

July/August 2005

SILC News



A publication of the Samutprakarn International Ladies Club

From the Presidents.....

Dear Members

This will be a combined newsletter as our Summer school holidays are fast approaching us. On 9th June, we participated in a loud, but hopefully understandable 'handover' meeting at Café Rue from the 'past' committee to the present. I did make the mistake of thanking the 'old' committee, but was howled down by all those present and rightly so!

Main topics of discussion were:

- Selecting the date of our annual SILC Bazaar – we will keep you posted.
- Still desperately seeking assistance still with Welfare and New Years party coordinator/s.
Please call any Committee member to discuss these roles. Renewal and overdue membership fees, this newsletter will be the last and accompanied by a 'red dot' so these Members are aware they will be unfortunately dropped off the distribution and membership list unless fees and renewal form delivered to Karen Cohen or any other Committee member soon.
- Last minute details for the Inaugural SILC Charity Golf day and dinner.

Finally, you will see details included of those Members of the Committee who will be here during the school holidays. If you are going to be away, but you see the removal van arrive at the house next door, just slip them the details of those Members that are still here. Arriving in the holidays can be an even lonelier time; yet there are always members around to organize events for families, ladies nights out or any other ideas!

A little expat thought for the holidays *"May those of you that travel afar, travel safe and well, and for those that are staying, may your Maids and sanity stay with you!"*

Best wishes

Lorina & Annette

Diary Dates

Friday 2nd September
Pot Luck Lunch
Lorraine Illing's
Ladawan

Wed 7th September
Committee Meeting
Annette Gerlach's
Thana City

Mon 12th September
Coffee Morning
Maoliosa Denye's
Lakeside 2

Thurs 22nd September
Evening Bowling
Central Bang Na

Tues 27th September
Tour
Teak Street

Deadline for next issue:
Thursday 18th August
Send contributions to:
silcnews@hotmail.com

Julie Heather
34/39, Main St. Soi 7 Ladawan
Srinakarin Road
Banglee Samutprakarn 10540

Committee Members

President	Annette Gerlach Lorina Swindley	01 846 0702 01 701 2390	gerlach@loxinfo.co.th lorina@samart.co.th
Vice President	Marit Van den Oetelaar Carolyn Whitehouse	07 936 7656 06 080 9101	gertonmarit@yahoo.com whitehouse@loxinfo.co.th
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Welfare	TO BE ADVISED		
Coffee Mornings	Irene Gray	01 806 9240	irenemgray@hotmail.com
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General Committee Member	Penny Fournel	02 751 9882	cdngeese@loxinfo.co.th
Sub Committees			
Bazaar	Jo O'Kane Sharlini Colin-Thome	01 752 5801 09 811 9819	jo@okanes.net skd@loxinfo.co.th
New Year Party	VACANT		

CHEAP CALLS FROM THE UK

This enables UK callers to
phone Thailand
for 2p per minute.

The number is
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Committee Meeting Highlights

President's Report

Thanks to the outgoing and new committees for attending and thanked outgoing committee for their hard work over previous year.

Recent Events

Coffee Morning at Karen's – 10,300 baht raised

Treasurer's Report

30,000 baht had been donated to Christian Care Foundation for textured pathway for blind children.

15,000 – school lunches

4,000 Mahawong pre-school (fruit)

Membership

Non-renewals. No newsletters will be sent after the July/August issue if members have not renewed

Currently have 75 paid up members

Committee

New Years Eve Party Coordinator – post still empty.

Westin has been booked for 14th January. Deposit not yet paid.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER
ANNETTE GERLACH'S
THANA CITY

MAHAWONG NEEDS YOU!

One of our members Julie Heather is
returning to Australia in July.

She has for many years helped out at the Mahawong School
and it would be wonderful if someone could
continue the work Julie has been doing.

This is a school that SILC has supported over the years.

If you are interested in helping out please contact
either Lorina Swindley 01 701 2390
or Annette Gerlach 01 846 0702

Membership Update

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

Karen Cohen

02 740-3031

gcohen@asianet.co.th

New Members

Catherine Switala

249 Main Rd

Mooban Panya

Pattanakarn soi 30

Suan Luang

Bangkok 10250

02 719 4178/9

04 716 7670

Catherineswitala@hotmail.com

Thalindra Welikala

51/49 Rimsuan

Sukhumvit Soi 103

Bangkok 10250

02 398 6208

01 752 3724

malithwelikala@hotmail.com

Sri Lankan Malith

Avishka 17/06/96

Damithri 12/03/99

Lena Cheyne

90/25 Thana City

Bangna-Trad Rd Km 14

Bangplee

Samutprakarn 10540

02 336 1234

09 771 2559

alexinacheyne@hotmail.com

Scottish Derek

Jordan 23/05/90

Kyle 23/09/94



WARNING

IF YOU HAVE NOT RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP
THIS WILL BE THE LAST NEWSLETTER
YOU WILL RECEIVE

If you have a red dot on the front of your newsletter
we have not received your renewal
please contact Karen Cohen ASAP

Regular Events

Golf

Every Thursday morning; alternating Samutprakarn courses.

