Vesper.

Before moving to Bangkok we have been living on and off in Perth for the past 10 years.

My husband works in the oil and gas business and therefore we are well travelled and lived in many countries; some amongst others; Abu Dhabi UAE, Cape Town South Africa, Rotterdam the Netherlands, Houston Texas, Jakarta Indonesia.

I used to work in the Shipping industry.

My interests are Baking, Cooking (Donna Hay, if you are from NZ or Australia you know her), Reading, Eastern European politics, and Decorating.

Kat



Visit our
website:

www.silcthai.com





Christmas Lunch Review



A very glamorous and very international crowd of old and new faces met on 19th December for this year's SILC Christmas lunch held at Hemingway's on Sukhumvit Soi 14. The restaurant is a truly intercontinental affair – set in an old Thai teak house, with an Australian owner and decor which reflects the experiences of writer and traveller Ernest Hemingway in Africa, Cuba, America and Europe in the 1920's.

Once we got in and got sorted (which didn't look very likely when I arrived at 10am to decorate the tables), the staff were friendly and attentive and didn't bat an eyelid at a gaggle of ladies being naughty. Maybe they felt that they had to be nice to us because we couldn't get out anyway- protesters had taken over the Asoke intersection and were lunching and tooting for most of our stay!

After coffee, which was a bit DIY but luckily those of us without a maid reminded the others how to do it, and a chat, it was time to feast. We started with either a smoked salmon and citrus collection, which was lovely, or a salad of goats cheese and beetroot. This was followed by a full British Christmas turkey dinner which was fab, indeed one of the best I have had even if it was a bit cold (probably due to the dreadful MC poncing about with the raffle....) or veggie risotto. We finished with Christmas pudding. I didn't get mine as I was chawping too much as usual.

In between starters and mains, as noted, we had the raffle. Now Ladies, as they say, you had to be in it to win it and goodness me there were some prizes worth winning- holidays, fine dining vouchers, spa days, wine and flowers to name a selection. We had some interesting raffle tickets with lots of numbers instead of the usual "pink 23" which meant the dreadful MC could really rev up the anticipation). I thought I had won and got over excited a number of times but sadly it wasn't to be.

With the dreadful MC in overdrive again, after pud we moved on to the extravaganza known as Secret Santa. For the uninitiated, you donate a gift anonymously beforehand and are given a ticket which dictates the order you go to choose a gift from the selection on the heavily laden table. Most gifts are beautifully and invitingly wrapped, except mine which had a dinosaur saying Merry Christmas Judith on it. Once you have selected a gift, you can choose to keep but not open or open but your gift might be stolen by someone else with gift envy. You don't even need to select a gift from the table at all; you can just go straight to the thieving option if you've seen someone else get what you want. There were some inevitable heartbreaks but some triumphs too, particularly when one of us got the bowls she had been desperately coveting since mah-jong the week before.

Christmas dinners are a bit like buses, you wait ages for one then 3 turn up at once. Aren't we lucky at SILC to have had 2 such memorable ones in one week! Many thanks to Jo for organizing such a splendid treat; Suzie for organizing the raffle; everyone who so generously donated the spectacular raffle prizes; Hemingways for the feast and great service and last but not least, the lovelies who attended and made the occasion so memorable.

PS. Chawping – onomatopoeic Leicestershire word for talking too much. Bit like gassing. Which leads me nicely to my next PPS.

PPS. A friend of mine has been working on some anti-flatulence pants which led to some interesting conversation at our table. Apparently they use carbon fibre to absorb odour but we were concerned that perhaps they need silencers to be fitted too, to make them truly desirable. Mr Campton feels they could be of use in our house, especially as I have now turned 50 and don't have the same control I used to have, but is reluctant to buy as he fears they may be just plastic pants which, whilst trapping the wind, simply inflate, leading to a build up of toxicity and potential explosions.

