



# BritClub News

VOL 17, ISSUE 12

## COMING EVENTS

### SBC BOARD MEETING

Next meeting will be **Wednesday**,  
December 13th Village Des Pins  
Clubhouse: 7964 Timberwood Circle,  
Sarasota @ 6:30 pm. Guests welcome  
(*please let us know that you are coming!*)

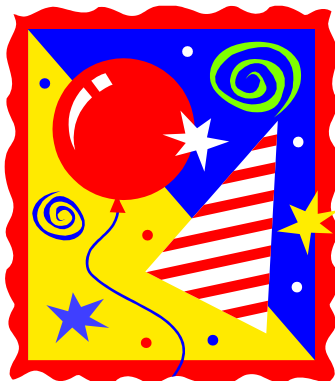
### 'TOAD RALLY'

We are hoping this can be rescheduled  
for April/May.

### STAY UP TO DATE

To keep up to date on other activities and  
events throughout the local British  
community please visit the Links Page of  
our website. [www.sarasotabritishclub.com](http://www.sarasotabritishclub.com)

**CHRISTMAS PARTY**  
**SAT DEC 9** SEE PAGE  
6 FOR MENU ,  
RESERVATIONS ETC.  
DEADLINE DEC 1ST



### A LIFE EXPERIENCE EXCHANGE!

Subject: The Road to Resurgence

*A History and the Return  
of the Electric Vehicle*

Date: Thursday, January  
18, 2018 at 10am

Place: Village des Pins  
Clubhouse: [7964  
Timberwood Circle](#) (off

Beneva Rd.) Sarasota  
SPACE LIMITATION: 20,  
Details see Page 7

Image from wired.com



Image from pixabay.com

As this is the last edition of this  
newsletter before Christmas, and also  
the end of my stint as your Editor...

**Happy Christmas**

from

*Brian Thompson*

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

This is the time of year I miss the Autumn leaves, I miss the wonderful red maple leaves that covered my porch and the glorious brown and gold in the yard. What I don't miss is raking the things! Seems like you rake then overnight the leftover leaves invite friends over so by the next morning it's back to square one. I did quite enjoy the leaf burning, I could guarantee my grandson would be there for the fire – I think all boys big and small are pyromaniacs at heart! Unfortunately, our village (like so many others) banned leaf burning for environmental reasons. Still Autumn leaves are like snow, if I want to see them I can look at a picture!



We had a good sized and good fun group of around 35 who joined us at Brew Life on October 24th. A few games were played and a very energetic trio enjoyed the bar hockey (until they were banned). But it was really great to see members and guests socializing over a pint and a slice of pizza.

Thank you to all who attended the AGM on October 21<sup>st</sup>. Good company, good food and a challenging quiz – maybe a bit too challenging for some of us (me). Amazing how few of us would qualify for British residency based on the test questions, it was much easier to become an American citizen.

I am so sorry to have missed the Guy Fawkes celebration, sounds like a good time was had by all and the choice of sausages was very popular. Shame about the mosquito invasion. A big vote of thanks to Paul and Diana for organizing everything and Ross, Roman and the bbq team for an outstanding job on the grill.

It was a lovely day for the Alzheimer's Walk at Benderson Park on November 11<sup>th</sup>. We had a small but enthusiastic team who walked the circuit but we had a larger group donate to the cause. Again, thank you Paul for getting us organized and for winning a medal for fundraising!

Our next event and our final one for 2017 will be the Christmas Party. Once again, we plan an amazing evening with music by Tony and Tasha and a nice surprise from our own Father Christmas (can't call him Santa). Looks like we will have a very good size group again this year and our raffle baskets will be amazing. Thank you to everyone who has donated.

*Jane*

### 2017 ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Thank you to the members who emailed me to offer comments on turkey vs salmon for the 2017 menu. We always try to listen to our members, we heard many of you were disappointed salmon was not on the menu last year so asked for your opinions and turkey was the most popular choice for those not eating prime rib. Heritage Oaks has agreed to offer roast potatoes this year (instead of mash) to be a bit more British Christmassy. See Page 6

*Jane Jacobs*

**Brit Club Christmas Party**

Can you donate something for the raffle baskets?

A bottle of wine, some chocolates, biscuits, lotions, potions, anything good.

A gift certificate for a local store, restaurant, hair stylist, nails or golf course.

Please contact Jane Jacobs

[jane60010@yahoo.com](mailto:jane60010@yahoo.com) (best way)

You can call 847-370-2811

OR contact any board member.