Newcomers welcome.

Contact:

Annette Gerlach: 02 336 0895



Mahjong

Mah-jong takes place on Wednesdays from approx 9am until 12noon in members' homes.

Contact: Shirley Tan



02 758 7304
09 497 8318

Scrapbooking



Do your photos of Thailand accumulate faster than you can put them into albums? If you'd like to join a very informal group of ladies who regularly meet to scrapbook.

Contact:

Penny Fournel

090 666 453 cdngeese@loxinfo.co.th

Thursday Playgroup



There will be no playgroup during July and August.

RESTART
1ST SEPTEMBER

Contact:

Carolyn Whitehouse:

02 758 5647 and 06 080 9101

Penny Fournel

090 666 453 cdngeese@loxinfo.co.th

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 500 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 breastfed 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.



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They're Only
Young Once**

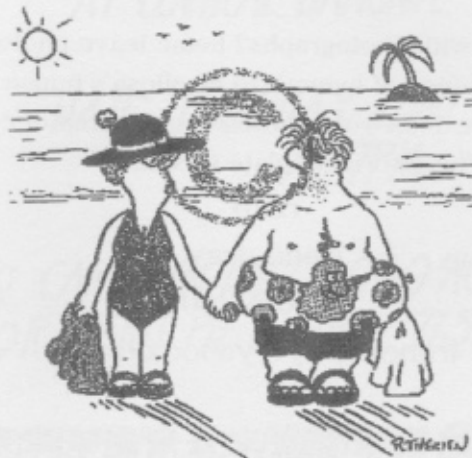


Call now for your Free Introductory class

21 Floor, Central City Tower Bangna :02-3995730-1

July/August & SILC

Due to the fact that many members are away over July and August there are no organised events. However there are still some committee members around so we have put together a list of who will be here when and leave it up to you to get busy.



"Better lose the hat, people are staring."

Lorina Swindley	Away 16th-31st July
Lesley Browning	Away 25th July - 9th September
Jo O' Kane	Away 6th July—August 2nd
Sharlini	Away for 3 weeks in August
Karen Cohen	Away July 12th— August 23rd
Anna Lai	Here all holidays
Jacque Kirkham	Here until August 27th
Jane Wise	Here on and off
Carolyn Whitehouse	Away 7th July-4th Aug & 10th—19th Aug
Irene Gray	Away 22nd June—23rd August
Lorraine Illing	Away 10th July—21st August
Maoliosa Denye	Away 9th July—25th August
Marit v/d Otelaar	Away 9th July -26th August
Annette Gerlach	Away 23rd July—13th August

September Events



coffee morning

monday sept 12th
10am at maoliosa denye's
109B lakeside villa 2



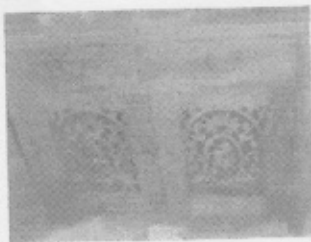
Fed up with shoe boxes filled with photographs? home leave photos put away in a drawer? bring 2 or 3 photos and your sense of humour to maoliosa's house for a 'hands on' demonstration of fun ways to exhibit your photos. enjoy a cup of coffee and a "catch up" with friends and neighbours. Please bring a plate to share.

rsvp

irene gray

018069240

irenemgray@yahoo.co.uk



INTRODUCTION TO WOOD CARVING
AND LUNCH

PRACHANARUMIT STREET
WONGSAWANG

Wood Street, as the expats call it, has more than only just ordinary wood. It has everything from the raw material to characteristically styled furniture. You can ask questions on the functional uses of different pieces of furniture, the type of timber used, the carving of wood, and get some tips on maintenance. We will browse through this street before moving on to lunch, but only if you wish to stay. Please do bring a bottle of water with you and a snack if you like.

TUESDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER 2005
8.30 AM TO APPROX 1PM.
COST: 200 BAHT.

RSVP: Anna Lai: mobile: 01 610 1928 email: anna_lai@email.com or
Jacque Kirkham: 02 316 4160 email: jkirkham@csloxinfo.com



September Events

COME AND JOIN US
FOR A NIGHT OF FUN AND LAUGHTER
AS WE CHECK OUT THE NEW
TEN PIN BOWLING FACILITIES
AT CENTRAL BANGNA



DATE: THURSDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER
AT 7PM

PLEASE RSVP TO CAROLYN PH: 060809101
OR MARIT PH: 0-7936 7656.

REMEMBER TO BRING SOCKS!

April Review

April 26th Evening Event

For the many SILC members who attended the April evening event, it was a chance to personally meet, Dr. Amporn. His welfare group, FORDEC, has been a long standing recipient of SILC charity funds.