By Jane Campton





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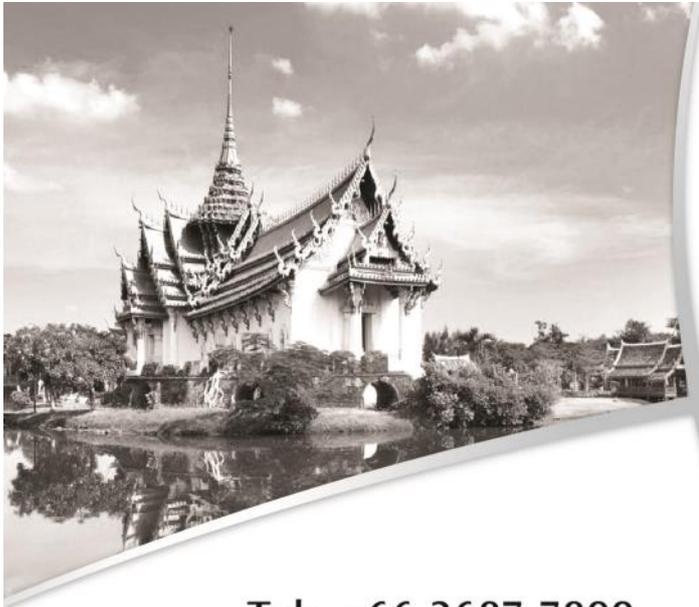
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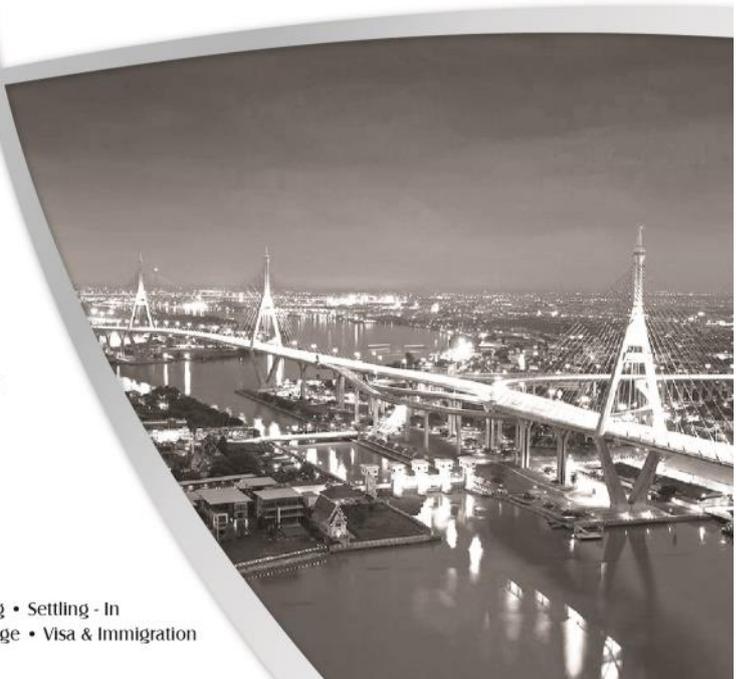
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SILC Bazaar Review



SUCCESS AT SILC'S 19TH ANNUAL BAZAAR

This event has been the main fundraiser for the 19 years it has run. It brings together all the members from SILC who donate books, cakes, bric-a-brac, volunteer to help out with the organising and then help on the day to make the event successful. Many members also attended as "traders", buying a table and selling their wares. Christmas wouldn't be the same without the SILC Bazaar.

Two additions this year made it even more successful. Our Crafty Ladies – led by Jane Campton and Amanda Schranz – did a sterling job and made bunting, stuffed elephants, friendship boxes and loads, loads more (I'm not sure they made the Ferrero Rocher though), plus we had our own Expat Ladies Tea Towels (designed by the indomitable Mrs C) and the "HOT" apron and spoons. The craft table was a first and bought in sales of nearly 50,000 Baht. More ideas being generated for the 20th Bazaar, watch this space Another new table for us this year was the tea and coffee table next to the drinks and cakes; between the two of them they raised about 20,000 Baht. Thanks for all the home baking many people kindly did the night before.

