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## **BritClub News**



Sarasota British Club  
P. O. Box 21063  
Sarasota, FL 34276

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# **BritClub News**

August, 2008

Sarasota British Club, P. O. Box 21063, Sarasota, FL 34276

Vol. 8, Issue 8

## **Coming Events**

**Board Meeting Aug. 7** – 6:30 p.m. at the home of Sandra Cherry, 2930 Williamsburg St., Sarasota. MEMBERS ARE WELCOME, BUT PLEASE PHONE AHEAD AS SPACE IS LIMITED!

**An Evening with Cliff Roles August 16** – You will not want to miss what promises to be a major highlight of our year. We are delighted to announce that Brit Club member “extraordinaire” Cliff Roles will be our guest speaker.

Cliff, a fellow Brit, is originally from Croydon, just outside London. His career in show business goes back to the mid 1980's when he joined a German music publishing company. It helped that he is fluent in German. For the next sixteen years he promoted over 130 of the world's top rock and pop stars including Elton John, Celine Dion, Bon Jovi and Lionel Richie.

In 2000 Cliff quit “the biz” to become a professional English/German translator and eventually his travels brought him to Sarasota. Deciding this was the place to be he sold up in Hamburg, moved here, married the lovely Maria and quickly established himself as an actor, radio host on 1220 AM WRSQ and columnist for Scene magazine, among many other things.

This event is an indoor picnic. Your club will provide the meat, plates, napkins, cutlery, sodas, etc. We request that you bring something to share. Those with surnames beginning A - L please bring a savoury dish: M – Z's please bring a dessert. BYOB !!

Date: Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>. Time: 6:30 p.m.  
 Where: Lakeshore Village Clubhouse, Wilshire Blvd., just off Clark Road, about 300 yds. east of Beneva Road (opposite Mr. Big's). The Clubhouse is 100 yards on the left.  
 RSVP: Amy Croshaw at 928-2580 or [acrowshaw@verizon.net](mailto:acrowshaw@verizon.net) or Terry Sweeney 918-9550 or [tsweeneyau@aol.com](mailto:tsweeneyau@aol.com)

**Save the Date September 27** – And now...for something completely different! Chinese, in fact. We have reserved a private room at the Oriental Buffet on Bee Ridge Road. More details in our September BritNews.

**Our website is [www.SarasotaBritishClub.com](http://www.SarasotaBritishClub.com)**

## It's Election Time Again

With the Annual General Meeting right round the corner, we are requesting some new faces to join the Board of Directors. Several of the current Board members have been serving ceaselessly since the club's inception almost a decade ago, and they would like a rest.

We are specially interested in seeing new people who may have an interest in serving as membership chair (maintaining the club roster, sending out dues notices once a year, sending a welcome email to new members), secretary (keeping minutes of Board meetings) and treasurer (keeping the books, receiving and disbursing payments).

Beyond those positions, anyone who has some good ideas for the future betterment of the Club is welcomed to join the Board. We meet one evening a month (the day of the week is determined by a concensus of the members) and we usually incorporate some nibbles or a snack so no one goes hungry.

If you'd like to throw your hat in the ring, please call the Nominating Committee chair, past-president Nairn' Gillet, at 321-9631.

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## From Our President

Our evening at Beckham's was a great success with 41 members and 10 guests enjoying a very pleasant evening. It was pleasing to welcome several new members. Thanks to our resident quiz-meister, Ken Jukes for the challenging quiz. We certainly know more about David Beckham, wife Victoria and their three children!

Next stop on the social calendar is our evening on **August 16<sup>th</sup>** with celebrity Cliff Roles. Then **September 27<sup>th</sup>** for something completely different! Chinese, in fact. We have reserved a private room at the Oriental Buffet on Bee Ridge Road. More details in our September BritNews.

Mark **Saturday November 1<sup>st</sup>** on your calendar. This is when we hold our Annual General Meeting and election of the Board for 2009. Immediate Past President Nairn' Gillet is chairman of the Nominating Committee – I urge you to contact him and enter the race. E-mail him at [ngillet@yahoo.com](mailto:ngillet@yahoo.com).

Warm regards,  
Terry

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## Do You Own Your Own Business?