Judi Blackhurst had kindly opened her lovely home, to not only SILC members, but also the Welfare team, the President and Vice President of ANZWG (Australian New Zealand Women's Group), who were also very interested in Dr. Amporn's work and background.

After a small delay getting the projector set up, we 25 ladies commenced the night with a very informative talk by Dr. Amporn and how the funds were distributed, located and generally how this charity worked.

It gave all who attended yet another insight into how this amazing country that we call home works!

Sincere thanks to Dr Amporn and Staff for their time and efforts and Judi Blackhurst for providing the welcoming venue.

Lorina Swindley

May Review

SILC MORNING TEA - WITH A DIFFERENCE!!



We have just had a very successful morning tea at Karen Cohen's home at Lakeside 1. This was certainly a morning tea with a difference - it was a combination of 'Bazaar/Bizarre', community 'Drop in and Stay' centre, or 'Shop till you Drop' day!!

There were approximately 100 people that attended - many staying for hours and enjoying the chat and friendships - not to mention the coffee, food and shopping. There were about 14 vendors displaying their stock - lots of bargains to be had as you would all be aware.

What was incredible was that people did come to shop, but then stayed on and sat either inside or outside and caught up with friends - drank heaps of coffee and tea and ate lots of lovely savouries and cakes while discussing their purchases!

The Raffle, with a variety of great prizes, was a huge success - we raised 10,300 baht. Thanks to Jacque and all the SILC members for their organization and participation in the day, and of course a big thank you to Karen for opening her home for this occasion.

VIVIAN LYNCH

***ALL SILC EVENTS
ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
PLEASE CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE
WITH THE RELEVANT CONTACT.***

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SILC 1st Charity Golf Competition

The 1st Annual SILC Golf Day took place on Saturday 11th June at Tana City. Amazingly for Thailand, the sun was shining and the mercury was rising - just exactly the way I remember playing golf as a boy in Bonnie Scotland (I think the sunstroke has finally turned him barmy - Ed) .

The players were spilt into groups of four, two guys and two girls in each. This was the first time that I had played with a woman in years and I was lucky enough to have two at the same time. Our team was composed of 2 Danes, 1 Canadian and a Scot - very UN. The tournament had a high number of Germans and not many English - just like the final rounds of the World Cup really.



Ready for the day ahead



Looking very cool - that won't last

The tournament format was a Texas Scramble, which is designed to be great fun and to involve players of all standards. It involves all players driving off and then selecting the best shot. The other balls are picked up and each player hits their 2nd shot from that position. Likewise the best 2nd shot is selected and everyone hits their 3rd shot from that position. This means that the team will be looking to hit par every hole - even for a bunch of duffers like us. All teams had to use at least 3 drives from each player.

So the first 9 went great and we were 2 under par at the turn. Darral from Canada was hitting drives about 4,000 yards long with a driver designed by NASA with nuclear fuel in it. (This won him a tie for the longest drive with Hiro, so it must have been worth the money). My old wooden number wasn't doing so well, but thankfully our female partners were fantastic and saved us with great short games. There was loads of banter going on between the teams as they passed each other at the turn (half teed off from the 1st and the other half from the 10th at the beginning of the day).



Another good walk ruined



I don't think they're after the ice cream

On the way home, however, the amber nectar kicked in and the boys' game began to fall apart (the girls were far more sensible and were drinking water). So from thinking of pulling on the Green Jacket, we came home in 3 over par to finish at one over. Given our combined handicap of 13 however, it was a net 60 - which I would settle for any day if it was just me!!! Unsurprisingly, we weren't in the money and a net 56 by the team of Alexander Afreedi, Jeanet Nemmo, Lynn Kreige and David Fullerton, won the day. Congrats to them all. As far as our team, the motto was "mai pen rai" and "give me another beer"!!!

The golf was quickly followed by several more green medicine bottles, a wonderful dinner, prizes galore and some great wine. For me, it was great to meet many new people and to enjoy the social side of the game (He is only saying that because he is rubbish - Ed) Many thanks to the hard work of the organising team and let's hope that this becomes a regular fixture on the SILC calendar. Next year St Andrews????

Steve Wise



The Winning Team

Alexander Afreedi, Jeanet Nemmoe, Lynn Kreige and David Fullerton
Gross 69; Handicap 13; Net 56



The Gallant Runner's Up

Edwin & Stefan Wild, Joergen Schmidt
And Esther Kaufmann
Gross 70; Handicap 13; Net 57

Other Prize Winners

Closest to Pin # 4 Yoshiko Miyawaki # 7 Torben Gerlach # 12 Sabine Benke # 17 Udo Puhze

Longest Drive Hole # 16 Hiro Miyawaki / Darral Kreige
16 Annette Gerlach

**MANY THANKS GO TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS
RAJA'S FASHIONS AND DZ CARD (THAILAND) LTD.**

The quiz nite.

