

## British Club Active Living Section

### *Lunch Presentation: "SECRET ALLIES: SOE/OSS & SERI THAI: The Quiet Alliance that Shaped Thailand's Future "*

#### Chairperson's Introduction of the Speaker:

It is a great pleasure today to introduce Dr John Luckit, whose life and work form a particularly interesting bridge between Thailand and the United Kingdom.

John spent part of his early years in Thailand before travelling to England in 1965 to attend John Fisher School in Surrey. He later studied medicine at St Mary's Hospital Medical School in London, graduating in 1981, and went on to build a long and distinguished career as a Consultant Haematologist, specialising in diseases of the blood.

During his professional career he worked at several hospitals in the UK and abroad, eventually serving as Consultant Haematologist at North Middlesex University Hospital in London, where he also held a number of senior responsibilities. Although now retired from his NHS consultant post, he remains active in private practice at Circle Health Group hospitals in north London. He has also contributed to national clinical standards through work with the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence, and continues to be professionally active as a Committee Member of the Anticoagulation Specialist Association and a member of the Pathology Council of the Royal Society of Medicine.

Alongside his medical career, John has maintained a long-standing interest in the relationship between Britain and Thailand. He has been a member of the Anglo-Thai Society since 2001 and today serves as a Committee Member of the Society in London, helping to strengthen cultural and intellectual links between the two countries.

From the meetings I have had with John while preparing for today, one thing has become very clear: he is an exceptionally studious and meticulous person who does not accept the first explanation he encounters, but instead tracks down sources and carefully verifies the facts.

Today's remarkable story actually began quite by chance, when John and his wife Fran stumbled upon an intriguing scene while visiting a small village in Northamptonshire in England. The discovery sparked their curiosity and, with John's determination and Fran's active support, what began as a moment of interest gradually developed into the fascinating story he will share with us today.

Ladies and gentlemen, please join me in welcoming Dr John Luckit.