For advertising, our rates are reasonable and such an ad not only supports the club by its revenue, but may bring you more business. Many of our members make a point of trying to support British businesses, especially ones where the owner is a member of the club. Please consider advertising your business in our newsletter. Newsletter advertising rates (for club members only) are as follows: ¼ page \$15, ½ page \$25, full page \$40. There is a 20% discount if you purchase your advertisements annually. All ads must be paid for in advance. Please send your camera-ready advertisements (jpg file preferred) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month to the newsletter editor, Rose Gillet, at 3219 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway, Sarasota, FL 34235 or email them to her at [rosegillet@yahoo.com](mailto:rosegillet@yahoo.com).

## Thank You

The Club would like to thank the following merchants for their cooperation in spreading the good word about our Club by allowing *The Brit Club News* to be distributed in their shoppes:

Word of Mouth (3), Champions Pub, Tastefully British, 4 & 20 Pasty Shop, the British Open Pub, The Irish Rovers, The Coach & Horses Pub, The Open, McAllister's, Scot's Corner, Cafe Continental-Patisserie and Beckham's Osprey Grill. Please thank them by patronizing them whenever you can, and let them know you appreciate their support.

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## July Board Meeting Précis:

July 3<sup>rd</sup> board meeting Treasurers report \$ 4,335.93. Currently 147 paid up members, still have 30 not renewed yet. Mini Golf in June was rained out, but 12 enjoyed a dinner. So far 30 reservations for Beckhams on July 12<sup>th</sup>. August 16<sup>th</sup> will be an indoor picnic with Cliff Roles as speaker; club will provide meat, table settings, disposables, and a Pimms punch; members A-M to bring a savoury, and M-Z to bring a dessert, all to bring BYOB. September 27th meeting to be Hawaiian theme. AGM meeting to be possibly October 25<sup>th</sup>; will plan a "Wine and Hors D'Oeuvres" evening, no charge to members. Christmas party plans for the 13<sup>th</sup> in order. Nominating committee for 2009 will be chaired by Nairn' Gillet; not all board members are able to continue, will need some other members to participate. Next board meeting to be August 7th at Sandra Cherry's home. *(Members are invited to attend, but need to call ahead due to space limitations.)*

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## Would You Like to Join the Club?

The primary purpose of the club is to serve the needs of its membership in the spirit of friendship and mutual support, which includes planning, developing and overseeing a social setting for the membership, in addition to assisting British newcomers in settling into the community and to provide networking and support to the British owned businesses in the community. To join, please fill in the information below and send it with your check to: Sarasota British Club, P.O. Box 21063, Sarasota, FL 34276

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Type:    Single \$25       Family \$35 (includes all children under age 18)

## How to Tick People Off

1. Leave the copy machine set to reduce 200%, extra dark, 17 inch paper, 99 copies.
2. In the memo field of all your checks, write "for sexual favors."
3. Specify that your drive-through order is "TO-GO."
4. If you have a glass eye, tap on it occasionally with your pen while talking to others.
5. Stomp on little plastic ketchup packets.
6. Insist on keeping your car windshield wipers running in all weather conditions "to keep them tuned up."
7. Reply to everything someone says with "that's what you think."
8. Practice making fax and modem noises.
9. Highlight irrelevant information in scientific papers and "cc" them to your boss.
10. Make beeping noises when a large person backs up.
11. Finish all your sentences with the words "in accordance with prophesy."
12. Signal that a conversation is over by clamping your hands over your ears and grimacing.
13. Disassemble your pen and "accidentally" flip the ink cartridge across the room.
14. Holler random numbers while someone is counting.
15. Adjust the tint on your TV so that all the people are green, and insist to others that you "like it that way."
16. Staple pages in the middle of the page.
17. Publicly investigate just how slowly you can make a croaking noise.
18. Honk and wave to strangers.
19. Decline to be seated at a restaurant, and simply eat their complimentary mints at the cash register.
20. TYPE ONLY IN UPPERCASE.
21. type only in lowercase.
22. dont use any punctuation either
23. Buy a large quantity of orange traffic cones and reroute whole streets.
24. Repeat the following conversation a dozen times.  
"DO YOU HEAR THAT?"  
"What?"  
"Never mind, it's gone now."
25. As much as possible, skip rather than walk.
26. Try playing the William Tell Overture by tapping on the bottom of your chin. When nearly done, announce "No, wait, I messed it up," and repeat.
27. Ask people what gender they are.
28. While making presentations, occasionally bob your head like a parakeet.
29. Sit in your front yard pointing a hair dryer at passing cars to see if they slow down.
30. Sing along at the opera.
31. Go to a poetry recital and ask why each poem doesn't rhyme.
32. Ask your co-workers mysterious questions and then scribble their answers in a notebook. Mutter something about "psychological profiles."