Thanks Maoliosa for hosting a fabulous nite by her stunning pool, under the stars. Isabel Henderson did a great job as quiz master. We had 4 teams, the young stunning Spice Girls which, of course was our team, Izzy's Angels, the Laddawanites and the Gossipers. The level of competitiveness' was fierce as was the level of potential cheating by those who will remain nameless! The winning team was Izzy's Angels.

My favourite part was the clips of music where you had to guess the name and artist. It reminded me of balmy Scottish summers (oh you can dream) during our school summer holidays and we anxiously awaited the radio 1 road show and they played "one more record to bits and pieces." your street cred depending on how many you got right.

Did learn a few things too that the most sensitive part of your body to touch is your tongue and that the Latin word for orchid is genitalia.

I also learned that when you go out you should really take a key for the gate and the house. That trying to get your friend over a 6 ft fence isn't a good idea even when sober nor is trying to break in to your own house when you know that the security is excellent. That having the phone by the bed plugged in could help when you are outside of your house unable to get in!!

That sleeping over at the McCann household on a Friday nite is not a good idea and will end up in years of serious therapy.

Irene

Welfare Report

Visit to Mae Hong Son Province May 21st-23rd

We met up at Don Muang Domestic Terminal at 5:30 am for the flight to Chiangmai. Susan Race and her merry band of adventurers, 8 persons in total filled the mini van which took us up to Mae Sarang where we had lunch and then split up. Susan's group went off to one village and I went with Khun Usa straight to Ban Khun Wong Nua arriving about 3 pm.

We gathered to start making the blouse top (Khun Usa, four teachers and myself). The garment was not easy because of the collar but

I was very pleased again with the finished garments. We can only sew for a half day on Saturday and all day Sunday but I'm so pleased that everyone seems to enjoy the sessions.

Susan and her party comprising Panwadee, Song, John, Jan, Jane and Felicity Dent arrived about 4:30 pm on Sunday afternoon. They had suffered a rainstorm, visited the village, spent the night in a hotel in Mae Samang and visited four more villages on Sunday to see new building projects, dormitories, beds, mosquito nets etc. A great deal of useful work was accomplished with the help of Panwadee, not least the

visit she took us to in the village to a woman who was making whiskey for the wedding the next day. A baby had also been born in the village on Saturday, so Jan and Jane went off to visit the new mother and baby boy.

After breakfast on Monday a business meeting took place, distribution of clothing, a game of Hokey Cokey with the children, picture taking and farewells. We all left in two trucks for the journey through the hills to the main road. The scenery was really lovely, the road not so lovely in places especially going through the water-splash river bed.



The Sewing Machine given by SILC for teacher training in machine sewing, pattern making, cutting and stitching garments for school children and families in the village



Khun Apichart, school Headmaster, his wife Khun Usa the senior teacher, Felicity Dent and children of the village.

On the good road back to Chiangmai Airport we made a stop for lunch and shopping at Hot. Further on we shopped again at a cotton weaving family business and finally the last stop for coffee and gifts at a handi-craft street in Hang Dong.

We all arrived back safely at Don Muang on Monday evening at 18:30 hrs.

I was very pleased with the SILC sponsored side of this trip and I thank our group for opening up a skills programme to these women and for Susan's help in facilitating this project

Angela Fowles

Welfare Thank you

Upcoming Welfare visit to Ubon Rathcasim in July

As mentioned last month my family will visit a very active school in this North Eastern Province. I'd like to say a big "Thank You" to Sherry for donating children's clothes, toys and books for this visit. Your support is very much appreciated. I'll be away in England for a quick holiday in June but my daughter Anita is happy to help with collections.

Please call 02 385 8243 or mobile 01 802 5852 after 3 pm please

Angela Fowles

Smile

I was out walking with my 4 year old daughter. She picked up something off the ground and started to put it in her mouth. I took the item away from her and I asked her not to do that.

"Why?" my daughter asked.

"Because it's been lying outside, you don't know where it's been, it's dirty and probably has germs" I replied.

At this point, my daughter looked at me with total admiration and asked,

"Wow! How do you know all this stuff?"

"Uh,"I was thinking quickly, "All mums know this stuff. It's on the Mummy Test. You have to know it, or they don't let you be a Mummy."

We walked along in silence for 2 or 3 minutes, but she was evidently pondering this new information.

"OH...I get it!" she beamed, "So if you don't pass the test you have to be the daddy."

"Exactly" I replied back with a big smile on my face and joy in my heart.



SILC News Advertising Information

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

Personal Advertisements for SILC members are free of charge

Commercial Advertisement rates

Quarter page:	300 Baht
Full page:	1200 Baht
Half page:	600 Baht
Flyer insert:	600 Baht

Discounts

Member:	25%
Annual contract (May to June):	10%

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

Please send advertisement to:

The Editor: silcnews@hotmail.com
(or contact : 02 385 8550)

To arrange payment contact:

The Treasurer:
Maoliosa Denye tel: 02 316 4130
mdenye@hotmail.com



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When?

