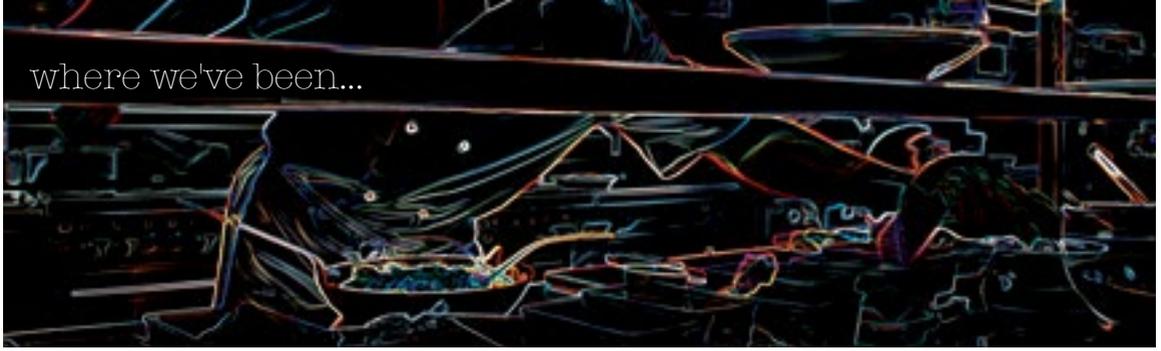


where we've been...



### **Saam Thai** Campbelltown

Saam Thai is one of the best Thai restaurants in our district. The fact that it is one of the most interesting is at the heart of that claim. Saam and her staff work hard on the restaurant and on the menu to make sure that diners will be excited by every facet of the business. The decor is great, the service is excellent and the menu is far and away the most adventurous Thai in Macarthur.

My kids are fans. I had a rare opportunity to see both of my boys on one night and they unanimously voted (2-0) for Saam Thai. Kane was travelling by train from Bondi so Chad and I went to Wests for a beer, because it's near Leumeah Station, and it has a beautiful lounge bar. I was shocked to learn that Chilli Bambu had closed down. Really shocked - and saddened. I will endeavour to find out what Wests have planned for the beautiful space.

Kane turned up and after a quick beer we headed off for Saam Thai in Dumaresq Street. Host, Saam is always excited to see you. Her natural hospitality demeanour is another reason for the success of Saam Thai. So are the Fish Cakes ha, ha, ha. We love the Fish Cakes at Saam! We also had Steamed Dim Sims and Crying Tiger for entrees. The Crying Tiger (or sooky puss as a friend calls it), was the beginning of a hot night, a chilli hot night.

The sauce that accompanies Crying Tiger is hot - be careful. It's sneaky hot too. The intensity hits you some way into the dish. "I think I over did the sauce," Kane warned us all

too late. Our mains were next and there was to be no reprieve. In retrospect we all agreed we had ordered brilliantly, but heat was the common theme.

Chad wanted Chicken Chilli Jam, while Kane ordered Chilli Basil Fish. I was going to order the night's special but then I came across a section of the menu written in Thai, labelled, "North East." I asked Saam to recommend from the section and she came up with Paw Paw Salad and BBQ Pork Skewers. Thank you Saam, they were both excellent. Highly recommended - ask for them because the menu only has the Thai names. All our dishes were great but I loved the Paw Paw Salad and BBQ Pork Skewers. Did I mention all our dishes were hot? Damn! It hurts so good. Don't be afraid though. You can order 'unhot' dishes quite easily. If in doubt - ask.

My only regret that night is that we didn't try the special main. It sounded amazing. Saam Thai is all about the exotic, the special!