

# Travelogue No 14



## A Truly Despicable State Of Affairs

A story so incredible, so despicable, has just reached these offices. The veracity of the following has been proven and is now placed before you. Make of it what you will.

A well-to-do family, whose wealth has been generated over many years by previous generations, have just had a reason to celebrate. The eldest daughter of a branch got married. But where was her Dad???? Who gave her away??? Who did she marry???

The story goes back a few years. This family, part of a larger group, have relied for years on so-called family advisors. Most of the beneficiaries in recent years are unemployed and swan around the world in typical foppish fashion. Without a care in the world, money comes and money goes. As long as they can live their la-de-dah lifestyle, who gives a damn about anybody else outside their circle.

Well educated, with Gap years thrown in, school fees paid, health insurance paid, these modern day scavengers seek new ways of humiliating their forebears. Now independent and flexing inexperienced muscles, these parasites exact an immoral retribution on those who gave so generously as they were growing up. Never was it thought possible that a time would come when the hand that fed them would be so cruelly ripped from the shoulder.

The story unfolds further when it is revealed that the father in question had been forced from the family home by way of eviction order. This order was applied for by the very same advi-

sors who dished out endless funds for these popinjays, and who continue to sucker in vast commissions and fees. The family home, when sold, will barely cover the costs of these men in grey suits. So what is the benefit??

The father, forced into exile due to the cost of living in UK, has had no contact with his three siblings despite countless attempts. He has been left virtually penniless and is living off kindness from others. Now with health problems and a huge sense of betrayal, he was astonished to learn, by chance, that his eldest daughter had become married. But, to whom? A creepy Scientologist perhaps??

What crime, so heinous that communication and contact is totally lost, can he have committed?? Here is a man who has lost forever the chance of taking his little girl down the aisle. The reasons for such atrocious behaviour can never be excused hence this story is duly passed on for the benefit of others looking to do the best for their family. Lessons should be learnt but it seems the modern generation has a great deal to answer for.

With the great benefit of hindsight, it is easy to see the pitfalls, the modern independence and the lack of family commitment. When outsiders promise the moon and charge the earth, it is easy to see that family units can be swayed by financial bull, especially when they have no job and far too much money. There is no excuse for such behaviour, only soul searching and eventual atonement.



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## Welcome to Lakeside Lodge

A short visit to Lakeside Lodge was made by Brian and Kath Tinman during their recent holiday to the Kingdom. A couple of nights in Bangkok and then on to Hua Hin for some R n R at the small but popular seaside resort.

The usual Lakeside hospitality was provided and an excellent lunch was enjoyed by all. Coquilles St Jaques followed by roast fillet of truffle hound with a fine array of vegetables was topped of with a good selection of cheeses. Red wine in abundance and Tiger beer made for a thoroughly nostalgic afternoon.

Some pictures on the right record the event.



More total humbug from a beleaguered Government, this time in banning the rewards distributed to Our Boys during the Malaysia Campaign in the early '60s. Soldiers serving with fellow Commonwealth officers were awarded the Pingat Jasa Malaysia medal for their service during operations between 1956 and 1966.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office, on behalf of the Government, is responsible for administering the policy relating to the acceptance and wearing of non-British awards by British citizens. When the office was approached by the Malaysian government about the medal in 2005, they arranged for the matter to be considered by the Committee on the Grant of Honours, Decorations and Medals. Following this consideration, a written ministerial statement, issued on January 31, 2006, stated that an exception would be made to two long-established rules governing the accepting and wearing of foreign, including Commonwealth, awards to allow the Malay-

sian government to present the medal.

However it also stated: "Permission to wear the PJM will not, however, formally be given. It is long standing Socialist policy that non-British medals will not be approved for events or service that took place more than five years before initial consideration, or in connection with events that took place in the distant past (e.g. commemorative medals); if the recipient has received a British award for the same service."

Former soldier John Richards is upset because he is not allowed to wear his Malaysia medal has spoken of his disgust at the Government for not allowing him and his former comrades to wear a medal awarded for service in Malaysia.

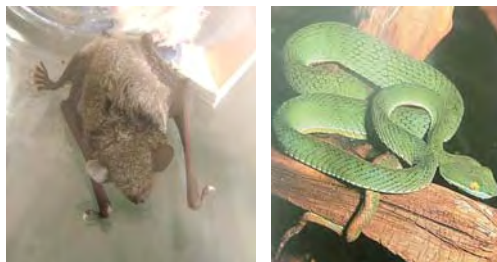
John Richards, who lives in Rhos, Wrexham, served alongside soldiers from other countries in the Commonwealth in operations in Malaysia in the early 1960s. Forty years later, in 2006, the Malaysian government awarded a medal known as the Pingat Jasa Malaysia to all eligible Commonwealth soldiers for their service in operations in the country between August, 1957 and August, 1966. Mr Richards, like his counterparts from other countries, is very proud of his medal but, unlike them, he and his British comrades are not formally allowed to wear it. He said: "I served in the Commonwealth brigade with soldiers from Australia, New

Zealand and the Gurkhas and we were all awarded this medal. They are allowed to wear it but British soldiers are not. This was the last straw for me – to be presented with a medal and then to be told I can't wear it. "It is an insult to the Malaysian government, to the people of Malaysia and to my colleagues and comrades. Most of all it is an insult to those comrades who didn't come back from Malaysia and to their families – that is a terrible insult and one which we won't forgive."