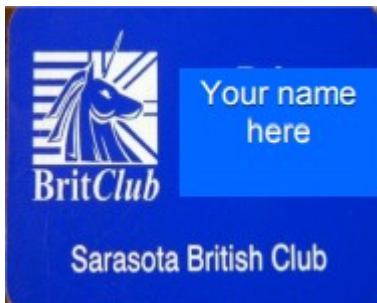


**Club Badges and price update.**

Please obtain Club badges directly from Sarasota Trophy 6601 Superior Ave. Sarasota FL34231 Phone 921-4339.

Magnet badges \$8.50 +tax, Pin

badges \$6.50+ tax. Shipping \$4.25 (no shipping for walk-ins.)



**PRÉCIS OF NOVEMBER 8, 2017 BOARD MEETING**

The bank balance at September 30, 2017 was \$4,343.98.

The Club currently has 177 members; 148 family and 29 singles.

**The Annual General Meeting** was well attended and the membership voted in the proposed directors for 2018.

**Walk for Alzheimer's 2017** - to date \$2,100 has been donated to this walk on November 11th.

**Christmas Party** - 80 people signed up so far; the deadline is December 1st for sign up. More raffle prizes would be appreciated. - **Guy Fawkes** evening was extremely well attended,

but mosquitoes were a problem.

A presentation will be made by Mark Malkasian on the **history and return of the electric vehicle**. This will be at the Village de Pins Clubhouse at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 18th. In the works are: a **Murder Mystery**, the postponed **Road Rally** and the annual outing to **Tampa Bay Downs**. More information to follow.

At the Special Meeting on November 8th, which preceded the regular monthly meeting, the position of Director Emeritus was created. There were 19 votes in favour and 1 vote against the proposal. The affirmative votes more than exceeded the required 5% of the voting membership. The Board duly elected Sandra Cherry as the first Director Emeritus effective January 1st, 2018.

The next meeting of the Board will be at 6:30 p.m. on December 13th. Please let a Board Member know if you would like to attend.

**Sally Scott**  
Secretary

**JOKE**


Just seen a Dyslexic Yorkshire man wearing a cat flap!

**Quote**

“Look at a day when you are supremely satisfied at the end. It's not a day when you lounge around doing nothing; it's a day you've had everything to do and you've done it.”

— Margaret Thatcher

Club Member John Drinkell of the UPS Store at 5020 Clark Road, Sarasota, FL34233 prints and mails newsletters.



## Remember, Remember

A large group (about 65) members gathered at the Siesta Key Public Beach on November 5 to commemorate England's most famous terrorist, Guy Fawkes. The event coincided with the weekly Drum Circle, and we were treated to a beautiful Siesta Key sunset.

Traditional sausages and baked potatoes were provided, and tasty desserts of Key Lime pie and chocolate cake we much appreciated. Special thanks to Roman Gzyl who cooked the sausages for us, despite the wind blowing the smoke in his face for over an hour! Also, to Diana Wilkinson for cooking 40 lbs of potatoes, and buttering them!

Paul Wilkinson recited the traditional ode, to an audience of sparklers, and led the burning of the Guy. Regrettably we were joined after dark by large numbers of mosquitos, and for those interested, [here is a link](#) to more information about these specific pests, the Eastern Saltmarsh Mosquito *Aedes sollicitans*



Thanks to Doug Schuler for the photos.



Photos from last month's  
A.G.M. , thanks to Sally Scott  
and Doug Schuler





Sarasota British Club  
2017 Christmas Party

Saturday December 9<sup>th</sup>. 6-10 PM at  
Heritage Oaks Country Club  
4800 Chase Oaks Drive, Sarasota FL 34241

**MENU**

Salad:

Artisan Salad with Pomegranates, Orange Supremes, Toasted Frangelico Almonds,  
Goat Cheese and Citrus Dressing

**Entrée Choices Please select One:**

Slow Roasted Turkey Breast  
Roast Potatoes, Stuffing, Country Style Green Beans and Turkey Gravy

**OR**

Slow Roasted Prime Rib of Beef  
Dauphinoise Potatoes, Fresh Asparagus and Horseradish Sauce

**Dessert**

Individual Pavlova with Macerated Berries

Rolls and butter. Tea and Coffee

\*\*Vegetarian option available upon request

**MEMBERS: \$45.00      GUESTS: \$55.00**

Reservation Form

Please mail with payment to Sarasota British Club, PO Box 21063, Sarasota FL 34276

**ALL RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY DECEMBER 1st**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Member or guest</u>	<u>Entrée Choice (beef, Turkey, Veg**)</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Names of those you would like to sit with (if possible)