Starting 29th August 2005 to June 2006

Please contact the league for more information and a
player pack at info@bangkoknetball.com

Or Call

070780823

Events at Neilson Hays...



At the Rotunda

Art Exhibitions

"Chahn's Impression 2005"

By

Chahn Sutarapong

1st - 31st July 2005

Oil paintings

"Demanding Sky...Uprising Sea"

By

'BeVivon'

2nd - 30th August

Children's Story telling at the Neilson Hays Library

Bring your children to the Neilson Hays Library and introduce them to the wonderful literary offerings available in our children's section.

Who: Children aged 3-6 and their parents

When: Every Saturday at 10:30 a.m.

Where: Neilson Hays Library,
Children's Section

Members and Non-Members most
welcome.

Suggested Donation 50 Baht

Mapmaking Workshop

"The Wonders of Mapmaking"

The Neilson Hays Library would like to invite members and friends to a fun morning of "The Wonders of Mapmaking: A look at why we view a few lines on a page and immediately know where we are!" This could also be known as the bones of map reading and signage with Bangkok's Groovy Map company. Maps and bookmarks will be provided.



Wednesday 29th June 2005

10.30 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.

Neilson Hays Library
195 Surawong Road, Bangkok
Tel: 02 233 1731
Fax: 02 233 4999

Thai Festivals

Asanha Pucha or Sangkha Day 21st July



On the full moon day of the eighth lunar month, the Lord Buddha gave his first sermon and one of his followers became the first Buddhist monk. The followers of the Buddha are together called the Sangkha, and that is why Asaha Puja is called "Sangkha Day". Asaha means the eighth lunar month and Asaha Puja means the ceremony in the eighth lunar month. He gave eight guidelines called the Noble Eightfold Path. When people go to the temples on Asaha Puja Day and when they ordain as monks, novices or nuns, they try to live by the Noble Eightfold Path.

Buddhist Lent or Phansa 22nd July

On this day His Majesty replaces the Emerald Buddha's summer costume with that for the rainy season, which traditionally begins on the first day of Buddhist Lent.

This day marks the commencement of the three month Buddhist Lent or Phansa during which monks must reside inside their temples to study and meditate. This is also the most auspicious time for Buddhist ordinations since it marks a period of renewed spiritual vigour. In Thailand, it has long been customary for men to be ordained temporarily as novices or monks during the period of Lent



The tradition predates Buddhism. In ancient India, all holy men, mendicants and sages spent three months of the annual rainy season in permanent dwellings. They avoided unnecessary travel during the period when crops were still new for fear they might accidentally tread on young plants. In deference to popular opinion, Buddha decreed that his followers should also abide by this ancient tradition. This initiated a move away from an itinerant life to a more or less settled existence as the advantages of communal living became apparent.



Phansa represents a time of renewed spiritual vigour. The monk meditates more, studies more and teaches more. Laymen, too, traditionally, endeavour to be more conscientious, perhaps abstaining from liquor and cigarettes and giving extra financial and physical support to their local monasteries. Young men enter the monkhood for spiritual training, to gain merit for themselves and their parents, and to conform to the widespread feeling that a man who has not been a monk cannot be considered a mature adult. In some areas, a man who has never been a monk is avoided by marriageable girls, who regard him as *khon dip* or an 'unripe person'.

The Buddhist ordination is a mixture of religious solemnity, merit-making and boisterous celebration reflecting a Thai belief that the three most important events of a man's life are this birth, his ordination and his marriage. The ordination ritual itself evolved over 2,500 years ago during the Buddha's life as the Sangha (the Buddhist monastic order) took form and has changed little to this day.

Socially, the ordination is something in which the entire village participates. Village monks comprise the presiding chapter and preceptors. Villagers gain merit by accompanying the tonsured, white robed candidate for monkhood (known as the *nak*) in a colourful procession to the monastery. Small children join the procession which is often marked by joyous dancing and the heady throb of long drums.

12th August: The Queen's Birthday Celebration (Mother's Day)

To display their loyalty and to honour Her Majesty Queen Sirikit on the occasion of her royal birthday, the Thai people decorate their houses and public buildings. Around Bangkok, Ratchadamnoen Avenue, the area around the Grand Palace and other well-known locations are bedecked with coloured lights and magnificent adornments.

Her Majesty Queen Sirikit's birthday is a public holiday, celebrated nationwide as Mother's Day. Individual people and organizations raise flags and portraits of Her Majesty in Bangkok and all over the kingdom.