Subsequently, on August 8, 2007, the Queen granted permission for the medal to be worn during last year's main independence celebrations in Malaysia from August 15 to September 9, 2007. Mr Richards, like many of his comrades and high profile figures, is calling for the rules to be changed to allow the Pingat Jasa Malaysia to be worn by British soldiers on any occasion and he is thinking of writing to the Queen about the issue. He said: "What is the point of allowing the medal to be presented but not allowing us to wear it? I know that the Queen cares a lot about her armed forces and I'm sure that she would agree on this issue. "I wear my other campaign medals on Armistice Day, why am I not allowed to wear this one? "It is not like we are asking for a handout from the Government. All we want is to be allowed to wear the medal that we have been awarded. "It's no big deal to them but it is to the men and women who were out there." **Bah Humbug, bloody pacifists**

## Nature Corner In Chonburi

For those of a nervous disposition, this article highlights some of the wee beasties encountered around Lake Chaknork. Although rarely seen, a degree of excitement occurs on spotting a snake. 'Is it deadly or just the harmless green reptile?' is the cry. All snakes should be considered dangerous, even though there are some perfectly harmless ones. Some of the spiders can be huge, with bird eaters amongst them. The more common ones are the small jumping spiders which are everywhere. Skinks are small lizards and have wonderful markings. Totally harmless, there are many varieties of skink in South East Asia. Bats appear early evening but just fly harmlessly by. See right, the toads are huge !!!!!



---What do you do if a bird craps on your window ???  
---Don't ask her out again. Anon

# What a Cock !!!



Not this one. It's a wooden elephant on Koh Chang



Yup, its the dead meat from Melbourne

## Reality TV - New Faces On Junior PM Show



Flyboy Livingstone



Wurzel Hi-So Gummidge



Mrs David Blunkitt



Gordon Bennett !!!

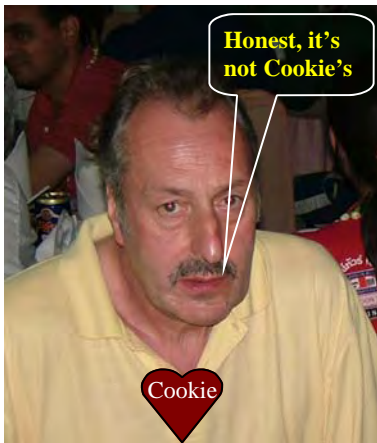
The popular TV Reality game show strikes out for another season of buffoonery and incompetence. Adored by those still able to afford a TV licence, this season's collection of unknown upstarts are shown above. Pick a winner from this lot and you are surely destined for Junior PM. Like a collection from the Muppets, similarities abound but Reality is just that. Nothing more than a dodgy bunch of no-hopers who are attempting to rekindle their flagging popularity. You can't beat the real thing !!! **Gordo - get a life !!! Well batted in Crewe & Nantwich !!**

## More Visitors To Lakeside

Following a call from Paul Mason to say he was in need of a few days R & R, the Lakeside team were on call to provide the necessary tonic. The pressures of Bangkok life were soon dispelled and Paul entered the realms of total relaxation. Despite attempts to activate his taste buds at a newly opened Indian eatery where all dishes tasted identical, he preferred Kh Porn's excellent cooking. Additional guest, Izzy Friedman, arrived for Sunday lunch. An impressive menu with scallops mornay and roast pork the main items, the assembled group listened intently to Izzy's amazing stories and heroic activities. A thoroughly enjoyable afternoon to be repeated very soon.



# Old Skunks Gallery



## Back in Goonhilda - Beer or Kids??

Gormless Alcopop, Spuds Douchebag, was hauled over by highway police near Alice Springs for driving with a free-range child and a carton of 30 tinnies. The tinnies were strapped down whilst the prog was allowed to roam around the innards of the car uninhibited.

Police revealed that the driver was charged with driving an uninsured and unregistered vehicle and failing to ensure a child was wearing a seatbelt.

When Constable Burnett handed over the fine of A\$750, driver Spuds looked completely blank

and just shook his head in astonishment.

"When I asked him why the child was unrestrained and yet the case of beer was, he said he didn't know anything about it. He just didn't get it."

Meanwhile back in Alice Springs, police spokesperson Gutsy Carborundum said "this is a timely reminder that all passengers must be kept secure in the vehicles."

Back at Spud's mobile home, surrounded by numerous empty beer cans, nobody was available for comment the area.

## Mexican Law - An Ass Or Worse

It seems that the law is an ass in Southern Mexico after a donkey found itself banged up in a human jail for biting and kicking two men near a ranch in Chiapas. Officer Simple Gomez said, "Around here, if someone commits a crime they are jailed, no matter who they are."

Police said that it took six men two hours to subdue the buck-teethed bruiser after it bit a 63 year old man in the knackers and kicked another man, fracturing the 52 year old's ankle. "We will not stand for unprovoked acts of violence, and the beast will remain locked up indefinitely until the owner, Mauro Gutierrez, coughs up for the injured parties medical bills. I am prepared to wait donkey's years for the correct result."

Inmates at the Chiapas Penitentiary said that this was heaven sent and that they hoped that the donkey, now called Carmen, would be with them for many years. A huge queue forms outside Carmen's cell every evening with inmates hoping for true love. **What sad puppies !!!**