\_\_\_\_\_

## A LIFE EXPERIENCE EXCHANGE!

Subject: The Road to Resurgence  
*A History and the Return of the Electric Vehicle*

Date: Thursday, January 18, 2018

Time: 10am

Place: Village des Pins Clubhouse: [7964 Timberwood Circle](#) (off Beneva Rd.) Sarasota

SPACE LIMITATION: 20

Open Menu meal to follow at the nearby First Watch Breakfast Restaurant (approx. 11:30am)

### *Presentation Summary*

*Presentation Time: 40-45 minutes*

Q & A to follow

A Club member and electric vehicle owner-enthusiast traces the history of the EV through several rises and falls from the turn of the 19th century to the present day. The chronological journey offers insights into the earliest motorized 'contraptions', the first 'steamers', 'combustions' and 'crude electrics'; the impact of the Ford Model T on the early EV movement and the roles that batteries and the AC motor play in advancing electric mobility.

The story recounts the intrigues behind the "War of the Currents" between Thomas Edison (DC) and Nikola Tesla (AC) and the strange, short life of GM's "Cult Car", the EV1 — why it was killed and who-by — and the subsequent arrival of the foreign hybrids and their US rivals.

An introduction to the infrastructure used to charge EVs both at home and on the road prefaces a summary of the **five** issues the Presenter believes will influence the future success of EVs: **Advocacy**, **Awareness of Environmental Impacts**, **Advances in Technology**, **Alternative Transport Modes** and **Acceptance by the Mainstream**.

Approx. 50 slides and liberal use of animations and sound effects enliven the spoken narrative.

*Presenter: Mark Malkasian, P.E., Osprey, FL • [\(941\) 445-2890](tel:9414452890)*

TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT: Contact Mark, the Event Coordinator & Presenter at [marqmalk@gmail.com](mailto:marqmalk@gmail.com) or [941-445-2890](tel:9414452890). Please indicate if you wish to join us at First Watch.

Special Note: If there are any Club members currently driving an electric vehicle maybe we can offer a car show after eating.



Image sources: Wikimedia, Flickr and Pixabay.

Don't forget that the Club has a Facebook page. The Club's logo is the profile picture. Why not 'friend' us for another way of keeping in touch. Why not add your event photos to the 'wall'.



### Alzheimer Walk Raises \$1,500

A group of a dozen members walked around Benderson Park on Saturday, November 11 as part of a sponsored effort to raise money for Alzheimers research. A total of 846 people wearing purple shirts assembled beneath a cloudless sky, and after a brief introduction, walked the 3 miles around the lake used for the World Rowing Championships.

The Walk this year was in honor of Gerry, member Derek Brashier's bride of almost 60 years. Gerry suffered from this terrible disease, and passed away here in Sarasota in September. Derek joined the group at the start, and thanked us for recognizing Gerry on the occasion. We raised \$1,520 for the cause, and had a great time doing it!



Thanks to Doug Schuler for the photos.



A book that might interest members for the history in the USA of Brits, particularly the Scots.

### Scottish Kilts and American Cowboys

As was often the case in early American enterprise, the biggest investors in the cattle companies of the American West were from England and Scotland. The initial returns on these investments exceeded 25 percent per annum:

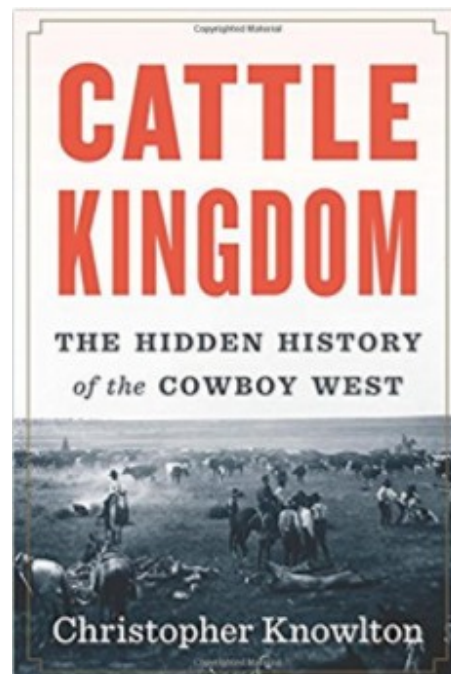
"Scotland had developed a coterie of shrewd, patient investment managers who were good at recognizing opportunities and appraising risk. Many had agreed to pool their capital, and to do that it was essential that they know and trust one another. By no accident, they all belonged to the same social and sporting clubs, attended the same church (Scottish Presbyterian), and supported the same educational causes.