Born M.R. Sirikit Kitiyakara in 1932, Her Majesty the Queen has captured the hearts of the Thai people through her devotion to improving the welfare and well-being of her subjects. The Queen is perhaps best known for her efforts in reviving many of Thailand's folk arts and crafts. Her Majesty's SUPPORT Foundation (Foundation for the Promotion of Supplementary Occupations and Her Majesty the Queen Related Techniques) has expanded progressively since its establishment in 1976 to include craft shops in the city and popular tourist areas, and two Thai Folk Arts and Crafts Training Centres at Chitralada Villa and at Bangsai in Ayutthaya.

THE ANNUAL
SILC
CHARITY BAZAAR
WILL BE HELD ON
18TH OCTOBER 2005
AT
BANGKOK PATANA SCHOOL.
WE NEED VOLUNTEERS .
IF YOU CAN HELP
PLEASE CALL US.



Jo - 02 258 77 37 / 01 752 5801 jo@okanes.net

Sharlini - 02 750 4211 / 098 11 98 19 skd@loxinfo.co.th

Meet the New Committee



Hi, my name is **Carolyn Whitehouse**. I've been in Bangkok for 18 months this time and was here from 1993-96 BC (before children). I moved here

with my family from New Zealand, though I am originally from the UK. I have a 2 year old boy Ross and a 7 year old daughter Kelly, who has just finished Y2 at Patana. My husband Colin runs the Ovaltine factory here in Samut Prakarn. I am a trained Career Coach and I enjoy exercising, Latin dance, learning to speak Thai and playing on the stock market. This is my first time on the Silc Committee but am looking forward to the roles of **Vice President** (shared with Marit) and organising the **evening meetings** (again with Marit). I am also the Coordinator for the Silc Playgroup.



Having been persuaded last year to become **newsletter editor** without any previous experience I thought I would try it again this year. Well, Publisher no longer scares me and my children have even been

impressed by some of the things I have learnt to do.. (I think it is a bit like when our mothers worked out how to programme the video to record Coronation Street.) For those of you who don't know me I have been in Bangkok for 3 years, originally from Birmingham, England which I left in 1982 and haven't been back well apart from the odd visit. I am married to Steve who is from Scotland - yes he was the guy in the kilt at last year's Melbourne Cup. We have 3 children 13, 11 and 10 - lots of hormones!! In my previous life I was an A&E nurse but now spend my time on the tennis court and on the computer as well as being social events coordinator for my kids. If anyone would like to write an article for the newsletter please let me know

Enjoy SILC Jane Wise



Hiya I'm Irene Gray I'm from Bonnie Scotland. We have been here coming on 8.5 years for our sins with a short "vacation" in KL for 9 months. When I wrote this last year I was pregnant and this year I am anxiously organising the 1st birthday party! My big daughter is now 8.5

years and is in year 3 at Patana. My specialist subjects are diets...its Monday what diet are we doing....and getting fit and then losing it.....**I am doing coffee mornings**. please let me know if you have any good ideas on speakers.



Maoliosa Denye - treasurer

I can hardly believe that it is time for a new SILC committee. In the absence of any other volunteers I have resumed the role of treasurer for the second year. Having been here for all of 20 months I feel very much an "old timer". I have enjoyed many of the SILC activities last year, including scrap booking, evening meetings, coffee mornings and book group. And I am looking forward to an equally rewarding year and the opportunity to make new friends

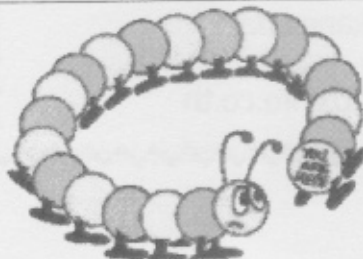


Co-President - Lorina Swindley

There has to be a 'country & eastern' ballad that sums up my last few years with SILC. "*She thought it was over, but it ain't*" or "*Back in the saddle again*" or "*Can't see the light at the end of the road*"

Truthfully, having enjoyed the last two terms as Vice President and ready to handover the reins to all those 'eager' participants, I found myself being asked to consider taking over the sharing of the President's role. I realized with my neighbour, Annette as the other half of this team, (who has been on the SILC committee for over 5 years now continually) that it could be still a fun and exciting year and we hope to bring you lots of different events to attend, laughs to enjoy and experiences to ponder in this unique Country. I am certainly open to new thoughts, ideas and plans, so please don't hesitate to contact me.

Regards, Lorina Swindley,
Co-President





Co-President

Hi, my name is **Annette Gerlach**, married, 2 kids (3 & 6). I've been in Thailand since 1998 and with SILC since 2000. I enjoy being involved in SILC as it is a great opportunity to meet new and interesting people from all

over the world. I'm looking forward to the upcoming year and I hope you have a good time with us.