In summary, there were about 61 tables at the Bazaar, many manned by SILC members, and these raised 74,500 Baht, with SILC stalls (raffle, door, plant sales, bric-a-brac, door, cakes, and drinks) making 74,900 Baht (crafts are excluded from this total). Many charities will benefit from this event. We have just made a donation of 30,000 Baht for medicine in the Klongtoey Slums in Bangkok and are supporting short term, temporary transportation for children from Chanukroh school which has been forcibly closed down. There are other plans afoot amongst which is to pay to upgrade the kitchen at Prakasammai School to make it more hygienic and safer. These projects are in addition to our regular support of providing fruit to Mahawong and Chanukroh school children and oil for Sister Joan's food run. The welfare team will keep you posted.

SILC started in 1992 and had it's first Bazaar in 1995 when it raised 20,000 Baht. The monies raised has increased year on year until now when this profitable event made a profit of about 145,000 (this excludes the craft sales).

There are so many people who put a great deal of effort into this event and I can't thank them all individually but you all know who you are. BUT special thanks must be given to Angelique Leijdekker who has been the lead and main contact for the past 2 years.

And without whom this event would not have run. Well done Angelique. Thanks from all of SILC and from the charities who benefit from all our efforts.

Betty





Craft Club Update



The SILC Bazaar saw our very first outing with our Craft Club products. Our ladies had spent ages making a selection of handcrafted items such as bunting, felt elephants, friendship boxes and Christmas stockings, having a great time (and heaps of very yummy food) along the way. We were quite nervous as this was a new venture and our lovely SILC committee had invested quite a lot of money in us. We packaged and labeled everything beautifully and took great care in arranging our stall to look like an expensive country kitchen in the hope of attracting custom and luckily it all paid off! We sold just about all our Christmas themed goods and lots more besides, not only covering our costs but also making a very handsome profit!

Having learned some valuable lessons about marketing our items and the shopping habits of our target customers, we will be back, bigger and brighter, with another large scale enterprise for next year's Bazaar but meanwhile Craft Club will still be meeting regularly. Over the next few months, we plan to do some workshops focusing on sharing our many talents and some smaller enterprises focusing on specific events. Our next meeting will be on 3rd Feb at Betty's house, further details will be emailed to all members, and everyone is welcome, even if they don't feel they have any particular skill! Please do come and join us, we are a very friendly group and would love to see you at Craft Club, just remember to leave your New Year's resolution to diet at the door- secretly what we really enjoy most is stuffing our faces!!



Bulletin Board

Live In Maid/House keeper wanted

Sukhumvit area

- Able to speak English
- Must have reference letter (job letter)
- Must be honest and reliable
- Able to cook and willing to learn families favourite dishes
- High standard of cleaning, ironing, washing and general household chores

Please call

Chris

081 136 4186

Best of the Big Mango



This month we ask for the visitor's view...

Name: Pat (Jane C's Mum in Law)

How many times have you been to Bangkok? Twice

How long was your last visit/ how long is this visit if you are still here? For four weeks each time

Best thing to do in Bangkok? I love the fact that everything is different there - even going to the supermarket

Best day out, in and around Bangkok? Cooking with Poo (going round the market, down to slums, cooking and eating food - and Poo herself): do love Ancient City and going round on my golf buggy with bike option as well: liked Samut Songkran floating market and trip on canal/ride through salt flats but a bit further out of town.

Best longer trip destination in the area? Loved the Zoo we went to where we could feed animals, Khao Kiew Open Zoo; Kho Samet was lovely; Kanchanburi - raft hotel, the National Park and river and elephant ride

Best dining experience? Lunch at the Mandarin Oriental - but lovely, very reasonable food served at most local eateries.

Best shopping experience? Chinatown market, Bangkok; Chatuchak market; Klong Toei market en route to Poo's, a true locals market.

