

# British Club Seniors Section

## Lunch Presentation:

### AN INTERACTIVE THAI FOOD MASTERCLASS FROM THAI ICON AND CELEBRITY - CHEF MCDANG

#### Introduction of the Speaker:

Mom Luang Sirichalerm Svasti, far more popularly known internationally as Chef McDang, was born in 1953 into the Thai Royal Family in Sukhothai Palace in Bangkok.

He completed his early education at Cheltenham Boys College in England, and then at Georgetown University's, School of Foreign Service in Washington DC. He was intent on pursuing a career in diplomacy. However, he eventually shifted his focus to gastronomy, after realizing that food was his real passion. He then enrolled at the Culinary Institute of America, which was pivotal in his formal culinary training. This training in New York led to a career - as executive chef at The Reach Hotel in Key West, Florida, as Food and Beverage Director for the Paul Tripp Restaurant Group, also in Key West, and then as the owner and manager of the Back Porch Cafe in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, which is still operating today.

He returned to Thailand in 1993. Since then, Chef McDang continues to be, I quote "...Thailand's most recognized and learned food authority". He is the author of some 8 best-selling Thai language cookbooks. He wrote his first English language cookbook, *The Principles of Thai Cookery*, published in 2010. This was written as a quest to define and explain to the world, the true flavour profile of Thai Food. He continues writing his "McDang Guide" column in the Daily News newspaper. His popular McDang Show aired weekly on MCOT TV's Channel 9 from 2007 until recently, and showcased Thai cuisine, cooking techniques, and insights from Chef McDang's culinary expertise.

Internationally, Chef McDang has appeared on a number of TV shows and has lectured in Australia and New Zealand. For many years he has been invited by the Thailand Ministry of Foreign Affairs to lecture at culinary schools in the United States about Thai cuisine.

Ladies and gentlemen, world-renowned chefs like Gordon Ramsay, Anthony Bourdain, and Jamie Oliver, when in Thailand, couldn't resist seeking out Chef McDang to cook with him and to gain insight into the rich flavors and techniques of Thai cuisine. Today, he is here with us ..... please welcome Chef McDang.