"Hi everyone, my name is **Anna Lai**. I moved from HK to Bangkok in 1995. My husband is a local Thai Chinese. He works in computer security and programming. Before, I became a full time

housewife, I was working

as an Accountant in one of the computer manufacturing firms in HK. When I came to Thailand, continuing my profession with my limited understanding of Thai language, seemed a bit difficult so I settled for my new role as a full time mum and part-time wife!!! I don't know if there is anyone in the same shoes as me, your guy is into computers and seems more attached to the computer screen than you.....I guess it must only be me..! So I got myself a hobby, to overcome this depressing fact, that is to appraise gemstones and make jewellery for fun! After all, I can spend all the time I want looking at beautiful stones without actually having to purchase it!

Now that I have joined the committee, I hope I can find out some more interesting places for all of us to share and to experience Bangkok!

Looking forward to seeing you guys on my tours with Jacque in the coming months!"



I arrived in Bangkok in October 2001 from the U.K with my husband and two daughters, our first overseas posting. I had worked as a Probation Officer for twenty years but adapted remarkably quickly to a life of leisure! I spend a lot of time playing tennis, occasionally hack around the golf course, enjoy exploring Bangkok's numerous restaurants and also find time to

read. Having enjoyed the benefits of SILC membership since I arrived, when asked to join the committee, I felt it was about time that I made a contribution. I am looking forward to the year ahead: its probably my last year here..... but we've all heard that before.

Lesley Browning
Secretary



My name is **Marit van den Oetelaar**. I lived all my life in the Netherlands until last August when my family and I moved to Bangkok. I'm married to Gerton who works as engineering manager at Chromalloy Thailand which is a company in the aero-

space industry. Together we have 2 children, Tom 6 years old and Daphne 2 years old. Most of my days I spend with Daphne. Apart from that I enjoy partying, dancing, working out and most of all spending time with my family and friends. Recently I became joint SILC Vice President and evening events organiser with Carolyn. I hope to meet you all at one of the upcoming events.



Hi, I am **Penny Fournel**. I am Canadian and have been living abroad for 8 years. The last 2 have been here in beautiful Thailand. I am married with 2 children: Amelia 3 1/2 and Katelyn 2 months. I enjoy scrap-booking, photography,

swimming and writing. This is my second term on the committee and have thoroughly enjoyed helping out. SILC has been part of my life-line here and I am looking forward to a new year with new challenges as well as the traditional annual events!





Lorraine Illing I moved to Bangkok from the USA in August 2004 and now live on Moobaan Laddawan. I have been married to Glen for 17 years and we have four boys: Luca aged 11 and 8 year old triplets Hugo, Piers & George. We first left the UK in 1986 and have lived and worked in Lisbon Portugal, Barcelona Spain, Krakow Poland, San Francisco California and also returned to Oxford for two brief periods. We love to travel (just as well really) and are all enjoying exploring Asia for the first time. Apart from keeping the "crew" on the straight & narrow I love to read (& luckily managed to join a book club) and enjoy aqua aerobics, walking, cycling & tennis. Much of my life, as a mother of four boys, involves stationing myself at the edge of a rugby/football pitch, swimming pool, lake or gym for very long periods of time. It is here I meet some of the most interesting people in Bangkok as we idle away another three hour Training session! Through these contacts I managed to find myself involved in Patana School's drama productions of Oliver and Jungle Book, which were surprisingly good fun to do. I'm now responsible for arranging SILC lunches and will of course take this responsibility seriously, eating lunch out five days a week in the name of research, to discover new and interesting places for you all! Please be sure to let me know of any new and interesting lunch spots you may have discovered.



I have had a fantastic 10 months as the coffee morning coordinator, meeting many wonderful people, thank you everyone who has made my old 'job' worthwhile.

For the next 10 months I will have a new job share .Tours , with Anna Lai, we will be doing a lot of travelling with all you ladies out there, for those who like to travel and see new and wonderful places, Anna and I will try our best.

See you soon, thank you.
Jacquie Kirkham



I am from Sri Lanka. My family and I moved to Thailand 4 years ago after 5 yrs in Switzerland. I have met some really wonderful people through SILC.

I organized coffee mornings and lunches for SILC in the past two years. This year I am coordinating the SILC Charity Bazaar with Jo.

Sharlini Colin- Thome



I have had a great time living in Thailand and cant believe it has been almost 3 years since we arrived . During the last few years I have been involved with ANZWG which really was a lot of fun. As many of you know already I am an Aussie who originated from Sydney. I am married to Greg who works for Ford Credit and we have two wonderful boys, Jeremy aged 11 and David aged 9 who really enjoy going to the Bangkok Patana School. These days I seem to spend my life racing around almost every day of the week. By either playing mahjong, committee meetings, catching up with friends or working. When we get a chance to get away we do really enjoy travelling around Thailand and other parts of Asia. I am also looking forward to helping out this year with membership and supporting both Jo and Sharlini with the SILC Bazaar.