Top tips for visitors? Keep a diary - lovely to look back at where you've been and what you've seen - there's so much to remember and it helps identify photos.

Don't try doing too much in one day - the heat and humidity can be quite tiring so take time out to have a sit down/ drink and just look at the world passing by.

Top tips for hosts? Don't feel obliged to fill every hour of every day with trips/sights for your guest. An easy day now and then will be appreciated - it's nice just to have time to be with your family in their home and be part of normal life.

When will you be back?! Hope to visit again - will have to wait and see.

Name: Ranji (Chris R's Mum)

How many times have you been to Bangkok? 5 times

How long was your last visit? 2 weeks

Best thing to do in Bangkok? - Shopping and enjoy the delicious variety of fruits and food

Best day out in and around Bangkok? River by night on the Manohra Cruise - Arranged by the Anantara Riverside hotel.

Best longer trip destination in the area? Phuket - beaches are beautiful.

Best dining experience? Four Season - Biscotti lovely Italian food.

Best shopping experience? China Town as I can find my craft items really cheap

Top tips for visitors? Come as a wheel chair passenger it's quicker at immigration

Top tips for hosts? Give the visitors a local phone and a map

When will you be back?! November 2014

MRS C'S WORST OF THE BIG MANGO or what not to do with your visitors.....

How long have you been here? - 18 months.

How many visitors have you had in that time? - Feels like 357 but its only 29 in reality.

Worst day out- The Phallus shrine at the Swiss Hotel on Wireless Road; took Grandma Pat, it didn't go down well....

Worst place to dine- The Royal Dragon on Bangna Trad, show is fab, food is dismal.

Worst place to take the kids - the Grand Palace. So what if it's all big and glittery, the Emerald Buddha is tiny and you keep having to have your photo taken with Chinese tour groups.

Worst shopping experience- making one sick with the smell at Samrong market or taking one to Chatuchak at noon, in April, just 2 hours after landing. I thought she was going to die!

Worst thing you have ever done to a visitor - putting the same one on a bucking bronco on soi Cowboy after a few cocktails.

Worst thing a visitor can do on a Monday morning- get up at 6am and start chatting.

Worst social faux pas by a visitor- not taking their shoes off at Wat Po and drinking the whole 5L box of Peter Vella.

Golden Rule for visitors- never bring a "lady" back from Mr Camp-ton's Darkside Tour.



Developing Knowledge and Understanding

Inspiring Creativity



At Bangkok Patana we provide the essential rigour of a British curriculum incorporating best practice from other programmes to reflect our international setting. Our aim is to nurture and develop a lifelong love of learning in our young students.

Encouraging Curiosity



At key points within the Primary School we benchmark ourselves against UK schools using National Curriculum Tests. In 2013, over 96% of our Year 2 students achieved their age-related expectation, or above, compared to 85% in the UK.

Building Confidence



We also understand the importance of learning outside the classroom. Extensive opportunities for children to flourish and develop their personal interests are provided through our varied extra-curricular activities programme.

To find out how our child-centred approach to learning and outstanding teaching staff can help your child fulfil their potential from 2 ¹/₂ to 18 years of age, please contact us at admissions@patana.ac.th

www.patana.ac.th | +66 (0) 2785 2200 | 643 Lasalle Road (Sukhumvit 105), Bangna, Bangkok

Bangkok Patana is an IB World School accredited by CIS and NEASC



SILC Bites



Due to popular demand, we intend to publish some favourite recipes that often grace the tables of SILC events and meetings. Please send in your recipes, along with a photo if you have one, to the Editor and we will publish one recipe in each newsletter. This month a recipe for **Crunchy Lemon Cake** from Jan.



