



Charter Granted 7 August 1961

SOUTH WIND

THE ROTARY CLUB OF BANGKOK SOUTH



The Crowne Plaza Bangkok Lumpini Park Hotel, 952 Rama IV Road, Bangkok 10500 Thailand
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Meetings:
Friday
12.15 pm.

President Michael Schulz
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Communications Tim Cornwall • **Administration** Stuart Lucani • **Service Projects** Chris Thatcher
Rotary Foundation Rakesh Sodhia • **Sergeant-at-Arms** Adrian Topham

No 2514

3 January 2014

Edwin Wiek The ones that get away with it

Raided by armed officials, arrested, harassed and living in fear for his life...all because Edwin rescues wild animals maltreated and neglected by humans.

Looking after damaged animals no one else wants is a huge and expensive undertaking. To make it happen WFFT relies on sponsor generosity, simple donations in some cases, anonymous contributions from high rollers and even former prime ministers in others – as well as a continual supply of volunteers.

The volunteers' zeal is more than matched by Edwin, a remarkable Dutchman, who gave up a successful career in fashion to open the Rescue Centre in 2001. This monumental switch in career followed "a life-changing car accident" that convinced him he needed to move to "something more meaningful."

Today, his objectives go beyond rescuing and caring for injured animals. He campaigns for a ban on hunting and works to promote conservation of all Thailand's natural resources, fauna and flora, as well as the seas and

the environment in general.

"We educate people, particularly children, to stop cruelty to animals. We campaign against the illegal trade in wild animals for the pet industry and discourage the use of animals – especially elephants – for entertaining tourists," says Edwin.

Elephants are in trouble in Thailand. After the ban on logging, most of them have ended up being used for the amusement of tourists or have had to make a living begging on the streets of big cities. Walking day and night on these dirty and traffic-congested roads is dangerous and unhealthy and very often, these elephants end up being involved in horrific traffic accidents.

"Regrettably, in Thailand, there are no laws to prevent this abuse and mistreatment; therefore there is an urgent need to help these animals."

A highly vocal critic of animal poaching, illegal trading in wildlife, he regularly speaks about the corruption he believes is mostly responsible for the



country's declining wildlife, often naming and shaming those involved.

Edwin's views are not universally popular, however, and his enemies are mounting – with chilling consequences. At one

point, the Rescue Centre was raided by hundreds of armed officials on suspicion, ironically enough, that it was engaged in illegal wildlife trading.

On other occasions, Edwin and his Thai wife have been arrested on trumped-up charges clearly designed to deter his activities. Not surprisingly, he admits he sometimes fears for his life, but soldiers on regardless, believing his cause is just and right.

Article by Colin Hastings
BigChilli Magazine
www.thebigchilli.com



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Flashback...



Sister Louise and a sampling of her group's fantastic Christmas products



Rtn Marcel and Visiting Rtn Alex showing off a similar taste in eye-wear



Some heavy reading ahead...



PP Don prying money out of Rtn Ken



The True Taste of Real Coffee





Christmas Dinner

Once again Bangkok South Rotarians, friends, wives and our many visitors enjoyed a fantastic evening filled with Mulled-wine, rum-laden egg-

nog, some of the best turkey ever and of course, great fellowship and even a visit from Santa Claus... What more could we ask for?




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Khun Khob's Club Almanac # 2514 – 3 January 2014

Happy Birthdays

PP Wanit Mekdhanasarn January 3
 Rui Belo January 5
 Volker Betsch January 5

Wedding Anniversary Greetings

Suhendra Kosim January 9

Attendance for 13 December 2013: 60%

Present 40, Make-up 8, Absent 32,
 Exemption 27, Total 107

Attendance for 20 December 2013: 46%

Present 26, Make-up 11, Absent 43,
 Exemption 27, Total 107

Visiting 13 December 2013

From Abroad

Chuck Cey RC Kelowna, Canada
 John Chirgwin RC Martha's Vineyard, USA

Local

RC Bangkokapi Carmen Schuster
 PDG Krit Indhewat
 PP Rene Clausen
 RC Bangkok Alex Paufler
 Charles Cheung
 Prasas Tangmatitam
 Suraphon Kittiwet
 Thamolwon Ekbundit
 RC Dhonburi P Pichai Buranasombati
 RC Patumwan Boonden Ou-Udomying
 DGN Chaivai Poonlapmongkol
 P Rawewan Kowsurat
 Weeradate Kowsurat
 Nattha Pangmanee
 RC Sathorn Joe Goh
 RC Silom

Invited Guests

Dr Ian Fenwick
 Ann Kanya Pisalyaput
 Mariadel RP Galicia
 Paksinee Khongsri
 Ann Somsri Onma

Introduced by

Dean Outerson
 PP Nick Pisalyaput
 DGN Chaivai Poonlapmongkol
 Joop Van Delden
 P Pichai Buranasombati

Recent Makeups

Deerfield Beach, Florida, 26/11/13 & 3/12/13: Sievert Larsson
 E-Club One, 6 & 16/12/13: Tom Banker
 Bangkok, 12/12/13: Henry Kosim
 Bangkok, 19/12/13: PP Mark Butters
 Kubal City, 16/12/13: Arie Bloed



Club Calendar
For Bangkok South Events
[rotarybangkoksouth.org/
 calendar-of-events](http://rotarybangkoksouth.org/calendar-of-events)

Special Dates to Remember

Thursday, 20 February 2014
25th Annual Golf Tournament
Thana City Golf Course

Saturday, 28 June 2014
Installation Ball
Dusit Thani Hotel

Make-up Credits

Golf, 6/12/13: Chip Bowness, Doug Riach, Elmar Lins, Mark Shaw, P. Michael Schulz, PP Ole Madsen, Stuart Lucani

Program, 10/12/13: PDG Alex Mavro, Colin Hastings, Dana Caron, PP Don Lavoie, Jon Plate, P Michael Schulz, IPP Nick Pisalyaput, Rakesh Sodhia, Rick Smith

Board, 16/12/13: Adrian Topham, Dana Edward Caron, Douglas Riach, P Michael Schulz, IPP Nick Pisalyaput, Stuart Lucani, Tim Cornwall, Vitool Tantanunant

Golf, 13/12/13: Chip Bowness, Dana Edward Caron, Doug Riach, Elmar Lins, Jeurgen Bernhold, Marcel Dubbelman, Mark Shaw, P. Michael Schulz, PP Ole Madsen, Stuart Lucani, Tim Cornwall

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