"One of their most successful members was Robert Fleming, the son of a Dundee shopkeeper. In 1873 Fleming had founded the first overseas Scottish investment trust, known as the Scottish American Investment Trust, to invest in distressed American railroad bonds. By helping to reorganize these railroads, he had consistently delivered 40 percent annual returns for his general partners. He would go on to even greater acclaim in the City of London as the founder of the merchant bank Robert Fleming & Company. It was Fleming, more than anyone else, who taught his fellow Scotsmen to think like venture capitalists and to invest abroad.

"Following Fleming's advice proved much easier than it would have been just a few years earlier. In 1855 Parliament had passed the Limited Liability Act. For the first time, investors were no longer on the hook for the liabilities, or debts, of an enterprise if it should fail -- or sink, in the case of a ship. The investor might lose whatever money he had put up to buy his shares, but that was all. This simple act of limiting liability had instant implications for both investment and trade. The vast wealth and savings of the British aristocracy, as well as that of the emerging merchant class, began to pour into the shares of new limited liability companies, which offered better returns with controlled risk. A later act, in 1862, allowed any seven individuals to form a so-called joint-stock company by means of a memorandum of association, with the choice of limited or unlimited liability.

"The Scots would take the lead in the creation of joint-stock companies. Many would be assembled specifically to buy up existing western ranches or start western cattle companies from scratch. They would beat the English to the opportunity. The English, however, were not far behind.

Continued on Page 10.



Continued from Page 9.

"The English too had taken note of [correspondent James] Macdonald's postings from America. Intrigued by what they read, they formed the Royal Commission on Agriculture and sent two members of Parliament -- Clare Read and Albert Pell -- on reconnaissance to the American West in the fall of 1879 to explore opportunities for British investment. To escort them, the two commissioners hired a savvy twenty-eight-year-old cattle expert named John Clay, who had immigrated to Ontario with his family only five years before. Ever since, he had been actively engaged in shipping fine breeds of cattle to America to improve his family's stock. ...

"After a couple of months spent touring the West in the company of young John Clay, Read and Pell submitted their report. The conclusion? 'The acknowledged profits upon capital invested in cattle are 25 to 33 per cent; even the latter figure is probably below the mark.' So it was true: 25 percent returns on capital were the norm! As the historian Edward Everett Dale observed in Cow Country, 'It was said that the announcement of an important gold discovery could hardly have created greater excitement throughout the Island Kingdom than did this report of Read and Pell.' "

Cattle Kingdom: The Hidden History of the Cowboy West

Author: Christopher Knowlton

Publisher: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

\$15.99 Kindle, \$15.99 paperback, \$19.72 hardcover

Precis from Delanceyplace.com. All DelanceyPlace.com profits are donated to charity and support children's literacy projects.



## Quote

"There comes a day when you realize turning the page is the best feeling in the world, because you realize there is so much more to the book than the page you were stuck on."

— Zayn Malik



Thanks to Doug Schuler for the photos.



**Joke**

Two robins were sitting in a tree.

"I'm really hungry," said the first one. "Let's fly down and find some lunch."

They flew down to the ground and found a nice plot of newly plowed ground that was full of worms. They ate and ate and ate till they could eat no more.

"I'm so full, I don't think I can fly back up into the tree," said the first one.

"Let's just lay back here and bask in the warm sun," said the second.

"OK," said the first.

So they plopped down, basking in the sun. No sooner than they had fallen asleep, when a big fat tomcat came up and gobbled them up.

As the cat sat washing his face after his meal, he thought...

"I JUST LOVE BASKIN ROBINS."



Image from Wikimedia

**Board of Directors (1/1/'17)**

President	Jane Jacobs	847-370-2811	jane60010@yahoo.com
Vice-President	Gary Lee	706-1172	glee01@venzon.net
Treasurer	Paul Wilkinson	410-990-4698	pwilkinson18@comcast.net
Secretary	Sally Scott	379-3757	scottssally369@gmail.com
Membership Chair	Ivan Gould	323 9655	ivangould@hotmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Brian Thompson	388-8018	lakewood2@gmail.com
Website Liaison	Mark Malkasian	445-2890	mdmalk@icloud.com
Director at Large 1	Sandra Cherry	921-3162	yourcuppatea1@yahoo.com
Director at Large 2	Sharon Gould	323 9357	sharon.gould@floridamoves.com
Director at Large 3	Diana Wilkinson	410-990-4698	dwilkinson18@comcast.net

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