INGREDIENTS:

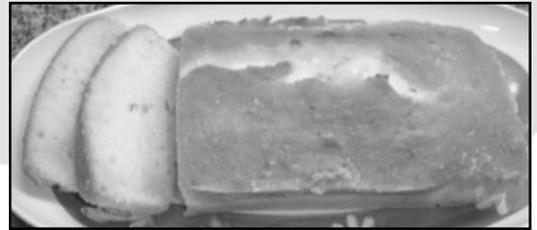
110 grams Margarine
110 grams Caster Sugar
2 large Eggs
110 grams Self Raising/
Cake Flour
Pinch of Salt
Grated Rind of 1 Lemon

Topping Ingredients:

Juice of 1 Lemon
85 grams Caster Sugar

METHOD:

- ★ Beat together the margarine and caster sugar until light and creamy. Stir in grated lemon rind.
- ★ Beat eggs in a separate bowl then gradually add to the creamed mixture beating well between each addition.
- ★ Sift flour and salt and fold into the mixture.
- ★ Pour into 6-8" cake tin or a 2lb loaf tin.
- ★ Bake on centre oven shelf 375°F/190°C/Gas 5 for 30 minutes or until springy to the touch.
- ★ Mix lemon juice and caster sugar together and spread over the cake – still in the cake tin – as soon as it comes out of the oven. As the sponge is hot, the lemon juice will soak into the cake leaving the sugar on top to become crisp when cool.
- ★ Leave to cool in the tin.



Granny Salmons

Home-Made Foods

Traditional chutneys (from 150baht to 180baht)

Pickled onions, gherkins and other pickles
(from 60baht to 180baht)

Spreads, snacks, cakes and more.

For price lists and other information please email admin@gapthai.com, call Jimmy on 081-909-6729 or message us at facebook/grannysalmons

Free delivery on orders over 1,000 baht

Jimmy will deliver small orders free at SILC coffee mornings and other events.



What's on in Bangkok?



PLAYFUL PRAYER

A solo exhibition by Korean artist Gi-ok Jeon

January 28 to February 23, 2014



The Neilson Hays Library is pleased to announce "Playful Prayer - Patoong collage & installation", a solo exhibition of Korean artist Gi-Ok Jeon. Gi-Ok will present a series of her recent paintings that combine various techniques on a single canvas such as ink painting, lithography, collage, and embroidery. She will also present a hanging installation incorporated with Luk Yang Na, a plum that is attached to Patoong fabric.

The artworks in "Playful Prayer" are created on natural Thai bamboo paper that originates from Lam Pang province and they represent the land and cultural space where Gi-ok belongs. Presenting various techniques on one canvas represents Thailand as an attractive place where the traditional Buddhist culture plays a prominent role in society, but gets along with other cultures harmoniously. Gi-ok continues focusing on finding her own identity in her original culture by using *Patoong*, symbol of vernacular material, but at the same time paints Buddha's image, the shape of the Bo tree leaves and the form of Luk Yang Na in order to draw her personal experience in everyday life. Her installation is inspired by the feeling of energy and calm evocative of the way Luk Yang Na (a plum falling from Don Yang Na, which is a tree she found at a temple where she visited during her stay in Northeast province) falls through the air. She will try to capture the mysterious and spiritual space by hanging 500 pieces of Luk Yang Na which all are attached to *Patoong*.

Gi-ok Jeon has an MFA from Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing. Her works have been shown in various group and solo exhibitions, including most recently the "Art No Wall project" at Khon Khean University in Khon Khean province and "From Hangang to Chaopraya" at the Korean Cultural Center in Bangkok. She taught Asian ink painting during her artist-in-residence at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok and has also taken a printmaking course at Chulalongkorn University.

Please join us for an opening reception and a chance to meet the artist on Tuesday, January 28, 2014 at 6 pm at the Neilson Hays Library, 195 Surawong Road, Bangrak, Bangkok 10500.



Bangkok Prep's Spring Fair offers unlimited fun for families

Spring has come early this year to Bangkok Prep. Running in its 9th year and growing every year, the Bangkok Prep's Spring Fair is arguably one of the most attended family fairs in the heart of Sukhumvit Road. Over the past years, over 700 adults and children have been attending this annual fair, featuring a host of attractions such as the ferris wheel, amusement rides, games, activities, petting zoo, shopping, international food stalls, stage shows and live entertainment. So come along with your family and friends for an exciting day of non-stop fun at Bangkok Prep's Spring Fair.



