

Travelogue No 28

Xmas/New Year Supplement

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Welcoming in the New Year along with a number of guests from around the world, we would like to extend our thanks to the various travellers to this part of Thailand. No White Christmas, but plenty of lively parties and nostalgic chat soon dispelled the unmitigated chaos of economic disaster around the globe. Let's hope changes of governments will bring sense and stability to shattered economies and peace in many troubled Countries.

Sawasdee Pee Mai Khrap



Important Issues In This Offering :

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Errrr, So where do we go from here, Gordo ????

GB: Well, New Labour has exceeded expectations to a point where the future is very rosy. Unemployment is at its lowest since the day I took over, the NHS is reducing the patient list by 20,000 per year, and VAT has dropped by a dramatic margin. Lord Mandy of Andy Pandy is expertly handling the economic crisis and Jacque Smith is fully hands on as Homo Secretary. I think we shall rule the World very soon.

That being so, Gordo, where do you see New Labour in the year 2009 ???

Quite significantly stronger. In fact, with the number of illegals, errr, Immigrants, and non English speaking foreign Johnnies, we will have a huge voting support base. I doubt if the opposition have an answer to that - except to emigrate !!

So you mean, Prime Pillock, that with so many foreign extremists, illegals and other undesirables you will maintain a huge majority whilst killing off 20,000 a year in hospitals through the MRSA bugs and employ useless graduates with spurious degrees to supplement bureaucracy and political correctness in every walk of life. And to pay these worthless parasites, you will continue to rob and pillage pension funds, jack up taxes on necessary home essentials, expropriate Middle England without any thought to how Johnnie foreigner will contribute to society ??

Rather a harsh appraisal, if I may say. You fail to realise that New Labour and all our brothers, errr members, are working towards a unified Europe. It is essential that the unjust and disgraceful policies of the Thatcher era are eradicated once and for all. Unions have never recovered and it is time that their voice is heard. As for the Immigration matter, Lady Andy Pandy has been working hard to improve Human Rights abuses and has moved that we in Great Gordon Britain should take in all the selfless souls from Guantanamo Bay to show we really care. Much is being done to care for the elderly with heating allowances being paid too late so that we don't have to pay them next winter. It all helps, you know. Labour cared little, New Labour cares less.

Thank you, ex PM.



Christmas Wedding

Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Simon Philbrook on tying the knot before Christmas. A lovely couple who have been involved in Thailand for many years and both work for the same Company, MBMG, in Pattaya. At the reception party in the popular Moon River Pub, guests were entertained with a superb buffet, drinks and live entertainment. The honeymooners are spending a couple of weeks in Bali - best wishes to Simon and Debs from all at Lakeside Lodge.

It's a ghastly place. Huge gangs of tough sinewy men roam the valleys terrorising people with their close-harmony singing. You need half a pint of phlegm in your throat just to pronounce the place names. Never ask for directions in Wales, Baldrick, you'll be washing spit out of your hair for a fortnight.

Blackadder on Wales



Old Mates Gallery



Army To Have Anti-Sniper Assistance



British and American forces fighting the guerrilla insurgency in Iraq and Afghanistan could soon be protected by an anti-sniper device that can pinpoint the position of the shooter within a fraction of a second. The palm-sized device designed by Qinetiq, the British defence firm that was once the government research laboratories, is pinned to the uniform and uses acoustic technology to calculate the exact position of the rifle fire. Then an electronic voice passes on the "bearing and range" to the soldier allowing him to jump to safety and return fire. The machine has already been purchased by the Americans for deployment in the New Year and the British are looking at a vehicle mounted version. After roadside bombs, snipers have been the biggest cause of the 301 British fatalities in both wars, and army chiefs are convinced the device could save dozens of lives. "It is all about saving guys' lives," said Don Steinman, one of the leaders of the project at Qinetiq North America who developed the device called EARS for Early Attack Reaction System.



Flavour Of The Month - Squirrel Crisps

Chilli and chocolate, crispy duck with hoisin sauce and Cajun squirrel are among a tastebud-testing new range of crisp flavours launched in Britain on Friday. The flavours, chosen by the public and developed with the help of top chef Heston Blumenthal, also include fish and chips, builder's breakfast and onion bhaji.

"The complexities of flavour fascinate me and to watch the British public get so excited about taste has been absolutely inspiring," said Blumenthal, chef of the Michelin three-starred Fat Duck restaurant.

"We've had an incredible response and sifting through the entries has been quite incredible. I can't wait to see which one the public choose as their winner!" he said.

The six flavours were chosen from more than a million suggestions sent in to crisp makers Walkers after they launched their "Do Us A Flavour" campaign last year to find out the British public's snack tastes. They will be sold until May, after which there will be a vote to decide which flavour stays on sale permanently. The creator of the win-



Chippy the Squirrel Hunting For Nuts

ner will get 50,000 pounds plus one percent of future sales.

Of the six finalists, only one was proposed by a man: Cajun squirrel is the brainchild of Martyn Wright, 26, who said he was inspired to enter when he saw squirrel on a restaurant menu.

"This gentle Cajun flavouring will be delicious for the public and although the idea might sound bizarre, it really works," he said, while underlining that no squirrels were harmed in making the crisps.

Ed: He must be nuts !!



This Is Where Your Money Is Going - More Socialist Dogma



More than 4,000 civil servants are being kept on the Whitehall payroll despite having no work to do, it was revealed recently. They include nearly 3,000 tax inspectors who continue to be employed under the title 'pre-surplus staff'. Other terms used by Government departments to describe the thousands without work include 'people action teams', 'redeployment pools', 'priority movers' and 'career transition centres'. It means an estimated £133million of taxpayers' money was spent employing 4,634 'pre-surplus staff' assuming the average civil servant salary of £28,622. The figures, revealed by the Tories from parliamentary questions, are likely to deepen public resentment over the featherbedding of public employees. Ed: More waste, more bull



Brass Balls And Monkeys



Cold weather payouts for pensioners and the vulnerable reached record levels after Britain's deep freeze plunged temperatures as low as minus 11C. Forecasters warned that it will become even colder. The Government's bill will rise over 100 million as Londoners become eligible for the payment for the first time since the scheme was introduced a decade ago. The thermometer reached minus 10C in Farnborough, Hampshire and minus 11C in parts of Scotland, which is colder than areas of Greenland and the Antarctic. The Met Office said it expected temperatures to go another degree colder. The bitter cold has left pavements coated in ice and driving conditions treacherous across the country. Thousands of motorists were left stranded in the busiest day of breakdowns in five years yesterday. The AA and RAC said they had responded to more than 40,000 call-outs in 36 hours. Subsidies kick into place when sub-freezing temperatures last for seven or more days. In the decade of global warming, London had never experienced that until this week. That will cost the British £15 million, which comes on top of a £93 million bill for subsidies in the North, where they're more often applied. Global warming, as it turns out, gets pretty expensive. Simple really, if the current solar trends continue, it will soon be so cold that Al Gore will be the only person left on the planet who doesn't think Al Gore is a total wazzock. The quiet sun is going to cause us a big problem when the growing season shortens to the point that crops cannot mature. 2009 may be the first year that happens.

Ed : Set fire to the illegals, that'll keep us warm !!

Christmas Time Festivities

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I haven't spoken to my wife for over a month. We haven't had a row - it's just that I'm afraid to interrupt her.

Les Dawson