## Membership News

**EMAIL ADDRESSES: PLEASE email me, Kathy Curtin, at [kathrmcurt@msn.com](mailto:kathrmcurt@msn.com) or call me at 941-379-9861 if you have changed your email in the last 6 months.**

Thank you to everyone who has sent in their 2008/2009 dues. We still have a few outstanding so if you wish to renew please send in your check as soon as possible, Family \$35 and Single \$25.

Welcome to new members, Barbara Shaw of Ocala, and Dan and Sadie Jeff of Bradenton.

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## Shortbread

I used to have a wonderful Scottish customer in the tea room. And one day after I was lamenting my not too successful attempts at Shortbread, she said in her luvly lilting accent, "Careful handling, and careful Firing!" So I simplified my efforts and came up with this version which has been successful for years. It is important to have the oven preheated, I need to make that comment, after really learning most of my baking using an Aga cooker in England, I always presumed the oven was ready...which it was! Hope you enjoy this version. If you have a processor it is so much easier.

### Shortbread

4 cups all purpose flour  
1 lb butter (margarine will not do!)  
1 cup sugar

If using a processor, place flour and sugar in container, and pulse to mix. Add the butter .... is better if not too soft ... and pulse lightly. Turn into a large bowl and cut in with a pastry blender or knives to even out. If doing all by hand, place flour and sugar in a large bowl, mix and cut in the butter with a pastry blender or knives, until just blended, don't over-do. Turn into a 15 ½ x 10 cookie/baking tray and pat gently using light pressure to even out. Can lightly use a rolling pin to press down. Prick all over with a fork. Bake in a 325 degree oven for 40-50 minutes until golden. You need to keep an eye on it as the butter in it can burn. Cool about 5 minutes then score into desired shapes. Cool. (*Freezes very well*)

(*Recipe from Sandra Cherry, Your Cup of Tea Inc. and Union Jack Food Columnist. I welcome comments, recipes and suggestions, and can be reached at [YourCupofTea1@yahoo.com](mailto:YourCupofTea1@yahoo.com)*)

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## Rose's Corner

Not much to report this month. I have been very preoccupied of late with my mother, who is in the late stages of dementia. If you have anything you'd like to see in the newsletter such as member articles, jokes, items of interest, please mail articles to me at Rose Gillet, 3219 24th Parkway, Sarasota, FL 34235, fax at 366-9248, email me at [rosegillet@yahoo.com](mailto:rosegillet@yahoo.com) or call 366-9984. Closing date for the newsletter is the 15th of each month.

Rose Gillet, Newsletter Editor

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## How We Got the Internet

(Thanks to our President, Terry Sweeney)

In ancient Israel, it came to pass that a trader by the name of Abraham Com did take unto himself a young wife by the name of Dot. And Dot Com was a comely woman, broad of shoulder and long of leg. Indeed, she had been called Amazon Dot Com. She said unto Abraham, her husband, "Why doth thou travel far from town to town with thy goods when thou can trade without ever leaving thy tent?"

And Abraham did look at her as though she were several saddle bags short of a camel load, but simply said, "How, Dear?" And Dot replied, "I will place drums in all the towns and drums in between to send messages saying what you have for sale and they will reply telling you which hath the best price.

And the sale can be made on the drums and delivery made by Uriah's Pony Stable (UPS)."

Abraham thought long and decided he would let Dot have her way with the drums. The drums rang out and were an immediate success. Abraham sold all the goods he had at the top price, without ever moving from his tent.

But this success did arouse envy. A man named Maccabia did secret himself inside Abraham's drum and was accused of insider trading.

And the young man did take to Dot Com's trading as doth the greedy horsefly take to horse flesh.

And, before very long, there were many others and They were called Nomadic Ecclesiastical Rich Dominican Siderites, or NERDS for short.

And lo, the land was so feverish with joy at the new riches and the deafening sound of drums, that no one noticed that the real riches were going to the drum maker, one Brother William of Gates, who bought up every drum company in the land. And indeed did insist on making drums that would work only with Brother Gates' drumheads and drumsticks.

Dot did say, "Oh, Abraham, what we have started is being taken over by others." And as Abraham looked out over the Bay of Ezekiel, (or as it came to be known "eBay" ) he said, "we need a name that reflects what we are," and Dot replied, "Young Ambitious Hebrew Owner Operators." "YAHOO", said Abraham. And that is how it all began. It wasn't Al Gore after all.