Karen Cohen

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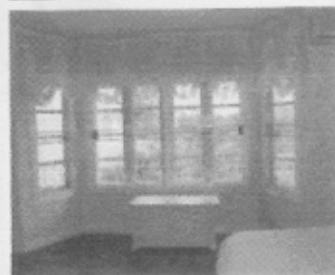
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What's On in Bangkok

ThaiCraft Sales

Monsoon Season (July - September)

Saturday 2nd July

10am - 1 pm

The Ambassador Hotel Bangkok

Tower Wing, Third Floor

Exit 3 Nana BTS

Featured Group: Ban Nong Khong (Mukdaharn Province)

make colourful and durable baskets from recycled plastic tape.

Saturday 6th August

10am - 1 pm

The Ambassador Hotel Bangkok

Featured Group: Chachoengsao Carvers create detailed figures of animals and birds as well as useful household objects out of buffalo horn..

Saturday 3rd September

10am - 1 pm

The Ambassador Hotel

Featured Group: The Karen women of Doi Tao (Chiang Mai Province) weave naturally dyed cotton yarns into traditionally inspired clothing and bags using simple and highly practical back strap looms.

7th Discovery Thailand and International Travel Fair

25th—28th August

Queen Sikirit National Convention Centre

Expect some incredible travel deals on sale this week with over exhibitors including resorts, airlines, cruises, tour operators, spas, dive centres, and more

SCRABBLE



One of the more clever E-mails. Someone out there either has too much spare time or is deadly at Scrabble.

GEORGE BUSH
DORMITORY
EVANGELIST
PRESBYTERIAN
DESPERATION
THE MORSE CODE
SLOT MACHINES
ANIMOSITY
MOTHER-IN-LAW
SNOOZE ALARMS
A DECIMAL POINT
THE EARTHQUAKES
ELEVEN PLUS TWO

When you rearrange the letters

HE BUGS GORE
DIRTY ROOM
EVIL'S AGENT
BEST IN PRAYER
A ROPE ENDS IT
HERE COME DOTS
CASH LOST IN ME
IS NO AMITY
WOMAN HITLER
ALAS! NO MORE Z'S
I'M A DOT IN PLACE
THAT QUEER SHAKE
TWELVE PLUS ONE

And for the grand finale:

PRESIDENT CLINTON OF THE USA: When you rearrange the letters (With no letters left over and using each letter only once): TO COPULATE HE FINDS INTERNS

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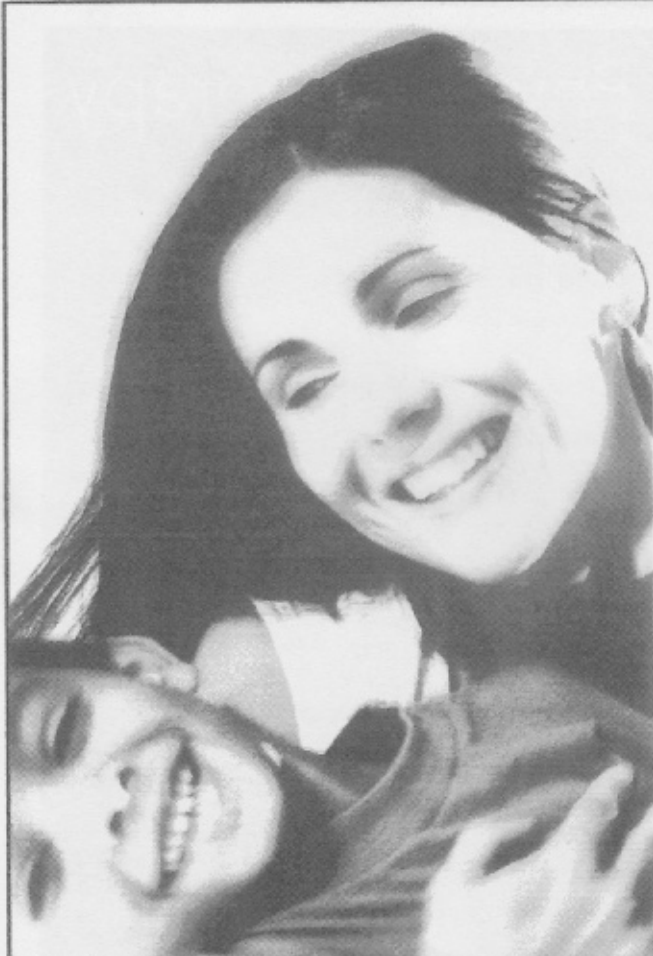
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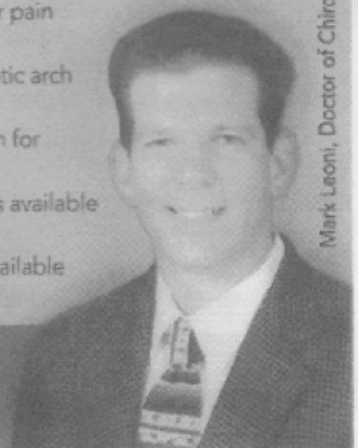


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