Event: Bangkok Prep's Spring Fair

Date: Saturday February 8th 2014

Time: 2pm – 7pm

Location: Bangkok International Preparatory & Secondary School, Sukhumvit Soi 53. Bangkok Prep is adjacent to Thonglor BTS station (Exit 1) - school entrance is 30 metres along Soi 53.

Entrance Fee: Free Admission





Christmas Carols at St. Andrews



St Andrews International School Sukhumvit 107 campus was lucky enough to play host to the schools amazing night of Christmas Carols and celebrations on the night of the 6th of December, when the back lawn came alive with Christmas spirit and revelry.

The 107 choristers are well known in Bangkok and have performed by invitation at many events in hospitals, hotels and clubs.

To have the group perform on their home ground under the sparkle of fairy lights was a true delight for parents and friends of the school.

The evening was made extra special by the unexpected, bellowing arrival of Santa Claus - much to the children's delight!

From his arrival, Santa then joined the choir on stage in a thunderous rendition of We Wish You a Merry Xmas!!! Santa managed to encourage the entire audience to join in with them and the song finished to a rapturous applause!

Luckily Santa's grotto had been decked out beforehand and a trail of children waited patiently at the door to get the chance to sit and talk with Santa and have a wonderful family photo opportunity and of course, receive a gift!

For enquiries to St Andrews International group of Schools pls email admissions@standrews-schools.com. (www.standrews-schools.com)





St. Andrews
International School
Sukhumvit 107

Playful Pandas Playgroup

Playful Pandas Playgroup

Join St. Andrews Playground
at Sukhumvit 107 Campus
Available every week day
between 8.30 -11.00am.

Half price for Bambi members!

No Booking Required. Flexible days
For children age 1-3 years

Activities:

Messy play, sand play, water play,
face painting, rhyme time, music
and singing

Visit us at:

7 Sukhumvit 107 Road, Bangna, Bangkok
(BTS Bearing) T: +66 (0) 2393 3883
admissions@standrews-schools.com
www.standrews-schools.com



We offer places to playful Pandas between one and three years old who are ready to explore in a stimulating and fun environment.

Our programme provides plenty of choice and also some structured activities.

All children must be accompanied by an adult who will be actively involved in the session.

Playful Pandas helps prepare your child for their next steps towards Nursery, Kindergarten and beyond.



For more information about all year levels,
Please visit us at www.standrews-schools.com
or E-mail admissions@standrews-schools.com



SILC Christmas Giving 18th December 2013 Mahawong

Will the sun shine today? By SILC Member Catherine Baker

In a tiny little kindergarten known as Mahawong children play on a floor of dirt and cement. There are few toys and play equipment. They don't have bikes or scooters. There is no grass to play on. The scent of fragrant flowers is absent.

If not for the kindness of SILC members and the FORDEC organization the space would be completely without colour, without any sense of life.

There is a shelter which protects the children from the sun and rain. There are craft flowers hanging from this structure and above it a sign that has been donated by SILC in 2010.

There are simple buildings, some in traditional wooden Thai style where food is eaten, and rooms which are spacious but completely bare.

The 98 children of the Mahawong kindergarten often feel tired. Tired of wondering if today there will be food, if they will feel safe, will the sun shine on them for just a moment so they can feel a little hope to an otherwise desperate state of living, one where survival has become an unchosen state of normality. Living and hoping to feel clean, to feel loved, and to have opportunities such as schooling that most of us take for granted.

The Mahawong Kindergarten is one of three kindergartens sponsored by FORDEC which was begun by the patron Dr. Amporn. The kindergartens offer its pupils the chance to gain entry into local Thai schools.

Every month the ladies of SILC help the sun to shine on the precious hearts at Mahawong.

Little eyes so shy to show their love of the craft that is presented.

For Christmas 2013 the members of SILC brought not only gifts but enormous loads of joy, dance, singing, and celebration of life and living.

Ninety-eight backpacks were loaded up with goodies for both girls and boys in a frenzy; chocolates, craft items and even wonderful new clean undies were stashed into blue and pink bags. Our Secret SILC Santa helped to hand the gifts out then singing and dancing began.



Na, na, na, na, na, na, quack, quack, quack, quack, chicken dance anyone!

It was my very first time visiting Mahawong or even going to a SILC event. The Chicken Dance was playing and the next this I knew my arms were linked with a fellow SILCarian and we were all spinning around. My arms were flapping and I was dancing that chicken dance with gusto. The Mahawong students were sitting very quietly at this point. But then the tears began to flow out of my eyes. Pouring out. I couldn't stop them. Because that occasion was even more special.



It was in the memory of a little girl who had gone to Mahawong and whose life had been tragically ended. Her hope had been taken away. This day was in memory to her. It was bitter sweet.

What were my tears for? The Chicken Dance was my grandfather's favourite dance and every Christmas I miss him and the special bond we had when I was of kindergarten age. When my life was simple and filled with a loving family, and a special kindergarten with lots of things to play with and do, and most importantly where I was given the opportunity to play, to be care free and to laugh.

Love, laughter and play are the most fundamental of all things that children need to feel be able to grow up feeling good about the world. There is something intangible about what happens when someone cares enough to come and help you paste, to sit quietly and stick on a snow man's hat, to try to get you up to dance, to give gifts without expecting anything in return.

Perhaps next time the ladies of SILC come some of them will smile. They will begin to feel that life is okay and that in a small space in their preschool that the sun can shine.

A collection has begun in memory of the girl who went to Mahawong, and it is hoped that a play equipment can be built. If you would like to contribute with a donation please contact Chris, the Welfare Coordinator.

Prakkasamai Activity Nov 2013

I had the privilege to go with my mum to SILC welfare last Thursday because I was sick and could not go to residential. We met the other mums at True coffee and then we went to the preschool. When we got to the preschool the children were so happy to see us. We got all organized and soon the kids came in groups to start making paper crowns.



The kids started off by writing their names on their crowns and gluing glitter and hearts and making it look pretty and shiny. The children had big smiles on their faces when they were finished and got to wear a shiny crown on their heads.

Written by: Tia P. Indran Venga





Santa's visit to Prakkasamai



Many of Santa's elves gathered at Prakkasamai preschool to pack up the Christmas gifts. Santa must have been really busy as the children had loads of goodies to take home. Each child received a soft toy, some personal items, socks, a pencil, an eraser, chocolates and a pack of play dough. Julie C had baked and individually packed the Christmas tree cookies to be distribute. They looked scrumptious.

The Christmas themed craft idea was Snowman!! Everyone sat around the table making snowmen with the help of SILC volunteers and the students seemed delighted with the finished creation. There was excitement and laughter in the air as Santa arrived to greet the kids. The excitement grew as the kids queued up patiently to wait their turn to collect their gift from Santa. Some kids were really enthusiastic to meet Santa and others were not so sure. Good job this Santa spoke "Thai" and was able to reassure the kids. Santa asked each child if they were "naughty or nice". Every child must have been very good as they all took home their Christmas gifts. Prakkasamai School was treated to some Christmas carols and then sadly it was time to say goodbye. Santa and the elves wished everyone "A Merry Christmas" and drove off in their "Fortuner sleigh"...I guess it's Bangkok after all.

Chris



SILC funds raised this year enabled us to provide every child with a bag of goodies including a soft toy, underwear, socks, biscuits, pencils and modeling clay. The children of Mahawong and Chanukroh received the same inside their new backpacks.

Thank you to all SILC members, your subscriptions and donations enable us to treat these lovely underprivileged children.



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